

Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

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Youth movement
at Firehouse

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WHAT A WEEK

BY JEREMY WALSH

‘P is for Pleasanton’

That’s what it says on the cover, anyway. When you open the alphabetical, artistic ode to Pleasanton, P actually stands for ... well, maybe the creators wouldn’t want me to spoil it.

Kori Barton gave me an early peek at the book she and husband Sammy were finalizing so I’d consider writing an endorsement for the back before it went to the press. Looking at the painting, poem and prose on the first page (I’m sure you can guess what they picked for “A”), I was hooked and happily obliged:

“P is for Pleasanton is a beautiful celebration of this community’s past, present and future. The vibrant artwork and engaging stories reflect the heart of Pleasanton that has been beating with passion and pride for more than 150 years.”

The seventh installment in the Bartons’ “Hometown Highlights Alphabet Series” showcasing Bay Area cities, “P is for Pleasanton” follows their familiar format of assigning one identifier per letter intrinsic to that community. They were spot on for Pleasanton.

“Something I particularly love about the Pleasanton book is how it captured many of the people who made a difference in the city over the years,” Kori Barton told me after their book release last week.

The couple made an unassuming entry into local pictorial history books, but they’ve found their niche and are running with it — even though that wasn’t the original vision.

“I have always reveled in the delightful combo of words and art and had a longstanding desire to write and illustrate a picture book for kids. Alas, with no solid ideas, nothing happened,” Barton told me. “So, when it eventually dawned on me while doing yardwork that we didn’t have easy access to kid-friendly books to teach our own young’uns about Concord’s local history, I realized that I could couple my dream with a solution to a problem (two birds, one stone!)”

After working through, as she put it, the “figure-out-how-to-write-and-illustrate-a-children’s-book mode”, the wife-and-husband team found their recipe: an “A to Z” storytelling approach where Kori paints the illustrations and pens the historical anecdotes and Sammy writes most of the poems.

Their Hometown Highlight “C is for Concord” dropped in December 2023, designed as a one-off. But sometimes “B” is for best-laid plans.

“We had no intention of writing additional books, but when surrounding cities learned about it, they asked

for books celebrating their cities, too,” Barton said. “Thus, the series was born, and it has been a joy for us to use our talents to give thanks to God and give the gift of reading, art, and history to families in our communities.”

Each book takes about six months of work on their hobby (“many early mornings and late nights ... hundreds of hours”), starting with the process of whittling a laundry list of the people, places and stories that make up the city’s identity down to 26 subjects, one per letter. They connect with historical societies, small businesses, mayors and other key sources as part of their research.

Then their creative efforts begin. “I love carefully painting each illustration knowing that, once published, the picture book will be a sort of art gallery for someone’s lap. That makes me so glad!” she said. “They are truly a labor of love to our community, and we hope it makes many families smile to see their city on display in a way that all ages can enjoy.”

Their series includes Concord, Walnut Creek, Clayton, Brentwood, Martinez, Livermore and now, Pleasanton.

She credited family friend and local resident Donna Dubose with putting the Pleasanton bug in their ear. “Her sweet hand-written list of ideas along with our recent book release highlighting the neighboring city (Livermore) made ‘P is for Pleasanton’ the logical next book,” Barton said.

And what stood out most as she got to learn more about Pleasanton?

“Mister Rogers’ mom always told him to ‘look for the helpers’, so that’s what I aimed to do in my research,” Barton told me. “I thoroughly enjoy the ‘helpers’ that we were able to showcase: generous Phoebe Hearst, thankful Harry J. Harding, and industrious J.A. Bilz, among others. I hope it encourages our young readers to make a wonderful difference in their communities!”

To see those anecdotes and the full A-to-Z rundown, you’ll have to buy the book for yourself — which you could do online with Amazon, sure, but also at local shops like Towne Center Books, Meadowlark Dairy and Saltwater Gifts & Books, plus the Museum on Main.

I can reveal, with permission from Barton, that the next city — or should I say, town — they’ll highlight in book form after taking a bit of a break: “D is for Danville”.

You’ll get no spoilers from me ... OK, I’ll cave once just for you, our devoted Pleasanton reader: “P” is for parades. ■

About the Cover

It’s closing weekend at the Alameda County Fair. Photo by Riya Upadhyaya. Cover design by Kristin Brown. Vol. XXVII, Number 24



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What do you love about coming to the Alameda County Fair?



Diana Graham
Beertender

I love all the crazy fair food that you can't find or get anywhere else in the world. I also love hanging out with my family and checking out all of the interesting exhibits with them. There are always so many!



Robert Hasler
Retired

I really enjoy having a chance to look at all of the people who come to the fair with their families and friends, from all walks of life. I get the feeling that whoever they are, they are all nice people.



Jim Hilty
Corporate

I sure do love the corndogs, and the "down home flavor" of the fair. I also really enjoy watching the model trains. That's always a really great exhibit. Finally, it's great to just spend time outdoors with my family, enjoying all of the fair vibes.



Ethan Chen
High school student

My favorite part of the fair is actually working here, and specifically, working with the animals. My job is to take care of them, keep them safe and tell the public all about them.



Jaden Christian
High school student

I love the fair because I see it as a great opportunity to get together with friends to hang out, and to go on all of the fun rides that are not part of our ordinary daily routines.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Wildfire mitigation

Pleasanton is taking proactive measures to reduce the risk of wildfires in and around the Augustin Bernal Park by removing any hazardous vegetation that could possibly become fuel for future fires.

According to the city, this mitigation work is being funded by a \$1 million grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

"Work has begun and will continue throughout the summer months to create and maintain a reduced fuel zone within the park and surrounding wildland-urban interface," the city stated in a July e-newsletter. "These efforts will help firefighters more effectively suppress wildfires, reduce fire intensity, and slow the spread of flames into nearby neighborhoods."

This mitigation work may cause periodic trail closures. Visitors will be notified through notices at park trailheads.

Critical O+ shortage

The Stanford Blood Center is asking members of the public to donate blood as the center faces critically low blood inventory, according to a spokesperson.

The shortage comes as regular donors are currently traveling, school is out and seasonal colds are going around. The Fourth of July weekend also had an impact as patients in nearby hospitals needed blood to receive emergency treatment.

"We only have a one-day supply of O+ blood on hand for our partner hospitals," Jeff Schmidt, a public relations and communications manager with the center, told the Weekly. "So, we need every eligible donor to come in as quickly as possible."

Those who donate from now until July 31 will receive a collectible tie-dye shirt. For more information, visit stanfordbloodcenter.org.

New PNR president

The Pleasanton North Rotary Club and Foundation named its new board of directors president last month.

Deb Covert-Williams, a Rotarian since 2017, replaces Pleasanton chiropractor Ryan Spuller, who helped raise over \$115,000 during his time as president. According to the organization, \$90,000 in grants were also awarded to nonprofits across the Tri-Valley during his tenure.

Covert-Williams comes from a background in technology sales which she plans on using to recruit new members and "build on its reputation for providing hands-on volunteer help and financial assistance to numerous community service organizations in the Tri-Valley." ■

Board backs single-family housing option for Donlon Elementary field

Debate on potential developments comes as PUSD gets set to vote on declaring land as surplus

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees continued its discussion last month on declaring almost five acres of the Donlon Elementary School field as surplus land, with most of the trustees signaling early support for selling the land and converting it into roughly two dozen single-family homes.

However, there were still some on the dais who had concerns over letting go of the land and reiterated that the board should continue to consider all of the factors that

would come with this potential sale as the district gets set to return at a future board meeting with a final recommendation.

"I do think that the board needs to be really thoughtful and think strategically what will be best for our community dealing with the housing crisis and some of the challenges of making homes affordable, whereas also being cognizant of what would make sense for this particular area of land," School Board President Kelly Mokashi said during the June 25 board meeting.

Back in January, the school

board formed a 7-11 Committee to identify and determine whether it would be in the district's best interest to keep or sell 4.7 acres of an unused portion of the Donlon field bordered by Denker Drive and Payne Road.

After three public meetings, the committee voted unanimously to declare the property as surplus and subsequently shared those findings with the board on May 14, where the board expressed initial support for selling the land.

But during that May meeting, and at those earlier committee

meetings, residents expressed concern about traffic and pedestrian safety; advocated for workforce or affordable housing; and supported the idea for creating more green spaces or even a park.

Because of those comments, the district decided to return to the board in June with several possible options they could pursue if they sell the property.

One of the main options presented was building up to 21 single-family homes ranging from one

See **DONLON** on Page 6



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

A look back at the Nordstrom building weeks before the store closed for good at Stoneridge Shopping Center in Pleasanton in 2020.

Stoneridge building and lot sold

Already owners of old JCPenney property, 3VG buys former Nordstrom site at mall

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A real estate company based in Danville, along with other local investors, recently paid over \$10 million for an 8.4-acre parcel of land at the Stoneridge Shopping Center in Pleasanton, which includes the former Nordstrom building and a large surface parking lot.

Danville-based 300 Venture Group (3VG), a privately held real estate investment, says on its website that it acquired the land because it offers a "large-scale, infill redevelopment opportunity in a supply-constrained market."

"We are actively collaborating

with and seeking input from all stakeholders regarding the future use of the location including the City of Pleasanton," Kameron Klotz, a founder and managing partner at 3VG, told the Pleasanton Weekly.

The land acquisition comes almost three years after the Pleasanton City Council outlined and approved a framework for how the Stoneridge Mall and surrounding area could be redeveloped into hundreds of housing units and a reimagined shopping center. The housing component of the December 2023 framework, according to the city, is tied to the city's decision to include

the mall area in the city's Housing Element cycle.

According to the city's Community and Economic Development Department, the mall framework "outlined how housing allowed under the 6th Cycle Housing Element was to be allocated among the four property mall owners and six parcels at Stoneridge."

"It also defined a Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, and a series of Design and Placemaking Elements to be reflected in a future Framework Plan," according to the

Former supervisor Haggerty dies

'Service, vision, and steadfast dedication to the public good'

By JEREMY WALSH

Scott Haggerty, a stalwart of East Bay politics who represented the Tri-Valley for more than 20 years on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, died over the Independence Day weekend in his retirement home state of Tennessee. He was 68.

Raised in Fremont and later a longtime Livermore resident, Haggerty would play a pivotal role in local and regional efforts to transform his district and the county

for the 21st century, including leadership in transportation, energy, agriculture and Bay Area policy. He stepped down at the beginning of 2021 after completing his sixth term as a county supervisor.

"Scott's legacy is one of service, vision, and steadfast dedication to the public good," Supervisor Nate Miley, who served alongside Haggerty for five terms, said in a remembrance post on social media Sunday.

"I witnessed firsthand his unwavering commitment to improving



Scott Haggerty

See **MALL** on Page 10

See **HAGGERTY** on Page 11

Blackhawk Plaza poised to go up for sale

Insight into future of troubled shopping center comes into focus following months of speculation

By JEANITA LYMAN

Blackhawk Plaza is set to hit the market in the near future amid ongoing maintenance and tenancy issues on the ground and its current owner's financial troubles coming to a head in bankruptcy court.

That plan was confirmed after months of rumors and growing concerns from neighboring residents and visitors in a status report filed last week in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case for property owners

Ramanujan Group LLC.

"The Debtor and Iron Condor intend to sell the Property and are in the process of executing a listing agreement with KW Commercial and CBRE, Inc. together serving as the listing agents," attorneys for Ramanujan Group from Raines Feldmen Littrell wrote July 1 in the report filed for its bankruptcy case.

The site was appraised at \$57.38 million in 2023, with attorneys estimating that number to now be higher according to insight from brokers.

That's a significant increase from the \$38 million pricetag Ramanujan Group initially obtained the ornate shopping center for, which has served as Blackhawk's central shopping and dining hub since 1989, built within the first decade of the affluent planned community's development by the late Ken Behring.

The site is currently subject to \$35.8 million in liens, and \$657,111 in outstanding property taxes.

While turmoil behind and in front of the scenes at the plaza has been a

prominent topic locally amid tenant departures, lawsuits and bankruptcy proceedings, the plaza is just one of many concerns facing Andrew Stupin, the Southern California real estate investor who headed Ramanujan Group through its purchase of the site.

In addition to the bankruptcy proceedings connected with a large real estate portfolio and multiple lenders, Stupin's real estate firm Cantor

See **BLACKHAWK** on Page 8

What about the ducks?

Concerned visitors to the plaza and local wildlife rescuers joined the cast of characters in the Blackhawk Plaza saga as the duck pond was drained and closed for maintenance, making the longstanding water feature's role in the local ecosystem crystal clear, in contrast with the stagnating water remaining at its fountain. Read the full story, "Community rallies to aid Blackhawk Plaza ducks following pond's closure", online at pleasantonweekly.com. ■

DONLON

Continued from Page 5

to two stories, which is currently allowed per the city's zoning rules.

Another option, which is outside of the current zoning, would be to allocate the property for townhomes or stacked flat apartments, according Ahmad Sheikholeslami, assistant superintendent of business services.

He said these could be as tall as three stories and range from 630 square feet to 1,382 square feet — the density would translate to 24 to 30 units per acre, which means there could be anywhere between 96 homes to 130 homes.

This option, however, is not the most feasible because it would require a zoning change, which a developer would have to pursue.

"In a typical process this would be a very complex project to move forward," Sheikholeslami said of the townhouse and stacked flat option. "The other challenges with this type of project is that if the district were

to sell it, just to a developer, the developer would know that the current zoning doesn't meet that and they would have a difficult time meeting those requirements."

However, Sheikholeslami said if PUSD were to keep the property, the school district could bypass those zoning changes thanks to new state legislation — with the caveat that the district would need funding and a funding mechanism to build that housing, which the district does not have.

Sheikholeslami also explained that the second option would be difficult because it's not the most common location developers would eye for workforce or affordable housing.

Dominic Dutra, one of the district's real estate consultants, said most developers and cities try to identify locations for affordable or workforce housing near services like mass transit, medical and retail, which is why he said the site would be better suited for the single-family residence plan.

The last option would be for the district to retain the property and have a developer come in to build, which would require a ground lease between PUSD and any future developer. However, Dutra said that would not be viable because it wouldn't generate revenue for a long period of time.

The majority of the trustees said they prefer the single-family home option, with Trustee Justin Brown noting how he can see a couple more units being added to the 21 proposed.

Trustee Charlie Jones also said it makes sense to keep the current zoning for single-family homes because it will be easier to sell and maximize profits from the property.

He also said the smaller project would fit better with the community and would make it easier to address some of the safety and traffic concerns, which was brought up by at least one public speaker at the meeting.

"Whatever we do — if we are going to sell it, if we are going to

develop it — much, much more thought needs to go into an actual drop-off lane (and) better, wider roads," Donlon parent Beth Thompson said during the meeting. "Something needs to be done for the safety of our kids because right now I don't feel like that's a priority and I think that's where it needs to be."

Trustee Mary Jo Carreon said that in addition to the possibility of enrollment spiking in future years and not having any open space on the campus, she was worried about the lack of affordability when it came to the single-family homes project.

Dutra said for the single-family homes — factoring each home ranging between 2,000 and 3,000 square feet — the current market would put each home at about \$2 million in price and that the land value would be priced at around \$12 million.

He also said that based on the average median income of that area and factoring in the city's affordable housing ordinance that requires 15% of development projects be marked as affordable, a portion of those \$2 million homes could possibly be sold at a third of that total price.

However, he noted that developers could opt out of building affordable homes by paying an in-lieu fee to the city.

Sheikholeslami noted how the district is currently in the process of vacating about seven acres of land at the former district headquarters on Bernal Avenue for future sale and possible development, but added that the operations yard at that site needs to be relocated in order to allow for the sale of the property. He said the sale of the Donlon field could help fund that relocation, which would move that sale and development process forward.

"We won't be bound by any type of restrictions because we will be the owner, operator," Sheikholeslami said.

If they went through the "difficult process" of getting the property rezoned for any type of higher density housing, the district might not have as much control and would not be able to get the funding needed to

unlock the First and Bernal property, he said.

This, however, was not received well by resident Thomas Choi, who criticized the district's overall process of selling the land.

"Why do residents and the city have to pay the price for fiscal mismanagement again by sacrificing our sole remaining neighborhood school grounds?" he said.

He also opposed the idea for high density housing development and asked the board to either pause or halt the property sale process.

While Carreon and Trustee Laurie Walker shared similar concerns about losing land, Brown noted that, apart from the Donlon field, the district does still own the Bernal field located above where Village High School used to stand — it's just leased to the city.

When asked about a potential enrollment spike and the district's capacity, Sheikholeslami said if the enrollment spike is generated from newly built housing, the district could enter into agreements that would stipulate the developers either pay certain fees or, depending on the size, set aside land for a new school. If more students are generated from re-housing and not based on new houses, he said the district then has options of increasing capacity at its existing schools.

Mokashi asked about other options beyond building housing such as renting the field out for recreational or sports activities, but Sheikholeslami said the field's condition is currently really poor and would need a significant amount of investment to upgrade it to a usable field. It would also not generate any significant revenue.

Sheikholeslami said if PUSD was to sell the property, the city and county would have dibs on purchasing and if either municipality decided they need another field, they could negotiate with the district to purchase the land for that purpose.

Following the trustees' discussion, the district will work on agendizing a resolution to declare the land as surplus for board consideration. If approved, staff will begin soliciting purchase bids from potential developers. ■

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PUSD restores some positions from budget cut list

Elementary PE staff, science specialists and high school counselors among jobs saved

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Improvements in the Pleasanton school district's 2026-27 annual budget allowed the Board of Trustees to restore several staff positions late last month, which were previously identified to be cut during budget discussions earlier this year.

Following the board's approval of next year's budget, trustees voted unanimously to reinstate elementary school physical education specialists and elementary school science specialists who, due to state funding limitations, will only focus on teaching computer science.

The board also voted 3-2 to restore some high school counselors and elementary school intervention specialists — despite some concerns raised by two trustees and district staff.

"Finances are tight," assistant superintendent of business services Ahmad Sheikholeslami said during the June 25 board meeting.

"We built a better budget but the pressures on future compensation are going to be significant and we need to be forward thinking," Sheikholeslami added. "If we don't do that, we're going to be in a very difficult position in the months to

come, in the years to come."

During the 2025-26 school year, PUSD had been undergoing a contentious budget development process where trustees — after dozens of public meetings and discussions with staff and community members — identified over \$11 million in budget cuts and reductions.

According to the district, these budget reductions were among several other actions the district took in order to address its ongoing structural deficit and related budget shortfalls that had caused its 2025-26 budget to be negatively certified by the county.

As part of its budget reduction efforts, the board maintained that it had kept most of the cuts away from the classrooms. However, back in February, trustees were forced to approve a layoff plan that totaled over \$5 million in cuts that directly impacted staff and students.

At the time, staff said these cuts were part of a contingency plan in case certain funding wasn't realized or if labor negotiations over some of the items identified in the \$11 million worth of cuts were not realized.

Since then, the district was able to cancel a handful of layoff notices

in April that were previously sent out as part of those budget cuts. Some of the positions included social workers, district parent liaisons, child welfare and attendance specialists, elementary library media assistants, and elementary reading intervention support specialists.

Additionally, the district has since completed the development of its 2026-27 budget, which shows some significant improvements from the prior budget. The trustees approved that budget during the June 25 meeting — after having reviewed and discussed it last month — before discussing reinstating the staff positions.

According to Sheikholeslami, not only is the new annual budget projected to meet the state required 3% minimum reserve for this year and the two upcoming years, but it also shows a significant improvement in the district's unappropriated ending fund balance, which moved from being over \$2 million in the negatives, to just under \$500,000.

He also went over anticipated increases in state funding, which the district said is approximately \$2 million in new ongoing revenue and \$11.7 million in one-time funding.

"We are in a good place, given both the state budget and the deliberate work that the board did under reductions," Sheikholeslami said. "It's the combination of the reduction work that the board did combined with the significant new dollars that provides us this unique opportunity to stabilize our finances moving forward."

But despite these and other budgetary assumptions, which again included the overall idea that the district's budget would be positively certified later this year, staff argued that the district should not have made any changes to the original reduction plan to avoid further structural deficits.

Their reasoning was similar to Board President Kelly Mokashi's thoughts shared during the meeting that the district isn't quite out of the woods yet when it comes to its financial challenges, even with the additional funding.

Her biggest contention was that the district has been deficit spending since she first got elected to the board and she wants the district to get to a point where they don't need to come back next year and make more cuts.

Trustee Justin Brown, when it

came to voting on reinstating the counselor and intervention specialists later in the meeting, also said that although he appreciates those positions and did not want to vote against reinstating them, the current open contract negotiations with the teachers union made him a bit hesitant about spending additional money.

The board ultimately unanimously approved the reinstatement of 4.2 full-time equivalent (FTE) elementary physical education specialists and 2.8 FTE elementary school science specialists.

The trustees also discussed the cuts to the elementary music program, but they decided to not reinstate any positions for it because staff said the district is able to maintain the program's status quo with less staff due to low enrollment.

While there was a lot of debate and discussion that night over the financial details of the budget and the impacts of reinstating positions, the main point that the board was split on was reinstating high school counselors (2 FTE) and elementary school intervention specialists (2.5 FTE).

See **BUDGET** on Page 10

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SB 1193 sails through Assembly committee

Livermore whistleblower testifies with Wahab; county leaders push back against targeted bill

By JEANITA LYMAN

The Tri-Valley and Alameda County at-large were at the center of conversations at the State Senate last week, in which a proposed bill that has come under fire by some local officials nonetheless moved through the legislature and one step closer to the governor's desk.

State Sen. Aisha Wahab's Senate Bill 1193, aimed at providing regulations and oversight of discretionary funds from the county's Board of Supervisors that are generally

awarded to nonprofit and community-based organizations selected by each supervisor, was advanced with a 7-0 vote by the State Assembly's local government committee July 1.

The bill's advancement marked its second committee hearing, having first passed the senate's local government committee in April, followed by the full State Senate in May.

Ahead of last week's hearing, District 1 Supervisor David Haubert issued the latest in a series

of public critiques of the bill that he and his colleagues on the board have been vocally opposing following its introduction in February.

"Senator Wahab continues to ignore the voices of local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders who have overwhelmingly opposed this legislation," Haubert said in a June 30 message to his constituents. "It has become clear that she does not understand the needs of our community or how local government operates."

"The timing of this bill cannot be ignored, a supermajority of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors endorsed Melissa Hernandez for Congress, and shortly thereafter this legislation was introduced targeting Alameda County," he continued, referring to Wahab's congressional bid against fellow Democrat Hernandez. "It is difficult to view SB 1193 as anything other than political retribution rather than good public policy."

Those were among the points that Wahab challenged in last

week's hearing at the State Capitol, in which she was joined by unincorporated Livermore resident Kiersten Skov who held a press conference the prior week detailing allegations of attempted bribery via county discretionary funds.

"Public money is not a favor," Wahab said in the July 1 assembly committee hearing. "It is not a political prize. It is not a private account for public officials to use without meaningful oversight. It is

See **SB 1193** on Page 11



JEREMY WALSH

Stagnant pond around drained fountain at Blackhawk Plaza last week.

BLACKHAWK

Continued from Page 6

Group V was the subject of an FBI raid last year and numerous ongoing allegations of fraud documented in a series of civil lawsuits, including a June 25 federal filing from Western Alliance Bank.

The plaza faced foreclosure earlier this year amid one of those lawsuits in Orange County Court, with Nano Banc alleging that Ramanujan Group had failed to pay back a loan that was taken out in order to fund the purchase of the property. A judge approved the

appointment of a receiver in that case, who is set to transition out according to the plan outlined by attorneys last week.

Part of the plan also includes bringing on temporary employees from Grobstein Teeple, the Southern California financial consultancy firm headed by Howard Grobstein, who was appointed as Ramanujan Group's manager through bankruptcy proceedings in April "because of concerns raised by various constituencies about former management," according to attorneys.

The status update was prepared for a July 15 hearing in Central

California bankruptcy court, with attorneys seeking an extension to a July 16 deadline to submit a full disclosure plan.

"Because of delays in getting financial information from the Receiver and in transitioning out the Receiver, the Debtor is going to need an extension of that deadline for approximately 90 days and will be filing a motion seeking that relief," attorneys wrote.

"A further extension will be needed because the Debtor will not yet have control over the funds needed to make the payment," attorneys wrote. ■

Trade Traffic for Waterfront Living

Less than an hour from the East Bay, Delta Coves is attracting Bay Area homebuyers seeking a waterfront lifestyle surrounded by open space and natural beauty. Located on Bethel Island at the gateway to more than 1,000 miles of California Delta waterways, the private community features a swimmable lagoon, private boat docks and resort-style amenities. Homes by Blue Mountain Communities and Davidson Communities range from approximately 1,600 to more than 4,000 square feet, with prices from the \$500s to the \$2 millions. Residents enjoy boating, paddleboarding, fishing, fitness facilities, social events and year-round recreation on and around the water.



Read the spotlight



Zone 7 says water is safe despite funky odor

Cites warm weather algae blooms as cause for 'harmless' yet noticeable smell from tap

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton and Livermore residents who might have noticed an odd smell coming from their tap water recently have nothing to worry about, according to the Zone 7 Water Agency.

The agency said in a press release that the water is safe to consume and explained that the smell comes from a naturally occurring organic compound called geosmin, which is found in surface water supplies from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta during "warm weather algae blooms".

These algae blooms — which as the name suggests, happen when water is exposed to warmer temperatures — typically occur during

the summer.

"Our lab team is running tests and gathering data around the clock to track these seasonal shifts," said Angela O'Brien, Zone 7 water quality manager. "While geosmin creates a highly noticeable scent, it is strictly an aesthetic issue," she added.

Humans are "biologically hard-wired" to detect geosmin even at extremely low levels, according to Zone 7 officials. The agency said the human nose and taste are able to detect the harmless compound at around 15 parts per trillion which, for comparison, if a person dissolved a packet of sugar into an Olympic-sized swimming pool, that concentration would represent 1 part per billion.

"Finding 1 part per trillion is the equivalent of trying to taste a fraction of less than one single grain of sugar inside that entire pool," according to Zone 7.

The agency also pointed out that geosmin is the same natural compound responsible for that earthy aroma in the air right after a summer rainstorm.

"Because our senses are so sharp, we can easily pick up this familiar outdoor scent even when it is present in almost imperceptible amounts that have absolutely no impact on the safety of your drinking water," officials said.

Zone 7 acknowledged that while not dangerous, the smell is also not ideal.

The agency is mitigating the taste and odor impacts of the seasonal algae growth by continually monitoring its water supply and adjusting its water treatment process, according to the press release.

"We are continually adjusting our state-of-the-art treatment processes, including our ozone systems, to neutralize the odor and ensure every drop delivered meets our stringent quality and safety standards," O'Brien said.

The agency said its raw water ozonation at its two surface water treatment plants is one of the best ways to "break down taste and odor compounds".

Zone 7 also reiterated that, despite the temporary earthy smells,

its water "continuously meets or performs better than all strict state and federal safety standards."

As for how residents can address the issue, officials suggest chilling the water or adding some citrus to mask the geosmin.

"Zone 7 Water Agency sincerely thanks the Tri-Valley community for their patience and understanding as (the) water quality team adjusts to these seasonal environmental shifts," the agency stated in its press release. "Delivering clean, reliable, and high-quality drinking water that meets all safety standards remains the agency's top priority, and Zone 7 continues to work diligently to resolve these temporary aesthetic impacts as quickly as possible." ■

Supes approve standing committee for reparations

Vote after presentation of draft action plan, highlighting racial inequities faced by Black residents

BY TANAY GOKHALE /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors last week established a standing committee on reparations that will work to address racial disparities experienced by the county's Black residents.

The vote June 30 followed the Alameda County Reparations Commission's presentation of its draft action plan, highlighting racial inequities faced by Black residents.

The commission worked on its draft action plan for more than two years, using the \$500,000 budget at its disposal to conduct community listening sessions and surveys involving more than 400 Alameda County residents, a majority of whom were Black.

In March 2023, the Board of Supervisors voted to create an Ad Hoc Committee on Reparations to guide the reparations process from the county's legislative side, and a 15-member Reparations Commission to study the historical struggle of the county's Black residents.

The Reparations Commission was initially scheduled to create an action

plan by July 2024, but the deadline was eventually extended to 2026. The Board of Supervisors stated that additional time was needed to "effectively address the complexities surrounding reparations policy."

In their presentation to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, members of the commission highlighted sobering findings from their report: 83% of the respondents experienced systemic harm in the county, 66% were subjected to biased or unnecessary police stops, and 60% faced housing policy barriers to homeownership and creation of wealth.

"The County's own disaggregated data shows black residents overindexed for harm, not historically, but right now," said Debra Gore, the Chair of the Reparations Commission. "The injury is not historic, it's current. We're just now measuring it."

Broadly, Gore's commission identified inequalities in accessing housing and property, disparities in economic opportunity, and the physical and mental health of Black residents as short-term priorities.

Other major issues highlighted in the action plan include improving access to and the quality

of education for Black community members, public safety, and political disenfranchisement.

To address these inequalities, Gore urged the Board of Supervisors to institute a standing committee on reparations to implement its recommendations as outlined in its report.

"This is not a debate about whether slavery happened 160 years ago. It did," Gore said. "The question in front of this Board of Supervisors is simpler and harder to dodge: do we still believe in the Constitution, or do we just believe in the parts that are convenient?"

The Supervisors then voted unanimously to receive the Commission's recommendations and approved the

institution of a standing committee.

Earlier, the Supervisors issued proclamations commending all 15 members of the Commission, thanking them for their service to Alameda County.

District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley, who, along with District 2 Supervisor Elisa Marquez, sat on the Reparations Commission, was visibly emotional as he congratulated the commissioners.

"The Reparations Commission spent quite a bit of time, energy, and knowledge pulling together this action plan," Miley said. "The reason I'm so proud of these people is that they did such a great job!"

In June 2023, the Board of

Supervisors approved a resolution formally acknowledging and apologizing for the county's role in the displacement of Black residents in Russell City, a community located off the Hayward shoreline. Russell City was seized and destroyed in the 1950s and 1960s, thanks in part to actions by former members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Following up on this apology, Alameda County launched the Russell City Redress Fund in 2025 alongside the Hayward City Council, authorizing money to be set aside from several supervisors' discretionary budgets to fund direct payments to victims of the community's destruction. ■

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ACFD extinguishes residential fire in Dublin

BY JUDE STRZEMP

In an incident believed to be unrelated to fireworks, a burning vehicle ignited a residential fire in Dublin on the Fourth of July, the Alameda County Fire Department said.

ACFD responded at about 10:43 p.m. to a report of a vehicle fire on the 11000 block of Rolling Hills Drive.

Upon arrival, firefighters found a burning vehicle inside a garage with flames reaching the home, ACFD officials wrote on social media.

Embers also ignited a grass fire behind the house, which burned about 0.1 acres.

"Crews quickly contained both fires and prevented further spread," ACFD officials said. ■

Governor signs McNerney bill on hydrogen energy

‘Green hydrogen is the gamechanger we need to meet our climate goals’

BY BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A bill from a Tri-Valley state senator to expand California’s use of green hydrogen energy, a medium for storing renewable energy, was signed into law last week.

Senate Bill 1350 from Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) qualifies the fuel’s usage as a clean energy source under the state’s renewable energy standards, providing financial incentives to power plants who use it.

Green hydrogen is a means of storing renewable energy. The fuel gets its “green” namesake as the result of it being created by using renewable energy sources like solar and wind. The hydrogen can then be stored and converted into electricity through fuel cells

or combustion turbines at any time.

SB 1350 works alongside California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard, which requires electric utility companies to ensure that at least 60% of the electricity they provide comes from qualified clean energy sources by 2030. Qualifying facilities can also sell their credits to non-qualifying facilities and make a profit off of their production of clean energy.

The bill qualifies electricity generated from green hydrogen as a renewable energy source under California’s standards, as long as the hydrogen is produced from state-certified renewable sources, the facility uses at least 20% green hydrogen in its fuel blend, and the facility’s use of green hydrogen is

certified to reduce air pollution.

SB 1350 was introduced to the State Legislature in February by McNerney, who represents San Joaquin County and the Tri-Valley area of eastern Alameda County. The bill was co-sponsored by the Green Hydrogen Coalition, a nonprofit focused on popularizing green hydrogen, and the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California.

Newsom signed SB 1350 into law June 29 after it received unanimous approval from both the state Senate and Assembly and was championed by McNerney as a key step in California’s broader clean energy transition.

“The Legislature’s overwhelming approval of SB 1350 sends a clear message: Green hydrogen is

the gamechanger we need to meet our climate goals, and it will protect good-paying jobs throughout the state,” McNerney said in a statement.

Though renewable energy now accounts for roughly 60% of California’s electricity, according to a 2024 report by the California Energy Commission, McNerney’s office has found that the state continues to be powered by fossil fuels during overnight hours and winter months, when storage of renewable sources is depleted.

Green hydrogen’s energy storage capabilities work to solve this problem.

“Governor Newsom’s signing of SB 1350 is a landmark step toward securing California’s clean energy future,” said Janice Lin in a

statement, founder and president of the Green Hydrogen Coalition. “This legislation gives utilities, developers and investors the confidence to move forward with the next generation of dispatchable clean power.”

With SB 1350 now signed into law, the bill will immediately work to “boost” power plant facilities like the Lodi Energy Center, located 15 miles north of Stockton, which plans to use green hydrogen in the near future, according to McNerney’s office.

The bill will also help planned facilities like Element Resources’ Lancaster Clean Energy Center, which is set to open in 2028 in Southern California and become the largest green hydrogen facility in the United States. ■

Transit sales tax measure certified for ballot

Election push in five Bay Area counties comes as agencies face severe budget shortfalls

BY KAYLA CHAN /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A proposed tax to support Bay Area public transit was certified last week to go on the California general election ballot this November.

The Connect Bay Area initiative, if approved by a majority of voters, would implement a half-cent sales tax in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara, as well as a

one-cent sales tax in San Francisco to help fund local transit agencies.

A petition for the measure collected an estimated 241,964 valid signatures, exceeding the threshold to qualify for the ballot, according to the Public Transit Revenue Measure District, the regional entity established by the state law that also authorized the measure to go in front of voters.

“We are incredibly proud of the

work of our broad coalition and the largest transit grassroots effort the Bay Area has ever seen to qualify this measure,” wrote Connect Bay Area campaign spokesperson Jeff Cretan in a statement.

Exceeding the signature threshold means the measure would be put on the ballot by a citizen initiative. Because of this, the measure will only require a simple majority to pass instead of a

two-thirds supermajority.

The proposed tax comes as public transit agencies in the region face severe budget shortfalls in the current fiscal year. BART is \$376 million in the red, while the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has a deficit of \$307 million. If the measure passes, almost two-thirds of the projected \$1 billion in revenue would go toward operating costs.

If the measure fails, BART will cut up to 70% of service, Caltrain will shut down weekend and evening service, Muni will eliminate at least 20 routes and Alameda-Contra Costa Transit will cut at least 16% of service.

“Passing this measure will prevent catastrophic transit service cuts and help deliver affordable, efficient transit across the entire Bay Area,” Cretan said. ■

BUDGET

Continued from Page 7

Brown and Mokashi voted against the move because they were concerned about the financial impact reinstating those ongoing expenditures would have on the district’s budget.

“I’m really struggling from the standpoint of we are not out of the woods and we’re challenged with downward enrollment and fiscal responsibility, stewardship, and also it is no secret we will have to go back to the community for a parcel

tax,” Mokashi said. “So it needs to be very, very prudent for us as a board to think about, not just tonight, but how we’re handling these fiscal decisions.”

The rest of the board voted in favor of reinstating these positions, which was met by applause from many members of the community in attendance that night including educators and parents.

The board also unanimously voted to approve the allocation of those \$11.7 million in one-time funding to address the district’s

negative ending fund balance.

The board voted to use that money for other things like increasing the unrestricted reserve to 5%; setting aside funds for curriculum and book adoptions; and providing a one-year gap funding to restore health service assistant (HSA) positions, which the board previously agreed to cut as part of its 2026-27 budget reduction plan.

This one-year funding, according to staff, will give the district time to look for other ongoing funding options. ■

MALL

Continued from Page 5

project development status for the Stoneridge redevelopment. “The intent of the document is to provide guidance for any subsequent efforts related to the comprehensive, long-range planning of the mall.”

There has been little to no movement since 2023 on the housing efforts or other redevelopment at the Stoneridge property, which has multiple owners. Simon Property Group owns the majority of the interior mall.

“Since approval of the framework, the City has met the Stoneridge

Mall property owners to discuss existing conditions and constraints at Stoneridge, understand each owners’ development interests and priorities, assess key issues to be identified as part of a master planning effort, and to discuss elements of the next steps,” according to the project’s description.

And while city officials have previously expressed concern in the lack of movement toward those redevelopment goals, which has been blamed on a number of factors, 3VG’s recent acquisition of the 8.4-acre parcel could signal a positive move forward.

According to 3VG, the company

acquired the property last month. The East Bay Times broke the news Tuesday, reporting that the company, along with other investors, paid \$10.7 million for the site.

It is the same group of investors that acquired the JCPenney building at Stoneridge in 2022.

Klotz said the company “capitalized on the opportunity to purchase a unique property in Pleasanton” and is currently exploring “options for use of the property.”

“3VG is currently investigating multiple solutions for the site, including retail re-use and mixed-use densification,” the company stated in its website. ■

TAKE US ALONG



A perfect morning for a warm bagel:

On a wintry, 15-degree Montréal morning, Deborah Grossman — Pleasanton Weekly’s Tri-Valley Foodist blogger — dreamed of warm hometown weather as she waited in line for famous Fairmont Bagels. The wait was worth it as she noshed on the hefty bagel while walking around numerous foodie neighborhoods.

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.

HAGGERTY

Continued from Page 5

transportation, strengthening our communities, and advocating for the residents he represented,” Miley added. “His leadership helped shape countless transportation projects and regional initiatives that will benefit generations to come.”

“I’m heartbroken over this. Scott was a legendary force in Bay Area politics for over two decades,” Supervisor David Haubert, who succeeded Haggerty in representing District 1, told the Pleasanton Weekly on Sunday. “I feel blessed to have known him and his family. My condolences and prayers go out to them all.”

Haggerty, who received a lung transplant earlier this year, had been hospitalized at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Tennessee. His family confirmed he died surrounded by loved ones at approximately 1:30 p.m. local time Sunday (July 5).

“While our hearts are broken, we find peace in knowing that he is no longer suffering and for the first time since his operation, he can take a breath of fresh air,” Haggerty’s family said in a statement on his Facebook page.

“We will be forever grateful for the donor family, giving him a new chance at life. Without their sacrifice, we would have not been able to have these last moments with him,” they added.

Funeral services are pending in both Tennessee and California, according to the family.

Haggerty catapulted onto the county political scene in 1996, winning the race to succeed retiring supervisor Ed Campbell at 38 years old with no prior elected office experience but service on the Fremont Planning Commission and a bid for State Assembly under his belt. He had worked as a business representative for the Laborers’ International Union of North America.

He represented District 1 on the



FILE PHOTO COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty speaks about the youth barn project during the “barn raising” event at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in 2018.

Board of Supervisors for the next 24 years, which included Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton, Sunol and Fremont in full or in part depending on how the boundaries were drawn after each census.

Coming into office with professional experience in the trucking industry too, Haggerty built a reputation for transportation planning and project advocacy on the board. The Measure B and BB countywide transportation sales taxes were passed and spending programs adopted during his tenure, and he sat as a leader on the Alameda County Transportation Commission and Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Key roadway and transit projects in his district included the Highway 84 expressway between Livermore and Sunol, Interstate 580 carpool and express lanes, the BART extension to Warm Springs and creating the Valley Link partnership.

“He was a champion for transportation, and he was a champion for our region,” said Livermore Mayor John Marchand, a longtime friend and former colleague of Haggerty’s wife at the Alameda County Water District. “Our condolences go out to his wife, Patti, and his entire family.”

Haggerty also served on the governing boards of groups like the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, Bay Area Air District, Oakland Alameda County Coliseum Authority and Association of Bay Area Governments.

Representing a district that mixed suburban neighborhoods, office buildings and technological innovation with ranch lands, vineyards and swaths of natural open space, Haggerty played a key role in promoting agricultural, land conservation and alternative energy in his district and across the county.

Ava Community Energy’s wind farm on the Altamont Pass was dedicated in the former supervisor’s honor as the Scott Haggerty Wind Farm Center almost five years ago. He was also a strong supporter of the Marissa Hunt Agricultural Education Center and youth barn that opened in 2019 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

“He did so much for his community in Alameda County and always fought for what was right,” said Melissa Hernandez, the former Dublin mayor and current BART board president who worked in

Haggerty’s office and considered him her mentor.

“Anyone who has crossed paths with Scott, knew the amazing man he was. I’m blessed to have called him my friend,” she added. “He was a great father, a loving grandfather, and a wonderful community leader. He had the biggest heart and was always ready to help others.”

One of Haggerty’s final projects in office was helping provide funding needed to get Goodness Village off the ground in Livermore.

“He understood that addressing homelessness required more than managing a problem — it required creating opportunities for people to rebuild their lives with dignity,” said Kim Curtis, executive director of the tiny-home affordable community for people facing housing insecurity in the Livermore Valley.

“When Goodness Village was still just an idea, Scott was willing to support an innovative approach. His confidence in the vision, and his willingness to invest in it, helped transform a concept into a community that has changed lives,” Curtis said Sunday. “Every time I walk through the Village, I’m reminded that it exists because people were willing to believe in something that hadn’t been done before. Scott was one of those people.”

Susan Houghton, founder of Sunflower Hill, likewise credited Haggerty’s support with helping her nonprofit launch both its vocational garden and first residential project in Pleasanton.

“I will always be grateful to Scott for his early and strong interest in both our garden at Hagemann Ranch and Sunflower Hill in general,” she told the Weekly. “He understood the value of public/private partnerships and how planting seeds of support could help nonprofits

thrive and get to the next level.”

“Scott helped Sunflower Hill and many other organizations in our valley grow strong,” Houghton said. “Even after he moved to Tennessee, part of his heart remained in the district. He leaves an incredible legacy.”

“As much as he shaped the Bay Area,” Haggerty’s family said in remembrance, “he was equally devoted to shaping a loving home. Those who knew him best would say his greatest pride wasn’t his title, but his family.”

They shared publicly about his health battle during the past months and praised the “support and love shown” by his care team at Vanderbilt.

“Each one had a story about Scott and many moved mountains to make sure his stay was comfortable and the family was accommodated. The care that we had received was above and beyond their normal duties,” the family said. “Through this process we have built emotional bonds with those who have consistently cared for him. As our world was crashing, they carried us through and were clearly emotional when it became clear that his fight was coming to an end.”

“Over the last few days we’ve had the privilege to spend every waking hour with him. Playing his favorite music, watching his favorite movies, and cooking his favorite foods,” they added. “His final days were spent with our family, reminiscing about life stories, adventures and the beautiful times we had shared together.”

Haggerty is survived by his wife Patti, children Jennifer, Haley, Kimberly and Sean, grandchildren Scott James, Layken, Scarlett, Aiden and Noah, brother Mike and sister LeeAnn. ■

SB 1193

Continued from Page 8

the hard earned money of working families, seniors, renters, homeowners, and small businesses. Every dollar should have a clear public purpose, a public record and a public benefit. That is how we prevent waste, fraud, abuse, favoritism, and conflicts of interest.”

Wahab herself has not made public allegations about any particular instances of the misuse of discretionary funds or named any past or present supervisors’ spending as problematic, instead pointing to an arsenal of county grand jury reports, audits, and legal filings that she contends point to an ongoing pattern of systemic issues.

That’s where Skov has come in, with Wahab’s office hosting her press conference in Livermore last

month and bringing her on as a witness to testify in favor of the legislation at the capitol.

“I’m speaking today because county residents are attempting to fight corruption after being ignored by our officials while they scoff at grand jury reports,” Skov said. “We require the state legislature to step in as oversight, not overreach.”

Three speakers voiced opposition ahead of the committee vote, contending that the county has a documented history of commitment to transparency and oversight and that the bill would jeopardize funding for nonprofits, yet also weaken existing accountability measures by requiring a simple majority vote on discretionary funding rather than the four-fifths vote currently required.

While Wahab said she would be happy to make that amendment, the bill went on to pass with no

revisions in the committee.

“I’m looking for what the harm is, and if you are already doing these things, I’m trying to understand what the opposition is about,” Asm. Rhodesia Ransom (D-Tracy) said. “Because I would love to be able to say ‘Senator Wahab, you’re making this difficult,’ but I just haven’t heard that particular piece said.”

In her closing remarks, Wahab said that the bill was just one of several means for state, local and federal authorities to crack down on alleged corruption in the county government.

“Alameda County is home to a wide variety of concerns around corruption — in fact, FBI raids have taken place at different levels of local government in Alameda County, and this is just one effort to shed some light on what is happening,” Wahab said. ■



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Collage of photos shows sights from the third week at the 2026 Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton.

Corgi races, concerts, tractor pulls and more in store at Alameda County Fairgrounds

STORY AND 2026 FAIR PHOTOS BY RIYA UPADHYAYA

Fair season in Pleasanton is coming to a close as the Alameda County Fair's last day approaches this Sunday. But there is plenty of fun still to be had with the annual livestock auction, Corgi races and truck and tractor pulls set for this weekend in addition to the thrilling rides, nightly drone shows and a dynamic concert lineup for the final days.

Among the events the fair is hosting this weekend is the America's Strongest Teen competition in the Grandstands on Saturday. With divisions by weight and age, teens will compete in physical challenges from sandbag carrying to vehicle pulls until winners are crowned.

On the fair's last day, Corgi races are scheduled to start at 3:30 p.m. at the Michelob Ultra Grandstand. These races serve as an early preview of what's to come in September when the fairgrounds hosts its annual Corgi Con event.

Those attending the fair this

weekend can also watch the FIFA World Cup on one of the many big screens across the fairgrounds. Matches are broadcasted at the Michelob Ultra Concert Lawn, the Crafted Cocktail & Beer Bar, The Farmhouse, and Cantina Hussongs. These free designated viewing areas allow the fair's visitors to gather for watch parties and cheer on their favorite teams.

The Big O Tires Concert Series' final performances kick off Friday night with Boyz II Men, followed by Metallica tribute band Damage Inc. on Saturday and electronic dance music group Cheat Codes will take the stage on Sunday. All shows begin at 8 p.m.

As part of the fair's efforts to promote local food vendors, visitors had the opportunity to vote for the winners of the third annual "Foodie's Choice Awards" and honor their favorite fair foods of the season.

From classics like funnel cakes and corndogs to more innovative creations like deep-fried pickles and strawberry pistachio Dubai chocolate cups, the contest encouraged all food vendors to experiment with their menu and win

visitors over.

This year's award recipients included The Main Squeeze — Strawberry Lemonade Cookie from The Dough Show in first place, the Flamin' Hot Cheetos Tornado Potato from Potato! in second place and the Pineapple Grill's Deep Fried Hawaiian Rolls coming in at third.

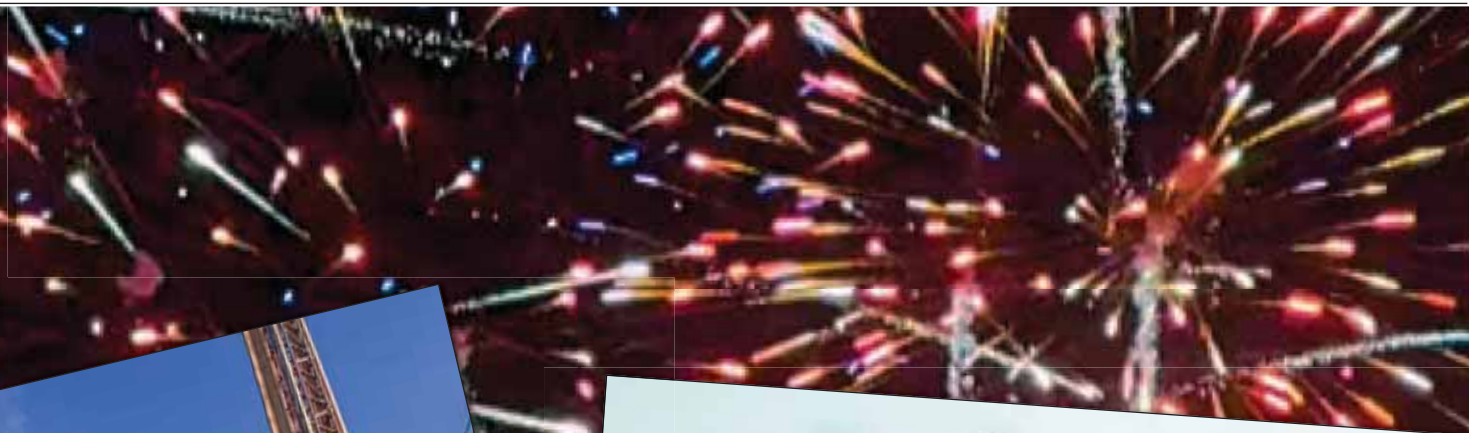
Visitors to the fair can still enjoy the winning treats this weekend before the fair closes.

"I love eating all the different foods here. If you come to the fair hungry, the first thing you should do is maybe enjoy a fair favorite, like a corndog or some cotton candy. The Persian kebabs are great... It's also worth trying the deep-fried Oreos," said Karen Boyd, a spokesperson for the fair.

The Alameda County Fair draws nearly half a million visitors each year, featuring a variety of activities, exhibits and food options that celebrate local heritages and agriculture and foster community spirit.

Despite the absence of horse racing, the Pleasanton track has featured a different attraction each weekend, including monster truck

'S AYS



rallies and motocross races.

Since its debut in 1912, the fair has grown into “one of the Bay Area’s largest and longest-running summer traditions”, according to the Alameda County Fair website.

This year, the fair added eight new rides as part of its 2026 lineup. Fast-spinning thrill rides like the Viper and even the slower, family-friendly rides like the Bear Affair offer options for riders of all experience levels. Traditional rides including the Giant Wheel, Grand Carousel and the White Water Flume also returned.

“My favorite thing about the fair is by far the rides. I would recommend that everyone go on the biggest, scariest rides. It’s amazing that our town hosts such a special event every year, and as a Pleasanton resident, I try and do my best to take advantage of it,” Harini Parasaram told the Pleasanton Weekly.

The fair also brought special celebrations to town to mark the nation’s 250th anniversary.

On Independence Day, the fair hosted a Fireworks Spectacular Show with added patriotic flare to commemorate the country’s special milestone. Despite entry closing early for event preparations, the Michelob Ultra Grandstand was packed with a full house eager to

watch the show.

“There’s a very community oriented atmosphere (at the fair). On the 4th, everyone was so excited and looking forward to the fireworks. It was the type of energy you can only get at a place like this,” fairgoer Naomi Song told the Weekly.

The fair also invited the community to be part of history with a time capsule that captured sights, sounds and memories of the fair. It was sealed and lowered into the ground during a special ceremony at the fairgrounds, where it will remain until 2076, when it will be opened during America’s 300th anniversary celebration.

With this year marking the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the fair hosted the “Rising Together” exhibit featuring fragments from the Twin Towers, which fell in 2001. The exhibit remains on display through the final day of the fair.

Free Movies on the Lawn is another fair tradition that continues this weekend where families can gather in front of the concert lawn to watch films on the jumbo screen. This fair season’s final movie set for Sunday at 6 p.m. is Disney and

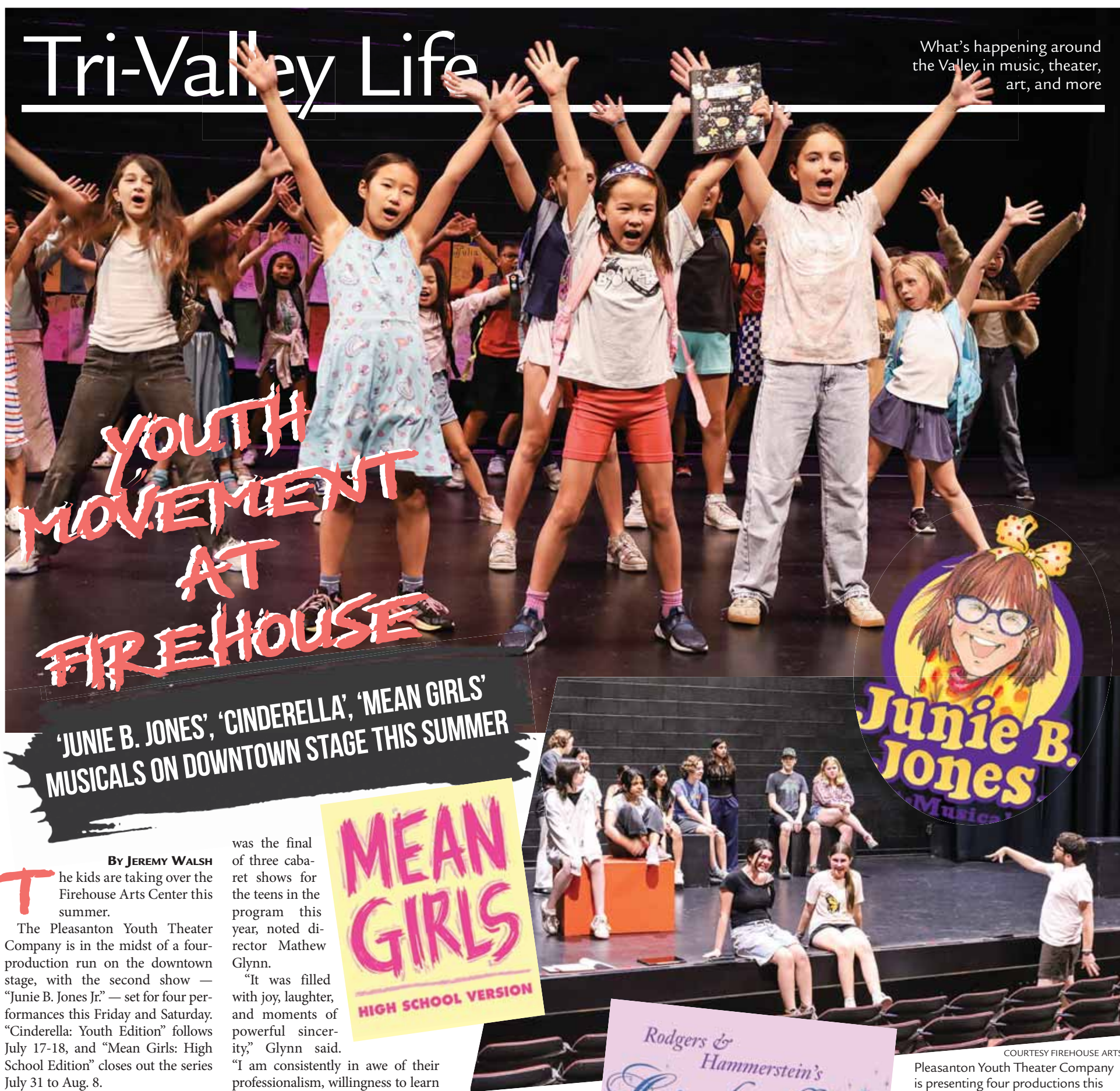
Pixar’s “Coco”.

However, fair officials noted that movie schedules are subject to change due to soccer watch parties.

“I think the thing that’s really fun about the Alameda County Fair is that there really is something for everyone,” Boyd said. “Every age group, whatever you like to do, there’s something fun here for you. You can even just hang out in a shady spot and join one of the World Cup watch parties.”

For more information about the fair and this weekend’s activities, visit annual.alamedacounty-fair.com. ■

Among the highlights of closing weekend is Friday’s concert with Boyz II Men, shown at top right. (Photo courtesy Alameda County Fair).



YOUTH MOVEMENT AT FIREHOUSE

'JUNIE B. JONES', 'CINDERELLA', 'MEAN GIRLS'
MUSICALS ON DOWNTOWN STAGE THIS SUMMER

BY JEREMY WALSH

The kids are taking over the Firehouse Arts Center this summer.

The Pleasanton Youth Theater Company is in the midst of a four-production run on the downtown stage, with the second show — “Junie B. Jones Jr.” — set for four performances this Friday and Saturday. “Cinderella: Youth Edition” follows July 17-18, and “Mean Girls: High School Edition” closes out the series July 31 to Aug. 8.

“Our shows this Summer represent the wide range of youth actors we have in the City of Pleasanton,” Jeff Zavattero, the city’s library and recreation coordinator, told the Weekly.

“Participants of all ages get the opportunity to learn and grow telling stories that they can relate to with characters they love,” Zavattero added. “These shows are put together from start to finish in 4-5 weeks, and they’re so excited to show the community what they’ve been working on.”

PYTC’s summer series opened June 26 with a one-night-only performance of “Miscast Cabaret” featuring high schoolers taking on musical theater roles they would not have been traditionally picked for. It

was the final of three cabaret shows for the teens in the program this year, noted director Mathew Glynn.

“It was filled with joy, laughter, and moments of powerful sincerity,” Glynn said.

“I am consistently in awe of their professionalism, willingness to learn and immense talent. Every cabaret is a great night of entertainment, and I cannot wait to see all that we will accomplish with our next season!”

Coming up this Friday and Saturday is a youth musical version of the “Junie B. Jones” book series by the late Barbara Park. PYTC performers are split into two groups, with the “AM Cast” on stage Friday at 2 p.m. and Saturday at 7 p.m. and the “PM Cast” on Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m.

“Step into the halls of Clarence Somebody or Other Elementary School for an adventure full of fun, laughter, and music! Come see our incredible cast show off their hard work, and discover the magic of being yourself,” Duncan Allan, one of the directors, told the Weekly.



“All our performers worked hard at telling the story of 1st grader Junie B. Jones and all her bright and colorful adventures,” said the other director, Veronica Pascual. “From learning how to juggle to being a kickball halftime show star! Come share the joy all our performers pour on stage, and enjoy a musically talented show!”

Then next weekend, PYTC will present “Cinderella: Youth Edition” for four shows between Friday and Saturday, again split between two casts and two directors.

“Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella” combines the story everyone loves with the golden age of musical theatre to create a product of heart,

h u m o r and timeless storytelling,” director Mackenzie McDonald said ahead of the July 17-18 production. Leila Brown is directing the other cast.

Wrapping up the summer series will be a two-weekend run of “Mean Girls: High School Edition”, an adaptation of the movie and stage musical from the mind of Tina Fey. Glynn directs both the Fetch and Schquillz casts, who will present three shows each between July 31 and Aug. 8 (rated PG-13).

“Mean Girls is a story of morality,

COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS
Pleasanton Youth Theater Company is presenting four productions this summer at the Firehouse Arts Center.

peer pressure, and what it means to be ourselves,” Glynn said. “Many of us immediately think of the comedy and iconic quotes, but as Janis famously says, ‘Don’t be fooled by the pink!’ Beneath is a biting social commentary on high school cliques, bullying and the effects these things can have on teenagers.”

“Having our young performers tell this story allows them to bring themselves to the stage in a way that I believe will resonate with all of us,” Glynn added. “Not to mention the catchy songs, incredible choreography and the immense talent of our casts!”

For tickets, schedules and more information, go to firehousearts.org. ■

Valley Concert Chorale performs on Carnegie Hall stage

Local vocal group now looking toward 'The Wizard of Oz' sing-along this summer

By JEREMY WALSH

Singers from the Livermore-based Valley Concert Chorale joined vocal artists from Tracy, Southern California and Georgia in performing at famed Carnegie Hall in New York City last month.

Conducted by the baton of Deanna Joseph and accompanied by the New York City Chamber Orchestra, the combined chorus delivered the featured performance of John Rutter's "Requiem" at the show in the "Masterwork Series" of Manhattan Concert Productions. Tri-Valley singers found the trip "both an emotional milestone and a deeply transformative artistic experience," VCC officials said.

"To perform a great work with excellent musicians and a seasoned, outstanding conductor in one of the nation's most revered venues was just a great life memory," VCC treasurer Robbie See said in a press release.

"Singing in the famous hall was thrilling, but the rehearsals were moving on an even deeper level,"

See added. "Everyone already knew the music well, so we could focus on the emotional journey of the 'Requiem' — from pleading, to joy, to desperation, to love and eternal rest. The harmony in 'The Lord is My Shepherd' and 'Lux Eterna' brought me to tears in more than one rehearsal."

For Justin Beasley, VCC social media manager, the trip was also a memorable introduction to the Big Apple.

"How can I describe performing at Carnegie Hall, seeing a Broadway show, and experiencing New York City for my first time ever, other than as a dream come true?" Beasley said. "It was amazing working with Deanna Joseph as our conductor. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity has me on cloud nine. The entire experience will stay with me forever, and because of it, I want to become a better singer, performer, person and artist."

The residency saw VCC artistic director pull double duty as director of record for Tracy's West High School Choral Leadership

Academy. Also joining their "Requiem" performance were the Canticum Novum Chorale of Roswell, Ga., and the Orange County Choral Academy from Newport Beach.

The group stayed at the Westin Times Square and rehearsed in the hotel's ballrooms. When they weren't training, the singers experienced curated travel packages that included Broadway shows and sightseeing outings in Manhattan, according to VCC.

As the choral group gears up for its 2026-27 season of concerts in the Tri-Valley, it is set to host its next sing-along fundraiser event at Vine Cinema and Alehouse next month.

VCC invites people to "relive the magic, music and adventure" by joining in the moviehouse chorus of "Over the Rainbow," "We're Off to See the Wizard" and other favorite tunes from the 1939 classic "The Wizard of Oz."

"Closed captions will be displayed throughout the film, for patrons to sing their favorite songs and enjoy the music together," VCC reps said.



COURTESY VCC

A wide, high-angle view capturing the scale of the performance inside the historic Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall.

"Patrons can get free coffee and donuts. There will also be a Costume Contest; who gets the most applause from the audience becomes the winner."

The event is set for 10 a.m. Aug. 22 at 10 a.m. at Vine Cinema and Alehouse in downtown Livermore. For more information, go to valleyconcertchorale.org. ■

Live jazz series returning to City Center

Concerts to bring renowned musicians to San Ramon during next three weekends

By RIYA UPADHYAYA

City Center Bishop Ranch is hosting its Smooth Jazz concert series for the third year in a row starting this weekend.

Drawing thousands of attendees each year, the annual San Ramon event hosts a variety of dining options and a vibrant atmosphere as well as featuring world-renowned jazz talent.

Performances will be held on Saturday evenings, with events set for July 11, 18 and 25 all kicking off at 7 p.m., according to a statement from event organizers.

"Last summer's turnout showed us how deeply this event resonates with the community, and as the series enters its third year, the caliber of artists we're bringing to San Ramon reflects our commitment to making each summer even better than the last," said Jeff Dodd, senior vice president of retail at Sunset Development.

"It's a celebration of world-class music, community and great food in the welcoming atmosphere City Center Bishop Ranch is known for," he added.

Guests can look forward to hearing from chart-topping saxophonist Paul Taylor (this Saturday), Grammy-nominated contemporary jazz musician and pianist David Benoit (July 18) and Grammy-winning guitarist



COURTESY SUNSET DEVELOPMENT

City Center Bishop Ranch's jazz series brings a vibrant music and atmosphere to Alexander Square each summer.

Lee Ritenour (July 25).

Artists will also be available after performances for meet-and-greets, including autographs and photo opportunities, organizers said.

The event is free to the community and is hosted in Alexander Square.

Guests have the option to elevate their concert experience by reserving pre-fixe dinners at one of the center's participating restaurants. Those with reservations will receive seats in the VIP area to view the show.

"There's something special about watching thousands of people gather

in Alexander Square on a summer evening with neighbors, families and friends, all brought together by incredible live music," Dodd said.

For those seeking a more casual experience, guests can instead opt for patio seating with views of the stage or enjoy takeout picnic-style on the lawn. Pets are welcome, and beer, wine and cocktails will also be available for purchase.

More information about the series and dining reservations is available at <https://sr.bishopranch.com/jazzseries>. ■

Pleasanton student wins Congressional Art Competition

Wang honored for woodblock print, 'Elder'

By JEREMY WALSH

Camellia Wang, an incoming junior at Pleasanton's Amador Valley High School, took first place in the Congressional Art Competition for District 14.

Wang's winning submission, a woodblock print entitled "Elder," will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for the next year along with all of the other award winners from across the country.

The Pleasanton Unified School District announced Wang's win in a recent newsletter to the community, as the 14th Congressional District office is currently vacant. "Congratulations to Camellia on this outstanding achievement and for representing Amador Valley and PUSD on a national stage," school district officials said. ■



COURTESY PUSD

"Elder", a woodblock print by Camellia Wang.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Livermore Lab employee dies in motorcycle crash down ravine

A Livermore woman was killed in a solo motorcycle crash down a ravine along Del Valle Road during the Independence Day weekend, according to authorities.

The decedent was identified as Aileen Perez, according to the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

Perez, 26, was an employee at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, lab officials confirmed Tuesday afternoon to the Pleasanton Weekly.

She had worked as a software developer for about five years at the lab, according to her LinkedIn profile. Among her duties, Perez developed, debugged and maintained software environments on high-performance computing systems.

A call regarding the fatal crash in unincorporated Livermore just south of Mines Road near Del Valle Regional Park came in just before 11:40 a.m. last Friday to the California Highway Patrol, CHP Officer Tyler Hahn said.

A preliminary investigation showed that Perez lost control of the vehicle, crashed and was ejected approximately 200 feet down a ravine, according to Hahn. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

The circumstances of the crash remain under investigation. Anyone with information about the incident can contact the CHP-Dublin Office at 925-828-0466.

—Jude Strzemp

ACFD crews responded to 33 fires over holiday

Fire crews in Alameda County responded to 33 fireworks-related calls over the Fourth of July holiday, but no injuries were reported, the Alameda County Fire Department said Monday.

The county responded to vegetation and dumpster fires, one structural fire and other outside fires and smoke investigations.

In unincorporated areas of the county there were two vegetation fires, three outside fires and two smoke investigations, the Alameda County Fire Department said.

In Dublin there were several dumpster fires in parks and at least four outside fires caused by spent fireworks that were improperly disposed of. One fire damaged the exterior of a home. In Newark and Emeryville there were two outside fires, as well.

San Leandro had the most fires, with eight reported outside, five vegetation fires, one dumpster

fire and one smoke investigation. Union City also had four outside fires.

"While we are pleased that no injuries were reported, these incidents demonstrate how quickly fireworks can ignite fires and create dangerous conditions for communities," Alameda County Fire Chief Willie McDonald said.

"We appreciate the efforts of our firefighters, dispatchers, and partner agencies who worked throughout the holiday to keep residents safe."

—Bay City News Service

Sheriff warns of scam targeting inmates' families

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office is warning residents about a phone scam in which callers falsely claim a family member at Santa Rita Jail can be released early in exchange for payment.

According to the sheriff's office, scammers tell victims that inmates qualify for an early release program because of jail overcrowding and demand money for an electronic ankle monitor.

Authorities said the callers may use publicly available inmate information and spoof local phone numbers while posing as sheriff's deputies.

The sheriff's office emphasized that it, along with other law enforcement agencies, will never request payment for ankle monitor programs, missed court appearances, arrest warrants, or other legal matters.

Officials urged anyone who receives a suspicious call, text or email not to provide personal information or send money, even if the caller appears credible or uses the names of sheriff's office employees. Residents who believe they have been targeted are encouraged to contact the sheriff's office through its nonemergency line at 510-667-7721 and report suspected fraud to the Federal Trade Commission.

—Bay City News Service

County extends Flock contract for 18 months

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved an 18-month contract extension last week with surveillance infrastructure company Flock Safety for the use of law enforcement technology, including automated license plate reader cameras, in the county's unincorporated communities.

Police departments use, ALPR cameras, to investigate, crimes like stolen vehicles. However, privacy watchdogs have raised concerns about, federal agencies being able to access the camera data — a potential violation, of state law — and using it for targeted surveillance of

immigrants and other vulnerable groups.,

The contract also extends the use of pan-tilt-zoom cameras that, do not record license plates but are used, for police investigations, drones that can be deployed, as first responders, to gather information, and investigative software, all of which are sold by Flock Safety.

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office brought forth the proposal, calling it a "bridge" contract to ensure that officers have access to essential surveillance technology while the county develops a new request for proposals to find an alternative service provider.

Earlier in April, the supervisors had temporarily extended the contract, which expired last summer, through June.

Now, the board's 3-2 vote on June 30 will extend the contract until December 2027 at a cost of \$2.4 million.

This new contract will also unify the three Flock Safety technologies — ALPR cameras, PTZ cameras, and drones — into one contract after they were previously governed by three different contracts.

In his presentation, sheriff's Sgt. Fenton Culley said that this contract would merely extend the services and technology that the department already uses and are vital components of the "Real Time Information Center," which helps officers spot and respond to crime using various cameras and drones.

Culley emphasized that the contract prohibits Flock Safety from sharing any of the county's data with federal or out-of-state agencies like U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement, the Department of Homeland Security, or Customs and Border Protection.

He also pointed out that since many other law enforcement agencies in the Bay Area also use Flock Safety surveillance tools, the unincorporated communities would become a haven for criminals if these technologies were discontinued.

Police departments in Oakland, Richmond and Berkeley have extended their contracts with Flock Safety since December 2025.

Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez asked the supervisors to approve the extension to ensure that her department can function to the best of its ability, adding that her department had conducted extensive community outreach to accommodate public input into the new contract.

"I'm working as a good partner, where does that partnership come in from the other side?" asked Sanchez.

During an hour-long public comment period, community members spoke both in support of and in opposition to the contract.

Proponents said that at a time when police departments are facing staffing crises, tools like ALPR cameras are essential to maintain public safety; in his presentation, Culley cited specific homicide, child sexual assault, and robbery cases in the last three months that officers could crack because of Flock Safety tools.

On the other hand, opponents raised concerns about Flock Safety's history of working with federal immigration agencies in the past and its vulnerabilities in keeping ALPR data secure.

During deliberations, supervisors Nikki Fortunato Bas and Elisa Marquez asked for more time to consider the contract and make the data privacy clauses more secure.

"I had only two business days to review it (the contract), as did the rest of the public," said Fortunato Bas. "We have to do our due diligence."

But supervisors David Haubert and Nate Miley said that the public safety benefits of having Flock Safety tools in the unincorporated communities of the county outweigh the potential dangers.

"These cameras are meant to keep us safe," Haubert said. "I don't believe that they're widely used by ICE."

Finally, during the vote, Supervisor Lena Tam sided with Miley and Haubert, while Fortunato Bas and Marquez voted against the contract, resulting in a 3-2 split vote for the extension.

In a news release issued July 1, Flock Safety's senior director of public affairs Trevor Chandler said that in the county's unincorporated areas, Flock ALPR cameras helped make 60 arrests, recover 53 stolen vehicles, and apprehend a murder suspect within 24 hours in 2025.

"We heard the concerns raised by residents throughout this process and will continue working with the county to strengthen the safeguards, audit controls, and oversight that keep this system accountable to the people it serves," Chandler said. ■

—Tanay Gokhale,
Bay City News Service



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Rufus E. Williams Jr.

Rufus E. Williams Jr. was born on December 18, 1958, in Columbus, Georgia. A proud graduate of Baker High School's Class of 1976, he continued his education at North Carolina A&T University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1981. That same year, Rufus answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Army. He rose to the rank of Captain and was honorably discharged in 1988. Following his military service, Rufus became a respected leader and consultant in quality compliance. Most recently, he worked as a contract Quality Control Specialist in Engineering and Facilities Investigations with Novartis in Morris Plains, New Jersey. Rufus will be remembered for his vibrant spirit, leadership, intelligence, and unwavering dedication to his family, friends, and community. His legacy will live on through the countless lives he touched. Rufus leaves to cherish his loving memory his devoted wife, daughter, and a host of cousins.

PAID OBITUARY

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Journalism is under attack on multiple fronts

Journalism is the only specific profession mentioned in and protected by the U.S. Constitution.

The Founding Fathers understood an independent and free press is essential to democracy, transparency and accountability and civic engagement. The First Amendment protects the rights of journalists to inform the public without government interference. This protection ensures a free press can investigate, criticize, and report on matters of public interest, including government actions, without fear of censorship or retaliation, ensuring governmental transparency.

But press freedom is under attack, from the current administration's efforts to restrict media access at the

Pentagon by requiring journalists be accompanied by official escorts to California's Assembly Bill 1821, currently in the state legislature, that would fundamentally alter the California Public Records Act, creating a governmental transparency crisis.

AB 1821, co-sponsored by the League of California Cities and backed by many municipalities, would allow state and local government agencies to charge hefty fees for public records, deem requests "not properly requested" and therefore invalid and delay responses even more than they already do.

For example, it took the Pleasanton Weekly more than a year to get public records from Pleasanton Unified School District to report on former Amador Valley High School principal Jonathan Fey's resignation following allegations that he pursued intimate relationships with former students.

Even more alarming, AB 1821 allows agencies the ability to sue members of the public if they feel a request was made with "malicious intent", which would be left wholly to the interpretation of whoever is holding the public records.

Fortunately, just before America's 250th birthday, because of huge opposition, lawmakers removed the most dangerous provisions of the bill.

But the barrage of attacks on the free and independent press seem to come more frequently and put more at stake in recent years.

Perhaps these agencies are becoming emboldened by the current weakened state of news organizations because of economic hardship.

"Big Tech", specifically Meta and Google, decimated journalism with decades of syphoning advertising revenue from publishers and creating "algorithmic dependency", the reliance on algorithms and platforms to reach audiences. (As a sidenote, in 2024, Google exploited this dependency by threatening to ban news from its platforms in California when newsrooms in the state tried to get it to pay publishers for using their content, which would have further devastated news organizations.)



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GUEST OPINION

By JUDY LLOYD

America at 250 — Through the eyes of generations

America's 250th birthday has me thinking about my grandfathers. They came from Italy and Sicily with barely a dime in their pockets, but had optimism and faith in what this country could make possible.

That is why Business for America's "Together for 250" campaign is timely, inviting business and civic leaders to share something real about America, through our own voices.

Purpose, leadership and connection aren't just words. They are a way of life for me and they were for my grandfathers and grandmothers too.

When I worked in the U.S. Senate in the 1990s, I saw people disagree sharply but still treat one another with respect. That experience shaped my belief that public life does not have to be bitter or reduced to a sound bite.

As the host of the new "Purple Inspiration Podcast", my mission is to bring people together, bridge divides and get people talking again

— beyond the red and blue labels.

I heard a prayer on Hallow and it reminded me that America's story has always been carried by people who came here with courage, faith and the hope of something better:

"God, our Father. We thank you for the gift of this nation, and for the generations of immigrants who helped build it — people who arrived with courage, faith, and the hope of something better for their families and for those who would come after them."

As I listened, I remembered the stories of my grandfathers who fled Italy and Sicily — coming to this great nation to start a new life. They were the dreamers who labored in factory jobs to make enough money to feed their families. They wanted to leave their children an even better life than the one they had and the one they fled.

My Mom and Dad worked hard their entire lives. My Mom quit high school to take care of her four brothers and little sister, since my grandmother



held a factory job alongside my grandfather, to help support the family.

Many of the factory jobs they held are now taken over by

technology. That's not a bad thing.

My grandparents were the dreamers who set the path so we could follow their example to create an even better life — one filled with complicated innovations that lead to health care advances in medicine. My father-in-law was one of those innovators who left the world a better place and his family better off than he began. His inventions impacted billions of lives around the world.

And so goes the story of America — threads sewn in directions my grandparents could not possibly have imagined when they came here. Every generation changes the way the world works through a commitment to a better life.

That is what business, civic life and the American promise are all about — freedom, self-government, equality under the law, religious liberty, free speech, voting rights, opportunity, dissent, civic duty, resilience, and the unfinished work of making those

Equivalents (LJEs) per 100,000 residents, a decrease of 81% from approximately 40 per 100,000 in 2002.

This downward trend in the number of journalists employed in the U.S. is accelerating; the 2025 report stated the national average of the equivalent number of LJEs was 8.2 per 100,000 residents.

This drastic decrease in the number of journalists indicates a significant collapse in local reporting. That means there are fewer people to sift through agendas, watch budgets, question decisions and dig through campaign finance records and court documents.

With fewer journalists, government overreach and political corruption surge, voter turnout decreases and, according to a 2020 report in The Journal of Financial Economics, government wages and municipal borrowing escalate, ultimately costing taxpayers money.

Locally, Alameda County falls below the national average, at 6.7 LJEs per 100,000 residents. Even more appalling, Contra Costa County averages 3.5 LJEs per 100,000 residents.

This is despite the wealth in these counties.

If you want to keep professional journalists employed in the Tri-Valley — and maybe even increase the number — please consider donating to the Pleasanton Weekly. ■

Editor's note: Gina Channell Wilcox has been the president and publisher of Embarcadero Media Foundation's East Bay Division since 2006.

ideals real to impact more people.

We can build workplaces and communities where people feel seen, useful and connected to a mission larger than themselves.

Believing in America is not just about cheering for the red, white and blue. It is about honoring the real people who make this country tick every day — doers, dreamers, innovators, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, neighbors, workers, entrepreneurs and citizens.

I guess for me and my family, "America at 250" is not just a catch phrase or a birthday party. It is our responsibility, as business leaders, to remember who built this country, honor those building it now, and decide what we want to leave for the generations still to come. ■

Editor's note: Judy Lloyd is a California small business owner, communications professional and podcast host for the "Purple Inspiration Podcast". She first served in civic life at age 25 as an appointee of the President of the United States and has had a strong sense of duty, country and purpose her entire life. She is a part of Business For America's "Together for 250", a non-partisan, business-led campaign that gives companies specific ways to lead, connect and inspire during America's 250th anniversary.



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

My recovery from stroke at school this spring

Listen to your body and don't roll the dice ... it's better to be safe than sorry

With age comes wisdom is a tried-and-true statement. But another fact about getting older — and a far more concerning fact about aging — is the health issues we face.

Some of you know but I am sure many don't: I suffered a stroke two months ago.

I didn't want to write about it until I was sure the recovery was going in the right direction. And it is.

This is probably the greatest mental setback I've had. Sure, the physical issues aren't great, but mentally it has been far worse.

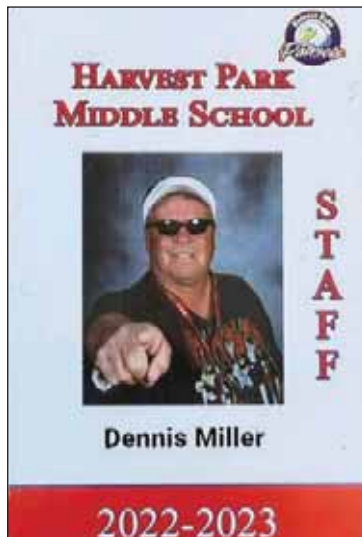
In getting older, you come face to face with your own mortality. When you are young, you feel bulletproof, which is the best way to live.

I wish I could live life like that now, but it's tough when you start to realize life does not go on forever. It's not that I plan on going anywhere soon; it's just that it's tough to acknowledge that there is an end date at some point in your life.

Here's what happened — and it's something I wouldn't wish upon anyone, but I am a better person for having to deal with this.

It was a Tuesday morning, and I was at my usual spot working the bike rack at Harvest Park Middle School in Pleasanton greeting the kids as they came into school.

Sitting in my chair, I felt the entire right side of my body go numb. Obviously I knew something was wrong, but being a typical guy, I figured maybe it was a pinched nerve



and I would be able to walk it off.

The thought of having a stroke never entered my mind.

Fortunately for me, that day our vice principal Tessie Gonsalves happened to come out to the bike rack. In seven years at Harvest Park, there have been maybe five or six times someone from the office came to the bike rack before school. Had no one come out, I would have tried to walk it off, figuring it was anything but a stroke.

But Tessie was going to have nothing of it. She asked me if I was OK, and when I told her the right side of my body was numb but that I would walk it off, she told me not to move and started working the phone lines.

I knew by the look on her face to just shut up and let others help. It's a hard thing for an alpha male to put

his pride on the shelf, but this was the time for me to do it.

From the first feeling of numbness to when I got to the hospital and was administered a drug to break up clots, it was less than an hour. Had Tessie not been out there that day, I would have tried to walk it off, which could have had a poor ending.

I am not writing this to gain a ton of sympathy, but rather as a warning: listen to your body and don't roll the dice. It's a well-used phrase, but it's so true — it's better to be safe than sorry.

In the end, I was very lucky. I suffered no droopy side effects and no speech issues. I still have numbness on my right side but have been getting better.

I went into the hospital on a



PHOTOS COURTESY DENNIS MILLER

Above: Dennis and Coni Miller during a past wine-tasting trip. Left: Dennis Miller's staff badge at Harvest Park Middle School.

Tuesday morning and was home by noon on Thursday. I dove into my rehabilitation, and it's been tough having to almost learn to walk again.

I've had a horrible left knee for some time now, but I had a good strong right leg that was able to make up for the difference. Suddenly my strong leg became my weakness. I still have problems lifting my right arm above my head, but that too is getting better.

The biggest issue I face is my lack of patience. I've had to learn that nothing is going to happen overnight. It takes time and a lot of hard work.

I'm on the mend and my physical

therapist is very pleased with my progress.

I can drive, go out with my wife and even have a vacation scheduled for Monterey in a couple weeks. I am fired up for the start of the school year where I will be back keeping the students at Harvest Park safe and helping navigate those middle school years.

The good lord has more plans for me and for that I am eternally grateful. ■

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.

World Cup fever rolls through Pleasanton

Soccer fans take ACE train to knockout match of Team USA v. Bosnia and Herzegovina

By JUDE STRZEMP

Dozens of soccer fans boarded an ACE train in Pleasanton last week donned in red, white and blue.

The travelers were headed to a FIFA World Cup knockout match where Team USA was poised to play against Bosnia and Herzegovina at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara on July 1.

Among the fans were Pleasanton brothers Mateo and Adrian Eichler.

"I think we can win, definitely. It would be a shock if we lost," Mateo Eichler said.

ACE traditionally runs commuter trains five days a week, but operator San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission began offering special service rides to events post-pandemic, the commission's public relations manager Ahdel Ahmed told the Pleasanton Weekly.

"It's just convenient," he said of riding ACE as opposed to taking a car.

Passengers of the special service train July 1 arrived at Levi's Stadium ahead of the Round of 32 kickoff at 5 p.m.

Mateo Eichler's prediction later came true as Team USA beat Bosnia-Herzegovina 2-0 to advance to Round of 16. The U.S. Men's National Team's journey in the World Cup came to an end five days later with a 4-1 loss to Belgium in Seattle on Monday evening. ■



PHOTOS BY JUDE STRZEMP

FIFA World Cup travelers at the ACE station in Pleasanton. Below: A group of fans dressed up as former Team USA player Alexi Lalas.



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Entertainment

ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR The Alameda County Fair returns with fair food, the summer concert series, tractor pulls, World Cup watch parties, shopping, pig racing and so much more. 12-11 p.m., now through July 12. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK Join for Concerts in the Park, 7-8:30 p.m., July 10. Honkytonk Heroes Country. Lions Wayside Park.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE VINEYARD - THE TRAGEDY OF HAMLET Join SPARC Theater this summer for The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, a gripping story of family, loyalty and the cost of vengeance. 7:30 p.m., July 10-12; 17-19; 24-26. Darcie Kent Vineyards. Visit sparctheater.org.

PYTC PRESENTS JUNIE B JONES JR. Pleasanton Youth Theater Company presents Junie B. Jones Jr. as everyone's favorite first grader comes to life in this delightful musical based on the beloved book series. 2 p.m., & 7p.m., July 10-11. Tickets \$13. Visit firehousearts.org.

PETTY THEFT - TOM PETTY TRIBUTE In this Wenté Concert Series, join Petty Theft performing Tom Petty's songs true to the originals and in the spirit of the Heartbreaker's live shows. 6 p.m., July 18. Tickets \$55. Visit wentevineyards.com/events.

JAZZ AT INKLINGS Enjoy Scott Sorkin on guitar, Ben Stolorow on piano, Bryan Bowman on drums and Matt Finders on bass. 6-7:30 p.m., July 25. Reserve at meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society.

THE SUN KINGS -THE BEATLES TRIBUTE Join The Sun Kings, widely regarded as one of the premier Beatles tribute bands in the country, celebrated for their uncanny ability to recreate the sound and spirit of The Beatles both live and in the studio. 6 p.m., July 25. Tickets \$55. Visit wentevineyards.com/events.

TUESDAY TUNES This free event presented by Livermore Cultural Arts Council is 6:45-8:15 p.m. at the Bankhead Plaza. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Alcohol-free and family-friendly.

TWILIGHT TUNES Unwind on the Concannon Vineyard Main Lawn with live music and rotating local food trucks. 5:30-8 p.m., Thursdays. Visit concannon.wine/winery-events.

Exhibits

MEMORIAL WALL EXHIBITION The Firehouse Arts Center is featuring the work of Kristin Kuipers on the Nancy Thompson Memorial Wall, a collection of acrylic and mixed media works. Through July 11. Visit firehousearts.org.

AMERICA IN ART: 250 YEARS OF SHARED CREATIVITY On display at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater, inviting artists to explore and interpret the people, landscapes, traditions, history and cultural moments that

shape the American experience. Through July 25.

FRESH WORKS JURIED EXHIBITION Bay Area visitors can expect to see approximately 80 works of oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, sculptures and more. Through Aug. 1. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE INDEPENDENT GALLERY EXHIBIT In Forming Figures, Thomas See explores both the how and the why of artistic expression creating works in both digital and traditional formats. Through Sept. 5. 2250 First St., Livermore.

MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT Wicket Crazy: Cricket and the Tri-Valley explores how the game is played, the history of cricket and the local influence that cricket has on the community. Through Sept. 25.

Talks

CHARLES HUFF FREE WALKING TOUR SERIES If These Walls Could Talk: Exploring Downtown's Historic St. Mary Neighborhood. 9 a.m., July 11. Register at museumonmain.org.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS Guest speaker Michelle Trimble will discuss Adventures in Improv. Michelle is a quilter, pattern designer and educator based in San Francisco. 1:30-4 p.m. July 11. Pleasanton Middle School. Visit amadorvalleyquilters.org/Wordpress.

THEN & NOW: LIVERMORE STORIES - CALL THE SHERIFF! Hear stories about desperados, cattle thieves, highway robberies, skullduggery and kidnapping in the Amador and Livermore valleys from 1850 to the present in this Then & Now program presented by Steve Minniear. 7-8 p.m., July 15. Livermore Civic Center Library Storytime Room.

ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS This monthly virtual author talk series showcases bestselling, award-winning and highly acclaimed authors from around the world is 11 a.m., July 16. Migrant Heart: The Hidden Cost of the American Dream and Healing Through Storytelling with Reyna Grande. Visit libraryc.org/livermoreca.

SEWER RATE STUDY INFORMATION SESSION This presentation includes: How Pleasanton's sewer system works and the services provided; Why sewer rate changes are being proposed; Impacts for residential and non residential customers. 10:30-11:30 a.m., July 23. Pleasanton Senior Center.

HIRING A CAREGIVER This talk will review definitions of skilled care and personal care and explain available payment sources and cover tips for success and for identifying care needs to remain safe in the home. 1-2 p.m., July 23. Free registration larpd.org.

Farmers Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET The Pleasanton Farmers Market is year-

round, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays. 46 W. Angela St.

LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS MARKET Featuring over 50 vendors, join to explore, taste and shop fresh produce. 4-8 p.m., Thursdays. Carnegie Park.

LIVERMORE FARMERS MARKET The Livermore Farmers Market is Sunday, year-round. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 206 South J St.

Outdoor Rec

LARPD REC-ON-THE-GO Join for Rec-on-the-Go with LARPD for fun activities at local parks for free games, sports, crafts and special activities for the whole family. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., July 10. Pleasure Island Park, 280 Pearl Dr., Livermore.

OVERNIGHT BACKPACKING CLINIC Whether a beginner hiker looking to take a first overnight camping trip, or a seasoned veteran looking to trim base weight down, this Overnight Backpacking Clinic will have something for you. 5:30-7:30 a.m., July 11. Free registration at larpd.org.

RAVENSWOOD HOT DOGS AND MUSIC ON THE LAWN Enjoy an old-fashioned summertime hot dog barbecue while listening to live music performed by Tim Barry and Crew. LARPD Rangers will be on hand to BBQ and display some interesting nature items. 5:30-8 p.m., July 22. \$13R/\$15/NR. Visit larpd.org.

WILD, ODD AND WEIRD ANIMAL SHOW Meet rescued animals including an opossum, tarantula, vulture and boa. 10:15-10:45 a.m., July 24. Livermore Springtown Library patio.

Seniors

VIP TRAVEL WITH PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER Travel to Roaring Camp Railroad for a 75-minute ride on the Redwood Forest Steam Train to the summit of Bear Mountain with a box lunch at the station, the off to downtown Santa Cruz for shopping and a no host dinner. 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., July 21. \$130/\$140. Sign up at Travel Office.

SENIOR (50+) POP-UP TRIP Board a luxury motor coach to Mother Lode country for Great Balls of Fire with the Sierra Repertory Theatre. Stop first in downtown Sonora for lunch on one's own. 9:15 a.m. to 6:15 p.m., July 30. \$90R/\$99NR. Meet at Robert Livermore Community Center. Visit larpd.org.

RIDECARE TRANSPORTATION Free, caring rides for seniors and adults with disabilities residing in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol and San Leandro, offering door-through-door transportation. Visit cityservecares.org.

SPECTRUM MEALS ON WHEELS Spectrum Meals on Wheels provides home delivered meals (60+). For more information, call 510-881-0305 visit spectrumcs.org/senior-services/meals-on-wheels.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE

Scrappy-Doo

"Puppy Power!" Scrappy-Doo may not be chasing ghosts, but this sweet little pup is ready to bravely take on his biggest adventure yet —finding a loving forever home where he can build confidence at his own pace. With a patient family (and maybe a confident canine sidekick), Scrappy-Doo will be saying "Lemme at 'em!" to all the love and fun life has to offer. Call 925-426-8656 or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process today.

Support

LIVE WELL, BE WELL This free 7-week series presented by the Health Education team at CityServe of the Tri-Valley, includes nutrition, the 8 dimensions of wellness, fall prevention, medication safety and more. 10-11:30 a.m., July 8-Aug. 19. Robert Livermore Community Center. Visit larpd.org.

SOUPER TUESDAY FREE LUNCH Souper Tuesday Free Lunch through City Serve. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesdays. CityServe of the Tri-Valley, 3311 Pacific Ave., Livermore.

FREE WEEKLY POP-UP Grab a lunch to go, connect with a caring volunteer, clothing, seasonal and hygiene products, private showers. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The John Paul II Activity Center, 4005 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton.

OPEN HEART REFUGE Open Heart Refuge offers overnight shelter using an assigned bed model. Check-in is 6-7 p.m., seven days a week where beds are assigned in advance; there is no nightly lottery. Clients may request to be added to the shelter waitlist by visiting the Vineyard Resource Center. Visit openheartkitchen.org/refuge.

FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM The City of Pleasanton Recreation Department provides a Fee Assistance Program for residents who would like to participate in recreation programs, but may not

have the financial means. For more information, contact Recreation Services at 925-931-5340.

LARPD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM The LARPD Foundation funds the Community Support Scholarship Program to provide Livermore residents access to LARPD's recreation programs. For more information visit larpd.org/scholarship.

Volunteer

VOLUNTEER WITH NILES CANYON RAILWAY Niles Canyon Railway is looking for volunteers for all levels of skill and experience. For more information visit ncry.org/volunteer/.

VOLUNTEER TO MAKE HOT BREAKFASTS Discovery Community Church Breakfast Program needs volunteers to make host breakfasts for those experiencing housing and/or food insecurity. 8-10:30 a.m., Sundays. No cooking experience necessary, just a willing heart. Contact Derry at 510-301-6825.

VOLUNTEER FOR RIDE CARE Volunteers pick riders up at home, accompany them into the appointment if needed, and ensure they return home safely. Visit cityservecares.org/ridecare.

VOLUNTEER AT OPEN HEART KITCHEN Volunteers at Open Heart Kitchen help create a more food secure future in the Tri-Valley. Visit openheartkitchen.org/volunteer.

Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 611030

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):
SPICY HOUSE
CHINA VILLA
4022 East Ave
Livermore CA 94550
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 12/05/2024
UNDER FILE NO. 611030
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
TIANYUAN YANG
4022 East Ave
Livermore CA 94550
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on June 25 2026.
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

KICK IT MAGAZINE HIDDEN CRYSTAL TAROT STACKED CATS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623768

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) KICK IT MAGAZINE , 2.) HIDDEN CRYSTAL TAROT , 3.) STACKED CATS , located at 2494 BAY MEADOWS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CATHERINE AXIBAL-CORDERO
2494 BAY MEADOWS CIRCLE
PLEASANTON, CA, 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/01/2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 02 2026.
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

DYNAMIC COATING SYSTEMS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624369

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Dynamic Coating Systems , located at 11501 Dublin Blvd., STE 200, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DYNAMIC FOAM ROOFING
11501 Dublin Blvd., STE 200
Dublin, CA 94568
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 June 29 2026.
(PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

HELLO GOODBYE ELECTROLYSIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624376

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Hello Goodbye Electrolysis , located at 431 30th St #140C Oakland, CA 94609, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TY STERLING
431 30th St #140C
Oakland, CA 94609
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 June 29 2026.
(PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

GOOD AFTERNOON FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624251

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Good Afternoon , located at 3363 Daisy Ct. Hayward, CA 94542, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GOOD AFTERNOON GROUP LLC
3363 Daisy Ct
Hayward, CA 94542
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 June 24 2026.
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

MOK1 AUTOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624446

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) MOK1 AUTOS , located at 3537 First Street UNIT B Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1085 Rosamund Dr San Ramon. CA 94582
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
MOK LLC
1085 Rosamund Dr
San Ramon. CA 94582
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
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 July 01 2026.
(PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

CAKE DELIGHT BITE OF JOY THE SOLA STORY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623954

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Cake Delight , 2.) Bite Of Joy , 3.) The Sola Story , located at 147 B North Livermore Ave., Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1654 Hollyhock St. Livermore, CA 94551
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CAKE DELIGHT, LLC
1654 Hollyhock St.
Livermore, CA 94551
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/15/2014
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 09 2026.
(PLW Jun 19, 26, Jul 3 and 10, 2026)

WINGSTOP 3472 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624071

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Wingstop 3472 , located at 7110 Dublin Blvd, Dublin CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 29 Walnut Meadow Lane Danville, CA 94506
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DRUMS & FLATS INC.
29 Walnut Meadow Lane
Danville, CA 94506
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 June 15 2026.
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

BLOC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624095

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Bloc Property Management Inc. , located at 751 McKinley Ave Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
BLOC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC.
751 McKinley Ave
Oakland, CA 94610
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 June 16 2026.
(PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

SCENTS OF GLOW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623978

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SCENTS OF GLOW , located at 630 Oak Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DIKLA DAGAI
630 Oak Circle
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/01/2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 10 2026.
(PLW Jun 19, 26, Jul 3 and 10, 2026)

ONEWILL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623908

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) OneWill , located at 803 Talbot Ave, Albany, CA 94706, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ONEWILL-AI SOCIETY
803 Talbot Ave
Albany, CA 94706
State of Incorporation/Organization: Delaware
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 June 08 2026.
(PLW Jun 19, 26, Jul 3 and 10, 2026)

SPA CHA BODY SLIM FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624195

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SPA CHA BODY SLIM , located at 760 Grace St Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 235 Dabner St San Leandro, CA 94577
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PATRICIA BERNAL RAMIREZ
235 Dabner St
San Leandro, CA 94577
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 June 22 2026.
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

QUALITY GREEK FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623168

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Quality Greek , located at 20376 Summerpark Place Castro Valley, CA 94552, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JOANA THANASI
20376 Summerpark Place
Castro Valley, CA 94552
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 May 08 2026.
(PLW Jun 19, 26, Jul 3 and 10, 2026)

IDEAS DESIGNED. PRODUCTS MADE. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623828

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Ideas Designed. Products Made. , located at 4893 Canary Drive 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):
MT DESIGN STUDIOS, LLC
4893 Canary Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/28/26
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 15 2026.
(PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

NEW YORK PIZZA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624088

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) New York Pizza , located at 690 Main Street 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):
PLEASANTON NEW YORK STYLE PIZZA LLC
690 Main Street
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/06/26
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 15 2026.
(PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 26CV196392

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Rohit Sharma filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
ROHIT SHARMA to ROHIT SHARMA RATTI
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: August 28, 2026, 9:00 A.M., HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 24405 AMADOR ST., HAYWARD, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: JUNE 25, 2026
HON. MICHAEL MARKMAN
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF

CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 26CV191391

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Courtney Jean Hebert filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
COURTNEY JEAN HEBERT to COURTNEY JEAN LOPES
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: 9/4/26, 9:00AM, 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: 6/04/26
MICHAEL MARKMAN
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 26CV193384

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Shaun Steven Wood filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
SHAUN STEVEN WOOD to STEVE WOOD
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: 08-21-2026, 9:00 am, Hayward Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of Alamada 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: June 15, 2026
Michael Markman
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 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 p.m.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

Real Estate

World Market, Sally Beauty coming to Hacienda Crossings

Sana'a Café, Jamba, 88 Cardhouse and Miniso also expected to open at shopping center in 2026

By JUDE STRZEMP

Half a dozen businesses are slated to open at Hacienda Crossings in Dublin this year.

Incoming tenants include Yemeni coffee house Sana'a Café, juice and smoothie bar Jamba as well as retailers World Market, 88 Cardhouse, Miniso and Sally Beauty.

Combined with business openings last year, the shopping center is poised to see turn-over in about a third of its storefronts over the course of two years.

"We're excited to welcome these new tenants to Hacienda Crossings," marketing director Brandi Hardy said in a statement announcing incoming tenants Sana'a Café, World Market, 88 Cardhouse and Sally Beauty. "Each brings something unique to the shopping center, from nationally recognized retail brands to locally owned businesses that foster community and create memorable experiences for our guests."

Of the incoming businesses, Sally Beauty is expected to be one of the first to open.

Set to launch this month, the cosmetic and beauty supply retailer will have a 1,796-square-foot storefront, Hacienda Crossings officials said.

Around the corner, Jamba is also expected to reopen this month at the same site as its former location.

Next up, 88 Cardhouse is set to open in August.

88 Cardhouse is currently operating a store in Newark, where it specializes in trading card games, gaming accessories and related events.

Similar to the Newark location, 88 Cardhouse in Dublin is set to host tournaments, events and community programming at a 5,200-square-foot store front, according to Hacienda Crossings officials.

Between September and October, family-owned Sana'a Café is scheduled to open its doors to serve Yemeni coffees and teas, specialty drinks, fresh pastries and desserts.

Yemeni coffee has been known for hundreds of years as having complex flavor profiles with notes of chocolate, spice, fruit and earthiness, according to the company website.

"At Sana'a Café, we honor this heritage by celebrating the traditions, hospitality, and craftsmanship that made Yemeni coffee famous while creating a modern café experience that welcomes everyone," according to the company website.

The flagship café is located in San Francisco with additional shops in Oakland, San Rafael, Sacramento, Lake Forest and Los Angeles.

The upcoming location at Hacienda Crossings is set to take over the former site of Starbucks.

On the other side of Hacienda Crossings, World Market is expected to open in October to offer an assortment of furniture, home



JUDE STRZEMP

Hacienda Crossings is poised to see six tenants open shop at the center during the remainder of 2026.

décor and international foods and products. The site was formerly home to sporting goods store Any Mountain.

Next door, China-based variety retailer Miniso is planning to open at the former Party City location prior to the winter holidays.

Miniso sells products such as clothing, home goods, toys, collectibles, bags, beauty and personal care products.

"The new additions continue Hacienda Crossings' evolution as a premier East Bay destination, offering visitors a dynamic blend of shopping, dining, entertainment, and community experiences in one convenient location," Hacienda Crossings officials said in a statement regarding four of the incoming businesses.

Newcomers will join shopping center additions from last year such as Activate Games and restaurants Joe's Pho, Tequila Bar & Grill and Pearl Bay Manor.

Across the parking lot, El Dorado Modern Mexican & Cantina and Middle Eastern-style Dish N Dash recently opened as well. However, they are not considered to be Hacienda Crossings tenants due to a difference in lessor, according to shopping center officials — although both restaurants are listed on Hacienda Crossings' online directory.

A restaurant rumored to open, Follow the Chicken, did not have any window clings marking it as coming soon to Hacienda Crossings, but the shopping center's website displays the restaurant as coming to a space adjacent to Joe's Pho. ■



Clockwise from top left: Sana'a Café will serve Yemeni coffee and teas. (Photo courtesy Hacienda Crossings). Gaming shop 88 Cardhouse is coming to Dublin. (Contributed photo). Dish N Dash, specializing in Middle Eastern food, opened recently at 4808 Dublin Blvd., the former Applebee's location. (Photo by Jude Strzemp)



JUDE STRZEMP

Jamba is expected to reopen during July at Hacienda Crossings in Dublin.

Sunset announces homebuilder for 255-unit Canopy project

‘Building the best suburban downtown in America means getting the residential experience right’

By JEANITA LYMAN

One of several new housing projects on the horizon for San Ramon’s Bishop Ranch is one step closer to fruition, with homebuilder Lennar announced as the developer for the 255-unit Canopy project approved by the city late last year.

Sunset Development officials confirmed Monday that Lennar had closed on a deal to acquire 25 acres of the site at Bishop Ranch 8 that is set to host the new housing development, while the local development company retains ownership over the remaining two acres of the site.

“Building the best suburban downtown in America means getting the residential experience right,” Sunset President and CEO Alex

Mehran Jr. said in Monday’s announcement.

“Canopy advances that vision with 255 homes thoughtfully integrated into the broader Bishop Ranch neighborhood, which is steps from parks, trails and the amenities that define this community,” he continued.

Those detached, single-family homes are set to range from two to three stories and expand on the growing housing inventory centered in that portion of Bishop Ranch, with the neighboring City Village development serving as a residential anchor and setting the stage for future projects such as Canopy.

In addition to housing, the project is set to include a park at the heart of the site featuring a pool, clubhouse and children’s play area. The project is set to feature trails

and landscaping that link up with City Village as well as the Citywalk Master Plan, with a continuous sidewalk along Executive Parkway set to connect with Bartlett Pear Park and the Iron Horse Regional Trail.

Overall, Sunset officials emphasized that the goal of the project and others in Bishop Ranch is to enhance walkability and pedestrian access.

“Lennar brings the experience and scale to deliver that, and we look forward to seeing Canopy become a vital part of what Bishop Ranch is becoming,” Mehran said. ■



COURTESY SUNSET DEVELOPMENT

View overlooking the lake at Bishop Ranch in San Ramon.

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during May 4-8 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and June 8-12 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 2154 Alexander Way** C. Bowers to A. Li for \$776,000
- 3921 Alma Court** V. Vepa to A. & P. Ma for \$1,510,000
- 8185 Arroyo Drive #4** M. Mcquiston to C. Lozano for \$510,000
- 5740 Belleza Drive** S. Dey to Cornerstone Bridgepoint LLC for \$967,000
- 5130 Bianco Court** Mikinka Trust to D. & R. Munagala for \$1,350,000
- 5534 Blackbird Drive** J. & C. Kent to N. & N. Singh for \$1,760,000

- 2691 Chocolate Street** M. Dorai to R. & S. Khetan for \$1,495,000
- 8044 Golden Eagle Way** P. & J. Scheeler to Kumar Living Trust for \$4,195,000
- 920 Happy Valley Road** Monroe Re LLC to A. & E. Akary for \$4,330,000
- 7326 Hillsdale Drive** Behiel Living Trust to Agrawal Family Trust for \$1,730,000
- 1039 Hopkins Way** Avery Family Trust to P. & K. Venkata for \$2,575,000
- 4146 Moselle Court** Obrien Family Trust to R. & M. Ivey for \$2,425,000
- 74 Peters Avenue #10** Brooks Living Trust to Abadir Trust for \$515,000
- 5218 Ridgevale Way** Coultrip Living Trust to L. & Z. Ding for \$1,905,000

- 3636 Shenandoah Court** Cole Family Trust to S. & H. Akbari for \$1,400,000
- 2383 Silver Oaks Lane** Brown Living Trust to J. & C. Zhang for \$3,520,000
- 5261 Springdale Avenue** People First Properties Inc to V. & M. Zapata for \$775,000
- 2140 Tanager Court** C. Clarke to S. & G. Parnami for \$2,050,000
- 5111 Venice Court** L. & L. Liu to Y. & Z. Yu for \$1,300,000

Livermore

- 1223 Aberdeen Avenue** R. & J. Gonzalez to G. & R. Jain for \$1,350,000
- 1807 Altamont Circle** Yarnell Living Trust to J. & N. Turner for \$1,515,000
- 1602 Autumn Oak Drive** Seaver Living Trust to M. & M. Vining for \$755,000
- 1817 Bluebell Drive** Openridge Investments LLC to M. Santiago for \$699,000
- 1476 Bluebell Drive** Mederios Living Trust to J. & J. Benge for \$870,000
- 1835 Cairo Street** Smith Family Trust to J. & J. Bolanos for \$1,650,000
- 1059 Catalina Drive** N. Evans to M. & G. Harrison for \$885,000
- 5110 Charlotte Way** Lindl Trust to G. & E. McDonald for \$950,000
- 2726 Chateau Way** Camargo Family Trust to C. & J. Mitchell for \$1,827,000
- 1498 Columbine Way** L. & K. Holter to D. & J. Fahnhorst for \$1,727,500
- 5139 Crocus Way** Peugh Trust to S. & A. Guy for \$850,000
- 2924 Gelding Lane** S. Meissner to S. & S. Llamas for \$965,000
- 164 Heligan Lane #11** Tohmon Trust to J. Gadd for \$730,000
- 1148 Hillcrest Court** R. Allen to N. Sullivan for \$820,000
- 646 Joyce Street** Coko LLC to Lux Realty Investments LLC for \$940,000
- 161 North L Street #115** Tarantino Trust to J. Dimits for \$674,000
- 2680 Marina Avenue** Dutra Living Trust to Swaim Living Trust for \$2,575,000
- 1234 North P Street** D. Hurst to J. & K. Ross for \$825,000

- 400 Persimmon Common #7** D. & M. Aubel to T. & N. Tranzow for \$898,000
- 728 Polaris Way** D. & A. Bodan to J. & B. Hamm for \$1,700,000
- 168 Ponte Court** Niven Trust to V. & V. Masula for \$2,550,000
- 852 Seminole Drive** T. Full to S. & A. Eslick for \$1,100,000
- 1548 Spring Valley Common** F. Johannessen to B. Wirth for \$585,000
- 2264 Stonebridge Road** A. Vantonningen to V. & G. Smith for \$1,355,000
- 481 Swallow Court** S. Reynolds to H. & R. Deschler for \$1,200,000
- 436 Wayland Loop** M. & R. Shalmoni to H. & A. Basi for \$1,965,000

Dublin

- 7172 Amador Valley Boulevard** K. & H. Okeke to F. & Y. Chung for \$1,200,000
- 8589 Davona Drive** Lynn Family Trust to M. & T. DeSilva for \$1,175,000
- 3240 Maguire Way #318** S. Familzoughi to R. Gupta for \$665,000
- 7286 Sheffield Lane** Kellogg Living Trust to L. & Z. Liang for \$1,350,000
- 2813 Stringham Way** J. & C. Seto to P. & S. Atwal for \$1,398,000

San Ramon

- 8148 Briar Oaks Drive** S. & J. Sharma to A. & M. Cho for \$1,800,000
- 2011 Cedarwood Loop** Wang & Zheng 2021 Trust to P. & P. Nagar for \$1,050,000
- 3113 Lakemont Drive #1** Brown Trust to H. & W. Park for \$834,000
- 171 Norris Canyon Terrace #C** A. & S. Thompson to T. Brannan for \$715,000
- 771 Pradera Way** T. Crawford to Shah-Chaudhri Family Trust for \$1,640,000
- 3172 Riviera Way** Siddiqui Family Trust to M. & R. Bola for \$2,200,000
- 2884 Sombrero Circle** Boudreau Family Trust to J. & O. Bilgin for \$1,425,000
- 9554 Thunderbird Drive** Lamb Family Trust to Calkae Trust for \$1,333,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (May 4-8)

Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$510,000
Highest sale reported: \$4,330,000
Average sales reported: \$1,846,736

Livermore (May 4-8)

Total sales reported: 26
Lowest sale reported: \$585,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,575,000
Average sales reported: \$1,229,250

Dublin (May 4-8)

Total sales reported: 5
Lowest sale reported: \$665,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,398,000
Average sales reported: \$1,157,600

San Ramon (June 8-12)

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$715,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,200,000
Average sales reported: \$1,379,000

Source: California REsource

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