

Pleasanton Weekly

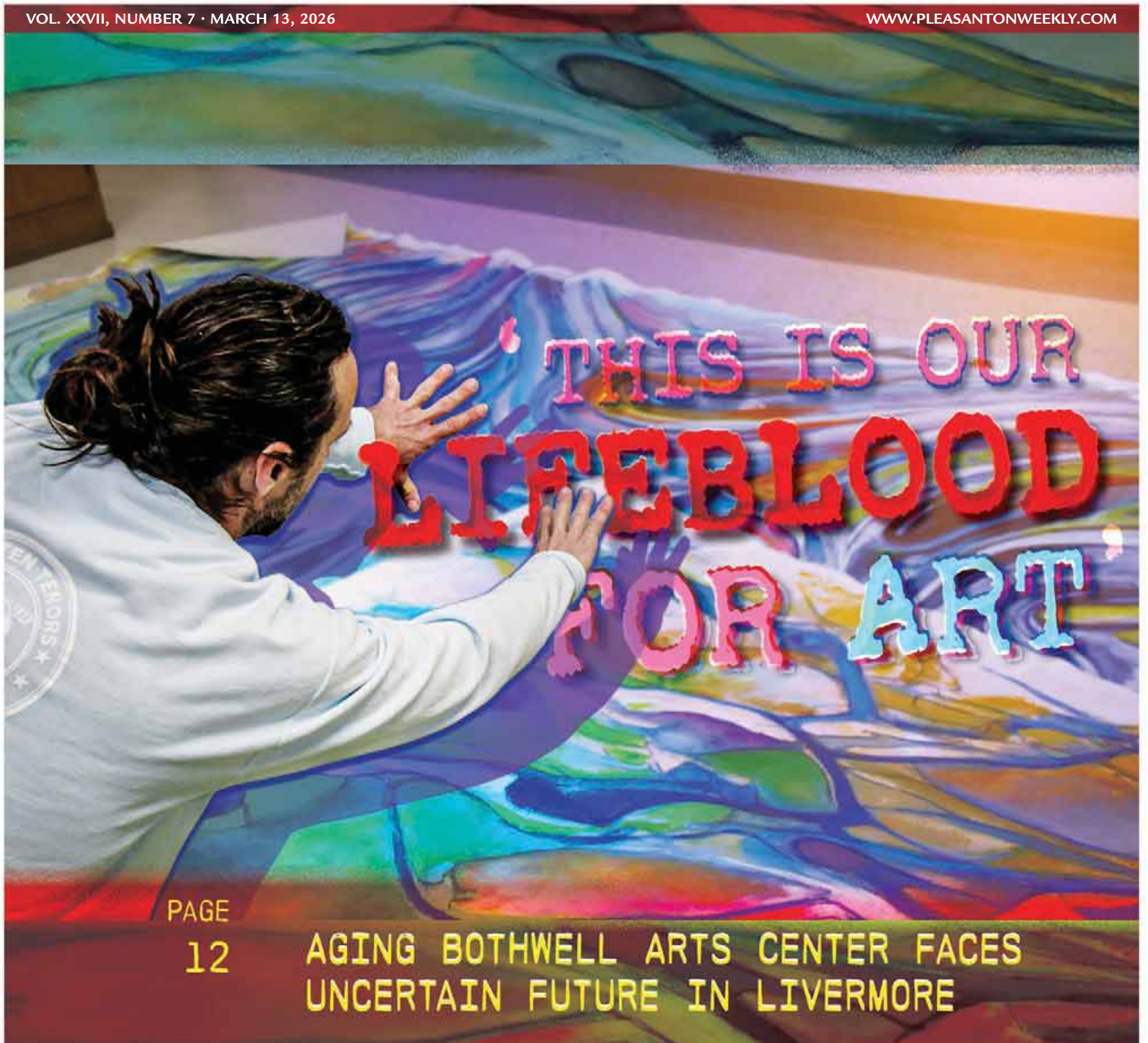
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teachers
strike

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NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

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UNCERTAIN FUTURE IN LIVERMORE

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Experience the Magic of Film... 2 Screenings on March 22 at the Vine Cinema in Livermore



**SUNDAY, MARCH 22,
4:00 PM**

“ETHAN BLOOM”

Comedy, 2025, English, 95 minutes

In this very funny comedy, a teenage boy wrestles with spiritual identity and first love. This film is appropriate for middle school through high school and adults.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22,
7:00 PM**

“SODA”

Drama, 2024, 95 minutes, Subtitled

1956. A beautiful seamstress moves to a neighborhood in a rural part of the country. Rumors about her having been working with the Nazis in a concentration camp shake up the town. But Shalom, a former resistance fighter, is torn between his passion for her and his commitment to his wife. This riveting and suspenseful film won 10 international awards.

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

More than fair

The Alameda County Fairgrounds is so important to Pleasanton, a lifestyle and events hub that entices a variety of modern audiences and evokes a connection to the community's history as well as its future.

Just how critical? More than \$300 million in total annual economic impact for the area, according to a new report by Johnson Consulting. That includes 1,980 ongoing jobs generating \$104.6 million in wages throughout the year.

"This report highlights the important role the fairgrounds plays in the local economy," Angel Moore, chief operating officer for the Alameda County Fair & Event Center, told me by email Monday. "This benefits local industries, including restaurants, hotels and hospitality, retailers, transportation, event vendors, and other small businesses throughout the region."

Clearly the summer fair is a big part of that (producing \$132.1 million in economic impact and supporting 860 ongoing jobs in and of itself), but it's not the whole story — as the Johnson study shows.

Year-round the facility generates \$312 million in economic impact, \$141.7 million in direct spending tied to its activities, 16,800 hotel room nights and \$14.5 million in public revenue through sales and hotel tax receipts, according to the neutral report.

Moore gives much of the credit to the "strong partnership between the fairgrounds and Visit Tri-Valley" and "diverse calendar of events throughout the year" that attract people from the region and beyond to the 267-acre property at Valley and Bernal avenues.

Just look at its upcoming calendar: NorCal Reptile Expo this weekend, Exotic Bird Mart on Sunday, Goodguys' All American Get-Together car show March 28-29, the Plumbing Trade Show on April 14, Quest Science Center's eighth Tri-Valley Innovation Fair on April 18, the Alameda Home & Landscape Show from April 24-26 and FuelFest on May 30.

The main draw is approaching the far turn as well.

We're three months away from the 2026 Alameda County Fair — set to run Wednesdays through Sundays from June 19 to July 12 for 18 days of summer fun, including on America's 250th anniversary.

Fair officials sent out a press release on Monday highlighting the familiar and new offerings on the schedule so far.

One note that caught my eye was that as part of the annual Foodie's Choice Awards, new entries will

include the Spam Wonton Taco, the Pickled Corndog, and the Elvis Presley Sandwich with sliced sourdough, peanut butter, sliced bananas and bacon.

The concert announcements also stand out to me. About half of the acts have been confirmed for the bill. Recent name-drops have included The Gene Simmons Band (fronted by the KISS co-founder) on opening night, country group Lonestar ("Amazed") on June 21, Oakland-based funk band Tower of Power on July 2 and A Tribute to Demon Hunters on June 27.

Another newbie for the county fair in 2026 will be the California Signature Wine Awards, an inaugural collaboration with Livermore Valley Wine Community uniting the fair's Wine Competition and wine country's Uncorked! contest.

I'm interested to see how the fair utilizes the former horse track this time around. Of course last year was the first fair without the ponies after the Northern California racing industry all but went belly up.

"Like many in our community, we were disappointed not to have horse racing, which had been an important part of the Fair's history for over a century," Moore acknowledged. "While there was certainly some uncertainty about what the year might look like without it, we were extremely pleased by the strong response from the community to Action Sports and other new activities we introduced at the Grandstand. Visitors were very receptive to those experiences."

I also pressed Moore on plans for the fairgrounds' future, which has remained a source of speculation for years but particularly in the wake of COVID and the end of horse racing.

"We continue to reinvest in the property and improve the grounds year after year so the fairgrounds remains a premier destination for promoters," she said, not tipping her hand too much. "Right now we are focused on updating infrastructure and modernizing the property so it can continue to serve the community."

"One project we would like to pursue, but currently do not have funding for, is upgrading Building B to accommodate large-scale events," Moore added. "Improvements like that would expand our ability to host major events and would support the fairgrounds' role as a designated Regional Disaster Recovery Center for the California Office of Emergency Services, allowing the facility to better serve the community in the event of a regional emergency." ■

About the Cover

Bothwell Arts Center instructor and artist John Iacono explains the narrative inlaid in his painting, one of a 13-piece series. Photo by Jude Strzemp. Cover design by Doug Young.

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Garden Explorers Summer Camp

Hagemann Ranch | 455 Olivina Ave.
Livermore | (925) 800-1042
sunflowerhill.org/programs/summer-camp

Join us for hands-on fun at Sunflower Hill's Garden Explorers Summer Camp! Our special day camps are designed for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), ages 13 and up. Each week-long session runs Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at our beautiful Sunflower Hill Garden in Livermore. Two sessions are available: June 1-5 and July 13-17. Campers will enjoy a variety of engaging outdoor activities, including: hands-on gardening, creative crafts, simple cooking activities, and movement-based games and exercises. Whether planting, painting, or cooking, there's something for everyone to enjoy! Regional Center of the East Bay clients welcome.

Las Positas College Summer Camps

LasPositasCollege.edu/SummerCamps

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- Session 2: July 10-17 | 8:00 am to 12:00 pm | Fridays
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Have you ever wanted to know more about your car but do not have time to take an 18-week course? This camp is for you. Learn how to change your own oil and filter, read the digital code on tires, and gain general knowledge about cars. Learning through experience in our state of the art facility, wear clothes that may get dirty!

3D Modeling Camp

- June 8-11 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- \$150 | Age Group: Middle School

Experience some of the basics of 3D workflows exploring hard surface modeling, digital sculpture, and animation. In this camp, students will use Autodesk Maya to learn about the core concepts of 3D modeling, how to create props and environments, and how a 3D animation rig works.

Character Design Camp

- June 15-18 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- \$150 | Age Group: Middle School

Designing a captivating character is vital for graphic novels, movies, video games, and many other industries. We will draw and paint our own character in Photoshop, taking style, costuming and props into consideration, as well as expressions and gestures.

Jazz Camp

- June 22-25 | 10:00 am to 4:00 pm (concert 6/25 5-7 pm)
- \$250 | Age Group: High School, including rising High Schoolers and incoming College Freshman

Join us for a 4-day intensive of Improvisation, Music Theory, Rehearsals, Performance and more! High School musicians of all abilities will get the opportunity to work with LPC Music Faculty and Alumni and present their work in a public performance on the Mertes Main Stage. This year's theme is one of the greatest of all American composers: Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (1899-1974)!

Interior Design Camp

- June 22-25 | 10:30 am to 12:30 pm | Live Online Camp
 - \$150 | Age Group: Middle and High School
- Interested in learning how to decorate homes or become an interior designer? Learn the elements and principles of interior design with an emphasis on the use of color and texture in the selection of home furnishings using a computer aided design (CAD) program.

Public Safety Camp

- June 10-12 | 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
 - \$150 | Age Group: High School
- Join us for a week of excitement, learning, and hands-on experiences and immerse yourself in a journey where you'll interact with professionals in the Fire service, Criminal Justice and Emergency Medical Responders. Gain invaluable insight, skills, and knowledge that can shape your future and empower you to make a difference in your community.

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Academic Camps will enhance your child's love of learning while focusing on grade-level readiness and subjects ranging from math and robotics to literature and creative writing. Campers work independently and in small groups to apply real-life experiences to lessons learned in the classroom. Additionally, students enjoy plenty of fun as they join the day camp program in the afternoon.

Roar and Explore Day Camps features a jam-packed schedule of hands-on indoor and outdoor activities, with field trips available as an addition. Grades 1-5 students jump into action with new, exciting themes each week. Campers explore science and nature, get creative with arts and crafts, STEAM projects, and performing arts. They also stay active with plenty of team sports and games.

Innovative Specialty Camps offer unique, curated experiences that help campers discover new skills and talents. Whatever your child's interests are, Stratford offers fun and unique activities to try.

Sports Camps are dedicated to skill development, introducing children to new activities, and fostering healthy exercise habits. Sports specialists assist each camper in improving, practicing, and playing sports to build self-confidence and increase overall competence.

Summer@Stratford offers over 25 locations across the Bay Area where campers can explore new interests, engage in hands-on activities, make new friends, and create lasting memories. Extended-day options are also available. Give your child a summer filled with wonder, exploration, and discovery!

Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

If something seems or sounds too good to be true, do you believe that it is?



Brian Eppler

Sales

Oh yes, I absolutely do believe that if something seems like it's too good to be true, it is. Any time something sounds too good, I'm on high alert and feel like someone is trying to take advantage of me, or of the situation. I'm very wary of those situations. In other words, if something sounds too good to be true, I'm out.



Vanessa Duque

Surgery scheduler

Yes, I do think, based upon my own natural intuition, that if something sounds too good to be true, it generally is. This has always been an easy lesson for me and not anything I've had to learn the hard way.



Lainie Howland, with Sunny

Mom / dog mom extraordinaire

Actually, I'm cautiously and guardedly optimistic and allow myself to believe that great things can happen, even if they seem too good to be true. Nevertheless, I do believe that it's very important to approach every seemingly too-good situation with my eyes wide open.



Lance Johnson

Software team manager

Oh yeah. As far as I'm concerned, there's no such thing as a free lunch. I learned that lesson as a young child, from my grandfather, and it has stayed with me for my whole life.



Lori Huneke, with Grizzly Bear

Professional photographer

Yes, I do typically think that something that sounds too good to be true, often is. However, I do like to keep an open mind and therefore, I'm always open to the possibility that if something seems too good to be true, it actually might really be as great as it seems to be.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

State of the City

Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch will be delivering his 2026 State of the City speech next Thursday (March 19) at the Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery.

The annual event, organized by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, brings together business leaders, community members and local elected officials to hear Balch talk about Pleasanton's "priorities, progress and vision for the year ahead," according to a press release from the chamber.

The event will begin with networking at 11 a.m. For more information, visit www.pleasanton.org.

Mayors panel

All five Tri-Valley mayors will discuss regional challenges and collaboration with local nonprofits at the annual Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Mayors Panel next Wednesday (March 18) at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

According to TVNPA, the program will offer "insight into local priorities, highlight the critical work of nonprofits, and explore opportunities for collaboration across sectors."

The event runs from 10 a.m. to noon. To register, visit www.tvnpa.org.

St. Pat's Brew Crawl

The Pleasanton Downtown Association's 13th annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl will be returning to Main Street this Saturday (March 14).

"Downtown locations and breweries will pair up together for a fun and memorable night of beer tasting from 5-8 p.m.," according to the event description. "Event guests will sample over 15 craft beers from local breweries while enjoying the Luck of the Irish festivities along the way."

To view all of the participating breweries and restaurants, and to register for the crawl, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Livermore GP 2045

Livermore residents can now review and provide input on the city's draft General Plan 2045, which will help guide municipal decision-making through the next 20 years.

According to an e-newsletter, the plan will help address future topics such as land use, mobility, economic development, open space and much more while also considering residents' vision and values for their city.

Community members can provide input by attending an open house regarding the plan Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and the Robert Livermore Community Center, or visit imaginelivermore2045.org. ■

DA reviews crime data, office updates during Pleasanton council meeting

Offers residents a look into what she has been doing since taking over one year ago after recall election

By Christian Trujano

Alameda County District Attorney Ursula Jones Dickson shared misdemeanor and felony referrals data, initiatives her office is focusing on implementing to better support victims and many other things they've been working on since she first took over in February 2025 during the Pleasanton City Council's regular meeting earlier this month.

During the presentation, Jones Dickson also made it clear to the

dais and members of the public who were in the room that she is committed to hearing from them during the course of her tenure so that her office can address and focus on things that matter for Tri-Valley and Pleasanton residents.

"I want to know what the community has an appetite for and then we can start moving our resources in those directions," she said during the March 3 meeting. "So keep us aware of what's going on here so that we can work with your police chief to figure out ways to try to

curb any crimes that are coming up that are unusual or things that have come up again."

Jones Dickson was first appointed as the county's new DA following the recall of former district attorney Pamela Price, who was ousted in late 2024 after a two-year tenure. Jones Dickson had spent several years as an Alameda County deputy district attorney before being appointed as a judge on the superior court, which she left in order to take the DA job.

During her council presentation,

Jones Dickson went over several key highlights of what she and her team has been doing since she took office, most of which had to do with rebuilding community trust.

She first noted how the office launched a countywide Organized Retail Theft Task Force to address repeat, organized offenders and said the DA's office restructured the Organized Retail Theft Vertical Prosecution Unit to improve results.

See **CRIME DATA** on Page 8



JUDE STRZEMP

Catie Tombs, a teacher at Dublin High School and strike coordinator on Monday, speaks at Dublin Teachers Association rally that afternoon.

Dublin teachers strike

Negotiations between DTA, DUSD stall on compensation, class sizes, counselors – and students caught in crosshairs

By Jude Strzemp and Jeremy Walsh

The tense contract negotiations between Dublin teachers and the school district reached a climax, with the union members walking out of their classrooms and going on strike this week.

Picketing by the Dublin Teachers Association occurred each of the first three days of the week in support of increased pay and benefits, reduced class sizes and keeping a full-time counselor at each elementary school. Dublin Unified School District reported moving its offer on some of those areas during

bargaining after Tuesday night's school board meeting, but no agreement had been reached after they called the session at 2:35 a.m. Wednesday.

The two sides were back at the bargaining table during the day Wednesday, with results pending as of press time that afternoon.

All Dublin public schools have remained open on adjusted schedules since the strike began Monday, with administrators and others filling roles in classrooms. This was a week of shortened instructional time already on the district's calendar, with Thursday scheduled as a staff development day and Friday as a no-school day.

"All week, teachers have been in the streets of Dublin, fighting for our kids — where are our elected school board members?" DTA President Brad Dobrzanski said in a press release issued by the California Teachers Association on Tuesday night. "They are responsible for this strike and they can end this strike NOW!"

The district publicly backed a fact-finding panel's neutral recommendation presented last week — featuring increased compensation without instating class size reductions or the counselors — but DTA declined the offer

See **STRIKE** on Page 9

Gambs bows out of Zone 7 election

4 director seats on June ballot for water board

By Christian Trujano

After 42 years with the Zone 7 Water Agency, Dennis Gambs said it's time to step away and enter the next stage of his retirement, which is why he said he will not be running for reelection to the Zone 7 Board of Directors.

Gambs told the Pleasanton Weekly that while it was a hard decision to make, he feels like he has overseen several important projects and has served the public as best he could over the last eight years as a Zone 7 board member.

"I have been very honored to serve the community," he said.

Gambs first joined Zone 7 in 1981 where he worked as a civil engineer — and later as a water resources manager — for 34 years before retiring. Some of the projects he worked on during his time as a staff member include the Dougherty Reservoir and Pipeline in Dublin, the Arroyo Mocho Widening Project in Pleasanton and a number of other water supply projects.

He also worked on the agreements that ultimately secured the water supply for Dougherty Valley and



Dennis Gambs

See **ZONE 7** on Page 6

Supervisors appoint interim registrar of voters

Cornejo taking over before primary for retiring Dupuis, whose tenure faced controversy in recent years

By KILEY RUSSELL /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted last week to appoint longtime county employee Cynthia Cornejo as interim registrar of voters.

Cornejo will take over on March 29 for Tim Dupuis, who is retiring after nearly 24 years with the county.

Cornejo was hired as a clerk in 1996 and has earned various promotions at the Registrar of Voters' Office over the years, eventually becoming deputy registrar in 2007.

The county is currently in the process of hiring a permanent replacement for Dupuis, whose tenure

wasn't without controversy.

He has been criticized for a perceived lack of communication by city officials and members of the public, for overseeing slow vote counts, dragging his feet in implementing youth voting for school board seats in Oakland and Berkeley, and making mistakes tabulating ranked choice votes in cities that use the alternative election system.

In one particularly glaring case from 2022, Oakland Unified School District board candidate Mike Hutchinson was erroneously declared the loser because of a vote-counting mishap.

Dupuis didn't immediately respond to a request for comment and

neither he nor Cornejo attended the Board of Supervisors meeting.

During his tenure, Dupuis was also accused by detractors of denying access to people wanting to observe the election process and for initially refusing to release the county's "cast vote records" in an electronic format that allows for independent verification of the vote tallies, instead of the PDF format he was using at the start of the Nov. 5, 2024 election process.

A 2025 report from the Alameda County Elections Commission ticked off a list of problems at the Registrar's Office, including poor language access, lack of public access to observe electoral processes,

lack of comprehensive and thorough poll worker training, lack of compliance with poll worker labor laws, lack of availability of ballot drop boxes and lack of rapid access to accurate information from Dupuis' office during elections, among other things.

"No other county in the state seems to be experiencing the volume of problems, or appearance thereof, that Alameda County has logged over the past few years," according to the report.

In response, Dupuis wrote a letter to the commission disputing its characterization of the facts and its findings.

"While our Office welcomes

constructive oversight, such oversight must be informed, fair, and contextually accurate — but this report is not," Dupuis wrote.

Critics have also lamented the fact the Board of Supervisors appointed Dupuis as both the head of the Registrar of Voters' Office and the county's Information Technology Department, both of which are generally seen as challenging full-time jobs.

"I think Tim's done as good a job as he could have done under the circumstances," said Supervisor Nate Miley, who noted that the county has also decided to "decouple" the registrar's job from the information technology job. ■

More than 300 Tri-Valley workers laid off

Local jobs axed at Workday and DHL; AbbVie and Newport Academy exit region entirely

By JEANITA LYMAN

Hundreds of workers employed across the Tri-Valley are among those who have been hit by ongoing waves of layoffs throughout the region and country as the job market grapples with numerous factors including economic uncertainty, supply chain issues and the rise of AI.

As of Tuesday, a total of 331 workers based at companies the Tri-Valley have already lost their jobs this year or will be in the coming weeks, according to data from the state's Employment Development Department.

That includes 154 employees at Workday's Pleasanton headquarters and 74 workers at DHL Supply Chain in Livermore as part of broader layoffs nationwide at both companies. Those cuts go into effect April 6 and March 20, respectively.

Quality assurance roles were the hardest hit by the Workday cuts, which eliminated 34 quality assurance engineer roles. Of those jobs, 18 were at the senior level and three

were at the senior associate level. Eight management positions in that department were also eliminated, one of which was a senior role.

All in all, 35 manager positions across a range of departments were eliminated in the latest round of Workday layoffs, including eight senior management positions.

Customer service workers are the most heavily impacted by the DHL layoffs, which cut a total of 24 customer service representative jobs, 19 order filler pickers, and 11 operations supervisors from its 1201 Voyager St. location in Livermore.

The first Tri-Valley layoffs of the year, effective Jan. 9, were due to the closure of pharmaceutical company AbbVie's three offices in the region. That impacted a total of 59 workers, most of whom were based at its Dublin office on 5996 Gleason Drive. The positions ranged from manufacturing technicians and operators, warehouse workers, analysts and engineers throughout the Chicago-based company's local operations.

AbbVie's exit from the Tri-Valley and the associated layoffs were announced late last year, with WARN notices filed with EDD on Nov. 10.

That same week, media outlets confirmed that the major pharmaceutical company was ending its partnership with Calico Life Sciences — an anti-aging research and development company founded by Google's parent company Alphabet — and laying off approximately 100 employees associated with that collaboration.

As of Tuesday afternoon, a spokesperson for the company had not responded to a request for comment on whether the end of the Calico Life Sciences partnership was part of the reason for closing the local offices. AbbVie's exit from the Tri-Valley leaves its South San Francisco location on Gateway Boulevard as its only remaining outpost in the state.

Meanwhile, the youth mental health and substance abuse treatment facility Newport Academy is finalizing its exit from the Tri-Valley in the coming months in a move that was

confirmed by the company last year.

That means 30 workers at its Happy Valley Road location in Pleasanton and 16 at its Kilkare Road location in Sunol are set to have their jobs terminated effective April 24. Those positions consist primarily of special behavioral health roles, as well as four nurses, two primary therapists, and one teacher.

The latest cuts come on the heels of numerous high profile local layoffs last year, including nearly 2,000 jobs at Workday, two rounds of cuts at Chevron's San Ramon offices amounting to more than 600 jobs, 93 jobs at Pleasanton-based 10x Genomics, 45 jobs at Oracle's Pleasanton office, and continued cuts to staff at Kaiser's Pleasanton offices.

Last year closed out with dozens more layoffs as Livermore-based Monarch Tractor axed 97 local jobs effective Nov. 19 and closed its corporate office at 151 Lawrence Drive. amid a breach of contract lawsuit over its autonomous tractor technology and a major shakeup in the

company as it seeks to transition to a SAAS operation while auctioning off its existing equipment.

An additional 23 jobs were axed in Livermore last year, with Kinetics Equipment Solutions closing its location at 6161 Industrial Way effective Dec. 26.

New state legislation means that as of Jan. 1, employers submitting WARN notices to the EDD are required to provide explanations for how they will support laid off workers, whether they plan to work with a local workforce board or another organization to coordinate services, and contact information with descriptions of services available to laid off workers.

Employers behind the local layoffs announced this year — Workday, DHL, and Newport Academy — all said in their WARN notices that they did not intend to partner with any local workforce agencies, but provided contact information for the Alameda County Workforce Development Board. ■

ZONE 7

Continued from Page 5

negotiated 30-year water supply contracts with water retailers — a topic that continues to be very important for him.

"Water supply projects will make water costs less expensive in the long run," Gambs said. "Currently, we have been purchasing water transfers in dry years to make our deliveries, which can be very costly"

During his time on staff, Gambs said he always understood the importance of working as a team and recognized the critical role of the board of directors, which is why he decided to run back in 2018. Having initially won a four-year term, Gambs successfully ran for reelection in 2022 and is currently

serving his second term, which expires on June 30.

Over his two terms, Gambs cited several other projects that he was particularly proud of overseeing, including the number of water supply reliability projects that are currently in the works.

"These projects are needed primarily to offset the impacts of climate change and regulatory cutbacks on our State Water Project deliveries," Gambs said, noting that those deliveries make up about 80% of Zone 7's water supply.

He highlighted the Site Reservoir, an off-stream water storage in the Sacramento Valley that will serve as a new water supply, and the Delta Conveyance Project, which aims to modernize the existing State Water Project infrastructure,

as projects he considers wins for the region.

"We are fortunate to have these projects lined up," Gambs said. "They are great opportunities for Zone 7 to provide a reliable supply of water to the community. Water projects have a history of getting more expensive so we are fortunate to have these projects lined up for approval in the near future."

Gambs also said he championed the Chain of Lakes Conveyance Project, another infrastructure project that aimed to enhance Tri-Valley water reliability by using local quarry lakes for storage and groundwater recharge.

"This project is an opportunity to gain use of some lakes for storage in the short-term rather than having to wait until completion of all the lakes,

which is now estimated to be in 2065," Gambs said. "Global warming is causing precipitation to be more irregular and more intense, making storage more important."

He added that he is also happy the agency is working with the city of Pleasanton on the Regional Groundwater Facilities Improvement Project, which aims to build two new groundwater wells in Pleasanton in order to address the rise of PFAS — also known as forever chemicals — found in the region's groundwater supply.

"We have a very professional staff that is on top of treating the PFAS (forever chemicals) that are in our groundwater basin, and has lined up the projects to make our water supply more reliable," Gambs said.

Gambs' seat is one of four up for

election this year. He and fellow incumbent Catherine Brown will not be seeking reelection.

Directors Dawn Benson and Sarah Palmer are the two other incumbents whose seats are up for grabs in the at-large election, and both are vying to reclaim their spots, according to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office.

Gambs' decision not to seek reelection was difficult, despite his readiness for full retirement. However, he expressed complete confidence in the current board's capability to raise critical questions and in the dedicated staff serving the public.

"I have truly enjoyed working with all of you," Gambs said in an email he sent to his fellow board members. "I believe Zone 7 is in good hands and moving in the right direction." ■

These public documents are hidden from view. Two California lawmakers want to change that

BY RYAN SABALOW / CALMATTERS

Two California lawmakers are trying to open up legislative documents that are technically public records, but difficult for even the most seasoned Capitol insiders to access.

The documents are letters registered lobbyists and advocacy groups send the Legislature to support or oppose bills. CalMatters has been seeking greater access to them for more than a year.

Assembly members Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, a Democrat representing the San Ramon area, and Republican Greg Wallis of Rancho Mirage each introduced legislation in February that would require the Legislature to post the letters online.

“Candidly, I had no idea that the public didn’t have access to support and opposition letters,” said Wallis, who authored Assembly Bill 2063. “It sort of blew my mind when I found out that that wasn’t readily available.”

Bauer-Kahan’s office didn’t respond to an interview request to discuss her Assembly Bill 2557, which is similar to Wallis’ bill.



Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

Position letters from lobbyists and advocacy organizations, submitted through a portal on the Legislature’s website, are public records, according to the California Legislative Open Records Act. The law sets the rules for what correspondence lawmakers and their employees are required to disclose and says they must give the letters out upon request. They usually do.

But having to separately request letters to legislative staff for each bill before lawmakers — more than 2,000 each year — is tedious and time-consuming. Each proposal can generate dozens of letters.

The Legislature’s employees have to devote substantial time to giving the letters out to the army of advocates who rely on them to

understand which groups support or oppose legislation and why.

“Even if staff had a desire to be very equitable about sharing that kind of information, that is not a good use of their time; absolutely not,” said Jennifer Fearing, a long-time lobbyist who advocates for nonprofits.

Former Democratic state Sen. Steve Glazer said the letters “can be very relevant to the legislative process of finding compromise” since they can contain valuable suggestions from organizations on how to improve legislation.

They are also one of the few windows into the secretive world of Capitol lobbying.

“There’s a lot of influencing that happens in the shadows,” Glazer said. “But that’s usually different than letters that are put on the record and submitted to a legislative committee.”

He questioned why legislative leaders would even need a law to post the letters online.

“If I were the leader ... I’d say, ‘That’s bull—. Publish the god-damn letters.’”

CalMatters requested interviews for this story with Sen. President

Pro Tem Monique Limón and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, both Democrats. They declined.

Some other state legislatures, such as Hawaii’s, post advocacy position letters on their websites.

Do legislative analyses give an unbiased picture?

CalMatters has sought for the past year to obtain the letters as they are filed through the Legislature’s online position-letter portal, which lawmakers and their employees can access but the public cannot. The Legislature denied CalMatters’ request, made under the Legislative Open Records Act.

CalMatters seeks to add the letters to its Digital Democracy database, which is free for the public to access.

The letters also would be used to help create a more accurate assessment of who supports and opposes each bill in the database. Without the letters, Digital Democracy can only track lobbyist and other advocate positions through their brief testimony at committee hearings or if the positions are listed in the public bill analyses that accompany legislation.

The staff of various legislative

committees and the Senate and Assembly chambers write the analyses. They provide a basic summary of what a bill seeks to accomplish, some context behind the legislation and a brief description of the supporters and opponents and their positions, often based on the letters submitted through the portal.

Some question whether the committee consultants who write the analyses accurately reflect the support and opposition to a bill in an unbiased manner or provide all the relevant facts that lawmakers — and their constituents — need to make informed decisions.

Former Democratic Sen. Jerry Hill said he was frustrated by the slanted positions some committee consultants put in their analyses. He thinks the legislative process would benefit from having the letters posted online for everyone to see.

“I think it definitely will improve the process if all of these letters are made public,” he said. “It will create a better-informed Legislature to make those decisions at the end of the day, and not have to rely totally and solely on the opinions of a couple of committee staff writers and consultants.” ■



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SF-born ramen restaurant expands to Dublin

Marufuku marks grand opening of first Tri-Valley location

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Dublin is welcoming Marufuku Ramen to its food and restaurant scene this week with doors officially opening to the public Wednesday.

Located at 4288 Dublin Blvd., Suite 101, the new eatery is bringing its signature rich broths and artisanal noodles to the Tri-Valley by way of San Francisco where it was founded in 2017.

“We’re excited to continue growing in the Bay Area and to introduce Marufuku to the Dublin community,” said co-founder Eiichi Mochizuki in a statement announcing the restaurant’s opening.

“Our goal has always been to

provide an authentic Japanese ramen experience rooted in tradition, quality ingredients and warm hospitality. We look forward to welcoming guests in Dublin to enjoy a comforting bowl with family and friends,” Mochizuki added.

The Dublin establishment joins a growing portfolio of Marufuku locations including the original in San Francisco’s Japantown as well as Oakland, Redwood City, Cupertino, Irvine, San Diego, New York City, Las Vegas and Frisco and Austin, Texas.

Marufuku Ramen is known for its milky premium Tonkotsu broth, slow cooked for hours to extract deep umami flavor, according to restaurant officials.

The restaurant’s Hakata-style

ramen features ultra-thin artisanal noodles paired with carefully selected pork Cha-shu. In addition to Tonkotsu, the menu includes Chicken Paitan ramen, vegetarian options, mini rice bowls and a variety of izakaya-style appetizers.

The menu also features premium beer and sake.

The Dublin location will offer dine-in and takeout service, providing a welcoming space for both quick lunches and relaxed dinners, officials said.

Marufuku Ramen Dublin will be open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information about Marufuku, visit marufukuramen.com. ■



COURTESY MARUFUKU RAMEN

Marufuku Ramen is bringing its signature rich broths and artisanal noodles to the Tri-Valley.

CRIME DATA

Continued from Page 5

“Clearly retail theft has been a huge issue in Alameda County and across the nation,” Jones Dickson said.

Regarding theft-related property crimes, she said that the number of those cases filed with the DA’s office in 2025 was just over 4,600 — a significant increase from years prior. That number was closer to 3,600 in 2024 and a little over 3,000 in 2023.

However, she also highlighted a decrease in the number of times stores were being hit per day.

“I have had so many meetings with business owners ... across the county about how they’re getting hit with the retail theft,” she said. “We are trying very hard to remind people ... the four times a day that they were being hit. Now it’s down to maybe four times a month.”

Jones Dickson discussed some of the other data regarding misdemeanor and felony case referrals that her office received from police departments. A referral is a police report that is reviewed by prosecutors and, if they determine they can prove the crime beyond a reasonable doubt, they then charge the suspects.

According to the data she presented, in 2025 the DA’s office reviewed nearly 13,000 misdemeanors and almost 5,900 felonies; 12,000 misdemeanors and just over 5,300 felonies in 2024; 11,650 misdemeanors and a little under 5,200 felonies in 2023; and about 12,500

misdemeanors and nearly 5,200 felonies in 2022.

The number of misdemeanor cases that ended up being charged in 2025 was about 7,000 — just under 5,000 were not charged. That ratio was more or less the same over the last four years, according to Jones Dickson.

She also noted a number of cases that were given an alternative action, which includes diversion.

For felony referrals, in 2025 there were just over 4,200 police reports that were charged and 980 police reports that were not charged.

Jones Dickson said the number of cases have gone up compared to previous years and that she expects that number to continue to rise mostly because when her team first started, they had a long backlog of cases that have not been charged.

“I think, to some extent, police were a little upset about that,” she said.

Jones Dickson also spent some time discussing internal changes at the DA’s office and what her team has been doing to bolster its operations by filling up leadership positions, relaunching grant and consumer protection initiatives, and beginning a “top-to-bottom fiscal review.”

“Those actions create more transparency as well as accountability for our office,” she said.

She added that the office removed internal bottlenecks and restored prosecutorial capacity, meaning prosecutors were able to review and process cases more efficiently and were able to increase the amount of felony filings, and were able to secure funding to protect victims and support the Alameda County Family Justice Center and the Trauma Recovery Center.

“There’s been a remarkable turnaround and I think it’s notable in our community,” Councilmember Craig Eicher, a retired Pleasanton police captain, said during the meeting.

Looking ahead, Jones Dickson said she wants to continue building trust with the community through town halls and safety forums and even suggested working with Pleasanton to set one up in the city to hear from residents and local leaders.

She said she also wants to continue emphasizing that cities invest in early childhood education and invest in families in order to prevent some of those theft-related cases, which can be caused by economic hardships.

Other key priorities for her office include developing a hate crimes unit; restoring its efforts to prosecute human trafficking, wage theft and labor exploitation; improving and expanding victim witness services; and continuing its annual reporting.

And as she works on continuing to train lawyers who might have not gotten the experience they needed over these past few years due to the pandemic, or not having enough cases or dealing with budgetary constraints, Jones Dickson said she wants to really focus doing everything she can to keep residents in the county safe.

“The policies that you (saw) out tonight and what’s going on in the office now everyday ... is a focus on purpose, a clear strategy for what we’re doing and positive culture,” Councilmember Matt Gaidos, who works as a prosecutor in Jones Dickson’s office, said of his boss’s presentation. “And that to me is the recipe for positive results and that’s what we’re seeing.” ■

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DSRSD academy

The Dublin San Ramon Services District is inviting community members who reside or work within the water agency’s service area to participate in its biennial Citizens Water Academy.

The free program, which will take place over four Thursdays in May, offers water customers an exclusive look into what it takes to operate DSRSD’s water, wastewater and recycled water systems, according to the water agency. The sessions will be held at DSRSD facilities and will include demonstrations, insight from staff and a tour of DSRSD’s Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The application period is open now until March 27. High school seniors will be prioritized for the student spots.

To learn more about the program and to apply, visit www.dsrds.com/academy. Paper applications are also available upon request.

Disaster training

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will be hosting a training academy where, starting next week, individuals can learn critical life-saving skills.

“The CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations,” according to a press release from the organization.

The academy will be held on Wednesday evenings from March 18 to April 22 at the LPFD training grounds, located at 3333 Busch Road. There will also be a Saturday session on March 28 — participants must attend each

session to graduate.

To register, visit <https://p.veoci.com/LPCERT-Spring-2026> or contact the CERT Program office at CERT@lpfire.org.

Plan Bay Area

After several years of public discussion and technical review, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) have officially released the proposed final Plan Bay Area 2025+ and the final environmental impact report for the plan.

Bay Area residents can now read the finalized documents online at planbayarea.org/2050/environmental-impact-report-eir.

The ABAG Executive Board will consider adopting the final plan and certifying the final environmental impact report at its March 19 meeting. The MTC will consider certifying the final impact report and adopting the final plan, along with any accompanying documents and amendments, at its March 25 meeting.

Free therapy

Tri-Valley Haven, a local nonprofit that serves survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, homelessness and poverty, is currently accepting new clients seeking individual and family counselling services.

According to the organization, counseling services for survivors of sexual or domestic violence will be free-of-charge. People navigating “mental health concerns or major life transitions” or who simply seek connection and shared healing can also receive these services, according to the nonprofit.

To learn more or to complete a confidential counseling intake, call 925-449-5845 ext. 5 or 925-667-2705. ■



Ursula Jones Dickson

STRIKE

Continued from Page 5

after it was introduced March 5 and issued its threat to strike effective Monday if an acceptable deal wasn't brought forward by DUSD.

The negotiating teams held special sessions Friday, Saturday and Sunday, but failed to reach a deal.

"We were willing to compromise. We have compromised. We came to the negotiating table today ready to sign," said DUSD's superintendent-in-waiting, Matt Campbell. "We remain ready to sign an agreement consistent with the neutral Fact-Finder's recommendations."

"Our responsibility remains to ensure the long-term fiscal stability of the Dublin Unified School District so that we can continue supporting our students, staff, and families while maintaining the financial solvency required of California public school districts," Campbell added. "Agreements that exceed our fiscal capacity are not student-centered and show up in the classroom, leading to larger class sizes, reduced programs, and negative impacts on student learning."

'We were willing to compromise. We have compromised. We came to the negotiating table today ready to sign.'

Matt Campbell,

DUSD assistant superintendent

The deal on the table from the district since last week, which mirrors the fact-finding chair's recommendation, would include a 2.1% salary increase retroactive to July 1, a 1% bonus, higher contributions from the district to members' health and welfare benefits, and a commitment to form a committee to analyze class size reductions, according to Campbell.

DUSD officials then revealed on Wednesday morning that their side moved its position and introduced a new commitment to fund one full-time equivalent counselor at each elementary school and push a more defined process for class size analysis at around 11:30 p.m. Tuesday.

While the discussions were "productive" that night, they remained at impasse when the session was called at 2:35 a.m. Wednesday. The teams were back at it behind closed doors eight hours later. The union has vowed to continue its strike until a tentative agreement is reached.

"We'll be on the picket lines until DUSD management reprioritizes their budget and INVESTS IN OUR STUDENTS," DTA officials wrote on social media Tuesday evening after the union and its supporters saw a large turnout at that night's DUSD Board of Trustees meeting.



The Dublin Teachers Association rally drew hundreds of supporters to Kolb Park on Monday afternoon. DTA members were on strike during school days Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

On the ground for day one of the strike

As students arrived at Dublin High, DTA members alerted them to the ongoing strike with some students immediately departing.

Behind the campus gates, few students were visible as classes continued.

"The District's current proposal reflects an effort to move toward resolution while still acknowledging the financial realities we face," said Campbell, the assistant superintendent of educational services who took over as the face of negotiations last month after the school board selected him as the successor to retiring Superintendent Chris Funk.

Funk expressed similar sentiments in an interview with the Weekly. "At this time, going any higher would just mean even more cuts," he said.

DUSD is not alone in its financial challenges, Funk added, noting school districts in Pleasanton and Livermore among those with strapped budgets.

Funk suggested that the state change the way it funds public education, including complete funding of special education and region-based bumps.

"I'm very disappointed that they chose to go on strike because a strike does not benefit anyone," Funk said. Employees lose pay, the district loses funding and students along with their families are placed in the tough spot of choosing between supporting the teachers or supporting the district, he explained.

"They're being treated as pawns," Funk said of the students.

Instead of his typical role as superintendent, Funk taught fourth and fifth grade classes on Monday with full sets of students. They worked with packets and online math programming, he explained.

"Our teachers are essential to our community," DHS senior Noor Rizvi told the Weekly on the first day of the strike. "I'm really disappointed to see that the school district is not prioritizing the needs of teachers and by extension, not prioritizing the needs of students."

Following the school site picketing, hundreds of DTA members and their supporters gathered for a rally at Kolb Park in Dublin.

Just after 1 p.m., DTA lead negotiator Monica Lewis informed the crowd that the district had not budged in its offer. She reiterated DTA's goals surrounding class sizes, counselors and the ability to recruit and retain qualified teachers.

"We are not going to stop fighting until we get them for our students," Lewis said before the crowd.

Also in attendance was gubernatorial candidate and U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, a Dublin High School alumnus.

"Teachers are the backbone of our community," Swalwell (D-Livermore) told the crowd. "You are the co-authors of our children's lives and for that, we don't just owe you a raise. We don't just owe the community a smaller classroom. We owe you everything."

Attendees erupted in cheers.

Later taking the stage, CTA President David Goldberg commended the Dublin teachers union for their collective efforts.

"I saw your strike lines today — that is a beautiful thing to see," Goldberg said. At a time when people are being pitted against each



PHOTOS BY JUDE STRZEMP

'All week, teachers have been in the streets of Dublin, fighting for our kids — where are our elected school board members?'

Brad Dobrzanski,
DTA president

other and our students are under attack, you're standing up for our students and saying you're willing to fight for them."

Following the rally, the crowd took off for the district office.

As day one of the strike entered midafternoon, DTA Vice President Brittany Neideffer said she was feeling inspired.

"Seeing everybody show up today and really stand with each other has given me so much hope and it has really made me feel so much more connected to my colleagues," Neideffer said.

"I honestly thought our leadership was gonna be more collaborative, so I don't think we're gonna be able to avoid day two tomorrow, but I really hope that is the last day," Neideffer told the Weekly.

Reflecting on day one of the strike, Funk criticized some union members for allegedly obstructing school sites — a claim Dobrzanski subsequently refuted.

Individuals have the right to protest, but they may not interfere with campus access, Funk said.

"Unfortunately, we have received multiple reports from school sites that members of the Dublin Teachers Association have blocked or attempted to block access to campuses for families, students and deliveries," Funk said in the statement. "Let me be clear: this behavior is unacceptable and must stop immediately."

Dobrzanski maintained that, "Our lines are moving and we're not obstructing anything."

"I know it might look a little bit different for our community, but everybody still has access to district facilities, should they choose to use them during a strike," Dobrzanski said. ■

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Kirk Ridgeway

April 9, 1948 – March 1, 2026

I found the feather of a Hawk and walked with it. I felt its edge cut into the wind, lifting and falling with each twist I gave. I felt its weight become weightless when the pitch was just right and the air flowed smoothly. For an hour, I played and became the bird sensing each change of now, responding to each new movement feeling the pleasure of feathers. Now I watch the hawk circling, swooping gliding, I watch him adjust his wings flap to change his course, float on wind. Because I walked with a feather I know the feeling of flight, the hawk, the wind. Because I sit on this log silently watching and alone, I know these things.



Kirk Ridgeway, May 6, 1993.

PAID OBITUARY

Eugene Foster

October 16, 1933 - March 1, 2026

Eugene Foster, a man of unwavering strength, integrity, and devotion to his family, passed away, March 1st at the age of 92. Born in San Leandro, California, in 1933, Eugene lived a life defined by his service to his country and the love he shared with his family.

In 1950, at the age of 17, Eugene answered the call of duty and joined the United States Army. He served with honor during the Korean War, an experience that earned him the profound respect of his peers and a nation's gratitude. His distinguished service was recognized with a Purple Heart, three Bronze Service Stars, the National Defense Service Medal, and numerous other honorable badges and awards.

In 1958, Eugene married the love of his life, Gloria. The couple made their home in Pleasanton, where they lived and raised their family for the last 53 years. He was a proud father to his two children, Michael (wife Christine) and Jill (husband Dave), and a doting grandfather to his four beloved grandchildren: Nick (wife Madi), Caitlyn, Madison, and Mia.

Eugene was a hardworking man. He spent many years as a skilled butcher at Romley's in Castro Valley and Dublin, later retiring from a long and respected career at Kesley's Market in Niles. When he wasn't behind the counter, Eugene was happiest outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, finding peace and joy in the beauty of nature.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Evelyn (Stepmom) Foster, and his mother, Beatrice Silva. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; his children; his four grandchildren; and his dear sister, Gail (Foster) Bucheli.

Eugene's legacy of hard work, courage, and family commitment will be felt by all who knew him. He will be deeply missed.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, with specific details to be shared by the family once finalized.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in Eugene's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a cause that reflects his generous spirit.



PAID OBITUARY

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton PD investigates string of violent home invasions

The Pleasanton Police Department is currently investigating several recent residential burglaries where people have broken into homes and in two cases attacked residents, according to police.

In a press release Friday, the department reminded residents that home security cameras can help provide evidence to the police and implored residents to make sure their camera systems are working properly, to double check their alarm systems are activated and to take any other safety precautions.

"We would like to remind residents to keep their doors and windows locked even when they're home, and to promptly report suspicious behavior," police stated in the press release.

According to police, the most recent incident occurred on March 4 when a resident on the 3800 block of Mohr Avenue encountered a suspect in his backyard at approximately 8 p.m.

While the press release categorized the incident — and the other two — as a burglary, PPD's virtual crime map currently lists the March 4 violent crime as a robbery.

"The suspect displayed a handgun and forced the resident back into the home," police said. "Inside the residence, both the resident and his wife were struck by the suspect before the suspect fled the area by jumping over nearby fences."

The suspect, who is described as a light-skinned Black male who is about 5 feet 8 inches tall and was wearing dark clothing and a mask during the crime, did not shoot his gun during the interaction, according to the press release.

Officers attempted to locate the suspect using drones and a police canine to search the surrounding area but were unable to find him, police said.

The other two crimes PPD is investigating happened on the same day, and roughly in the same area as each other near Valley Avenue and Hansen Drive.

According to police, shortly before 7 p.m. on Feb. 27, a suspect entered a home on the 6000 block of Hansen Drive and pepper-sprayed a teenager who was inside the home at the time of the encounter before fleeing. PPD's crime map currently lists the incident as a robbery and first degree home invasion.

About an hour later, another burglary, which is also listed as a breaking and entering in the crime map, was reported just down the street on the 5900 block of Via Del Cielo.

"Security footage from the residence showed a male suspect wearing a dark hoodie, jeans, and white shoes," police said. "We believe

these cases are related."

PPD detectives are actively investigating all three of these cases and are asking folks who have any information to contact the department at 925-931-5100.

— Christian Trujano

Plea hearing delayed

The man accused of murdering his ex-girlfriend's mother and brother in Pleasanton appeared briefly in court Monday morning during his first plea hearing, where his attorney ultimately did not enter a plea to the charges on his behalf.

Allen Swadley, 32, of San Jose is now awaiting his next plea hearing, which is scheduled for March 20 at 9 a.m. at the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin. He faces two counts of first-degree murder and a slew of special allegations for the deaths of 67-year-old Lori Simonds and her son, 28-year-old Evan James Simonds, who were both found with multiple gunshot wounds at their home near the Ken Mercer Sports Park on Feb. 18.

His defense attorney, Robert Daniel Byers, told the judge Monday that they were still working out some details regarding Swadley's case, which is why he delayed entering a plea at the time.

Swadley briefly appeared behind the protective glass inside the courtroom but did not say anything except for a brief exchange of whispers to his attorney before heading back to jail.

Since his arrest on Feb. 20, the Weekly has also learned that Swadley spent some time working at Foothill High School, according to a community notice sent out by Foothill principal Sebastian Bull on the day of Swadley's arrest.

"We want to inform you that an individual identified in today's Pleasanton Police Department press release worked on the Foothill High School campus this year as an athletic trainer through our contracted partnership with Stanford Children's Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center," Bull stated.

Swadley's photo and job description on Stanford's website was taken down almost immediately following his arrest last month.

"This matter is not connected to Foothill High School," Bull added, noting that while Swadley did work on campus, no Foothill students or staff were involved in the double-homicide case.

The Weekly reached out to Pleasanton Unified School District for additional comment but was told that the district would not be commenting further.

A GoFundMe campaign, "Support for Melissa After Tragic Loss", is still active and collecting donations to cover funeral and other costs in support of the victims' daughter and younger sister — the lone surviving member of the immediate family. The effort

had raised nearly \$86,000 as of Monday morning.

Stoner U, a wrestling studio in Oakland, will also be hosting a memorial show this Friday for Evan James Simonds, an aspiring wrestler who used the moniker "The Sex Hawk" Lars Lugar.

"The Home of Higher Learning will be honoring our fallen brother Evan James 'Lars Lugar' Simonds," the March 13 event description states. "Come celebrate his life and love of our sport. All proceeds will go to supporting his family."

— Christian Trujano

Charges in grocery store alcohol bribery scheme

A federal grand jury last week indicted five former employees of an alcohol distribution company and a Napa-based winery salesman for allegedly bribing grocery store buyers in California to boost sales of certain alcohol brands, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California said.

The indictment filed March 3 alleges the scheme ran from at least 2016 to 2024 and involved paying bribes to employees at grocery store chains in exchange for increasing purchases of specific alcohol products.

Those charged include Stephen Magliocco, 47, of Trabuco Canyon; Michael Dehdashtian, 48, of Lake Forest; Adrian Ruiz, 54, of Corona; Ryan Dow, 40, of Upland; and Loratina Muscara, 64, of Livermore. Prosecutors said all five were former employees of an alcohol distribution company identified in court documents as "Distributor-1", which had offices in Northern and Southern California.

Also charged was Michael Sean Salene, 60, of Garden City, Idaho, a sales employee for a Napa winery.

Federal prosecutors said the defendants and their co-conspirators paid bribes to grocery store alcohol buyers while taking steps to conceal the payments by creating false financial records and forged documents.

According to the indictment, the distribution company and its partners were prohibited from paying bribes to retailers and wholesalers to favor certain alcohol brands. The company was also subject to audits by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, a federal agency that enforces alcohol industry regulations.

Prosecutors allege the defendants hid the bribes by using vendors and suppliers to issue false invoices that appeared to be legitimate business expenses. The money was then used to buy prepaid gift cards worth up to \$1,000 and luxury items such as watches, purses, golf equipment and exercise gear.

Salene is accused of bribing the head alcohol buyer for a national grocery chain that operates about

See BULLETIN on Page 11

Prosecutors drop case against Dublin fencing coaches

Academy owners eye their return to studio as they seek to overturn suspension from USA Fencing

By JUDE STRZEMP

Criminal charges against two prominent fencing teachers in Dublin were dropped late last month, with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office citing insufficient evidence to proceed with the case centered on alleged labor violations.

Prime Fencing Academy's Bogdan Dolzhenko, a former Ukraine national team fencer, and his wife Jeanne Amistoso had been accused of bilking immigrant instructors from Eastern Europe — allegations the couple denied through their lawyers.

The DA's office filed charges Jan. 5 against Dolzhenko for 12 counts and Amistoso for four felonies and one misdemeanor. Both defendants faced special allegations as well.

Although the case was dropped Feb. 24, the couple remain on a temporary suspension from teaching at Prime Fencing as they await a final hearing this week with the sport's regulatory organization USA Fencing.

Nevertheless, Dolzhenko and Amistoso are glad to put the litigation behind them.

"The dismissal is consistent with what we've maintained since day one," Dolzhenko's attorney Julia Jayne

said on behalf of the couple.

"They're obviously so relieved and just feel like this horrible nightmare is over," Jayne added during an interview with the Pleasanton Weekly. "However, there's still a lot of rebuilding to do because they did lose a number of students because of the way that the press framed it."

For Dmytro Farionov, one of the four victims named in the Jan. 5 criminal complaint, the case's dismissal has been upsetting.

"All I can say is that I can only congratulate Bogdan on the fact that his 'brilliant' plan is working," Farionov said in an email interview. "He does whatever he wants, lies, and his wife Jeanne covers everything up and saves him."

Kicking off the legal battle, the DA's office filed a criminal complaint against Dolzhenko and Amistoso, including a total of 41 charges against Dolzhenko and 12 charges against Amistoso.

On Jan. 16, USA Fencing temporarily suspended the couple's membership with the organization, including their ability to coach at Prime Fencing.

Also during mid-January, the couple stepped back from teaching at the studio.

According to Jayne, Dolzhenko and Amistoso faced a decision to either temporarily shut down Prime Fencing or restructure the underlying business Prime Fencing Academy LLC.

The studio subsequently closed from Jan. 17-20, the company's spokesperson David Oates told the Weekly.

Prime Fencing Academy reopened Jan. 21 under the sole managing member Illia Bilko, an instructor at the academy, Oates said.

"It was restructured so that they were not in those managed member roles, so that the club could stay open as a temporary measure," Jayne explained. "It was triggered entirely by USA Fencing and the desire that the club not completely shut down."

On Jan. 22, Dolzhenko and Amistoso were arraigned wherein they both pleaded not guilty to all counts and denied all special allegations, according to court records.

"The charges in this matter were dismissed because there was insufficient evidence to corroborate the charges beyond a reasonable doubt," the DA's office said of the Feb. 24 pretrial hearing.

Records had been subpoenaed from Maximum Fencing Club,

Bay Area Fencing Club, Cust. Rec. Maximum Fencing Club as well as from T-Mobile, according to court records on Amistoso. The court records did not provide further details into the subpoenaed materials.

Although the charges have been dismissed, the couple must be reinstated by USA Fencing before teaching again at Prime Fencing Academy. Their final hearing with USA Fencing is scheduled for March 12.

"USA Fencing is unable to comment on ongoing proceedings, but any final outcome will be communicated to members at the appropriate time," organization officials told the Weekly.

Since the teachers' suspension was based on legal charges, Jayne expects that USA Fencing will reinstate the couple.

"We're grateful to the DA's office for making that determination in a very

prompt, efficient manner so that they can get back into teaching," Jayne said. "It would be a disservice to everybody if they weren't reinstated."

Although the defendants have breathed a sigh of relief, ex-employee Farionov is dismayed over the decision. In response, he reiterated allegations included in the criminal complaint such as withholding wages and benefits.

"He promises you one thing, so you fly there and start working, and then you are not paid what you were promised," Farionov said of Dolzhenko. "You arrive at the apartment where you are supposed to live, and there is nothing there — no dishes, nothing at all."

According to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, there are no pending cases against Dolzhenko or Amistoso. ■

BULLETIN

Continued from Page 10

300 stores in California, lying to investigators and falsifying invoices.

The five former distribution company employees are each charged with conspiracy to commit bribery and obstruct investigations. Magliocco, Ruiz and Muscara also face charges of falsifying records to obstruct investigations. Salene faces charges including bribery under the federal Travel Act and making false statements.

If convicted, the defendants could face up to five years in prison for conspiracy, bribery, and false statement charges, and up to 20 years for falsifying records. They are scheduled to appear in federal court in Oakland on March 25, prosecutors said.

— Bay City News Service

Ex-attorney found guilty

A former Walnut Creek real estate attorney was convicted of multiple counts of crimes related to the sexual abuse of children, the Contra Costa District Attorney's Office said last week.

Jonathan Dean Bishop, 51, was convicted of 24 counts of committing lewd acts upon three girls beginning in 2004, all under the age of 14. "Jane Doe 1" was abused between 2012 and 2021, "Jane Doe 2" between 2012 and 2021, and "Jane Doe 3" between 2004 and 2014.

The jury also convicted Bishop of sexually abusing Jane Doe 1, who was under 10 years old at the time, between 2010 and 2018.

He was also found guilty of possessing over 600 images of child sexual abuse material depicting two of the girls — evidence recovered from a hard drive seized by police officers at Oakland San Francisco Bay International Airport in December 2023, when Bishop was taken into custody upon arriving from Florida, where he had been residing, prosecutors said.

According to the DA's office, Bishop is facing multiple life sentences in prison.

— Bay City News Service

Human trafficking stings

A task force that targeted human trafficking during Super Bowl festivities around the Bay Area arrested 29 alleged traffickers and rescued 73 victims, according to the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office.

Among the victims rescued by the Human Trafficking Task Force were 10 minors. One victim was a 12-year-old who was recovered in Oakland, the DA's office said in a statement Feb. 20.

In a two-week period prior to the NFL's championship game in Santa Clara on Feb. 8, law enforcement from 67 agencies in 11 counties participated in the task force, which is deployed when large-scale events

like the Super Bowl are held.

The DA's office said it has seen an increase in instances of human trafficking during past events that drew thousands of visitors to the area, and the task force will be operational again in the run up to the FIFA World Cup.

Levi's Stadium will host matches for the World Cup from June 13 to July 1.

The task force, headquartered at a command center in Sunnyvale, included 20 investigators from multiple agencies working with representatives from nonprofit organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and In Our Backyard.

The team investigated tips in real time and reduced investigations that sometimes take weeks into minutes, according to the DA's office.

In a partial breakdown of the statistics, the task force launched about 40 separate operations and recovered 20 victims in San Mateo County; 17 in Contra Costa County; and seven in Santa Clara County.

Seven alleged human traffickers were arrested in Contra Costa County, six were arrested in Monterey County, six in Solano County, and two in Santa Clara County, according to the DA's Office. A firearm was also seized in the Santa Clara County operation. ■

— Bay City News Service

Cathaleen Leja

April 27, 1936 - March 4, 2026

Cathaleen Leja passed away peacefully at age 89, leaving a legacy of faith, family, and adventure. Born April 27, 1936, in Oakland, California, Cathaleen grew up in San Leandro and graduated from Holy Names Catholic High School.



In her youth, Cathaleen embraced an active social life as a secretary in San Francisco, traveling to Yosemite and attending the 1960 Winter Olympics. In 1964, she married the love of her life, George Leja, whom she met in Alameda. They settled in Pleasanton to raise their three children before retiring to Lincoln. Together, they traveled the world and volunteered with the Lincoln Police Department's COP unit. In 2014, they celebrated 50 years of marriage. Following George's passing in 2015, Cathaleen returned to Pleasanton to be near family.

A devoted parishioner of St. Augustine's, Cathaleen's faith was her cornerstone. She was a planner and a generous spirit who lived for family gatherings. She famously advised her children and grandchildren, "You know, sweetheart, you only live once!" — encouraging them to pursue their dreams with all their hearts. A recent highlight was celebrating the wedding of her eldest grandchild, Andrew.

Cathaleen was preceded in death by her husband, George; her parents, Margaret and Stephan Davoren; and siblings Patrick and Mary. She is survived by her three children: Colleen Hanley (Dan) and their children Ryan and Danielle; Dan Leja (Elizabeth) and their children Andrew (Diana), Zachary, Kelsey, Grace, and Simon; and Maureen Hickey (Dan Tracy) and their children Brendan, Liam, Tyler, and Giselle. She also leaves behind her siblings, Stephan Davoren and Anne Marie Clancy, as well as a large, loving circle of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Visitation & Rosary: Thursday, March 19, 5:00 pm (Rosary at 6:00 pm), Graham-Hitch Mortuary, Pleasanton.

Funeral Mass: Friday, March 20, 10:30 am, St. Augustine's Church, Pleasanton.

Final Resting Place: Monday, March 23, 10:15 am, Sacramento Valley VA National Cemetery, Dixon.

Donations in Cathaleen's memory can be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Link: <https://www.stjude.org/>

PAID OBITUARY

'This is our lifeblood for art'

Aging Bothwell Arts Center faces uncertain future in Livermore

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JUDE STRZEMP

Nestled in a Livermore neighborhood is the beloved locus of an artist community.

The 1940s-era building dubbed the Bothwell Arts Center is home to rented studios, classrooms and performing space.

As the facility nears the end of its usable life, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District — which owns the Bothwell property blocks outside downtown — has not yet determined the building's future.

Nevertheless, the status quo carries on by leasing the facility to the nonprofit Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, better known as Livermore Valley Arts, which also manages programming at the city's Bankhead Theater.

"This place is important for the community. I can't stress that enough," Bothwell art instructor John Iacono told the Pleasanton Weekly. "This is our lifeblood for art."

Within the Bothwell's east end is a large room with high ceilings and a corner stage, known for hosting productions by Livermore-based community theater group Encore Players. Other days, the room homes comedy workshops, tai-chi, celebrations of life and Livermore

Valley Opera rehearsals, LVA visual arts and education manager Anne Giancola said during an exclusive tour with the Weekly.

Heading west, a yellow room divided by studios regularly welcomes Sycamore Strings Academy, Giancola explained.

There are about 20 working artists at the Bothwell, she said.

A neighboring room with a large table often serves as the site of jewelry workshops, classes and art camps.

Capping the west end is another high-ceilinged room bordered with artist studios.

"To have the community of artists here is so important," Giancola said. "They collaborate, and chat and work off of each other."

Among the artists renting space at the Bothwell is Dublin resident Tuan Karsevar.

Standing before a canvas at the Bothwell on a Friday evening, he pulled yellow pigments with a painting knife.

Preferring to work outside of his home, Karsevar said being at the Bothwell is artistic fuel.

"You can talk, get feedback," Karsevar said of painting at the Bothwell. "Everybody inspires each other here."

Just paces away in a studio room, artist Sheena Stewart was painting details on an accessory resembling a pink hibiscus.

Stewart has been in the business of sculpting whimsical accessories for about 13 years. Of those years, Stewart has worked for nearly a decade out of a Bothwell studio.

Previously running the business at home, Stewart said the Bothwell is a much more conducive space to work.

"When it was in my room, it was kind of claustrophobic. I felt a little held back and I was alone," Stewart said.

"Being able to have this space, I was able to make more pieces that I wanted to make, able to talk with other artists — just have that creative inspiration — and it made me feel more disciplined," Stewart added. "It feels like a home to me."

"The rent is very doable and possible for us artists, which I really appreciate," Stewart said. "The fact that it's in my hometown is awesome."

Iacono has also found that having a workspace outside of his residence has been very valuable.

It's nearly impossible for him to take work home.

"I'm painting in yards," he ex-



The Bothwell Arts Center, owned by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, provides a workspace for working artists as well as classes, workshops and events.

plained. "I can't go roll this out and do this in my space at my house because my house is my sacred space."

Artists rent their studios at a cost of \$160-\$600 monthly, which accounts for the Bothwell's revenue in addition to classes and camps.

But by itself, the Bothwell does not take in enough revenue to self-sustain, LVA CEO Chris Carter said. "We run things on very thin margins," he explained.

Operating the facility is not cheap, Carter acknowledged. The

arts organization must pay for Bothwell staff, teachers, insurance and electricity.

Otherwise, renting the Bothwell from LARPD costs just over \$1,400 monthly.

There are no comparable spaces in line with the Bothwell's rent, according to Carter.

Located on 8th Street, the building was constructed in 1947 and originally dubbed the Bothwell Sr. Recreation Center in honor of its construction supervisor Samuel Bothwell, according to the LARPD



Artist Tuan Karsevar spends a Friday evening at the Bothwell, honing his creative skills.



Artists at the Bothwell attest to the value of having a designated workspace for crea-



...ct and operated by the nonprofit Livermore Valley Arts, is home to about 20



Artwork can be seen hung throughout the Bothwell. Seen here are pieces by artist Thomas See.

website. Bothwell was also instrumental in establishing the surrounding Bothwell Park & Playground.

While the building is structurally sound, its roof is nearing the end of its lifespan and several older modular HVAC units will likely need replacement, LARPD parks and facilities manager Fred Haldeman said.

LARPD also sees the occasional plumbing and electrical issues typical of older facilities, according to Haldeman.

“The Bothwell building has been remodeled several times, but it is

nearing the later stages of its useful life,” he said.

Based on preliminary estimates, a full upgrade could cost several million dollars depending on the scope of improvements required, LARPD officials said.

The board has not made any decisions regarding the future of the Bothwell, LARPD Board Director David Furst told the Weekly in a recent interview.

“Regarding the future of the facility and some of its current challenges, many of those topics will be discussed

during our upcoming Master Plan process,” LARPD Board of Directors Chair Philip Pierpont said.

The district’s Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan Update is on track to be completed this fall, General Manager Mat Fuzie said. The Bothwell Arts Center and adjacent parkland is expected to be featured heavily in the document.

Since about 2021, the lease has been a month-to-month agreement with LVA, according to Fuzie.

“We have no plans to kick anybody out,” Fuzie said. “It’s kind of

a mutually beneficial agreement. They have the freedom to find something that works for them better, but they also have the freedom to stay if they can’t.”

Regardless of the structure’s age, students gathered Friday evening in the Bothwell’s west wing for a drawing class led by instructor Cameron Songey.

The group was surveying a thermal carafe to practice drawing multiple planes.

“He has really helped me improve my skills,” said drawing student and

Livermore resident Cathy Spencer. Classmate Simone Bley agreed that the course has been helpful.

“It’s relaxing and rewarding, and I can see the improvements already,” she explained.

A third student, Deepti Rajshekar of Pleasanton, said she found more than just art at the Bothwell.

“I enrolled in the drawing class at Bothwell because it was the only option that worked for me,” Rajshekar told the Weekly by email. “I kept coming back because of the teacher and the Bothwell art community.” ■



...ting art. Seen here is Bothwell instructor and artist John Iacono with his artwork.



Students observe a drawing lesson Friday evening at the Bothwell ahead of their hands-on practice.



Celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Dublin

Special events include festival, parade, gala, green pancakes, fun run and more

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

St. Patrick's Day festivities in Dublin are more than just an event. They are a cherished tradition that brings our community together in a joyful and visible way," Dublin Mayor Sherry Hu told the Pleasanton Weekly. "From the parade to the festival, it is a chance for neighbors, families, and visitors to celebrate together and experience what makes Dublin such a special place to call home."

According to a press release from the city, the festivities will begin on Friday (March 13) with the Dublin Historical Society's 5th annual Shamrock Gala, which starts at 6 p.m. and will be held at the Shannon Community Center. The event, which is for ages 21 and older, will feature dinner, music and dancing as well as a silent auction.

Members of the Dublin City Council, as well as representatives from Bray, Ireland, will be among many who will be at the gala to kick off the two-day festivities over the weekend. Tickets are \$95 and can be purchased at www.dublinhistorical.society.org.

The following morning, members

of the public will be able to start their day with a big stack of hot, green pancakes during the annual Firefighters Pancake Breakfast, which will take place at the fire station located at 7494 Donohue Drive.

Pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee will all be served during the event, the proceeds of which will go toward the Alameda County Firefighters Association-Local 55 Charity Fund, which supports local nonprofit and community-based organizations. Tickets for the breakfast will be \$5 and can be purchased at the door.

After breakfast, the Dublin Rotary Club will host the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, which starts at 9:30 a.m. Saturday (March 14) at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road. From that starting location, the parade will continue east on Dublin Boulevard, north on Village Parkway and west on Amador Valley Boulevard before ending near the Dublin Senior Center.

The procession will feature more than 60 entries including "festive marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, classic cars, dance troupes, equestrians, local dignitaries, and more."

The city of Dublin is gearing up for its annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration where residents and the greater public can take part in a carnival, gala and parade that aim to honor everything Irish all weekend long.

Parade attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route.

"The parade showcases our varied nonprofits, schools, sports leagues and businesses, and local partners — most kids in Dublin have marched in the parade, with their school, their team, or their band," Vice Mayor Jean Josey said in a statement to the Weekly.

Following the parade will be the St. Patrick's Day Festival, which will take place throughout both Saturday and Sunday. The festival, which runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Dublin Civic Center, will highlight authentic Irish music and dance;

feature an Irish marketplace and tea cottage; and offer Irish food and beverages. Arts-and-crafts vendors and a carnival will also be featured during the festival.

"The festival brings the entire community out to enjoy great music, food, shopping, and camaraderie," Josey said. "Our eating and drinking establishments and other retail businesses thrive with the influx of regional diners and shoppers, offering St. Patrick's Day specials and increased outdoor dining options for the weekend."

According to the city's press release, some of the entertainment during the festival will range from high-energy Celtic rock to traditional Irish pub sounds.

Admission to the festival is free and parking will be available along Sierra Court and Clark Avenue and in designated lots. A free festival shuttle will also be available to transport festival-goers from the Carl Zeiss Meditec parking lot, located at 5160 Hacienda Drive, directly to the festival entry.

"The St. Patrick's Day Celebration in the City of Dublin has become a must-attend event, not only for Dublin residents, but for our

neighbors as well," Josey said. "Our festival draws tens of thousands of residents from all over the Bay Area. We are an incredibly diverse City, but residents of all backgrounds proudly celebrate our shamrock roots in March."

Finally, on Sunday (March 15), the city will host the annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk, which begins at 8:30 a.m. Participants will start along Dublin Boulevard, near the Civic Center, and travel throughout the city before finishing at the festival where there will be live music, awards and other giveaways.

According to the city's press release, the top three finishers in each division will receive a medallion and gift certificate from race sponsor Sports Basement. Those interested in participating can sign up online at runsignup.com.

"There is something for everyone at Dublin's St. Patrick's Day celebration," Josey said. ■

COURTESY CITY OF DUBLIN

Dublin will be hosting its annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration festivities this upcoming weekend, including a parade, festival, fun run and more.

High schoolers pair to present ‘The Prom’ musical

Foothill drama teacher says joint production will focus on themes like inclusivity, empathy

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Almost a hundred students from Amador Valley and Foothill high schools are collaborating on a joint musical production that is set to focus on themes such as empathy toward others, selflessness and the right to love whoever.

Titled “The Prom”, this year’s joint spring musical production will be debuting next Friday (March 20) in the Amador Theater. Longtime Foothill English and drama teacher Dax Treible, one of the many producers of the large-scale production, told the Pleasanton Weekly he is excited for audiences to see what the students have been working on since December.

“We invite everyone to come on out,” Treible said, with the caveat that there is some mild language used during the show that people should be aware of, but nothing too serious.

According to Treible, the story follows a group of four eccentric Broadway actors who come to the existential realization that they are narcissists after their public image had been damaged by their poor behavior.

So, in an attempt to fix their image, the four stars decide to take on a social issue. That’s when they hear about a girl in a small-town in Indiana who is not allowed to take another girl to their high school prom as her date.

“The town’s parents want to keep the high school dance on the straight and narrow — but when one student just wants to bring her girlfriend to prom, the entire town has a date with destiny,” according to the on-line description of the production. “On a mission to make a difference, the Broadway stars team up with the courageous student, leading to a



transformation that brings everyone together in the name of love and acceptance.

Throughout the plot, the Broadway actors begin to mature away from their selfish motivations as they support the girl’s fight for LGBTQ+ inclusivity at the prom and discover kindness and selflessness during that process.

“And then they teach this town and everyone comes together learning collectively from each other about being better people until they hold this inclusive prom for everybody,” Treible said.

The inclusivity lesson in the story is vital to Treible because, especially with what has been going on around the world and in the U.S., he said it’s important to highlight art that emphasizes empathy and that combats hatred.

“It’s really important that we present art and people get to experience

something that shows the empathetic side and the fight against these acts of hate and these very isolated and insular acts of bigotry because it seems like they’ve become the norm ... and so (through) something like this, we’re really hoping to remind everyone that’s not the norm,” he said.

According to Treible, the cast is made up of 40 cast members — half from Foothill and the other half from Amador — as well as 20 orchestra members and another 20 students running technology.

He said auditions began in December, rehearsals have been going smooth and steady since then, and that he can’t wait for the public to see how much work he, his fellow eight directors — some of who have to deal with making three costumes for each of the 40 cast members — have been putting into this production.

“We’ve got some really talented



COURTESY DAX TREIBLE

Students from both Amador Valley and Foothill high schools rehearse on stage for their upcoming musical, “The Prom”, which is set to debut March 20.

kids,” Treible said. “They’ve been putting in a lot of effort ... It’s been a very fun, collaborative process.”

The musical will premiere March 20 at 7 p.m., with a second showing the following day at the same time.

A Sunday matinee is scheduled for March 22. Additional performances are set for the subsequent weekend, also at the same times. For tickets and more information, visit each school’s homepage online. ■

‘Fast, funny and fearless’ Austen adaptation

Las Positas College staging ‘Sense and Sensibility’ next two weekends in Livermore

BY JEREMY WALSH

Jane Austen’s timeless tale of the Dashwood sisters — with “a fast, funny and fearless makeover” for the stage, thanks to playwright Kate Hamill — is coming to Las Positas College in Livermore during the next two weeks.

Running from this Friday through the next weekend, the LPC theater arts program production of “Sense and Sensibility” follows Elinor and Marianne navigating life and love in an “inventive adaptation” of the literary classic that pairs well with the intimate setting of the Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts Black Box Theater at the community college campus, according to director Cynthia Lagodzinski.

“This adaptation lets everyone enjoy the brilliance of Jane Austen,”

Lagodzinski said in a press release ahead of opening night. “It’s joyful, surprising and unapologetically sassy. You don’t need to know the novel to fall in love with all the characters.”

Malia Salvación portrays level-headed Elinor and Eleonora Layne plays passionate and emotional Marianne in the production. Filling out the LPC cast are Melissa Redmond, Ruhi Khan, Thomas Henry, Michael Patin, Maahee Joshi, Brandon Shepherd, Ryan Morris, Lucas Jacinto, Roxi Nobari, Ella Bracken, Mackenzie McDonald, Marshawn Wesley, Johnathan Tanner, Alexandria Lobao, Mason Neto, Lucas Caba and Guerrero Lam.

“Packed with humor, comedy, and energy, this adaptation transforms a

treasured romance into a lively theatrical experience full of whirlwind romance, misunderstandings, and very public emotional chaos,” LPC officials said.

“The production features gleeful ‘gossips,’ live harpsichord music adapted from modern tunes a la ‘Bridgerton,’ bold storytelling, and a playful tone that invites audiences to laugh at the absurdities of polite society and cheer for characters who dare to feel deeply,” they added.

With six shows on the schedule, “Sense and Sensibility” will be on stage Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from March 13-21. Attendees can also purchase a special “Tea & Cookie” add-on for an intermission treat in the spirit of Austen’s England. For tickets and more information, go to lpc.ludus.com. ■



AARON BURG / LPC

Eleonora Layne as Marianne and Ryan Morris as John Willoughby in the Las Positas College production of “Sense and Sensibility” this month.

AI-generated script to open SPARC's 2026 season

Lineup also includes 'Hamlet' outdoors in wine country, 'The Glass Menagerie' indoors at Bankhead

By JEREMY WALSH

SPARC Theater's newly announced 20th anniversary season includes two all-time classics, but it's a brand-new script on the bill that might garner the most attention for the Livermore troupe.

As its season-opening production, the first installment of SPARC's annual Science@Play series features theatrical readings this weekend of an untitled piece of material created by artificial intelligence — a large language model dubbed "Claude" — from structured prompts developed by Science@Play program director Michael Wayne Rice.

"Science@Play has always been about experimentation discovery, and dialogue," said Lisa Tromovitch, SPARC Theater's executive and artistic director. "This year's theme explores artificial intelligence — but the purpose is not to replace human playwrights. It's to ask big questions about creativity: What can AI do and what can it never replicate about the human imagination?"

Acknowledging that the experiment is both bold and controversial, Tromovitch thinks the "heart of the event" will be the organized conversation held after each theatrical reading to gauge audience members' reactions.

"Theatre is human connection through and through," Rice said. "With AI proliferation, I constantly ask myself: How long before what is human is completely unrecognizable? AI development greatly outpaces our ability to culturally assimilate the technology in an ethically responsible manner. So, what becomes of us when humanity

allows itself to be consumed by AI?"

"Entangled: An AI Experiment" is set to be presented this Friday and Saturday (March 13-14) at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday (March 15) at 4 p.m. in the SPARC Studio at 2172 Railroad Ave. in downtown Livermore.

Two weeks later, the nonprofit theater company will host the second installment of 2026 Science@Play, a new play by (human) writer Cleavon Smith.

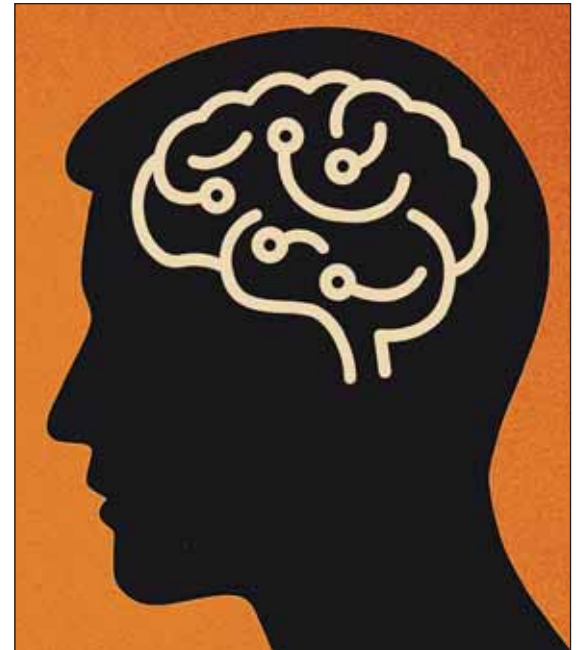
"The Moon Is Always Full" examines the innovations of brain implants enhanced by AI, and the ethical questions and potential liabilities that come with such medical and technological advancements.

"I'm diving into the emotional and ethical terrain of AI-driven medical science — especially technology implanted in the brain," Smith said. "I'm fascinated by the promise of healing and enhancement, but also by the power structures behind it. When technology is literally inside your mind, who has agency? Who benefits? Who gets left out? Theater is the perfect space to wrestle with those questions."

The Livermore Lab Foundation, a philanthropic partner of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, sponsored Smith's play.

"The Foundation wanted to support 'The Moon Is Always Full' because its theme relates to the work we're funding at LLNL, where researchers are applying the Lab's unique capabilities to model the human brain and tackle neurodegenerative diseases like ALS and Parkinson's," LLF Executive Director Sally Allen said.

"By bringing these complex scientific concepts to the stage, we



COURTESY SPARC

Left: "Entangled: An AI Experiment" is set March 13-15 at SPARC Studio in Livermore. Right: "The Moon Is Always Full" by (human) playwright Cleavon Smith is set for March 27-29.

hope to build more understanding and dialogue around the potential of AI-driven medical innovation and the transformative impact it can have on human health and cognitive research," she added.

A theatrical reading with light staging directed by Norman Gee, "The Moon Is Always Full" will be presented March 27-29 at SPARC Studio. Science@Play actors are Rice, Li-Leng Au, Sierra Bolar, Gregg Le Blanc and Will Livingston.

The meat of SPARC's production schedule follows later into spring and summer with two theater classics.

The company is performing "The Glass Menagerie" by legendary American playwright Tennessee

Williams from May 1-3 at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

"The Glass Menagerie" reminds us that memory shapes identity," director Gary Armagnac said. "In a world moving at relentless speed, this play asks us to slow down and examine what we hold onto — and what we must release."

Then SPARC will take on perhaps the Bard's most famous play, "The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark," for its 2026 Shakespeare in the Vineyard program in Livermore Valley wine country this July.

"Hamlet is a young person trying to find truth in a world that feels manipulated and unstable," said Tromovitch, who will direct the

play. "That struggle feels incredibly contemporary. Shakespeare reminds us that confusion, doubt, and moral courage are not new — but neither is resilience."

"Hamlet" will be presented on the outdoor stage under the stars at Darcie Kent Vineyards from July 2-26. Additional performances are scheduled to follow indoors at the historic Village Theatre in downtown Danville later in the summer, with dates yet to be announced.

SPARC is also celebrating William Shakespeare with its annual "Shakespeare's Birthday Bash" fundraiser, set for April 23 at 3 Steves Winery in Livermore. For more information on the 2026 season of offerings, visit sparctheater.org. ■

'Millennium and Memory' with Valley Concert Chorale

Vocal group performing 'An American Choral Celebration' at local churches this weekend

By JEREMY WALSH

Valley Concert Chorale is tapping into American music present and past for its "Millennium and Memory" shows this Friday and Saturday at two churches in the Tri-Valley.

With a selection that spans the United States' 250-year history, the Tri-Valley choral group will also perform the U.S. premiere of Margaret Shelton Meier's "Mass for the Millennium" during its March concerts.

"These concerts feature works that inspire reflection, resilience and hope, highlighting the evolving American story through music," VCC artistic director Joseph Castro said in a press release.

"At its center is the U.S. premiere of 'Mass for the Millennium'

by Margaret Shelton Meier, a distinguished American composer known for her luminous harmonies and her ability to blend ancient liturgical tradition with contemporary choral expression," Castro added. "Presenting Meier's work allows us to highlight an important American voice while honoring the 250-year milestone in our nation's history."

"Millennium and Memory: An American Choral Celebration" is being performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday (March 13) at Lynnewood United Methodist Church in Pleasanton and at 7:30 p.m. Saturday (March 14) at First Presbyterian Church on 5th Street in Livermore. For tickets and more information, visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003. ■



COURTESY VCC

Valley Concert Chorale, conducted by Joseph Castro, has two shows this weekend in the Tri-Valley.

Pleasanton Weekly

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LETTERS

Main Street revitalization

I lived in old-town Pleasanton since high school in the '50s. I built or restored, owned and managed several Main Street and side street commercial properties, and I can tell you that much of today's Main Street vitality issues can be traced back to 2002 when (unlike Livermore) Pleasanton passed its Downtown Specific Plan (DTSP) without including the one most important rule for building a vibrant pedestrian-friendly environment — a rule requiring “all new” ground floor Main St. businesses must be pedestrian-based.

So (unlike Livermore) low-vitality, automobile-oriented businesses like real estate, title companies, a chain hardware store and another bank moved in ground floor spaces along Main St.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm not criticizing these businesses; they had every right, they followed the rules. What I am saying is let's not blame today's PDA, or today's city for today's vitality issues created by long-gone leaders 24 years ago.

By the way, I'm long gone myself. I moved to downtown Livermore to take advantage of its pedestrian-friendly environment, entertainment and expanding vitality. When Livermore wrote their DTSP, they had the wisdom to understand it's the activity, not the architecture, that defines a downtown and provided the proper rules to do it right.

So if the goal is to revitalize Main St., then I believe Pleasanton should follow Livermore's lead and judge “all new” Main St. businesses by how pedestrian-friendly they are and what they add to the street, to the pedestrian-environment, to the whole.

There is no other way. Tell the PDA what you think.

— Robert W. Byrd

Keep BART running!

BART's latest board approval to eliminate the blue line (Castro Valley, West Dublin, Pleasanton) and increase fares is unfair to commuters, taxpayers and the environmentally conscious.

As a daily BART commuter, I find it hard to believe that nearly full morning trains at 4:57 a.m. and full afternoon trains at 3 p.m. can't cover costs of this service.

With the increasing price of Bay Area homes and commuters traveling as far as from Patterson, Modesto, Stockton to work in SE, it is unfairly treating lower-income workers attempting to save money and hours on their long commute.

There are approximately 100 people waiting for this first train in. Imagine the traffic, expense and pollution caused by adding 100

more cars every 20 minutes at each stop. The Bay Area would be better served to promote the use of public transportation than to cut it.

— Reed Monroe

CodeWithPurpose

What if learning a skill could also change someone's life, someone you've never met, in a neighborhood you've never visited? That's not a dream. That's what we do, every single day.

Our organization runs free, virtual tech courses built on one fiercely held belief: education should be accessible to everyone. We've welcomed 1,800 students, across 110 countries, taught in 20 languages, and together we've logged over 8,000 minutes of instruction. Every lesson learned and every skill unlocked is a door opened for someone who needed it.

Ten thousand people engage with our content every month. They come to learn coding, technology, and the skills the modern world demands. And they leave with something more than a certificate. They leave with confidence, with capability, and with proof that opportunity does not have to cost a thing.

Our students rate us 4.6 out of 5, but the number that moves us most is not a rating. It is the message from a student in a country we had never heard from before, telling us that our course changed the direction of their life. That is the moment we work for.

We built this because we refused to accept that quality education had to come with a price tag. Knowledge belongs to everyone. We'd love for your readers to be part of what we are building together.

With gratitude and purpose,

— Shreyan Mitra, co-founder at CodeWithPurpose

PFAS questions need answers

1. What are the vertical and lateral hydraulic conductivities of the aquifer units intersected by the proposed wells?

2. Are the targeted production zones hydraulically connected to the PFAS impact zones through: discontinuous aquitards, fault/fracture zones, paleo channel deposits, high-K lenses?

3. What is the anisotropy ratio (Kh/Kv) in the Bernal subbasin and how does it influence vertical PFAS migration?

4. Have continuous cores been collected to confirm the integrity and thickness of confining layers between the plume and the screened intervals?

5. Has the PFAS plume been

mapped in three dimensions?

6. What is the mass distribution of PFAS species, (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, PFAS, GENX) across the plume?

7. Are there temporary trends indicating plume expansion, contraction, or seasonal oscillation?

8. What is the sorption behavior (Kd, retardation factor) for PFAS in local sediments, especially fine-grained units?

9. Have isoconcentration surfaces been used to model the geometry of plumes and identify potential preferential pathways?

10. Do ground water flow models (MODFLOW, FEFLOW or equivalent) show capture zones intersecting the PFAS plume under any pumping scenario?

11. Has a particle tracking analysis (MODPATH) been run to evaluate advective transport toward the new wells?

There are many more questions.

— Michael Austin

AspireGen

As a junior at Irvington High School in Fremont, one of the most meaningful parts of my journey has been discovering how far teaching can reach. I help lead AspireGen, a student-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit

focused on making STEM education more accessible through tutoring and workshops.

What started as a local effort to help students build confidence in computer science grew beyond anything I expected. On UdeMy, my Intermediate Python course has reached 8,494 learners and received 283 reviews with a 4.4 rating. Through Schoolhouse.world, I have completed 39 tutoring hours across 35 sessions, supporting 36 learners in 9 countries, with 91 positive ratings and 57 “Super Helpful” marks.

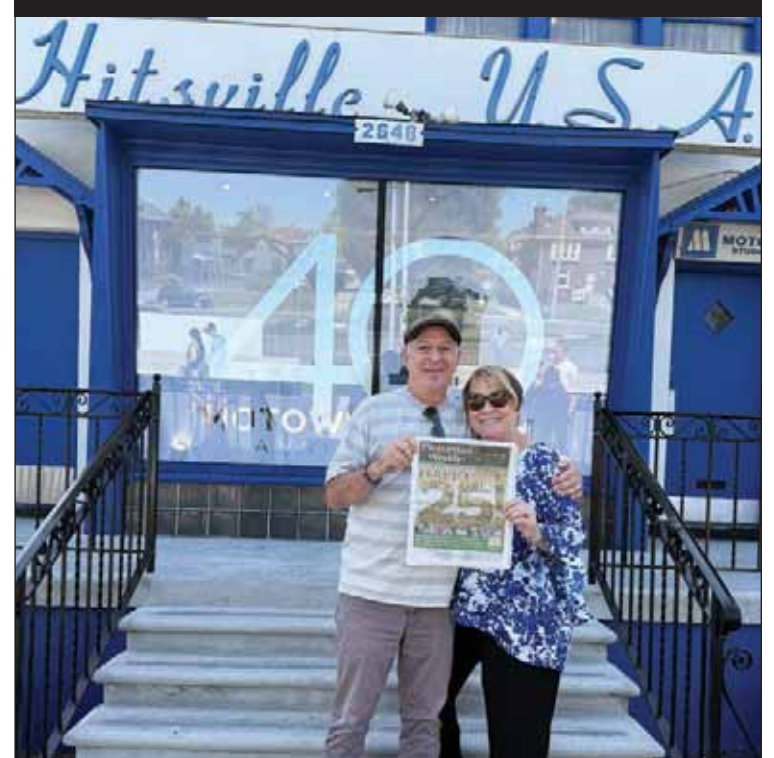
I have always felt like a teacher at heart, and I love sharing what I learn with my peers and with students around the world through Schoolhouse.world and UdeMy. It has reminded me that education is not limited by age, geography, or circumstance.

I hope more students feel encouraged to use their skills to uplift others. Small efforts can grow into something much bigger than we imagine.

— Mahi Kumar

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 550 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com.

TAKE US ALONG



Hitsville U.S.A.: Husband and wife Jay Maille and Sharon Massingham visited Sharon's family in the Detroit area last fall and made sure to stop at “Hitsville U.S.A.,” the home of what is now the Motown Museum. “The amount of renowned music and artists that came out of this tiny house on West Grand Boulevard is incredible, and it was fun imagining recording and learning their famous dances,” Sharon told the Weekly.

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.



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Amador wrestler overcomes tough injury to win NCS crown

'Once I started the final, I was in a zone,' Caro says looking back

It was an amazing — and improbable — 36 hours for Amador Valley wrestler Eliana Caro.

Caro, a senior in her fourth year of wrestling, won the North Coast Section 100-pound girls' title on Saturday, Feb. 21. It wasn't an upset, as Caro was among the elite in the section all season.

She had advanced to the CIF meet as a sophomore, so the talent was obvious.

But given on Thursday, Feb. 19 winning a section title was the last thing on Caro and her coaching staff's minds ...

Five days earlier in the NCS Divisional tournament — a new level of postseason put into play this season — Caro was in the third-place match when she hurt her knee.

"I thought there was no way I could wrestle," Caro said of NCS. "I told the coaches there was no way."

Caro had gone through a week of no practice, but with intense therapy. It just didn't appear to be a possibility.

Amador coach Travis Chubb spoke to the emotions from that Thursday. "Everyone was trying to cheer her

up when she told us that night that she wasn't going to wrestle," Chubb said. "When we left that night, everyone was in tears, thinking her season was over."

Later that night Caro made a decision after thinking about the end of her high school career.

"I texted my coach and said, it was my last year," Caro said. "I wanted it so bad."

And she was back in NCS.

"I had no expectations," Caro said. "I hadn't practiced all week."

Chubb and his staff had a basic plan. "Let's see how it goes match by match," he said.

Despite having to change her style, Caro got through the first match in short order when she pinned Janessa Rawat of Foothill in just one minute, 29 seconds.

In the second round, she fell behind Rebekah Gutierrez of College Park early but was able to pin her as well at the 3:48 mark.

That brought the semifinals and a familiar opponent in Cali Courteau of California. The two wrestled five times over the course of the season,

and they were always wild matches.

"They were usually like 12-10, 10-7 — those kinds of matches," Chubb said.

The injury forced a new strategy.

"I couldn't really shoot," Caro said. "That was such a big part of my style."

Caro still had one major thing in her arsenal — her defense.

"She is so good with her defense," Chubb said. "She just didn't give up any points."

Instead of a high-scoring semifinal, Caro came through with a hard-fought 1-0 strategic win that sent her to the finals. There was no stopping at this point.

"Once I started the final, I was in a zone," Caro said.

Caro got her NCS title with a 5-3 win over Alyse Domingo of Washington. When the buzzer sounded, the emotions were unleashed.

"I was so full of emotions," Caro said. "I was crying on the mat."

"She had a goal," Chubb added. "She has beaten (Domingo) before, but she was not near 100% and everyone in the tournament knew she was hurt. Just getting out to the tournament



TRAVIS CHUBB

Amador Valley's Eliana Caro made an improbable run to the NCS championship after the end of her senior season was nearly upended by a knee injury.

showed her tenacity. The moment itself (the final buzzer) was so emotional. I was looking at the coaches, and we were counting it down at the end. It was a crazy 36 hours."

Caro competed the next week at the CIF meet, but the injury — coupled with another week of no practice — made for a monumental task.

She did win her first match but then dropped the next two to end her high school career.

"What if? did go through my mind," Caro said about thinking how it would have gone if she was 100%. "But just getting there meant a lot."

It was an amazing show of resiliency, heart and courage to win the NCS title and it may be the capping of her wrestling career.

"I do love the sport," Caro said when asked about her college plans. "But there are other things I want to do."

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons' run to a state title fell two games short when they fell 74-71 to Oakland Tech.

Cade Krueger had 25 points, and Jaylen Smith had 23 points. Biruk Menna had 10 points and 12 rebounds for Amador.

In the first round the Dons beat Serra 62-58, getting 26 points from Jaylen Smith. Elijah Stanley had 12 points and Cade Krueger added 11.

In the second game, the Dons went on the road to beat Sacramento 69-64. Smith had 22 points, Krueger 13, and Stanley and Dante Ventura finished with 10 each. ■

Editor's note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for Embarcadero Media Foundation's East Bay Division. To contact him about his Pleasanton Preps column, email acesmag@aol.com.

Both SRVHS soccer teams advance to state title games

Girls face Westlake, boys follow against Mira Monte on Friday evening at Natomas High School

By DENNIS MILLER

For the town of Danville, Friday the 13th will have a non-superstitious meaning this year as the San Ramon Valley High boys' and girls' soccer teams will be playing for CIF State titles that day.

The two games are set at Natomas High School in Sacramento this Friday night, with the girls kicking off at 5:30 p.m. and the boys set for 8 p.m.

Both teams are in the Division II tournament, and both won three games last week to advance to the finals.

The No. 7-seeded girls did it by an overpowering defense, giving up one goal in the three games — all on the road.

The tournament started with a shootout win over No. 2 seeded Vista del Lago of Folsom after the

two teams finished tied 1-1 in regulation play.

In the second game, San Ramon Valley went on the road and beat No. 3 Cardinal Newman by a 1-0 final. In the regional finals, the Wolves again were away from home and this time came away with a 1-0 win over Mitty.

In the finals the Wolves will take on Westlake High from Westlake Village, a team that has an 18-3-1 record.

It's been a week of travel as the Wolves covered 436 miles in five days. Throw in a 160-mile round trip for the Friday night finals, and that total climbs to 596 miles.

The No. 8-seeded boys also had three road games, covering 480 miles in their five-day stretch, with the big trip to Clovis and back covering 340 miles.

After the Friday final, it will be 640

miles covered by the boys' side.

In the boys' tournament, the Wolves opened with a 4-1 win at No. 1 Clovis, followed by a 2-1 win over No. 4 Vintage. In the regional final, the Wolves went into No. 6 Berkeley and came away with a 2-1 win to make the finals.

Now San Ramon Valley will face Mira Monte of Bakersfield, who brings in a 25-1-3 record.

In other results for East Bay Athletic League teams, Carondelet beat top-seeded Gregori 2-0 in the first round of the D-I tournament. The Cougars fell in the shootout after playing Buchanan to a 0-0 regulation final.

The Amador girls fell to Mitty in a shootout in the D-II first round, also playing to a 0-0 regulation game.

In the boys' D-I tournament, the Monte Vista boys went up to Granite Bay and beat the No. 2 seed 1-0. The

Mustangs then fell at Everett Alvarez in Salinas by a 2-1 final.

Boys' NorCal basketball

Amador Valley won a pair of games in the D-II tournament, edging Serra 62-58, then on the road at Sacramento High 69-64.

Those wins sent the Dons to the NorCal regional semifinals, where they fell to Oakland Tech 74-71. It was the second time the two played, as Amador came out on top 57-50 earlier in the season.

Dougherty Valley also won a pair of games in the D-I tournament, beating Destiny Christian 84-58, then Clayton Valley 59-55 to advance to the regional semifinals.

Making the trip up to Folsom, the Wildcats came out on the wrong end of an 86-61 final to the No. 3 seed.

De La Salle lost 71-59 to Modesto

Christian in the first round of the Open playoffs.

Granada dropped an opening round game 69-63 to Clovis in the D-II tournament.

Girls' NorCal basketball

San Ramon Valley met Carondelet for the second time in five days, with the Wolves winning 51-44 to finish the season series with the Cougars at 3-1.

The win put the Wolves two steps from the state final, but a 74-46 loss to top-seeded Mitty ended their season. The Monarchs are the No. 3 ranked team in the nation, and figure to move with the nation's No. 2 team Sierra Canyon losing to Sage Hill in the SoCal tournament. ■

Editor's note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. This column originally appeared in Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a weekly sports e-newsletter published by Embarcadero Media Foundation. To sign up for free, visit pleasantonweekly.com.

Entertainment

SUNOL REPERTORY THEATRE Sunol Repertory Theatre presents *Too Many Ghosts*, a family-friendly spirited comedy with all proceeds going to Sunol Glen School. March 14-15, 20-21, 28-29. Tickets \$22.50-\$33.00. Sunol Glen School Theater. Visit sunol.net/srt.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM CYT presents Shakespeare's enchanting comedy of love, magic and mistaken identity. March 13-15. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit livermorearts.org.

CALICELTIC AT FIREHOUSE CaliCeltic returns to celebrate the release of their sixth album to deliver rollicking interpretations of traditional Irish songs alongside hilarious originals that explore Ireland and its ties to the San Francisco Bay Area. 7 p.m., March 13. Tickets \$27-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE PERFORMANCE Valley Concert Chorale presents *Millennium and Memory, An American Choral Celebration*. 7:30 p.m., March 13, Lynnewood Methodist Church and 7:30 p.m., March 14, First Presbyterian Church. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

CCSEGER - A TRIBUTE TO BOB SEGER AND CCR CCSegeR performs the timeless music of Bob Seger and Creedence Clearwater Revival in a spectacular tribute show bringing high-energy sounds of these legendary rock icons to life with a powerhouse lineup of seasoned musicians. 7:30 p.m., March 14. Tickets \$33-\$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

ABT STUDIO COMPANY Showcasing the next generation of American Ballet Theatre stars, these exceptional young dancers perform a stunning mix of classical masterpieces and bold contemporary works by emerging choreographers. 8 p.m., March 20. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEST OF SF COMEDY COMPETITION The Best of SF Comedy Competition returns to The Bankhead for a night of hilarious stand-up comedy. 8 p.m., March 21. Tickets \$25-\$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE COOLTONES BIG BAND This talented ensemble brings a remarkable fusion of big band, jazz, swing and blues music, with a touch of R&B, rock, and funk. 7 p.m., March 21. Tickets \$24-\$34. Visit firehousearts.org.

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS CONCERT First-prize winner of the prestigious Cleveland International Piano Competition, Chinese pianist James (Zijian) Wei is a rising star who has performed as a soloist with leading orchestras in North America, Europe and China. 3 p.m., March 21. Tickets \$35-\$57. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE CELTIC ALL-STARS Join Natalie, Donnell, daughter Mary Frances and special guests for an unforgettable night featuring true all-stars of the Celtic world from Ireland, England, Scotland and beyond. 3 p.m., March 22. Tickets \$90-\$120. Visit livermorearts.org.

MATTHEW MORRISON PRESENTS SHOW UP A soul-stirring performance that blends music, dance and raw vulnerability, a journey into the heart of what makes us human, inviting the audience to explore their own authenticity and wonder. 7:30 p.m., March 26. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

CARLOS REYES World-renowned musician Carlos Reyes' extraordinary mastery of both the violin and the harp has dazzled audiences worldwide, breaking musical barriers blending classical, jazz, rock and Latin styles into a unique and enthralling sound. 7:30 p.m., March 27. Tickets \$31-\$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

TAYLOR SWIFT SINGALONG EXPERIENCE Step into a fun, sparkling, Eras inspired celebration where Swifties of all ages can dress up, trade friendship bracelets and sing their favorite Taylor songs together. 3 p.m., March 28. Tickets \$49-\$69. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE OTHER MOZART Nannerl Mozart is Amadeus' equally gifted sister whose genius was lost to history. This one-woman play unfolds on an 18-foot dress, immersing audiences in a world of music, elegance and the struggles of a woman ahead of her time. 7 p.m., March 29. Tickets \$45-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org.

Talks

VERSE ON THE VINE: VOICES FROM THE RANGE Join for an afternoon of poetry and prose celebrating the spirit of the West, hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Peggy Schimmelman. This event features acclaimed cowboy poets Wendy Brown and Jim Cardwell. 3-4 p.m., March 15. Livermore Civic Center Library.

RECOVERY-BASED APPROACH TO SUICIDE PREVENTION Dr. Robert Gregory will give a webinar, *An Innovative Recovery-Based Approach to Suicide Prevention*, and review underlying causes of this crisis, limitations of our mental healthcare system's response to it, and promising new developments. 5:30-6:30 p.m., March 17. RSVP by March 16 at alanhufoundation.org.

THEN & NOW LIVERMORE STORIES LARPD Open Space Interpreter Eric Whiteside presents a *Then & Now* program entitled, *A History of Ranching at Sycamore Grove Park*. 7 p.m., March 18. Livermore Civic Center Library.

AUTHOR ANN PARKER Join for a literary evening of history, mystery and conversation as acclaimed author Ann Parker, creator of the award-winning *Silver Rush* historical mystery series, sits down

with Judy Wheeler, owner of Towne Center Books. 7-8 p.m., March 19. Livermore Civic Center Library.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH REVOLUTIONARY WAR SPY James Armistead brings to life the story of his ancestor who, with the permission of his enslaver, volunteered to serve under the Marquis de Lafayette in 1781. 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., March 26. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org.

Book Sales

DUBLIN LIBRARY BOOK & MEDIA SALE The sale begins 9-11 a.m., March 21 for Friends members and open to all shoppers from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., March 22. 200 Civic Plaza.

PLEASANTON LIBRARY SPRING BOOK & MEDIA SALE Discover incredible deals and hidden gems on adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, vinyl LPs, games, puzzles and more where proceeds directly benefit the Pleasanton Library. March 25-28. Visit friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org.

Youth

LIBRARY HOSTS TEEN ART EXPOSITION SHOW AND CONTEST Livermore students and residents in sixth through twelfth grades may submit an original piece of art thru March 22 at the Civic Center Library. Works eligible for the exhibit are limited to 2-D visual media. Visit library.livermoreca.gov/.

HIGH SCHOOL WRITING CONTEST Tri-Valley Writers sponsors an annual writing contest where winners are given cash prizes and read selections of their work at the awards ceremony. Open to students attending high schools in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville. Deadline March 22. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR & SENIOR ARTS AWARDS The High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards Program is designed to identify, recognize and encourage talented graduating high school students who reside in Livermore and/or attend a Livermore school with awards granted based on accomplishments in the Arts in school. Deadline April 6. For more information visit livermoreschools.org.

Scholarships

CALIFORNIA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOC. SCHOLARSHIPS The Tri-Valley chapter of the California Retired Teachers Association will award up to five \$2,500 scholarships to students in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin or San Ramon planning to become teachers or school counselors. Deadline March 14. Visit div85.calrta.org.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF AMADOR VALLEY SCHOLARSHIPS Offering three different scholarships to

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Meet Poppet

A 1-year-old calico beauty with a gentle heart and playful spirit, Poppet may start a little shy but a soft voice and kind touch help her quickly blossom into a loving companion. Once comfortable, Poppet rewards with pleasant purrs, sweet head-bumps and fun kitten-style play. She's ready for a patient, caring home. Meet Poppet at East Bay SPCA's Dublin campus or learn more about her at eastbayspca.org.

graduating high school seniors residing in Pleasanton, Livermore or Dublin covering tuition, books and supplies. Deadline March 16. Visit assistanceleague.org/amador-valley/.

AMADOR VALLEY SCHOLARSHIPS Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc. awards scholarships to graduating seniors from Foothill, Village and Amador Valley high schools continuing their education at a vocational/technical school, community college or four-year university. Deadline March 20. Visit amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org.

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS The Rotary Club of Pleasanton invites Pleasanton High School Seniors attending and graduating from any high school or home schooled in Pleasanton to apply for its more than \$50,000 of scholarships to be awarded in 2026. Apply by March 31. Visit pleasantonrotary.org/scholarship-program.

PLEASANTON MASONIC LODGE SCHOLARSHIP The Pleasanton Masonic Lodge is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior from a high school in Pleasanton with a record of volunteerism, a minimum 2.5 GPA, attending a trade/technical school, 2-year community college or 4-year university/college in the fall term following graduation. Deadline April 7. Visit bit.ly/4jFLPNS.

BAY EAST FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP The Bay East Foundation Scholarship is to support and finance the higher education of Bay Area students and enrich their academic and professional careers. Open to those with a primary residence in Alameda County or Contra Costa County with a GPA of 3.25 or higher. Apply by April 26. Visit bayeast.org/bay-east-scholarship.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 21

Employment

Safeway Inc. hiring Senior Data Scientist V in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute. Reports to Pleasanton. Collaborate w/ internal stakeholders & build production grade models & machine learning algorithms on large-scale datasets. \$194,834-194,834/yr. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Email resume: TA.Applications@albertsons.com, Attn: N. Katrina Sarinas. Ref# 01155M

Blackhawk Network, Inc. in Pleasanton, CA seeks **Sr. Platform Engineer**. Implement Blackhawk's cloud initiatives by architecting secure, scalable, & high-performance environments & ensuring reliable deployments. Some telecommuting permitted (hybrid). \$161,637 to \$168,000/yr. Email resume to humanresources@bhn.com specifying job code 87903. EOE.

Sr. Clinical Programmer, Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Req: Bach and 5 yrs exp (or Master's+3 yrs exp). Telecommute allowed up to 5 days/wk from anywhere w/in US. May supervise 0-3 Statistical Programmers. Expected annual salary range for this position based on the primary location for this position of Pleasanton, CA is \$139,901-\$149,600 per yr. Actual pay w/ in the range will be determined based on exp qualifications, geo location & other job-related factors permitted by law. Discretionary annual bonus may be available based on indiv & company performance. Position also qualifies for benefits at <https://roche.ehr.com/default.aspx?CLASSNAME=splash>. Qualified applicants must apply through <https://applyroche.com/202602-105053> (Job ID: 202602-105053).

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising. If you wish to learn more about the employment advertising options, please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. 609088

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):
CREME AND PETALS
3725 Carlwyn Court
Castro Valley, CA 94546
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 09/04/2024
UNDER FILE NO. 609088
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
BRITNEY HUANG
3725 Carlwyn Court
Castro Valley, CA 94546
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on February 03 2026.
(PLW Feb 20, 27, Mar 6 and 13, 2026)

Summons

Cross-Complaint

Case Name: Consolidated Electrical v. Soleeva, et al.

SUMMONS **Case No.** 25CV113630 (CITACION JUDICIAL)
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (A VISO AL DEMANDADO): ANIL KUMAR and ROES 1-25 inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
SOLEEVA ENERGY, INC.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond Within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program.

You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un

servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

Alameda County Superior Court – Hayward Hall of Justice

24405 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is

(El nombre, la dirección y el numero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Kimberly G. Flores, Esq./Lindsay I. Walczak, Esq.

Berliner Cohen, LLP
548 W. 21 st Street
Merced, CA 95340
209-385-0700

(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

OLDEN MILL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620955

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

1.) Olden Mill , located at 678 Concord Pl, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
Mailing Address: PO BOX 1106 Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

OLDEN MILL LLC
678 Concord Pl
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 February 19 2026.
(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

EAST BAY RETAIL SOLUTIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621043

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

1.) East Bay Retail Solutions , located at 1087 Murrieta Blvd APT 330 Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

MAHER GENERAL TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES LLC
1087 Murrieta Blvd APT 330
Livermore, CA 94550
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 February 23 2026.

(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

3RDGEN BUILDING SYSTEMS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621112

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

1.) 3rdGen Building Systems , located at 1230 4th st, Berkeley, CA 94710, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

3RDGEN HOME SERVICES

1230 4th st

Berkeley, CA 94710

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 February 25 2026.

(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

DMC SOUNDS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621113

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

1.) DMC SOUNDS , located at 2452 MISTLETOE DR, HAYWARD, CA 94545, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

KRISHNEEL CHAUDHARY

2452 MISTLETOE DR

HAYWARD, CA 94545

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 February 25 2026.

(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

PICO TRANSPORTS LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621316

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

1.) Pico Transports LLC , located at 7292 San Ramon Rd 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):

PICO TRANSPORTS LLC

7292 San Ramon Rd

Dublin, CA 94568

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/01/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 06 2026.
(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

COUNTRY COWBOY COFFEE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620794

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

1.) Country Cowboy Coffee , located at 4299 Valley Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 413 4th Street Petaluma, CA 94952

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

WISE & WHETSTONE COFFEE LLC

413 4th Street

Petaluma, CA 94952

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 February 11 2026.

(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

VITALITY BOWLS LIVERMORE
VITALITY BOWLS LIVERMORE #020
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621003

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

1.) Vitality Bowls Livermore , 2.) Vitality Bowls Livermore #020 , located at 2175 First Street Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 751 Los Pinos Ave Milpitas, CA 95035

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

ANJALI FOODS LLC

751 Los Pinos Ave

Milpitas, CA 95035

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/04/2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 20 2026.

(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

SYNERGY HOMECARE CA60
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621006

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

1.) SYNERGY HOMECARE CA60 , located at 4049 FIRST STREET SUITE #223, LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the

registrant(s) is(are):

ALTAMONT SUPPORT SERVICES LLC

4049 FIRST STREET SUITE #223

LIVERMORE, CA 94551

State of Incorporation/Organization:

CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on FEBRUARY 1, 2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 20 2026.

(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

UNITY CLEANING GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621187

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

1.) UNITY CLEANING GROUP , located at 2350 Saratoga Street, Unit 112 Alameda, CA 94501, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

29.5 LLC

2350 Saratoga Street, Unit 112

Alameda, CA 94501

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 March 02 2026.

(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

ARCIMUSE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620723

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

1.) ARCIMUSE , located at 351 Oak St, Ste 295, Oakland, CA, 94607, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

OMAR LALDIN

351 Oak St, Ste 295

Oakland, CA, 94607

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 February 09 2026.

(PLW Feb 20, 27, Mar 6 and 13, 2026)

SUNGLOW MOBILE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620562

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

1.) SUNGLOW MOBILE , located at 8257 MULBERRY PL DUBLIN, CA 94568, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

YAN TING LI

8257 MULBERRY PL

DUBLIN, CA 94568

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 January 30 2026.

(PLW Feb 20, 27, Mar 6 and 13, 2026)

CHOCOLATE FISH COFFEE ROASTERS
LIVERMORE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620823

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

1.) Chocolate Fish Coffee Roasters Livermore , located at 847 E Stanley Blvd Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

Z FAM VENTURES LLC

185 W Santa Clara Dr

Mountain House, CA 95391

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/13/2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 13 2026.

(PLW Feb 20, 27, Mar 6 and 13, 2026)

OLCZAK BUILD
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621225

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

1.) Olczak Build , located at 3308 Adeline St, Berkeley, CA 94703, Alameda County. Mailing

Address: 6436 Irwin Court Oakland, CA 94609

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the

registrant(s) is(are):

OLCZAK GENERAL CONTRACTORS INC.

3308 Adeline St

Berkeley, CA 94703

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 March 03 2026.

(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

ALTAMONT AUCTIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620585

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

1.) ALTAMONT AUCTIONS , located at 11099 BRITTANY LANE 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):

KR FARMS LLC

PO BOX 608

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 February 02 2026.

(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

ATAPSEWA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620508

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

1.) ATAPSEWA , located at 3388 Hartwell Ct., Pleasanton CA, 94588, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 4682 Chabot Dr. #10012 Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the

registrant(s) is(are):

SELFLESS HUB

4682 Chabot Dr. #10012

Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization:

California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/25/2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 29 2026.

(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

BETWEEN US BOUQUETS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620729

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

1.) Between Us Bouquets , located at 5180 Golden Rd, Apt. 88, 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):

RAUSHAN LLC

5180 Golden Rd, Apt. 88

Pleasanton, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization: New Jersey

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 February 10 2026.

(PLW Feb 20, 27, Mar 6 and 13, 2026)

KHADJIA'S CREATIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 620443

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

1.) KHADJIA'S CREATIONS , located at 2061 HAGGERTY DR, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

KHADJIA SAYEED

2061 HAGGERTY DR

Dublin, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on JANUARY 25, 2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 27 2026.

(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

Continued on next page

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

ANT HILL GUITARS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621023
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) ANT HILL GUITARS , located at 1222 Victor Ave, San Leandro, CA 94579-1147, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JOSEPH BALL
1222 Victor Ave
San Leandro, CA 94579-1147
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 February 23 2026.
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

STARFISH CIRCLES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621074
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Starfish Circles , located at 5227 Crestline Way, 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):
CONTRIBUTIONISM LLC
5227 Crestline Way
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization:
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/20/2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 24 2026.
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

TOTALLY NOTARY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621124
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Totally Notary , located at 205 Main Street, Suite J, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 6806 Corte Nuevo Pleasanton, CA 94566
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HELEN BERENICE WARDALE-MOGAN
6806 Corte Nuevo
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on August 18, 2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 25 2026.
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

TOTALLY NOTARY AND VEHICLE REGISTRATION SERVICE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621123
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Totally Notary And Vehicle Registration Service , located at 205 Main Street, Suite J, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 6806 Corte Nuevo Pleasanton, CA 94566
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HELEN BERENICE WARDALE-MOGAN
6806 Corte Nuevo
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 February 25 2026.
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

FLIGHT NAILS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 621058
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Flight Nails , located at 7284 San Ramon Rd, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 27611 Miami Ave Hayward, CA, 94545
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
RL HOLDINGS LLC
27611 Miami Ave
Hayward, CA, 94545
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 February 24 2026.
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 26CV173766
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Andy Lin filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
AMELIA HWA LIN to AMELIA HWA TSAI-LIN
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: May 8, 2026, 9am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 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: March 5, 2026
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Mar 13, 20, 27 and Apr 3, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 26CV171294
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Yanting Liao and Wing Tai Tse filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
LAWRENCE JIAHUA TSE to LAWRENCE JIAHUA LIAO
ADELINE JIALING TSE to ADELINE JIALING LIAO
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: 4/24/2026, 9:00AM, Alameda branch of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 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: 2/20/2026
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

NOTICE OF DEFAULT PROVE-UP HEARING
Case No. 24CV057827

Notice is given that ROBIN JOLIN and JERRED JOLIN, Plaintiffs, have filed a quiet title action concerning real property located at 991 39th Street, Oakland, CA 94608 (APN: 12-952-23-2) with the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

A hearing on the matter will be held as follows:

Hearing Date: May 12, 2026, Time: 10:00 AM
Department: 24
Location: Rene C. Davidson Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Defendant: CASCADE FACTORS INCORPORATED and all persons claiming any interest in or lien upon the real property described above are hereby notified that unless you appear at the hearing and show cause why the relief sought in the complaint should not be granted, a judgment will be entered declaring that Plaintiffs are the owners of the property free and clear of any claim by Defendant.

Attorney or Party without Attorney: Robin Jolin 504 M Avenue, La Grande, OR 97850
Tel: (415) 652-5059 Email: robin@robinjolin.com
(PLW Feb 27, Mar 6, 13 and 20, 2026)

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
HUAN FU ZENG, and DOES 1 TO 10.
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
MINJIA JOHN CHANG

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde

dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta.

Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
Alameda County Courthouse
1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA, 94612

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):
25CV139716

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el numero de telefono de/ abogado de/ demandante, o de/ demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
NICEFORO L. AVILA, JR.
300 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 228, Oakland, California 94612
Telephone: (669) 800-9035

DATE (Fecha) : 08/27/2025
Chad Finke, Executive Officer/ Clerk of the Court

Clerk, by (Secretario)
A. Gospel, Deputy (Adjunto)
(PLW Mar 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2026)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

- Fictitious Business Name
- Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name
- Name Change
- Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution
- Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
- Notice of Bulk Sale
- Legal Summons
- Trustee Sale

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/
For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

AAUW SCHOLARSHIPS The Local Scholarship Foundation of the Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin branch of the American Association of University Women awards up to four scholarships of \$2,500 to women entering one of their final two years of college. Apply by May 1. Visit lpd-ca.aauw.net/activities/scholarships.

St. Pat's Day

SHAMROCK GALA The Dublin Historical Society's 5th Annual Shamrock Gala includes food and dancing where community leaders and neighbors gather to celebrate history, culture and the start of St. Patrick's Day weekend. 6-10 p.m., March 13. Shannon Community Center. Visit dublinhistoricalsociety.org.

ANNUAL FIREFIGHTERS PANCAKE BREAKFAST Enjoy a hot pancake and sausage breakfast served by Alameda County firefighters from Local 55 where the funds are used to support charitable efforts. 7-10 a.m., March 14. \$5 per person. Dublin Fire Station #16, 7494 Donohue Dr., Dublin.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE Join the City of Dublin for the 42nd St. Patrick's Day Parade which begins at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route. 9:30 a.m., March 14.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREW CRAWL Downtown Pleasanton turns green for the 13th Annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl where locations and breweries come together for a fun and memorable beer-tasting night with live music, a photo booth with live printouts, Irish dancers and more. 5-8 p.m., March 14. Visit pleasantondowntown.net.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT Join the St. Patrick's Day Festival Entertainment Line-up. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 14-15. 100 Civic Plaza Parking Lot. For more information, visit dublin.ca.gov/837/Entertainment.

Exhibits

IMAGINATION EXPRESSED 2026
Stop by Museum on Main to see what Pleasanton's art community has been up to recently at the annual show of new work from PAL featuring paintings, photography, drawings, jewelry and other media from Tri-Valley artists.

MEMORIAL WALL EXHIBITION The work of Jean Batchelder will be on the Nancy Thompson Memorial Wall featuring 15 of the artist representative watercolor works utilizing techniques of subtractive painting and watercolor on yupo paper. Visit firehousearts.org.

ESSENTIAL FIGURE SHOW Open to the public, the Essential Figure Art Show celebrates the human form in all its complexity and beauty. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 20-22. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore.

Real Estate

Downtown Livermore affordable project gets county funds

\$53 million from Measure W sales tax revenue allocated to 10 housing developments across region

BY TANAY GOKHALE / BAY CITY NEWS

Alameda County has allocated \$53 million of funds from a 2020 sales tax to 10 housing projects, county officials announced last week in Oakland.

The awards were approved by the county Board of Supervisors at its meeting March 3.

Across five projects in Oakland, two in Berkeley, and one each in Alameda, Livermore, and Newark, the funding will help deliver more than 900 permanently affordable homes, including 346 units for unhoused people, county officials said at a press conference at the Alameda County Administration Building.

City officials confirmed that the funds will go to the Downtown Livermore Apartments project, which is set to bring 130 affordable units for low-income families in the heart of the city's downtown.

In November 2020, Alameda County voters narrowly passed Measure W, which instituted a 0.5% sales tax for 10 years. The tax revenue was earmarked for homelessness-related services.

But the Alameda County Taxpayers Association sued the county over the legality of the tax, and a lengthy court battle followed, suspending the accrued funds in limbo.

In April 2025, a judge ruled that the funds accrued over the previous five years would be made available to Alameda County as a general fund, meaning it must be distributed by the Board of Supervisors rather than be earmarked



TANAY GOKHALE/BAY CITY NEWS

Alameda County Supervisor Elisa Marquez speaks at a press conference on March 4 at the Alameda County Administration building in downtown Oakland, to announce an award of \$53 million in Measure W funds to 10 housing projects in the county.

for a specific purpose.

In July, the board voted to allocate 80% of the funds for the county's homelessness response plan called the "Home Together" plan, and 20% for other essential services like meal delivery.

At a press conference March 4, supervisors Elisa Marquez and Nikki Fortunato Bas said that Measure W is projected to raise \$1.8 billion over 10 years, of which \$1.4 billion will be dedicated towards homelessness services.

"In just the last six months, we (the Board of Supervisors) have invested more than \$146 million to boost prevention (of homelessness), expand shelters across the county, and create permanent, supportive housing," said Fortunato Bas. "The awards that we approved yesterday ... are a great example of how we're making the most of each Measure W dollar."

Michelle Starratt, the housing director at the county's Housing and Community Development department, said Measure W funds are even more critical at a time when federal and state funds for housing are scarce.

"Each of these projects is now able to go after state and federal funding," Starratt said. "Without the additional Measure W funding, they wouldn't have qualified. So now we can go leverage those dollars, bring them back into our county."

She said that construction should begin on all 10 projects within the next 12 months.

Mayors Barbara Lee of Oakland, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft of Alameda, John Marchand of Livermore, and Michael Hannon of Newark were also in attendance.

Lee pointed out that while Oakland constitutes 22% of the county's population, the city is home to 54% of its unhoused population, and 74% of its unhoused Black population.

"We can't sweep this under the rug: Oakland is the epicenter of this crisis, and not by coincidence," she said. "It's a product of decades of redlining, disinvestment, and displacement. We have to address the underlying structural issues around homelessness." ■

Editor's note: Embarcadero Media East Bay Division editor Cierra Bailey contributed to this report.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Dec. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$920,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,554,000
Average sales reported: \$1,564,625

Livermore (Dec. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 7
Lowest sale reported: \$400,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,175,000
Average sales reported: \$1,024,571

Dublin (Dec. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 4
Lowest sale reported: \$810,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,540,000
Average sales reported: \$1,247,500

San Ramon (Feb. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 5
Lowest sale reported: \$472,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,775,000
Average sales reported: \$1,105,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 22-26 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Feb. 9-13 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

4726 Arlene Place Shah Family Trust to Sravanthi Family Trust for \$2,500,000
5601 Baldwin Way Saupe Trust to Kuang-Hua Hsieh Living Trust for \$1,008,000
1582 Calle Enrique Nordhoff Trust to M. & C. Rameshkumar for \$920,000
5603 Highcrest Court M. Rashidi to S. & M. Cheung for \$1,745,000
4253 Mirador Drive Property Buddies LLC to K4 Family Trust for \$1,700,000
729 Montevino Drive Harcourt Family Trust to P. & D. Raychowdhuri for \$2,554,000
5363 Sonoma Drive J. Hardwick to Ls Property Dreams LLC for \$970,000
7333 Tulipwood Circle S. Howard to Zca Homes LLC for \$1,120,000

Livermore

1727 2nd Street G. Ferreri to M. Osorio for \$782,000
2597 Ancona Circle P. Boury to Yerramaneni Family Trust for \$2,175,000
5285 Felicia Avenue Luisi Trust to K. & C. Lopata for \$900,000

5801 Flora Common Chivukula Trust to Lakkoju Family Trust for \$1,290,000
1166 Hibiscus Way C. Reynolds to N. & K. Zaveri for \$850,000
4763 Nicol Common #102 Richards Living Trust to S. & K. Lewis for \$400,000
528 South S Street Arnold Living Trust to Cantix LLC for \$775,000
Dublin
7632 Ashford Way S. & M. Lee to C. & C. Liao for \$1,250,000
3783 Dunmore Lane #185 J. & E. Ramsay to Datta Family Trust for \$810,000
3005 Vittoria Loop Hoi Trust to J. & C. Haty for \$1,540,000
4107 Wallis Ranch Drive A. & C. Raducanu to A. & N. Beil for \$1,390,000

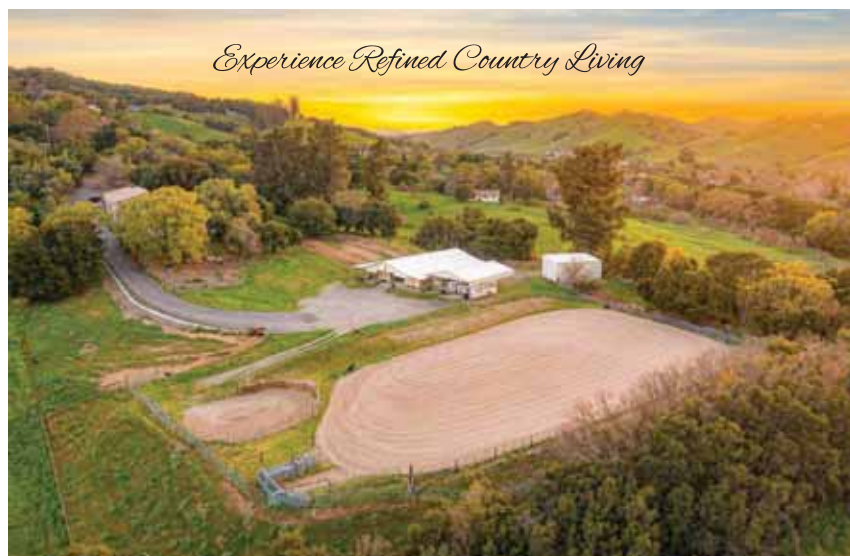
San Ramon

2632 Campeche Court Arnold Trust to Roy Family Trust for \$1,775,000
359 Cardona Circle Gregory Family Trust to M. & R. Garg for \$1,775,000
20 Fircrest Court Alberti Family Trust to A. & A. Powar for \$930,000
306 South Overlook Drive D. John to D. & O. Zavadskaya for \$472,000
633 Weatherly Place Vergara Mgmt LLC to A & M Real Estate Group Inc for \$1,105,000

Source: California REsource

JUST LISTED

10700 FOOTHILL RD SUNOL CA



Experience Refined Country Living



A rare opportunity combining upscale living with fully equipped agricultural or equestrian amenities.
3,102 sq.ft. home on 6.04 Acres
Open for touring 3/14 & 3/15 1 pm to 4 pm



\$2,980,000



Tom E. Chance
DRE #00824220
Legacy Real Estate
925-487-6360



Sheri Case McNutt
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Legacy Real Estate
925-413-5840



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PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE – SPRING FORWARD

The Pleasanton real estate showed lower inventory and tighter market conditions in February. Lower interest rates have helped drive demand, and low inventory has put pressure on prices. But fears about global markets and geopolitical tensions may be starting to impact the activity.

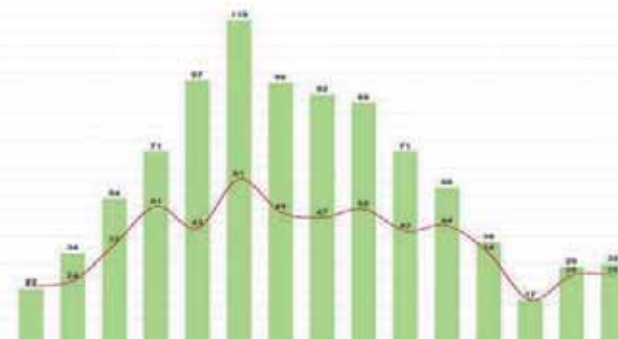
Let's take a dive into the numbers for February.

Inventory Low: Inventory remained low in February, with 30 detached homes for sale at the end of the month, up slightly from 29 at the end of January. This is definitely a low inventory market, with about 25% of the 2025 peak of 119 homes for sale in May of 2025. It is also about half of the inventory at the end of February last year, which saw 54 homes for sale. Lower inventory means fewer choices for buyers, and in some cases may put pressure on buyers to make stronger offers. However, we are seeing more inventory coming online as we get into March.

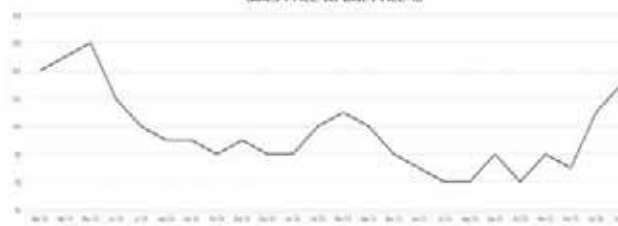
Demand Steady: Demand, in the form of pending sales, was steady in February, with 26 homes under contract for the month, which matches January's figure. This is down from February 2025's figure of 37 pending

Visit The680Blog.com to read the rest of this article.

Pleasanton Market Report Data for February 2026 Single Family Detached Homes



Sales Price to List Price %



JUST LISTED

1039 Hopkins Way
\$2,598,000 | 5 BR | 3 BTH | 3180 sq ft
Remodeled modern home with pool & spa



JUST LISTED

8044 Golden Eagle Way
\$4,450,000 | 5 BR | 4.5 BTH | 5830 sq ft
Luxury home on 1.1 Acres with pool & spa



JUST LISTED

1889 Via Di Salerno
\$6,480,000 | 5 BR | 5.5 BTH | 8040 sq ft
Custom Mediterranean on prime view lot



JUST LISTED

3460 Serra Circle
\$1,288,000 | 4 BR | 3.5 BTH | 1954 sq ft
Newer condo with designer finishes



COMING SOON

674 Crystal Court
\$2,350,000 | 5 BR | 3 BTH | 2760 sq ft
Remodeled home with designer upgrades



JUST SOLD

3630 Pontina Court
\$5,700,000 | 4 BR | 5.5 BTH | 7870 sq ft
Remodeled modern custom with pool/spa

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COMPASS

VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE

Follow The Rainbow
Your Pot Of Gold Comes With A Front Door!

6433 Owl Way

4 bed | 2 Bath | \$1,595,000

3436 Smoketree Commons

2 bed | 2 Bath | \$589,000

1527 Honey Suckle Ct

5 bed | 6 Bath | \$4,995,000

4073 Stanley Blvd

5 bed | 3 Bath | \$2,195,000

7326 Hillsdale Dr

Coming Soon

5 bed | 3 Bath | \$1,695,000

1131 Mataro Ct

Coming Soon

5 bed | 3 Bath | \$2,199,000