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Piedmont Post

A Community Newspaper Serving the Citizens of Piedmont



Volunteers and event organizers with the lions. *Staff Photos*

PAAC Lunar New Year celebrates Year of the Horse

By Jake Lannon

Piedmont Asian American Club (PAAC) hosted its Annual Lunar New Year Celebration at the Ellen Driscoll Playhouse this past Friday, February 27, to welcome in the Year of the Horse.

The event featured food, drinks, crafts, games, musical performances from PHS and PMS students, and a Lion Dance as the highlight. Guests enjoyed a bento box dinner with specialty drinks from Tea on Piedmont and artisanal pastries from BakeSum.

Piedmont High School's Troubadours provided a musical performance, and Piedmont Middle School's karate club showcased their moves on stage. The Lion Dance had drummers providing the musical backdrop as the lions danced across the stage, showcasing their impressive balance.

Lunar calendar is based on a combination of lunar and solar movements, with the second new moon after the winter solstice marking the beginning of the new year. The Year of the Horse symbolizes vitality, speed, and perseverance. People born in the Year of the Horse are believed to possess similar traits, such as being hardworking, warm-hearted, and independent.

See PAAC New Year on page 10



The much-anticipated Lion Dance at this year's PAAC Lunar New Year Celebration.

Bird Calling Contest poster artwork winner – PHS Freshman Mo Wang

By Jay Russell

The 57th Annual Leonard J. Waxdeck Bird Calling Contest will take place on Friday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Alan Harvey Theater. The popular event, which for more than a half century has been a Piedmont institution, will be organized by Sally Baack for the second year. Tickets may be purchased at: Piedmontbirdcalling.ludus.com/index.php

While Piedmont's bravest bird-callers work out their routines for the big show, one winner has already been announced. This year's winner of the student Poster Competition is Piedmont High School Freshman Mo Wang, whose original piece was made with color pencils and soft pastels.

Wang's inspiration for the poster submission, came from the expression "free as a bird."

"In my artwork, I explored the ['free as a bird'] expression by illustrating not its literal meaning (a bird being free), but its symbolism when applied to humans, drawing a parallel between birds and people," said Wang.

"Although the bird already has wings and the ability to fly, it chooses a different and strange

See Bird Calling on page 31

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Cal Law Professor, David Oppenheimer, finishes 14-year labor of love, publishes *The Diversity Principle*

By Jay Russell

David B. Oppenheimer, a Piedmont resident for nearly 40 years, recently published his 10th book, *The Diversity Principle*, after 14 years of work and collaboration with more than 100 Berkeley research assistants. Oppenheimer, a clinical professor of law at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, argues that the modern understanding of diversity began in the late Enlightenment era.

Published by Yale University Press, the book reaches beyond law students and legal scholars, the audience for his previous nine publications, to readers interested in the idea, application and history of diversity.

"I tell the story through the work and lives of a remarkable group of people who taught us that we make better decisions when we include people with different backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints," said Oppenheimer.

He sets out to show that when diverse people are brought together and encouraged to engage with one another, results improve across fields.

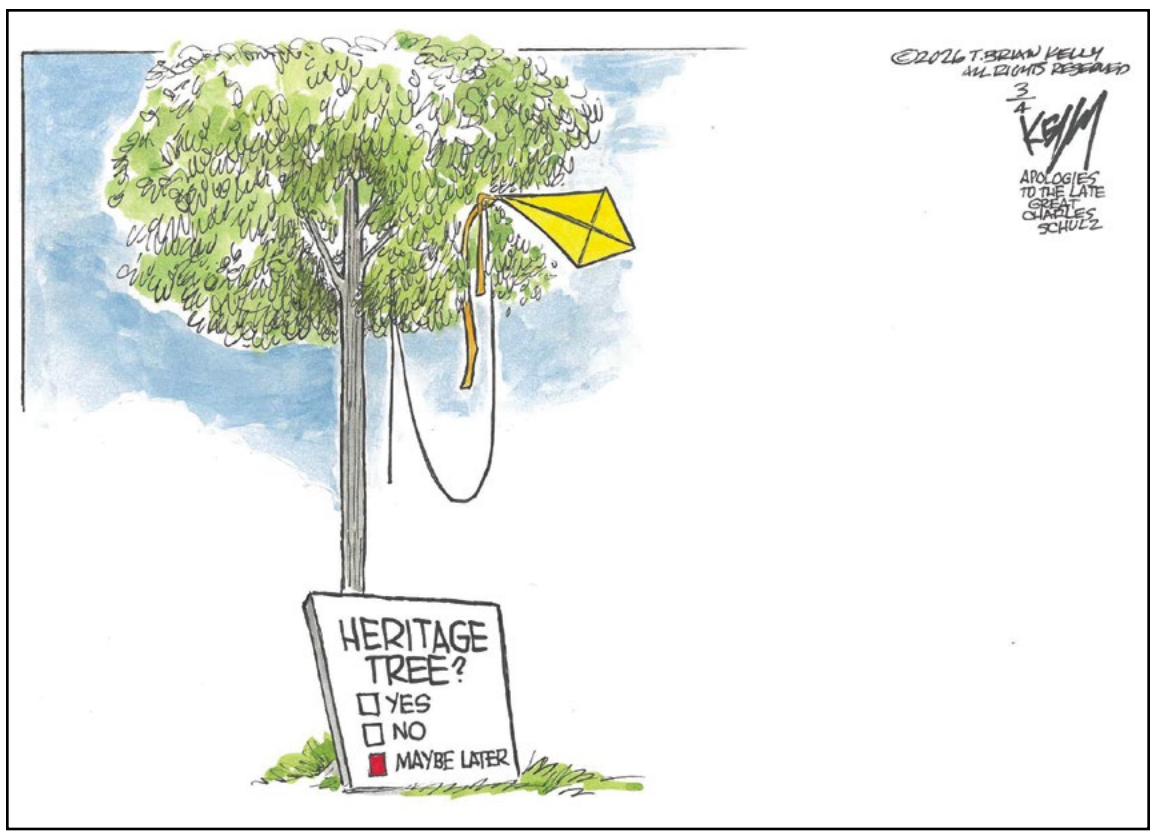


David B. Oppenheimer is a Clinical Professor of Law at Berkeley Law, the Co-Director of Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law. Faculty Co-Director of the Pro Bono Program.

"They make better decisions in a classroom, [and] they generate more ideas. In a science lab, they make more significant discoveries. In government, they develop more innovative public policy proposals. In business, they will make more money. Diverse juries make more accurate, factual findings," Oppenheimer told the *Post*.

See David Oppenheimer on page 32

Opinion



READ IT IN *THE POST*

New *Piedmont Post* Publication Schedule

In order to give our carriers a well-deserved break during PUSD holidays and ensure smooth delivery year-round, the following issue will be published as online-only editions. The *Post* will not be printing or hand-delivering the paper on:

Spring Break April 8, 2026 – Online paper only

The *Piedmont Post* can always be read online at piedmont-post.com. If you do not currently receive the weekly *Piedmont Post* e-mail, go to support@piedmont-post.com and send us your e-mail address.

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If your *Piedmont Post* was not delivered this week, please contact support@piedmont-post.com by noon on Friday of the current week. We will do our best to attempt redelivery.

You are welcome to pick up your copy from the *Piedmont Post* office at 460 Boulevard Way Friday, Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

Thank you for supporting your Piedmont Post.

Piedmont Post

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Collecting photos for Where in the World

For 28 years, Piedmont residents have made sure their travels are well documented, with photos of family members reading the *Piedmont Post* in far-off places throughout the world, and some nearby.

The *Post* invites families to send photos with the *Post* from near and far for publication in *Where in the World Are We* on the back page of the paper. With people able to travel once again, there is no better time to have your photo in the *Post.*

Send photos as jpg. files to: news@piedmont-post.com, and be sure to include a brief description of the location where the photo was taken.

Quote of the Week

"Laws control the lesser man... Right conduct controls the greater one."

– Mark Twain
1835 - 1910
American writer, humorist, essayist

Letters to the Editor

Dearing memorial – all the wrong reasons

Editor:

The proposed Dearing memorial elicits all the wrong messages:

- It's different.
- It doesn't fit in.
- It looks like a broken shaft.
- It invites graffiti.
- It could be used as a urinal.
- The mail box is out of reach for a delivery.
- The future for Blacks is through a glass darkly.
- It's an expensive hiding place.

If you agree with any of the above, please write *The Post* or Mayor Betsy Smegal Andersen.

–Leigh Sorensen, Piedmont resident

Piedmont's gleaming new pool

Editor:

I was walking my old bones up to the Exedra from Baja Piedmont and sweating like I ate at that one curry restaurant down by the lake on Grand. Since I live at the lowest part of Baja I was quite overheated in the 77 degree weather that is so unseasonal for March let alone February. Who could have imagined that global warming would be so effective?

I turned the corner on Magnolia and caught sight of the gleaming new Piedmont Pool, which is going to be ready any month now. I could not stop grinning as I imagined stripping down to the swimsuit I got in southern France back in 1973 and vaulting the fence. Cannonball!

Kudos to everyone involved for planning the opening this spring while my health seems to be holding. As I type this with sweaty fingers on my iPhone in Piedmont Park — and recuperate with a $5 sundae as the buzzards look on approvingly from a nearby tree — I am so thankful that I have almost lived to see the new Piedmont Pool open. I can't wait to dive in!

–Ricardo Shibeewah

Welcome to Spring; welcome to the new pool

Editor:

The warm weather last week reminded me how excited I am for our pool. I am so grateful to be in a community that has made this investment. I wanted to express my excitement with a haiku:

Oh, welcoming pool!
You swim laps in my mind's eye;
Your deep end awaits!

With towels ready,

–Jay Bohanion

Celebrating Gray's 90th

Editor:

Gray Cathrall's 90th birthday is more than a personal milestone – it is a civic milestone for everyone who has benefited from his steady, principled presence in our City's journalism.

Plainly said: Piedmont is a better city because of Gray.

Not metaphorically better. Concretely better. More honest about itself. More difficult to govern in a good way. More capable of the kind of informed civic argument that healthy communities depend on. These things don't happen by accident. They happen because someone shows up, year after year, and does the unglamorous work of paying attention on behalf of everyone else.

For over two decades, that someone has been Gray.

Consider what his presence has meant. When a development project or a budget allocation or a school board policy deserves scrutiny, the *Post* has provided it. When neighbors needed a common ground — not social media's battlefield, but a genuine civic commons where ideas meet and facts are checked — the *Post* has been that place. Without it, Piedmont would be navigating its own affairs with far less transparency and light. Local journalism of this quality is, in much of the country, gone. Piedmont has been spared that. Not because it was lucky, but because Gray chose to build something durable and then protect it.

There is also the human dimension of his legacy — the writers he mentored who went on to careers shaped by his example, the readers who came to trust that what they held in their hands was accurate, the sources who learned they could speak to him and be treated fairly. Trust of that kind accumulates slowly. It dissipates quickly. Gray spent 27 years earning it and never a day squandering it.

To reach this milestone is remarkable. To reach it having spent a third of it in genuine service to a community — having made that community more transparent, more informed, more capable of self-governance — is something even more rare. Piedmont has been shaped by many people over many decades. Few have shaped it as quietly, as consistently, or as well as Gray Cathrall.

Happy 90th birthday, Gray. We are grateful for you every day.

(See *90 Things About Gray* in the box on page 3.)

–Connie & Mark Herrick

90 Things About Gray

By Connie & Mark Herrick

1. Has been paying attention longer than most people have been alive
2. Knows Piedmont the way a good editor knows a manuscript — every paragraph, every flaw, every buried gem
3. Has given the city a memory it couldn't give itself
4. Keeps files
5. Keeps promises
6. Keeps his word
7. Has shown up, year after year, because someone had to
8. Understands that local news is where democracy actually lives
9. Has sat through more city council meetings than any person should have to
10. And taken notes the whole time
11. Knows his neighbors' names
12. Knows the school principals, the firefighters, the planning commissioners
13. Has never mistaken loudness for truth
14. Can spot a buried lede from across the room
15. Shows resilience under deadline pressure
16. Treats a correction as a matter of honor, not embarrassment
17. Knows the difference between privacy and secrecy
18. Trusts readers to handle complexity
19. Has turned down easy stories that weren't quite true
20. Has run hard stories that were
21. Understands that a community paper is a covenant
22. Has never needed to be the loudest voice in the room
23. Prints retractions in the same font as the original error
24. Has watched journalism change completely and kept the important parts
25. Knows when a headline is doing violence to a story
26. Has answered angry phone calls with patience
27. And sometimes with firmness
28. Has written about births, deaths, rezoning hearings, and everything in between
29. Gives the school board the same care as the city council
30. Knows which stories no one wants to read and publishes them anyway
31. Has mentored writers and watched them become good
32. Knows that "no comment" is itself a comment
33. Remembers what was here before the current controversy
34. Maintains composure in controversy
35. Edits with a pencil and a sense of proportion
36. Knows that a local story can be a universal story
37. No apathy watching Piedmont argue about the same issues for decades
38. Treats sources like people, not assets
39. Has never published a rumor as a fact
40. Has given quiet stories the same care as loud ones
41. Shows up when it matters
42. Doesn't mistake cynicism for sophistication
43. Has seen more development battles than he cares to count
44. Reported on all of them
45. Distinguishes between news and noise in an era that profits from confusion
46. Reads carefully
47. Re-reads
48. Asks one more question before filing
49. Knows that the best journalism often makes no one entirely happy
50. Engages respectfully with critics
51. Encourages civil engagement
52. Values community heritage
53. Supports open access to information
54. Strong proponent of transparency
55. Knows the difference between fair and comfortable
56. Has kept a record of the town that the town itself might forget
57. Treated the Letters to the Editor section as a genuine forum
58. Has read every letter, including the difficult ones
59. Encourages constructive criticism
60. Values reader feedback
61. Understands deadlines as discipline, not just inconvenience
62. Demonstrates accountability in corrections
63. Upholds fairness in representation
64. Knows that local journalism is an act of sustained attention
65. Has sustained it for 28 years
66. Was doing this before many of his readers were born
67. Promotes intellectual honesty
68. Has never let perfect be the enemy of truthful
69. Has never let fast be the enemy of accurate
70. Measures a paper's success by what it illuminates, not what it sells
71. Has kept the lights on accordingly
72. Has been a stabilizing presence through elections, controversies, tragedies, and celebrations
73. With the same care for each
74. Has been trusted with information because he used it responsibly
75. Has been a constant in a city that has changed enormously
76. And helped the city understand its own change
77. Has done all of this without a platform
78. Without a viral moment
79. And done it anyway
80. Because Piedmont needed it done
81. Has given this community 28 years of steady, reliable coverage
82. Has made civic engagement possible by making civic information available
83. Has been a resource every neighbor could rely on
84. Whether they agreed with his editorial positions or not
85. Has demonstrated that local journalism is an act of love for a place
86. Has demonstrated that love by showing up, decade after decade
87. Has been present at the creation of many things in this city
88. And present to document them accurately
89. Has given Piedmont a mirror and kept it honest
90. Has served Piedmont with unwavering dedication
91. Has given this community 28 years of his care and attention
92. Piedmont is what it is, in part, because Gray Cathrall was here

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City Council adopts updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

By Jake Lannon

The Piedmont City Council formally adopted an updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan at their meeting on March 2. The plan provides a roadmap showing what Piedmont could do in the coming five years to reduce or avoid potential damages from natural hazards like earthquakes, wildfires, and severe weather.

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) identifies the natural hazards that pose the greatest risk to Piedmont and documents how each hazard would impact Piedmont if it were to occur. The plan identifies and prioritizes actions the City and community could take now that would prevent or reduce those potential impacts.

The plan updates Piedmont's first Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was adopted in 2019, to address evolving hazard threats and local conditions.

The updated LHMP identifies 30 total actions, 9 that were included in the 2019 LHMP, and 21 new additions that could help reduce risk to Piedmont.

The plan's risk mitigation strategy is to strengthen the resilience of IT infrastructure, retrofit or replace critical facilities to meet modern seismic safety codes, provide annual fire fuel mitigation on city property, and strengthen local building and fire codes to require wildfire-resistant construction.

Some of the identified actions, such as strengthening building codes and fire fuel mitigation on City property, have already been completed or are underway. Including an action in the LHMP does not guarantee that it will happen. Rather, it positions the City to apply for state and federal mitigation grants that could support implementing that project.

Crafted over a year of research, discussion, and public engagement, the LHMP was submitted to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review in fall 2025. The City received notification in January 2026 that the document had passed review and was now eligible for Council adoption.

"We are going to take care of problems before the disaster hits, hardening buildings, fixing storm drain infrastructure, working on vegetation management, so we're all better prepared when a disaster hits, the impact is lower, and we're able to respond and recover quicker," said Fire Chief Dave Brannigan.

Learn more about the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update process and read the adopted plan at piedmont.ca.gov/LHMP.



The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan community workshop that occurred in March 2025.



Community members providing input on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to City staff.

How to get news in the *Post*

The *Piedmont Post* welcomes its readers to express their opinions on any topic. Columns in the *Piedmont Post* are exclusive and may not be reprinted without permission.

The *Post* reserves the right to edit any pieces or letters submitted. Opinion pieces should be limited to 400 words, letters to the editor to 200 words.

Photo submissions: Please submit photos at 6 inches in width and at a resolution of 200 dpi in jpeg format.

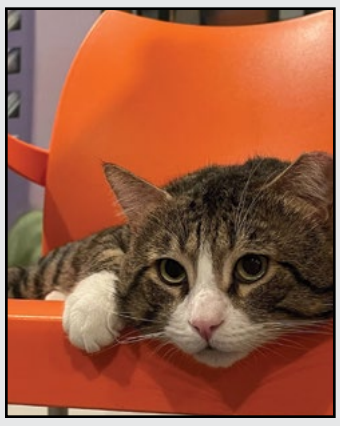
Do you have some news? Send your photos or stories to 1139 Oakland Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611, or email them to news@piedmont-post.com. It's that easy. (Send us an attachment or cut and paste your text into the body of the email.)

The deadline for submitting news, photos and opinion items is Friday.

Local Items

Adoptable Cat of the Week

By Quinn White



Adopt Buster through Cat Town.

If you love big, sweet cats, Buster is for you! This beefy, 4-year-old brown tabby proves that first impressions don't tell the whole story. Once marked as a working cat after arriving at a local shelter as a shy stray with an ear wound, he's blossomed into an affectionate, cuddly companion who loves a warm lap.

Buster may be timid in new environments, but if you can give him a little time, his confident, cheeky side shines. He enjoys soft pets in short sessions, likes being brushed to keep his coat soft and shiny, and will happily settle in close once he trusts you. He can become a little overexcited with too much petting, so he'll thrive with an adopter who can read his body language and respect his signals.

This sweet boy would do best in a calm, indoor-only home with a feline buddy he can wrestle with. Buster may be a great match for first-time adopters who appreciate a sensitive, loving cat and are open to going at his pace.

Buster is neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, and FeLV/FIV negative. He's ready for a patient home that will celebrate how far he's come. Want to meet Buster? Complete Cat Town's Adoption Inquiry Form (https://www.cattownoakland.org/adopt) or email adopt@cattownoakland.org

Adoptable Dog of the Week

By Jessica McDevitt



Tokyo is a three-year-old Siberian Husky/Shepherd mix

Tokyo is a beautiful, graceful Siberian Husky/Shepherd mix who is smart and well-trained. This three-year-old female participates in doggy playgroups at Oakland Animal Services shelter and is dog friendly. Tokyo is 53 pounds, and is elegant and graceful.

She walks exceptionally well on leash, knows sit, down, paw (both left and right!), stay, come and auto-sits when treats appear. She may be initially reserved, but once she feels comfortable her gentle and affectionate nature comes through. She enjoys interactive games of chase with people and dogs alike and would do well with a canine friend at home or as your one and only.

Come visit Miss Tokyo at Oakland Animal Services this Thursday from 12 - 7 p.m., or this Friday, Saturday, or Sunday between 12 and 3 p.m. Potential adopters with a child younger than 12 or a dog that weighs 25 pounds more or less than Cinnamoroll must bring them to the shelter for the meeting.

For more information about adoption or how to temporarily foster a puppy or dog, contact Piedmont resident Jessica McDevitt at jessicamcdev@gmail.com.

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Teen volunteer opportunities with PRD's Sidekicks program



Teen Sidekicks recognized by the City Council for their work on 2025's Sidekicks program.

The Piedmont Recreation Department is looking for teens who have a passion for working with children to make a difference as a summer volunteer with PRD's Sidekicks program. The Sidekicks program offers adaptive classes, workshops, and summer camps specifically designed for neurodiverse children.

Teen Sidekicks assist experienced instructors in ensuring a safe, fun, and inclusive recreation experience for adaptive programming participants. As a summer Teen Sidekick, you'd help campers navigate an environment that they may at times find overwhelming.

Serving as a Teen Sidekick is a way for teens to complete required volunteer hours and build experience for college applications. Sidekicks program staff ensure that each Teen Sidekick has the tools they need to succeed, offering guidance, training, feedback, and one-on-one consultations throughout their volunteer experience.



Local children learn how to play tennis at the 2025 Sidekicks adaptive tennis event.

To apply to be a Summer 2026 Teen Sidekick, submit your application online by Sunday, March 29. Volunteers must:

- Complete an interview with PRD staff
- Attend a required training and orientation on May 13, 6 p.m. (if accepted)
- Commit to volunteering at least one week during the summer (morning or afternoon)
- Have a genuine commitment to helping children enjoy recreational activities

Sidekicks must turn 14 by June 1, 2026, or be entering 9th grade in the fall. Experience working with elementary-aged children is a bonus, but not required. The application is available at piedmont.ca.gov/SummerSidekick.

PRD's Sidekicks program began in 2021 to provide a "whole child" experience for neurodiverse kids, offering opportunities to create connections with peers, feel welcomed, and thrive in recreational interests outside of school, just like their classmates and siblings.

Adaptive programs are meticulously designed to meet the unique needs of neurodiverse children. Each class and camp is held in a facility carefully chosen to limit distractions, while the curriculum and pace of activities are modified to support kids and build confidence as they learn new skills.

For more information, visit piedmont.ca.gov/Sidekicks. With questions, contact Recreation Supervisor Eva Phalen at ephalen@piedmont.ca.gov.



Local kids playing in the Sidekicks adaptive soccer camp.

Piedmont Post news rack at Mulberry's

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18th Annual Tulip Exhibition returns March 20-22

By Jake Lannon

Mountain View Cemetery will host its 18th Annual Tulip Exhibition at the cemetery's Tower Chapel, Friday through Sunday, March 20-22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The free event welcomes in Spring with striking floral arrangements by Bay Area florists, garden clubs, and students from college floral design class. Photographers, florists, flower enthusiasts, and nature and art lovers are welcome.

Since its inception in 2006, the cemetery's annual tulip exhibit has become a cherished community tradition. This year is the exhibit's third year back after a hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Mountain View Cemetery (5000 Piedmont Avenue) is an historic garden cemetery in the foothills of Oakland and Piedmont. One of the oldest cemeteries in the Western U.S., it has served the community since 1863 and even includes a section for Civil War soldiers.

The cemetery was established by a group of East Bay pioneers under the California Rural Cemetery Act of 1859. Mountain View was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect who also designed New York City's Central Park, Brooklyn's Prospect Park, and much of UC Berkeley and Stanford University.



"Tulips and Dots in Motion" by Agnes Kang from the 2024 Tulip Exhibition

For more information on the annual Tulip Exhibition, visit www.mountainviewcemetery.org.

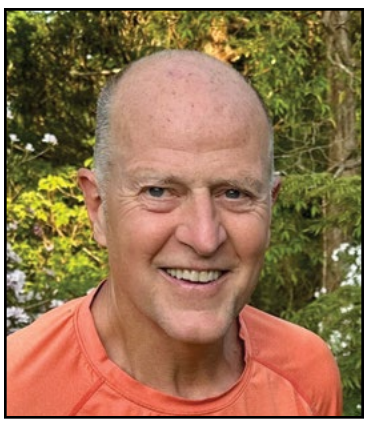
Plantsman Daniel J. Hinkley, to give a lecture at UC Berkeley

Renowned plant explorer, nurseryman, gardener, and writer Daniel J. Hinkley will present his lecture "Plant Collecting Across the Globe" at UC Berkeley on Saturday, March 28, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the University of California's Botanical Garden in Julia Morgan Hall.

The lecture will highlight plants from Asia, South America, South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia, which are all easily grown in our own local climate. More than 200 of the Botanical Garden's own accessioned plants are attributed to Dan's collecting endeavors.

This will be an opportunity to hear about Dan's exploits exploring for plants throughout the world, his gardening life, and his philosophy of gardening and stewardship of legacy gardens.

The Program fee includes same-day garden admission. Tickets are $25 and $20 for University of California Botanical Garden members. Registration for the event can be found at the following link: https://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu/event/plant-collecting-across-the-globe-with-plantsman-dan-hinkley/



Plant explorer, nurseryman, gardener, and writer Daniel J. Hinkley



Spring Fling's Palm Royale raises funds for the arts

By Jay Russel

Piedmont Education Foundation's Spring Fling season, themed Palm Royale, is dedicated to the "A" in STEAM, the arts. Enhancements to visual and performing arts programs at Beach, Havens and Wildwood are planned and can be supported at the Palm Royale event on April 25.

Piedmont children deserve to learn with musical instruments and art supplies in good repair. As fourth and fifth graders prepare for music theory and string instruction, Spring Fling funds will help ensure there is sufficient sheet music and enough violins. Proceeds also will support arts and crafts classrooms, upgrades to theater productions and instrument repair funds for all grades.

The opportunity to fund classroom enhancements, both large and small, outside Piedmont Unified School District's budget distinguishes Spring Fling from the annual Giving Campaign. Funds raised through the Giving Campaign supplement PUSD's general budget.

"Parent contributions through the annual Giving Campaign help close the gap between what PUSD receives from government funds and what it actually costs to provide each student with an excellent education," said PEF Executive Director Heather Frank. Funds raised through the Spring Fling season are supplemental to the PUSD budget.

Last year, Spring Fling proceeds funded decodable books to support literacy, classroom technology to strengthen computer skills and a contract with Playworks to promote a positive playground experience. This year, elementary parents have the opportunity to expand visual and performing arts programs.

"Children love visual and performing arts in our elementary schools, and expanding these programs will provide an amazing opportunity for them to develop creativity and self-expression skills," said Spring Fling co-chair Monika Riddle.

Parents also will have the opportunity to "raise the paddle," either at the gala or online at PiedmontSpringFling.org, to continue investing in elementary counseling at Beach, Havens and Wildwood.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available at PiedmontSpringFling.org.

ADVERTISE IN *THE POST*

3rd Annual Women of the Avenue

Celebration is weekend of March 7-8

March 8 is International Women's Day and what better way to celebrate than to support your favorite women-owned businesses on Piedmont Avenue! All weekend, March 7 and 8, participating businesses will be hosting fun events, such as pop-ups with local makers, offering discounts or giveaways, and having special tasting menus. For appointment-only businesses, check out their promotions on www.piedmontavenue.org/happenings to save on future services.

Thanks for supporting women-owned businesses.

Check out Happenings — PAMA (www.piedmontavenue.org/happenings) to see the list of participating businesses.



READ IT IN *THE POST*

Schools

Piedmont Middle School named 2025 California School to Watch

By Jay Russell

Piedmont Middle School (PMS) was named a "2025 California School to Watch" by the California League of Middle Schools (CLMS) with support by the California Department of Education. PMS was one of 90 middle schools selected for the designation, and there are 246 schools of all levels in California with the title.

"This program recognizes model middle-grades schools that are academically excellent; developmentally responsive; socially equitable; and led through strong, collaborative leadership," stated State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond in a release.

The current list includes 46 schools who were added this year and 44 existing Schools to Watch who reapplied.

Piedmont Unified School District Superintendent Jennifer Hawn will travel to Long Beach on March 5 for a two-day "Schools to Watch" awards ceremony and district leadership reception.

"This prestigious designation reflects the collective efforts of dedicated staff, engaged students, supportive families, and a deeply committed community. At Piedmont Middle School, a shared focus on belonging, high expectations, and student well-being creates an environment where all students are known, supported, and challenged to grow," said PMS Principal Karyn Shipp.

Shipp will make way for current Vice Principal Jamie Van Kleeck to take over the Principal role in July, pending board approval in tonight's March 4 school board meeting.

The statewide 2026 Schools to Watch List will be released later this month.

Art Hecht nominations due March 13

Piedmont Unified School District will continue to accept nominations for the 2026 Arthur Hecht Volunteer of the Year Award until March 13. The award is presented annually to individuals who have volunteered their efforts over a period of time and made a difference because of their involvement and commitment to Piedmont's youth.

Previous recipients include: Hunter McCreary (1998); Ann Chandler (1999); Ruth Cuming (2000); Lisa Lomenzo (2001); jointly by Cathie Geddeis and Marion Souyoultzis (2002); jointly by Fritz and Mary Wooster (2003); Elizabeth (Betsy) Gentry (2004); Cynthia Gorman (2005); Grier Graff (2006); Julia Burke (2007); Maude Pervere (2008); jointly to Anne-Marie Lamarche and Mark Menke (2009); Janiele Maffei Tovani (2010); Andrea Swenson (2011), June Monach (2012), Bill Drum (posthumously) and Mary Ireland (2013), Ray Perman (2014), Jennifer Fox (2015), Katie Korotzer (2016), Hilary Cooper (2017) Holly Hanke (2018), Cathy Glazier (2019), Sue Smegal (2020), Ken Li (2021), Eileen Ruby (2022), David Ragones (2023), Sarah Pearson (2024) and most recently, Cory Smegal in 2025.

Art Hecht was a tireless community volunteer who was dedicated to students in both Piedmont and Oakland. He served on Piedmont's Board of Education from 1970 to 1982. Art also was very active with the Piedmont Continuation High School (now called Millennium High School). In 1998, the Art Hecht Volunteer of the Year Award was established in his memory by School Board member Dewey Watson.

Nominations for this award are now being sought and will be kept strictly confidential. The deadline for nominations is March 13. A selection committee will vote on the award recipient, who will be recognized at the May 6, Board of Education meeting, where the honoree's good works will be acknowledged.

Nomination forms are available on the bottom of the Superintendent's webpage Piedmont.k12.ca.us/ref/superintendent, in the District Office (760 Magnolia Avenue), or by calling Rosalina Barrios, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, at 594-2614.

Supt. Hawn's March 2 Piedmont Pulse

Dear PUSD Families & Staff:

It was great seeing our staff and community at Friday's Lunar New Year celebration at the Ellen Driscoll Theater. A special thanks to Xinjia Xia, our Mandarin teacher for all she does to inspire language and culture in our students and community. I also had a chance to see our Girls Basketball team prevail over Clayton Valley later that night, which was a joy to see. Our girls are on fire this season, and I am looking forward to their CIF Division 1 State Tournament Round 1 home game against Antelope HS on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Speaking of athletics, thank you to the parents who joined Tyler Small, Director of Athletics; Dr. David Yoshihara, PHS Principal, and me for a community meeting last Thursday on the topic of sportsmanship and spectator conduct. We held a productive discussion about the importance of our athletics program and how our community comes together to support our athletes. What I appreciated about our discussion was the focus on how to help our already outstanding program get even better. We discussed such topics as safety, how we model behavior for visiting teams/fans, and how we can promote positive sportsmanship in our students. Thanks also to Jean Takazawa for sharing important perspectives about sports culture at the middle and high school levels. The presentation deck is linked HERE, including the notes we took during the meeting based on community input. If you have additional ideas on how we can continue to improve and support our athletics programs related to sportsmanship and spectator conduct, please reach out to Tyler Small, Dr. Yoshihara, or me. We will continue our work to enhance our programs, and community input is key to our success.

In Community,
Jennifer Hawn, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Appointment of PMS Principal

I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Jamie Van Kleeck as the next Principal for Piedmont Middle School, pending Board approval at the March 4, 2026, Board meeting.

While our district typically conducts a broad interview process for leadership roles, Jamie's exceptional qualifications and her specific, proven impact at PMS make a direct appointment the most appropriate choice for the school's future. Her seamless transition from teacher to administrator has already demonstrated that she possesses the unique vision required to take PMS to the next level without the delay or disruption of an external search. Jamie Van Kleeck has my full confidence and recommendation to take on this leadership position successfully.



Jamie Van Kleeck will be recommended as the next Principal for Piedmont Middle School, pending Board approval at the March 4 Board meeting in the District Office at 7 p.m.

- *Professional Background and Leadership*

Since joining the district in 2012 as a classroom teacher, Jamie has served the Piedmont Middle School community in

See Piedmont Pulse on page 27

Piedmont Branch Library News

Knitting & Crochet Circle with Susan Segal!

Monday, March 9 — 11:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.

Join us every second and fourth Monday of the month for a delightful early afternoon of yarn, needles, and good company at our Adult Knitting & Crochet Circle! Settle into a warm and inviting space where creativity and conversation intertwine.

If you need assistance with anything or have questions, Susan is here to help. Join us and make the most of your knitting/crochet experience with us!

What to Bring:

- Your current knitting or crochet project
- Your preferred yarn and needles/hooks
- A smile and a willingness to connect with fellow crafters

Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting, everyone is welcome.

While we'd love to accommodate everyone, keep in mind that space availability will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Toddler Storytime

Tuesday, March 10 — 10:15 – 10:30 a.m.

Songs, active rhymes and stories especially for ages 18 months to 3 years. Every Tuesday morning at 10:15 a.m.

Stay and play after Storytime with fun age-appropriate toys through 11:15 a.m. If conditions allow, Storytime will be held outside the library building.

We ask that patrons refrain from wearing scented products.

Teen Pop Up Crafts

Tuesday, March 10 — 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Teens! Come and hang out and get creative with us every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

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Advanced Acting Class invites all to *Eurydice* on March 6 & 7

By Kim Taylor

Piedmont High's Advanced Acting class will present the acclaimed play *Eurydice*, by Sarah Ruhl, in the Alan Harvey Theater on Friday, March 6, and Saturday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. each night. *Eurydice* is a comedic drama that reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, focusing on Eurydice's journey through the Underworld.

Reunited with her deceased Mother, Eurydice must grapple with forgotten memories of her past life while facing a life-altering choice. With contemporary characters and plot twists, Eurydice is a fresh look at love and loss.





Grette Willats (left) and Sparrow Lieu prepare for this weekend's performances of *Eurydice* during a rehearsal.

The play is directed by senior Amelia Addington, and the cast includes Yiyou Fang, Kirstin Fedor, Jack Herrlinger, Nico Kaltenecker, Sparrow Lieu, Lila Schwab, and Grette Willats.

Addington has been excited to direct the show because of its creative and poetic natures. "Its abstract storytelling and emotional depth allow both the cast and the audience to interpret the story in different and personal ways," she said.

With nearly 20 plays and a MacArthur Genius Grant to her name, author Sarah Ruhl is one of the most important American playwrights of our time. The Advanced Acting Class has previously produced her shows, *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and *The Clean House*. *Eurydice* has been produced from high schools to Broadway, and it has been translated into 14 languages. In 2021, Ruhl adapted *Eurydice* into an Opera that ran during the New York Metropolitan Opera Season.

Eurydice is recommended for most audiences, though some material may not be suitable for younger audience members. This production explores themes of love, loss, memory, and the afterlife. It is always encouraged that audiences use their best judgment based on the show's themes and the child's age and maturity level. Contact producer Kimberly Taylor, at ktaylor@piedmont.k12.ca.us, with any questions.

Tickets are $5 for students and $10 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased at phsacting.ludus.com.

FUN4KIDS

Event Calendar

By Jay Russell

Tutu School Montclair
Tutuschool.com/montclair
6206 La Salle Ave, Oakland. 926-6525

The Tutu School has fun ballet classes and camps for kids aged six months to eight years old. Baby Ballet will let the littlest ones explore movement to music. Tutu Toddlers lets kids up to three years old express their infinite imaginations in dance. There's classes and camps for older kids as well, to learn all the moves and techniques. The first class is free.

Children's Fairyland
Fairyland.org
699 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland 452-2259

Fairyland has just the right stuff to spark a child's imagination. From the rides to the petting zoo and Alice in Wonderland maze, a day of fun is a few blocks away from Piedmont. All shows on the stage of Fairyland's Storybook Puppet Theater are original productions, featuring scripts, costumes, music, and sets designed by their talented puppeteers. The park is open Friday-Sunday; 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Check website for show schedules and special events.

Crab Cove Visitor Center
Ebparks.org/parks/visitor-centers/crab-cove
1231 McKay Avenue, Alameda; 544-3187

Visit Crab Cove Beach and the Doug Siden Visitor Center in Alameda to learn about creatures of the Bay. Join Fish Feeding viewings Wednesdays from 3:00-3:30 p.m. to get an up close view of Crab Cove's crabs, flounder, perch, and other species while being feed by the Center's biologist. No registration is required, drop-ins welcome. The center is open 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (March - October).

Lindsay Wildlife Center
Lindsaywildlife.org
1931 First Ave. Walnut Creek, (925) 935-1978

Check in on Lindsay Wildlife's 60 animal ambassadors. Exhibit Hall hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The center also offers outdoor programs like Raptor Recess, in which kids can meet hawks and owls in the Raptor Redwood Grove. The Animal Ambassadors program lets kids get up close and personal with their favorite animal ambassadors on the outdoor campus.

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Troop 1 Scouts Go Behind the Scenes at KTVU Studios

By Alex Dean, Adrien Messina & Kaito Ciammaichella

Piedmont's Troop 1 Scouts received a behind the scenes look at how local news is made - from the use of robotic cameras to the teamwork involved in getting video and news on the air.

On February 14, fifteen Scouts took a tour of the KTVU studios in Oakland's Jack London Square. At the start of the tour, the Scouts were invited onto the set of KTVU's "Take 2 This Morning" streaming show. The Scouts were interviewed by anchors Allie Rasmus and Frank Mallicoat.

Mallicoat told the troop members he is an Eagle Scout—the highest ranking one can earn in scouting. He talked to the troop about all the beneficial skills he gained from his scouting experience.

"I learned so much, like leadership, working as a team, cooking, camping, taking care of myself and others, reaching goals, and being responsible," said Mallicoat. "I'm still friends with a number of my fellow Scouts even 50 years later."

Members of the troop also toured the KTVU control room. They learned how the audio, video, and other equipment operate and spoke with news producers and directors about their roles.

"The most surprising thing I learned is that the cameras in the studio were unmanned and moved by themselves," said Scout, Kian Spina.

"The studio was like a finetuned machine, with everyone depending on everyone," added Scout Ozzie Edelson-Evans.

Some Scouts had the opportunity to sit in the director's chair and change all the different camera angles, backgrounds, and screen editing. Afterwards, some Scouts read from the teleprompter to experience part of the job of a news anchor.

"We learned about the role of the producer and how they must crunch all the different interviews and squeeze all the times together, so it all fits into the one news report," said Scout Adrien Messina.

The Scouts learned had the chance to observe how the green screen works. The screen is a chromakey software program used by meteorologists to display weather satellite maps and 5-day forecasts. If someone wears the color green in front of the screen, the satellite image will appear on their clothing. Scouts used a green tablecloth to see what it was like to "disappear" into the green screen.

"Everything green showed weather on it, so Allie gave us a green piece of fabric and everything under it disappeared!" said Troop 1 Scout Kaito Ciammaichella. "It showed me it takes a lot of work to put on the news."

The Scouts had a revelatory experience into the innerworkings of television. "It really opened my eyes, and it's something I would have never seen without Scouts," said Troop member Cormac Hoffmam.



Troop 1 Scouts on the set of KTVU Take 2 This Morning, with anchors Allie Rasmus & Frank Mallicoat



Scouts on set at the KTVU studio



Scouts Sawyer Heppner, Sam Donnelly, Adrien Messina, and Theo Cost experience the view from the director's chair in the control room.



Scouts learn about the roles in the control room.



Scouts experiment with the green screen.

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WHICH TROOP WILL YOU CHOOSE?

Open House Meetings

Troop	Date	Time	Location
Troop 11	Mar 2	7:30pm	PCC Kettlewell Room 400 Highland Ave
Troop 1	Mar 3	7:30pm	PCC Kettlewell Room 400 Highland Ave
Troop 6	Mar 4	7:30pm	Corpus Christi Gym 1 Estates Dr
Troop 4	Mar 9	7:30pm	Ellen Driscoll Auditorium 325 Highland Ave
Troop 15	Mar 10	7:00pm	Ellen Driscoll Auditorium 325 Highland Ave

*For Youth 5th Grade+ and their parent(s)



Piedmont Council
Scouting America

Troop 1 Scouts in urban backpacking trip

By Marisa Strong,
Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 1

Piedmont Scouts in Troop 1 set out on their Urban Backpacking/ Kirby Cove Service Project outing on February 27. The annual trip takes place one week before Kirby Cove Campground opens for the 2026 season. Given the mid-winter timing, this adventure often unfolds under gray skies, gusty winds, and occasional rain. Not this year. The skies were blue, the sun was out, and barely a breeze, making for a perfect day for a hike.

Getting to Kirby Cove Recreation Area, one of the crown jewels of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, makes up most of the adventure. Starting in Piedmont, the troop rode AC Transit's Route 88 bus to downtown Oakland, then walked a mile to Jack London Square to board the ferry to the San Francisco Ferry Building. This year, with the Pier 41 Short Hop Ferry no longer in service, Scouts added an extra mile to their route, hiking from the Ferry Building to Pier 39.

A favorite tradition soon followed: a stop at Boudin Bakery at Fisherman's Wharf, where Scouts refueled with sourdough bread, cheese bread, and other well-earned treats. From there, the group continued on foot through Fort Mason and Crissy Field, pausing at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy's Warming Hut before making the climb to the Golden Gate Bridge.

For several Scouts and adult leaders, it was their first time crossing the bridge on foot, accompanied by sweeping views of the bay. After taking in the scenery at Vista Point in Marin County, the troop began the final descent down the trail to Kirby Cove near the base of the Golden Gate Bridge. In total, the Scouts covered eight miles of stunning vistas, varied terrain, and the kind of camaraderie that turns shared miles into shared memories.

Upon arrival at Kirby Cove, Scouts were greeted and briefed on their Service Project by the National Parks System Mainte-

See Troop 1 on page 31



Julia Bencher and Patrol Leader Susannah Cantrill on the ferry



Asst. Senior Patrol Leaders Cade Ogles and Ciaran Gallagher with Senior Patrol Leader Theo Cost on the ferry



Sammy Labauch, Dylan Frazier, and Solomon Gur enjoy the ferry ride through the Oakland Estuary.



Scouts Ben Calloway, Zubin Sen, and Ben Cole hike across the Golden Gate Bridge.



Scouts Graham Grippando and Ben Mittan clean a campsite fire ring.



Troop 1 Scouts enjoy the Kirby Cove beach near the base of the Golden Gate Bridge.

PAAC New Year

Continued from page 1

"Thank you for celebrating the Lunar New Year with us and for supporting the traditions that bring our community together," said event organizer Della Chow. "Please reach out if you have suggestions on how we can continue to improve the event. Nian Kuai Le!"

For those with suggestions and want to get involved, email Piedmontpaac@gmail.com



Kids making wristbands at a crafts table.



A volunteer shows a young guest how to use the stencil.



Piedmont's Troubadours on stage for their musical performance



Photo by Sasha Przybyla

A piano performance by Lamie Wang and Amelie Wang.



Kids playing with the lions after the show.



The Lions stand on their hind legs and display their banners. *Staff Photos*



Susan Xu (left), Maya Chan, Sasha Przybyla, Nhu Weinburg, Wendy Chan, Catherine Zhang, Christine Chou, Della Chow, Janet Cheng, Tomoko Bravo, Cassinday Chao, Qi Johnson, XinJia Xia



Event Organizers and PAAC Members with the lions: Hannah Chen (left), Susan Xu, Tomoko Bravo, Christine Chou, Wendy Chan, Cassindy Chao, Dr. Chao, Della Chow, Catherine Zhang, Janet Cheng, Tam Biu, XinJia Xia, Theresa Mak, and Grace Shen.



The Lion balances on two tall stools.

Thinking Outside the Classroom

Meet Pi, the most important number you've never thought about

By Dr. Megan Taylor



A young visitor beams with delight as he enjoys a slice of pie during last year's Pi Day celebration at the Exploratorium.

Here's a question worth asking at your next family dinner: What do a bike wheel, a clock, and a pizza have in common? The answer is a number your older kids have probably met in math class—one that's been quietly running the show all around them since before they could count.

That number is Pi.

Pi (written as the Greek letter π) is the ratio of any circle's circumference (the distance around it) to its diameter (the distance across). This means if you divide the distance all the way around a circle by the distance across it through the center, you'll always get a number around 3.14 (or Pi). It works for every circle, everywhere, without exception, whether pizza, plate, or planet. That consistency is what makes Pi remarkable. It's one of the most important numbers in mathematics, art, nature, technology, and so many other industries.

Because Pi is a number specific to circles, it comes up in the mathematics of circles in a variety of ways. When your kid spins around on a merry-go-round, Pi helps describe the path they're traveling. When they ride a bike, Pi helps determine how far they go with every single rotation of the wheel. When they toss a basketball through a hoop, Pi helps define the circle they're aiming for.

And here's what I love most about Pi for kids: it's *irrational*. Literally! Pi is an example of a type of number in mathematics we call "irrational," a number that cannot be expressed as the ratio of two integers. This means their decimal digits continue on forever without ever repeating. Mathematicians, computers, and people all over the world (including kids) have calculated Pi out to trillions of digits—and it just keeps going. For most everyday math, we round Pi to 3.14, but certainly part of the magic of Pi is its infinite tail.

To make this tangible at home, try this Cutting Pi activity: gather a few circular objects from around the house—a mug, a plate, a jar lid—and use a piece of string to measure around each one, then across. For each circle, divide its circumference by its diameter and write down what you find. What do you notice? With younger kids, invite them to try to find a circular object that breaks the pattern, and test it together. With older kids, invite them to explain why some Pi estimations are so close or far from the actual ratio– *why was that plate's ratio about 3, when that clock's ratio was 3.13?...*

And if you want to go all in: Pi Day was invented right here at the Exploratorium, and we've been celebrating it every March 14 for nearly 40 years. This year, join us on Saturday, March 14, for a full day of math-inspired activities and presentations, a Pi Parade, and a free slice of pie. Come for the STEAM, stay for the slice—and see Pi in action all around you.

For complete instructions on the Cutting Pi activity, visit the Exploratorium's Science Snacks collection at exploratorium.edu/snacks.

Dr. Megan Taylor leads a team of educators, teacher educators, and scientists as Chief Teaching & Learning Officer at the Exploratorium. A Nationally Board Certified Teacher with over two decades of experience in the San Francisco Bay Area, Dr. Taylor earned her MA and PhD in Mathematics Education from Stanford University. Before joining the Exploratorium, she founded Trellis Education, a nonprofit dedicated to ensuring California public school students have exceptional math and science teachers who share critical identities with them. An enthusiastic Exploratorium visitor for over four decades, Dr. Taylor champions the power of hands-on discovery.

PPD Blue

Excerpts from the Piedmont Police Department Log

February 20 - 27

This Week by the Numbers

1 Fire
1 Auto Theft
1 Residential Burglary
1 Vandalism Report
1 Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) hit
2 Arrests
2 Catalytic Converter Thefts
2 Fraud Reports
6 Automotive Burglaries

Friday, February 20

1:20 p.m. Monte Ave. Report of gas-powered leaf blower. Subject will switch to electric.

3:10 p.m. Jerome Ave. Multiple reports of solicitor in black hat going door to door asking to read utility meters. Subject advised of City code requiring a permit.

3:56 p.m. Bellevue Ave. Report of man in jean jacket walking onto property trying to enter through open door. Area checked by officer.

Saturday, February 21

7:24 a.m. St. James Dr. **Vandalism.** Report of someone attempting to break into vehicle. Screwdriver left in door of white Volvo station wagon. No entry made.

10:08 a.m. Wildwood Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of vehicle rifled through.

12:12 p.m. Indian Rd. **Auto Burglary.** Report of silver 2023 Audi Q5 broken into, window smashed; loss of registration papers.

1:10 p.m. Highland Ave. **Residential Burglary.** Report of theft of package on Thursday.

9:28 p.m. Wildwood Ave. Report of man in all black talking to himself; has been in area all day. Subject declines officer services.

Sunday, February 22

3:36 a.m. Crocker Ave. Report of hearing two loud explosions.

12:03 p.m. Lake Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of license plate stolen & switched with another.

3:54 p.m. Monticello Ave. Report of threats received in text message.

4:14 p.m. Grand Ave. **Fraud.** Report of identity theft; social security number compromised.

5:42 p.m. Harvard Rd. **DUI Arrest.** Report of black Audi Q3 crashing into parked car. Driver gets out and is stumbling. Driver taken to hospital for laceration on her hand. Blood sample authorized; driver becomes combative and physically resistive. Suspect cited and released at the hospital for DUI and obstruction.

Monday, February 23

4:45 p.m. Nova Ave. Report of man in all black lying down in roundabout. Officer makes contact, gives courtesy ride of out town.

Tuesday, February 24

8:51 a.m. Highland Ave. **Fraud.** Report of identity theft, no known loss.

9:09 a.m. Ramona Ave. **Catalytic Converter Theft.** Report of converter theft overnight from Toyota Prius.

9:15 a.m. Monticello Ave. **Catalytic Converter Theft.** Report of converter theft from Toyota Prius. Suspect seen at 4:30 a.m. in all black, driving away in white 4-door car.

Wednesday, February 25

12:37 a.m. Grand Ave. **Arrest**. Officer spots man sleeping in public; person known to have warrants. Record check finds multiple warrants including Piedmont warrant for prowling, and Alameda County warrants for robbery, indecent exposure and sexual registrant requirements. Man arrested and taken to Santa Rita Jail.

9:34 a.m. La Salle Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of bike rack stolen overnight.

See PPD Blue on page 28

PICKS OF THE WEEK (2)

• *Another casual Sunday cruise*

Sunday, February 22

1:44 p.m. Highland Ave. Report of man driving older beige vehicle with both rear tires flat and smoking. Man parks vehicle in driveway and walks into home.

• *They say blue light is bad for sleep*

Friday, February 27

2:53 a.m. Oakmont Ave. Report of green lights coming from vehicle, so bright they wake up resident. Officer makes contact with Toyota pickup truck.

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"Don't think of it as the minimum wage...think of it as a great career in the horse manure industry."

Sports

Piedmont girls take third in NCS Open Division

Highlanders receive No. 3 seed in CIF State Division 1

By Jonathan Comeaux



Staff Photos

Jenelle Solis celebrates with coach Bryan Gardere after Piedmont's win over Clayton Valley Charter.

Piedmont High's No. 3 seeded girls' basketball team took home third-place in the North Coast Section Open Division, beating No. 4 Clayton Valley Charter 58-53 at Binks Rawlings Gym on Friday, February 27. Two days earlier, the Highlanders lost 52-39 to No. 2 Carondelet, which went on to beat No. 1 San Ramon Valley for the title.

On Tuesday, March 3, PHS received the No. 3 seed in the CIF State Division 1 bracket and faced No. 14 Antelope for the third time this season Results were not complete by Post time.

"We're working hard right now and the girls are doing what we ask. The bigger games we're in, the higher the stakes; you realize every possession is important. We need every point and rebound we get," coach Bryan Gardere said.

There were 16 total lead changes in the game with Clayton Valley. Piedmont trailed 53-49 lead with 2:45 left in the game. But from that point on, the Highlanders didn't allow another basket.

"The energy in the room changed, My teammates and I knew what we had to do to get the win. Our competitiveness changed, we just wanted it more," junior Taylor White said.

Converting shots at the free throw line proved to be a critical piece of the win. The Highlanders converted 21 of 26 free throws, including 11 of 12 in the fourth quarter.

"Free throws are something we've been crying about as coaches. We had them try to shoot at lunch time, after practice, and we shot a lot in yesterday's practice. The more reps, the better," Gardere said.

"We have set goals and we always try to get above 70 percent. That's something we've been working toward all year," sophomore guard Jenelle Solis said.

58-52 victory over Clayton Valley Charter

Piedmont led 17-16 through the first quarter, including five lead changes when Solis landed a shot with five seconds left. The back-and-forth scoring continued in the second quarter with five lead changes through the opening three minutes. CVC pushed its lead to 30-24, but PHS closed with baskets by Andrea Martin and White to cut the deficit to 30-28 at halftime.

In the third quarter, Piedmont went up 36-35 at the 3:52 mark. Clayton Valley scored the final four points of the quarter to tie up the game 39-39 going into the fourth.

There were three more lead changes in the fourth until Piedmont took control with 1:15 left. CVC went up 50-45 midway through the quarter, but PHS chipped away to 50-49.

Clayton Valley hit a 3-pointer with 2:45 left, 53-49, but the Highlanders followed with a 9-0 scoring run to end the game. It started with White grabbing an offensive rebound and assisting Martin, a free throw by Martin, and a bucket by Solis to take the lead 54-53 with 1:15 left. From there, Solis and Alexa Ba closed the game with two free throws apiece.

Final stats: Martin led with 25 points and also had nine rebounds. Solis had 13 points, two rebounds, one assist, and a steal. Ba had nine points, four rebounds, two assists, and a steal. White had nine points, 21 rebounds, six assists, and four steals. Saniyah Johnson had two rebounds and two steals.



Taylor White logged 21 rebounds in Piedmont's win over Clayton Valley Charter.



Andrea Martin led with 25 points on Clayton Valley.

52-39 to Carondelet

Piedmont led 12-5 through the first quarter and 22-14 by halftime. But Carondelet exploded for 20 points in the third quarter and held Piedmont to five points, jumping ahead 34-29. Carondelet outscored Piedmont 18-10 in the fourth.

Final stats: Martin had 13 points, seven rebounds, one assist. Be had 11 points, four rebounds, one assist, and one steal. Johnson had six points, three rebounds, and two steals. White had five points, three rebounds, two assists, and two steals. Solis was held to two points, one rebound, three assists, and a steal.

Tuesday vs. No. 14 Antelope

Piedmont hosted No. 14 Antelope of Roseville for the first round of the Division 1 CIF State tournament on Tuesday, March 3. See next week's *Post* for game details.

NEXT UP

With a victory on Tuesday, No. 3 Piedmont (21-4 overall) will host the winner of No. 6 Central East and No. 11 Pinewood on Thursday, March 5

Athletes of the Month: Taylor White, Dillon Casey

Honorable Mention: Miranda Liu, Beach Lorin



Staff Photos

Taylor White earns Athlete of the Month for February for being Piedmont's leading rebounder.



Dillon Casey earns Athlete of the Month for February after concluding his Piedmont High career.

By Jonathan Comeaux

We're awarding Taylor White of the girls' basketball team and Dillon Casey of boys' basketball our Athletes of the Month for January. Honorable mentions go to Miranda Liu of girls' soccer and Beach Lorin of boys' basketball.

TAYLOR WHITE

Taylor White earns Athlete of the Month for being a major part of Piedmont High's presence on the boards as the team's top rebounder and a focal point in getting the ball quickly up court. She recently had 21 rebounds, nine points, six assists, and four steals in Piedmont's 58-53 win over Clayton Valley Charter to claim third place in the North Coast Section Open Division on February 27. She also had 14 rebounds in Piedmont's NCS 66-45 win over Cardinal Newman on February 19.

DILLON CASEY

Dillon Casey earns Athlete of the Month after closing his career as a three-year varsity starter. He finished as No. 4 on the school's all-time scoring list with 1,392 points. In Casey's final game in Purple and White, he scored a team-high of 17 points in Piedmont's 58-49 loss to Albany on February 21. PHS closed the regular season by avenging three early season losses, beating Bishop O'Dowd 64-62 on February 4, Berkeley 61-52 on February 6, and Alameda 67-58 on February 11. He had 12 points on BOD, 26 points on Berkeley, and 23 on Alameda.

Honorable Mentions

Miranda Liu gets an honorable mention for helping lead Piedmont to the North Coast Section Quarterfinals as the No. 5 seed, where they lost to No. 4 Sonoma Academy 2-1 in overtime on February 21. Liu scored once against Sonoma and had two

See AotM on page 29

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Baseball team starts season with 10-1 win



Photos by Mark Aikawa

Diego Delventhal embarks on his senior season. He slugged two doubles against Skyline.

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont High's baseball team got its season underway in big fashion with a dominant 10-1 win over Skyline on the Titans' home field in the Oakland Hills on Friday, February 27. Piedmont undergoes big changes from last year's team that reached the North Coast Section quarterfinals as the No. 2 seed.

Still, coach Eric Olson is excited about the returning team.

"I looked around and we have some new guys in starting roles, but we also have guys who are back and guys who have bigger roles than last year," Olson said.

Piedmont's infield is among the reasons for Olson's optimism. The middle of the infield will have senior Diego Delventhal at shortstop having the rare opportunity to play alongside his younger brother, Lucas Delventhal, at second base.

"It's always been a dream of mine. To get out there and train with him every day is a dream come true. He deserves the opportunity and works just as hard as I do," Diego said.

"Since I was in middle school, I've been dreaming about teaming up with my brother. It's really cool. I've been prepared to play and I let my play do the talking today. Hopefully I can stay hot," mentioned Lucas.

Pitcher Massimo Mittone started Friday's win over Skyline, throwing four innings with three strikeouts and an earned run. George Bishop logged two innings and struck out two, while Thomas Moision struck out all three in one inning. Along with three-year starter Jack Meyjes, Olson also feels the pitching staff is among the strongest part of the team.

"We got off to a start last year like we've never seen before; something like no runs allowed in 21 innings. We also have confidence in Jack. George pitched great today and we saw Thomas Moison, who has some great stuff too," Olson said.

"What really set our team apart this year is how many guys who can come in and confidently throw strikes. George did a great job last year, Thomas is a new

See Baseball on page 29



Staff Photo

Freshman Lucas Delventhal celebrates after hitting a double. He starts alongside his older brother, Diego, as an infielder.

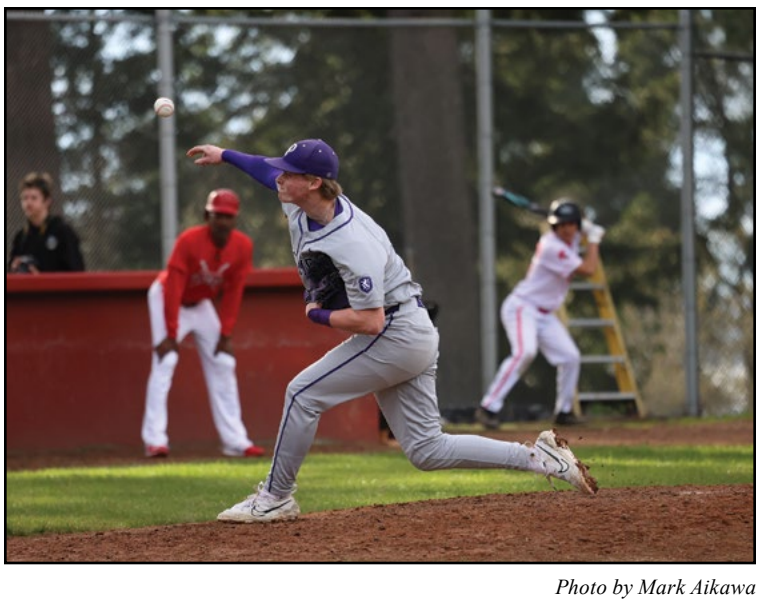


Photo by Mark Aikawa

Pitcher Massimo Mittone got the season-opener start against Skyline.

Diego Delventhal, Jack Meyjes embark on final baseball season together

By Jonathan Comeaux

As things go in youth sports in Piedmont, kids build friendships and connections on the fields and in gyms that they may take with them for the first of their lives. With this year's Piedmont High baseball team, seniors Diego Delventhal and Jack Meyjes embark on their final season playing together before graduating with the Class of 2026, ending a tradition they've largely continued since their tee-ball days when they were five-years-old.

Delventhal and Meyjes have been teammates on Piedmont High's varsity baseball team for four years. Delventhal has been a second baseman and shortstop, while Meyjes has been an infielder and pitcher.

Following graduation this spring, Meyjes will be off to continue his baseball career at Bates College while Delventhal will head to Pitzer College.

"It started back in tee-ball; he was the first person I made friends with," said Meyjes. "Throughout our elementary school years, we were always on the same team. We always stuck together."

They've seen success both on the school's team and during their little league days. Playing on the Piedmont Baseball and Softball Foundation's Pinto league for ages 7-8, the two won a championship game where Meyjes hit the walk-off winner to lift the trophy.

"We were in Pinto and he came up with the bases loaded in a tie game. He hit a walk-off to win the championship down the right field line," Delventhal recalled.

"We won a couple of Piedmont championships. It was our second year in Pinto That was probably in the second grade, I just remember celebrating with him, his dad, and my dad," Meyjes said

On the high school team, the pair has been a key part of recent success. The Highlanders reached the 2023 North Coast Section semifinals as the No. 8 seed as freshmen. As sophomores, they were runners up in the 2024 NCS championship and CIF State D4 championship after winning the WACC Foothill regular season title, They were last year's No. 2 seed in the NCS Div. 3 postseason and reached the quarterfinals.

In 2024 as sophomores, Meyjes was the winning pitcher when Piedmont wpm the league championship (WACC Foothill), clinching a 7-5 win over Berkeley.

"I remember when he closed it out to win league and we all congregated at the mound to celebrate. That was dope," Delventhal said of his favorite high school memory of Jack.

See Diego & Jack on page 29



Diego Delventhal (left) and Jack Meyjes reflect on their many years playing baseball alongside each other, and now for the final time in 2026.



Diego Delventhal (left) and Jack Meyjes have largely been teammates ever since their days in tee-ball.

PIEDMONT SPORTS SCHEDULE

Some events subject to change. (Revised - 3/4/26)

Date	Day	Sport	Opponent	Loc.	Var.	JV.
Mar. 4	Wed.	BASE	Head-Royce	H/A	3:30	3:30
		GOLF	Arroyo, Bishop O'Dowd	A	3:30	3:30
Mar. 5	Thur.	TEN	Arroyo (San Lorenzo)	A/H	3:30	3:30
		BAD	Encinal (Alameda)	A	4:00	------
		LAX-B	Northgate (Walnut Creek)	A	7:00	5:30
		VB	Miramonte	H	6:00	------
		LAX-G	Miramonte	H	7:00	5:30
Mar. 6	Fri.	TEN	James Logan (Union City)	A	TBD	------
		SOFT	University	H	3:30	------
		BASE	California	H/A	3:30	3:30
		SWIM	San Leandro	A	3:30	3:30
Mar. 7	Sat.	TEN	James Logan (Union City)	A	TBD	------
		TF	Dan Gabor Invitational At Amador Valley (Pleasanton)	A	8:30	------
		TF	K-Bell Classic At Westmont HS (Campbell)	A	8:00	------
Mar. 9	Mon.	VB	Campolindo	H	6:00	------
Mar. 10	Tues.	TEN	Mt. Eden	A	3:30	------
		BAD	Berkeley	H	4:00	4:00
		VB	Berkeley	H	6:00	------
		LAX-B	Acalanes	H	7:00	5:30
		LAX-G	College Park (Pleasant Hill)	A	7:00	5:30
Mar. 11	Wed.	GOLF	Castro Valley, San Leandro	A	3:30	3:30
		TF	WACC Meet	H	3:30	3:30

KEY:
H = Home
A = Away
BB-G = Girls Basketball
TF = Track and Field
SWIM = Swimming
BASE = Baseball
SOFT = Softball
GOLF = Boys Golf
TEN = Boys Tennis
BAD = Badminton
VB = Boys Volleyball
LAX-B = Boy Lacrosse
LAX-G = Girls Lacrosse

Girls' lacrosse team begins new season

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont High's girls' lacrosse team has returned for its 2026 season, having already played its first two matches of the season. The Highlanders lost 15-8 at Foothill on Tuesday, February 24 and fell 10-7 to Campolindo at Witter Field two days later.

PHS is back after reaching last year's Division 2 North Coast Section championship game, finishing as runners up to College Park in an 8-7 overtime loss. That team featured 14 seniors from the Class of 2025, meaning this year's squad inherently has some huge changes.

"We've barely had a week of practice and played a decent Foothill team. From that game to Campolindo, these girls really figured it out," coach Carlton Chan.

Piedmont has to replace Friedie Schickedanz, whose role was to hold up the ball near the net as a playmaking scorer and assister. Still, PHS brings back the Post's honorable mention for Athlete of the Year, Peyton Watson. Hallie Burden is another returning player poised for a big role after missing the entire 2025 season due to an injury.

"It's a whole new roster. Hallie didn't play all last year and is now taking the draw. We have Peyton, and most of our girls were on JV last year. We basically have a few seasoned varsity girls who are pulling along their younger teammates," Chan said.

Last season, Piedmont faced struggles during the early portion of the schedule in moving the ball up field as they transitioned defense into attack. There was a similar tone in 2026's opening two games, but PHS found its groove in the second quarter against Campolindo.

"We told them that the Campolindo game was going to be a lot faster. What we did was go back to fundamentals, spread out, make the back pass, and trust each other," Chan said.



Staff Photos

Lacrosse coach Carlton Chan gives instructions during a game with Campolindo.



Peyton Watson was the Post's 2025 honorable mention for Athlete of the Year.



Hallie Burden is a key player on this year's roster.

10-7 loss to Campolindo

Campolindo led 5-1 through the first quarter and Piedmont trailed 8-4 by halftime. Campo extended its lead to 9-4 through the third quarter, while the Highlanders scored three in the fourth and only conceded one.

Piedmont scored the game's opening goal after a minute and a half, but the Cougars went on to score five straight goals.

In the second period, Campo scored the first three goals to take an 8-1 lead, but the Highlanders attack woke up after that. Watson scored at the 8:41 mark, while Burden scored after gaining a shooting space penalty after two minutes. Watson scored again with 2:55 left.

PHS went scoreless in the third quarter, but logged shots on target by Watson and Burden. Campo made it 10-4 a minute into the fourth quarter, but the Highlanders followed with three straight goals to end the game. Burden scored again with 6:47 left in the game, while Z Schulze scored her first varsity goal just 48 seconds later. After back and forth possessions, Watson got the game's final goal with 35 seconds left.

Final stats: Watson scored four goals, won four draws, and gathered four ground balls. Burden scored twice, won two draws, and scooped two ground balls. Zoya Schulze scored once. Goalie Allison King had 10 saves.

15-8 defeat by Foothill

Foothill led 5-2 through the first quarter and 7-4 by halftime. PHS scored just once in the third and conceded five to trail 12-5, while the Highlanders added three goals and allowed three in the final going.

Final stats: Watson had four goals and won three draws. Burden scored three and won six draws. Sydney Latvala scored once. Elliott Hondorp logged an assist.

Tuesday vs. Las Lomas

Piedmont visited Las Lomas on Tuesday, March 3. See next week's *Post* for game details.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (0-2 overall) hosts Miramonte at Witter Field on Thursday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m.



PUSD hosts "Fan Conduct" meeting



Staff Photos

Piedmont Unified School District hosted a meeting to examine fan conduct at games following a brawl after a basketball game on January 30.

By Jonathan Comeaux

On January 30, a shocking altercation between Piedmont High's students and the visiting San Leandro boys' basketball team players and coaches made the KTVU News. It was a moment that preceded two other incidents from high school athletics to make larger headlines; a racial slur being hurled at an Arizona high school basketball game on February 20, and De La Salle in Concord announcing on February 25 that they are suspending their baseball team for the first five games of its season based on conduct violations.

To call attention to appalling behavior at sports events throughout the country, Piedmont Unified School District hosted a fan conduct meeting on Thursday, February 26 to talk with Piedmont parents about concerns regarding the January 30 brawl.

"This is a topic that is certainly in the news.; we know school districts run into problems, whether it be the athletes themselves or spectator conduct. We've had some bumps in the road as well, so we want to get out in front of this issue," Superintendent Jennifer Hawn said.

Piedmont High athletic director Tyler Small and principal David Yoshihara discussed certain models and protocols they would like to use going forward, noting that accountability for adults in attendance is also important.

"A lot about this is us as a district and high school holding a high standard. Tyler and I are at a lot of events and see student interactions, as well as adult interactions. It's one thing to work with students, but it's also difficult to see how some adults behave, because I do know the students are watching," Yoshihara said.

Yoshihara made sure to mention that their goal is to have great play appreciated, regardless if the team is the home or away side.

"We want to acknowledge great play regardless of what team. We want it to be exciting, we want it to be loud. Loudness is okay, it's what we choose to say. "Go Highlanders" is okay, but if we're antagonizing the other team, we have to figure out where we draw those lines," Yoshihara said.

Yoshihara listed things that will no longer be acceptable. include students or fans calling out opposing players by name, number, hair styles, attire, or anything identifying a specific player. Tyler later mentioned that there could be some collaboration with Western Alameda County Conference schools to streamline new rules to help prevent students from rushing the fields or courts after wins.

Hawn acknowledged that the conduct of Piedmont's players has been stellar, evident by the boys' basketball team completely avoiding the fracas on January 30. The issue, as evident on that January night, was with spectators and coaches of the opposing team.

"The conduct of our athletes are typically excellent. I think it's the fan conduct, both the adults and sometimes students, where we have some work to do. But we can do it, we can absolutely do it. That's why we're here, to reset expectations and bring in the community to help us with this," Hawn said.

One topic of debate has been whether the school will bring in additional security for night games. When asked if it's important to have more security at big events, knowing kids storming onto fields of play to celebrate is a typical tradition in sports, Hawn responded: "I don't think it is a dramatic safety issue. I think it's probably a communication of expectations and maybe some amount of an accountability issue."



PUSD is examining preventing fans from rushing fields of play following a notice from the State.

Softball team opens season with 15-5 win vs. Lick-Wilmerding

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont's softball team is back on the diamond for its 2026 season. They split their opening two games, including a dominant 15-5 win over Lick-Wilmerding on Wednesday, February 25 at the Witter Softball Field, but lost 11-5 to Justin-Siena two days later also at home.

The Highlanders are fielding a young team that includes eight freshmen, five sophomores, two juniors, and just one senior.

"This is the youngest team I've ever had. Everyone is really young and most of them are coming from recreation ball. I'm having fun this year and enjoying the team," coach Gene Denard said.

They have big shoes to fill with former starting pitcher/short stop Miya Fujimoto, who was a four-year starter, departing from the team with the Class of 2025. But giving optimism to Denard is the rise of freshman Talia Perl, who is set to be the team's starting pitcher. She becomes the first freshman starter since former WACC Shoreline Player of the Year, Izzy Epstein, who graduated PHS in 2022.

"The future is going to be bright. I threw Perl for the entire game against Lick-Wilmerding, but I wanted to see what kind of stamina and guts she had. When you have a freshman give you a good six innings, I love that!" Denard said.

Stepping up as leaders are sophomores Edie Elmquist at shortstop and Hannah Joerger at third base.

"With all the new players, we just have to put in the effort. We may not be the oldest or most experienced, but if we put in the effort, the results will come our way," Elmquist said.

"We're definitely finding our rhythm. We have a great group; everyone's super excited and the energy is super high," Joerger added.

15-5 over Lick-Wilmerding

Both teams were tied 2-2 through the first inning, but PHS exploded for four runs in the bottom of the third. The Highlanders scored twice in the bottom fourth, made it 9-4 in the bottom fifth, and scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth to activate the 10-run rule.

Final stats: Joerger went 1-for-4 with a run scored and three RBIs. Elmquist went 4-for-5

See Softball on page 29



Staff Photos

Softball coach Gene Denard and Hannah Joerger are back with a young roster.



Freshman Talia Perl is the team's new starting pitcher.



Shortstop Edie Elmquist is a sophomore leader on the team.

Mountain bike team opens season with podium finishes

The Piedmont High School Mountain Bike Team opened the 2026 NorCal League season at Fort Ord with two podium finishes and a 4th-place overall team standing in a field of 435 high school racers.

On a fast, sandy 4-mile course that grew looser throughout the day, riders had to balance power with patience. Senior Jasper Schuetz finished 2nd in Varsity Boys in 1:09:31, delivering five steady laps and averaging over 300 watts in a powerful early-season performance.

Sophomore Josephine Schuetz won the JV2 Girls race in 59:14, breaking the one-hour mark and claiming the leader's jersey with a margin of more than two minutes.

Piedmont also saw strong finishes from Zachary Carter (6th, JV1 Boys D2), Rose Reining (6th, JV2 Girls), and Caleb Canada (10th, JV2 Boys D2), contributing to a deep and balanced team result. The team's strength ran deep, with Mina Herrgott, Olivia Bailey, Kai Hsu, Gabriel Barbosa, Asher Villarreal, Henry Call, Emilio Roberts, and Chase Mellers all delivering determined efforts in highly competitive divisions.

The strength of Piedmont MTB extends beyond the high school team. Piedmont DEVO (the middle school development program) is one of the largest and fastest-growing youth sports programs in the community, introducing riders in grades 6–8 to skills training, teamwork, and

See Mountain Bike on page 29



Jasper Schuetz, a Piedmont High School senior, led the Varsity race in a tight pack of seven that swapped positions with Payton Shoresman of San Luis Obispo for five laps.



Josephine Schuetz takes the win, joined on the podium by Hannah Slattery-Weisberg of Berkeley High, Naomi Bair (San Luis Obispo Composite), Kaity Bugsch (Sonora MTB Granite Grinders Composite), and Haley Wilson (San Luis Obispo Composite).



Arts & Entertainment

Treasure Island Museum's new art gallery opens this Saturday

By Allyson Aleksey

Treasure Island Museum is adding a second public art gallery including works by artists featured at the 1939 and 1940 Golden Gate International Exposition.

The new gallery opens this Saturday, March 7, in the museum's historic Building One and includes paintings, drawings, sculptures, lithographs and more by California artists, displayed publicly for the first time in decades since the groundbreaking exposition.

The gallery will feature rotating exhibitions showcasing artwork preserved by the Spencer Jon Helfen Collection, offering visitors a glimpse into the island's unique past and significance in the San Francisco Bay Area's history and future.

The museum was established in 1975 and opened to the public in 1976. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has served as a Pan American Airways terminal and naval headquarters in addition to an exposition hub. Treasure Island Museum's mission is to preserve and interpret the island's Pacific-themed heritage, educate residents and visitors on its historical relevance to contemporary issues, support community partnerships and inspire future generations through programs, exhibitions and events.

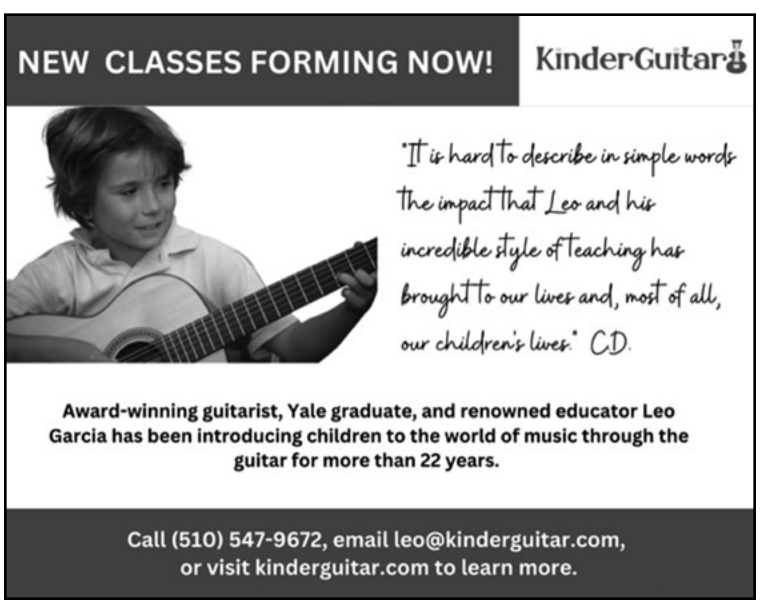
The gallery opening is held on March 7, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 39 Treasure Island Rd #111 in San Francisco. The event is free but registration is required. Visit https://www.treasureisland-museum.org/event-details/gallery-opening to learn more and to register online.



Treasure Island Museum

ADVERTISE IN *THE POST*





J. Miller Flowers showing at FAMSF's Bouquets to Art

Local florist participates for 26th year



J.Miller Flowers and Gifts arrangement at Legion of Honor

By Allyson Aleksey

For 26 years, sisters Valerie and Robin Lee have marked the arrival of spring not just with blossoms in their shop windows, but with an installation at one of the Bay Area's most anticipated museum traditions.

The co-owners of J.Miller Flowers and Gifts are once again among more than 120 floral designers participating in the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco's annual Bouquets to Art exhibition, which runs through Sunday, March 8.

The weeklong event pairs arrangements with works from the permanent collections and architecture of the de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor. Proceeds help underwrite exhibitions, conservation projects and education programs at the museums.

"It truly is one of my favorite weeks of the year," Valerie Lee said. "I love being able to share my passion for flowers, art and nature with my friends, customers, garden clubs and museum visitors."

This year, the sisters chose a quieter, more contemplative work than in years past: *Miss Eve Fairfax*, a marble bust by French sculptor Auguste Rodin, on view in Gallery 8 at the Legion of Honor.

"Auguste Rodin is my favorite artist and sculptor of all time," Lee said. "All of his art evokes wonder, calm and joy when he encompasses nature into his art."

Lee said the gallery itself influenced her direction.

"It was a very calming space and sculpture," she said. "So I wanted something very calming to complement that."

Rather than bold or highly manipulated materials, Valerie said she opted for "a restrained palette of whites and greens." Drawing inspiration from the sculpture's ivory tones and delicate veil, the Lees created an arrangement in layered whites designed to echo its form.

"That was my intention," Lee said of the symmetrical lines that mirror the veil. "If you look at the close-up, those white alabaster anthuriums depict her face, because I felt like her face just looked like porcelain. Very delicate."

The anthuriums were sourced directly from a specialty grower in Hilo, Hawaii. The hybrid variety, developed in collaboration with the University of Hawaii and Green Point Nursery, is known for its refined shape and soft coloration.

"It's such a unique, delicate anthurium," Lee said. "That's what I wanted for her face, because she's a really beautiful, delicate face in contrast to the harshness of just marble."

Additional white dendrobiums and phalaenopsis orchids, along with makara leaves and curly willow, complete the arrangement. Lee designed and installed the piece herself, taking into account the scale of the gallery and the need for the flowers to last the duration of the weeklong show.

"My absolute favorite part of the week is being able to share my creative ideas through flowers and interpret different art through the years," she said. "It's always a challenge that I embrace, and I truly love sharing the Bouquets to Art experience with our art- and flower-loving community."

Lee will also participate in the museum's Meet the Designer program on Thursday, March 5, and Friday, March 6, from noon to 1 p.m. in Gallery 8 at the Legion of Honor, where she will discuss her inspiration, floral selections and history with the exhibition.

Bouquets to Art continues through Sunday, March 8, at the de Young and Legion of Honor.

Two related programs round out the weekend:

On Friday, March 6, at 2 p.m. in the Koret Auditorium at the de Young, "Bloom Where You're Rooted: Culture and Floral Design" will feature florist Gina Lett-Shrewsberry and author Teresa J. Speight discussing the African American experience in floriculture. Tickets are $55 and include admission to Bouquets to Art at both museums. Seating is limited and first come, first served.

On Saturday, March 7, at 1 p.m., Bay Area artist Kija Lucas will present an artist talk in the Koret Auditorium exploring themes of home, heritage and inheritance in her photography. Admission is included with a Bouquets to Art ticket. Doors open 30 minutes before the program; seating is limited and unassigned.



Valerie Lee preps her arrangement. *Photos courtesy of Valerie Lee*

Berkeley Playhouse premieres *Once* on Feb. 21

By Allyson Aleksey



Photo by Ben Krantz

Jake Gale and Gillian Eichenberger perform in Berkeley Playhouse's production of Once.

Berkeley Playhouse presents the Tony Award-winning musical *Once* opening February 21 and running through March 8.

Featuring a book by Enda Walsh and music and lyrics by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, *Once* is based on the 2007 film that earned the Academy Award for Best Original Song for "Falling Slowly." Set in Dublin, the story follows an Irish busker and a Czech immigrant who form a deep connection through music during a life-changing week of songwriting and collaboration.

The production is directed by Josh Marx, with music direction by Michael Patrick Wiles and choreography by Erin Rose Solorio. Actors perform their own instruments onstage, creating a pub-style atmosphere that underscores the show's themes of community and artistic partnership.

"I've always loved *Once* because it digs into something I think about a lot: what music really is and how it connects us as human beings," Marx said. "I loved the movie *Once* when I first saw it— and then the Broadway production pulled me in even deeper, especially the way it evoked a sense of community; similar to drinking a pint of Guinness in an Irish pub while patrons play music together. For Berkeley Playhouse's production, we're looking to put something truly special together; each actor plays their own instrument (sometimes more than one!), and we want to create an unforgettable experience that capitalizes on the amazing talent that we're bringing into the room."

Jake Gale and Gillian Eichenberger lead the cast as Guy and Girl.

For tickets or more information, call (510) 845-8542 x351 or visit berkeleyplayhouse.org.

Opera Parallèle performs *La Belle et la Bête* at UC Berkeley March 13 & 14



Photo courtesy of Cal Performances

The opera merges Jean Cocteau's 1946 romantic fantasy with Philip Glass' 1994 score.

By Allyson Aleksey

Opera Parallèle will present two major productions this Spring, with a revival of its critically-acclaimed production of L*a Belle et la Bête* showing Friday, March 13, and Saturday, March 14, both at 8 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus.

Based on Jean Cocteau's 1946 film and set to Philip Glass's 1994 score, the production fuses live performance with film imagery in a surrealist retelling of the classic fairy tale. Nicole Paiement conducts, with direction and production concept by Brian Staufenbiel. The creative team also includes projection designer and director of photography David Murakami, lighting designer Jessica Ann Drayton, costume designer Natalie Barshow, hair and makeup designer Y. Sharon Peng, and sound designer Jay Cruz. Sung in French with projected English supertitles, the approximately 90-minute opera runs without intermission.

The cast features Hadleigh Adams as La Bête, Le Prince, Avenant and l'Officier; Chea Kang as La Belle; Aurélien Mangwa as Le Père, Ludovic and L'Usurier; and Sophie Delphis as Félicie and Adélaïde. Tickets start at $55.

Later in the season, Opera Parallèle presents the West Coast opera debut of *Doubt*, with music by Douglas Cuomo and a libretto by John Patrick Shanley. The opera will be staged in partnership with Presidio Theatre, with performances Friday, May 29, and Saturday, May 30, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, May 31, at 3 p.m., at Presidio Theatre in San Francisco.

Based on Shanley's Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning play, *Doubt* is sung in English with projected English supertitles and runs approximately 100 minutes without intermission. These performances introduce a new chamber orchestra version created by the composer and an abridged libretto by Kevin Newbury.

Paiement conducts with Staufenbiel directing. The cast includes Matthew Worth as Father Flynn, Rhoslyn Jones as Sister Aloysius, Naomi Steele as Sister James, and Deborah Nansteel as Mrs. Miller. Tickets start at $66.

San Francisco Ballet School announces 2025 Spring Festival

Festival held at War Memorial Opera House May 9 & 10

By Allyson Aleksey



Photo by Lindsay Thomas

San Francisco Ballet School Students in 2024 Spring Festival

San Francisco Ballet School will celebrate decades of artistic leadership this spring with a gala-style festival at the War Memorial Opera House, marking the first time the school's Spring Festival will be staged in the historic venue with live orchestral accompaniment.

The 2025 Spring Festival, set for May 9 and 10, features works by past and present artistic directors of San Francisco Ballet, including Helgi Tomasson, Michael Smuin, Lew Christensen and current San Francisco Ballet Artistic Director Tamara Rojo. Students will perform to live music by the Grammy Award-winning San Francisco Ballet Orchestra under Music Director and Principal Conductor Martin West.

The program, curated by School Director Grace Holmes, includes excerpts from Rojo's "Raymonda," Tomasson's "Handel – A Celebration," Smuin's "Quattro a Verdi," Christensen's "Vivaldi Concerto Grosso" and August Bournonville's "La Sylphide."

"This program is a testament to the legacy, evolution, and enduring artistry that defines San Francisco Ballet and San Francisco Ballet School," Holmes said in a press release. "It is an honor to celebrate the innovation and creativity that continue to inspire generations of dancers and audiences on a global scale. We are proud to be able to give these students the opportunity to perform in a venue with such a rich legacy alongside the unparalleled SF Ballet Orchestra as our students continue to develop artistically and strive toward professional careers in ballet."

Additional works include a world premiere by company member Davide Occhipinti and the West Coast debut of Esteban Hernández's "1941," both commissioned through the organization's Creation House initiative supporting emerging choreographers.

Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. May 9 and 4 p.m. May 10. Tickets start at $29, with discounted children's tickets available. Proceeds will support scholarships and education programs serving more than 40,000 community members annually.

Visit https://www.sfballet.org/support-engage/special-events/ to purchase tickets online.



Photo by Lindsay Thomas

San Francisco Ballet School Spring Festival will be held at the War Memorial Opera House on May 9 & 10.

PCA to Present Direct from Hamburg The Konverg Duo

Friday, March 13, at 7 p.m. the young dynamic duo, pianist Erdmute Kather and baritone Jonas Schünke will welcome Spring with a lively program of classical and contemporary song. Works from Purcell, Schubert, Dowling, Schumann and Ralph Vaughn Williams will be followed by a composition by the 19th Century Romantic composer Massenet. Kander and Ebb's song, Razzle Dazzle, from Chicago will be followed by Leonard Cohen's iconic Hallelujah. Romanza by the beloved Italian R&B, Jazz, and Disco composer Malavasy will round out the evening's presentation.

The Konverg Duo has toured throughout Asia and Europe. While in Piedmont they will be staying with friends John and Sue Malick who they first met at a house concert at Schloss Hochhausen in Southern Germany.

For an uplifting evening indulgence don't miss this concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 13. Reception to meet the artist to follow. $20 at the door.



The Musical Gourmet

Heroes and hero worship

By Joseph Gold

A philosopher famously observed: "From the genius we learn what to do. From the fool, we learn what not to do." This is a paraphrase from the philosophy of the great American tenor Jerry Hadley (1952-2007). In case you don't recognize the name, he was one of the great singers from the recent past, and he always advised to study the greats of the distant past.

Parallel to this is constant self-analysis based on the principles of the great minds and logic. Many times the principles expressed in another sphere apply in music as well as in our personal lives. I always think of the philosophy of the great football coach Vince Lombardi who observed, "The team that controls the line of scrimmage wins the game." Let's apply that philosophy across the board.

My father spoke frequently of the great tenor Enrico Caruso. He might have been the greatest singer of all time, but he was also one of the finest people of all time. His generosity, both on the stage and off, was exemplary.

Using the philosophy of Vince Lombardi once again we get advice from the legendary Spanish violinist Pablo de Sarasate. He told my first violin teacher that it is important to keep the fingers directly above the strings of the violin. All musicians would be advised to follow this philosophy. Additionally, he said that if you look good, you will sound good.

I was fortunate to have known some stellar figures of the past who offered advice. Van Cliburn was one of them. His generosity was similar to that of Enrico Caruso. Ditto for opera star Brian Sullivan. The Duke of Baena (Spanish diplomat) was a brilliant representative from another sphere. He was a diplomat for the ages. For example, he even knew how to deal with Generalissimo Franco. That was quite an accomplishment.

Another outstanding character from Spain is the noted guitarist and composer Jaume Torrent. He has taken the guitar to a new realm which is light years beyond "standard guitar thinking". I have often wished that guitarists would open their minds to the musical compositions of Jaume Torrent, and it seems that a few guitarists have opened their minds. Most guitar music is rooted in one or two keys only. How myopic. But… Jaume Torrent has opened the universe by composing pieces in every key available.

As always, the words of Rocky Marciano ring true. "The bigger they are, the nicer they are".



Jaume Torrent is a forward-looking guitarist and composer. In this respect, he is unique in the world of music.

Berkeley Symphony hosts 2026 Chamber Series concerts at PCA

Concerts held March 22 - May 31

By Allyson Aleksey

Berkeley Symphony will open its 2026 Chamber Series with four curated programs highlighting contemporary voices and classical masterworks, all held at the Piedmont Center for the Arts.

The series begins with "Roots and Resonances" on February 22 at 4 p.m., curated by composer Samuel Adams. The program features percussionist Haruka Fujii and a string quartet from the symphony in works exploring texture and timbre, including music by Salina Fisher and Osvaldo Golijov, as well as Adams' "Sundial" and Fujii's "Divisions."

On March 22, "French Connections," curated by Dianne Nicolini of Classical California KDFC, will feature works by Francis Poulenc, Lili Boulanger and Gabriel Fauré.

Composer Juan Pablo Contreras curates "The Music of Muses" on April 12, with music by Reena Esmail, Jennifer Higdon and Bedřich Smetana, alongside his "Musas Mexicanas."

The series concludes May 31 with "I, Too, Sing America," curated by James Parrish Smith, featuring works by Brian Raphael Nabors, Anna Clyne and Antonín Dvořák.

The symphony closes its 2025/26 season following the conclusion of Music Director Joseph Young's successful six-year tenure.

"This season represents an exciting new chapter for Berkeley Symphony," said Berkeley Symphony Executive Director Marion Atherton in a press release. "We're thrilled to welcome some of today's most compelling conductors, each bringing their unique artistic vision to our stage."

This season "shines a light on stirring masterpieces from the classical canon alongside groundbreaking contemporary works," Atherton added. "From Dvorák's lyrical Eighth Symphony to Shostakovich'sspirited Ninth and Haydn's vivid 'Military' Symphony, we're exploring rich musical territory beyond the standard repertoire while showcasing the versatility and excellence of our orchestra."

Chamber Series subscriptions are $120 and available through the symphony's box office and website. Subscriptions can be purchased by calling the box office at (510) 841-2800 or visiting berkeleysymphony.org.



The symphony returns to the Piedmont Center for the Arts this Spring. *Photo courtesy of Berkeley Symphony*



Welcome to the Piedmont Center for the Arts

Friday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.

***Kombos Collective* Hellenic Trio Concert**

The **Kombos Collective** presents *Out of Time, Out of Place*, a look at displacement by Hellenic-American artists. Pianist **Michael Malis** (*piano*), **Constantine Novotny** (*baritone*) and **Ellie Falaris Ganelin** (*flute*) explore these concepts through music and poetry. The cornerstone of the program is Malis's original song cycle *Another Shore, Another Country* set to the poetry of C.P. Cavafy, commissioned by ProMusica Detroit and premiered in February 2024. Also on the program is flute-piano music by Athens-based composer Evangelos Kokkoris. Tickets at https://www.viewcy.com/event/out_of_time_out_of_p_1 .

Saturday, March 7, 4:00 p.m.

***Ensemble Humanité* Chamber Concert**

This chamber ensemble presents a special afternoon of music featuring the **Cecilia String Quartet** and guest clarinetist **Bruce Foster** performing an emotionally rich program highlighting Béla Bartók's masterful *Contrasts*, as well as Robert Schumann's *Piano Quintet in E-flat Major*, one of the great Romantic masterpieces. Tickets for this compelling musical journey—from folk-inspired modernism to the warmth, lyricism, and passion of Romanticism, are available at https://events.com/r/tickets/1028903 or at the door for a bit more.

Sunday, March 8, 11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Opening Reception *LeGault* Fine Art Show

Art of the Garden: Portals to the Unseen, an exhibit by artist **Karen LeGault** of watercolor paintings on mulberry and other papers. Her collection is a fascinating exploration of movement, energy and the cycles-of-life, depicted in rich, colorful and nuanced nature-filled compositions that include flowers, table poems, ponds and landscapes. Gallery hours 11 am to 2 pm most Saturdays and Sundays from March 7 to April 12.

Sunday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.

***Irving Klein Laureate* Piano/Cello duet**

A 2025 Irving M. Klein International String Competition laureate and first prize winner of the Cleveland Cello Society Scholarship Competition and the Oberlin Conservatory Bach Competition, **Miles Reed** is a cellist of remarkable creativity and passion, accompanied here by **Amy Zanrosso**, a dedicated piano prodigy who started playing at age 6. The concert will include works by Mendelssohn, Martinů, Beethoven, and a newer work by Paul Wiancko. Purchase advance tickets at: https://events.com/r/tickets/1030228.

Friday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.

***Konverg Duo:* Piano & vocal duet**

Direct From Hamburg, Germany, **Erdmute Kather**, *piano*, and **Jonas Schünke**, *baritone*, will perform selections from Dowling, Purcell, Schubert, Schumann, and Copland. This award- winning young but seasoned duo has performed extensively throughout Europe and Asia. Meet the **Konverg Duo** at a complimentary reception following the performance. Admission is $20 at the door. Donations to help with travel costs will be appreciated.

Saturday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.

***Indian Classical Music* Concert**

Will Marsh Music presents a program of Hindustani classical music, performed by a trio of **Will Marsh** on *sitar*, **Souryadeep Bhattacharyya** on *sarod*, and **Sudhakar Vaidyanathana** on *tabla*. The program, called *Resonant Offering*, will be a rare and dazzling exploration into a musical tradition as old as or older than our Western Classical traditions, with this very high-level trio of expert musicians with decades of experience in the genre. Buy advance tickets at https://events.com/r/tickets/1030338, or pay at the door for $5 more.

Support the programming of Piedmont Center for the Arts by donating generously to the Tip Jar at these events.

801 Magnolia Avenue • Piedmont, Calif.
info@piedmontcenterforthearts.org
www.piedmontcenterforthearts.org

MOVIES FOR ADULTS

Eternity Love Across Lifetimes

By Erik Wurgaft

Apple TV has pulled off a quiet coup with *Eternity*, assembling three genuine stars, Miles Teller fresh from *Top Gun: Maverick*, Elizabeth Olsen still carrying the haunted intensity of her Scarlet Witch, and Callum Turner from *Fantastic Beasts* and *Masters of the Air*, and asking them to do something that has become oddly rare: act. Not act against digital backdrops or between bursts of action, but share real space and convey a lifetime of love through glances and gestures.

The film plays with an ancient theological puzzle, the question the Sadducees posed to Jesus about a woman married in turn to seven brothers: whose wife would she be in the afterlife? Screenwriter Nathan Parker, whose script languished for years on Hollywood's Black List, turns that riddle into something playful and quietly probing. We follow the same souls from 1918 to 2029, watching Teller and Olsen find each other, lose each other, begin again, until Turner arrives as a third point in the geometry and the whole thing tilts sideways into questions the romantic comedy genre was never built to contain.

What's striking is how completely the film trusts its actors to carry the metaphysics in their bodies rather than through exposition or effects. Teller, who can default to cocky charm, finds something more uncertain here. In one beautifully restrained sequence, he plays a man in the 2010s who claims not to believe in any of this but keeps catching himself staring at Olsen as if trying to remember something just beyond reach.

See Eternity on page 32



Elizabeth Olsen, Callum Turner and Miles Teller in *Eternity*

Tehran: a high-stakes mirror to a world on the brink



Phoenix Raei and Niv Sultan in *Tehran*

By Erik Wurgaft

There is a moment early in *Tehran* when Tamar Rabinyan, a Mossad hacker sent undercover into the city of her birth, walks through a street market and lets herself, just for a second, look like she belongs. It is a quiet beat, played without dialogue by Niv Sultan. It is also when the series makes its intentions clear. This is not just a thriller about intelligence agencies. It is a story about identity, memory, and the thin line between home and enemy.

Watching *Tehran* while real-world tensions with Iran fill the headlines adds an uneasy charge. The show, now in its third season on Apple TV+, unfolds like a psychological pressure cooker. Writer Moshe Zonder and director Daniel Syrkin build a narrative that compresses time and emotion. Missions unravel in minutes. Loyalties shift quickly. Decisions carry immediate, personal consequences.

At its core, the show explores an ancient antagonism sharpened by modern radicalism. It understands that conflict between Israel and Iran is not only strategic but historical and ideological. Yet what gives *Tehran* its power is its refusal to flatten anyone into a symbol. The enemies are fully human. They love their families. They make mistakes. They doubt themselves. The antagonism is real, but so is the shared fragility of the people caught inside it.

The engine of the series is not flawless tradecraft but human fallibility. Characters are driven by rage, fear, pride and loyalty as much as by policy. The pacing is relentless. There are no indulgent flashbacks or narrative detours. The compression of time is deliberate. This is clearly a show, not a documentary about spy work. Intelligence operations in real life unfold over months and years. Here they explode in hours. The point is not to glorify perfect secret services. It is to show raw emotion under pressure, and the

See Tehran on page 28

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AND THE KOMBOS COLLECTIVE

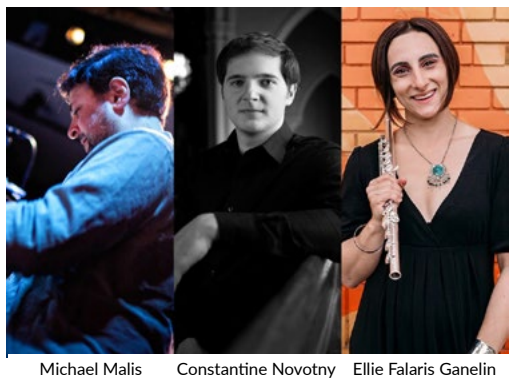
formerly Greek Chamber Music Project

PRESENT:

Out of Time, Out of Place



... a look at displacement and self-discovery through the eyes of artists in the diaspora. Hellenic-American artists explore these concepts through the convergence of music and poetry. The cornerstone of the program is Malis' original song cycle *Another Shore, Another Country* set to the poetry of C.P. Cavafy, commissioned by ProMusica Detroit and premiered in February, 2024. Cavafy, who lived most of his life in Alexandria, Egypt, is the quintessential voice of the Greek diaspora and a prominent figure among 20th-century poets.



Michael Malis (piano) Constantine Novotny (baritone) Ellie Falaris Ganelin (flute)



The Kombos Collective is a champion of Greek composers, shedding light on the rich musical repertoire coming out of Greece and the Greek diaspora by presenting captivating programming in intimate concert settings inspired by the Hellenic World. Kombos has released several full-length albums and performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Library of Congress, and cultural centers and universities across the U.S. and Canada.

Through Ganelin's and Malis' own arrangements, the trio performs songs of love and longing by Greek idols Mikis Theodorakis and Manos Hadjidakis. These masterful colleagues born the same year (1925) each brought a new vision and prominence to Hellenic music through the radio in their homeland and in film worldwide. Also on the program is flute-piano music by Athens-based composer Evangelos Kokkoris.

Presented under the auspices of the Consulate of Greece in San Francisco.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026, AT 7:00

Advance tickets now available at:
https://www.viewcy.com/event/out_of_time_out_of_p_1

A Powerful Afternoon of Chamber Music

PRESENTED BY

Ensemble Humanité and Cecilia String Quartet

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This emotionally rich program highlights two masterful works: Béla Bartók's *Contrasts*, a vibrant and rhythmically daring trio for clarinet, violin, and piano, featuring highly-acclaimed clarinetist Bruce Foster, and Robert Schumann's *Piano Quintet in E-flat Major*, one of the great Romantic masterpieces of the chamber repertoire. Together, these works create a compelling musical journey – from folk-inspired modernism to the warmth, lyricism, and passion of Romanticism.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026, 4:00 P. M.

(Concert followed by light refreshments)

ADVANCE TICKETS AT:
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MOVIES FOR KIDS

How to Train Your Dragon



Mason Thames in *How to Train Your Dragon*

By Erik Wurgaft

There are stories that endure because they tap something we recognize before we can name it — the outcast, the misunderstood creature, the friendship that costs something. *How to Train Your Dragon*, now reimagined in live action, knows exactly what kind of story it is.

Adapted from the animated franchise, itself drawn from Cressida Cowell's books, the film returns us to the Viking village of Berk, where dragons are feared, hunted and poorly understood. At the center is Hiccup, a slight, thoughtful boy born into a culture that prizes brute strength. He is the chief's son who cannot become his father. Into this comes Toothless — a Night Fury, the most feared dragon in the skies — injured, grounded, and just as stranded from the world as the boy who finds him.

What begins as secrecy becomes friendship. What begins as fear becomes trust. When Hiccup looks into a dragon's eyes and sees something like himself, he cannot go through with the kill. That moment of recognition — quiet, almost accidental — is where the film lives. The dragon who has every reason to destroy humans learns, slowly, to depend on one.

What DeBlois has always understood — as the writer-director of the original trilogy, now returned to remake his own work — is that Hiccup is not learning to tame a dragon. He is learning to see one. His village's hatred is not mere superstition; it is inherited identity, passed down so long it feels like instinct. To question it is to become a stranger in your own home. DeBlois never lets Hiccup off easily, and never lets the audience mistake recognition for resolution.

The live-action finds textures the animation could only suggest. The flying sequences are exhilarating, but it is the stillness that lingers — a wordless early encounter where Hiccup and Toothless circle each other, neither willing to look away, each unsure whether to run. Wind moves through Viking fur cloaks. Scales catch real light. Berk feels inhabited rather than constructed.

The outsider, this film keeps insisting, sees what the tribe has trained itself not to. It is an old idea. DeBlois makes you feel it anyway.

How to Train Your Dragon. *Directed by Dean DeBlois. Starring Mason Thames, Nico Parker, Gerard Butler. Released in 2025. 1 hr., 56 min. Rated PG. Available on Netlix.*

Flow – Best Animated Feature

By Chris Honoré

Flow is one of those films I genuinely regret not seeing sooner. It won the Oscar for Best Animated Feature in 2025, and once I finally sat down with it, I understood why.

The film is built on a technology called Blender, a free, open-source 3D creation suite that gives animators a painterly, almost impressionistic visual style. I'll be honest: when people start explaining "core animation technology," my eyes glaze over. But none of that matters once the film begins. What unfolds on screen is lush, detailed, and immediately absorbing.

The story follows a black cat living alone in an abandoned house deep in the forest. There's no dialogue, no narration, just sound. Animal noises. Barking. The cat's soft mewing. The filmmakers have to make you care about this creature without a single spoken word, and somehow, they pull it off.

Things get moving when a massive flood tears through the forest, almost Biblical in scale. The cat, who we come to know as Flow, is swept up along with everything else. The hope, such as it is, becomes finding dry land.

What Flow finds instead is a small sailboat carrying an odd collection of survivors: lemurs, a dog, a large white stork-like bird, a capybara. None of them especially want to share the space. All of them have to do it.

There's an environmental undercurrent running through the whole film, though it never turns preachy. More striking is what the filmmakers chose not to do. The animals aren't anthropomorphized. They don't speak or reason like humans. They don't crack jokes or arrive at tidy lit-

See Flow on page 28



A scene from *Flow*

PIEDMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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IRVING M. KLEIN INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

PRESENTS





A 2025 Irving M. Klein International String Competition laureate and first prize winner of the Cleveland Cello Society Scholarship Competition and the Oberlin Conservatory Bach Competition, Miles Reed is a cellist of remarkable creativity and passion, accompanied here by Amy Zanrosso!



Amy Zanrosso's playing has been hailed as magnetic, expressive, and masterful. She began piano lessons at the age of 6 and by the age of 15, Amy had decided to make music her life. She is constantly fueled by her inspiring students and loves forcing on them her favorite composers as well as telling them what to do.

PROGRAM

Song Without Words, Op. 109 - **Felix Mendelssohn**
MIcrosuite for Solo Cello – **Paul Wiancko**
Variations on a Slovakian Theme - **Bohuslav Martinů**
Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 69 - **L.V. Beethoven**
Danse du diable vert, (encore) - **Gaspar Cassadó**

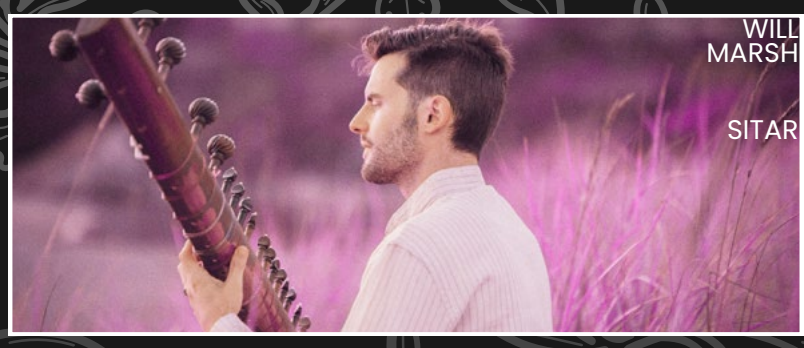
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026
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Features



Piedmont Flix Fest

400 Blows to play at Piedmont's Flix Fest

By Gerry Gragg

One of the rewarding pleasures of movies is seeing one with friends and then chatting about it when the lights come up. That's just what the Piedmont Flix Fest, which meets on the second Thursday of each month, offers: a great movie in a comfortable setting, and a lively discussion afterward.

The Flix Fest's March selection is *400 Blows*, directed by Francois Truffaut. This film was his first New Wave film as a director and is considered an autobiographical portrayal of his own adolescent years.

The film takes place in 1959 in the urban cityscape of Paris. Using a hand-held camera, Truffaut follows the adventures of 12-year-old Antoine Doinel, with a mixture of outdoor and static scenes of his apartment and classroom.

Antoine's artistic interests are curtailed by a rigid French curriculum focused on the written word, and his emotional development is stunted at home by unloving parents, who treat him as a nuisance in their adult lives. These restrictions lead Antoine to rebel against his teacher in class and his parents at home with acts of mischief and truancy, as he searches for freedom of expression with his best friend from school.

The theft of a typewriter from his father's office results in a night in jail and a 2-month stay at a juvenile detention center for boys, requested by his parents, who no longer know how to control his behavior. Antoine's escape from this center leads him for the first time to the seashore, where he stands in the film's final scene to face the camera in a frozen frame, staring back at us to ponder his future, and ours.

400 Blows will be screened on Thursday, March 12, at the Piedmont Center of the Arts, 801 Magnolia Avenue. Doors will open at 12:45 p.m, and the movie is free to anyone over 18 years of age. Participants are invited on a drop-in basis and can bring snacks.

The next movie will be *Enchanted April*, a 1991 romantic comedy directed by Mike Newell, to be shown on April 9. Please note that due to a venue conflict, the film will be shown at 4 p.m.



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What's gnu at your Zoo?

It's a boy! Red-tailed monkey born at Oakland Zoo

By Isabella Linares

The Oakland Zoo has welcomed a new red-tailed monkey baby boy! The Zoo's resident red-tailed guenons, Nonami the mother and Marley the father, welcomed a male offspring in February. The milestone marks the first birth of a guenon monkey at Oakland Zoo.

Nonami and her baby boy, named Tumbili, are thriving. He is nursing and bonding normally with Nonami, and she is ensuring the baby stays close. As a veteran mom, Nonami has successfully given birth at her previous Zoo to two other females who also live at Oakland Zoo: Ikea and Skittles.

Nonami and her baby have joined the rest of the troop in their habitat, and the baby's sister, Ikea, has shown strong interest in her brother and wants to help Mom with grooming while Nonami supervises. Mom and baby frequently spend time in the habitat, where visitors can see them every day, but sometimes Mom may prefer to retreat to a cozy, warm bedroom space with her baby.

Nonami and Marley were recommended for breeding by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) within the Guenon Red-tailed Monkey Species Survival Plan (SSP). The SSP was created by the AZA (which accredits Oakland Zoo) to promote the sustainability of a healthy, genetically diverse, and demographically varied AZA population.

Keepers are thrilled about the Zoo's first guenon baby and held a welcome party on Feburary 28 to also announce the name of the new male red-tailed monkey. Tumbili is Swahili for "monkey."

For any questions, please email Isabella Linares at ilinares@oaklandzoo.org or call (650) 776-9589.

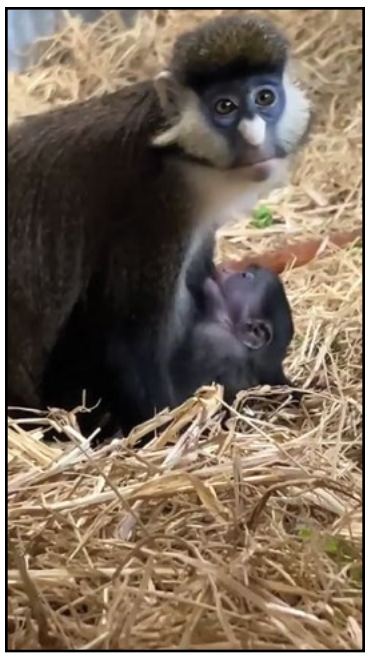
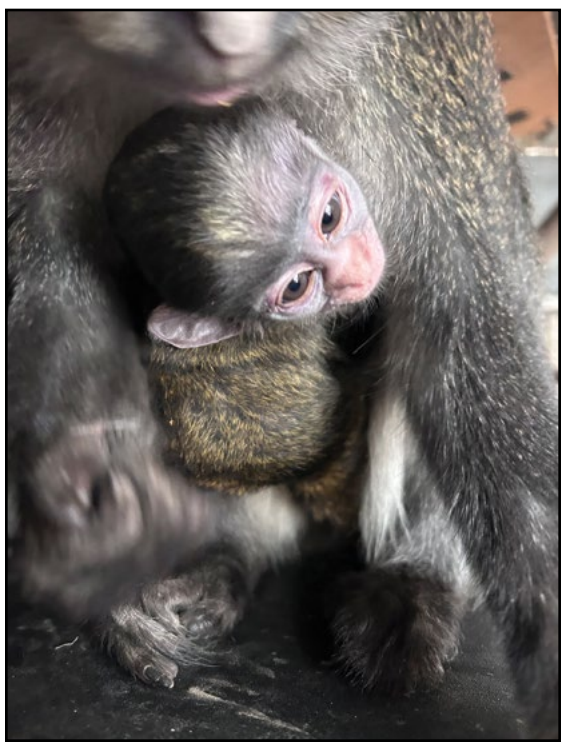


Photo Credit Oakland Zoo, Keeper Alyssa

Red-tailed guenons are primarily frugivores, fruit-eaters, but also eat leaves, insects, flowers, and, of course, mother's milk.



Nonami, one of Oakland Zoo's resident red-tailed guenons, and her new baby boy, Tumbili.



Wild red-tailed guenons inhabit rainforests, swamps, and mountain forests in countries including Uganda, Kenya, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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Walking on Wednesday

Piedmont's Victorian past, up close

By Dick Carter

Last Wednesday morning brought 46 walkers and three K-9 companions to the Exedra, ready to finish what a rainy week had interrupted. The mission: complete a tour of Piedmont's Victorian homes drawn from Ann Swift's 2007 book, *Cottages and Castles – The Centennial Houses of the City of Piedmont.*

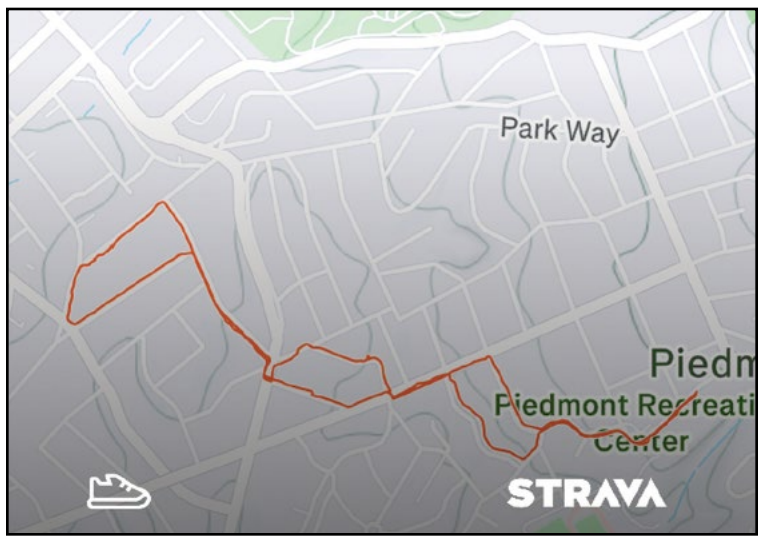
Swift served as Piedmont City Clerk for 22 years and became the city's unofficial historian. Written for Piedmont's centennial, her book documents 173 homes that were already over 100 years old at the time of publication. On this walk, her historical research was shared along the route, and architect Jim Kellogg returned to offer architectural commentary on each house. The prior week's rain had cut the tour short before reaching two Victorians on Oakland Avenue. This Wednesday, the group would see those and more, swinging through the western side of the city.

The walkers set off down Magnolia Avenue, crossed Hillside to Oakland Avenue, and headed down to Jerome Avenue. At 29 Jerome, a dog named Moose made the group's arrival unmistakable. His barking brought out the homeowner, Christopher, who came down to greet everyone. The house Robert Gray built in 1894 is a compact Victorian cottage, and Kellogg described its standout features: a large front bay window beneath a projecting roof gable, fish-scale shingles, and a sunburst detail at the ridge. By 1901, the property belonged to John Spring, who died a multi-millionaire with a 16-acre Berkeley estate. In 1895 he had sued the Piedmont Consolidated Cable Company and won $14,000, seed money he invested in land across Berkeley, Alameda, and Piedmont that surged in value after the 1906 earthquake. Swift speculated the cottage served as a weekend escape from his San Francisco residence. The group posed for a photo on the entry steps with Christopher and Moose before moving on.

From Jerome, the walkers wound through Cambridge Way, across Grand Avenue, and up Greenbank to Rose Avenue, a street with a quirk worth pausing over. The houses on the north side are in Oakland; those on the south are in Piedmont. The reason goes back to the city's rushed incorporation in 1907, when Piedmont residents voted to break away from Oakland. To file the paperwork in Sacramento quickly, city founders grabbed the only detailed map available, one from the Piedmont Sanitary Sewer District. Sewer lines follow geography, not streets, which is why roughly 136 parcels are split between the two cities today.

Rose Avenue holds a cluster of notable Victorians. At 950 Rose, the sewer district assessed the property at $250 and the house at $400 when it was built in 1901. The earliest records describe just one bedroom; a Rose family owned it by 1926, and the street appears to be named for them, not the flower. The tall Queen Anne turret on the right was added in the 1970s, and basement expansion added bedrooms over time. Kellogg noted the house sits at the tail end of the Victorian era; the homes built on Rose just a few years later already reflect 20th-century tastes: Bungalow, Craftsman, American Foursquare, and various Revival styles.

At 934 Rose, Peter and Christine Nelson, Norwegian immigrants who arrived in 1881, built their Queen Anne cottage in 1895. Peter drove a water cart; Christine raised their children and, by 1907, ran a catering business from home. That same year they built 938 Rose next door, and the contrast tells the story of a style falling out of fashion. The 1895 house is ornamented with sunburst patterns, wood spindle supports, dentil trim, bay windows, and the original white picket fence. The 1907 house is straightforward clapboard with



Map of the walk

Doric columns, a hip roof, and none of the ornament. A decade was all it took.

Next door at 930 Rose, Welsh immigrant Hugh Davies built his house the same year as the Nelsons. A carpenter at Mountain View Cemetery, Davies supported a wife and eventually five children in the home. Before 1926 he divided it into two units. The Queen Anne details survive: fish-scale gable shingles, decorative corner brackets, dentils over the bay windows, and the original stained glass entry door.

The group navigated past tree trimmers working the Piedmont side of Rose but not the Oakland side, then looped back via Linda and Kingston Avenues to Greenbank. At 225 Greenbank, Ole Berg built a one-story cottage in 1907. A 45-year-old Norwegian stevedore working in the Oakland docks, Berg may well have done much of the construction himself. The house lacks some details that would have required a finish carpenter but carries the Queen Anne hallmarks: fish-scale shingles, turned posts, and spindlework. He added a garage in 1926, and the house was raised in the 1990s to add a second floor.

Back on Oakland Avenue, the group noted 1138 Oakland, a late Victorian built by C. H. Hawley in 1901, with bay windows on each side, multiple gables, and an original lot that once extended through to what is now 85 Fairview Avenue. Then it was time to head home via upper San Carlos and Magnolia.

A longer walk than usual, but a rewarding one. Ann Swift's Centennial homes on Sunnyside Avenue and beyond are waiting for a future Wednesday.

The Walking on Wednesdays group meets every Wednesday at the Exedra (Highland & Magnolia Avenues) at 10:30 AM. Everyone is invited to join the group. There is no charge. New walkers and their friendly K-9 best friends are especially welcome. Registration is required. Those interested should go to https://tinyurl.com/3ethkehu to register or cal (510) 420-3070 for more information.



Participating were Mike Gallant, Joanne Larson, Dan Scdonis, Jack Fischrup with K-9 best friend Kojak, Sarah Johnson, Noemi Alvarado, Melba Yee, Lori Austin, Nadeen Guffanti, Bill Ahern, Ken Moy, Tina Shum, Alissa Quan, Jim Kellogg, Mary Ann Barnes, June Yee, Edith Lee, Stella Houston, Betsy Lim, Chuck Oraftik, Regina O'Connor, Sean Brient, Sherry Jacobs, Kat Lang, Marcia Arthurs, Max Becker, Jim Kellogg, Mark Davis, Peggy Shultz, Denny McGee, Pat Nicholas, Marianne Jakas, Irene Thompson, Mary Carter, Albert Chen, Alicia Rivera, Brian Hamlin, Jeff Kasmar, Nancy Henn with K-9 best friend Roger, Mike Henn, Rick Eigenbrode, and Dick Carter. The group was please that Deborah Curtin brought not only K-9 best friend Brie but also Alan Jolly and that Cathy Laymon brought Kathy Dwyer to walk with them for the first time.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Hello from your neighbor

From Lafayette to Piedmont – How a neighborhood experiment became Honey Homes

By Kasey Quon

It all started with a simple idea: what if busy families could have a dedicated handyman they could count on — no flaking, no chasing, no stress? For Avantika Prabhakara and her husband Vishwas, Lafayette parents of three, that idea wasn't on the radar… until their neighbors gave them a chance.

"Building a home maintenance company with my wife, Avantika, was never the plan," Vishwas says. "But after an irrigation specialist took a hefty deposit and completely ghosted us, we realized how common and frustrating that experience was. With a small group of neighbors willing to take a chance on something new, that's how Honey Homes got started."

Back in 2022, 15 Beta members in Lafayette said yes to a brand-new concept: a dedicated handyman for your home. Not a one-off contractor, but someone reliable, consistent, and invested in your house year-round.

Those early families helped shape everything — from dependable scheduling to thoughtful, family-friendly service designed specifically for busy households.

Four years later, Honey Homes now supports over 400 families in Piedmont and over 3,000 families across the Bay Area, Los Angeles, Dallas, Austin, and Chicago. For Piedmont homeowners, that means help with everything from mounting garage racks, hanging blackout shades in sunny rooms, tightening loose fixtures, or pressure-washing front walkways along Highland Avenue. Honey Homes is all about helping families reclaim time, energy, and peace of mind.

In a community known for beautiful historic homes and full family calendars, Honey Homes is designed to help families protect their homes — and reclaim their time.

"What started as a neighborhood experiment has become a community of families counting on us for more comfort, more joy, and a lot less stress at home," Avantika says.

Thank you to Piedmont

To celebrate the community that has embraced Honey Homes, the team is giving back. Ten Piedmont neighbors will receive a complimentary Honey Homes trial — including a personalized planning walk-thru and 1.5 hours of dedicated handyman help to tackle those lingering to-dos.

It's their way of saying thank you to the neighbors who continue to support local, family-founded businesses.

For Piedmont families looking to head into spring feeling lighter and more organized, Honey Homes is ready to lend a hand.

Claim your free trial here and feel free to share with a neighbor: https://honeyh.co/piedmontpost



Avantika Prabhakara and her husband Vishwas



Piedmont Food Fest celebrates its milestone 5th year



By Roger Tsai

Piedmont Food Fest is back for a fifth year! The Bay Area's most vibrant multicultural festival returns to Piedmont Park on Saturday, April 25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a one-day celebration of global flavors, live music, and community connection.

Festivalgoers can enjoy live performances including Wilbert McAlister's Cowboy and His Sometimes Blues Band, DJ HeyLove, the Purple Silk Youth Orchestra, Beloved Aerial Arts, Han Martial Arts, Piedmont Middle School, and even a special performance by the Cal Marching Band.

Food and dessert vendors include Aburaya Japanese Fried Chicken, Momolicious, BBtea, Hint of Desi, Cousins Maine Lobster, Aloha Aria's Shave Ice, Swahili Spot, Arthur Mac's, Lola's Spanish Cuisine, Sunrise Deli, Bonito Poke, Lizetta's Southern Soul Food, Crazy Empanadas, Pintoh Thai, and 3 Brothers Kitchen. Guests can also enjoy local breweries and wineries, including Farmstead Wines, P. Herrell Winery, and Covenant Wines, plus a rotating sangria and frosé station.

The KidZone features carnival booths, a kid-favorite snow cone station, and multicultural crafts, along with local retailers such as Immedium Books, Porschia's Henna Tattoos, and Heather's Face Painting.

Since 2022 this volunteer-run event has grown into a beloved community tradition, bringing together neighbors and visitors through diverse food, drink, music, and art. With more than 2,000 attendees and 50 local businesses and community organizations participating each year, Piedmont Food Fest continues to build shared experiences and lasting memories for all participants.

Admission is free. Visit www.piedmontfoodfest.org to register for updates and secure Early Bird specials on discounted drink packages and KidZone bracelets through March.



READ IT IN *THE POST*

The Wine Corner

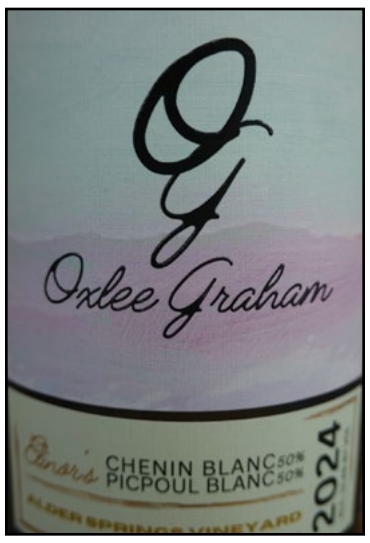
Festival of Undiscovered Grapes: Featuring California's rare wines

Part 1

By Pierre DuMont

Earlier this year on January 31, wine lovers gathered in downtown San Jose for the Festival of Undiscovered Grapes, an immersive wine-tasting celebration highlighting the world's rare and lesser-known grape varieties.

The event drew local residents and visitors eager to explore beyond familiar varietals like Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, and Pinot Noir. Instead, guests sipped wines made from "underdog" grapes — including Semillon, Teroldego, Tannant, Bourbolenc, Cinsault, and Trousseau — representing more than 110 unique winegrape varieties grown in California.



An enticing blend off Picpoul and Chenin Blenc

With dozens of wineries pouring their distinctive selections, attendees wandered the room sampling bold reds, aromatic whites, and intriguing blends that many had never encountered before. Wine producers from across the state were on hand to share stories of their vineyards and the heritage of these lesser-known grapes, offering insight into the diversity of California's wine landscape.

Participants could choose between general admission and VIP tickets. VIP guests enjoyed early access, a pre-tasting discussion focused on Lodi wine varietals with experts, a commemorative wine glass, and complimentary delivery of bottles ordered at the event. General admission ticket holders joined the tasting after the VIP session and had the option to have their wine purchases delivered for a flat fee.

A food vendor on site offered small bites and snacks to pair with the wines, creating a festive atmosphere throughout the afternoon. Conversations flowed as easily as the pours, with many oenophiles excited to discover new favorites and broaden their palates.

Organizers said the festival aimed not just to entertain but to educate, spotlighting vinicultural diversity and supporting small producers whose bottles might otherwise go unnoticed. For many attendees, the event succeeded in turning curiosity into appreciation, underscoring that California's wine story extends far beyond its most popular grapes.

The following wines were the standouts of the huge tasting. They are the cream of the crop and are worth searching out.

(Part 2 will follow next week).

White Wines

- **2024 Oxlee Graham Chenin Blanc/Picpoul "Elinor's Blend" $39**

Picpoul a tart, astringent grape from the south of France is here paired with one of my favorite white grapes Chenin Blanc. The combination brings out the best of both varietals. Its aroma is of apricots, peaches and fresh baked bread. The medium-bodied palate offers peachy, grapefruit and floral flavors. It has a silky texture, vibrant acidity and a refreshing finish. The perfect aperitif.



The rare Bourboulenc from the Rhone Valley performs well in California

- **2024 Acquiesce Bourboulenc $37**

This is one of the 13 grapes that are permitted for use in Chateauneuf du Pape in the Rhone Valley. Hints of melon, almond, and graphite accent notes of lime zest, peach and tangerine on the nose. It's medium bodied to full-bodied, somehow broad and crisp at the same time, with a velvety texture and a savory finish.

- **2024 Pali Orange Muscat "Enz Vineyard" $35**

It may be hard to track this wine down as only 35 cases were made and it is stunning. A charming nose of honeysuckle, gardenia and orange blossoms jumps out of the glass. You anticipate a sweet wine but on the palate, it is bone dry with apple, mango and citrus flavors. It is deeply layered and complex finishing long, savory and satisfying. This is a delicious grape that deserves to be more widely vinified.

- **2024 Rideau Roussanne $52**

Roussanne is one of the main white grapes from the Southern Rhone region in France and is used to make white Chateauneuf du Pape. This version from the Santa Ynez Valley starts with a powerful bouquet of jasmine, peach and pears, followed by a satiny seamless palate. It finishes with a balanced, uncommonly bright and tangy finish enlivened by a persistent undertone of minerality. Perfect to accompany roast chicken.

- **2023 Acorn Gruner Veltliner $32**

Hailing from the Allegria Vineyard in the Russian River Valley this is a noble effort to replicate the national grape of Austria here in California. The wine is textural and floral, with orange blossom, lavender, slate and lemon rind. The wine is structured and chalky, with a savory drift through the middle palate, which draws out the fruit and exotic spice through the finish. Great acidity keeps the wine fresh and inviting.

Red Wines



Grown on limestone soils the Brosseau Grenache shows great character

- **2023 Brosseau Grenache $40**

Hailing from a limestone vineyard in the remote Chalone appellation in the Gavilan Mountains, the Brosseau Grenache is a stunning example of the varietal. The wine boasts wonderfully pure cherries on the nose plus hints of herbs and dried spices. Medium-bodied it manages to be both firm and silky-textured at the same time, demonstrating great length and adding seductive shadings of anise and cloves on the finish. This lovely wine, reminiscent of a Chateau Rayas Chateauneuf de Pape, is ready to drink now but will last for at least a decade in the cellar.

- **2023 St. Amant Alicante Bouschet $26 (Best Value)**

Alicante Bouschet was once widely planted in California often mixed with Zinfandel in a field blend. This comes from a Lodi vineyard originally planted in 1922. The wine is dark, almost opaque and feels young and lively. It is textbook Alicante



This beautiful Alicante Bouschet from Lodi is the best value wine

Bouschet with notes of wild berries, herbs and spices, an earthy and rustic touch and oodles of character. This underappreciated grape deserves more exposure and will continue to improve in the cellar for a long time.

- **2023 Ottavino St. Laurent Ricci Vineyard $60**

This wine epitomizes what the Festival of Undiscovered Grapes is all about. I have not only never tasted the St. Laurent grape, and I have never even heard of it. It originated in Austria and is grown only at the Ricci Vineyard in the Carneros region. It has a heady, sharp, boysenberry aroma and a bright cherry fruit flavor, light and fruity sort of like a beefy Pinot Noir. Delightful!

- **2023 JMC Cellars Teraldego $37**

Hailing from the Alto Adige region in northern Italy the Teraldego grape offers a bright and punchy profile with wild cherry, tart plum, leather and rose scents. It has a fragrant and delicate personality with a light supple body and a tart clean finish. This food-friendly wine would be a perfect partner to grilled salmon.

- **2023 Madrona Petit Verdot $38**

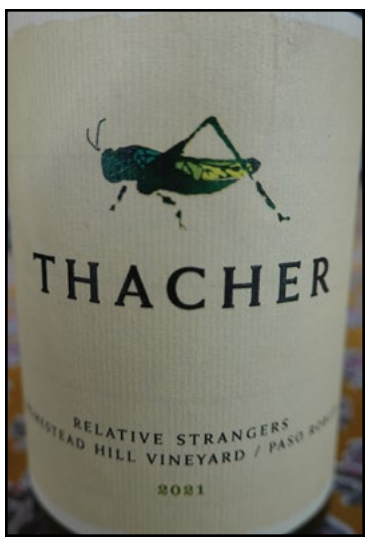
A glass-coating opaque purple color, the wine sports an impressive bouquet of exotic spices, violets and blackberry. This sets the stage for a concentrated, robust, intense, nicely proportioned wine that will benefit from 4-5 years of additional cellaring. It should see its 20th birthday in peak form.

- **2023 Cairjn Red Table Wine $80**

This Paso Robles wine is styled after the powerful red blends of Priorat Spain. Primarily Carignan with some Mourvedre, Cab and Syrah thrown in for complexity. It leads with a dark-fruited bouquet with anise, baking spices and a touch of leather. The palate strikes a midpoint between plush generosity and vibrant energy, culminating in a lively, juicy finish underpinned by gentle yet persistent tannins, savory flavors, smoke and a sturdy core of mineral notes.

- **2023 Lyons Mourvedre $68**

This relatively new winery from the Santa Ynez Valley specializes in Rhone varietals. The 2023 Mourvedre reveals an abundance of flowers (violets?) overlaid with nuances of dark cherries, wild berries, tobacco, spices and what the French affectionately call "animal" (wet dog). Built around full-bodied bright acids and deep blueberry fruit, it features a supple layered texture with ultra refined tannins. It recalls for me some of my favorite Mourvedres from the Bandol region in France. Delicious now it will easily last for a decade.



A Rhone style blend from Paso Robles

- **2021 Thacher "Relative Strangers" $65**

A red field blend from Paso Robles this reminds me of a Grenache/Syrah/Mouvedre blend. It's scented of blueberries and cherries, baking spices, earth and leather. The full-bodied palate features restrained, earthy flavors framed by juicy acidity and soft tannins with a spicy finish. Great partner to a slab of ribs fresh off the grill.

- **2018 CrossHatch Winery "Shading" $50**

The Shading is a blend of 50% Grenache, 25% Syrah, and 25% Mourvedre from the Los Olivos District in Santa Ynez Valley. Inky dark in color, the wine shows dusty earth, cherries and licorice on the nose, while the full-bodied palate is supple with a silky texture from the Grenache and an underpinning of black olives from the Syrah. Showing ample richness and length, it is a fun, ebullient wine.

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STARR★SCHAEFER Report

Your monthly go-to for real estate market trends, market stats & mortgage money matters

Hi all,

It's March, and as anticipated, our Spring Market in Piedmont is waking up, showing signs of vibrant life, with several new listings selling shortly after their market debuts.

MORTGAGE MONEY…

Our "go-to" Mortgage Money Broker, BRADY THOMAS, LA SALLE MORTGAGE, has this to share this month: ADUs are a " WIN/WIN!"

One of the most meaningful shifts we are seeing in residential real estate is the rise of ADUs, Accessory Dwelling Units. What used to be viewed as a backyard cottage is becoming a strategic financial tool. State and local regulations have made it significantly easier to build ADUs, and many properties can now accommodate more than one unit.

Even more impactful, lending guidelines now allow projected rental income from an ADU to be used to help qualify for a mortgage. That changes the math. For Buyers, it can increase purchasing power. For homeowners, it can create income flexibility. For investors, it can materially improve property performance. ADUs are no longer a niche feature. They are increasingly influencing valuation, demand, and how lenders evaluate risk and opportunity.

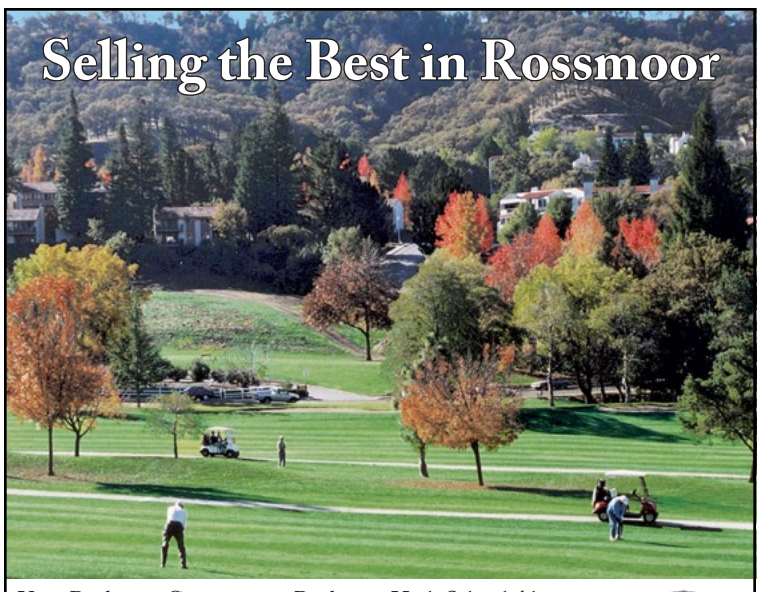
As housing affordability continues to dominate the conversation, expect ADUs to move from the "nice bonus" to a mainstream strategy.

MARKET OVERVIEW: 2/1/26 - 2/28/26
SOLDS: 9
Lowest: 310 Magnolia sold for $1,405,327 with 12 offers
Highest: 25 Crocker Ave. sold for $7,556,250 with 1 offer
CURRENT PENDING: 5
Lowest: 240 Sunnyside: listed for $695,000
Highest: 6 Muir Ave. listed for $5,295,000
CURRENT ACTIVE & COMING SOON LISTINGS: 10
Lowest: 5630 Moraga Ave. listed for $799,000
Highest: 62 Farragut Ave. listed for $7,900,000

With over 40+ years of experience and a deep understanding of our local market, we are a trusted resource for any of your real estate needs. Let's connect.

See you next month!

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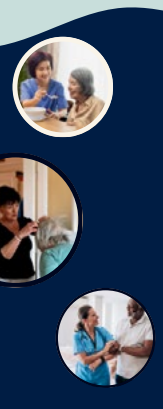
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Enjoy monthly speakers, local field trips, camaraderie and making new friends

All Piedmont area seniors welcome!

Where: Piedmont Community Hall
711 Highland Ave
When: 4th Wednesday of each month
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Contact Janet Epstein, Coordinator:
jepstein@piedmont.ca.gov or
Piedmont Recreation Department: 510.420.3070

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Offering both in-person and online options

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Wednesday evenings - online
7:30 pm - 8:15 pm
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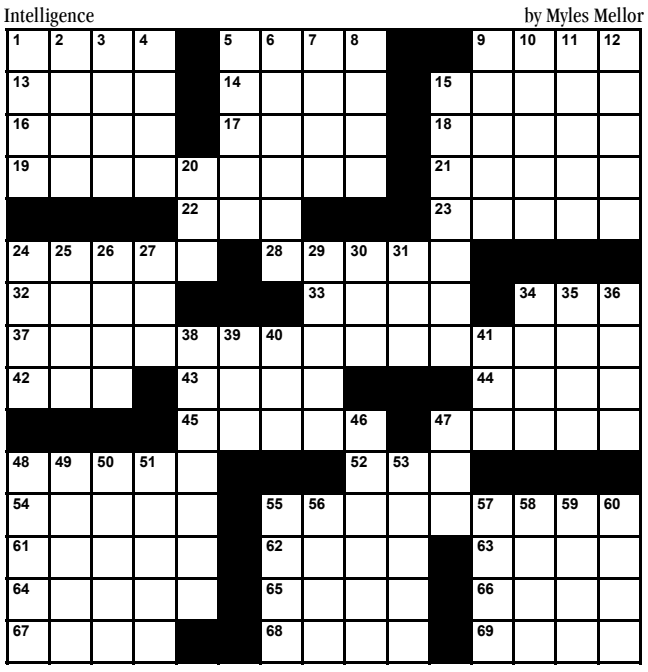
Sudoku Puzzle

Sudoku by Myles Mellor

	9					2		
	8		7					1
3		2						
4	2			8	5			
					1			
			2					3
				3			1	
7				6		5		9
1		6	8	5		7		

Crossword Puzzle

Intelligence by Myles Mellor



ACROSS
1. Prado handbag, e.g.
5. Excited with anticipation
9. Scotch measure
13. Pueblo dweller
14. Festival
15. Barrel part
16. Baseball's Blue Moon
17. City south of Moscow
18. Safe house, for example
19. Spying
21. One under cover
22. Journey stage
23. Lead line
24. Symbol of authority
28. Antique Ford
32. Skunk cabbage, e.g.
33. Scriptural preposition
34. Piece
37. They can be denied officially
42. Coin of Peru
43. Catch, like a criminal
44. Marine menace
45. Surrealist Max
47. Lumps for the horse
48. Critic's count
52. Base of electrical current
54. Ciphers
55. Spy's seduction work
61. Sophisticated
62. China lead-in
63. Swearing-in words
64. On the up and up
65. Potpourri
66. Feline chances
67. Liquid remnant
68. Cats
69. "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" backdrop

DOWN
1. It'll leave a footprint
2. Bricklaying equipment
3. Per
4. "La Bohème" heroine
5. Nickname for the Red Sox's Adrian Gonzalez
6. Car storage locale
7. Short-order cook on "2 Broke Girls"
8. Kind of force
9. Place for showmanship
10. "I ___ dream": M. L. King Jr.
11. Pizzeria fixtures
12. Date
15. Type of onion
20. Flamenco shout
24. Barbara, to friends
25. "Last train" singer, Guthrie
26. Twofold
27. Type of truck
29. Man to man challenges, in olden times
30. Elder
31. Arrival time
34. Five-time Wimbledon champ
35. Atahualpa, e.g.
36. Nicholas II, for one
38. Israeli parliament
39. It fits in a lock
40. Sharp thing
41. Slip in a pot
46. Two-seater
47. Stratego piece
48. Burn
49. Essential for a radio system
50. Saw
51. Adjust, as sails
53. Cat noises
55. H.S. subject, for short
56. "I'm ___ your tricks!"
57. A load
58. Shower
59. Fig. on a periodic table, abbr.
60. Relief word

See Crossword and Sudoku Puzzle Solutions at right

Obituary

Community volunteer Susan Herrick dies at 81



Susan Herrick died in Piedmont on January 29, 2026. She was 81.

Susan Hofmann Herrick, 81, died on January 29, 2026 after a short illness. Her husband, Jerome Herrick, and daughters, Marianne Canori and Meredith Johnson, were at her side.

Born on August 25, 1944 at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, she was the daughter of Dr. Thomas Richard Hofmann and Mary Hofmann. She attended Anna Head School in Berkeley and graduated from Berkeley High School in 1962. She attended the University of the Americas in Mexico City and later graduated from San Jose State University, specializing in the education of children with autism spectrum disorder.

Susan met her husband, Jerome "Jerry," at Berkeley High School; however, their love story did not begin until several years after graduation when they reconnected through mutual friends. Sue and Jerry were married on May 12, 1973. They soon moved to Piedmont and welcomed daughters Marianne and Meredith.

Susan devoted countless hours volunteering in Piedmont schools while her daughters were students, supporting classrooms and sports teams, and eventually extending her impact through meaningful service as a city volunteer. Her energy and dedication led to her appointment as Chair of the Piedmont Park Commission and later as Chair of the Piedmont Beautification Foundation. She was proud to receive the Civic Volunteer of Year Award in 2015.

She was an avid gardener and a member of the Piedmont Garden Club and the Hoe and Hope Garden Club, continuing her lifelong commitment to preserving and enhancing the beauty of the city she loved.

Susan maintained a vibrant community life and was a member of the Town and Country Club, Claremont Country Club, the East Bay Auxiliary of the de Young Museum, the Hill Branch of UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, the National Charity League, and The Cancer League.

Her most cherished role was that of a devoted mother and adoring "Nana" to her five grandchildren. Her loved ones describe her as elegant and refined, thoughtful, creative, and loving. She was the heart of her family and will be profoundly missed.

A private celebration of her life is planned in Hawaii, the birthplace of her mother, Mary, and a place filled with some of her happiest memories.

Donations in memory of Susan Herrick may be made to the Piedmont Beautification Foundation at www.piedmontbeautification-foundation.org.

Piedmont Pulse

Continued from page 6

multiple capacities, including Core 7 and English 8 teacher, ASB advisor, instructional mentor through TEAM and TIP, and member of the MTSS team, before transitioning to Assistant Principal in 2024. In her administrative role, she has focused on strengthening campus culture, refining systems of student support and accountability, and fostering strong partnerships with students, staff, and families. Her leadership has contributed to continued schoolwide growth and recognition, including Piedmont Middle School's Schools to Watch designation.

- *Educational Background*

Jamie holds an Administrative Services Credential from California State University, East Bay. Her academic preparation includes a Single Subject Teaching Credential (UC San Diego), a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (Saint Mary's College of California), and a bachelor's degree from California State University, Hayward.

- *Transition Timeline*

Jamie's appointment to Principal is effective July 1, 2026. Following her appointment, the District will formally post the position of Assistant Principal to begin the search for her replacement.

Highlander Robotics Summer Camps

Highlander Robotics summer camps registration now open!

NEW! FLL Champs Academy for FLL-C rising 5th-7th grade:

Highlander Robotics is pleased to announce a new summer camp for experienced FIRST Lego League–Challenge (FLL-C) kids! Highlander Robotics software team members will teach advanced robotics concepts including the engineering method, mechanism design, path following with sensors and gyros, and debugging. We will be teaching in Spike Prime.

Dates: June 8-12, 2026, M-F 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Mary G. Ross Engineering Lab at Piedmont High School. All campers should have at least one season of FLL-C experience and be a rising 5th-7th grader. Each camper will need to bring a tablet or laptop loaded with current SPIKE software. Details will be provided after registration. Cost $575. REGISTER at Go.teamsnap.com/forms/513415

Summer aCADemy Returns in 2026

Attention STEM loving Middle Schoolers! Highlander Robotics Summer aCADemy for rising 7th to 9th graders.

Dates: June 8-12, 2026, M-F 1-4 p.m. at Piedmont High School. Summer aCADemy is an introduction to fabrication and computer aided design (CAD) using Onshape taught by Highlander team members in our Ross Engineering Lab. Registration is $500. REGISTER at Go.teamsnap.com/forms/513148

More info or to contact Highlander Robotics: FRC8033.com

Community Engagement - March Community Meetings

We have a series of opportunities for staff and parents to come together to discuss programs and important issues throughout our district. Please join us!

- March 2 - DEIB 4-5:30 p.m. - Havens Library
- March 5 - BAC 4-5:30 p.m. District Office
- March 20 - Board Workshop - Math Pathways
- March 25 - Curriculum Committee - Math Pathways
- March 27 - AI Literacy Day/ AI Expert Panel



CROSSWORD SOLUTION

6	9	7	5	1	3	2	4	8
5	8	4	7	2	6	9	3	1
3	1	2	9	4	8	6	7	5
4	2	1	3	8	5	9	6	7
9	6	5	2	7	4	1	8	3
8	7	3	6	9	1	4	5	2
2	5	9	4	3	7	8	1	6
7	4	8	1	6	2	5	3	9
1	3	6	8	5	9	7	2	4

SUDOKU SOLUTION

PPD Blue

Continued from page 11

10:05 a.m. Sea View Ave. **Auto Burglary**. Report of vehicle rifled through overnight. Small change purse with $10 stolen.

1:55 p.m. Pacific Ave. **Auto Theft.** Report of 2024 white Kia Seltos stolen from driveway sometime after 8 p.m. Tuesday.

5:07 p.m. Woodland Way. **Auto Burglary.** Report of $50 cash and garage door opener stolen from vehicle.

Thursday, February 26

10:51 a.m. Magnolia Ave. Report of cat stuck in tree.

11:44 a.m. Grand Ave. Report of Ace Hardware employee struck by vehicle in parking lot. Subject suffers several broken bones & is taken to hospital. Accident unintentional; no intoxication suspected.

6:45 p.m. Huntleigh Rd. **Fire.** Report of large amount of smoke coming from basement workshop under garage. Residents exit home & neighbors alerted. Fire put out by 7:03 p.m. PG&E contacted to turn off power.

Friday, February 27

7:22 a.m. Sunnyside Ave. Report of stolen 2015 red Hyundai Sonata parked for 4 days. Officer finds window down and ignition punched. Vehicle towed.

9:32 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by tan Chevy with stolen plates.

Tehran

Continued from page 19

cracks that appear when highly trained operatives are still, in the end, human.

Sultan anchors the series as Tamar, born in Iran and raised in Israel. She trained in Krav Maga for the physical demands of the role and spent months studying Farsi. The language training matters. Tamar does not merely recite lines in another tongue. She shifts between Hebrew and Farsi with the ease and tension of someone navigating two identities. Her accent, her hesitation, the way she listens before responding, all signal that language itself is part of the battlefield. Sultan never lets Tamar's competence erase her vulnerability. That balance keeps the show grounded even when coincidence occasionally nudges the plot forward.

Opposite her is Shaun Toub as Faraz Kamali, the Iranian intelligence officer determined to catch her. Faraz is nominally the antagonist, yet he is written and performed with depth and restraint. He is not a caricature of repression but a man of principle who pays a personal price for his convictions. When Tamar and Faraz circle each other, the tension is electric precisely because neither is entirely wrong. Each believes he or she is defending something worth protecting.

Israeli critics have praised the series for portraying Iranian characters as complex individuals rather than stereotypes. Some international viewers have accused it of advancing an Israeli perspective. The show does not neatly resolve that tension. Instead, it sits inside it. That willingness to dwell in ambiguity is one of its strengths.

The production design reinforces the mood. Filmed in Athens and carefully dressed to resemble Tehran, the city feels dense and claustrophobic. Street markets, apartments and intelligence offices are rendered with a tactile realism. Dialogue flows in Hebrew, Farsi and English. The trilingual structure adds authenticity and also suspense. Misunderstandings are not simply plot devices. They are embedded in the reality of people thinking and feeling in different languages.

Later seasons expand the world without losing focus. The additions of internationally known actors signal the show's growth, but the heart of the story remains the same. Personal choices under impossible circumstances. Private doubts inside public conflicts.

Tehran became the first Israeli series to win an International Emmy for Best Drama Series, and the recognition feels earned. It is not flawless. Tamar sometimes survives on luck that stretches plausibility. Certain plot turns move at breakneck speed. But that acceleration is part of the design. The compression of events forces the emotional truth to the surface.

In a world that often reduces geopolitics to slogans, *Tehran* offers something more unsettling and more honest. It shows how long histories and modern radicalism collide inside individual lives. It insists that even in the most polarized conflicts, the people on both sides remain recognizably human.

Tehran is streaming on Apple TV+.

Tehran. *Created by Moshe Zonder, Dana Eden and Maor Kohn. Directed by Daniel Syrkin. Starring Niv Sultan, Shaun Toub, Glenn Close and Hugh Laurie. Premiered in 2020. Approximately 45–60 minutes per episode. TV-MA. Streaming on Apple TV+.*

Flow

Continued from page 20

tle lessons. They just behave like animals, and that restraint makes everything feel more urgent and more honest.

I did find myself wondering whether younger kids would stay with it. At an hour and twenty-four minutes, with no dialogue and a story told entirely through image and behavior, it asks something of its audience. Whether a seven-year-old stays locked in when Flow finds himself in danger, I'm not sure.

For tweens and teens, though, especially those ready for something that trusts them a little more, *Flow* is a remarkable film. Fully deserving of its Oscar, and then some.

Flow. *Written and directed by Gints Zibalodis. Genre: animation, family, fantasy. Released in 2024. 1 hr., 24 min. Rated PG. Streaming on multiple platforms including Prime.*

READ IT IN *THE POST*

Democracy is not a spectator sport!

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government.

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- influences public policy through education and advocacy

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or go to www.lwvpiedmont.org

KNOW THE ISSUES. BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bids shall be uploaded electronically to the BPXpress City of Piedmont planroom via the "Submit Bid Docs" tab on the Project page until the hour of **1:30 p.m., on the 13th day of March 2026** (no bids will be accepted after 1:30 p.m.) for the construction of the following project:

ANNUAL SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM FY 2025-2026

Complete bid packages, including project plans, technical specifications, bid forms, and contract documents may be secured from BPXpress Reprographics by logging on to: piedmontplanroom.com or by calling 510-559-8299 or by emailing: Richmond@bpxprinting.com There is a non-refundable fee of $50 per set for a printed or electronic package, plus shipping and handling. As the project is being bid through BPXpress Printing, any changes via addenda will be available on the BPXpress website for this project.

Bids shall be **uploaded electronically** to the BPXpress City of Piedmont planroom via the "Submit Bid Docs" tab on the Project page before **1:30 p.m., March 13, 2026.** Guidelines for BPXpress Online Bidding Instructions are provided in Appendix C. Proposals will be timestamped by the website upon receipt and placed in a secure location by BPXpress to be accessed only by a representative from the City of Piedmont. The Zoom meeting information can be found in the bid documents.

Please note that bidders must be logged-in as a registered user in order to see the "Submit Bid Docs" tab. The "Submit Bid Docs" tab will only be available until the bid deadline, and all submitted bids are "sealed" and inaccessible until that time. After the bid deadline, the "Submit Bid Docs" tab will be unavailable on the Planroom platform to prospective bidders.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code, the Director of Industrial Relations for the State of California has ascertained the current general prevailing rate of wages for employer purposes, in Alameda County, State of California. Not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of a similar character in Alameda County and not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for holiday work fixed as provided in the California Labor Code shall be paid to all workers engaged in performing the project.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1771.1 of the California Labor Code, A contractor or subcontractor shall not be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, as defined in Chapter 1 of Part 7 of Division 2 of the California Labor Code, unless currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Civil Code Section 1725.5. ***Please note:*** *It is not a violation of Section 1771.1 for an unregistered contractor to submit a bid that is authorized by Section 7029.1 of the Business and Professions Code or by Section 10164 or 20103.5 of the Public Contract Code, provided the contractor is registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 at the time the contract is awarded.* Any bids submitted without proof that Bidder and any listed subcontractor(s) are currently registered and qualified to perform public work, pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5, shall not be accepted by the City.

In accordance with California Civil Code Section 1771.4, the project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

In accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 3300, a valid class A California contractor's license is required to bid on the project.

The City of Piedmont reserves the right to postpone the date and time for the opening of proposals at any time prior to the date and time announced in the advertisement in accordance with applicable law.

The City of Piedmont reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any defects or irregularity in bidding in accordance with applicable law. In accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 20103.8, if the City elects to award a contract for performance of the project, the contract will be awarded in accordance with California Public Contract Code Section 20162 and other applicable law to the responsible bidder submitting a responsive bid with the lowest total bid price for the base bid without consideration of the bid price for any additive or deductive items. All bids will remain valid for 90 days after the bid opening. Except as permitted by law and subject to all applicable remedies, including forfeiture of bidder's security, bidders may not withdraw their bid during the 90-day period after the bid opening.

By order of the City Council of the City of Piedmont, Alameda County, California.

Daniel Gonzales **February 20, 2026**
Public Works Director
City of Piedmont
120 Vista Avenue
Piedmont, CA 94611

ADVERTISE IN *THE POST*

AotM

Continued from page 12

goals in their 3-0 win over No. 12 Acalanes on February 17.

Beach Lorin gets an honorable mention for emerging as the heir apparent for Piedmont High's boys' basketball team. The junior elevated his game throughout the season to become the team's second-leading scorer behind Dillon Casey. He had a team-leading 16 points in Piedmont's 55-46 win over No. 13 Urban in the NCS opening round on February 18. He led with 18 points in their regular season win over O'Dowd on February 4, and scored 19 points in their win on Berkeley on February 6.



Miranda Liu earns an honorable mention for leading Piedmont to a No. 5 seed in the North Coast Section post-season playoffs.



Beach Lorin earns an honorable mention after emerging as a leading scorer for the basketball team.

Baseball

Continued from page 13

guy and everyone trusts him. We have five or six guys who can lead us in the right direction," Meyjes mentioned.

10-1 victory over Skyline

Both teams scored once in the first inning, but Skyline never got another run. PHS added two more in the top of the third, three in the top of the fifth, and another four in the top of the sixth inning.

Final stats: Diego Delventhal went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs, two runs scored and one stolen base. Meyjes went 1-for-3 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Lucas Delventhal went 3-for-5 with three doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored. Orion Sachs, Max Fujimoto and Enzo Ong each had a double. Cha-Foster went 2-for-2 with a triple, a double, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Barber went 1-for-1 and scored a run.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (1-0 overall) hosts Head-Royce today, March 4, at 3:30 p.m. at Witter Field. They also host Cal High on Friday, March 6 at the same time.

Diego & Jack

Continued from page 13

"That season was just so special because it was our full year on varsity. We were the younger guys and just sticking together. Starting as sophomores in a State championship game was pretty cool for us," Meyjes said.

Now in 2026, Delventhal and Meyjes represent the team's leadership among seven seniors, four juniors, five sophomores, and two freshmen. Among those freshman is Diego's younger brother, Lucas, to whom Jack and Diego pass the torch as the Highlanders' next four-year starter.

Diego and Lucas share the center of Piedmont's midfield at shortstop and second-base, while Jack will get time at first base. When they turn a 6-4-3 double play, it will be a family affair.

"Just to be able to share the field with him is special. The same thing with Jack; he knows what I'm doing and I know what he's doing. We're literally brothers," Diego said.

"I've been around him all of his life. Whenever Diego and I were at the field, Lukey would always be there. I've known him literally all my life; it's kind of funny seeing him on a field with me. He's a really talented player and helps out our team a lot. I'm glad Diego and Lucas can share that middle infield," Meyjes mentioned.



Diego Delventhal (left) and Jack Meyjes back in their little league days after winning a trophy.

Softball

Continued from page 15

with three runs scored, three RBIs, three doubles and a stolen base. Teah Suhr scored two runs, an RBI and three stolen bases. Penelope Hopper went 1-for-2 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Kajsa Benson went 1-for-5 with two runs scored and two stolen bases. Samantha Schey went 1-for-4 with a run scored and an RBI. Talia Perl went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Riley Dickinson went 2-for-3 with two runs scored, two RBIs, a double and a stolen base.

Perl threw all six innings, striking out six, allowing four hits and two earned runs.

11-5 loss to Justin-Siena

Justin-Siena led 2-1 through the first inning, and the Braves piled on six runs in the top of the second. PHS answered with three runs in the bottom half, then scored once in the bottom third. JSHS scored three more runs in the top of the fifth.

Final stats: Joerger went 1-for-3 with three RBIs. Elmquist went 1-for-2 with two runs scored, an RBI and two stolen bases. Hopper went 1-for-2 with a run scored and a stolen base. Small scored a run. Talati had a stolen base. Dickinson went 1-for-1 with two stolen bases.

NEXT UP

Piedmont (1-1 overall) hosts University on Friday, March 6 at 3:30 p.m.

Mountain Bike

Continued from page 15

race experience. DEVO athletes raced concurrently at Fort Ord on a separate course as part of the Junior Development series. Representing Piedmont were Carter Lew who placed 8th out of one hundred 8th grade boys, Teo Wickner, Jude Oldrin, Aaron Bayen, William Piniella, Teak Herrgott, and Blake Mellers who notably placed 12th out of 49 sixth grade boys. Their participation highlights the depth of the program and the strong pipeline of riders developing through the DEVO ranks into the high school team.

Next up: Race 2 at Exchequer Mountain Bike Park in La Grange, CA, in two weeks — a course known for punchy climbs, exposed terrain, and demanding technical sections. The team looks to build on its momentum as the season heats up.

To learn more about the Piedmont High School Mountain Bike Team, visit www.piedmontmtb.com. Youth riders interested in joining can explore the developmental program at www.piedmontdevo.com

In town, the team is still seeking a permanent location to park its equipment trailer, which transports bikes, tools, and race-day infrastructure for student-athletes. Please send any leads to ridepiedmontmtb@gmail.com.



The Piedmont High School Mountain Bike Team: (right to left) (top row) Miguel Villareal, Andy Schuetz, Andrew Herrgott, William Carter, Olivia Bailey, Caleb Canada, Zachary Carter, Asher Villareal, Gabriel Barbosa, Andres Roberts, Emilio Roberts, Jon Reining (bottom row) Teak Herrgott, Josie Schuetz, Kai Hsu, Jasper Schuetz, Rose Reining, Mina Herrgott, Jane Lin.

PUBLIC NOTICE

FORMAL NOTICE OF PARCEL TAX ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Piedmont Unified School District of the County of Alameda, California (the "District"), that in accordance with the provisions of the California Education Code (the "Education Code") and the California Government Code, an election will be held at the next general election on June 2, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the District the measure summarized as follows:

"To maintain the high quality of Piedmont schools, continue funding programs in math, science, technology, engineering, English, music and arts, attract and retain qualified teachers, update instructional materials and technology, and maintain manageable class sizes, shall Piedmont Unified School District's measure be adopted, renewing the expiring school parcel tax at the then-current rate ($3,174 per parcel) until ended by voters, with independent citizen oversight, annual inflation adjustments, and all funds (approximately $12 million annually) benefiting local students?"

Tax – Yes Tax – No

By execution of this formal Notice of Election, the Superintendent of Schools of County of Alameda (the "Superintendent of Schools") orders consolidation of the election with such other elections as may be held on the same day in the same territory or in territory that is in part the same.

The Superintendent of Schools, by this Notice of Election, has called the election pursuant to a resolution and order of the Board of Education of the Piedmont Unified School District, adopted 21 January 2026, in accordance with the provisions of Education Code sections 5302, 5325 and 5361.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day, February 25, 2026.

Alysse Castro
Superintendent of Schools
County of Alameda, California

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Troop 1

Continued from page 9

nance Crew and Volunteer Lead Kari Biel, given tools and gloves then got right to work clearing handicap parking spaces, campsite tent pads, sweeping bridges, removing charcoal from fire rings, and picking up litter off the beach.

New to Troop 1, Scout Caldwell Huffman said, "It was really fun getting to do the service project."

Once their service work was completed, Scouts enjoyed running freely on the sandy beach and taking in the unique vantage point views of the Golden Gate Bridge and northern San Francisco. Due to park policy, the Scouts no longer are permitted to camp overnight at Kirby Cove, so the Scouts shuttled to nearby China Camp for dinner and overnight camping. The energy finally wound down as Scouts settled in for the night. They returned to Piedmont Sunday morning, full of fresh memories after another successful Urban Backpacking outing.



Troop 1 Scouts arrive in San Francisco.



Scouts clear a path to a campsite.

Bird Calling

Continued from page 1

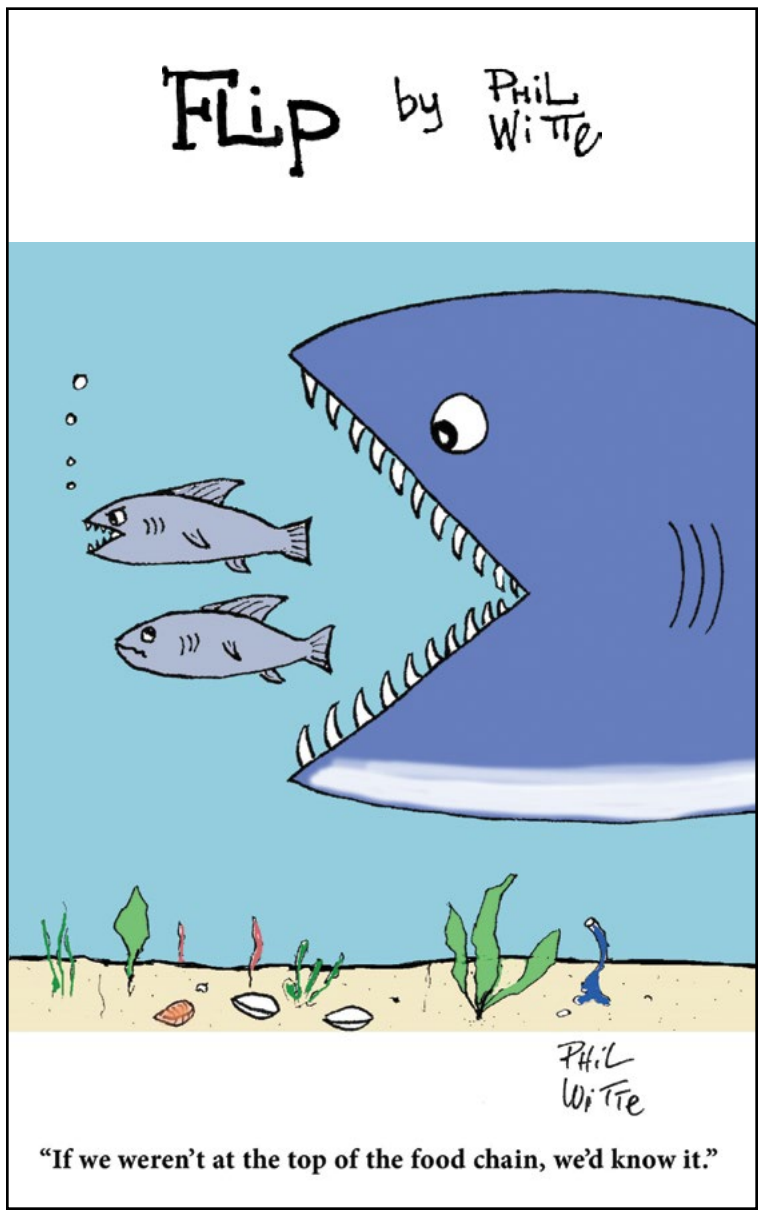
way to do so (using a plane). This choice represents free will. The bird is not limited to what it was born able to naturally do. Instead, it uses imagination and confidence to try something new, even if it's weird and unexpected," he added.

Wang's beautiful and playful piece is now the official poster for the 2026 Piedmont competition.



PHS Freshman artist Mo Wang's poster art blew away the competition and was named the 2026Bird Calling poster artwork winner.

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"If we weren't at the top of the food chain, we'd know it."

Eternity

Continued from page 19

Olsen does what she does best, carrying impossible knowledge lightly. When she first encounters Turner's character, the moment could collapse into melodrama. Instead, it lands as pure physical recognition — something that bypasses thought entirely. Turner, who has often seemed slightly displaced in time in his earlier roles, uses that quality to leave you wondering whether he has stumbled into an old pattern or has always been part of it.

Director Tran Anh Hung, best known for *The Scent of Green Papaya*, understands how to film faces. There are no rules here, no cosmic flowcharts. He simply watches recognition happen and trusts we will feel its pull. The camera lingers a beat longer than expected; a glance carries more weight than any special effect could.

The dialogue is genuinely funny and feels lived-in. There is a running argument about furniture that should not work but does, and Parker's script understands that humor gives romance oxygen. Without it, eternal love would suffocate under its own seriousness.

Where the film strains is in its final act. Parker is asking what choice means if you have already made it before, whether patterns of love become their own prison. The movie edges toward something genuinely unsettling, then leans into near-future technology and explicit explanations just when it had worked best leaving the metaphysics mysterious.

Still, there is something quietly defiant about *Eternity's* faith in performance. The film finds surprising emotional force in scenes that are nothing more than two people talking across a table. It works because these actors are allowed to inhabit moments rather than illustrate them.

Not everything needs to reinvent cinema. Sometimes it is enough for a film to remember what movies used to do well: let actors act, let dialogue breathe, trust that small human exchanges might matter more than spectacle. In an age when romantic leads are often little more than well-lit props moving through digital set pieces, watching three talented actors simply perform feels quietly radical.

Eternity. *Directed by Tran Anh Hung. Written by Nathan Parker. Starring Miles Teller, Elizabeth Olsen and Callum Turner. Released in 2025. 1 hr., 54 min. Rated PG-13. Streaming on Apple TV+.*

ADVERTISE IN *THE POST*

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
400 HIGHLAND AVE, 94611 (510) 547-5700 PIEDMONTCHURCH.ORG



Sharing the Joy of Easter Through Community Service



Be part of the tradition. Piedmont Community Church provides Easter baskets for the children of Harbor House.

Easter is the most important holiday for Christians. And for everyone it heralds the joyous return of Spring. Days are longer. The sun is shining. Flowers are blooming. People are smiling.

A long-time tradition at Piedmont Community Church is to provide Easter baskets for the children involved with Harbor House. Headquartered in Oakland and founded five decades ago, Harbor House, a mission partner of Piedmont Community Church, provides a safe place for children, teens and adults – many of them immigrants - with programs for education, leadership development, after school care, summer day camp, food and clothing access.



On Sunday, March 22, you, your partner and your children are warmly invited to be a part of the fellowship and fun that will bring Easter baskets and joy to 50 elementary and 16 middle school students served by Harbor House. This activity takes place from 11:15am to 12:30pm in Guild Hall. You are also welcome to come at 10am for the Sunday morning worship, but do not need to. You can bring items that you have purchased (no more than $30 per basket) or assemble a basket with items donated by others. You can also make a monetary donation by sending a check to Piedmont Community Church, 400 Highland Ave., Piedmont, 94611.

UPCOMING LENT & EASTER EVENTS

Thursday, April 2
Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service, 6pm
Cost for dinner, $20 for adults, $10 for children.

Friday, April 3
Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7:30pM

Sunday, April 5
Easter Services, 8:30 and 10am

2026 Calendar of Events

March 4 – March 11

Wednesday, March 4

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. ..... Park Commission Meeting ..... City Hall
7:00 p.m. ..... School Board Meeting ..... 760 Magnolia Avenue

Monday, March 9

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. ..... Planning Commission Meeting ..... City Hall

Meetings may be viewed on KCOM (Channel 27) and on the City's website: piedmont.ca.gov.

David Oppenheimer

Continued from page 1

The book traces a two-century history of diversity as both an intellectual and institutional principle, beginning in 1810 with Wilhelm von Humboldt's University of Berlin, where participation by Jews and Catholics was encouraged. The Diversity Principle follows the spread of the idea from person to person since then.

Oppenheimer does not plan to celebrate the publication with time off.

"I don't take vacations," he said. "I don't think I would have written the book without the help of these remarkable students."

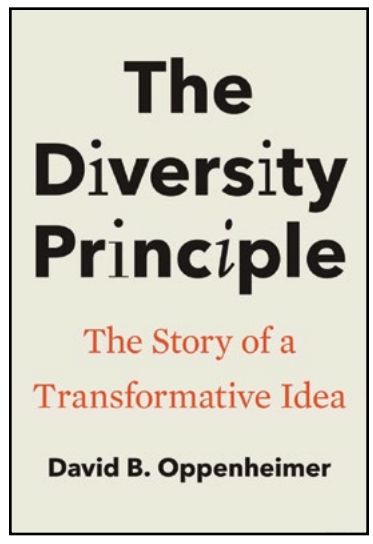
He has two hopes for the book's impact. First, he wants to broaden the historical understanding of diversity.

"I hope that when people are discussing the value of diversity and someone says, this is just a new psychology idea invented in the 1970s to support affirmative action, that other people in the conversation will say, 'No, no, you're wrong about that. It goes all the way back to the 19th century. You haven't read *The Diversity Principle*, you have a false premise'."

His second goal is to encourage dialogue across political lines.

"I hope that this allows me to talk with diversity opponents as well as diversity proponents, that it allows me to be in conversation with people from across the political spectrum."

In a review for *Forbes*, Marybeth Gasman wrote, "One of the most striking interventions in the book is historical. From Oppenheimer's perspective, diversity did not begin as a corrective to discrimination. It began as a theory of knowledge."



Piedmont resident and Cal Law Professor, David Oppenheimer, published *The Diversity Principle* on February 24.

Oppenheimer said that while compiling the book, he uncovered the stories of influential but often overlooked figures, including Pauli Murray, a 20th century civil rights lawyer whose work challenging race and gender segregation was largely excluded from the historical narrative. Although some of Oppenheimer's own diversity-related work dates back to the Discrimination Law Clinic in 1982, he said this project unearthed the existence of important people he had never heard of.

Next, Oppenheimer plans to assemble a research team to examine the legal legacy of Pauli Murray.

The Diversity Principle is available wherever books are sold, including Bookshop.org. For more information, visit diversityprinciple.com.

Where in the World Are We?



Standing at the top of the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, Simone and Sloane Gudal of Piedmont took a moment to check out the latest news in the *Piedmont Post* while on winter break.

Send your photos of the Post in the far corners of the world, or of other communities named Piedmont, to: WITWAW, 1139 Oakland Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611.