

Pleasanton Weekly

Art League 'Fall Members' Show'

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NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

VOL. XXVI, NUMBER 41 • NOVEMBER 7, 2025

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AMADOR VALLEY

EXPOSÉ

PAGE 12

I am married too. Is that something ur ok with? I mean if we were to hookup.

Grindr 2m ag
In a perfect world; we would wait until after you graduate and ur no longer a student of mine.

INSIDE THE GROOMING, GRINDR INVESTIGATION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL'S FORMER PRINCIPAL

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM

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WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

Convicting a monster

One of the most sadistic men in California history may well have never been put behind bars if not for the clues left (and retained) at three crime scenes in the San Ramon Valley in the 1970s.

That's among my big takeaways from a phone interview Monday with Sacramento County District Attorney Thien Ho.

A line prosecutor whose career trajectory — whose entire life — changed when he was assigned to close a series of terrible cold cases committed by the same culprit up and down the state, Ho recounts the long road to convict Joseph DeAngelo in his new book “The People vs. the Golden State Killer” due out next week.

“Justice never forgets. It never gives up ... even after 40 years,” Ho told me.

The book tries to take a different approach than others that have covered the crimes ultimately tied to DeAngelo in 2018 — a serial predator known by several chilling nicknames over the years, including “East Area Rapist,” “The Original Night Stalker,” “Visalia Ransacker” and of course, the “Golden State Killer.”

Ho presents an insider's analysis from the prosecutor's point of view, representing “the generation of law enforcement who never gave up, and an emphasis on providing a voice for the victims.”

Creatively weaving together multiple perspectives and timelines, “The People vs. the Golden State Killer” also delves into Ho's personal journey from a Vietnamese refugee in America (who “learned to speak the language by watching Bugs Bunny cartoons and ESL classes for six years”) to becoming the elected district attorney in Sacramento three years ago — making him one of only 10 Asian American DAs out of roughly 2,400 nationwide.

Ho hopes that storytelling strategy will help his book stand out in the crowded true crime genre in today's oversaturated media environment. “I'm quite proud, and excited by it,” he said.

It truly was a remarkable journey to convict DeAngelo, who committed unfathomable acts from 1973 to 1986 (a crime spree that began while he was a cop) while living quietly under the radar as a mechanic, a husband, a father and a neighbor before his arrest at 72 years old at his Sacramento home on April 24, 2018.

Authorities believe DeAngelo was responsible for 13 murders, more than 50 rapes and nearly 120 burglaries in 11 California counties.

(He admitted to 53 separate crimes against 87 people as part of his plea deal and sentencing in 2020.)

Identification was the key step — and in many ways the hardest — in understanding the scope of this monster's criminal dossier.

Ho's book does a deep dive into the “investigative genetic genealogy” tool that authorities used to connect cases in different areas to DeAngelo's DNA.

The Contra Costa County crimes provided a vital link, according to Ho.

DNA and other evidence from the cold case homicides still existed, but many of the jurisdictions where the unsolved rapes occurred, including Sacramento County, had tossed the materials some time after the statute of limitations for rape expired. (Those statutes are also why the San Ramon Valley rapes could only be charged as kidnappings.)

“The only place that kept their evidence was Contra Costa County,” said Ho, who worked in that DA's office earlier in his career.

A San Ramon rape case from October 1978 also helped establish a pattern of behavior that existed with rapes and murders in other counties. “The M.O. was identical,” Ho recalled.

With the pressure on for crimes charged in Contra Costa, Orange, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Tulare and Ventura counties, DeAngelo struck a plea deal with Ho and his team rather than face trial. DeAngelo pleaded guilty to more than a dozen murders, more than a dozen kidnappings and other crimes, as well as admitted to a slew of uncharged crimes.

The final local tally included guilty for the San Ramon rape, guilty for a rape in Danville in June 1979 and acknowledging another rape in Danville from December 1978. Authorities thought two other unsolved San Ramon Valley cases could be tied to this same rapist.

Now nearly an octogenarian, DeAngelo is “living his own version of hell” in state prison assigned to a special unit for sexual deviants and high-profile major offenders. “He is constantly looking over his shoulder,” Ho said, hoping that brings some measure of solace to the survivors and the victims' families.

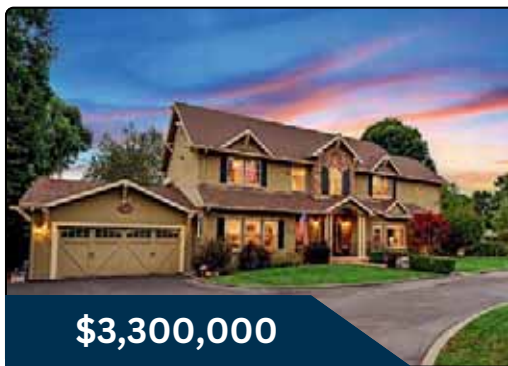
“The People vs. the Golden State Killer” is scheduled for mass release by Third State Books next Tuesday (Nov. 11). Ho said he plans to pursue a book-signing event in Contra Costa County soon, perhaps at Rakestraw Books in downtown Danville. ■

About the Cover

Public records released last week by the Pleasanton Unified School District detail the investigation into allegations of inappropriate behavior by now-former Amador Valley High School principal Jonathan Fey. Cover design by Doug Young.

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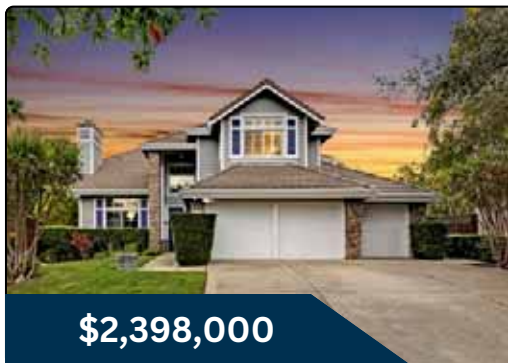
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LET'S DISCUSS:

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Do you think it's rude, or not, for an airline passenger to recline their seat on a relatively short, daytime flight?



Sarah Thaug
IT project manager

I don't think it's rude because I have really long legs and often recline my seat in order to give myself a bit more legroom. So I'm actually "that person".



Dolores Crews
Retired grandma/great-grandma

Reclining on anything other than a long, overnight flight when passengers are expected to sleep is very rude and inconsiderate because it invades the private space of the passenger behind the person who chooses to recline. Whenever I travel, I always try to be as polite and considerate as possible toward my fellow passengers.



Harry Thaug
Corporate appraisals

I don't really find a person reclining in the seat in front of me to be inconsiderate or rude. But what I do find inconsiderate and rude on an airplane is when passengers take off their shoes, and/or speak on their cellphones in a regular voice that everyone else can hear. So annoying.



Dan Mason
Internet and commercial sales

I actually don't find it rude or inconsiderate. An airplane is already congested and not so comfortable, so someone reclining just makes it a bit more confining. I can live with that for a few hours.



Heidi Grosse
Homeschooling mom

I think it depends. When I travel, I always look to see who is seated behind me in order to decide whether or not I should recline my seat. If I think reclining will make that person uncomfortable I would never, ever recline. And I always hope that whoever is sitting in front of me would extend that same common courtesy.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Veterans Day Parade

The 28th annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade and Concert will be returning to Pleasanton this weekend to commemorate the local military veterans and active service members ahead of the national holiday next Tuesday.

The theme for this year's regional celebration, which will kick off Sunday (Nov. 9) at 1 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street, will be the U.S. Marine Corps.

"This parade is one way we can all say Thank You to Marines who have faithfully served our country," according to the Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade website. "The freedoms we enjoy in this country should not be taken for granted."

Teacher award

The California Music Educators Association Bay Section recently awarded its 2025 Rising Star Educator Award to Amador Valley High School's new director of orchestral and choir music, Brittany Shankle.

The Bay Area group, which is a regional affiliate of the state and national association for music educators, honors teachers with this award each year who have seven years or less of experience in the profession and who demonstrate "excellence in the field of music education," according to the CMEA website.

Mental health forum

The city of Dublin's Youth Advisory Committee will be hosting its Youth Mental Health Forum next Thursday (Nov. 13) at the Shannon Community Center, located at 11600 Shannon Ave., from 6-8 p.m.

Teens and parents are invited to attend the event to have "open conversation about youth mental health with local counselors, therapists, and educators," according to a press release from the city.

Pirate history

National Geographic explorer and archeologist Lisa Briggs will be coming to Livermore's Bankhead Theater next Thursday to talk about anything one of her deep fascinations, pirates, and how pirating helped shape the Roman Empire.

From Blackbeard to the Pirate Queen of China, Briggs will be going over some of history's "greatest treasures and the pirates who ruled the ocean" as part of the theater's Rae Dorrough Speaker Series.

The event is set to start at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, visit www.livermorearts.org. ■

Hearing next week to determine if Dublin must repeal Measure II

Judge to address objections to tentative ruling that favored opponents of Crosby land development

By JUDE STRZEMP

A judge will soon decide whether the city of Dublin must revoke Measure II, absent a related environmental review prior to its placement on last year's general election ballot.

The measure dubbed "Dublin Traffic Relief, Clean Air/Open Space Preservation Measure", permitted the City Council to approve limited commercial development on 80 acres of land on the Crosby property — owned by Livbor-Manning LLC (Harry Crosby) — to cover some of the cost of extending

Dublin Boulevard to Livermore. The area east of the city's eastern boundary was previously barred from development in the city's General Plan.

Shortly after the council's decision, nonprofits Save Mount Diablo and Friends of Livermore filed a lawsuit against the city of Dublin, its City Council and other involved parties for placing Measure II on the ballot. The plaintiffs alleged noncompliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, a state law that requires public agencies to consider the potential

environmental consequences of their discretionary actions.

A tentative decision and preliminary statement of decision issued Oct. 1 by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Michael Markman granted the petition for writ of mandate to repeal Measure II.

A forthcoming hearing Nov. 13 is set to consider objections to the tentative decision by the city and Livbor-Manning LLC as well as the plaintiffs' response.

The final decision revolves around one main question: May the Measure II resolution cause a

foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and therefore require an environmental review under CEQA?

Markman may issue a final decision same-day, but he has up to 90 days. Once the decision becomes final, defendants will have 60 days to appeal.

"We are very confident the judge's decision will not change, that our victory will be upheld, and that the city of Dublin will have to rescind Measure II's general

See **MEASURE II** on Page 6



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Philz Coffee Pleasanton store manager Aerielle Ortiz and clerk Tayyaba on opening day at the drive-thru store on Santa Rita Road.

Philz opens in Pleasanton

Coffee chain welcomes customers to its first drive-thru store in Northern California

By DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Philz Coffee held a soft opening Monday with limited hours at 1803 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton, the Valley Plaza Shopping Center site that was formerly home to Kentucky Fried Chicken.

The location's regular hours from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. were set to begin Wednesday — its grand opening day.

"I am exceptionally excited to be here as we open the 79th Philz Coffee store and the first drive-thru in Northern California," Philz chief operations officer Adam Stansberry told the

Weekly. Pleasanton marks the chain's second drive-thru location overall.

The former KFC, which closed in early 2023, had received Planning Commission approval for a drive-thru at the opening approximately 30 years before. Pleasanton is also the second Philz Coffee store to open in the Tri-Valley after the City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon arrived four years ago.

Philz stores are located throughout California, with six locations in Chicago. Founded in San Francisco in 2003, Philz Coffee is known for offering 11

custom blends from "Dark and Bold" to "Light and Bright." The coffee beans, globally sourced and sustainably grown, are roasted in Oakland, according to a press release from the company announcing the new store's opening.

Their coffee is handcrafted using the Philz signature pour-over method. Slow-steeped cold brew coffees are also available. At Philz, dairy means non-fat milk or cream — not half 'n half. Dairy alternatives are almond milk and oat milk.

See **PHILZ** on Page 7

Newport shutters Tri-Valley locations

Teen rehab facilities laying off 28 staffers as company shifts

By JEANITA LYMAN

A nationwide health care company specializing in residential rehabilitation programs for young people is in its final days of operations in the Tri-Valley.

Newport Healthcare announced the closure of its two Pleasanton locations and one in Danville in a Sept. 30 notice to the state's Employment Development Department, with 28 staff members set to be laid off by Dec. 1.

"Newport Healthcare consolidated certain programs — including our Pleasanton location — to align our resources with current market realities and demand in this area," Newport Healthcare officials said in a statement to the Weekly.

The news marked the final days for the two Pleasanton locations — Newport Academy Arena at 5530 Johnston Road, and Newport Academy Happy Valley at 920 Happy Valley Road — with its Willow Hill location at 14000 Lawrence Drive having shuttered earlier this year, according to records from the state.

Newport Healthcare is a nationwide network of residential mental health and addiction treatment for teens. It was founded in Southern

See **NEWPORT** on Page 8

Teen heading to national pizza-making competition

Community rallies behind daughter of Much Ado About Pizza owners

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The daughter of a local pizza-making family is getting ready to show off her culinary skills at an upcoming national competition where the teen will debut her very own pie topped with an unlikely ingredient: mangoes.

Zoe Zabrowski — whose parents, Kira and Mark Zabrowski, own Much Ado About Pizza in Pleasanton — will be taking part in the upcoming Young Pizza Makers Contest at the Pizza Tomorrow Summit in Orlando, Fla. from Nov. 11-13.

The Livermore High School sophomore said she doesn't necessarily want to follow in her parents' footsteps as her main goal is to study psychology to become a social worker. However, she still hopes to do well in her first competition next week, and possibly more in the future.

"This year I kind of decided I want to compete. I want to try something different," Zoe Zabrowski told the Weekly. "Even if I don't win I think I want to try it again at least maybe once or twice."

The Zabrowskis, who live in Livermore, first embarked on their pizza-making journey during the coronavirus pandemic.



Kira and Mark Zabrowski were both educators before going into the pizza business. They entered international conventions and competitions for a couple of years before opening up their brick-and-mortar store in the Mission Plaza shopping center on Santa Rita Road in the summer of 2022.

Since then, they have built a strong reputation for their renowned slow-fermented sourdough crusts and Shakespeare-themed restaurant.

When the couple heard of the upcoming pizza summit having a contest specifically for youth, they decided to ask their kids if they wanted to enter the contest. Kira Zabrowski said she was a bit surprised to hear her daughter was

interested in competing, especially given the stress that could come with having to present to live panels and judges.

"I'm nervous talking about it," Kira Zabrowski told the Weekly.

However, the two parents said they are proud of their daughter for stepping out of her comfort zone.

With the competition coming up in less than a week, the family seeks the community's support in both encouraging their daughter to do well and in supporting the family business.

Zoe Zabrowski has already started to receive props from the community as she recently began to

See **PIZZA** on Page 10



PHOTOS COURTESY KIRA ZABROWSKI

Zoe Zabrowski hones her pizza-making skills, left, and practices her pizza toss in preparation for the national pizza competition next week.

MEASURE II

Continued from Page 5

plan amendment, protecting the beautiful Crosby property from development without proper environmental review and a detailed public process," Save Mount Diablo officials said in a statement.

The city of Dublin declined to comment on the ongoing litigation. Crosby was not available for comment as of Tuesday afternoon.

During a Dublin City Council meeting July 16, 2024, representatives approved a resolution to place Measure II on the ballot by a 3-2 vote.

Under CEQA, an agency must prepare an environmental impact report for projects that may have a significant effect on the environment, according to a document available through the state's Land Use and Climate Innovation website.

But the city argued that environmental review was not necessary because the resolution was not a project under the CEQA, according to the tentative decision.

Even if the resolution constituted a project, the city argued that an environmental review was not necessary because the resolution was exempt by the common sense exception. In other words, the city argued that it's impossible that the activity may have a significant effect on the

environment.

One month after the council's approval, plaintiffs sued for its alleged violation of CEQA. They sought preliminary relief ahead of the November 2024 election, but the request was denied to "avoid interfering with the ballot," the tentative decision states.

Dublin voters then approved the measure by 53.11% tally.

Voter approval meant the city could accept a land donation to connect Dublin Boulevard 1.5 miles east to North Canyons Parkway. The extension of Dublin Boulevard was said to include bike lanes, pedestrian access as well as improved 911 response times and traffic flow.

The city also gained authority to approve limited commercial development on 80 acres adjacent to Dublin Boulevard, while 100 acres of open space was set to be preserved.

Voter-approved housing development restrictions were set to remain and there would be no cost to taxpayers, the measure states.

In effect, Measure II revoked the portion of the Dublin Open Space Initiative of 2014 which prohibited additional development in the Doolan and Collier Canyons area.

Under the initiative, any development in protected areas would require voter approval, according to an Aug. 2, 2024 impartial analysis

of the measure by city attorney John Bakker.

Notably, the initiative allowed for the future construction of the Dublin Boulevard extension and directed the council in 2024 to consider whether "commercial development is needed to fund its construction or maintenance."

It also permitted the council to place a measure on the ballot to authorize development along the Dublin Boulevard extension, generally up to 1,200 feet north of Interstate 580.

Both sides of the case agree that the resolution does not cause a direct physical change in the environment, according to the tentative ruling.

The point of contention is whether the Measure II resolution may cause foreseeable, indirect physical change in the environment.

In the tentative decision, Markman determined that the Measure II resolution was a "project" for CEQA purposes and the common sense exemption does not apply.

"There is an 'eminently reasonable possibility' that the city will use its new authority and that the Crosby properties will eventually be developed," the tentative decision states.

"This is an unusual situation," according to the tentative decision.

A city typically has the authority

to make zoning changes and at that point CEQA review would begin, the tentative decision states.

However, the 2014 Open Space Initiative altered the city's baseline to measure whether an action may cause a "reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment." Reversion of the baseline constitutes a project under CEQA.

"The tentative decision was a significant David versus Goliath win for Save Mount Diablo, our partner Friends of Livermore, our wonderful supporters, and everyone who cares about open spaces and following the rules," Save Mount Diablo Executive Director Ted Clement said in a statement.

The city and Livbor-Manning LLC later objected to the tentative decision Oct. 16 and urged the court to reconsider.

"Measure II is not a land use approval — the measure only restores the city council's authority to consider potential future land use decisions for uses at the Crosby properties," defendants argued.

Since Measure II didn't change approved land-uses, any CEQA review would require the city to speculate about the type of land use that city council could consider in the future as well as associated environmental impacts, the objection adds.

"If an activity does not allow for

meaningful environmental review and requires agencies to simply speculate about potential environmental impacts, the activity is not a CEQA project," according to the objection.

The city and Livbor-Manning also contend that the tentative decision errors include misapplying the concept of "baseline" under CEQA, incorrectly relying on previous cases involving changes in land use approvals and misapplying the "common sense" exception.

Following the defendants' objections, Save Mount Diablo and Friends of Livermore filed a response with the court Oct. 30 requesting that each of the respondents' objections be overruled and the court enters the tentative decision as the final decision.

The defendants' objections do not present new facts or legal arguments that the court has not already considered in the briefs or at trial, the plaintiffs stated in their response.

"They're trying to confuse the issues to muddy the water," said attorney Rebecca Davis at Lozeau Drury and representative of Save Mount Diablo and Friends of Livermore, in a statement.

"We anticipate the judge will ultimately enter the tentative as the final decision," Davis told the Weekly. ■

Deported Livermore father set for hearing in 2026

‘Correct the injustice. End the separation. Bring Miguel home!’ protester says

By JUDÉ STRZEMP

A Livermore family continues to fight an unresolved legal battle to bring home deported husband and father Miguel Lopez, marked most recently by a status update affirming the authority of a U.S. District Court to process his case.

Originally from Mexico, Miguel Lopez had lived in Livermore with his wife and their three children — all of whom are U.S. citizens.

In May, Miguel Lopez was unexpectedly detained during a routine report to an immigration office in San Francisco. He was subsequently deported to Mexico where he remains today, Miguel's wife Rosa Lopez told Livermore Vine.

His deportation — deemed “unlawful” by his attorney Saad Ahmad — sent a shock wave through the Lopez family, given Miguel's ongoing pursuit of legal residency for over a decade. Additionally, he had been living in the U.S. for more than 27 years and worked at Wente Vineyards in Livermore as the main provider for his family.

In the months since Miguel Lopez was deported, members of the community have rallied to call for his return to the states.

In the most recent iteration of demonstrations, approximately 40 friends, family and supporters of Miguel Lopez gathered at the Phillip Burton Federal Building and U.S.



LEANN KANOWSKY

Members of the community rallied for the return of Livermore father and deportee Miguel Lopez Oct. 30 outside the Phillip Burton Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in San Francisco.

Courthouse in San Francisco on Oct. 30 for a brief, in-person rally followed by a virtual status update on Miguel Lopez's case inside the courthouse.

“Miguel Angel Lopez is not a case file. He is a husband. He is a father. He is a grandpa. He is our neighbor and friend,” Granada High School educator Betsy Wilson said in a rally-time speech. “Correct the injustice. End the separation. Bring Miguel home!”

Prior to the Oct. 30 hearing, the United States attorney's office filed a motion for the district court to dismiss Miguel Lopez's case, based on its alleged lack of jurisdiction, Ahmad told Livermore Vine.

As part of the status update, attendees were informed that the

motion was denied, Ahmad added. Judge Trina L. Thompson is presiding over the district court case.

Although the U.S. attorney's offices may appeal, Ahmad described the district court's decision as a “very good victory.”

“Now the case will be decided on the merits,” Ahmad added.

Miguel Lopez was first apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security in October 1996 near Otay Mesa, California, according to the Oct. 30 order. An immigration judge ordered his deportation shortly after and DHS removed Lopez from the United States.

In 1998, Lopez reentered the United States without inspection, the Oct. 30 order states.

By February 2007, he applied for adjustment of status with the Citizenship & Immigration Services. USCIS denied his application because he made a false claim to U.S. citizenship in attempting to enter the United States years earlier. Later that year the Department of Homeland Security initiated removal proceedings.

Miguel Lopez was later granted lawful permanent resident status but in 2014, the Board of Immigration Appeals overturned the decision and terminated Lopez's removal proceedings due to a prior

removal order.

DHS then shifted to reinstating the prior order from 1996, the Oct. 30 document states. An officer from Immigration and Customs Enforcement served Lopez with a notice of intent/decision in 2016 to reinstate the 1996 order.

Lopez does not challenge the reinstatement of the removal order, according to the Oct. 30 filing.

But Miguel Lopez never received a judicial review of the board's decision, as he was entitled to, Ahmad contends. So Miguel Lopez seeks review of the board's legal authority to terminate the separate removal proceedings.

Ahmad requests that the district court conduct the review.

Due to the government shutdown, Miguel Lopez's next hearing is scheduled for Jan. 29, Ahmad said.

“You got a sense that she was

kind of frustrated with the government shutdown,” Indivisible Tri-Valley organizer Ward Kanowsky said of Thompson's disposition at the hearing.

To Rosa Lopez, the three-month period between hearings struck her as a lengthy wait — one that would mark the family's first holiday season apart.

“I thought, going through these courts, it probably wouldn't take so, so long,” Rosa Lopez said.

“We thought maybe we were going to get some good news,” she said of the hearing. “It's just getting harder for him because he's still not employed...right now he's just trying to hang in there.”

Rosa Lopez maintains hope that a swift reopening of the federal government could push forward her husband's hearing.

See **HEARING** on Page 11



COURTESY ROSA LOPEZ

Miguel Lopez was taken into ICE custody this summer despite ongoing efforts to obtain legal residency, according to his wife Rosa Lopez.

PHILZ

Continued from Page 5

Contrary to some of its notable competitors like Starbucks and Peet's Coffee, espresso drinks such as lattes and cappuccinos are not on the Philz menu. In addition to limited time holiday drinks, Philz is known for Featured Creations such as Oatmeal Cookie Cold Brew, and non-alcoholic cold brews Iced Mint Mojito with mint garnish or Iced Coffee Rosé with rose water.

Customer Ashley Callery said she was pleased to see cars outside the Philz store on opening day. A Philz fan, Callery stopped by, eager to order her favorite drink,

Philtered Soul Cold Brew.

“We live in Discovery Bay now, but some family members still live in Pleasanton. We are happy to get our Philz drinks here instead of City Center,” she said. Callery's mother ordered a Tiramisu Limited Time Holiday drink with Philtered Soul Cold Brew, a tiramisu swirl, and topped with cocoa powder. Other holiday drinks include Winter Bliss which is described as a “creamy mocha.”

Philz also serves pastries, bagels, sandwiches and burritos. Newer food items include grilled ham and cheese sandwiches and pretzel croissants.

In addition to the drive-thru,

the Pleasanton store has 35 seats, art murals by a California artist depicting Pleasanton scenes, and a back area with a round table. Store manager Aerielle Ortiz has experience in other retail settings as the former manager of the Apple store at Stonestown Galleria in San Francisco. Describing herself as a coffee-lover, Ortiz lives in Danville and said she is pleased to work at Philz in the Tri-Valley and eager, along with her staff, to answer questions about coffee at Philz.

Continuing the soft opening, the Tuesday (Nov. 4) hours were 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with regular hours beginning Wednesday (Nov. 5) from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. ■



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'Food is a human right. No one should go hungry.'

County officials announce plans to help families affected by SNAP benefits freeze

BY ANDRES JIMENEZ LARIOS /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

Local and state officials gathered outside the Alameda County Administration Building in Oakland on Friday to announce their plans to help residents acquire food after most federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits remain frozen during the government shutdown.

County Supervisor Nikki Fortunato Bas provided the emergency phone number 510-635-3663 and the website foodnow.net to help residents find the nearest available food bank. She said over \$1.5 million was raised for immediate distribution to food banks in Alameda County, while an additional \$8.3 million from the county's funds from the 2020 sales tax Measure W are being processed for more aid.

"Food is a human right. No one should go hungry, and we as leaders and food justice organizations are here to say, we have your back," Fortunato Bas said. "We will not let you, your family, your others, go hungry."

Fortunato Bas described the situation as dire in Alameda County. She said 179,000 county residents participate in SNAP, while a total of 400,000 individuals are estimated to be food insecure.

Alameda County Community Food Bank Executive Director Regi Young said the nonprofit was partnering with the county to ensure distribution and access to as many people as possible. Young said the crisis of food insecurity across the county has been made worse during the federal shutdown.

"Right now, we are mobilizing our network. We're purchasing a

ton of food to come into the community so we can get those out into our communities throughout Alameda County, Albany, Fremont, Livermore, Pleasanton, Oakland, all over the county," said Young.

"Prior to this challenge, we were already in a food crisis. We were already seeing levels of people come into our pantries higher than at the pandemic. Now with the government shutdown as well as the pending SNAP cuts, that's going to be more exacerbated in the wealthiest country in the world," Young added.

Other elected officials bashed President Donald Trump's administration and Congress for their lack of action during the government shutdown.

"This was initially a choice by the Trump administration to hold hostage resources from low-income families all over the country, from Detroit to Orlando, from Oakland to New Orleans," said U.S. Rep. Lateefah Simon (D-Oakland).

Oakland Mayor Barbara Lee, who was formerly a member of Congress, said she can relate to the struggle for food security.

"I was in Congress through a couple of shutdowns. This is the cruelest yet," said Lee. "I'm standing here as someone also who understands, personally, what families are going through. I raised my two children on food stamps. It wasn't a handout, but it was a lifeline that kept food on our table while I was doing every single



ANDRES JIMENEZ LARIOS / BAY CITY NEWS

Oakland Mayor Barbara Lee speaks at the Alameda County administrative building in Oakland regarding government assistance on Oct. 31. Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits remain largely frozen during the government shutdown.

thing right, but still struggling to make ends meet."

Lee also added that Oakland and the rest of the county was committed to protecting families of mixed immigration statuses. She said families should not be scared to receive assistance since food banks are not working with the federal government, nor should they ask for immigration status.

Right before the press conference, Judge John J. McConnell of the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island ruled that the Trump administration must use \$6 billion in congressionally appropriated emergency funds to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to ensure SNAP recipients continue receiving benefits

during the government shutdown.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, who led a coalition of other state attorneys general in suing the administration to release the funds, said the stakes remain high as these social services remain on the line.

"Today, not one, but two federal district courts determined that the Trump Administration acted unlawfully when it chose to suspend SNAP benefits for the month of November. The Trump Administration knows that it has a legal duty to fund SNAP benefits, even during the current government shutdown. In fact, just last month, the USDA admitted as much in a document that it later deleted from its website," Bonta said. ■

NEWPORT

Continued from Page 5

California in 2008 by Jamison Monroe and Jim Monroe, first arriving in Pleasanton as part of a Northern California expansion years later.

Previously, the company operated its Oasis center at 7210 Johnston Road in Pleasanton. That location has already been closed, with the site now on the real estate market, along with the Danville site. The Arena center was closed as of this week.

"We continue to operate several residential and outpatient programs in Northern California (in addition to our nationwide footprint), offering evidence-based, results driven mental health treatment for teens, young adults, and families," Newport officials said.

Following its exit from the Tri-Valley, the Newport Academy will have a total of three locations in the Northern California division: one Northern California residential facility at an undisclosed location, and outpatient facilities in San Rafael and Sacramento.

Given the sensitive nature of Newport Healthcare's services and clientele, there is little public

information about the company and its treatment centers.

While the founders remain active in the company, the private equity firm Onex Partners acquired a 60% share in Newport Healthcare in 2021. Last year, former Walmart executive Brian Setzer took the reins as CEO from the outgoing Joe Procopio, who had been in the position since 2019.

Since 2023, both Newport Academy locations in Pleasanton were the subject of several substantiated complaints investigated by the department of social services, according to state records. Those complaints ranged from sexual abuse of patients to lack of

training and education for staff, as well as providing prohibited material including pornography and controlled substances to minors.


Earlier this year, a Feather Alert was issued by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for a 17-year-old, at-risk boy who went missing from the Happy Valley location. He was later found safe.


A spokesperson for Newport Healthcare declined to comment on the social services complaints investigated by the state, but said that the closures were not driven by anything besides the company's goal to align its resources with the market and demand trends of the area. ■



SOPHIA SUCATO

The former site of Newport Academy Arena at 5530 Johnston Road.


CityServe
OF THE TRI-VALLEY




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WHEN: NOV 24 | 7AM-9AM

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Join us for CityServe's Annual Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast, where community members from churches, businesses, government, schools, and nonprofits come together. Experience a meaningful morning of prayer, inspiring stories, uplifting music, and shared purpose as we unite to serve the vulnerable in our region.




KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Gary Gaddini

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Transforming the Bay with Christ (TBC)

LED BY
Tim Sbranti

MUSIC BY
Derek Walker



SCAN ME

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Historic Harlan House demolished after fire damage

Juveniles arrested in suspected arson; assisted living facility project proceeding at site

By JEANITA LYMAN

The city of San Ramon said goodbye last month to its longest-standing Gold Rush era home when it was demolished following extensive fire damage over the summer.

The Harlan House — also dubbed “El Nido” or “the nest” — was found to be damaged beyond repair after it was hit by a significant blaze on July 16 that destroyed a majority of its roof and upper floor. It was demolished on Oct. 23.

As recently as that week, property owner Sohail Siddiqi and city planning officials had been in discussions over the planned renovation and preservation of the house as part of what had been set to be the El Nidor residential care facility, developed in close partnership with the San Ramon Historic Foundation.

Siddiqi said that the San Ramon Police Department’s investigation into the fire had concluded with the apprehension of a group of juveniles who he said confessed to the crime, with the case forwarded to the district attorney’s office.

A spokesperson for the DA said



SOPHIA SUCATO

The mailbox is all that remains of the former Harlan House in San Ramon after it was demolished on Oct. 23.

the office could not comment on juvenile cases.

SRPD officials confirmed that on the day of the fire, officers responded to the scene and began an arson investigation.

Witnesses reported seeing individuals fleeing the area shortly before the fire started. SRPD officers subsequently identified and located three juvenile suspects.

“Through the course of the investigation, it was determined that the fire was started by one of the juveniles,” SRPD officials told DanvilleSanRamon in an email. “Our investigation was completed, and the case was forwarded to the Contra Costa County District Attorney’s Office for review.”

The department could not release any additional information about

the case due to the involvement of minors.

“The fire shattered the owner’s dream,” SRHF Board President Carol Rowley said. “The roof caved in and fell down to the first floor of the home! It could not be restored according to the historians, so the Harlan House had to be demolished and carted away.”

According to Lauren Barr, the city’s director of community development, the decision to demolish the remains of the structure came after the extent of the fire damage was thoroughly reviewed.

“An updated historic assessment of the house after the fire determined that the house was severely altered by the fire, no longer conveyed integrity as a pioneer-era wood frame residence, and would not qualify as a historical resource,” Barr said.

Barr said that the senior care facility planned for the site still has approval from the city “the timing of construction is unclear at this time.”

Siddiqi confirmed to Danville SanRamon that the assisted living facility continues to be in the works,

but said that the destruction of the house — which was set to be a key feature in the new development — will result in additional delays, and additional costs on his end that he estimated to be at least seven figures.

“The issue we had is that the Harlan House was an integral part of our project design,” Siddiqi said. “Now that the house is gone, we have to redo some of our designs and resubmit it to the city. Obviously we had to incur the cost.”

Crowley said that despite mourning the demolition of the house, SRHF was looking toward preservation of the city’s other historic properties, specifically restoration of the 125-year-old Boone House.

“San Ramon has other historic homes at Forest Home Farm, San Ramon’s only Historic Park. The Glass House was restored, and now it is time for the Boone House, built in 1900, to be restored,” Crowley said.

She added that proceeds from the foundation’s annual crab feed in January are set to go toward the Boone House restoration. ■

Bay Area transit sales tax measure clears hurdle

Committee now needs to collect signatures among five counties to qualify for 2026 ballot

By B. SAKURA CANNESTRA /
SAN JOSÉ SPOTLIGHT

Advocates are gearing up for a regional outreach effort now that the door is open for a Bay Area public transit funding measure on the November 2026 ballot.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 63, also known as the Connect Bay Area Transit Act, on Oct. 13 — clearing the way for a voter initiative to put a 14-year sales tax measure supporting Bay Area transit agencies on next year’s ballot. A coalition of transit supporters across advocacy, labor and business groups formed soon after to spearhead outreach and signature gathering efforts.

The coalition — Connect Bay Area Transit Committee — has to gather more than 186,000 signatures across Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa counties by June 3, 2026, to coalition spokesperson Jeff Cretan said. Signature gathering can’t start until next year, so he said these first few months are focused on fundraising and building support from other organizations.

“This is a huge effort, it’s five counties,” Cretan told San Jose Spotlight. “We have an advocacy council that’s working to build up support amongst their membership, but also go out into their

communities and talk about why this matters.”

If approved, the measure is expected to bring a roughly \$264 million annual boost to VTA by 2031 ahead of multimillion-dollar deficits. Not only would it close the gap, but extra funds could go toward service expansions and improvements.

While most counties including Santa Clara face a half-cent tax, it could be as high as one cent in San Francisco. The money will be distributed proportionally to the transit agencies serving each county where the tax is collected, so VTA will receive the majority of taxes from Santa Clara County.

For other regional transportation agencies, the proposed sales tax is about survival. BART’s emergency funds are expected to run out in 2026, and slashing service frequency, closing nine stations and ending service three hours early would not be enough to bridge the deficit. An estimate expenditure plan from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission shows BART would receive \$330 million annually by 2031 from the proposed sales tax.

Advocates say funds from SB 63 are essential to maintain public transportation and the Bay Area’s overall quality of life.

“Without this regional measure, BART and Caltrain and all the

other agencies are looking at massive cuts to service, which means 101, 280, 680 and 880, they become parking lots,” Transbay Coalition co-founder Carter Lavin told San Jose Spotlight. “Can you imagine how terrible traffic would be if there was no Caltrain, if thousands of people on BART going from Berryessa North had to get in a car and drive?”

Transbay Coalition is part of the committee’s advocacy council, and Lavin was one of dozens of supporters urging VTA to opt-in to the measure in July. Lavin said polling has been positive so far, as a January MTC poll of a truncated version of the measure without Santa Clara County found a majority of voters would support the tax to stave off transit cuts. May polling from VTA also found a majority of voters would approve a transit sales tax measure.

Cretan said MTC is conducting another poll of the finalized SB 63 measure, with results expected to be posted soon. As a voter initiative, the measure would need a simple majority to pass.

While VTA’s board of directors voted to join the effort, the agency is only legally allowed to publicize facts about the proposed measure, according to a VTA spokesperson. But elected officials can show their support, so VTA Board Chair and Campbell Mayor Sergio Lopez said

he plans to endorse the measure.

VTA board members previously voiced worries about encouraging voters to pass a tax given the current economic climate and competing measures, but advocates said the positive polling numbers prove residents know the necessity of good transportation.

“People don’t want to see the status quo, people want to see that the transit system is getting more convenient and easier to use,” Seamless Bay Area Executive Director Adina Levin told San Jose Spotlight.

Lopez said the measure would allow VTA to enhance public

transit by increasing service frequency, coverage and connectivity throughout the county and beyond. An MTC estimate expenditure plan shows about \$46 million would be allocated toward rider quality of life improvements, such as free and reduced fee transfers between agency lines.

“We want the opportunity to think, how can we use these resources to transform our system, to make it a more seamless, interconnected system, to make it easier to get around, whether it’s within the county or across the region,” Lopez told San Jose Spotlight. ■

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Marie Theresa Avila

December 4, 1928 – September 19, 2025

Marie Theresa Avila, of Pleasanton CA., 96, passed away on September 19, 2025.

Born to Albino and Theresa Campos on December 4, 1928, in Oakland California, the youngest of nine children. As an infant she lived above her father's grocery store on 23rd Avenue in Oakland. The neighborhood was largely made up of Portuguese people. The neighborhood had the nickname of "Jingle Town". A name it earned due to the many workers at a large cotton mill who were paid in coins and would jingle the coins in their pockets on payday in the hopes of attracting a lady.

As a small child her father sold his interest in the grocery store and moved the family to Atwater CA. where they worked a 40-acre family farm. This was a life her parents new well from their youth on the island of Maderia. It also got her 6 older brothers off the streets of Oakland where her father was sure they would find trouble. When World War Two began all of her brothers enlisted in the military partly to serve their country but largely to escape the endless work on the farm. With the free labor source gone the farm was sold and the remaining family members moved to San Leandro. Marie attended and graduated from San Leandro High School in 1947.

After graduation and secretarial training, she was able to find employment at Remar Bakery in Oakland where she met the love of her life Joseph Avila. They were married on July 15, 1950. In 1951 Joseph enlisted in the Air Force and they were stationed at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kansas for the next four years. While in Kansas they welcomed two sons, Michael in 1953 and Mark in 1955. Upon their separation from the Air Force the family moved into a small cottage behind her oldest brother Louie Campos' home in Oakland. Once enough resources were gathered, they purchased their first home in the Washington Manor District of San Leandro.

In 1980, Joe and Marie moved to a 5-acre ranchette in Livermore where Marie was well known for adopting any stray critter that came her way. As the strain of 5-acres became too much they moved to a more manageable home in Pleasanton. When Mike & Mark

reached school age, she took employment first at Converters Ink in Berkeley and then had a long run working for Sears in Hayward. As children Mark and I were blessed to have her serve as our Cub Scout Den Mother and baseball Team Mom on many occasions. She was generous with delivering us to many of our activities whether it was fishing at Lake Chabot, golf lessons, the movie theatre or a baseball game. As youngsters she also served as our personal ski instructor. She had many interests of her own. As a young woman she took part in Synchronized Swimming later turning into an avid and accomplished tennis player, took classes to learn Spanish and became an accomplished pencil artist and scrapbooker.

She was an avid Oakland sports fan. Cheering on the Warriors, A's and most especially the Raiders. In her Hope Chest we found in addition to her wedding dress, personalized autographs of Ken Stabler and Fred Biletnikoff along with the black sock old time Raider fans used to wave. Marie is most famous for being the glue that brought the Campos and Avila families together each Christmas morning for over 40 years. She would toil for weeks preparing the traditional Portuguese dish Vin e alho, a wine and garlic spiced pork dish, which had to be washed down with plenty of Gin Fizzes.

As time passed the gatherings grew to 60 to 80 people. She had many loves in her life: Her husband Joseph of 72 years, who she lost in 2023, family and friends, any kind of critter in need, helping her daughter in laws when they began their families, learning new things, helping any family members in difficult times and being the glue as the last surviving member of the Campos family.

She is survived by her son Michael Avila and daughter-in-law Ginger Avila, her son Mark Avila, grandchildren Kerry, David and Anthony as well as five great grandchildren Easton, Kaylin, Reece, Rowan and Ryan.

A celebration of Life is planned for November 12, 2025, at 11:00 AM at: Graham-Hitch Mortuary 4167 First Street Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-846-5624

PAID OBITUARY



JUDE STRZEMP

Zephyr Grill & Bar is set to reopen on Friday for the first time since a fire July 1 that took place in the restaurant's prep area.

Livermore restaurant revived after summer fire

Zephyr Grill & Bar welcoming diners back after nearly four months of restoration

BY JUDE STRZEMP

Zephyr Grill & Bar in downtown Livermore is slated to reopen its doors Friday morning following a month-long closure due to a small fire in its prep area and subsequent water damage, restaurant officials announced Monday on social media.

Although the flames were quickly extinguished on the evening of July 1, the damage was more extensive than originally expected, Zephyr officials explained on social media this summer.

The 21-year-old eatery subsequently closed beginning July 2 for cleaning and renovation in the wake of damage from water, smoke and soot.

Restaurant officials have not publicly stated the cause of the fire, but no one was in the building at the time nor was anyone injured in the fire.

"We can't wait to welcome you back — it's been too long!" Zephyr officials wrote on social media this week. "Our team is already placing

orders, bringing back staff and firing up the kitchen — it's almost showtime!"

Known for serving classic and contemporary American cuisine, restaurant officials intended to re-brand Zephyr during renovations in time for the restaurant's reopening. They ultimately decided to drop the idea.

"We realized that keeping our iconic Zephyr Grill & Bar name was the best choice for both our history and our budget", according to officials on the restaurant website. "This project turned out to be much bigger than we ever imagined!"

As of Monday, Zephyr has passed its health inspection and the city was slated to give the restaurant final approval to reopen, according to Zephyr officials.

The restaurant is set to open at 11 a.m. on Friday (Nov. 7) with an updated menu and new hours of operation.

Zephyr officials were not available for comment as of Tuesday afternoon. ■

PIZZA

Continued from Page 6

test bake her new pizza, which features unique ingredients including a mango-based salsa and other savory toppings to balance out the sweet and acidity.

"We just want to say how appreciative we are of the local community and obviously our pizza community for rallying behind Zoe and supporting her," Mark Zabrowski said.

Kira Zabrowski said some of their vendors and other sponsors have been sending Zoe swag and items like her own personalized

chef coat with her name.

"I actually never thought that that many people would have wanted to sponsor me," Zoe Zabrowski said. "I'm really glad that a lot of people wanted to support me and help me with making it to the competition."

The family will be shutting down operations at Much Ado from Sunday through Nov. 14 as they head south for the competition, so they said they are especially appreciative of the help from surrounding businesses and community members, including sponsoring Zoe or buying some pizza before they leave. ■

California voters approve Proposition 50

Redrawing congressional maps to favor Democrats in response to national redistricting fight

BY MAYA C. MILLER
AND JEANNE KUANG / CALMATTERS

California voters on Tuesday passed a ballot measure to redraw the state's congressional map to favor Democrats, a major victory for the party in a high-stakes national redistricting fight that could determine who controls the House of Representatives next year.

The Associated Press called the race shortly after polls closed at 8 p.m. Early returns showed the measure leading with nearly 65% of the vote.

The maps voters approved with Proposition 50 make it likely that five of California's GOP-held

congressional seats could be won by Democrats in next year's mid-term elections. They also bolster the reelection chances of three Democrats currently holding office in now-competitive districts.

The passage is a triumph for Gov. Gavin Newsom, an early proponent of the gerrymandering plan whose backing set off a whirlwind summer map-drawing effort and quick passage through the Democratic-dominated State Legislature.

The campaign played out as a rebuke to President Donald Trump, and Newsom reaffirmed that message in a short speech at the Sacramento headquarters of the California Democratic Party.

"We stood tall and we stood firm in response to Donald Trump's recklessness. Tonight, after poking the bear, this bear roared, with unprecedented turnout in a special election with an extraordinary result," Newsom said.

But he cautioned people to not let down their guard, warning that Trump will continue to intimidate people by deploying ICE and the Border Patrol in cities and to try to gain more congressional seats in other red states. After weeks of saying only that other Democratic-led states could consider redistricting in a similar way, he explicitly called on Virginia, Maryland, New York, Illinois and Colorado to put up a

show of force against Trump and help win back the House.

"I hope it's dawning on people the sobriety of this moment, what's at stake," he said. "We can de facto end Donald Trump's presidency as we know it ... We all must contribute."

Charles Munger Jr., the lead funder of the 'No' on Prop. 50 campaign, said he was saddened by the outcome but would keep working toward independent redistricting nationwide.

"I oppose partisan gerrymandering in any state, regardless of the party initiating it," he said in a statement.

Nationally, the gains would

effectively cancel out the five seats the GOP sought to gain in Texas by passing a new congressional map earlier this year at Trump's urging, and weakens Trump's efforts to solidify the GOP's slim majority in the House. If Democrats win those seats, they would have more power to challenge Trump's administration and policies. However, it has also set off an escalating tit-for-tat around the country as more states move to gerrymander in response to, or against, the president.

But no other states have the population or congressional seats of Texas or California, making Prop. 50's passage especially significant for control of the House. ■

Authors' canceled school visit causes a stir

'The Day the Books Disappeared' writers allege censorship; SRVUSD points to 'concerns' about material from prior visits

BY JEANITA LYMAN

San Ramon Valley school officials responded last week after an author who had been set to present her work to students at a local elementary school took to social media to express dismay over the recent cancellation of the planned presentation.

Co-authors Joanna Ho and Caroline Kusin Pritchard had been set for an appearance at San Ramon's Country Club Elementary School on Oct. 17 for a presentation to TK to third grade students as part of the tour for their new work "The Day the Books Disappeared", which seeks to highlight and speak out against censorship and book-banning in

public schools.

Upon their arrival, the authors were stopped by principal Jyoti Dave for a meeting in her office, in which Ho said in an Instagram post Oct. 29 that they were asked to "only talk about the book" and refrain from discussing the type of books that are often subject to bans, specifically those with LGBTQ+ content.

"We responded that this would be out of our integrity, and we would not change our presentation," Ho said on Instagram. "Despite district approval for our visit, the principal informed us the directive came from above, and excused herself to call her district supervisor."

After 40 minutes, Ho said that the students who had gathered for the event were sent back to class, and that she was not allowed to present.

According to a statement from the San Ramon Valley Unified School District on the evening of Oct. 29, the situation had been spurred by concerns that were raised by principals at sites the book had previously been presented at.

"Specifically, the book's message of kindness, empathy, and understanding was overshadowed by a presentation focused on book banning that extended beyond the developmental level of our youngest students," Superintendent CJ Cammack said.

Cammack said the district had attempted to contact the organization that puts together author visits at SRVUSD to request "that the presentation be adjusted for a younger audience" prior to the Country Club visit.

"When no response was received, staff respectfully made the same request to the authors when they arrived on campus," Cammack said. "The authors declined to modify their presentation to align with our requests and chose to leave without presenting."

The authors contended that the material in their presentation had been tried and tested in presentations to thousands of students over the course of their book tour so

far, ranging from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

"Our book and presentation encourage students to expand their perspectives and recognize our interconnectedness," Ho said on Instagram. "We want students to know that their stories and all stories matter."

"Students of Country Club Elementary, we hope you know that your community is better because you are in it," she continued. "We see you. We celebrate you."

As of Friday, some San Ramon Valley parents were seeking to invite the authors back for an independent talk unaffiliated with the district. No further details were available as of press time. ■

County teacher diversity program wins Golden Bell

BY DIANA LAMBERT / EdSOURCE

The Alameda County Office of Education has been recognized by the California School Boards Association with a Golden Bell Award for its innovative program to diversify the county's teacher workforce.

The Office of Education started the Professional Advancement and Training Hub (PATH) two years ago to help fill the more than 300 teaching and 500 instructional aide vacancies in the county.

Since the program began, it has

helped 1,500 county residents plan careers in education, subsidized the credentials of more than 130 multilingual intern teachers, helped 100 residents become instructional aides, graduated 54 educators from its teacher residency program, and assisted 200 educators to earn clear credentials through its career technical education program.

"Our vision is that PATH is a reliable partner for our school districts and prepares educators to provide culturally responsive instruction to students throughout Alameda

County," said Kristin Bijur, chief of educator effectiveness at ACOE. "This program also is a supportive avenue for Alameda County community members to access careers in education."

The Golden Bell Awards promote excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and practices of school boards in districts and county offices of education throughout California, according to a press release from the Alameda County Office of Education. ■

if it wasn't for them, I probably wouldn't even be fighting so much for Miguel's case," she said.

The U.S. Department of Justice said they were deporting criminals, Wilson said. But Miguel Lopez is not a criminal, she added.

"Miguel's home is not Mexico, a place he has not lived in over 25 years. His home is in the Tri-Valley,"

said fellow Granada teacher Laura Brown in a rally-time speech.

"We need a clear path and timeline forward," Brown said after the hearing, noting his absence through Christmas. "We will bring Miguel home, but when?" ■

Editor's Note: Embarcadero Media East Bay reporter Jeanita Lyman contributed to this story.

Razia Sultana Kazi

December 25, 1929 – October 19, 2025

Razia Sultana Kazi, named after the legendary Indian Queen, peacefully passed away on 10/19/25, age 95, with family at her side. A Pleasanton resident since 1998, she is survived by Pleasanton residents: daughter Dr. Tasneem Bader, son-in-law Dr. Iqbal Omarali, and granddaughters Ayesha & Zoya Omarali and of Arizona, son Dr. Shaji Kazi and granddaughter Nadia Kazi. She is preceded in death by her husband Dr. Badruddoza Kazi, a brilliant agricultural geneticist.



Razia was a pioneering academic who dedicated her life to empowering women through education. Born in Hyderabad, India, she received Bachelors in Nutrition at Lady Irwin College, Delhi in 1948 and served on faculty. In 1957, under Fulbright scholarship, she received Masters in Nutritional Science at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Razia served as Professor and Dean in women's universities in multiple countries. She was Department Head of Nutrition at the first Women's University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Razia enjoyed Urdu poetry, reading old English classics, and sewing.

Mom, in loving memory of a life well lived.

PAID OBITUARY

HEARING

Continued from Page 7

Among the family's supporters, Rosa Lopez recognized educators as being crucial to helping her push through her husband's deportation.

"The teachers are the ones who have gotten me this far and

Inside the grooming, Grindr investigation of a Pleasanton principal

PUSD concludes administrator used hookup app to pursue intimate relations with former students; Fey denies allegations, lambasts district after 'painful chapter' that ends with resignation, settlement

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

After being left in the dark for over a year, Pleasanton's Amador Valley High School community now have confirmation on why their principal suddenly went on a mysterious leave of absence last year: He was under investigation for allegedly grooming and seeking sexual relationships with recent-former students.

A third-party investigation sustained allegations that Jonathan Fey had inappropriate conversations with two Amador alumni on Grindr — including during one's senior year — between late 2023 and August 2024, which led to Fey's removal from the school and ultimately his departure from the Pleasanton Unified School District.

Fey, a married father who lives in Pleasanton, adamantly denied the allegations during the investigation and throughout its aftermath, stating among his key arguments that he does not even have an account on Grindr, a dating and hookup app for members of the LGBTQ+ community.

A redacted copy of the investigation report and other documents were released publicly Oct. 27 — more than 13 months after the Pleasanton Weekly first filed its public records request with PUSD seeking answers about the unexplained ouster at the city's largest high school days into the 2024-25 academic year.

"The District took these allegations very seriously and, as a result, Mr. Fey is no longer an employee of the District," PUSD told the Weekly in a statement accompanying its records release. "It is the District's sincere hope that the District's prompt actions in response to these allegations, and Mr. Fey's separation from the District, will bring closure to all those involved."

The chat conversations between the two young men and the Grindr account the district believes belonged to Fey, which used only an "eyes emoji" as its username, included comments about the 18-year-olds' physical appearance, desires for a "secret school tryst" and asking one of the young men if he would want to "meet up before you go back to (college)".

"I really have always liked you," the eyes emoji account told one young man, according to a screenshot of the conversation included in the investigative report. "Didn't you

notice last year I would go out of my way to say hi or smile every time I saw you?"

That young man, a recent Amador graduate at the time, eventually brought the Grindr exchanges to the attention of his former band teacher, who elevated the conversation to superiors at the district office.

The second young man, who spoke as a witness during the investigation into the first Amador alumnus' complaint against Fey, said he had just turned 18 following the 2023-24 winter break when he began receiving messages from the Grindr account that both teens believed belonged to the principal.

"(By the way), I know who you are. I hope that's OK," the eyes emoji account wrote to the second young man. "For sure I need this to stay a secret. I mean; don't get me wrong (you're) hella hot ... But I would want to get to know you and build up some trust before anything could happen."

"In a perfect world; we would wait until after you graduate and (you're) no longer a student of mine," eyes emoji told the then-18-year-old Amador senior. "But I can't help there's a part of me that would love a secret school tryst."

Fey, who contends the district condemned him without any direct

evidence, told the investigator that the messages might have been from a person or people impersonating him online — something he said has been an issue for the school in the past.

"The allegations made against me are false," Fey told the Weekly through his legal team last week after reaching a settlement with the district.

"From the very beginning, the district knew that I had done nothing to dishonor my family or my professional role," Fey added. "I have dedicated more than 30 years to education, including recently serving eight years at the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, where my reputation was built on integrity and commitment."

But as the investigators stated in their report to the district, the person who interacted with one of the young men had "intimate knowledge" of his personal life, which included specific references to previous interactions on campus and school trips.

'He told me a lot of concerning things'

Public records show the situation arose after the first young man — who graduated from Amador in 2023, Fey's first year as principal



FILE PHOTO COURTESY FEY

Jonathan Fey, shown soon after accepting the Amador Valley High School principal job in his hometown of Pleasanton in 2022.

— began receiving flirty messages on Grindr from an anonymous sender.

According to screenshots and testimony, the then-college student said he did not know who the Grindr account belonged to at first because the only identifiers were the eyes emoji and the account holder's age of 54 years old.

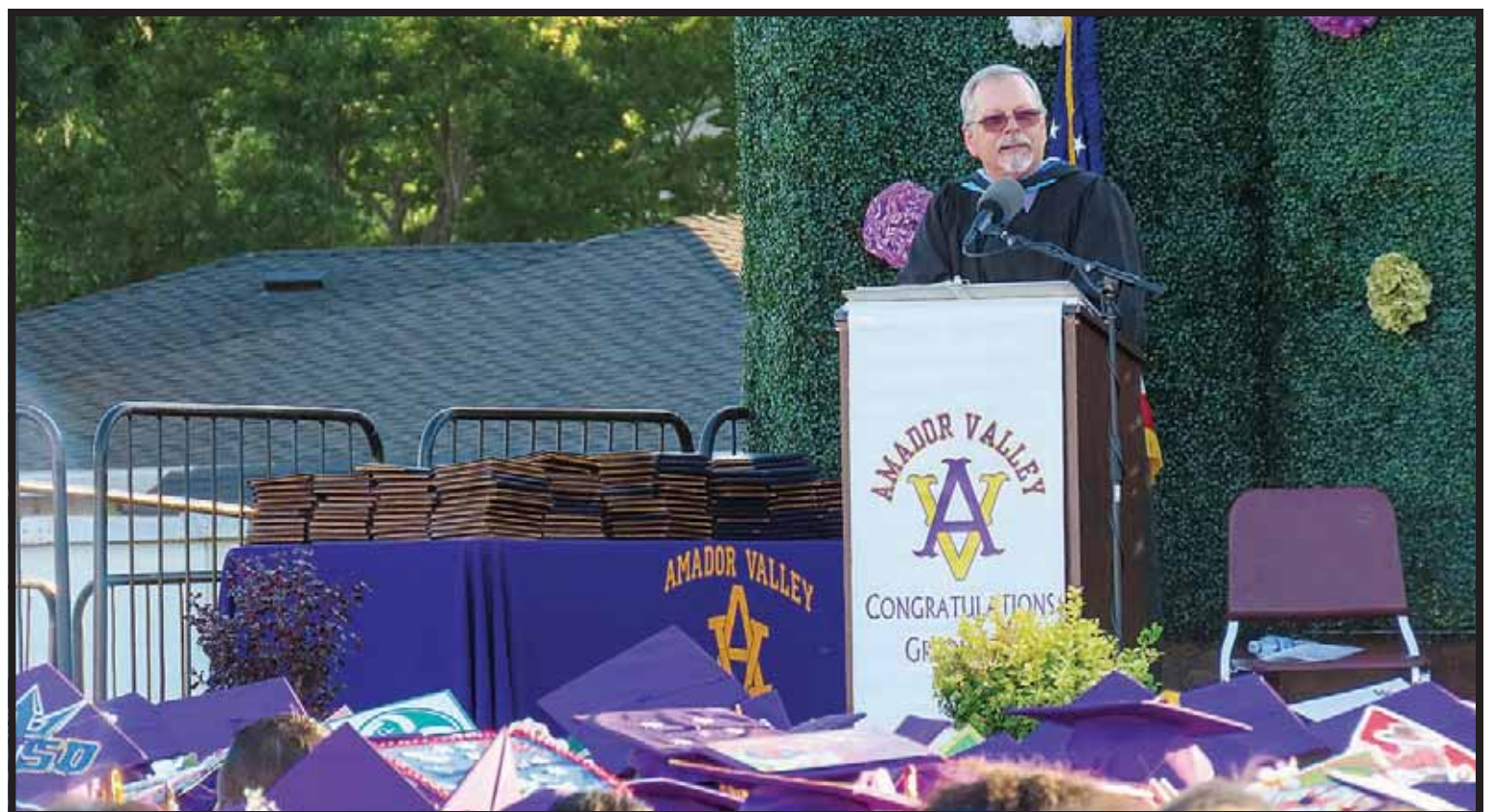
But soon the sender began dropping hints as to who he really was, and by the end of their first interaction, the account replied to the young man with a simple "yes" when the student asked if the user was in fact his former principal, Fey.

Some of the hints included saying he was 54 years old at the time

— records show Fey was also 54 at the time of the messages — and the account talking about having a wife and kids, which Fey does, according to the investigative report. The eyes emoji account also told the young man specific details about a school trip the two were part of and mentioned that they had recently friended each other on another social media platform.

"So you're someone I at least know of," the former student asked eyes emoji.

"Yes. I am married too. Is that something (you're) OK with? I mean if we were to hook up," eyes emoji wrote. "Remember I am 54 (years old) ... you accepted a friend



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Fey addresses the crowd during the 2024 graduation ceremony, which would be his last as principal following a shocking investigation into alleged grooming and inappropriate Grindr chats with two young men who went to Amador during his tenure.

request from me recently in another social media platform.”

The documents obtained by the Weekly included a screenshot that shows Fey and the young man in question began following each other on Instagram in December 2023.

Fey confirmed he had an Instagram account during the investigation, but he denied following any current students, according to the investigation report.

However, he did tell the investigator that he does follow Amador graduates. Fey said he has been asked in the past to provide recommendations or references, so he tries to stay connected with former students so that they can communicate with him.

“It is a combination of them seeking me out, or me finding them,” Fey told the investigator.

Fey also argued that given his longtime connection to the Pleasanton Little League, there was a chance that he “could have been connected to students (who) were umpires of his before becoming principal,” according to the report.

The Weekly contacted the Little League last week, and a representative — who did not want to be named — declined to confirm whether Fey was currently involved with the organization, but they did note Little League Baseball performs multiple background checks on its volunteers.

Fey was seen umpiring games throughout District 57 during the 2024-25 year when he was on administrative leave from Amador.

During the Grindr conversations in December 2023, eyes emoji revealed intimate details with the college freshman in an attempt to build a relationship.

“I am bi and married. I don’t think I have a choice,” eyes emoji said of his concealed sexuality. “My wife knows I am bi ... My wife and I have an agreement. She is ok with me being with a guy, as long as she doesn’t know about it.”

According to the investigation, the young man and his friend found Fey’s address online and used Grindr’s location feature to drive past his house in Pleasanton. They reportedly saw that not only were they right next to the Grindr account when passing near Fey’s house, but eyes emoji confirmed seeing the young man’s location being in close proximity.

When asked directly if he had messaged one of the young men on Grindr, Fey told the investigator, “I do not have a Grindr account. This is absolutely not my Grindr account.”

The principal went as far as presenting his phone to the investigator to show that Grindr was not downloaded and that there was no indication he had previously downloaded the app. The investigator pointed out in the report that people can hide an app’s download history on an iPhone, so its absence does not necessarily confirm whether the app was previously downloaded.



SOPHIA SUCATO

The front of Amador Valley High School on Oct. 29, two days after the full investigation report into former principal Fey was released to the Pleasanton Weekly.

At some point during their initial chats, the young man messaged eyes emoji back — calling them by Fey’s name — and told the user he wasn’t interested in pursuing anything further.

“The fact that you used to be my principal when I was in high school and the age difference is just so creepy,” the Amador alumnus told eyes emoji.

The young man told the investigator that another anonymous account contacted him on Grindr in June 2024, but, after concluding it was possibly Fey again, he quickly shut the conversation down.

According to witness testimony, the young man was originally not planning to raise the issue with the district because he did not want Fey to lose his family, job and reputation. But after some contemplating,

he said he did not want anyone else to experience what he went through.

That’s when the young man reached out to Jonathan Grantham, his former teacher and Amador’s director of bands.

According to a summary of the interview with Grantham, the band teacher first met the young man in August 2019 during the teenager’s freshman year at Amador. The two had a “good teacher-student relationship,” so much so that the student came out as gay to Grantham.

The former student emailed Grantham on Aug. 7, 2024, and let the band teacher — whom he considered to be an adult he could trust — know about the communications between himself and Fey on Grindr, according to the investigation.

“Last winter break, Mr. Fey found

me on Grindr and started messaging me with cryptic clues about who he was and how he was a teacher who knew me at Amador,” the initial email from the student to Grantham stated. “He told me a lot of concerning things about how he felt about me, and when I politely told him to stop reaching out, he got a little upset and deleted his account.”

“A couple weeks ago, he reached out to me again, this time from a new account, and I am worried about this behavior,” the email further stated.

A separate allegation was also made by a former student who, according to the documents, began communicating with the eyes emoji account in February 2024 — at times during school hours. The young man was in his senior

year at Amador at the time of the conversations.

Upon learning of the allegations, PUSD launched an investigation into the matter. Fey was placed on administrative leave on Aug. 12, 2024, just days after students reported to Amador for the start of what was to be his third year as principal.

The district ultimately engaged Leal Law Group, a Los Gatos-based firm that specializes in investigations for school districts. The firm’s final, 100-page investigation report dated Feb. 11, 2025 determined there was enough evidence to conclude Fey was behind the Grindr account in both cases.

“Based on the foregoing and using a preponderance of the evidence standard, the investigator found that it was more likely than not that (Fey) engaged in sexual communications with Complainant 1 after Complainant 1 graduated from AVHS. Therefore, this allegation is sustained,” a third-party investigator wrote in their report on the matter.

The investigator said the same thing of the second allegation regarding the student who had just turned 18 when Fey allegedly began messaging him.

The district notified the Pleasanton Police Department about the alleged inappropriate communication last year.

PPD Lt. Nicholas Albert told the Weekly last week that while the department investigated the matter, no criminal report was filed and no arrests were made. Albert said the matter was “referred to the Pleasanton Unified School District for further internal review.”

“As part of our commitment to the safety and well-being of our students, we encourage students to report any inappropriate conduct,” PUSD said in its Oct. 27 statement to the Weekly.

“We respectfully ask parents to partner with us in this commitment and remind their children that they should feel safe on campus, and if they are aware of or have been subjected to inappropriate conduct, they should report that to a school administrator and/or the Pleasanton Police Department,” the district added.

Questionable searches

The Leal Law Group investigation included review of dozens of screenshots between the two young men and the eyes emoji account, along with an interview with Fey and 15 other witnesses including Amador teachers, district office staff and former students including the two named as complainants.

One interview of note was with Jr Yee, the district’s coordinator of innovation and instructional technology who also ultimately took on the role as acting principal during Fey’s leave of absence.



IMAGES FROM PUSD REPORT / COLLAGE BY PAUL LLEWELLYN

Selection of screengrabs of Grindr chats between two Amador alumni and the “eyes emoji” account the young men and PUSD believe belonged to Fey. The now-former Amador principal denies the sender was him and says he’s never had a Grindr account.

PRINCIPAL

Continued from Page 13

The investigator asked the district's information technology department to run a search for any-time Fey looked up a student's age, gender or birthdate on the high school's Synergy software, which stores student information.

Yee told the investigator that while the system is "unable to drill down to ascertain what a specific user was seeing," the system showed that Fey ran "a couple of searches that were specific to students and students' ages."

According to a report of the Synergy website data history, Fey looked up students' ages on Dec. 15, 2023, Feb. 19, 2024 and May 1, 2024.

Yee also told the investigator that the system showed that Fey was looking at a student's gender and whether a student identified as nonbinary.

"Mr. Fey ran searches relating to students' gender seven times on Dec. 16, 2023, April 16, 2024, May 1, 2024 and May 6, 2024," according to the investigator's interview with Yee. "Additionally, Mr. Fey ran searches relating to students' gender/nonbinary status twice on April 16, 2024."

The investigator pointed out Instagram screenshots that showed in December 2023 Fey started following on Instagram one of the students involved in the eyes emoji Grindr exchanges. When asked by the investigator if he had looked into the student's age before friending them on Instagram, Fey denied having searched for that student's age on the school's system.

Yee told the investigator that the Synergy data could not show the name of the student Fey searched for. Yee also said he could not confirm if Fey had looked at one student's age 14 times or if Fey looked at the age of 14 different students.

When asked why, as a principal, he needed to search for a student's age and birthday, the investigator wrote that "Fey began pausing" and that he did not answer. Pressed for a reason he would search for a student's gender, Fey told the investigator he "cannot think of a reason."

Fey also told the investigator he could not recall why he ran several searches specific to the age of a student — or multiple students — on Dec. 15, 2023 and Dec. 16, 2023 or why he ran a search on a specific student's gender on Dec. 16, 2023.

After talking with his lawyer, Fey did say there had been times he had to reconcile whether students were 18 years old to determine if they were allowed to drive themselves for sports-related events, which might explain the searches related to ages, the investigation report stated.

However, Joshua Butterfield, PUSD's director of secondary education who preceded Fey as Amador's principal from 2019 to 2022, told the investigator that the only times he had ever looked up



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Then-new Amador Valley High principal Jonathan Fey (center) welcomes students on the first day of school and his first day as principal in August 2022.

a student's age as a principal was when dealing with a situation when a student claimed they were eligible to sign themselves out as an adult or if the school was considering filing a Child Protective Services report.

Otherwise, Butterfield said there were no other reasons for looking up a student's date of birth — similarly, he told the investigator he could not think of a time when he needed to verify a student's gender.

"Mr. Butterfield clarified that Amador had more than 600 senior students, and with that volume '... it makes no sense to look up ages individually,'" according to the investigative report.

The investigator also spoke to a number of former Amador students who were friends with the young men communicating with eyes emoji, and all of those who were interviewed corroborated many of the details surrounding the investigation.

One former student who was good friends with one of the complainants told the investigator that Fey's interest seemingly piqued when the student in question turned 18 — and that one day, she and that student went to an event with Fey as a chaperone, and when Fey opened his phone in front of them, it opened to his Grindr profile.

The complainant, in a follow-up interview, confirmed with the investigator that he had also seen Fey's Grindr profile on his phone while the student was walking to an event with Fey from the school. That same young man said that he did not have any conversations with Fey on Grindr until after he turned 18 years old.

"It was definitely (Mr. Fey) — it was not someone pretending to be him," the former student told the investigator. "He would know things others wouldn't have known."

For example, the young man said eyes emoji would know the student was close with certain teachers and

the user asked the student about who would be handing him his diploma upon graduation.

Based on this and more evidence gathered through interviews and supporting screenshots, the investigator determined that the allegations against Fey were sustained, meaning that a "preponderance of the evidence supports a finding that alleged conduct occurred."

A loud denial, but a quiet conclusion

Fey fought for months to challenge the investigation, its findings and the district's plan to remove him as an administrator at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Maintaining his innocence and denying the allegations to this day, Fey pursued proceedings with the state's Office of Administrative Hearings to overturn PUSD's conclusions.

As the matter marched toward key public hearings on the facts of the case this fall, the district's outside attorneys informed Fey and his lawyer on Sept. 2 that they planned to release the underlying complaints and final investigation reports to the Weekly and EdSource, which submitted separate public records requests regarding Fey's unexplained leave of absence. The Weekly's request, which remains ongoing, was first filed Sept. 9, 2024.

Fey then sued the district in Alameda County Superior Court to stop the disclosure of public records, but after the Weekly secured legal representation and entered the fray in mid-October, the lawsuit resolved within days, allowing the documents to be released to the media Oct. 27.

The OAH case quietly settled during that same week too.

Under the settlement signed by Fey on Oct. 18 and unanimously approved by the PUSD Board of Trustees in closed session Oct. 23, Fey agreed to drop the OAH case

— and to never sue in the future — in exchange for the ability to permanently resign from the district effective Oct. 17, a \$254,000 payout and no admission of wrongdoing.

Nearly half of the payment to Fey is earmarked explicitly for his attorneys' fees, with the remaining \$142,000 is described as "as back pay and/or front pay". His health benefits from PUSD ended on Halloween.

The list of OAH proceedings that had been scheduled for this week were all canceled.

"The district chose to settle the upcoming hearing to avoid subjecting students and staff to the stressors of testifying in an adversarial hearing, to avoid the uncertainty and risk associated with litigation and to preserve district resources that would otherwise be spent in litigation," PUSD Superintendent Maurice Ghysels told the Weekly in a statement Oct. 28.

"The matter was settled to the satisfaction of both parties and, as a result, neither party is a prevailing party," Ghysels added.

However, Fey continues to argue that no direct evidence connected him to the Grindr account and the communications with the two former Amador students. He claims the district has failed to protect its employees in the past and implied that his case is just another example in a list of instances where Amador employees were targeted.

One prior incident Fey has cited involved someone allegedly impersonating former vice principal Athena Duran and sending threats in an attempt to get her in trouble and possibly fired. Fey also noted a similar situation with vice principal Melanie Harris in which the school supposedly received an anonymous tip from the same students implicated in the Duran incident and that the tip was that there were threats made against the school and Harris.

The case with Harris did involve

a fake account of her that included posts which were intended to get Harris in trouble and possibly fired, according to a summary of the incident. Records seem to indicate no action was taken against anyone in both incidents.

When asked about the relevance to those prior incidents, Fey said those incidents were similar to his investigation because they involved false allegations and impersonating administrators.

"I could be targeted by that student," Fey told the investigator. Any context regarding said student was redacted in the released records.

"Unfortunately, when I joined Pleasanton, I encountered a culture that fostered division instead of collaboration, creating an environment where employees were left to fend for themselves," Fey told the Weekly.

Fey's wife also reached out to the Weekly last week to provide some words of support for her husband amid the entire ordeal, which had become fodder for national headlines after initial reporting by the Weekly and EdSource.

Monica Fey said that in the 35 years she has known her husband, she has always known him to have integrity, compassion and respect and that he has always devoted himself to helping others.

"The allegations made against him are deeply painful for our family, but we stand firm in our belief that the truth will prevail," she told the Weekly by email Oct. 30. "We ask the community to withhold judgment until all facts are known and to remember that every person deserves fairness and due process. Our family remains united and strong through this difficult time."

Still standing up for his reputation, Fey closed by telling the Weekly that the district's decision to pay him a quarter million dollars to settle the case "serves as clear proof that it has long known it was in the wrong" and that he hopes this outcome compels PUSD to "take meaningful action to protect its employees and to create a culture of fairness, accountability, and respect."

"This settlement marks the conclusion of a painful chapter that my family and I have endured as a result of the Pleasanton school district's failure to establish proper safeguards to protect employees who speak out against toxic behavior," Fey told the Weekly.

Fey's administrator credential is currently still valid until June 2029, according to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing database. However, according to state law, the school district will have to report Fey's alleged misconduct and the subsequent investigation to the commission.

Once notified, the credentialing commission will conduct its own investigation, which could result in Fey losing his credential. ■

Editor's note: Pleasanton Weekly editorial director Jeremy Walsh contributed to this story.

'Always something surprising to discover'

Pleasanton Art League's annual 'Fall Members' Show' at Harrington Gallery

By JEREMY WALSH

The artistic creativity and diversity in Pleasanton and the greater Tri-Valley is on display in the Harrington Gallery all autumn long.

Running the gamut of subjects and styles to grab patrons' attention, the Pleasanton Art League's "18th Annual Fall Members' Show" is open now through Dec. 20 in the fine arts gallery inside the city's Firehouse Arts Center downtown.

"This group exhibition is a brilliant amalgamation of styles and mediums that draws viewers in," Harrington Gallery curator Sydney Tang told the Pleasanton Weekly.

"With around 75 pieces from artists of all levels — some just starting out, others well-established — visitors get an exciting blend of fresh ideas and evolving techniques. There is always something surprising to discover with the diversity of PAL's 200-plus membership," Tang added.

For Alana Shoars, president of the nonprofit PAL, the 2025 fall show is a true celebration of "the rich diversity and creative talent of



our community and surrounding areas".

"Visitors ... will discover more than paintings on a wall," Shoars told the Weekly. "What immediately stands out is the exceptional quality of the artwork and the

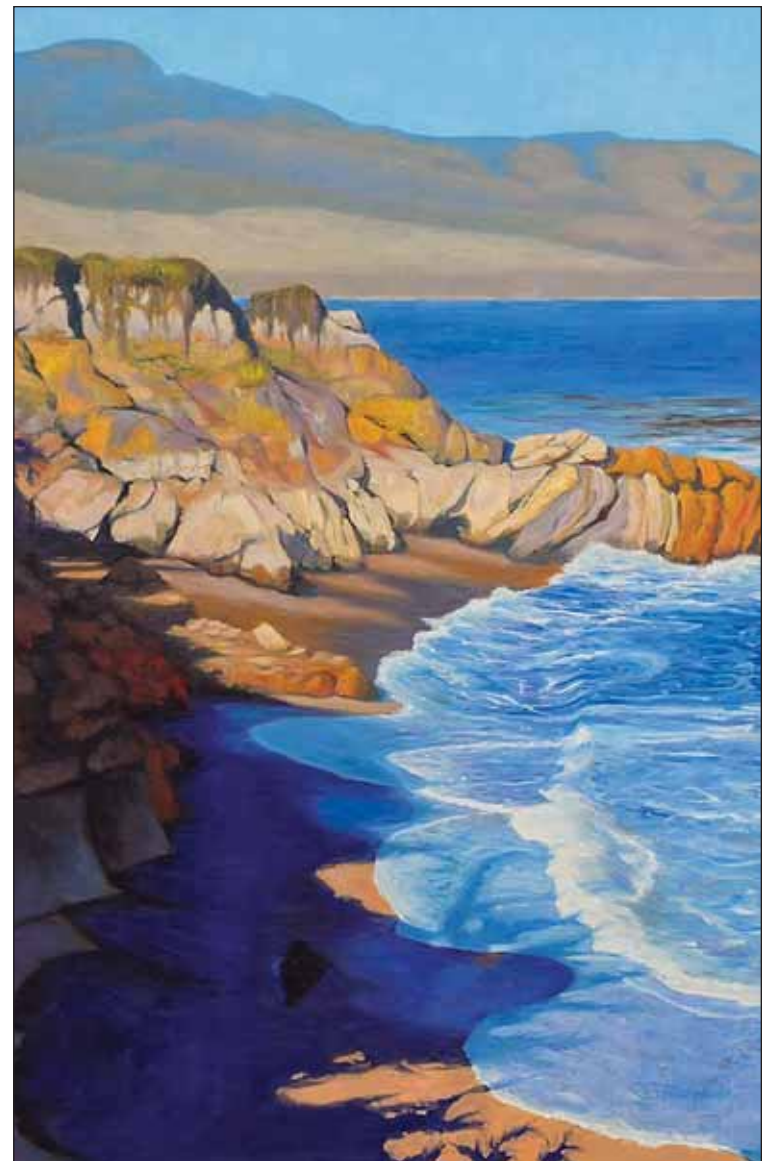
remarkable talent of our local artists. Each piece offers an opportunity for emotional and intellectual connection — offering a glimpse into the creative heart of its maker."

"We hope the exhibition inspires a deeper appreciation for the unique stories and visions each artist shares," Shoars said. "Behind every brushstroke and sculpture lies a story waiting to be discovered, reminding us of the power of creativity to move, connect and inspire."

PAL board secretary Linda Garbarino added, "Each year our artists challenge their skills to create outstanding works of art. This year offers an exceptional show."

The gallery welcomed the "18th Annual Fall Members' Show" with an opening reception and awards ceremony Oct. 25. The artworks were judged by Andrew Johnstone, a British artist who now lives in the Bay Area and works as a studio painter on large canvases and portraiture.

A series of live artist demonstrations is also part of the exhibition,



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS
Clockwise from far left:
"Ocean Greeting", an oil painting by Jenna Hobbs, is part of the Pleasanton Art League's "18th Annual Fall Members' Show" at the Harrington Gallery through Dec. 20. "San Simeon Point" by Gerald Thompson. "La Plume Magnifique" by Kathleen Hill.



acrylic from 1-2:30 p.m. also on Nov. 15 and Rashmi Rao on alcohol inks from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dec. 20, closing day for the show.

"The Harrington Gallery provides local artists a space to be celebrated by their community and to gain further exposure throughout the Tri-Valley and greater Bay Area," Tang said. "Especially with PAL's fall show being an annual occurrence at the Harrington Gallery, it is exciting to see how returning artists develop their practices year by year. Supporting local art in this way keeps the creative spirit of Pleasanton alive and helps build a stronger, more vibrant cultural scene."

The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays at the Firehouse, 4444 Railroad Ave. For more information, go to firehousearts.org. ■



"Bosque del Apache" by Ron Rigge.

COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

'Knock, Knock' invites humor to Livermore gallery

Light-hearted exhibit reinforces that art doesn't need to be serious to be significant

By JUDE STRZEMP

Livermore Valley Arts recently launched its winter art exhibit with an eye toward the playful side of expression.

Open to the public as well as ticketed patrons during performances at the Bankhead Theater, "Knock, Knock: The Art of Wit and Whimsy" is a reminder that art does not need to be serious to be significant, LVA officials said in a statement.

The exhibit features about 65 pieces of levity including visual puns, reimagined board games, satire and comic-inspired illustrations, according to LVA officials. The pieces vary in media type such as painting, sculpture, photography, illustration and mixed-media.

Given present-day stressors, a light-hearted exhibit is in order, LVA visual arts and education manager Anne Giancola said.

"In these fraught times, people are worried about economics and what's happening in politics and what's happening with their job. There's a government shutdown. There's all these heavy things that are happening right now and the holidays are around the corner," Giancola said.

"(Art) can transport you out of your everyday life and into something that is bigger, and it's important to recognize the power of art in changing your frame of mind."

Giancola first envisioned the exhibit upon hearing staff suggestions to display LEGO art, she said. Upon expanding the LEGO concept to playfulness in general, "Knock, Knock: The Art of Wit and Whimsy" was born.

The show gives artists a unique opportunity to showcase their light-hearted work, Giancola explained.

"Some of the artists don't always have the chance to submit to something whimsical and witty. That's just not a typical art exhibit — they usually have these big, heavy-duty titles," Giancola said.

Included in the exhibit are Julie Cuy's "Circling Back I" and "Circling Back II," each depicting a large donut — one chocolate sprinkle treat and one vanilla.

"The paintings are really about focusing on simple pleasures and a bit of nostalgia," Cuy said. "There's something joyful about taking an ordinary treat like a donut and giving it quiet importance on a relatively large scale canvas."

"I don't usually paint with the kind of color I was able to use with these paintings, so that was a fun departure," Cuy added.

Another participating artist, Jean Batchelder of Livermore accidentally found the subjects of "Right Back Atcha" while passing a fire hydrant in town.

"One morning, I happened to spy a cute little dog lifting his leg ... you get the picture," Batchelder said.

"When the 'Knock, Knock' art exhibit was announced, it occurred to me that a fire hydrant spraying water back at an offending dog might be fun to paint," she added. "I hope viewers will giggle when they see this."

"Knock, Knock: The Art of Wit and Whimsy" will be on display at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater through Jan. 3. The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, except when matinee performances begin at 2 p.m.

Following Livermore Downtown Inc.'s "Earlier Than the Bird" shopping event Nov. 22, LVA is set to host a "pajama party" in the Bankhead lobby. Set to perform at the event is



COURTESY LVA

Julie Cuy's "Circling Back I" is on display in the new exhibit at the Bankhead Theater's UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery.

songwriter and troubadour Michael McNevin, also known for his work as an Etch A Sketch artist.

The free, public gathering is

scheduled to run from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and attendees wearing PJs will be entered into a drawing to win tickets to Bankhead Presents. ■

PYTC performing 'Beetlejuice JR' next two weekends

Combines comedy, grief, supernatural and love

By JEREMY WALSH

The Firehouse Arts Center is extending the spooky season another two weekends after Halloween, with Pleasanton Youth Theater Company's production of "Beetlejuice JR."

The stage show follows the familiar story from the original film and follow-up Broadway musical, with outcast teenager Lydia Deetz navigating the loss of her mother while moving into a new house with her father — a house that happens to be haunted by a recently deceased couple and the eccentric demon Beetlejuice.

"I think fans of the original movie will find that same zany humor from the movie, while adding some new insight to each of the characters," city library and recreation coordinator Jeff Zavattero told the Pleasanton Weekly as rehearsals wound down before opening night.

"Anyone who hasn't seen the movie will have a blast discovering these characters and some people may relate to the journey they are all going through. This show doesn't shy away from the pain of loss, but also celebrates the joy you can still find in life after loss," Zavattero said. "I am really excited for people to see this show and see how these casts - the Strange



PYTC

Dress rehearsal for PYTC's "Beetlejuice JR." production on Monday.

Cast and Unusual Cast — present the material."

PYTC Center Stage is presenting eight shows among the two casts of young actors between this Friday (Nov. 7) and next Sunday (Nov. 16). Performance times are 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays at the city-operated black-box theater in downtown Pleasanton.

Firehouse reps hope the production brings the right combination of "humor, heart and mayhem" to engage and entertain not only families, but theater fans in general.

"The most intriguing thing to me was how this show handles grief

in a very real way, while maintaining the humor people expect from Beetlejuice," Zavattero said. "This version focuses more on the loss of Lydia's mom and Charles's wife, illustrating the different ways that they are coping as the story moves forward and how it affects their reactions to the wild events of the show."

"Our actors have done such a wonderful job navigating the emotions that come with these heavy subjects, and I have found myself laughing and shedding tears during our rehearsals," he added.

For tickets and more information, visit firehousearts.org. ■

Ice rink opening at City Center

Elsa Night, K-Pop Night among theme events

By JEREMY WALSH

Holiday skating is returning to San Ramon, with City Center Bishop Ranch welcoming back the Kristi Yamaguchi Holiday Ice Rink from this weekend into the new year.

Complete with a new slate of special theme nights and a larger rink (with 8% more ice than last year), the Kristi Yamaguchi Holiday Ice Rink officially opens this Friday (Nov. 7) with a ceremony from 6-7 p.m. featuring the local Olympic gold medalist.

The open-air rink will be operating daily through Jan. 4 (except for closure days on Thanksgiving and Christmas), open as early as 11 a.m. and closing as late as 10:30 p.m. on certain days. Skating access is sold in 90-minute sessions with skate rental included.

To encourage community experiences, City Center has organized theme nights for the ice rink throughout the season: Pajama Party (Nov. 12), The Grinch Night



SUNSET DEVELOPMENT

Kristi Yamaguchi poses on the holiday ice rink that bears her name in San Ramon.

(Nov. 19), Elsa Night (Dec. 3), Elf Night (Dec. 10), Ugly Sweater Night (Dec. 17), New Year's Eve Glow Night (Dec. 31), K-Pop Night (Jan. 1), Sabrina Carpenter Night (Jan. 2) and Taylor Swift Night (Jan. 4).

Yamaguchi herself will also host a special skating clinic on the morning of Dec. 6. Select weeks will see \$10 Tuesdays for a special admission discount across all sessions those days. The rink will offer private reservations for birthdays, corporate parties or other events, as well as private rink-side fire pits and couch for up to four guests daily. ■

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton woman dies after being struck by car in downtown

A woman died late Tuesday evening after she was hit by a car at the intersection of Main and Neal streets in downtown Pleasanton.

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau confirmed that the victim was 56-year-old Rowena Coronel of Pleasanton. According to the Pleasanton Police Department, the cause of the collision remains under investigation.

At around 6:40 p.m. Tuesday, officers responded to a report of a vehicle collision involving a pedestrian at the downtown intersection, police said.

Upon their arrival, officers — along with personnel from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and Falck paramedics — immediately provided medical attention to the woman. However, after being transported to an area hospital, she succumbed to her injuries later that night.

According to police, the driver of the vehicle involved in the collision remained at the scene and is cooperating with investigators.

"Impairment does not appear to be a factor in this collision," police said in a press release Wednesday, encouraging witnesses to contact the department at 925-931-5100.

Police did not respond to inquiries regarding the name or age of the driver or the nature of the collision and whether the vehicle had the right-of-way.

— Christian Trujano

Intruder steals credit cards from Livermore schools

An unidentified man was found to have trespassed at four Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District campuses last month and stole personal belongings from classrooms, district officials confirmed.

LVJUSD officials first became aware of some of the crimes on Oct. 28, as multiple staff members began reporting credit card theft and fraudulent activity, according to district spokesperson Michelle Dawson.

Upon confirmation of the full scope of the incidents on Oct. 29, Superintendent Torie Gibson issued a statement to district families regarding the trespassing and thefts. A follow-up email was distributed the next day.

Many parents were rattled by the news, and some took to social media to express their concerns surrounding campus safety and district communication.

The district declined to reveal to the Weekly which specific schools

were involved out of concern for the campuses and their staff being unfairly blamed for wrongdoing. But principals at the four school sites reportedly identified themselves to the families of their particular campuses, including Tom Jones of Jackson Avenue Elementary School.

"Although the theft of personal property is concerning, our foremost priority remains the safety and security of our schools, students and staff," Gibson wrote Oct. 29 to families.

Multiple still photographs pulled from security video footage at one school — distributed publicly by the district in the hopes of identifying the culprit — showed the intruder walking on a campus at 1:17 p.m. Oct. 22. Wednesdays have an early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. for elementary schools like Jackson Avenue.

The intruder typically entered the school sites during busy times such as dismissal or after-school hours, Gibson told families by email, urging them to report any suspicious people or activity around a campus. He may use "easily accessible entry points" such as multipurpose room entrances or propped gates, she added.

He is typically dressed in dark clothing, sometimes wearing a hat or mask, "often appears friendly and approachable" and he may pretend to be on the phone, looking for a classroom or picking up a student, she said.

LVJUSD officials were able to confirm the presence of an individual at four school sites via security camera footage reviewed Oct. 29, Dawson said. The evidence and relevant information was shared with the Livermore Police Department, she added.

LPD spokesperson Azenith Smith confirmed the department's ongoing investigation into the matter.

"To our knowledge, all staff members who were victims of this crime have come forward, and we are committed to supporting them as the investigation moves forward and justice is pursued," Gibson wrote to families.

In addition to the four LVJUSD school sites, district officials suspect the same intruder has targeted schools across the Bay Area.

It is not immediately clear which other school campuses he may have hit.

"Your awareness and cooperation are essential in keeping our school community safe," Gibson said. "We will continue taking all necessary precautions to maintain secure campuses."

Upon receiving word of the incidents, a segment of parents expressed concern online about the ease of campus accessibility. But most worrisome to some of them was the passing of a full week before



COURTESY LVJUSD

The district says this person found trespassing at four school campuses in Livermore on Oct. 22 also allegedly stole personal belongings, including credit cards, from classrooms.

notice was sent to families.

"My concern around the district is the individual's ability to access the closed campus during the school day and that notification went out a week later with it going to the entire district before the specific school sites," LVJUSD parent Katie Anderson told the Weekly.

Other parents questioned online whether the district knew about the intruder Oct. 22 and withheld the information or did not realize there was an intruder until days later. In the latter case, concern was voiced over security and response systems.

"We are reviewing and strengthening our current safety protocols to prevent future incidents," Gibson said. This includes evaluating site access procedures, visitor identification practices and general campus supervision during busy times of the day."

As part of Gibson's initial message to families, she reminded the community of safety measures.

Campus visitors must enter through the main office, check in at the office and wear a visible visitor badge while on site, she said. Tailgating or entering through gates or doors, not designated for public entry, is prohibited. Students must not open gates or doors for non-staff members. Also, staff must wear district-issued identification at all times, approach anyone not wearing approved badging and keep classrooms locked at all times.

Additionally, all site principals are set to communicate directly with their school communities regarding any specific changes to campus access for parents, volunteers and visitors, according to Gibson.

— Jude Strzemp

Jury adds convictions

The lengthy, two-part trial for a former San Ramon Valley teacher and cheer coach finally concluded last week, with jurors announcing convictions on a set of aggravated circumstances that were introduced at the conclusion of the first phase of the trial.

Jurors on Oct. 29 found that three out of four aggravated circumstances pursued by the prosecution against defendant Nicholas Moseby applied to the case — a particularly vulnerable victim, planning and sophistication by the perpetrator, and the exploitation of a position of trust.

"The victims have traveled a long road to justice," Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton said in a news release. "This jury's verdict opens a path toward healing from the trauma — not only for the victims, but for the broader community as well."

The jury did not reach an agreement on whether the charges Moseby was found guilty of constituted an escalation from his previous legal record, which included providing alcohol to minors and soliciting a sex worker.

The jury's findings on the aggravated circumstances marks the conclusion of what the DA's office described as a bifurcated trial, with deliberations on the aggravating circumstances commencing after the jury reached guilty verdicts on five out of seven criminal charges on Oct. 17.

In the weeks-long first phase of the trial that was postponed multiple times before commencing on Sept. 15, Moseby was found guilty of one felony count of distributing pornography to a minor, one felony count of a lewd act upon a child, two misdemeanor counts of child molestation and one misdemeanor count of sexual battery.

Moseby, 41, of Concord, was found not guilty on one count of a lewd act on a child under the age of 14, and the jury could not reach a verdict on another felony count of a lewd act upon a child.

The aggravated circumstances that the jury found applicable could allow the judge to impose a harsher sentence. The sentencing hearing is set for Dec. 19.

— Jeanita Lyman

Fatal crash ID

The motorcyclist who died after colliding with a vehicle at the intersection of Paseo Laguna Seco and Portola Avenue in Livermore last week has been identified by the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

The coroner reported Richard Simion Sajor Jr., 47, of Livermore as the decedent in the crash last Monday.

The Livermore Police Department responded to the incident at approximately 3:30 a.m. Oct. 27. A preliminary investigation indicated that Sajor was traveling westbound on Portola Avenue while a 61-year-old Livermore driver was making a left turn onto Portola Avenue from southbound Paseo Laguna Seco, police said.

Paramedics arrived within minutes, but the motorcyclist was pronounced deceased at the scene, according to police. The driver remained at the scene and cooperated with investigators.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation as of Tuesday, police confirmed.

— Jude Strzemp

Toddler abandoned after wreck

A woman is facing three felony charges for recently leaving her 1-year-old daughter at the scene of a solo drunk-driving crash east of Livermore, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The incident occurred at approximately 3 a.m. Oct. 26 at the off-ramp from westbound Interstate 580 to Grant Line Road, CHP-Dublin Officer Tyler Hahn said.

The driver's daughter suffered "major injuries" as a result of the crash, Hahn added.

At the time of the incident, the driver did not contact authorities, Hahn added. Instead, the mother allegedly left her daughter at the crash site and began walking on I-580.

The woman was reported as a pedestrian on the freeway and upon contact, officers found she was intoxicated with alcohol, Hahn said. She did not immediately mention the crash to authorities, nor did she remember the location of the incident.

Following a search, CHP units located the vehicle and child at approximately 5:20 a.m.

The 1-year-old girl was found outside of the vehicle in the dirt and grass, authorities said. She was subsequently transported to UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland and is expected to recover.

The driver, whose identity was not immediately released, was arrested and has been charged with felonies including driving under the influence, child endangerment and hit-and-run. ■

— Jude Strzemp

Lasting Memories

Search obituaries
or submit a memorial.

PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries

BY NEEL SOMANI

How schools can prepare students to lead in age of AI

Artificial intelligence is transforming the world faster than schools can adapt. For communities like ours in the San Ramon Valley, the challenge is clear. How do we prepare students for careers that may not even exist yet?

As a proud graduate of the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, I have seen first-hand the quality of education that defines our community. Nearly 30,000 K-12 students learn here, supported by dedicated teachers and families who make SRVUSD one of California's highest-performing districts.

The district's graduation rate stands at 97%, and 95% of seniors plan to attend college. About 79% of students are proficient in reading and 72% in math. This is well

above the national averages of 35% and 22%, respectively. These results speak to both talent and commitment of our educators.

But the pace of technological change means we cannot stop there. Most curricula are designed by looking backward. For the last two decades, software engineering and computer science have been among the top growth fields.

Schools built programs to feed that demand, yet many of those roles may no longer exist by the time today's middle schoolers graduate. AI systems are already automating tasks once handled by junior engineers, and the nature of work is shifting before our eyes.

We cannot know exactly which skills will matter in 2035 or 2040. What we can see is how researchers and innovators use AI today. These tools act as powerful assistants, but they must be guided, checked and corrected.

On their own, AI models do not know what we want. That is why students need a strong foundation in first principles including a deep understanding of their subjects, whether in science, humanities or economics. True comprehension helps them verify AI output and ensures they are thinkers, not just users.

Students also need agency and the confidence to set goals and act on them. In my mentorship to local students, I encourage young people to understand why they pursue a path, whether driven by curiosity, creativity or a desire to make an impact.

When students in Danville, San Ramon and Alamo connect learning to purpose, they prepare not just for jobs but for meaningful careers.

I am grateful to give back to the district that shaped me through several local initiatives, including an endowment with SRVUSD's education foundation to support young

innovators and a Knowledge Grant for student journalism at Dougherty Valley High School to strengthen critical thinking and literacy.

Our community already has strong academic foundations and high aspirations. Preparing students for the AI era means going beyond proficiency. It means empowering them with curiosity, confidence and critical thinking so they can direct technology rather than be directed by it.

The future will not belong to faster machines but to thoughtful minds leading with purpose. ■

Editor's note: Neel Somani is a San Ramon Valley Unified School District graduate, entrepreneur, and education philanthropist. He founded the Young Innovators Fellowship and Knowledge Grant for Student Journalism and established a named endowment with the SRVUSD Education Foundation to support future-ready learning and innovation.



LETTERS

Cows in parks

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has begun a pilot program of grazing cattle on parkland, which has been done before.

Shortly after graduating from Granada High School, I was running in Sycamore Grove on Winery Loop trail, and I ascended the steep, steep, steep hill up to the Wagon Loop Trail and was surprised by a herd of cattle. More to the point, I was astounded by their smell. It was an onslaught of stink that drove me back down the hill.

At the base, I felt embarrassed. I wanted to run the high hills. To have fled from a few cows, how stinky could they be? So with great perseverance I ran back up the hill, faced the cows, smelled them, then retreated again, defeated by stink.

If cattle were only smelly, if they only worsened the park experience for me and everyone who got close, that would be one thing, but those cow farts are methane, which is 28 times more dangerous a greenhouse gas than CO₂.

So grazing cattle to reduce wildfire hazards is shortsighted, because cows make wildfires worse and worse.

I understand that Livermore has a cowboy tradition, and cattle may appeal to some, but as traditions go, it was brief, colonial and unsustainable. I prefer the longstanding

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Meet Palazzo

A beautiful, 9-month-old gray tabby with soft fur, bright green eyes and the cutest extra "thumbs", Palazzo's regal look hides a gentle, thoughtful personality. She enjoys quiet spaces and calm company, taking her time to warm up before offering sweet head boops and slow blinks. Independent yet affectionate, Palazzo is the perfect easygoing companion with a hint of mystery and charm. Meet her at East Bay SPCA's Dublin campus or online at eastbayspca.org

California tradition of controlled burns that Native Americans used to reduce wildfire hazards for millennia.

Or grazing goats, or anything else than cows and their methane farts.

— Alan Marling

BART parking lot

In reading the article about the Pleasanton BART parking lot, I fail to understand why our government officials have authorized the spending of limited tax dollars on potential development of an existing BART parking lot without having a firm understanding of the current usage of the lot and how any proposed development would alter the traffic and parking issues of the area.

I would have expected that the issue of proposed parking and

traffic would have been addressed as part of the "early design proposals" that were made available for review by the Pleasanton Planning Commission. However, it appears that such concerns still have not been addressed.

I would like to know how much we have spent so far on this project.

— Paul Luce

Rebuttal to the rebuttal

The argument that last week's comparison of political philosophers relied on a "false equivalence" is itself mistaken. There is no false equivalence between the systems being discussed—they are not being conflated as similar, but cited precisely because they represent opposite poles in the political spectrum: authoritarian rule versus democratic governance.

Contrast is not equivalence.

The letter also overlooks an important historical point: the United States Constitution did not arise in philosophical isolation. It was deeply influenced by the Roman historian Polybius, whose analysis of the Roman Republic—particularly its mixed constitution and balance of powers—directly informed James Madison's thinking.

But political philosophy did not end with the Founders, nor with Machiavelli or Plato. More recent thinkers such as Karl Popper advanced the discussion significantly. Popper argued that the aim of politics is not to design a perfect society but to prevent tyranny in all its forms.

He championed individual rights, defended liberal democracy, and warned against any sweeping ideological blueprint for society. His solution was "piecemeal social engineering"—gradual, practical reforms rather than grand totalizing schemes.

This approach is not only compatible with the American system; it is essential to its ongoing health. Just as unchecked government power leads to tyranny, so too does unfettered capitalism. Piecemeal socialism—targeted public programs that protect citizens from exploitation, instability, or destitution—is not a threat to democracy but one of its safeguards.

Tyranny is not avoided by freezing political thought in the 18th century, nor by dismissing comparisons across history—but by learning from them.

— John Williams

Pleasanton Weekly

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Sports



PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Amador girls seeded No. 1 in D-II tourney

The Amador Valley girls' water polo team ended the regular season with a 9-6 win over rival Foothill.

Susan Swyers ended her regular season high school career with six goals to pace the Dons. Anusha Shelatkar, Zahra Alami and Abigail Jones each scored one goal. Deepika Suresh made 12 saves for the Dons.

The East Bay Athletic League was well-represented in the North Coast Section water polo tournament that began this week.

On the girls' side, Amador, led by high-scoring Swyers and standout goalie Suresh, were awarded the No. 1 seed in the Division II tournament.

The Dons were set to host Irvington (16) on Wednesday in a 4:45 p.m. contest.

The Foothill girls were the No. 2

seed in the tournament and scheduled to play Cardinal Newman (15), also at Amador, at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Fellow EBAL schools California (5) and Dublin (6) are also in the tournament. Cal was set to play Pittsburg (12) at Granada at 7:15 p.m., with Dublin to host Heritage (11) at the Dublin Wave facilities.

In the girls' D-I tournament, San Ramon Valley was the top seed and set to host Mission San Jose (16) on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Monte Vista (6) was scheduled to play San Marin (11), also at SRV, with a 3:45 p.m. start.

Amador is represented on the boys' side in the D-I tournament. The Dons were seeded No. 14 and set to play No. 3 Alameda on Thursday at San Leandro High at 4:45 p.m.

Monte Vista (5) and California (15) are also in the D-I tournament, with

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



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Monte Vista opening with Clayton Valley (12) at Las Lomas at 6:30 p.m. and Cal facing Northgate (2), also at Las Lomas in a 4 p.m. game.

In the D-II tournament, Granada was seeded No. 2 and set to host Alhambra (15) in a 6 p.m. match Thursday. Dublin (13) was scheduled against Cardinal Newman (4) in a 7:15 p.m. match.

In the boys' Open Division tournament, San Ramon Valley (4) faces Miramonte (1) on Saturday (Nov. 8) at a site and time to be determined. De La Salle (3) faces Campolindo (2), also a site/time to be determined.

Foothill girls' volleyball

The Falcons split a pair of NCS games last week to bring their season to a close.

The team opened NCS play with a 25-21, 25-15, 25-18 win over Northgate. Highlights came from Paige Nelson (12 kills, 5 digs), Olivia So (10 digs, 3 aces), Ale Sioco (9 digs, 4 aces) and Emily Evans (5 kills, 2 blocks).

Foothill fell to Carondelet in the quarterfinals 18-25, 25-23, 15-25, 22-25. Highlights came from Nelson (19 kills, 5 digs), Danielle Yeh (26 assists, 5 digs), So (13 digs, 11 receptions) and Ilayda Caglar (6 kills).



ESTHER MULLIKAN

The Amador Valley girls' water polo team celebrates after beating crosstown rival Foothill.

Winter sports looming

We are not out of the fall at this point, but with winter sports starting this week, it's never too early to start working on getting results turned in each week.

Parents' meetings should be taking place soon, so step up and volunteer! Here's what I am looking for regarding winter sports ...

Basketball: As easy as it gets. The game ends and you take a picture of the scorebook and send it to me. All I need is the final score and who you played, which is usually at the top of the scorebook sheet. Over the years I have had parent volunteers, as well as the team scorekeepers fill this role. Honestly it takes less than five minutes following a game to get me the information.

Soccer: Not too hard as well. Just send me the final score, who you played, and who scored goals or had assists. Other highlights from the game are fine as well.

Wrestling: If it is a tournament, send me who won medals, what their record for the tournament was, and if possible, a link to the tournament results page.

Pictures are always appreciated! Just include who is in the picture and the name of the person that took the picture.

My only favor I ask is to send the results win or lose. Please don't be the type of parent who only responds when the team wins. It's a bad look and takes away from the efforts the athletes put in every day.

My contact information is aces-mag@aol.com or 925-200-0719. ■

Bleier leaves mark on Tri-Valley

Super Bowl champ speaks at Dublin chamber event

BY JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley residents had the chance to hear a unique perspective on professional leadership and personal perseverance earlier this fall when the Dublin Chamber of Commerce hosted Rocky Bleier, a four-time Super Bowl champion with the Pittsburgh Steelers and a Purple Heart recipient Vietnam veteran.

"Leadership, definable talent, vision and team buy-in are the characteristics of a championship organization" Bleier, 79, told the audience in the Livermore's Bankhead Theater on Oct. 16.

Much of Bleier's presentation focused on his military service, which included sustaining serious injuries when his platoon was ambushed in Vietnam in 1969, as well as his journey back to professional football, according to chamber officials.

"I was on the practice squad for a year and then made the team, backing up Franco Harris in the running back spot," he said. "That was where my definable talent emerged. The team was doing poorly, and Coach Noll saw the missing link for the team was a blocking back. I was switched to fullback, jumped my place on the depth chart and the rest is history."

Bleier, who won Super Bowl rings with the Steelers in 1974, 1975, 1978 and 1979, has found success after his playing days as an author and motivational speaker. He appeared as the keynote speaker for the Dublin chamber's third annual Thought



PORYGON STUDIOS

Rocky Bleier (left) lets CLPCCD Chancellor Ron Gerherd wear his Super Bowl rings.

Leadership Series.

"His message of hard work, perseverance and preparation resonated with our crowd," said Inge Houston, chamber president and CEO. "Be that definable talent, be that leader and you will be a success. Whether you are in the United States Army, the National Football League or working in your community, those personal qualities are important." ■

Goodguys Autumn Get-Together



GOODGUYS

Snapshot from the 2024 Autumn Get-Together. The popular car show returns this weekend.

BY JEREMY WALSH

The "hot-rodding weekend" is in store for Pleasanton as the Goodguys Rod & Custom Association presents its 35th FuelCurve.com Autumn Get-Together at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday.

"The Autumn Get-Together is a two-day automotive celebration combining late-model muscle machines with traditional hot rods, classic trucks and other vintage cruisers, so there is something for everyone to enjoy," organizers said.

"Not only will the fairgrounds be packed with hot rods and classics, but there will also be three special indoor displays featuring trick trucks, Ford Thunderbirds, and a Lowrider area organized by Deadend Magazine," they added.

Other highlights include the popular Vettes for Vets parade in honor of Veterans Day, the Goodguys AutoCross series, Smash-4-Cash Demolition Derby, Nitro Thunderfest vintage dragster exhibition, large swap meet, Cars 4-Sale Coral and the Family Fun Zone.

"There will be live music, special parking areas, and Sunday afternoon culminates with a parade of chrome, glowing paint, and rumbling exhaust as all the award winners, including the finalists for the 2026 LMC Truck of the Year Early and Dakota Digital Truck of the Year Late roll past the stage!" organizers said.

The show is open on Saturday and Sunday (Nov. 8-9) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the fairgrounds. For tickets and more information, go to good-guys.com/agt. ■

Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT [PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM](https://pleasantonweekly.com)

Entertainment

ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID This Encore Players production at the Bothwell Arts Center is the rollicking tale of four loyal and determined women who definitively answer the question, Just how far are you willing to go to keep a promise to a friend? Nov. 7-9. Tickets \$25. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEETLEJUICE JR. Pleasanton Youth Theater Company presents this frightfully funny musical based on the beloved motion picture turned Broadway phenomenon. 7 p.m., Nov. 7-8, 14-15; 2 p.m., Nov. 8-9, 15-16. Tickets \$13. Visit firehousearts.org.

ANNIE AT THE BANKHEAD This CYT Tri-Valley performance based on the comic strip features some of the greatest musical theatre hits ever written. 1 p.m., Nov. 8-9 and 6:30 p.m., Nov. 8. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit livermorearts.org.

TRI-VALLEY YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR CONCERT The Korean American Parents Association presents a free fall concert performed by the Tri-Valley Youth Orchestra and Choir. 4-5 p.m., Nov. 9. Livermore Civic Center Library.

WHEEL OF FORTUNE LIVE! The all-new live stage show with a well-known host where contestants are selected from the audience to go on stage and step into the game

show itself. Must be 18 or older to participate on stage. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 10. Visit livermorearts.org.

UPTOWN AT THE BANKHEAD Fusing Bruno-Mars-caliber stage presence with top-tier vocals and wall-to-wall choreography, the group exudes unparalleled energy with their blend of contemporary radio hits and classic Motown music. 8 p.m., Nov. 14. Tickets \$50-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

BRASS OVER BRIDGES This San Francisco-based brass quintet engages audiences with music that bridges barriers of style and artistic discipline combining the warmth and expressiveness of small ensemble playing with the rich, powerful sound of brass instruments. 3 p.m., Nov. 15. Tickets \$57. Visit livermorearts.org.

LUCA STRICAGNOLI Internationally renowned acoustic guitarist Luca Stricagnoli returns to the Bankhead with Meg Pfeffer on rhythm guitar and vocals for an unforgettable performance. 8 p.m., Nov. 15. Tickets \$30-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org.

DUSTBOWL REVIVAL & HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN Coming together for a unique collaboration are Austion's beloved western swing and string band masters playing classics and deep cuts from Bob Dylan and Willie Nelson's catalogue along with their own originals. 7 p.m., Nov. 16. Tickets \$55-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

DISNEY'S MOANA LIVE-TO-FILM CONCERT Experience Moana Live at the Bankhead with breathtaking visuals of the beloved film accompanied by live Polynesian orchestra. A must-see for fans of the film and music lovers alike. 7 p.m., Nov. 19. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO HEART Heartless is Northern California's premier Heart Tribute Band composed of six passionate musicians taking you on a musical journey from the 1970s to today. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 20. Tickets \$49-\$69. Visit livermorearts.org.

BILLY NATION: A TRIBUTE TO BILLY JOEL Billy Nation delivers a dynamic concert experience featuring Billy Joel classics with an authentic and energetic tribute to one of the best-selling artists of all time, Billy Joel. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 21. Tickets \$41-\$48. Visit firehousearts.org.

KEIKO MATSUI Internationally acclaimed pianist and composer Keiko Matsui returns to the Bankhead Theater with her signature blend of global influences and soul-stirring melodies. 8 p.m., Nov. 21. Tickets \$35-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

TROUBLE - THE MUSIC OF COLDPLAY Experience Coldplay's extensive 25-year catalogue with Trouble, composed of five standout SF Bay Area musicians capturing all the excitement of a real Coldplay concert. 7 p.m., Nov. 22. Tickets \$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

YOU SHOULD BE DANCING - A TRIBUTE TO THE BEE GEES This tribute pays homage to the Bee Gees at the peak of their fame, showcasing the energy, creativity, and appeal that took the world by storm with over thirty international super hits. 7 p.m., Nov. 23. Tickets \$53. Visit firehousearts.org.

Talks

FIRST FRIDAYS WITH EBRPD Join a naturalist from Del Valle Regional Park to learn how animals adapt to survive during the colder months. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Nov. 7. Livermore Civic Center Library, Storytime Room.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS In this zoom meeting, Tammy Silvers, Design Director for Banyan Batik, presents A Deep Dive into Batiks, exploring what it takes to create a batik line, from initial line concept to colorations to the final fabric lines. 1:30-4 p.m., Nov. 8. Visit amadorvalleyquilters.org.

MEET AUTHOR ANJALI RAO Towne Center Books hosts author Anjali Rao to discuss her book Yoga as Embodied Resistance. 5 p.m., Nov. 9. Free registration at townecenterbooks.com.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY In this Zoom or in-person meeting, Madeline Yanov, proprietor of Time Travel Genealogy, discusses Locating Family Members in Old Business Records, introducing the types of

occupational records that exist and where to find them. 7-8:30 p.m., Nov. 10. Congregation Beth Emek. Visit l-ags.org.

WALKING THE VIA DE LA PLATA AND CAMINO SANABRÉS Matt Berry presents this Armchair Travelers program at the Livermore Civic Center Library. 1:30 p.m., Nov. 13.

LISA BRIGGS: A PIRATES LIFE Join this Rae Dorough Speaker Series with archaeologist and National Geographic Explorer Lisa Briggs where she will explore how pirating shaped the Roman Empire. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 13. Tickets \$35-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FORUM Teens and parents are invited to attend this forum hosted by the Youth Advisory Committee where guests can expect an evening of open conversation about youth mental health with local counselors, therapists and educators. 6-8 p.m., Nov. 13. Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Ave., Dublin.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS This meeting is designed for members, and the community, to get to know several of TVW's members in depth. 2-4 p.m., Nov. 15. La Quinta Inn, Dublin. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

MENTAL HEALTH LECTURE WEBINAR Dr. Glenn Saxe, child and adolescent psychiatrist, presents Helping Traumatized Children and their Families with Trauma Systems Therapy as part of the Alan Hu Foundation Mental Health Lecture Series. 5-6 p.m., Nov. 18. RSVP by Nov. 17 at alanhufoundation.org/lecture-series.

PSYCHOLOGY OF CULTS Hosted by renowned cult interventionist Ashlen Hilliard, this gripping live show takes audiences deep inside the world of cults, how they form, why people join, and what it takes to break free. 3 p.m., Nov. 23. Tickets \$50-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER BREAKFAST Join as community members from local churches, businesses, government, schools and nonprofits to come together to pray, celebrate, and seek greater impact in our region while serving the most vulnerable in our community. 7-9 a.m., Nov. 24. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel. Visit cityservecares.org.

Outdoor Rec

WOODPECKER TALK & WALK Birds from the Picinae family are noisy, resourceful and vital to the park's ecosystem. An LARPD Ranger will share stories about how these birds live in the wild and then lead a walk. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Nov. 9. Sycamore Grove Park. Free registration at larpd.org.

BRUSHY PEAK 4-MILE SUMMIT HIKE Explore the parkland owned by LARPD known as Brushy Peak Regional Preserve which is only open to the public by ranger-led tours and hike to the top of the peak. This strenuous hike to the summit covers approximately 4

miles over dirt and rocky trails. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 15. \$30R/\$33NR. Visit larpd.org.

EARLY BIRD WALK Begin the day bird watching and look and listen for birds on a slow-paced 1.5 mile walk. 8-9 a.m., Nov. 16. Sycamore Grove Park. Free registration at larpd.org.

RANGER PROGRAM An LARPD Ranger will share turkey stories, the turkey's ties to Thanksgiving and then create fun turkey crafts to take home. 12-2 p.m., Nov. 22. Ranger Station Picnic Area, 5035 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Free registration at larpd.org.

PREHISTORIC BIRDS & THE MODERN DAY TURKEY From Oscillated Turkeys to Terror Birds, an LARPD Ranger will share stories and interesting facts about these primitive birds. 2-3 p.m., Nov. 23. Ranger Station Picnic Area. Free registration at larpd.org.

Fairgrounds

GOODGUYS AUTUMN GET-TOGETHER Featuring over 2,500 of northern California's slickest American made and powered show cars and trucks, live music, swap meet, Cars 4 Sale Corral and more. Nov. 8-9. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

THE GREAT JUNK HUNT This event offers a unique opportunity to discover one-of-a-kind pieces that add character and flair to any space. Whether an avid junker or a first-time attendee, this event offers something for everyone to discover and enjoy. Nov. 14-15. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

USA BOXING REGIONAL RANKING TOURNAMENT The USA Boxing Regional Amateur Tournament is a ranking tournament designed to provide amateur boxers with a platform to showcase talents in this three-day boxing event, open to all boxers, local and international, across all weight divisions. Nov. 21-23. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

MUDDY DASH Trudge through mud, climb rock formations and be blasted by foam cannons that wash you crossing the finish line. This world-class run requires teamwork, courage and endurance. 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 22. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Farmers Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET The Pleasanton Farmers Market is Saturday year round featuring vendors with seasonal fruits and vegetables, plus artisan goods. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. West Angela Street.

LIVERMORE SUNDAY FARMERS MARKET Gather for music, food and fresh local and organic products directly from producers. Support small businesses and local sustainable agriculture. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sundays. Between J St. and L St.

See **CALENDAR** on Page **22**

TAKE US ALONG



What's the craic?: Longtime Pleasanton residents Don and Cindi Sabatini traveled to Ireland and Scotland in July for their summer vacation. After waiting out the rain for a brief reprieve, Cindi and Don are shown holding the Pleasanton Weekly on Victoria Street in Edinburgh, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a must-see visit for any "Harry Potter" fan. The Harry Potter Store is just a few doors down from The Whisky Shop.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to editor@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

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Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 598947

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/
have abandoned the use of the fictitious
business name(s). The information given
below is as it appeared on the fictitious busi-
ness statement that was filed at the County
Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME(S):
WHOLE LOTTA PCS

4E
4EVER IN IT
FADED BY FON'S
CASA FLORES
PCS

19062 Times Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541

FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 06/26/2023
UNDER FILE NO. 598947

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
ALFONSO JUNIOR FLORES JR.

19062 Times Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541

THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An
Individual.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on Octo-
ber 28 2025.

(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 606762

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/
have abandoned the use of the fictitious
business name(s). The information given
below is as it appeared on the fictitious
business statement that was filed at the
County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME(S):
ROSE WELLNESS THERAPY & CONSULTING

248 3rd Street #1100
Oakland, CA 94607

FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 05/23/2024
UNDER FILE NO. 606762

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
VANESSA ROSE SHEA

248 3rd Street #1100
Oakland, CA 94607

THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An
Individual.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on
October 14 2025.

(PLW Oct 24, 31, Nov 7 and 14, 2025)

Web3 Pro Inc. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

On June 26, 2025 , Web3 Pro Inc., a Delaware
corporation (the "Company"), dissolved (the
"Dissolution") in accordance with Section 275
of the General Corporation Law of the State of
Delaware (the "DGCL"). As a result of the Dis-
solution, the continued corporate existence
of the Company has ceased (except for the
limited purposes expressly set forth in the
DGCL) and the affairs of the Company will be
wound up. The Company is hereby providing
you with notice of the Dissolution pursuant to
Section 280 of the DGCL.

This notice only applies to individuals or
entities that may have a claim against the
Company. If you have no claim against the
Company, no action on your part is required.
If you have a claim against the Company, you
must present such claim to the Company in
writing, and such claim must contain suffi-
cient information and supporting documen-
tation to reasonably enable the Company to
identify you and the substance of the claim
and the amount thereof. All claims must be
sent to:

Web3 Pro INC
3000 El Camino Real, Bldg 4, Suite 200
Palo Alto, CA 94306

**All claims must be received by the Com-
pany, at the address set forth above, on
or before January 15, 2026 . Pursuant to
Section 280 of the DGCL, any claim not
received by the Company on or before
January 15, 2026 will be barred.**

Pursuant to the DGCL, the Company (or a suc-
cessor entity) may make distributions to any
claimant and to the Company's stockholders
or persons interested as having been such
without further notice to any claimant.

The aggregate amount, on an annual basis, of
all distributions made by the Company to its
stockholders for each of the 4 years prior to
the date the Company dissolved is: \$0 in 2025,
\$0 in 2024, \$0 in 2023, and \$0 in 2022.

Very truly yours,

Ari Kaufman, CEO, Web3 Pro INC
(PLW Nov 7, 2025)

COLOR TANTRA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618469

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Color Tantra , located at 4850 Tassajara Rd,
Apt 2104 Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
BHAVITHRA PRIYADHARSHINI KARTHIK

4850 Tassajara Rd, Apt 2104

Dublin, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
10/15/2025

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 24

2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

TIGER HOME INSPECTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618298

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Tiger Home Inspection , located at 5348
Hillflower Dr. Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda
County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

SUN YI

5348 Hillflower Dr.

Livermore, CA 94551

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 15

2025.

(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

DELIVERUS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618609

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) DELIVERUS , located at 490 43rd St Suite
200 Oakland, CA 94609, alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

DELIVERUS

264 Sheridan Rd

Oakland, CA 94618

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 30

2025.

(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

MLD
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618366

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) MLD , located at 855 Northvale Rd,
Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

MILAD DAVALOO

855 Northvale Rd

Oakland, CA 94610

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 20

2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

DESILVA GATES AGGREGATES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618352

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) DeSilva Gates Aggregates , located
at 11555 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568,
Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

DESILVA GATES CONSTRUCTION LLC

11555 Dublin Blvd.

Dublin, CA 94568

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on

June 26, 2015

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 17

2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

MR. TECH DEPOT
WATCHDOG IT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618196

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Mr. Tech Depot , 2.) Watchdog IT , located
at 3431 Brookdale Blvd., Castro Valley, CA
94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

MICHAEL RAYMOND

3431 Brookdale Blvd.

Castro Valley, CA 94546

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 09

2025.

(PLW Oct 17, 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

K. J. HERZOG INSURANCE AGENCY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618040

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) K. J. Herzog Insurance Agency , located
at 235 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566,
Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

HERZOG INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.

235 Main Street

Pleasanton, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 02

2025.

(PLW Oct 17, 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

ACCELAI
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618377

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) AccelAI , located at 1901 Buckeye Ct
Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Married
Couple.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

NIKHIL NADKARNI

1901 Buckeye Ct

Pleasanton, CA 94588

MADHURA NADKARNI

1901 Buckeye Ct

Pleasanton, CA 94588

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
10/15/2025

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 20

2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

SHARON LOUISE COACHING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618224

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Sharon Louise Coaching , located at
1 Kelton Ct, Unit 1J, Oakland, CA 94611,
Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

SHARON LOUISE TAGHAVI

1 Kelton Ct, Unit 1J

Oakland, CA 94611

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 03

2025.

(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

KARMA FINANCIAL COUNSELING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618207

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) KARMA FINANCIAL COUNSELING ,
located at 777 PALOMINO DRIVE, UNIT B,
PLEASANTON, CA 94566 , ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

GHOST DREAMS LLC

777 PALOMINO DRIVE, UNIT B

PLEASANTON, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization:

CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
10/03/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-
Recorder of Alameda on October 10 2025.

(PLW Oct 24, 31, Nov 7 and 14, 2025)

TURN8 COFFEE ROASTERS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617908

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) TURN8 COFFEE ROASTERS , located at 53
Vintage Circle #3107, Pleasanton, CA 94566,
Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

EDWIN SUAREZ

53 Vintage Circle #3107

Pleasanton, CA 94566

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September

26 2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

YAMAHA ROAD SIDE ASSISTANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617746

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) YAMAHA ROAD SIDE ASSISTANCE , located
at 2345 Kennedy Ave #4 Union City, CA 94587,
Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 09/17/25

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September

17 2025.

(PLW Oct 24, 31, Nov 7 and 14, 2025)

CHASE ELECTRIC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618113

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Chase Electric , located at 3701 Old Santa
Rita Rd, Suite 24 Pleasanton, CA 94588,
Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1630

Buena Vista Avenue Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

PAUL HENNINGS ELECTRIC AND COMPANY
INC.

1630 Buena Vista Avenue

Livermore, CA 94550

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
11/19/2015

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 06

2025.

(PLW Oct 24, 31, Nov 7 and 14, 2025)

K HANA SKINCARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618351

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) K HANA SKINCARE , located at 4230
Rosewood Dr. Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94588,
Alameda County. Mailing Address: 38042

Luma Ter Newark, CA 94560

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

SUNA KIM

38042 Luma Ter

Newark, CA 94560

Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 17

2025.

(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ENDEARING WEDDINGS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618062

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Endearing Weddings , located at 1357
Briones Court Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda
County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

STEVE JOHNSON

1357 Briones Court

Pleasanton, CA 94588

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 8/1/25

This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 03

2025.

(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

KARMA FINANCIAL COUNSELING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618207

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) KARMA FINANCIAL COUNSELING ,
located at 777 PALOMINO DRIVE, UNIT B,
PLEASANTON, CA 94566 , ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):

GHOST DREAMS LLC

777 PALOMINO DRIVE, UNIT B

PLEASANTON, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization:

CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
10/03/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-<

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV147267
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: PACHIYANG filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
PACHIYANG to PACHI YANG
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/12/2025, 9:00 AM, HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA COUNTY located at 24405 AMADOR STREET, HAYWARD, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 10/08/2025
THOMAS J. NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 17, 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV150257
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Sonia Carolina Aguilar Rivas filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
SONIA CAROLINA AGUILAR RIVAS to SONIA YANET CASTRO RIVAS
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: December 26th, 2025, 9:00 AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, California, 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: October 23, 2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV146836
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Emily Leah Arshonsky filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
EMILY LEAH ARSHONSKY to EMERSON LEAH ARSHONSKY
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no

written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/12/2025, 9:00AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador St, Hayward, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 10/2/2025
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV149825
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Chardinay Alluzah Andrea Jackson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
CHARDINAY ALLUZH ANDREA JACKSON to ANDREA JUANITA RODRIGUEZ
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/26/2025, 9am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda County located at 24405 Amador Street Civil Division Rm 108, Hayward, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: October 22, 2025
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 5CV145948
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Marina Kakaulina filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
OLIVIA MICHELLE BEKHMETIEVA to OLIVIA MICHELLE PELIN
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/26/2025, 9:00am,, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador St., Hayward, California, 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 10/02/2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 17, 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV125136
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Nailea Posada filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
ALEJANDRO GAELE POSADA to ALEJANDRO GAELE BERMUDEZ POSADA

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/17/2025, 9:30am, Civil of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda County located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, Ca, 9454.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 06-05-2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 17, 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
THERESA BROWN, AKA THERESA RUBY BROWN
Case No.: 25PR148503
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of THERESA BROWN, AKA THERESA RUBY BROWN.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: WILLIAM DAVIS in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: WILLIAM DAVIS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on December 01 2025 at 9:45 a.m. in Berkeley Courthouse, Department 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioner in Pro Per:
William Davis
115 Glenbridge Court
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925-726-6171
(PLW Oct 24, 31 and Nov 7, 2025)

Place a legal notice at
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 20

Museums & Exhibits

TRI-VALLEY PHOTO SHOWCASE

Livermore Valley Camera Club presents the winning entries from its annual Click 25 photography contest at the Livermore Civic Center Library. This juried exhibition celebrates the creativity and vision of amateur photographers from across the Tri-Valley region. Through November.

Seniors

NEWCOMERS WELCOME AT

PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER If new to Pleasanton or the Senior Center discover all the programs, classes and services available during this free one-hour orientation. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Nov. 13. RSVP at 925-931-5365.

LUNCHES AT THE SENIOR CENTER

(60+) Senior Lunches (60+) are served in the Main Hall, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. weekdays. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for more information.

SOLE MATES WALKING GROUP This free walking group at the Pleasanton Senior Center is 8:45-10 a.m., Wednesdays.

AMERICAN STYLE MAH JONGG Join for American Style Mah Jongg at the Pleasanton Senior Center, Tuesdays and Fridays, 12:45-3:45 p.m. Drop-in fees apply.

DROP-IN BRIDGE AT RLCC Join for Bridge, 1-4 p.m., Thursday and Friday afternoons. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Drop-In fee \$2.

KNITTING AT THE PLEASANTON

SENIOR CENTER Refresh skills, pick up some new tips, share techniques, get help or just sit and knit. 9-11:30 a.m., Fridays. Drop-in fees apply.

Support

CITYSERVE RIDECARE This program provides free round-trip door-through-door transportation services for Tri-Valley older adults and 18+ individuals with disabilities to locations where they can be connected to additional service agencies, errands, medical

appointments and more. Visit cityservecares.org/ridecare/.

COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAM Open Heart Kitchen serves free meals, first come, first served, that are nutritious and freshly prepared. 12-5 p.m., weekdays, Vineyard Resource Center, 450 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

This free Caregiver Support Group is for families and friends who are caring for a loved one over the age of 60. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Mondays. Heritage Estates, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore.

OPEN HEART REFUGE Open Heart Refuge is a 20-bed overnight shelter in Livermore for adults who are in crisis or experiencing homelessness, operating seven days a week from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. and includes both a hot dinner and hot breakfast. For more information, visit openheartkitchen.org/refuge.

Volunteer

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

Join to make simple dresses for girls from third world countries and help with sewing, ironing and cutting. Sewing machines or sergers, irons, ironing boards and scissors are needed. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 15. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore.

VOLUNTEER FOR TRI-VALLEY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

THANKSGIVING DINNER This event serves families, seniors, military, singles and anyone needing a Thanksgiving Dinner. Volunteers needed to cook turkeys, purchase food & supplies, setup and decorating, dish washing and take down. Nov. 26-28. St. Raymond Catholic Church, Dublin. Visit tvc-thanksgiving.com.

Government

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL

DISTRICT Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is 5 p.m., Nov. 13. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED

SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom at the District Office, 685 E. Jack London Blvd. The next meeting is Nov. 12. Visit livermoreschools.org.

Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Real Estate

Tri-Valley school district buys building to move HQ

Similar to what Pleasanton did, SRVUSD acquisition to right-size operations and generate rental revenue

By JEANITA LYMAN

The main base of operations for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District is set to shift from Danville to San Ramon in the coming year following a vote by the Board of Education last month to approve the purchase of a new site.

The board voted unanimously Oct. 21 to approve the \$18 million purchase of the commercial site at 3130 Crow Canyon Place, which will be funded by the eventual sale of the district's current headquarters in Danville.

"This is able to help the district in the near term while we figure out what's happening with this property that we're sitting in right now, 699 Old Orchard," Chief Business Officer Danny Hillman said at the special meeting in which the item was brought before the board. "But it doesn't preclude us from going ahead and purchasing the new building."

The move is the latest in the district's ongoing efforts to increase revenue and reduce costs amid a longstanding structural deficit that has reached a critical point over the past year.

The upshot of the deal, Superintendent CJ Cammack said in a press release from the district Oct. 22, is "turning a static asset and a restricted funding source into a dynamic and sustainable financial engine."

Despite the hefty price tag for the purchase of the Canyon Commons Corporate Plaza, the deal means that the district will effectively be able to convert restricted funds into unrestricted funds.

Redevelopment Agency (RDA) funds can be used for the purchase of the building and the relocation of the district offices, which is in turn set to generate an estimated revenue of \$1.3 million annually from commercial tenants. That revenue would then go into the unrestricted general fund.

"If we didn't do this deal with the building and we just sold this outright, we wouldn't be able to use any of those monies for the General Fund," Trustee Shelley Clark said. "We would have to put them into the facilities fund. What this gives us the ability to do is to use the funds from the eventual sale of this property to help purchase the building that we're looking at."

Cammack, who began his tenure as superintendent when the district's financial crisis was reaching a fever pitch, told DanvilleSanRamon that the idea for the move came from his experiences and observations in other districts. He pointed to the adult school site for the Martinez



JEREMY WALSH

Canyon Commons at 3130 Crow Canyon Place in San Ramon is set to be the new home of the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.

Unified School District as an example in which the school district's property had been leveraged to generate commercial revenue, with the site now hosting a Dutch Brothers coffee shop.

However, SRVUSD did not have existing property in its portfolio that would lend itself to commercial leasing, according to Cammack. And selling property outright would do little to help the unrestricted general fund, with revenue from property sales going into the restricted facilities fund.

The move is similar to that of the Pleasanton Unified School District, in which the board of trustees used funds from the sale of its previous Vineyard Avenue offices to pay off the debt from its \$30 million new location on West Las Positas Boulevard. It's also a tried and true practice that has been enacted in other school districts throughout the state, as Cammack and Hillman noted.

"We started thinking about how we might do this over the course of the last year, and then we started working very hard to look at different properties in different locations, and different options, towards the end of last year," Cammack said.

"And through that we ended up analyzing this property. We were looking for a property that could house our staff now — the people working at 699 Old Orchard — and also wanted to find a place where we could pull some of our staff out of the service center, because the service center is overcrowded," he continued.

The size and location of Canyon

Commons — neighboring the district's San Ramon service center — made it a natural fit for the district's needs, Cammack said, as did the multiple longstanding tenants.

"Most of the tenants have a strong history in the building," Cammack said. "We look forward to joining the commercial space and being good partners with our tenants, and we hope they will stay with us."

Early talks have also been underway, Cammack said, with "interested parties" eyeing the vacant portions of the building.

Cammack said that he was optimistic about the deal and the future revenue it will generate despite what has been a tumultuous commercial real estate market since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We looked at the fact that there are more companies returning to work in person, and we also looked at the fact that a lot of the commercial real estate in the area is being turned into housing developments," Cammack said. "So we believe that there will continue to be a need for commercial real estate in the long term, while the overall availability of commercial office space is decreasing."

The purchase is set to be completed in the coming months, with the district expecting to see rental revenue start coming in as early as the spring. Cammack said that the official move of the district's operations would likely be over the summer.

The purchase of Canyon Commons is the first step in the overall move of the district's headquarters. The

next step, Cammack said, will be to get the board's approval to declare the current headquarters as surplus property and move toward selling it. He estimated that the sale could take another 12 to 16 months to complete.

While more information on that next step is still to come, district officials noted in the announcement that the site is likely to be attractive to developers, given its identification and zoning as a housing opportunity site in the town of Danville's current Housing Element.

Town and district officials had already discussed the potential sale of 699 Old Orchard Road in the planning phase of the 2023 to 2031 Housing Element.

"Given the new development rights we believe the value of our site has increased substantially and may afford us the opportunity to finally sell our property," district staff wrote in a letter to the town in 2023, according to the housing element.

The town's goal, according to the housing element, is to facilitate the development of 113 "lower income" units on the site, and 68 on the site of the former town offices at 510 La Gonda Way. However, that goal has an expiration date.

"For both the 510 La Gonda Way and 699 Old Orchard Drive sites, if by the end of 2028 there has not been a planning application submitted for one or both of the sites, the Town will take action to remove the site(s) from the RHNA inventory and designate additional properties to meet the RHNA requirement, as found necessary," town staff wrote in the current housing element.

In addition to the financial incentives, Cammack said that moving to the new building "puts our headquarters almost in the center of our entire district." ■



JEREMY WALSH

SRVUSD's current offices at 699 Old Orchard Road in Danville.

Just Listed

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 TO 4:00



5550 Black Ave. Pleasanton

It's time to show off this 3 Bdr, 2 Bath home located in the heart of Pleasanton. Presenting 1,673 Sq.Ft. of living space with a lot size of 6,700.

Presented at \$1,500,000

Sold

80 Canary Court, Livermore

We prepared the home with inspections, staging and professional photographs, and set an offer due date. The sellers are pleased to have received 4 offers.

**Listed at \$1,500,000
SOLD at \$1,560,000**



Pending



1834 Brooktree Way, Pleasanton

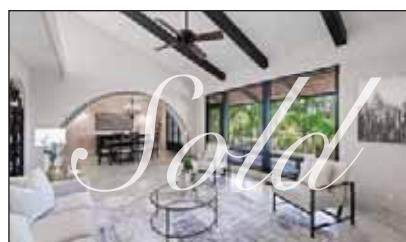
A one-story home offering 4 Bdr, 2 Bath with 1,854 SqFt of living space. Located in the heart of Pleasanton and close to all levels of schools. Along with an 18 Ft. wide side yard access.

Presented at \$1,645,000

Recently Sold Properties



4946 Sequoia Way, Dublin
Sold for \$1,900,000
Represented sellers



14 Castledown Rd., Pleasanton
Sold for \$2,325,000
Represented sellers



2458 Ancona Circle, Livermore
Sold for \$2,300,000
Represented buyers



Kris Moxley
REAL ESTATE

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COMPASS