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PIEDMONT Post

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The playground at Beach School fills with students on opening day of the school year, August 9.

Staff photos

School is open; Piedmont’s rhythm is back to normal

By Jay Russell

The calendar may still read August, but in Piedmont, school is back in full force. Classes began throughout the school district on Wednesday, August 9, the earliest opening day in the city’s history.

Piedmont’s identity waxes and wanes with the rhythms of its three elementary schools, middle school and high school. Back to school is always a time of rebirth and looking to the future.

It’s a time of change for parents too as their kids get back to their normal rhythms of academia. With the end of summer, mornings now include packing lunchboxes, cooking breakfast

and walking to school. Afternoons are now all about school pickup, snack and homework time, and questions of “What did you learn today at school?”

A change in schedule occurred in the 2022-23 school year for middle and high school students with slightly later start times.

“I know from long experience that amazing things are going to happen for all those kids that are swarming the playgrounds and hallways. It’s going to be a great year,” stated PHS English teacher Elise Marks at the August 9 School Board meeting.

Wildwood has a new principal for the first time since Carol Cra-

[See School is Open on page 11](#)



Havens students are quick to remember how to get in line in an orderly fashion on the first day of the school year.

A marathon first day for new School Supt. Hawn

By Jay Russell

New Superintendent of Piedmont Unified School District Jennifer Hawn wasted no time in giving herself a crash course to learn as much as possible about

the schools and the community.

She officially began her tenure with the district on July 1, and chose August 9, the first day of classes, as the time to begin a tour of all campuses. First stop was Beach School at 8 a.m. and the last stop was at City Hall 13 hours later after presiding over her first school board meeting.

“We had our first day back, and it was super exciting. I’d like to thank the board, staff and families for such a warm welcome,” said Hawn.

In her first board meeting, Hawn spoke briefly about the state’s new math framework, a subject that is a hot topic for many parents of secondary students.

“While we are excited to see the state is giving greater attention to mathematics, we have many questions about the new framework and we have no plans or timeline for any changes to our mathematics program... at this time,” she said.

The State’s new math framework has caused a controversy, particularly over the practice of detracking math, which keeps all 8th graders in the same class instead of tracking them

[See Jennifer Hawn on page 7](#)

Pool update
Concrete poured, utility work continues, County to remove 100-year-old fuel tank

Selen Ozturk

Construction on a 385-foot retaining wall continues on the site of the new Piedmont Community Pool. Meanwhile, the city waits for permission from Alameda County to remove a century-old fuel tank found on the site.

Since July 14 Wickman Development & Construction has been building a 385-foot retaining wall

and grading the site.

In the first week of August workers installed steel rebar reinforcement for the walls. The concrete pour did not occur because Wickman said it needs to make “minor modifications to the rebar placement,” said Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales, Wickman ran twice as many truckloads (a total of 40) up and down Magnolia Avenue from 7 a.m. to

5 p.m. in order to finish the job in one day.

With a crossing guard at Bonita and Magnolia, three traffic flaggers along Magnolia, and an inspector making sure that traffic control went smoothly on the third day of school, work did not impede school pick-ups and drop-offs.

Gonzales said that workers

[See Pool Update on page 3](#)



The Piedmont Community Pool site on Monday, August 14. Work continues as workers excavate for utility lines and wait for permission from the County to remove a century-old fuel tank found on-site.

Staff photo

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OPINION



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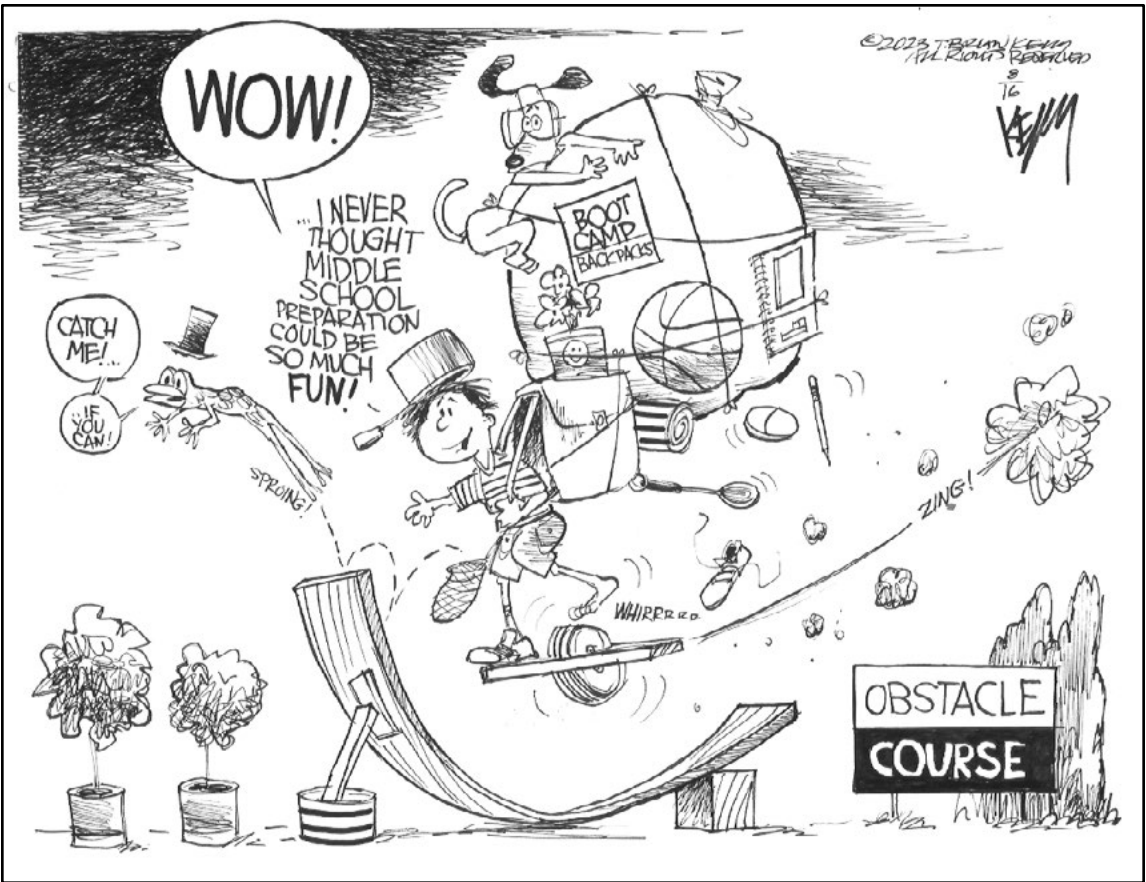
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City Council to form pickleball court review group

By Selen Ozturk

The Piedmont City Council approved on August 7 the formation of a “working group” to review concerns from pickleball players who want the Linda Beach courts restriped for permanent play with extended hours, and concerns from Linda Beach neighbors who have complained about the noise from pickleball play.

The group will be composed of a representative of pickleball players; a representative of neighborhood residents; and two City Council members to review the concerns and suggestions of players and court neighbors. The Council has not yet declared who these members will be.

A five-month trial of exclusively pickleball play at the Linda Beach courts began on February 27 and ended on July 31. The city planned to repair and re-stripe the Beach courts after the trial. Depending on public feedback and a Recreation Commission

recommendation the council likely will choose to re-stripe the courts for pickleball use only. During a July 21 meeting, the Recreation Commission recommended restriping for permanent pickleball use and limiting daily future play from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Some players, like Piedmont High School senior Ruby Guzdar said that even shortening the hours of play to end at 6 p.m. rather than 9 p.m. would impede their experience.

“Students need a release from the stress of schoolwork, college applications, intense sports teams, and jobs,” said Guzdar. “Pickleball provides an opportunity to not only relieve stress and be outdoors, but connect to members of our community and be social outside of school.”

Other speakers who lived close to the Beach courts, however, described the 12 hours of daily noise they experienced during the trial as no less than torture.

Constance Whitting, whose

backyard is less than 30 feet away from the courts, said she could not “tolerate the explosive, penetrating, nerve-shredding sound of pickleball. It is abusive torture to me. My health has taken an abrupt nose-dive this last month. I do believe the stress of unending pickleball noise has added to the severity of my pain. It is more pain than I have ever survived in my life.”

Lisa Neville, another neighbor, said that since the trial ended, “my headache went away. Listening to this noise is torture. During the trial we just stayed in the house and now that it’s not there, we’re [outside] again ... [But] the Rec Department made these decisions. without really talking to us about it.”

Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales said that, after the working group reviews Piedmont pickleball concerns and presents its report to the City Council at its September 5 meeting, he hopes to have renovations complete by the end of February 2024.

Piedmont Post news racks at 2 locations

Newsstand copies of the *Piedmont Post* are available at Mulberry’s Market, and Piedmont Shell at Grand & Wildwood Ave. Copies of the paper may be purchased for \$1 at all locations during business hours. Weekly delivery to homes in Piedmont and online access is available by subscription. Call 510-652-2051 for information or go to piedmont-post.com/subscribe.

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To have access to the online *Post*, type piedmont-post.com for a Google search. The entire edition is online. You must log in and use your password. Then readers may scroll from top to bottom as if reading the printed version from left to right.

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Collecting photos for Where in the World

For 24 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.

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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Do your homework. Find your voice. Be authentic. And then dive in with purpose.”

– Julie Foudy
b. 1971

Retired U.S. professional soccer player

EBMUD repairing major water leak on Magnolia

Repairs expected to take up to 3 weeks

By Selen Ozturk

Since Saturday, August 12, East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) workers have been repairing a leak in a critical water pipeline at Magnolia and El Cerrito Avenues.

The city first received reports of a water leak in late July, said Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales, when Public Works crews removed a tree by the intersection so utility workers could study the leak.

On August 12, EBMUD performed emergency repair work to excavate and begin repairs. Service to neighbors was not affected.

The leaking pipeline is the Sequoia Aqueduct, built in 1928. The steel pipe, which is among



EBMUD crews have been performing emergency repairs since August 12 to a leak in a critical water pipeline at Magnolia and El Cerrito Avenues.

Photos by Selen Ozturk



The repairs are expected to take two to three weeks.

the largest in EBMUD's system, is 20 miles long, 48 inches wide, and delivers water to cities from Oakland to Castro Valley.

Since the emergency excavation, repairs have continued and are expected to take two to three weeks, said Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales.

"While we'll have traffic controls and pedestrian detours," Gonzales said, "we don't expect any more road closures. We're a bit at the mercy of EBMUD and their plan of action depending on what they find, but we'll be providing the most current information we can."

The city will post project updates on its website at piedmont.ca.gov/EBMUDrepair.

For questions about the repair project, contact EBMUD by email at construction-east@ebmud.com or by phone at 287-2053. Neighbors can also sign up for project notifications at ebmud.com/subscriptions.

Pool Update

Continued from page 1

have also been digging holes for gas, water, and Comcast lines for future facilities at the pool site. "It's about an 18-foot excavation, and it'll be a few weeks before the utility work is done," said Gonzales, "but most of our timeline depends upon when PG&E can install the power source."

PG&E has not yet provided a date to come on-site.

Meanwhile, the Public Works Department has submitted a permit to Alameda County to remove a century-old fuel tank that contractors found while digging for utility lines near the Recreation Building on Thursday, July 20.

Gonzales said that this tank

was "slightly larger" than the other century-old tank which was found in late May, which measured about five feet by 36 inches. Both "were used to fuel the homes of private residents about 100 years ago, before the advent of natural gas lines," he explained.

Because the tank still contains gasoline, it is considered a toxic substance, and the city is required to submit an inspection and work plan to the county for its removal. It typically takes two to three weeks for the county to authorize the removal.

When the previous tank was found, this process took the County two days – one to pump

out the fuel in it, and another to physically remove it, and took place about 3 weeks later. Once this recently uncovered tank is removed, the subcontractor GEOCON will sample the soil where the tank was found to test it for contamination.

The pool project is still on track to finish on schedule in early summer 2024, according to George Sanen, the on-site construction manager.

For more information on the Piedmont Community Pool project, visit piedmont.ca.gov/newpool.

For questions about the project, contact construction manager George Sanen of Griffin Structures by email at gsanen@griffinstructures.com, or by phone at 415-858-8582.

Planning Commission recommends ADU and multifamily design rules

By Selen Ozturk

The Piedmont Planning Commission recommended on August 14 two proposals to make new housing easier to build in Piedmont: pre-approved design plans for affordable ADUs and objective design standards for multifamily and mixed-use buildings.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on these proposals at its meeting on Tuesday, September 5.

Accessory dwelling units (ADUs)

To make it easier for Piedmont property owners to build new ADUs, the City developed permit-ready ADU designs. Any of these designs – which are three Tudor, Craftsman, and Mediterranean styles common to homes throughout Piedmont – can be submitted as-is to receive a planning permit from the city, giving applicants a head start on the development process (though construction reports for the site's slope and soil conditions still need to be created before a building permit is issued).

This proposal would allow Piedmont property owners who submit these preapproved designs as-is to receive a planning permit and give them a head start on the development process. ADUs that use the City's pre-approved designs would be rent-restricted for 10 years. During this period, if the ADU is rented out, the rent must be affordable to tenants who meet "very low income" affordability thresholds for the Alameda County area set by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

However, the city also instituted a program at the beginning of 2023 allowing for homeowners to submit ADUs larger than the city's standard size "in exchange for a deed restriction mandating that if the ADU is rented out, the

rent must be affordable to tenants who meet 'very low income' affordability thresholds set by the Association of Bay Area Governments." Both the permit-ready ADU styles, and information on building larger ADUs, is available at bit.ly/43hbjHD.

Multifamily objective design standards (MODS)

Under this proposal, applications for development of multi-family and mixed-use commercial and residential buildings that conform to a set of measurable architectural standards would be approved directly by city staff, without a public hearing. These standards include elements like building placements, facade designs, window and balcony configurations, and location of parking areas.

The MODS don't add any new zoning where these buildings could be developed. They apply only to the existing mixed commercial and residential districts in western Piedmont including parts of Grand, Linda, and Highland Avenues, i.e. generally urban infill areas, which comprise less than 1% of the total land area of Piedmont. The standards also don't change existing zoning rules for building density, height, or parking - they just simplify the process for reviewing applications.

Community members may submit comments on the proposals ahead of the meeting by email to PiedmontIsHome@piedmont.ca.gov; by mail to the Piedmont Planning Commission, 120 Vista Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611; or speak on the topic at the 5:30 p.m. August 14 meeting in-person or via Zoom. The agenda report for both items is available for download on PiedmontIsHome.org.

With questions, email piedmontishome@piedmont.ca.gov.



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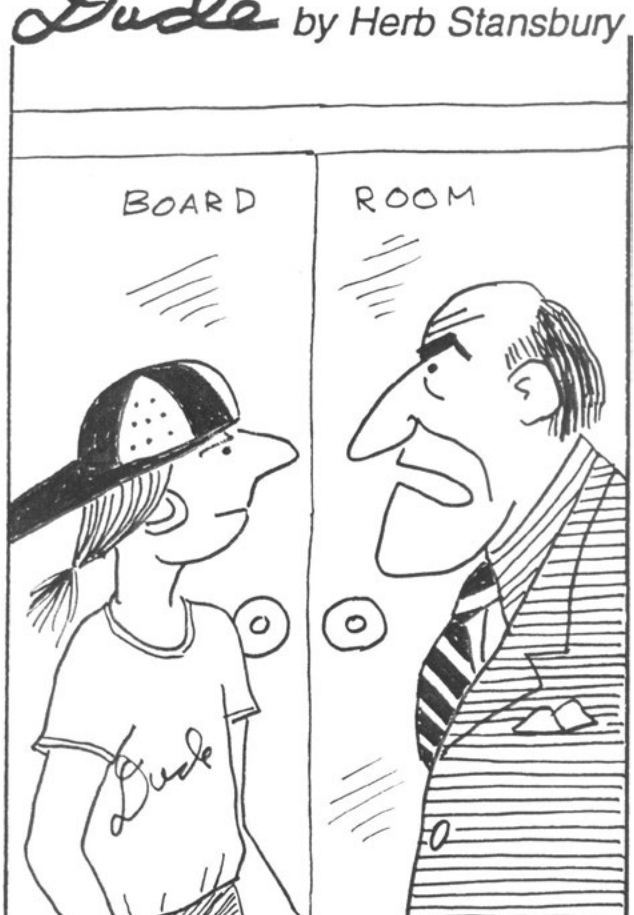
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Dude by Herb Stansbury



"Of course I'm a despot. All good bosses are despots."

LOCAL ITEMS

Getting ready for annual Piedmont Harvest Festival

Led by Susan Hill, founder of the annual Piedmont Harvest Festival, this year's event will take place on Sunday, September 24, in Piedmont Park.

Been spending some time in your garden? You can now proudly share your edible success at the 2023 Harvest Festival.

- The categories are:**
- Tomato/Pumpkin/Squash
 - Curds & Butters
 - Honey
 - Jam & Jelly - Berries
 - Jam & Jelly - Other Fruit
 - Preserved Edible
 - Plain Bread
 - Savory Bread
 - Sweet Bread
 - Mustard/Tapenade
 - Apple Pie
 - "Other" Pie

- Best Cookie/Bar
- Cake
- Pesto/Sauce
- Dried Fruit/Veggie
- Cucumber Pickles
- Preserved Veggie
- Salsa
- Compost Pile
- Gluten Free
- Unusual Veggie
- Unusual Fruit
- Ugly edible
- Create Your Own Category

The Harvest Festival also includes a Farmers' Market, food trucks, the annual Piedmont Jazz Festival, and a Scarecrow Contest sponsored by the three elementary schools.

Grow on!

For more information, contact Susan Hill at susanhill@aol.com.



Vill Drum and Susan Hill, founders of the Piedmont Harvest Festival.



August 16 – 20

Wednesday – Sunday
August 16-20

6 a.m., 8:30 p.m.
Aug. 9 School Board meeting

8 a.m., 6 p.m.
Aug. 7 City Council meeting

12:30 p.m.
Aug. 2 Park Commission meeting

4:30 p.m.
Aug. 14 Planning Commission meeting

For more information on future programming, call KCOM at City Hall at 510-420-3083.



By Jay Russell

QUESTION: What class are you most excited about this year? Why?

Asked at Hillside and Moraga on Monday, August 14.



CALEB CANADA, 10th grade
My Honors Chemistry class with Mr. Savage. its going to be hard, but definitely a lot of fun as well.



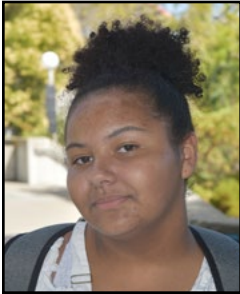
THEO FERGUSON, 10th grade
Probably history. I am very interested in the social workings of the world.



SPARROW LIEU, 10th grade
English. I really enjoy the subject and I am looking forward to becoming a better reader and writer.



JAMIE KEPP, Paraeducator
I'm excited to teach 6th grade social studies. I think the ancient history of Egypt is amazing to learn about.



D'KAYLA DANIEL, 6th grade
I would say social studies because I really want to learn more about the history of the world.



ELLA NEALON, 6th grade
I'm excited for math this year with Ms. Hare especially to learn algebra. I'm not sure why, but math is kind of interesting.

The Question Man asks a prescient question each week at an unannounced location.

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SCHOOLS

New teachers and staff at Piedmont High

By Jay Russell

Piedmont School District began the year short one science teacher and a vocal music teacher at Piedmont High. The affected sections of chemistry class were covered by other teachers on a short-term basis, namely by Piedmont native John Savage.

The district is looking for a chemistry or anatomy/physiology teacher to fill the void. They reposted the job notice on Edjoin on Monday, August 14 ([Edjoin.org/Home/DistrictJobPosting/1823848](https://edjoin.org/Home/DistrictJobPosting/1823848)).
“We have not yet filled the vacant position in the high school science department, but we do

have a few pending applicants. We are exploring all options and hope to have the position filled in the next two weeks (hopefully sooner),” stated Superintendent Jennifer Hawn.

Science is not the only department under a crunch, Piedmont’s teacher union president Elise Marks confirmed with her comments at the school board meeting. “We are still struggling with the teacher shortage. Under our current tight budget we have cut class sections in many departments and we have record-breaking class sizes,” said Marks on August 9.

High School Principal Sukanya Goswami, now in her second year, has provided the following list of new staff members at the high school.

NEW PHS STAFF, 2023

Joseph Marik	Assistant Principal
Sharah Houchin	Art teacher
Trevor Meseroll	Band Director
Doyle O’Regan	Out of retirement to teach Math
Jeremy Spence	Educational Therapist
Sasha Goldwasser	College and Career Counselor
Maureen O’Neill	Guitar Engineering Tech
Sara Valkonen	Administrative Assistant

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FUN4KIDS Event Calendar

By Jay Russell

Habitot Space Station Experience
[Habitot.org/space-station-experience](https://habitot.org/space-station-experience)
5689 Bay Street, Emeryville 647-1111

Habitot started off as a mobile museum, but has found a sturdy location this summer at Bay Street Emeryville through September 1. Habitat’s Space Station Experience is a STEM-embedded hands-on discovery play experience that will inspire a new generation of astronauts. The youngest of kids, age 0-5 will don astronaut suits and helmets and pilot the Rocketship while budding space engineers will manage the command center at Mission Control. Buy tickets in advance.

Lawrence Hall of Science
[Lawrencehallofscience.org](https://lawrencehallofscience.org)
1 Centennial Drive, Berkeley 642-5132

The Hall is open for visitors to explore the wonders of science and the universe Wednesday–Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. For over 50 years the Hall has enabled kids to discover something new, and get hands-on, with exhibits for all ages. Catch a show in the planetarium or the 3-D Theater for larger than life wonder and education.

Lake Chabot Boat Rental
[Lakechabotrecreation.com](https://lakechabotrecreation.com)
17936 Lake Chabot Rd. Castro Valley 247-2526
Boating and Fishing - Open

Lake Chabot’s boat rental service remains a well-kept local secret. Visit for a fun day on the water in a variety of boats – row boats, kayaks (single and double), and pedal boats. Electric motorboats are also available in four different sizes: four-person, 16’ with a Bimini top, electric pontoon patio boats, and a 20-person tour boat. There’s a bait shop on the dock if you are an angler, or just enjoy a relaxing day at Lake Chabot.

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Irma Muñoz Daniels takes over at Millennium High



Irma Muñoz Daniels leads her first MHS Falcon Meeting on August 9.

By Jay Russell

Irma Muñoz Daniels began her first year as Millennium High School principal last week, after eight years as Piedmont High School Assistant Principal. Daniels, now using her married name, takes over for previous MHS principal Shannon Fierro. Although Daniels’ office has only moved a hundred yards down Magnolia, Millennium has leagues of cultural depth. “When I was at PHS, I didn’t quite realize how much of Millennium is about community,” stated Daniels in discussion with the Post before the year started.

On Monday, August 7 Daniels formally introduced herself to the MHS staff, and the next day she met parents and students during walkthrough registration. “I feel like walkthrough registration is my one opportunity and I have to make a good first impression,” she said. Daniels is also returning to classroom, becoming the first MHS Principal to also teach a class (4th period ASB Leadership). Her career in education began as a Spanish teacher, but aside from substituting, she has not taught in the classroom in over 20 years. Daniels has been an administrator since 2002.

The ASB leadership class tackles increasing the community bond, restorative justice, and issues of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB). Daniels was a natural fit to teach the course, as she led many of the District’s DEIB initiatives including the establishment of the District’s Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Network. While having only completed her first week at MHS, Daniels has plans to push the identity of Millennium High towards being a small, alternative, college preparatory school. She spoke about moving the stereotype of Millen-



Irma Muñoz Daniels (right) with the Millennium ASB class, which she is teaching.

nium away from this “mystique,” as an unknown school but always compared to Piedmont High. “There is a different way to accumulate credits at MHS, and it is not a continuation school. It is also not a good school to try to make up lost credit,” Daniels explained. True to its focus on commu-

nity, the school year at MHS started with a Falcon meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Day one, August 9. Daniels led the first school-wide monthly meeting for all MHS students and staff. Leadership lessons will need to quickly take form at MHS however, as next month, students will lead the Falcon meetings.



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PHS students find AP classes are overflowing

By Clea Villaluz

Overpacked Advanced Placement (AP) classes at Piedmont High School have caused some faculty to discourage students from enrolling in AP classes during the first week of school. Additionally, wait lists for honors and AP classes are extensive, leaving dissatisfied students and overburdened faculty.

In one crowded Honors Math class, students cannot secure an available seat in the 37-student class. According to shocked students, teachers have implored their classes to consider dropping their course.

“We were literally scrambling last night to get enough desks into our classrooms,” said Piedmont Teacher Union President and PHS English teacher Dr. Elise Marks at the August 9 school board meeting.

Ashley English, a PHS counselor, has shown her understanding of student and parent frustrations.

“Unfortunately, we’re in a situation where class sizes were set at maximums as a result of budget constraints.” Addressing administration decisions, she said “The larger class sizes you have, the more students you can put in them, the fewer employees you have to hire.”

According to English, Piedmont, along with districts nationwide, is also facing teacher shortages creating a need for larger class sizes. John Savage teaches chemistry and anatomy at PHS, however, due to teacher shortages, he is currently the only person



Extra desks have been added to try to meet the demand of this crowded PHS classroom.

Staff photo

teaching chemistry, a required class for sophomores. When the administration closed the seventh-period chemistry class section, the class period’s twenty-five students filled into other periods, causing an overflow.

Overbooked classes leave apprehensive students outside their desired classes and inside overpacked rooms, worrying about their GPAs. In a sophomore English class, PHS teacher Mercedes Foster informed her students that not taking AP classes is not a mark of unintelligence. A low voice among the students responded, “It is here,” and heads around the room nodded in agreement.

To many stressed students, no APs mean no future.

As high school academic competition climbs, anxious generations observe college acceptance rates fall. UCLA, for example, is a common school of interest for Piedmont students; comparing the 2021 and 2022 freshman profiles from the university’s admissions

page reveals a 2% percent drop in the admittance rate down to 9%.

This recent decline in admittance has led many high school students to internalize high standards for their academic rigor. A study conducted by a professor of psychology, Thomas Curran, Ph.D., published in Psychological Bulletin, found a 10 percent increase in perfectionism in students between 1986 and 2016.

Here at Piedmont High, AP enrollment (50 percent) is well above the national average, and it is evident how academic pressure has afflicted our high-achieving students. Unable to get into their desired classes or packed into overfilled classrooms, students express concern for the quality of their educations.

How will students succeed in chaotic classrooms with overburdened teachers, they ask.

Clea Villaluz is a junior at Piedmont High School and a first-year intern with the Piedmont Post.

Jennifer Hawn

Continued from page 1

to advanced or standard math pathways.

Parents in favor of access to advanced math classes have been particularly critical of the state’s plan new math framework adopted on July 12. Hawn then went on to remind the community and the board that school districts have local control over curriculum.

“We will be very interested in how this new framework accommodates accelerated learning for our middle school students and

advanced mathematic coursework in high school which takes students through Calculus AB and BC, which is essential as a pathway option for our Piedmont Unified School District students,” Hawn said.

Hawn compared the topic of how to teach math to last year’s discussion over changes in reading philosophy, i.e. word recognition versus phonics and how the district worked with the community prior to making any changes.



Staff Photo

Superintendent Jennifer Hawn started her tour of campuses at Beach Elementary School on the first day of school.

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POSTCARDS FROM CAMP



Campers get ready for a water fight in canoes as their cabin act.



Counselors rigged a human sized bowling session for a cabin act.

Letters to home by kids at Camp Augusta

Throughout the summer the *Post* prints a sampling of letters written by kids attending Camp Augusta, Piedmont’s residential camp at Lake Vera outside Nevada City in the Sierra foothills. Founded in 1931, the camp remains a vital part of the life of hundreds of children each summer.

The last two-week session of the summer was bittersweet. Evening programs were played for the last time and scary story experiences were run. The heat was not a problem this session, but the meat

bees were. Our first Yuba trip went out for a couple of Cedar and Oak cabins. The Circle group ran their original evening program, appropriately titled Heat Wave, which went quite well.

Lazy Dog ice cream was enjoyed, level bracelets were handed out, and the horses got many bubble baths. Pine decided to build a lot of Camp Augusta Pride Projects, including a table. The beekeeping shed got a make-over mural from Oak 5.

Although we hate saying goodbye to these campers this session, we look forward to seeing them again soon next year.



At herbal medicine making, campers could make any assortment of items from lip balm to booboo goo.



Campers making belts and bags at leatherworking.



Oak campers fill out a bingo card as a way to get to know each other.



Campers rally behind the citizens of Iron town to deter the nature spirits from invading. Many of the campers decided to join with the spirits to even the playing field, and in the end, Iron town won.



The nightwalker, the spirit of nature, wanders around Pine during Nature’s Wrath.



Cedar 5 sang “Landslide” dedicated to a camper in their cabin.



Cedar and Oak’s joint village act included stacking cups of water on top of 2 campers’ heads.



Some campers eagerly wait for the chance to perform aerial silks in front of the whole camp at Augusta. With a lot of practice, this Oak camper showed her skills while the crowd cheered.

Summer Special

A day and evening at summer choir camp

By Larissa Edel

The fog crawls over the hills and into the camp. It shrouds the buildings from the morning rays, drawing the camp into its mystery. The campers start to wake up and stretch their sleep-filled limbs. It is time to get ready for the day that is sprawling out in front of them. The fog keeps crawling over the hills.

The campers meander towards the dining hall. Walking through the fog, just as they'd done yesterday and just as they would tomorrow. As they eat, foxes emerge from their hiding spots to explore outside. Sometimes a camper might see a disappearing tail out of the corner of their eye, but when they turn to look through the window and into the fog, the fox is gone, slinking off through the thick mist and into a grove of trees.

The next arrival outside is a deer, standing on a hill watching the campers do their vocal warm-ups in the morning. When a camper gets too close, the fawns retreat further up the hill, but the mother stays and watches for danger. The camper backs away and goes into the building for warm-ups. Fawns would come back down later. The fog turns to a thin curtain of mist.

As campers go to rehearsals, more animals come out. Dragonflies cut through the mist with their wings. Turkeys hobble across the roads and fields. Meanwhile, the hawks watch from their perches high in the trees.

The midday sun finally banishes the fog. The clear blue sky and its companion, the sun, brighten the ground. The lizards lay on rocks as the sun warms their backs. The cows come out to graze on the distant hills as campers eat their lunch.

And then time for campers to go outside for the day's announcements. The swallows stick their heads out from their nests as if to listen as well. The campers have a spirit day judging after announcements. The foxes sit nearby to watch, their heads cocked to the side. They watch as the campers line up for their photo and offer no comment on the ridiculous spirit day clothing.

Bright laughter echoes across the field as campers walk under the shade of the trees, humming simple melodies. Occasionally more singers join the melody. After their walk they return to their cabins for a rest period. The camp falls into silence.

The only sound heard is a page turning in a book, a pen scratching across paper for a letter to home, or the soft inhales and exhales of a sleeping camper. The sun and sky wonder where the campers have gone. They wonder each day when the campers disappear.

And when the campers return, the sun shines brighter. Some campers go to the lake, some to the patio, some to voice lessons. Those who go to Turtle Pond cross a bridge above the creek. They go up a hill through the shade of the trees and to a field. The sun beats down on their backs as they walk. The gophers, standing guard by their tunnels, watch as the campers continue on their walk.

The last camper crosses the field. She walks up the final hill and upon reaching the top, a glimmering pond comes into view. Gleeful shouts and splashing surrounds the new group of campers. They walk to the water where the turtles, frogs and fish all observe the swimmers. Green canoes are out on the water patrolling the perimeter of the lake. Yellow kayaks float at the end of the lake in a cove, where the wind cannot reach them. From the dock, everything can be seen – every hill, every tree, every cloud. The pond is an oasis.

For those who stay behind at the camp, the patio is their haven. Music from a counselor's speaker plays while the campers make friendship bracelets. The umbrellas give refuge from the heat of the sun's rays. A piece of bracelet string is carried off by the wind. It lands near the swallow nest. A swallow picks it up and adds it to its nest. The music keeps playing. The sun starts to get closer to the hill tops. The sky darkens just a bit.

Back at the pond, the lifeguards usher the swimmers out of the water. It is time to return to camp. The music stops. At

the patio, the colorful strings are packed away. Every stray piece of trash is picked up as they walk back the way they came – down the hill, across the meadow and the field, through the trees, over the creek and along the road.

After dinner, the campers retreat to their cabins once more, to shower and get dressed for the evening recital. Clothes are borrowed, pictures are taken, smiles shared. At the recital, they watch and listen as their friends sing music selected by the choir's voice teachers. After each song, the audience applauds. After each song the sun dips lower and lower behind the hills. The sun wishes it could stay longer, wishes it could hear another song. But the sun is needed elsewhere.

While the sun can't stay, the animals and stars can. They listen. When the final round of applause ends, the animals steal away into the darkening night. The stars stay, for where could they go? They stay and watch. Just as they had each night before. They watch the campers walk to the dining hall. The stars watch over everything.

When the last piece of dessert is eaten, the campers walk to their night rehearsals. Each choir is rehearsing to music they are learning. Each singer focuses on every note, creating music that floats into the pine scented air.

With the final note, choir binders are closed and chairs put away. It is time for the final activity of the night. They are happy to be with each other and to be in the company of dedicated singers who have found a family with each other.

The sky becomes fully darkened. Every star that a camp lantern doesn't overpower is sparkling. The campers walk to their cabins for a final time that night.

Bunk beds are climbed into, teeth brushed, vespers sung. The campers fall asleep in advance of the next day and its adventures. Just like they had done yesterday and as they would do tomorrow.

The fog comes crawling over the hills, shrouding the buildings in its mystery.

Piedmont resident Larissa Edel is a junior at Bentley School.

PPD Blue

Excerpts from the Piedmont Police Department Log August 4 - August 11

This week by the numbers
1 Arrest
1 Gas-powered leaf blower.
2 Residential Burglaries
2 Commercial Burglaries
2 Auto Thefts
6 Auto Burglaries
36 Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) triggered by stolen vehicles or plates

Friday, August 4
2:20 p.m. Hampton Rd. Report of reckless driver in white Nissan Rogue doing donuts.
10:53 p.m. Oakland Ave. ALPR triggered by gray 2010 Nissan Xterra stolen from San Jose.

Saturday, August 5
4:53 a.m. Moraga Ave. ALPR triggered by 2018 gray Hyundai Elantra stolen from Berkeley.
7:00 a.m. Ronada Ave. ALPR triggered by 1991 Acura Integra stolen from Hayward.
8:16 a.m. Moraga Ave. ALPR triggered by gray 2018 Hyundai Elantra.
3:26 p.m. Grand Ave. ALPR triggered by 2012 white Honda Civic.
6:23 p.m. Trestle Glen Rd. ALPR triggered by gray Honda Accord.

Sunday, August 6
1:06 a.m. Trestle Glen Rd. ALPR triggered by silver 2018 Kia Forte stolen from Oakland.
6:38 a.m. Moraga Ave. Auto Theft. 2018 black Dodge Durango stolen overnight.
9:11 a.m. Grand Ave. Stolen silver 2020 Mazda CX5 recovered.
9:21 a.m. Winsor Ave. ALPR triggered by 2002 black Cadillac Escalade.
9:45 a.m. Blair Ave. Report of person sleeping in ivy. Officer makes contact; person leaves.
11:15 a.m. Grand Ave. ALPR triggered by white 2014 BMW X3.
11:39 a.m. Estates Dr. ALPR triggered by white 2015 Kia Optima stolen from Oakland.
12:09 p.m. Red Rock Rd. Commercial Burglary. Tool boxes broken into at Corporation Yard. Loss of equipment valued at \$20,000.
1:05 p.m. Wildwood Ave. ALPR triggered by black 2020 Honda Accord stolen from San Francisco.

2:19 p.m. Moraga Ave. ALPR triggered twice by blue 2018 Hyundai Santa Fe stolen from Oakland.
6:08 p.m. Winsor Ave. ALPR triggered by white 2019 Hyundai Tucson stolen from Oakland.
6:26 p.m. Grand Ave. Report of person in red sedan shooting pedestrian on curb with nerf squirt gun; no one injured.

Monday, August 7
4:13 a.m. Boulevard Way. ALPR triggered by unidentified vehicle. Officer locates it but driver speeds away into Oakland.
6:55 a.m. Moraga Ave. Vandalism. Report of person throwing PG&E hole covers and large rocks at cars and homes.
7:26 a.m. Bonita Ave. Auto Burglary. Report of burgundy GMC Sierra broken into.
11:53 a.m. Winsor Ave. ALPR triggered by Honda Accord. Officer locates car but it fails to yield.
12:38 p.m. Woodland Way. Report of gas-powered leaf blower.
2:59 p.m. Highland Ave. Jogger reports being shot by pellet gun by suspects in red SUV.
3:17 p.m. Oakland Ave. ALPR triggered by 2011 black Infiniti EX35 stolen from Solano County.
5:00 p.m. Moraga Ave. ALPR triggered by black 2011 Hyundai Elantra stolen from Oakland. Officer locates vehicle but driver refuses to yield.
7:52 p.m. Grand Ave. ALPR triggered by unidentified vehicle.

Tuesday, August 8
2:16 a.m. Oakland Ave. ALPR triggered by unidentified vehicle.
8:11 a.m. Pala Ave. Officer checks home after alarm goes off; no sign of entry.
10:02 a.m. Grand Ave. ALPR triggered by white Honda Fit.

See PPD Blue on page 30

PICKS OF THE WEEK (2)

• Must be the Bonita Angels MC
Monday, August 7
4:15 a.m. Bonita Ave. Report of person revving a motorcycle in middle of night.

Kind of like leaving your calling card, but different.
Wednesday, August 9
8:36 a.m. Estates Dr. Auto Burglary. Report of unlocked Subaru rifled; suspect left cell phone behind.

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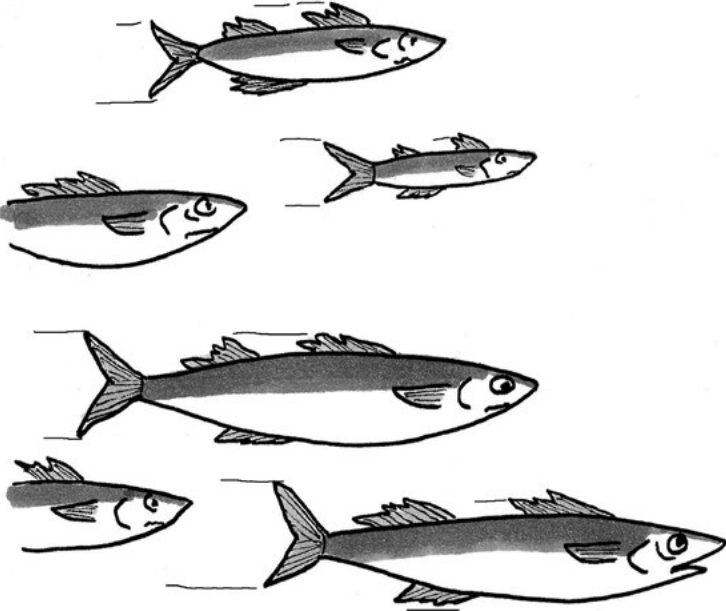


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Flip by Phil Witte



"We're baitfish--we'll always be endangered."



The Scots Camp orientation for 6th graders ended at Piedmont Park on August 11.

Photos by Mike Wong, Anne Smith and Amy Sharp

Great Scot!

Scots Camp sows new crop of 6th graders

By Jay Russell

The start of a new school year is synonymous with Scots Camp at Piedmont Middle School, and this year was no exception. Friday, August 11, served as a day of orientation for new 6th graders through team building, campus exploration and fun activities. “Embedded throughout the day are also staff introductions so that every 6th grader gets to know their 6th grade staff. We review the Scot expectations and

every student puts their handprint on the Scot wall in the MPR,” explained counselor Amy Sharp who organized the camp with 6th grade teacher Anjuna Lohnes. Students were given technology lessons on using their new Chromebooks and were also given an engineering problem on how to build a tall and strong tower out of dry pasta. For 6th graders finding their way on a new campus, a friendly 8th grade Scot Camp group leader can go a long way towards

a smooth transition. Piedmont School District accepted an influx of inter-district transfer students entering 6th grade this year. This year’s camp decided to end the day off campus at Piedmont Park. The 6th grade parent reps organized activities and treats on the lawn. “Finishing Scots Camp, and the first week of school, off site was a great shift. Students were able to mingle with peers and end the day in a fun and social setting,” said Sharp



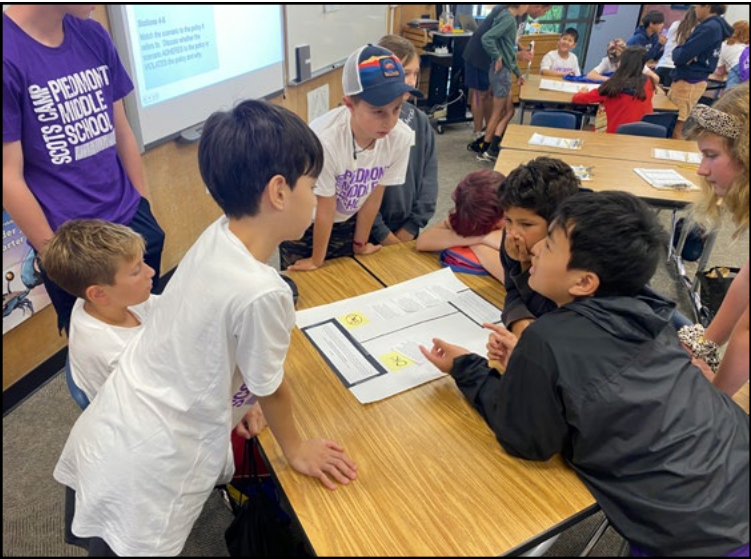
Middle schoolers inhabit the patio on the first day of school, August 9



8th grade Scots Camp counselors in purple shirts pose with 6th graders.



6th graders Luca Pecoraro (left), and Laszlo Weber (right) were helped on their middle school journey by 8th grader Jack Herrlinger at the finale of Scots Camp in Piedmont Park.



6th graders receive a technology lesson about their new Chromebooks.

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School is Open

Continued from [page 1](#)

mer took over in 2000. Melissa Daymond had her first day as principal. She hosted an outdoor welcome back coffee session for parents on Wednesday morning, August 9.

The Beach Parents Organization, chaired this year by Zeena Fakoury and Supina Mapon, hosted a snacks and beverage table for parents near the Beach play structure. At Havens, the Ellen Driscoll Playhouse was the site of a welcome back to school function for Havens parents.

The school board expressed great optimism with schools now under the leadership of Jennifer

See [School is Open](#) on page 30



Staff Photos
Natalie Liou with new Beach kindergarten teacher Chloe Readle.



New Wildwood School Principal, Melissa Daymond, welcomes Beazy Roman (left), Malcolm Roman and Claire Hagerty on the first day of school.



3rd grader Parker Spohn (left) and 5th grade brother Calvin Spohn get ready to head to Havens School on the first day of classes.



Kindergartener Kyle Zengel (left) and 2nd grade brother Braden head to school.



Beach School 4th graders before the start of class: Imogen Weber (left), Mailey Small, Catherine Ackerman, and Aria Chamales



Wildwood 5th graders Aria Mehta (left), Samantha Vosburg, and Madison Kao



Luke Shin (left), Conner Chew and Colin Liou wait to enter Maggie Butler's 3rd grade class at Beach school.



1st grader Dalia Doebelin (left) with Beach Parents Organization Board co-Presidents Zeena Fakoury and Supina Mapon



Middle school parents stand by the fence after dropping off their kids on the first day of school.



Beach Kindergarteners and parents get ready to enter Becky Nielsen's class.



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SPORTS

Piedmont football training camp ramps up

Scrimmage game at Skyline HS this Saturday

By Jonathan Comeaux

Pads are cracking and helmets are strapped for Piedmont High’s football training camp as it prepares for Week 1 of its first full season in two years. Its opening game is on Friday, August 25 with Pierce High School in Arbutus (Colusa County). The Highlanders’ upcoming fall campaign will be entirely on the road in 2023 due to Witter Field unplayable as a result of delayed renovations.

Importantly, this year marks a full return of the varsity program to the Western Alameda County Conference. Last year the varsity team was shut down after four games due to low roster numbers and injuries piling up. The remaining players were merged with the junior varsity team with an eye to the future. The return of varsity means more than just chasing the WACC’s 2023 Shoreline Division title but rebuilding football’s culture as a strong and consistent program.

Piedmont High School’s football tradition is more than 100 years old, dating to 1921 when the school and field were built.

The team is currently practicing on the outfield of Humphries



Football coach Jordan Seiden talks with the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams after practice.

Diamond, the adjacent baseball field. The team was originally slated to practice at Laney College’s football field, but Bishop O’Dowd was given rights to practice at the 11th hour. Despite not having a home field, adequate gym, or a practice field with lines, the Highlanders are making the most of its situation.

“We’ve maintained from the beginning that it all starts with the kids. Their attitude about our expectations is through the

roof. We’ve marveled at that even when we’re hard on them after a practice, they thank us and shake our hand at the end of the day,” said coach Jordan Seiden.

There’s a different air to this year’s training camp in Seiden’s second season as head coach. At this time last year he was still easing players into a new system. This time, players are aware of their duties and understand the expectations.

Last week quarterback Markos Lagios was airing things out to receivers Miguel Long and Sam Shelby, who also got work with the running backs and is Lagios’ primary backup at quarterback. Tommy Ashton is leading the backfield; Albert Bellinrath is getting action receiving as a tight end, while players like Jordan Alemania and Derek Schleuning will see time on both the offensive and defensive lines. Players like Emmett Maxwell and Brayden Hong, both seniors, are likely to get time as offensive and defensive starters.



Miguel Long leaps to defend a pass intended for Sam Shelby.

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Players to watch this fall



Sam Shelby enters his junior year as a do-it-all player for the football team.

By Jonathan Comeaux

With students back to school, student-athletes are getting back into their groove ahead of the upcoming fall sports season. Piedmont High will have nine teams this fall: girls’ and boys’ cross country, girls’ volleyball, girls’ tennis, football, girls’ golf, and boys’ water polo, girls’ flag football. Here’s a look at four key athletes for the upcoming season.

SAM SHELBY

Football

Sam Shelby, a junior, is stepping onto the football team this fall as a multifaceted key-player in all phases of the game. Shelby does it all for the squad, lining up at receiver, running back, defensive back, return specialist, and even as the backup quarterback.

In last year’s four-game varsity season, Shelby scored five touchdowns before varsity was canceled due to lack of roster numbers in favor of developing at the junior varsity level.

On the soccer team, Shelby appeared as a winger, using his speed to bomb down the flank. He earned starting minutes as a sophomore in Todd Sullivan’s system, contributing towards the team’s Division 4 North Coast Section title.

Sam was a member of the track team’s 4x400 relay team which reached the State Championship meet on May 26 with teammates Christian Taylor, Parker Long, and Jack Zirkelbach-Ngai.

SKYLAR BEST

Cross Country

Skylar Best, a sophomore, was our Honorable Mention for 2023 Freshman of the Year. She made a huge impact on Piedmont’s cross country team last year by qualifying for the CIF State Championship at Woodward Park, where she finished 64th of 201 total runners with a time of 19:56.2 in the Division 4 category. She was the 11th overall fastest freshmen in her event out of 42 others.

To qualify for State, Best finished 11th at the NCS Meet of Champions at Hayward with a time of 19:24.27. At the WACC Championship, also hosted at Hayward High, Best finished fourth of 59 runners with a time of 19:25.22.



Skylar Best was the Post’s Honorable Mention for 2023 Freshman of the Year after qualifying for the State Cross-Country Championship last year.

DECLAN LINNANE

Water Polo

Declan Linnane will return as a leader of the boys’ water polo team after helping the squad go 20-7 overall last fall and its second-consecutive WACC Championship with a 13-4 win over Alameda. Linnane scored three goals, one assist, and one steal in that game.

The Highlanders reached the Div. 2 North Coast Section Semifinals and scored all five goals in the narrow 6-5 playoff loss to No. 2 Marin Academy, including three goals in the fourth quarter.

Linnane stepped onto the

See Players to Watch on page 32



Declan Linnane will be a key player on the water polo team this fall.

A look ahead at the Class of 2024



Staff Photos

Mia Leggett will be a key player in the flag football team’s inaugural season this fall. She’s also earned varsity letters on softball and basketball.

By Jonathan Comeaux

With the new school year quickly approaching, the Class of 2024 looks past the summer break to what could be a defining year of their athletic careers as a senior. In this article, the Post takes a look at three seniors who could have big seasons waiting for them when they return.

MIA LEGGETT Flag Football & Softball

Our first-ever flag football feature goes to Mia Leggett, who has earned varsity letters on the basketball and softball teams during her time at Piedmont High. Leggett steps onto the football gridiron this fall as a potential leader on the flag football team in its first year of existence as an official school sport.

She did not appear on the varsity basketball team last year, but was on the JV team as a guard ready to knock down 3-pointers.

BRAYDEN HONG Football

Brayden Hong enters his senior year on the football team



Brayden Hong reels in a pass during a recent football practice. He’ll be a key player on the team this fall.



George Stein earned second-team All-League honors on last year’s WACC Championship winning water polo team.

after being a key starter on last year team before the cancellation of its season due to low roster numbers. Hong was an impact player was a safety on the defensive side and receiver on offense.

Hong inherits Piedmont jersey No. 3, which was also worn by recent PHS defensive backs Will Kalmbach and Ben Marshburn. Like both of those players, Hong will contribute as a primary member of the Highlanders’ secondary and also contribute on the offensive side.

GEORGE STEIN Water Polo & Swimming

George Stein is a two-sport athlete, playing water polo in the fall and swimming in the spring. He earned second-team All-League honors on last year’s WACC Championship boys’ water polo team, which went 20-7 and reached the D2 NCS Semifinals as the No. 3 seed.

He had three goals, an assist, and a steal in Piedmont 13-4 WACC Finals win over Alameda. Among his best performances was a five-goal performance in Piedmont’s 15-12 NCS Quarterfinals win over No. 6 Novato.



Aidan Shartsis makes his way home to his jubilant teammates after smacking a home run at the Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament.

Piedmont players in Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament

A Future Star Baseball (FSB) team with players from Piedmont and Oakland competed in a tournament at Cooperstown Dreams Park in Cooperstown, New York, from August 2-8. The tournament is for players age 12 and under, and brings in teams from all over the country to create a fun, inclusive and also competitive atmosphere. Fences are only 200 feet, and homeruns are much more frequent than league or regular travel team play.

The FSB team was undefeated in five games of pool play, earning the 15th seed out of 96 teams. They hit 14 home runs in those five games, including homers by Ben McMurtry and Aidan Shartsis from Piedmont. Anand Christensen from Oakland led the team with four home runs, including two in their 23-2 victory over Zimmerman Thunder from Minnesota, racking up 14 RBIs on the tournament.

Weather was a factor in the closest game, the last pool play game against the Falls Church Copperheads from Virginia, which didn’t start until 9:30 p.m. due to earlier rain. Coming into the finals, both teams were undefeated at 4-0.

Kingston James led off the scoring in the top of the 1st inning with a line drive to center field that looked like it might go through the plywood fence, scoring Johnny Ellington from 3rd. The Copperheads answered in the bottom of the inning, taking a 2-1 lead after a dropped third strike and two singles.

Isaiah Downs, who had the start for FSB, held the Copperheads scoreless from that point until a solo home run made it a 3-1 ballgame in the bottom of the



Ben McMurtry is congratulated by an opposing player after hitting a homer.

4th inning. Then in the top of the 5th, FSB roared back with three singles in a row to lead off the inning, and when the dust settled they took the field, having flipped the game with a 6-3 lead.

In the 4th inning Preston Baenen came in to relieve Downs. Fog began rolling in during the 5th inning and was so thick the outfielders couldn’t see home plate. The umpires said to play on. FSB managed to get out of the inning only giving up 1 run. Nobody knows how Johnny Smuelwitz saw the pop up he caught; Baenen struck the other two out. By the time FSB batted, the fog cleared and their team scored 4 more runs in the top of the 6th inning—racking up a total of 14 hits in the game.

Things got interesting in the bottom of the sixth. With two outs, the Copperheads rallied to score 2 runs and fill the bases, putting the winning run at bat. FSB head coach CJ Jackson put in lefty Kingston James to get the last out. James struck out the

Copperheads’ cleanup batter to remain undefeated and secure the 15th seed.

FSB ultimately lost in the round of 32 teams to Hits Indoor Baseball Elite of Kentucky, a showcase team that recruits players from all over the country. Hits took a commanding 6-0 lead by the 2nd inning, but FSB answered with 5 runs in the bottom of the 5th to bring the game within 1 run. Hits put in an ace in relief, who seemed to throw mid-70s and held FSB scoreless the rest of the game while they racked up more runs. Dylan Toyama from Piedmont pitched 2 innings in that game in relief. Clemons Conrad, Jack Dahling, and Aidan Stewart also represented Piedmont on FSB throughout the tournament.



Kingston James rounds second-base after hitting a homer.



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2023 Women's World Cup

World Cup awaiting finals on Sunday

By Jonathan Comeaux

We're almost down to the 2023 Women's World Cup Finals, where a new nation is guaranteed to hoist the championship trophy. As this is written, Spain just beat Sweden in the last 10 minutes of regulation in a semifinal match, and now awaits the result of the other semifinal, England vs. host country Australia, played at 3 a.m. (West Coast time) last night. The Finals are scheduled for Sunday, August 20, also at 3:00 a.m.

How unexpected have this year's tournament results been? Aside from the United States

taking its earliest exit ever, Spain upended Sweden, which had ousted two of the strongest looking teams, the U.S. and Japan. Espana, meanwhile, lost to Japan 5-0 during the group stage, a result suggesting just how quickly things can change in soccer. In last week's Post, I predicted three of the four quarterfinal matches incorrectly.

Here are some the headlines over the last week.

No. 6 Spain impressive versus No. 3 Sweden & No. 9 Netherlands

I predicted No. 9 Netherlands beating Spain in the quarter-



Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Spain celebrates after defeating Sweden to reach the 2023 World Cup Finals. They have a chance to win their nation's first Women's World Cup title.



Photo courtesy of 90min.com

England is the current favorite to win it all. Can they get the job done?



Can England's Chloe Kelly lead them to the World Cup final?

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finals in a defensive game, but the Spanish won 2-1 with strong aggressive attacking. It was arguably a modest result for Spain, recording 28 shots with eight on target and dominating possession with 62 percent of the ball.

In the game with Sweden, Spain didn't show its usual offensive fluidity, but its two shots on target out of 13 total shot attempted were enough for a 2-1 win. They maintained possession 63 percent of the time.

It'll be interesting to see if Spain can keep its possessive style against England or Australia. The Three Lions of England, for instance, have had the edge in possession in all of its World Cup games, including a gaudy 71 per-

cent in a 1-nil win over Denmark in the group stage.

No. 10 Australia continues amazing run

Australia reaching the semi-finals against current favorites England is a testament to just how good this year's tournament has been. The hosting nation battled its way to a heated 7-6 penalty kicks win over No. 5 France after ending regulation and overtime in a 0-0 deadlock. Despite being the underdogs and a less established soccer nation, the Aussies looked just as strong as the French and were dominant against No. 13 Denmark.

We'll know the result against England by the time the Post is

Spain's Jennifer Hermoso has three goals and two assists.

published and on doorsteps today, but Australia's run has been special to watch and deserves praise as a big storyline coming out of this year's games.

Photo courtesy of CBC

No. 10 Australia keeping up with world powers on its way to the semifinals has been a big story from this year's World Cup.

Piedmont Soccer Club

scores double triumph

2015 girls and boys Purple teams win tournaments

This past weekend, both Piedmont Soccer Club's Girls and Boys 2015 PSC Highlander Purple teams came home champions.

The girls played in the Pleasanton Rage Cup. After topping their group with three wins, they took on Castro Valley in an end-to-end encounter, with both teams displaying excellent soccer in 90-degree heat. Piedmont came through with the 6-4 win after going down 3-4 early in the game.

While the girls were in Pleasanton, the boys headed to Davis for the Davis Legacy Summer Classic. They also went undefeated and finished in the top of their group on Saturday. On Sunday morning they narrowly won their semifinal match with Livermore Fusion, 4-3 in the closing minutes. Later on Sunday, playing in 95 degree heat, they outlasted the host team, Davis Legacy, with a 4-1 victory.

The weekend tournaments were especially exciting for 8-year-old twins, Nora and Zach Venner, whose teams were the winners. Unable to watch each other play this weekend, they were happy to be reunited at home on Sunday evening to show each other their well-deserved hardware.

Go Highlanders!

BACK TO SCHOOL IN PIEDMONT

Navigating Back-to-School and college applications

Empowering teens amidst global challenges

By Nancy Rowland

As we parents prepare for the back-to-school season and the upcoming college application process, it's paramount to recognize and respect the unique challenges that today's teenagers face. From the lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to global issues causing added stress, our genuine desire for our teens' well-being is an unwavering force. In this journey towards higher education, we can provide invaluable support by deeply listening to our teens and refraining from imposing our own version of a "best life," while also fostering an environment that encourages purpose-driven exploration. Additionally, seeking personalized college counseling within a nurturing school environment can play a pivotal role in guiding teens towards autonomy, confidence, and problem-solving skills.

Acknowledging added stress, deep listening

As you navigate the complexities of your teenager's life, it's crucial to acknowledge the stress brought on by worldwide crises broadcast directly to their handheld devices. Instead of imposing expectations or solutions, practice listening. By creating a space for open dialogue, you can empower your teen to voice their concerns and emotions freely. This not only eases the burden of stress but also reinforces the notion that their feelings are valid and respected.

Fostering independence and purpose

While you may envision a certain path for your teen, it's important to not project your version of that ideal onto them. Instead, encourage them to explore their passions and interests authentically. By doing so, your young adult can develop a profound sense of purpose that aligns with their individuality. This self-discovery process fuels intrinsic motivation and equips them with the tools to chart their own course towards higher education and beyond.

In today's interconnected world, soft skills such as communication, adaptability, and critical thinking, are essential for success. Encourage your teen to participate in extracurricular activities,

ties, community initiatives, and collaborative projects to develop these vital skills.

The power of a supportive mentor

Having a mentor who genuinely supports and champions a teenager's journey can make a significant difference. A mentor can be a teacher, a coach, or any trusted adult who takes the time to listen. A mentor is not there to solve problems or make decisions but to provide guidance, encouragement, and a safe space for discussion. This relationship fosters the development of problem-solving skills and decision-making capacity, empowering teens to take ownership of their choices and outcomes.

College Counseling

College preparation has evolved beyond academics and test scores. Admissions officers seek holistic individuals with diverse skill sets and a clear sense of purpose. Encourage your teen to explore various interests and to engage in volunteer work. Gaining practical experience will help stand out in the competitive application process.

High schools that prioritize individualized college counseling within a nurturing environment offer an invaluable advantage. This approach aligns with the principles of social-emotional learning, which equips teens with emotional intelligence, self-awareness, and interpersonal skills. Combined with personalized guidance, teens gain the confidence to navigate the intricacies of the college application process, armed with both academic and emotional resilience.

As parents embark on the back-to-school season and the journey towards college applications, a mindful and empathetic approach is paramount. By deeply listening to their teens, fostering purpose-driven exploration, and providing mentorship without imposing solutions, parents empower their teenagers to be architects of their own future.

Nancy Rowland is the Head of School at Orinda Academy, a small independent high school that supports students who think and learn differently. She can be reached at nancy@orindaacademy.org.

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BACK TO SCHOOL IN PIEDMONT

Piedmont Pack Open Houses in August & September

Piedmont Scout Council’s four Cub Scout Packs are welcoming new youth in grades kindergarten through 5th grade this fall. Parents and youth are welcome to visit the Packs at informational events listed below and at their first meetings of the year. The meetings are an opportunity to learn about the Packs, their regular activities, and to meet the Cubmasters.

Pack 3
Wednesday, September 13th, from 6-7 p.m.
Open House Pack Meeting
Joaquin Miller Park, Fernwood Picnic Area
3300 Joaquin Miller Rd, Oakland, CA 94602
Pack Leaders: Lisa Kaplan (u4lisa@gmail.com) & Sarah Eisemon (saraheisemon@gmail.com)

Pack 4
Monday, September 11th, from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Open House Pack Meeting
Ellen Driscoll Auditorium
Havens Elementary School, 325 Highland Ave
Cubmaster: Brad Cardon (bscscouts@gmail.com)

Pack 5
Thursday, August 24th, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Meet the Pack at Wildwood Dad’s Club BBQ
Wildwood Elementary, 301 Wildwood Ave
Cubmaster: Scott Miller (millerst@gmail.com)

Pack 6
Friday, September 8th, at 6:30 p.m.
Open House Pack Meeting
Corpus Christi School, 1 Estates Drive
Cubmaster: Ian Davison (iandavisonca@gmail.com)

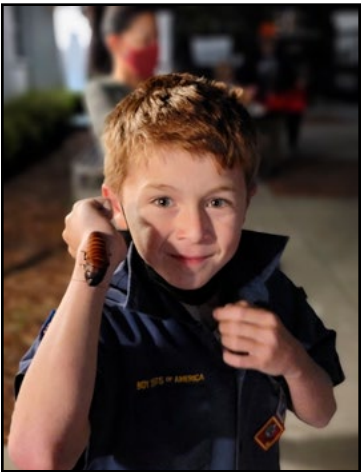
For details, call the Scout office at 547-4493.



Cubs and parents intently watch the race at the Pinewood Derby.



Cub Scout Sarah Keeney working at the annual Scout Tree Lot.



Cub Scout Fred Leonard makes a new friend.




Cub Scouts have a blast playing kazoos and handing out candy during the 4th of July parade.

READ IT IN *THE POST*

PACK OPEN HOUSES

Aug & Sept

Questions? Contact Eris Turner: eturner@piedmontbsa.org / 510-844-4752



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BACK TO SCHOOL IN PIEDMONT

Creating harmony at Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir camp

Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir Camp fosters lifelong friendships that begin with the love of singing. From July 25 to August 5 this summer, more than 100 singers from 7 to 19 strengthened old friendships and formed new ones while hiking, swimming, crafting and living through music. The summer sleep-away music camps returned this to the beautiful Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County, a 1700-acre site that includes forests, chaparral, grassland, 20 miles of hiking trails, and a great 4-acre swimming hole. For 12 days, 11

nights the songs of the birds were matched by singing on the trails, at the campfire, in the cabins, at mealtimes – entire days filled with music. The opening day culminated with a traditional campfire. Each camper found a small stick, shared what they’re most excited for about camp, then dedicated their twig to the fire and tossed them in, one after the other. Campfire is not only a time to visualize what campers want to get out of camp, but it gives them the opportunity to verbalize their thoughts, feelings, and

emotions regarding what can be a life-changing 12-day journey as they prepare for the upcoming choir season. An intensive piece to choir camp is the hour-long musician-ship classes, which allow singers the opportunity to improve their skills in a meaningful way. In Andrew Brown’s theory class, singers began practicing singing rhythmically and learning to sing scales solo. One camper asked how long the Musician-ship class was, and after hearing it was one hour, declared, “Yay, ‘cause I love it!” Each day groups participated in Spirit Days, ranging from Color Day, with a variable rainbow of outfits, face paint, and accessories, including a notable rainbow wig and butterfly wings, to the time-honored Joyful Voices Camp tradition of “painting your counselor”.

Daily Arts and Crafts included making lanyards and friendship bracelets in addition to creating pet rocks and pinecone hedgehogs, which the Ensemble group used in their performance. With rehearsals twice a day, voice lessons, theory classes and evening recitals, singers were well prepared to begin a new choir season and perform a concert on the final day of camp for the parents.

How to enroll
Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir’s season begins August 28. The choir is accepting new and returning singers ages 5 and up. To find out more about the different levels and sign up for a vocal placement (grades 2 and above), contact Registrar Greg Rosas at grosas@piedmontchoirs.org, or fill out an enrollment form at www.piedmontchoirs.org/preregister.




Concert Choir camper friends



Campers with Piedmont Choirs take a break from rehearsals kayaking on Turtle Pond at Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County.





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BACK TO SCHOOL IN PIEDMONT

Importance of music in student community

By Felicia Lipansky and Jaz Kalman

The beginning of the school year has arrived. At Mountain Music, a Piedmont family- owned business, our mission is to make music and its benefits accessible to our community.

Benefits of music have been well researched and include better communication skills, outlet for emotional release, decreased anxiety, improved cognitive function and mental health, and connections to others.

Music is a great creative outlet as students navigate academic and social challenges. Listening to and playing music provides an opportunity for self-expression. Playing a musical instrument has been shown to lower cortisol levels and decrease anxiety levels.

Creating music involves a sense of camaraderie, as music is a collaborative endeavor. Teacher-student interactions and learning a piece with peers teaches how to work together towards a common goal, gaining skills to connect with those around us. Collaboration is a significant life skill needed as our students move through college, the workplace, and personal relationships. A local hub for learning music provides an opportunity to be a part of their community, introducing them to other students who share



the same passions.

Studies have linked early participation in music and increased grades in high school exam scores in English, mathematics and science, including exhibiting higher executive function supporting increased academic achievement. Learning music and theory supports skill sets such as memorization, interpretation and improvisation, building blocks of higher learning.

We find the benefits of music to be crucial in students' lives. With one child through Piedmont schools and one in high school, we see the benefits of art, music, theater and creative outlets in tandem with STEM, an opportunity for our children to experience and

discover their strengths.

Among our many services, we offer individual and group music lessons for a wide variety of instruments, both in-person and online, and have a stage for practice or performance. We rent instruments to individuals and those in band along with our sister-store, Rockin' Robbie's. It is our mission to make the benefits of music accessible for our local students, all family members and our community at large.

Mountain Music is located at 4444 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland. We can help your child with music lessons and can be reached at (510) 655-2263 and online at mountainmusicstore.com.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Preservation Hall Jazz Band to perform at SF Jazz this weekend

By Allyson Aleksey

New Orleans’ famous Preservation Hall Jazz Band will perform concerts at SF Jazz Thursday through Sunday, August 17 to 20.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band is a Crescent City favorite founded by tuba player Allan Jaffe in the early 1960s. The band takes its name after a French Quarter art gallery and has been a fixture in the city for decades. It performed and toured in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina although their studio was destroyed in the storm.

They are regular performing guests at New Orleans’ JazzFest, the best attended jazz festival in the country.

The big band is now run by Jaffe’s son, tuba player Ben Jaffe, and includes singer instrumentalist Clint Maedgen, trumpeter Brandon Lewis, pianist Kyle Roussel, drummer Walter Harris, and trombonist Ronell Johnson.

The August concerts will include a rare appearance of longtime Preservation Hall Jazz Band member, 91-year-old saxophonist Charlie Gabriel.

Tank and The Bangas, another New Orleans jazz group, will per-

form an opening show.

Tarriona “Tank” Ball, front-woman of the two-time Grammy-nominated group, is also a New Orleans native. She leads the four-person R&B and funk group, which includes guitarist Danny Abel, bassist Jonathan Johnson, saxophonist Etienne Stoufflet, and background vocalist Anjelika “Jelly” Joseph.

The Thursday, August 17 show will be streamed live.

All concerts begin at 7 p.m. For tickets, visit <https://www.sfjazz.org/tickets/productions/summer23/preservation-hall-jazz-band/>.



New Orleans’ famous Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

A Chorus Line continues at SF Playhouse

By Allyson Aleksey

The San Francisco Playhouse production of *A Chorus Line* is playing onstage now through September 16.

Directed by the Playhouse’s Bill English and based on the book by James Kirkwood Jr. and Nicholas Dante, the musical follows 17 Broadway dancers who are auditioning for eight spots on a chorus line.

The play explores the inner lives, desires and ambitions of

the performers, while capturing the spirit, tension and hope of an audition.

A Chorus Line has the distinction of being Broadway’s longest-running musical, and is the winner of the 1976 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Winner of nine Tony Awards, four Drama Desk awards, and three Obie Awards in 1976.

The show was conceived and originally directed and choreographed by Michael Bennett with music by Marvin Hamlisch and

lyrics by Edward Kleban. Music direction at SF Playhouse is by Dave Dobrusky with choreography by Nicole Helfer.

The San Francisco Playhouse cast features Dalton Bertolone, Samatha Cardenas, Danielle Cheiken, Gabi Chun, Tony Conaty, Maggie Connard, Chachi Delgado, Zeke Edmonds, Alison Ewing and Elihu Guerrero.

To purchase tickets and for more information, see <https://www.sfplayhouse.org/sfph/2022-2023-season/a-chorus-line/>.



The cast of *A Chorus Line* in performance at San Francisco Playhouse.

Festival Time: Women’s emergence



Cristian Macelaru, music conductor of Cabrillo Festival in Santa Cruz.

By Paul Hertelendy

SANTA CRUZ, CA — For the last Saturday of the 60-year-old Cabrillo Festival featuring five mainline symphonic concerts overall, Music Director Cristian Macelaru focused on a quartet of living women composers, who have formed an ever greater portion of the festival palette in recent years. The festival remains both newsworthy and rather miraculous, limping along with a tired, ancient (and, I’d assert) unsafe sports palace and still attracting near-SRO audiences with nights of contemporary symphonic music, all of it composed in the past 11 years.

And talk about the unique, breezy, only-in-Santa-Cruz personality: I spotted one of the violin principals wheeling up to the concert hall on a bike, violin in hand.

Year after year the Cabrillo audience constitutes a devotional faithful comparable perhaps only to a college sports team, where one dies before giving up the prized subscription seats. This may be a small city of only 63,000, but the intensity pouring across the footlights is palpable, even though not a note of any night’s concert is remotely familiar.

While some of this program was experimental, at least two of the works I could see entering subsequent repertory elsewhere forthwith. Among the best was the exuberant “Tzam” by the Mexican composer Gabriela Ortiz, a buoyant, spirited 21-minute piece with a visionary bent, moving to a distant space much like Strauss’ “Thus Spake Zarathustra” on a grand dimension. Closest to a free form tone poem, “Tzam” uses a broad sound spectrum, including choice passages on the basses and on a cello chorale, before winnowing down to the serenity of pianissimo strings at the end.

Little wonder that her enthusiasts include no less than Gustavo Dudamel, conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic.

The Austrian Olga Neuwirth’s “Dreydl” produces a catchy progression of sound, full of propulsion and sonic starbursts, rhythmically propelled. Over 11 minutes, after a bucolic saxophone solo, the bustling orchestra with the prominent brass accelerates toward its finale.

Math instead of music? The Bay Area’s Gabriella Smith’s converted the progressive thrust of her piece into the title, “sin2x – 1/x,” i.e., the square of sin x minus one over x, with x representing time. It features string tremolos, brass wails and glissandi, and a strong

beat, giving way to high-strung exclamation points and culminating in a brass chorale.

The most experimental of the composers was also the best-known, Julia Wolfe. Her 24-minute “rISE and fLY” (sic) is a two-phase display piece for the noted percussion soloist Colin Currie. First, he makes all sounds on his body, as if Bobbie McFerrin on speed, and then switches to instruments in an exhausting musical display à la 1950s Gene Krupa, warmly. The piece was warmly received by the fans on August 12.

Also featured was a memorial tribute to Robert Hughes of Oakland, who had co-founded the festival in a coffee house 60 years ago. In the manner of Baroque notables, Hughes had been a conductor, composer, bassoonist and educator. His work “Uutiqtut” has a breezy march, followed by a deliberately stuttering theme. Swathed in mysticism, it ends unresolved. Or, as Winston Churchill once memorably coined, “a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.”

Conductor throughout was Music Director Macelaru with his firm rhythmic oversight and sensitivity. Like his musicians, in shirtsleeves.

MUSIC NOTES — Composers Ortiz, Wolfe and Smith introduced their pieces verbally....Among the notables celebrated offstage this year is the charismatic festival sparkplug Ellen Primack, retiring as executive director after shepherding this silk-purse-out-of-a-sow’s-ear enterprise for the past 33 years....The orchestra’s members hail from 24 states.

THE HALL’S HURDLES — The Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium is saddled with discomfiting drawbacks. None of the grandstand area offers railings to facilitate the steep stairway descent, and the feeble lighting throughout makes reading program details very difficult. Those sitting on the flat basketball-arena floor may be spared precarious falls, but that offers limited viewing of the performers. At various past time periods, the festival had experimented playing in a tent as well as out-of-town venues, with inconsistent results. Both the symphony orchestra and the city deserve better facilities.

CABRILLO FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, Cristian Macelaru conducting, August 4-13, Civic Auditorium, Santa Cruz, CA. Delayed broadcasts/podcasts on KALW.org radio up to September 10. For info: (831) 426-6966, or go online, www.cabrillomusic.org

Legion of Honor free organ concert on Saturday

By Allyson Aleksey

Residents of all nine Bay Area counties, including Alameda, will receive free admission to Legion of Honor in San Francisco this Saturday at 4 p.m. They can visit the museum during operating hours and view any of its permanent collection galleries. Visitors ages 17 and under always receive free admission to the permanent collection galleries.

Organ concerts by Jonathan Dimmock and Dr. Joy-Leilani Garbutt take place every Saturday at 4 p.m.

Dimmock is a graduate of Oberlin and Yale, and the first American to hold the prestigious position of organ scholar of Westminster Abbey. He was resident organist at St. John the Divine in New York City, St. Mark's in Minneapolis, and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.

Dimmock is principal organist at the Legion of Honor, an organist for the San Francisco Symphony, director of music at Congregation Sherith Israel in San Francisco, and a freelance musician. He has recorded a Gram-



Organist Jonathan Dimmock performs every Saturday at Legion of Honor.

my-winning record with the San Francisco Symphony.

Gabrutt is co-founder of the Boulanger Initiative, a nonprofit organization that supports music composed by women through performance, education, and commissions. She was awarded a Fulbright scholarship and spent a year in France researching

early 20th-century organ music by female composers. She also serves as the director of music for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in San Francisco.

Tickets are free but registration is required. Visit <https://www.famsf.org/events/organ-concert> to learn more and to register.

MOVIES FOR ADULTS

The King's Speech

Review by Chris Honoré

As I watch the opening scenes of a well-crafted movie, I am often reminded that people still love to be told a good story. And there is no medium that does this more powerfully than film. A fine example is *The King's Speech*. It is extraordinary. A wonderful surprise. That it was ever made is remarkable. Imagine trying to pitch to a studio this very English story, set in the 1920s and 30s, about a shy man, Albert the Duke of York, and the future King of England, who possesses a stammer that has tormented him all of his life.

Albert, aka Bertie (Colin Firth), has always been content (resigned, perhaps) to live his life in the shadow of his older brother, Edward (Guy Pearce), who is first in line to the throne held by their father, the overbearing and unsympathetic George V (Michael Gambon). For decades, Bertie has retreated from his family and the public, ever fearful that in the midst of a mundane conversation his throat will close off, his words incarcerated by an uncontrollable stammer.

The thought of standing before a microphone at a public speaking engagement sends him into a paroxysm of panic and harrowing silence.

Wishing to overcome this affliction, he sees speech experts of questionable practice, one filling his mouth with ice cubes while insisting that he can cure him. Another encourages him to smoke, claiming that it relaxes the throat.

Bertie is deeply frustrated and constantly humiliated.

Finally, his wife, the Duchess of York (Helena Bonham Carter), desperate, finds Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush), an eccentric speech therapist, who uses unorthodox methods and patiently explains to both the



Colin Firth stars in *The King's Speech*

Duchess and the Duke that if they give him total control and their trust, he can help Bertie do that which has eluded him all of his life: speech that is liberated and flows freely.

And so begins the essence of the film: the creation of an improbable relationship between two men, Logue, the Australian expatriate and commoner, and Albert, whose only wish is that he never assume the crown as the King of England.

Their relationship, tentative and combative at first, filled with resistance and distrust, takes on a special importance when Bertie's brother, Edward, is crowned King Edward VIII after the death of their father, George V. Edward, scandalizes all of England when he announces that he will abdicate the throne in order to marry Wallis Simpson (Eve Best), an American divorcee. That decision requires that Albert, next in succession, step forward and assume that singular role, the prospect of which has always terrified him.

How can he ever speak to the people of England as their king when he can't speak to his family or to Logue without a debilitating stutter?

Adding to the exigencies of his

position is the fact that England is on the cusp of war with Germany. Albert, soon to become King George VI, must reassure and inspire his countrymen during a period that later will be described by historians as "their finest hour." And he must do this standing before a microphone.

The relationship created between Logue and the Duke is touching, filled with humor and tension and scatological rants (Bertie never stammers when he's angry and cussing). To watch the two men spar, teacher and pupil, is to observe two deeply gifted actors deliver the performances of their lives, while supported by the members of an astonishing ensemble – a dream cast, really.

The King's Speech is a brilliantly recreated moment in history that otherwise would have likely been just a footnote to those years leading up to World War II.

The King's Speech. Directed by Tom Hooper. Starring Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter, Geoffrey Rush, Guy Pearce, Timothy Spall, Derek Jacobi, Michael Gambon and Jennifer Ehle. 1 hr., 58 min. Rated R. Released in 2011. Streaming on VUDU/Prime/Apple tv.



Piedmont Center for the Arts

Come enjoy live classical and jazz music, and Brian Copeland's award-winning one- man show.

Friday, August 18, 7:00 p.m.

Junko Kasahara Piano Recital

International concert pianist and piano teacher **Junko Kasahara**, on vacation in the Bay Area from teaching piano performance at Osaka University and Kyoto Women's University, will perform a solo piano recital to include music by Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel. Having studied piano in Osaka, St. Petersburg, Paris, and Saarbrücken, she has since performed recitals and as soloist in Japan, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Israel, Russia, Finland, USA, and Latin America. Her Friday evening recital here will be followed by a reception to offer a chance to meet Ms. Kasahara. This event is free, donations will be welcome, and we would appreciate an RSVP by email to info@piedmontcenterforthearts.org with the number of attendees; doors will open at 6:30.

Saturday, September 2

"Liminal Perspectives" Art Show

East Bay Asian-American artists **Michelle Yang** and **Paul Wang** open a three-week exhibition of their work. Michelle's portraits use primarily pastels and charcoal, Paul, coming from a career as an animator, explores the quiet spaces discovered in the intersections of math and art. An opening reception will be held from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 2. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from September 2 through September 17.

Friday, September 8, 7:00 p.m.

Brian Copeland 1-man Show

Family Sanity presents a special performance of **Brian Copeland's** "The Waiting Period." It is a fundraiser for Family Sanity, a non-profit resource for parents of teens and young adults with mental health and addiction issues. Copeland is a celebrated East Bay native, a former radio host and stand-up comedian, known for his one-man plays and podcasts. He has suffered from depression throughout most of his adult life; and in the early 2000's he felt so down that he considered buying a gun and ending his life. The play shows how he persevered through the required waiting period to buy a gun. Advance tickets are \$20-\$50, are available at <https://bit.ly/3rBLcy3>. This play is not appropriate for children or younger teens. Parental discretion is advised.

Saturday, September 9, 5:30 p.m.

Jamie Davis Jazz Vocal Concert

Jamie Davis, twice nominated for a Grammy Award, is one of the great male vocalists with a compelling deep bass-baritone voice and a passion for his craft. Jamie has recorded and toured with the legendary Count Basie Orchestra, and his repertoire ranges from Cole Porter to Stevie Wonder. He has performed Dizzy's, the Blue Note, and Yoshi's in Oakland. He will perform with his all-star quartet of Glen Pearson, piano, Ron Belcher, bass, Leon Joyce, Jr., drums, and Michael O'Neill on sax. Discounted advance tickets are available at www.Eventbrite.com/e/679612528367 (\$30), and at the door at \$35, Seating is limited.

Sunday, September 10, 5:30 p.m.

In the Tradition Piano Trio

In the Tradition Piano Trio – **Bill Jackman**, piano; **Michael Jones**, upright bass; and **Anthony Pegram**, drums – will perform a concert to celebrate the Fall season. This concert will be loaded with jazz and pops favorites dating from the '20s through the '60s, the real heyday of jazz. Come to PCA and relax while learning the stories behind this significant era of American music. Tickets are \$23 at <https://bpt.me/5691334>, and at the door at \$25. Cash or check only, please.

All public events at Piedmont Center for the Arts require photo ID and valid proof of full vaccination for entry, as well as proper masking while inside.

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info@piedmontcenterforthearts.org
www.piedmontcenterforthearts.org

Oakland Museum to celebrate Rosie the Riveter on Sept. 1

By Allyson Aleksey

The Oakland Museum of California celebrates fictional icon Rosie the Riveter for Labor Day with family-friendly activities on Friday, September 1.

The event is part of the museum’s free, community-focused weekly event, “Friday Nights at OMCA.”

Every Friday evening, streets adjacent to the museum are packed with food trucks and the OMCA campus is filled with live music, dancing, and late-night access to OMCA’s permanent art galleries. Special exhibitions are accessible with a Museum ticket.

Festivities begin at 5 p.m. OMCA educators will host a hands-on design station where guests can make their own red Rosie the Riveter bandana. All guests will learn more about movements and protests in the ‘Radical Acts’ section of OMCA’s Art Gallery, and the women workers of World War II in the

‘Off to War’ section of the History Gallery.

DJ Adonis-Emory will spin tunes from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the outdoor amphitheater. The evening is free and open to the public. See a full program below.

For more information, visit <https://museumca.org/event/friday-nights-at-omca-labor-day-weekend/>.

Program

5–8 p.m.
Hands-On Rosie the Riveter Bandana Making, OMCA Garden

6–7 p.m.
Let’s Lab with Elisa, Oak Street Plaza

6–8 p.m.
Into the Brightness Gallery Activation Hours, Great Hall

6:30–8:30 p.m.
DJ Adonis-Emory, 10th Street Amphitheater

New art show comes to PCA on September 2

Liminal Perspectives, an art show by East Bay Asian American artists, Michelle Yang and Paul Wang, will be at the Piedmont Center for the Arts September 2 to 17, with gallery hours on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 2 pm.

An opening reception with the artists will take place on Saturday, September 2.


Both artists probe the transitional spaces of emotional boundaries and thresholds. Michelle’s portraits explore this in human ways whereas Paul’s work looks into these ideas in nature’s patterns.

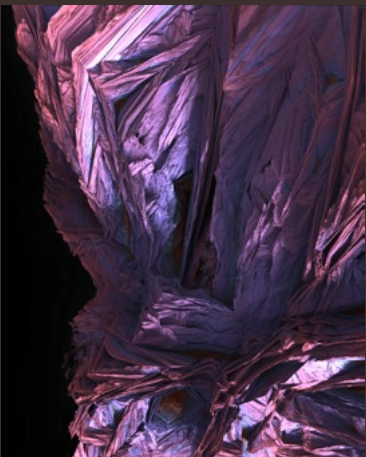
Michelle incorporates elements that blur the boundaries between reality and imagination. She explores her subject matter in surrealistic details with a touch

of abstraction. Her color palette combines contrasting colors, transitioning between warm and cool tones, along with symbolic objects in her artwork that represent the transitional state. She experiments with visual representations of the shift between different emotional and psychological states of humans.

Paul’s career in animation is led by a lifelong interest and career in anthropomorphism, which has gradually led him to the quiet spaces found in the intersections of math and art. Often this is discovered through patterns found in nature, both at infinitesimal and celestial scales. His curiosity has led him to computer generated art as well as physical expressions directly from nature.

paul wang





michelle yang

LIMINAL PERSPECTIVES

PIEDMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

SEPT 2–SEPT 17 2023

RECEPTION SEPT 2ND, 2–5 PM

GALLERY HOURS SAT/SUN 11AM–2PM

Pardee Home Museum to host John Cha in talk about Korea

The Carriage House & Garden Salon at Pardee Home Museum continues with an invigorating talk by author John Cha on Sunday, August 20, from 4:00–6:00 p.m.

Cha is an Oakland resident and author who has written several volumes of biographies about Korean and American leaders. He is also an award-winning translator of Korean literature into English.

“Ever since I came to America at age fifteen, I have spent most of my life telling people about Korea, her pains and triumphs. I am constantly amazed and pleased that there are so many more stories out there waiting to be told, waiting to be heard.”

Cha is a passionate board member of Mulmangcho Foundation in South Korea, providing learning opportunities to young people who have fled North Korea.

Two women who escaped North Korea have been in the U.S. studying English for the past 6 weeks. Eunji is a student at Korea National University of Arts, majoring in classic guitar. She is a marvelous musician and will honor us with a performance. Sukyung (Grace) is an English major at Sogang University in Seoul. She wants to be a translator but is also a musician. Their goal is to show that music and education transcend borders by fostering unity and freedom. Both have incredible stories to tell. For everyone with questions about North Korea, this an opportunity to get an insightful perspective.

Kathleen Cha, the wife of John Cha, is Regional President of the League of Women Voters. She is an author, documentarian, playwright, and will introduce the program.

There will be a question and answer period followed by a champagne reception. This will be a wonderful opportunity to spend Sunday afternoon in in the

Pardee Home’s lovely garden.

Tickets are \$25 and all proceeds go to the non-profit Pardee Home Museum.

Reserve your seat on Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-carriage-house-garden-salon-continues-tickets-695698311377?aff=oddtcreator>) or by calling Richelle Lieberman at (510) 381-1973.

Carriage House & Garden Salon

Sunday, August 20, 4:00–6:00 p.m.

672 11th Street, Oakland

Enter at the Castro Street gate between 11 and 12th Street



Pardee Home Museum at 672 11th Street in the historic section of Oakland.

READ IT IN THE POST



The Musical Gourmet

Fact or fiction

By Joseph Gold

Some people say there is a thin line separating fact and fiction. Hollywood has capitalized on this big time. I am sure you know of the book “History, according to Hollywood.” Oftentimes, the more ridiculous the story, the more it is repeated. Some notable examples are *Amadeus*, *The Red Violin*, and most recently the historically-inaccurate movie about Joseph Boulogne , a.k.a. the Chevalier de St-Georges.

Let’s take a look at a famous historical event in music. You can be the judge...

Fact or fiction?

The Metropolitan Opera Company has always been pre-eminent in the United States. As such, they made famous run-out performances. They were in San Francisco during the 1906 earthquake on April 18, 1906. Our story takes place almost exactly 10 years later.

It was a cold day in Philadelphia. The Metropolitan Opera was scheduled to perform Puccini’s opera *La Bohème*. The

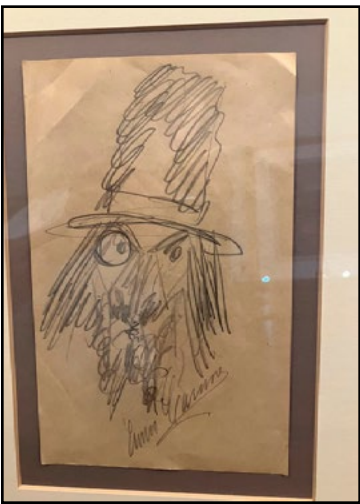
cast included some of the most important singers of the time – in fact of all time: Frances Alda, Enrico Caruso, and the Spanish basso Andres de Segurola.

Segurola woke up with a sore throat. Being the tough guy that he was, he thought he could still sing. His friend Enrico Caruso gave him some mouthwash. “You’ll be OK“. That’s what Segurola thought.

La Bohème was proceeding quite well. Even though Segurola was not feeling well, he had confidence. Of help to him was the fact that he didn’t need to sing in the third act. But the fourth act contained the famous “cloak aria”. By then, he had completely lost his voice and was seized with terror. What could he do? What should you do?

He positioned himself as close to Caruso as he could and whispered, “Enrico save me. My voice is gone.”

Caruso thought quickly. “Go to the front of the stage and pretend that you are singing. I will go to the side of the stage and sing your aria for you.” The ruse



Spanish basso Andres de Segurola

worked perfectly.

What do you think so far? Is this story true?

Is there any historical evidence?

It turns out that the story is completely true. The soprano, Frances Alda confirms all of the facts in her book “Men, Women, and Tenors”. So does Segurola in his autobiography “Through My Monocle.” And most interesting is the recording that Caruso made of the famous cloak aria. Amazing is putting it mildly. Caruso was a tenor, but he was able to sing the famous bass aria with great distinction. Very few recordings were distributed. Caruso, who was known for his humor, said that he did not want to ruin the bass business.

Sometimes truth is more impressive than fiction. That cold day in April 1916 proves it.

A busy summer for Piedmont Scouts in Troop 4

Troop 4 of Piedmont had a very fun and eventful summer. The Troop prides itself on fun, outdoor adventures, volunteering, rank advancement, and leadership development. This summer, the Scouts in Troop 4 got to experience a healthy dose of all of these.

The Troop spent an amazing week of summer camp at beautiful Camp Wente in Willits, CA. Scouts earned a record number of merit badges, learned new skills, and spent lots of time outdoors kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking, and hiking.

Volunteering and giving back to the community is an essential part of Scouting. This summer,

the troop had the opportunity to volunteer at the Alameda County Food Bank.

Helping Piedmont celebrate Independence Day has become a tradition for the troop. This year the troop once again held its annual Hot Dog Stand fundraiser at the Piedmont July 4 parade. This event was made possible with the generous and ongoing support of Dave Larson and Piedmont Grocery.

Towards the end of the summer, some Troop 4 Scouts joined with Troop 11 Scouts on a 30-mile backpacking trip through some amazing scenery in the John Muir Wilderness.

Troop 4 has been in continuous operation since 1921. Over the years, more than 160 Troop 4 Scouts have attained the rank of Eagle Scout. One of our most prominent Eagle Scouts is Stephen D. Bechtel Jr., the founder of the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve. The Summit Bechtel Reserve, in West Virginia, is now the permanent home of the National Boy Scout Jamboree and a High Adventure Camp.

Marguerite Laub from Troop 11 described it as follows: "This trip was such a fun experience because the Scouts and adult leaders made me feel welcomed
See Troop 4 on page 31



James Ingham (left) and Liam King enjoy mountain biking at Camp Wente.



Piedmont Troop 4 Scouts at Camp Wente: (front): Chase Mellers (left), Niko Wolff, Naomi Treichler, Audrey Ingham, James Ingham; (back) Alex Wolff, Leo Kansal, Gonz Fuenzalida, John Arney, Rohan Seshan, Joey Anastasi, Liam King, Penelope Butler, and Felix Kansal



Scouts head to the water at summer camp.



Leo Kansal and Alex Wolff head out for some canoeing at summer camp.



Wentathlon: Penelope Butler (left), Naomi Treichler, Audrey Ingham, James Ingham, Rohan Seshan, Liam King, Joey Anastasi, and Gonz Fuenzalida



Troop 4 Scouts ready to earn their Cooking merit badge: Gonz Fuenzalida (left), Rohan Seshan, James Ingham, Naomi Treichler, Liam King, and Joey Anastasi

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Piedmont Scouts stop for lunch in the beautiful Upper Relief Valley.

Troop 15 Scouts explore Emigrant Wilderness on 50-mile hike

By Gianluca Richmond

Piedmont’s Troop 15 Scouts spent a wonderful, 6-day trip in the heart of California’s Emigrant Wilderness. Their week was filled with great weather, alpine lakes, jaw-dropping views,

and plenty of irritating mosquitoes. Just north of Yosemite, the large group of two adults and ten Scouts hiked 54 miles in Emigrant Wilderness, with 15 lakes ranging from 7,000 to 9,000 feet, and an elevation gain of over 8500 feet.

They were originally headed for the John Muir Wilderness, which has passes from 11,000 to 12,000 feet, but the pass was closed due to the intense snow levels from the huge 2022-2023 winter.

Each day Scouts would get up at 6:30 A.M., pack their tents, cook their breakfasts, and break camp. They would spend many hours in the morning hiking through dense forests and challenging ascents before arriving at a lake for lunch. Then, they would hike for a couple more hours and arrive at a lake where they would look for a suitable campsite. Aspects of a good campsite are a flat surface, a cooking area, and

See Troop 15 on page 31



The delicious Ritz Baby Bel and Sausage sandwich was one of the group’s favorite lunches on the trail.



Troop 15 Scouts at the start of their 50-mile backpacking trip in Emigrant Wilderness this summer: (front) Vanessa Oklejas; (back), Seby Swain. (left), Connor Fredericks, Thomas Ero, Sammy Ragonas, Henry Call, Thomas Moison, Danny King, Landon Heppner, Gianluca Richmond, and Owen Curran



Crossing a stream without hiking boots was part of the journey after a record-level snowpack last winter.



Father and son Dave and Sammy Ragonas complete a 60-mile hike with Troop 15 Scouts. .



Vanessa Oklejas and Thomas Moison complete their first 50 miler together as mother and son.



Troop 15 Scouts are homeward bound as they cross a bridge on the last part of the trail. The Scouts were exhausted after waking up at 5 a.m. on the final day.

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FEATURES



FIRST MONDAYS READING GROUP

First Monday Reading Group takes on *Four Fish*

By Dick Carter

The Piedmont Recreation Department's First Mondays Reading Group met on August 7 at the Tea House in Piedmont Park for their monthly discussion. They enjoyed a strong turnout of 18 readers, including Bob Hall, Gerry Gragg, Ken Young, Martin Levy, Marion Lim Yankowitz, Lois Price, Laura Goldman, Adrienne Hamlin, Phil Witte, Lisa Euphrat, Darby Gragg, Sarah Johnson, Dick Carter, and discussion leaders Carol Long and Priscilla Wanerus. The group was pleased to welcome Satsuki Morimoto and June Cohen, a attending for the first time. .

The group was there to discuss *Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food*, by Paul Greenberg, an American fisherman and author who focuses on environmental, seafood and technology issues. Written in 2010, the nonfiction book explores the state of commercial fishing and aquaculture. Greenberg focuses on four fish: cod, salmon, bass, and tuna. He tells how these four fish have come to dominate the seafood market, and how the wild fish industry has changed over the past three decades as the business of fishing has become more industrialized.

Greenberg asks us to reconsider our thinking about fish. There are not plenty of fish left in the sea, and our consumption of salmon, sea bass, cod, and tuna is not sustainable. Each of these species has declined dramatically as humankind has extracted huge quantities of fish from the seas, and not worked within nature. Each fish has suffered a similar fate in the wild with declining and, in some cases, collapsed stocks. Unless we change our behaviors, the demand for fish will continue to rise, and wild fish stocks will continue to fall with potentially disastrous consequences.

The author discusses aquaculture as uncertain in sustainable fishing. It alone is not the answer

to satisfying the world's food needs. Greenberg neither sees aquaculture as the potential savior nor the potential destroyer of ocean life. However, aquaculture is applying pressure down the food chain as excessive amounts of fish feed are being used to grow the fish we eat. The questions of what fish are farmed, how farm pollution is managed, and how much wild fish is required to produce a pound of farmed fish must be addressed, he said.

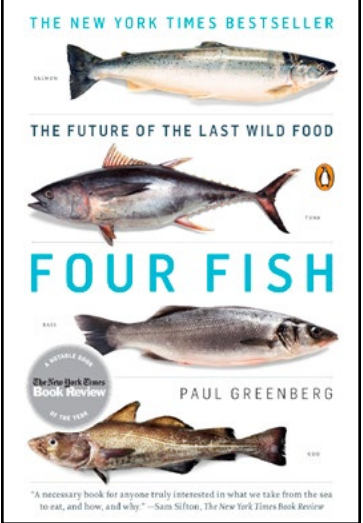
The readers found *Four Fish* to be a thought-provoking book. So much so that their discussion started with many fish stories of personal experiences. Fish-related issues continued to be discussed throughout the conversation. Readers were interested in what has changed since the book was published 13 years ago. As example, Greenberg didn't consider climate change and its effects on the oceans.

There is also a greater recognition today of the problems associated with ocean pollution. However, Greenberg's core issues and the problems remain the same: oceans are over-fished and fish populations continue to be threatened. Restoration of areas that allow for sustainable fish populations is required, he asserted, and we must select the correct fish to raise.

Readers' stories related to experiences with their fish consumption and fishing experiences were also shared. The Monterey Aquarium Seafood Watch list was discussed, and how it and the issue of fish sustainability have affected readers' fish consumption.

One reader decided to pass on going fishing during a Mexican vacation after reading *Four Fish*. Another found herself going down a "rabbit hole" researching related fish consumption issues. There is so much counterfeit labeling of fish in grocery stores that you can't have complete confidence in the type of fish you are buying. Also, how do you know you are buying kosher fish?

As for the book itself and



Greenberg's writing, some readers liked some of the stories Greenberg told to humanize the issues but found others to be less interesting. It was recognized and appreciated that the issues the author brings to our attention are extremely important, but could his case be made in a magazine article?

It was then noted that the group has recently selected a number of "bad news" books, but perhaps they are "inconvenient truths books" that we need to read.

There was no denying that Greenberg elevated an important issue in the readers' consciousness. *Four Fish* was another book most readers knew little about until the First Monday Reading Group selected it. .

The readers had previously selected *A Visit from the Goon Squad* by American author Jennifer Egan for September, *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson for October, *The Trees* by Percival Everett for November, and *The Finest Hours* by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman for December.

Since the first Monday of September is Labor Day, the group's next discussion will be on September 11 at 1:30 p.m. outside the Tea House in Piedmont Park. New readers are welcome to join the group. There is no fee to participate, but registration is required at <https://bit.ly/3R86PP4>.



2ND THURSDAYS FLIX FEST

Movie group screens sunny Italian comedy

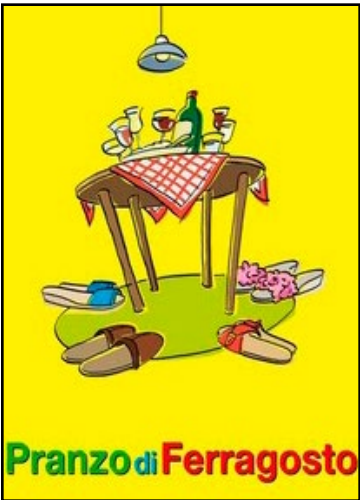
By Robert Hall

The audience at last week's Piedmont Film Fest enjoyed a pleasant excursion to Rome, courtesy of the eighth movie in the series, the gentle Italian comedy, *Mid-August Lunch* (*Pranzo di Ferragosto*).

We know the setting is Rome only from a brief glimpse of the Colosseum from a speeding Vespa. The rest of the tale takes place in a quiet neighborhood, where an affable, middle-aged bachelor, Gianni (Gianni Di Gregorio), who still lives with his elderly mom, has coasted through life, happy with a relaxed existence. But coasting also means not paying the bills for his condo, and the landlord, Alfonso, has had enough. He makes Gianni an offer – Alfonso wants to go on holiday, and will forget about the bills if Gianni takes care of Alfonso's mother. Gianni reluctantly agrees but is dismayed when Alfonso shows up with not one but two elderly women. And when another pal persuades him to take on a third elder, he finds himself with a quartet of *nonnas* to feed, entertain and tuck into bed.

Gianni Di Gregorio wrote, directed and starred in the film, which derives its comedy not from pratfalls but from the quiet interactions of the lives of ordinary people. Those people are sometimes selfish, even devious, but they're also kind and loving. Gianni may not have a job, but he has a big heart.

Introduced to the Piedmont audience by Darby Gragg, the movie received 100% thumbs up from everyone in attendance. Audience members wondered why they had never heard of the



movie, and they were happy to have a chance to see it.

The post-film discussion featured comments like "Charming," "Warm and human," "Felt like we were experiencing the story as actual participants in the characters' living room," and, "It was definitely an Italian story, not at all how we live in the United States." Bursts of laughter and warm reactions accompanied the showing.

Next in the Piedmont Film Fest will be a showing of *Being There* starring Peter Sellers and Shirley McLaine, on September 14, a quirky comedy about unpredictable American voters and the oddball presidents they choose.

The Film Fest takes place in the Center for the Arts at 801 Magnolia Avenue on the second Thursday of each month. Doors open at 10:15 a.m., with a showtime at 10:30. The event is free and open to anyone over 18 years of age. Participants are invited on a drop-in basis, though registration with the Rec. Department is required at <https://bit.ly/3PJyxpP>. Audience members may bring snacks or lunch.



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1 pm – 5 pm

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Walking on Wednesday

Wednesday Walkers learn history of Sharon Avenue



Last weeks’ participants with the Walking on Wednesdays group included Mary Hedley, Lori Rubens, Harriette Louie, Christine Calliste, Lisa Euphrat, Charlene Louie, Mark Davis, Noemi Alvarado, Gloria DaSilva, Edith Lee, Adrienne Hamlin, Stella Houston, Mike Henn with K-9 best friend Roger, Kathy Rolefson, Matt Gerhardt, Joanne Larson, Sherry Jacobs, Priscilla Wanerus, Garrett Clifford, Rob Smith, Jen Peltzer, Lois Price, Laurant Goldman with K-9 best friend Vivie, Jim Kellogg, Jane Holland with K-9 best friend Sasha, Eric Behrens, Phil Witte, Melba Yee, Helene Farber, John McLeod, Pat Keller, Martin Levy, Karen Palmer, Mike Gallant, Elizabeth Richter, Alicia Rivera, Jasmine Cai, Brenda Ferrero, Jim Kuo, Jane Pingatore, Meghan Bennett, and Dick Carter. The group was pleased to have Doug Higashi with K-9 best friend Lucy and Glen Tripp walk with them for the first time.

By Dick Carter

Once again the Walking on Wednesdays group had great weather for its walk on August 9, and had a near record turnout of 45 walkers and four K-9 best friends. Recreation Department supervisor Eva Phalen was there to tell the group about the classes the Rec. Dept. has for older adults. Delia Schletten encouraged the walkers to try her line dancing class with many health benefits.

Activity leader Dick Carter will be out for a few weeks and Melba Yee organized a schedule for the walks during his absence. Will Adams will lead the first walk on December 14t. Then on December 21, Yee and Mike Henn will take the group to Grand Avenue to Zachary’s Pizza for a Holiday group lunch. Harriette Louie, Nancy & Mike Henn, and Charlene Louie will lead the later walks.

There is quite a history associated with Sharon Avenue. A few years ago, Piedmont Historical Society president Gail Lombardi devoted almost an entire issue of the society’s publication to William E. Sharon, his family, and estate. The group decided it would walk to Sharon Avenue, discuss its history, and then continue up the hill to Sea View Avenue. The walkers crossed Highland Avenue, to Piedmont Court and the path that leads to Mountain Avenue. At the corner of Dormidera, the Sharon history was shared from Gail Lombardi’s article.

William Sharon was born in 1852 and grew up on an Ohio farm. In 1872 he went to San Francisco and then Virginia City, Nevada to work for his uncle, who was a successful banker and owner of a silver mine. Sharon married Lillian Mygatt there in 1876 and became a success in banking and mining. He was elected to the Nevada State Senate in the 1880s.

The Sharons initially lived in Virginia City, where three of their seven children were born. They wanted them to attend better schools and bought a home in Oakland in 1890. In 1893 the Sharons purchased nine acres in the “Piedmont hills” on Mountain Avenue.

In 1897 the Sharons hired Frederic D. Voorhies to design their Piedmont home, a magnificent three-story house built on the middle of the land and called Casa Montana. The Sharons with seven children, her mother, a housekeeper, cook, and gardener, moved into Casa Montana in 1898.

In 1914 the new City of Piedmont imposed a new property tax based on the size of the property, and the Sharons’ taxes increased dramatically. In 1915 the Sharons subdivided their land in a development they called Sharon Terrace, which consisted of 20 lots. The driveway to Casa Montana became Sharon Avenue, and the address changed from 263 Mountain to 37 Sharon Avenue. The lots from the subdivision have frontages on Mountain, Sharon, Dormidera, and Pacific Avenues, and some family members built homes on the lots.

William Sharon died at home in 1926, but Casa Montana continued as a family home with seven family members and two servants. Lillian continued to live in the mansion until 1934 when she moved into a residential Oakland hotel.

Developer George Windsor purchased the remaining land and built his own home at 11 Sharon and the house at 7 Sharon on spec. He later also built homes at 40 and 44 Sharon. Sadly, Windsor demolished Casa Montana in 1936. The grand old mansion was replaced by three homes at 27, 33, and 37 Sharon.

Today, only three Sharon families remain. See [Wednesday Walkers](#) on page 32

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Sudoku Puzzle

Sudoku by Myles Mellor

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

Crossword Puzzle

Animal Songs													by Myles Mellor	
1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17			18						19					
20							21							
22				23	24	25		26			27	28	29	30
31				32			33		34					
			35					36			37			
	38	39							40	41				
42						43								
44				45	46		47					48	49	50
51						52		53			54			
				55			56				57			
58	59	60	61					62	63	64				
65						66						67		
68						69						70		

- ACROSS**
 - Where small dogs sit, often
 - Irritates
 - Was gloomy
 - Slippery fish
 - Dart
 - It's just over a foot
 - It could be made into a how to book from Disney
 - Indicator
 - Non-clerical
 - Some cowboys
 - Narrow-_____
 - Hearty cheer
 - Gem stone
 - Philadelphia landmark hotel
 - Dissertation
 - Portions of corn
 - Kid's railway fave
 - Voice
 - Arctic jacket
 - Glass receptacle
 - Pipe part
 - Jerk
 - Encodes
 - Kind of question
 - Football play
 - Prefix with "space" or "plane"
- Pressure at work say
 - Get used to
 - "Lovergirl" singer _____ Marie
 - Pixel density
 - Aquatic mammal
 - Scorches
 - Archdiocese
- DOWN**
 - 1979 Cars tune
 - Lofty
 - Biblical torment
 - Online service with a butterfly logo
 - Unhospitably cold
 - Rock music's _____ Fighters
 - Basketball game stopper
 - Scarecrow stuffing
 - One of the Brady bunch
 - Stop _____ dime
 - U.P.S. _____ delivery, abbr.
 - "All over the world" singers, for short
 - Animal's home
 - Co. name ender
 - Watch face
 - "Oh, very funny!"
 - Oil barons
- Champion figure skater Cohen
 - The turf in "surf and turf"
 - Asian tongue
 - Bring home
 - Old German currency
 - Motor City team
 - Fairy's pickup
 - Like a chimney sweep
 - Annoy with sweetness
 - URL starter
 - Kind of diagram
 - Joe Namath team
 - Beginner instruction in a subject
 - Tinier
 - Memorable periods
 - Walks along
 - Green
 - Albatross
 - Beats it
 - Galley need
 - Cap site
 - Website ranking technology, abbr.
 - AC/DC album
 - Fixed mode
 - Before, of yore
 - Raiding grp.
 - Elder
 - Univ. instructors

See Crossword and Sudoku Puzzle Solutions on page 30.

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Planning Your Finances

Should you downsize when you retire?

When you retire, you'll experience many changes. Should one of them involve your living arrangements?

The issue of downsizing is one that many retirees will consider. If you have children, and they've grown and left the home, you might find yourself with more space than you really need. Of course, this doesn't necessarily mean you must pack up and scale down yourself. You might love your home and neighborhood and see no reason to go. But if you're open to a change, you could find that moving to a smaller house, a condo or an apartment may make sense for you.

Let's consider some of the advantages of downsizing:

- **You could save money.** Moving to a smaller space could lower your utility bills and upkeep costs.
- **You could save effort.** A smaller home will mean less maintenance and cleaning.
- **You could de-clutter.** Over the years, most of us accumulate more possessions than we

really need. Downsizing gives you a chance to de-clutter. And you can do some good along the way, too, because many charitable organizations will welcome some of your items.

- **You could make money.** If you've had your home for many years, it's certainly possible that it's worth more — perhaps a great deal more — than what you paid for it. So, when you sell it, you could pocket a lot of money — possibly without being taxed on the gains. Generally, if you've lived in your home for at least two years in the five-year period before you sold it, you can exclude \$250,000 of capital gains, if you're single, or \$500,000 if you're married and file taxes jointly. (You'll want to consult with your tax advisor, though, before selling your home, to ensure you're eligible for the exclusion, especially if you do own multiple homes. Issues can arise in connection with determining one's "primary" residence.)

While downsizing does offer some potentially big benefits, it can also entail some drawbacks. First of all, it's possible that your home might not be worth as much as you had hoped, which means you won't clear as much money from the sale as you anticipated. Also, If you still were paying off a mortgage on your bigger home, you may have been deducting the interest payments on your taxes — a deduction that might be reduced or lost to you if you purchase a less-expensive condo or become a renter. Besides these financial factors, there's the ordinary hassle of packing and moving. And if you're going to a much smaller living space, you may not have much room for family members who want to visit or occasionally spend the night.

So you'll need to weigh a variety of financial, practical and emotional issues when deciding whether to downsize. And you will also want to communicate your thoughts to grown children or other family members who may someday have reason to be involved in your living space. In short, it's a big decision, so give it the attention it deserves.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. TJ Stevko is a Financial Advisor at the Piedmont office of Edward Jones at 370 Highland Avenue. Tel 620-657-4589.

Advice from your neighborhood handyman

Is your garage a mess? Do you struggle to find tools or important items? You're not alone. Garages often become the dumping ground for everything from old furniture to forgotten hobbies. With a little thoughtful organization (and elbow grease), you can transform your garage into a functional and efficient space. Here are some helpful tips to reclaim your garage and turn it into a well-organized haven for all your storage needs.

- **Clear out the clutter:** Start by taking everything out and sorting items into files labeled: Keep, Donate, Sell, and Trash.
- **Categorize:** Group similar items together so you have a better idea of how to eventually store them.
- **Install shelving:** Invest in additional storage options to keep items off the floor and organized. Wall-mounted shelving, overhead storage, and pegboards are all great options.
- **Label everything:** Simple labels on your storage containers, shelves, and drawers will help you quickly find what you need.
- **Create zones:** Consider splitting your garage into areas for different activities.
- **Look up:** Use vertical space to maximize storage. Hang bicycles and ladders from the ceiling. Install wall hooks or racks for tools and other items.
- **Keep it clean:** Regularly sweep out your garage to keep it free from dust and debris.

A well-organized garage enhances the aesthetics of your home while providing a sense of calm and efficiency. By implementing the tips, you can take control of your garage and create a space that works for you.

Need some help turning those to-dos into dones? Go to honey-homes.com or call 510-519-9317 to set up a free home walkthrough. Honey Homes' team of full-time handypeople are ready to care for all the little jobs that make your house feel more like home.

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**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
– CHANGE OF NAME**

Daphne Koruska, of 876 Spruce Street, Berkeley CA 94707, has filed a petition of name change with the clerk of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda filed under case #23CV040289 on August 10, 2023 with the proposed name of **Daphne Eleftheria Jackson Koruska**. The notice of hearing is scheduled for September 26, 2023.

School is Open

Continued from [page 11](#)

Hawn as new Superintendent, and new curriculum director Ariel Dolowich.

“Today was really joyful, and

I know that didn’t occur by accident,” said school board member Lindsay Thomasson. “[A lot went into] getting us to this point,

where we had a really smooth start of the year.”

The din of school bells ringing has already become a common stimuli in Piedmont as students begin their second week of school.



Havens parents socialize in the Ellen Driscoll Playhouse on the first day of school.



New Principal of Wildwood, Melissa Daymond, introduces herself to parents.

PPD Blue

Continued from [page 9](#)

10:56 a.m. Trestle Glen Rd. **ALPR** triggered by 2013 blue Hyundai Sonata stolen from Oakland.

11:02 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by Lexus coupe with plate stolen from Hayward.

1:41 p.m. Bonita Ave. Report of box truck hitting large tree limb; Public Works notified.

3:25 p.m. Oakland Ave. **ALPR** triggered by gray 2019 Kia Forte.

4:09 p.m. Rose Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of tools stolen from truck; suspects fled in white Toyota sedan. Loss valued at \$4,850.

4:14 p.m. Moraga Ave. **ALPR** triggered by 2013 gray Tesla stolen from Walnut Creek.

5:46 p.m. Moraga Ave. **ALPR** triggered by silver Toyota Tacoma.

Wednesday, August 9

2:15 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by 2015 black Hyundai Sonata stolen from Fremont.

3:39 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by silver 2018 Hyundai Elantra.

4:10 a.m. Oakland Ave. **ALPR** triggered by white 2017 Hyundai Tucson.

8:32 a.m. Scenic Ave. **Auto Theft.** 2014 Hyundai stolen.

12:18 p.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by unidentified vehicle.

2:04 p.m. Ricardo Ave. **Fraud.** Report of identity theft; airline miles stolen.

3:42 p.m. Grand Ave. **Commercial Burglary.** Report of tattooed man in flip flops stealing 8-10 propane tanks worth \$80 from Ace Hardware then going to black Toyota Camry in parking lot. Suspect brandishes a firearm; store manager and employee take back stolen items from suspect vehicle.

4:42 p.m. Lower Grand Ave. White sedan crashes into tree. Vehicle catches on fire, driver freed from of vehicle by Fire Dept. *(See Crime Report at right)*

10:43 p.m. Grand Ave. **Vandalism.** Report of window smashed on Range Rover parked in front of Kehilla Synagogue.

10:44 p.m. Linda Ave. **ALPR** triggered by gray 2017 Hyundai Sonata.

10:51 p.m. Kingston Ave. **Arrest. Auto Burglary.** Report of man wearing mask tampering with car door and ignition. Officers find man rifling through parked vehicle. Sus-

pect detained, door lock is punched, burglary tools found on floorboard of car. Suspect arrested and transported to Santa Rita Jail.

Thursday, August 10

5:48 a.m. Marlborough Rd. **Auto Burglary.** Report of suspect in Acura taking off at high speed after possibly removing objects from vehicle. Driver fails to yield; glove box rifled; loss unknown.

1:53 p.m. Oakland Ave. **ALPR** triggered by white 2016 Kia Sol stolen from Oakland.

4:27 p.m. Wildwood Ave. **ALPR** triggered by blue 2010 Volvo XC60.

Friday, August 11

5:42 a.m. Maxwellton Rd. **ALPR** triggered by black 2010 Infiniti FX3 stolen from Oakland. Officer attempts to pull it over, but driver speeds away on wrong side of road; no pursuit.

6:32 a.m. Kingston Ave. **ALPR** triggered by blue 2016 Hyundai Elantra.

7:49 a.m. Linda Ave. **ALPR** triggered by 2014 silver Kia Forte.

10:24 a.m. Kingston Ave. **ALPR** triggered by black Honda Accord.

11:44 a.m. Dudley Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Car broken into overnight, unknown loss.

CRIME REPORT

\$20,000 Burglary at Corporation Yard

By Selen Ozturk

The Piedmont Public Works Department suffered the loss of \$20,000 in equipment at the Corporation Yard in a burglary committed between midnight and 6 a.m. on Sunday, August 6.

Three vehicles had tools removed, and several other vehicles were rifled through. The stolen items included heavy-duty tools, including chainsaws and drills. Damage to cabinets and storage lock mechanisms on the trucks will require repairs.

An alarm and camera defense system will be added to the area.

Police Captain Chris Monahan said the burglary is part of a “troubling pattern that’s occurring in our city. It seems that every year or two someone breaks into the Corp Yard, and property is either taken or broken.”

Those with questions or information regarding the burglary may contact the Police Department at 420-3000.

CRIME REPORT

Car totaled in collision with tree

By Jay Russell

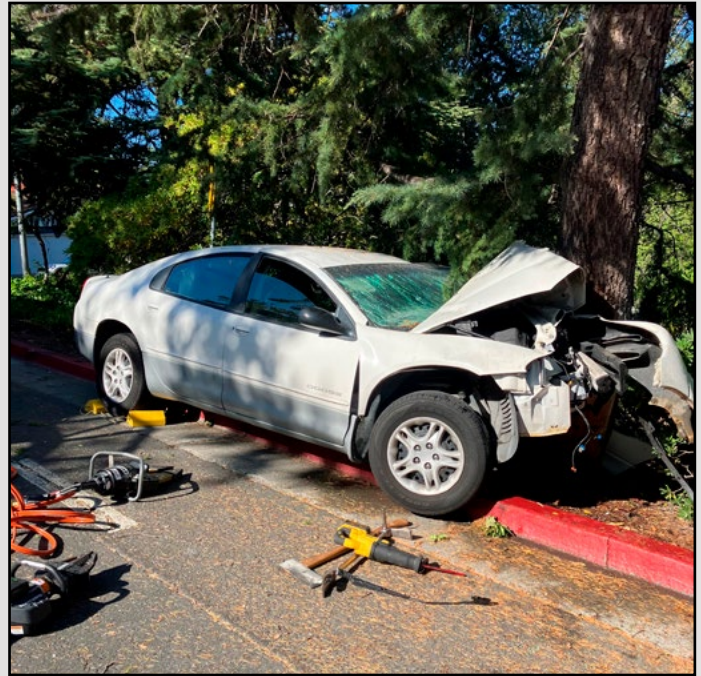
A full-size sedan lost control while driving south on Grand Avenue on Wednesday afternoon, August 9, and crashed into a City tree. According to the police, the driver swerved over a double yellow line, into the north lane and hit the opposite curb line near Arroyo and Lower Grand.

The vehicle, a white 1999 Dodge Intrepid, sustained major damage and came to a dead stop at the base of the tree. The entire front engine compartment was pushed back, the doors rippled in, and the windshield broken.

The driver was trapped inside the vehicle which ultimately caught on fire. Police were notified of the accident around 4:42 p.m., and the driver was extracted by the Piedmont Fire Department using the jaws of life.

The fire was extinguished, and the driver transported to Highland Hospital with no obvious physical injuries. Police closed traffic briefly to investigate and have the car towed.

Piedmont Police obtained a blood sample from the driver, who was driving with a suspended license.



A Dodge Entrepid collided with a large tree around 4:42 p.m. on Wednesday, August 9, near the intersection of Grand and Arroyo Avenues.

Pickleball Courts Schedule

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Mon. – Fri.: 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. (dusk)
Sat. & San.: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. (dusk)

Please make sure to follow basic hygiene, social distancing and face covering requirements while at the courts. Do not play if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been around anyone with symptoms. Check the city website (<https://www.piedmont.ca.gov/cms/one.aspx?portalId=13659823&pageId=15809367>) for the latest information.



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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

1	L	A	P		4	M	I	F	F	S	9	M	O	P	E	13					
14	E	E	L		15	S	C	O	O	T		16	A	N	K	L	E				
17	T	R	A	18	I	N	Y	O	U	R	19	D	R	A	G	O	N				
20	S	I	G	N						21	L	A	I	C							
22	G	A	U	C	23	H	O	S		24	W	A	I	27	S	T	E	28	29	30	
31	O	L	E		32	O	P	A	L	33		34	L	A	T	H	A	M			
				35	T	H	E	S	I	S	36			37	E	A	R	S			
38	39	C	H	O	O	C	H	O	O	40	T	41	R	A	I	N					
42	A	L	T	O					43	A	N	O	R	A	K						
44	B	O	T	T	L	E	45	L	E		47	S	T	E	M		48	T	U	G	50
51	C	Y	P	H	E	R	S	52			53	Y	E	S	54	O	R	N	O		
					55	S	A	C	K	56				57	A	E	R	O			
58	59	60	61	S	S	A	N	D	62	63	S	T	R	A	I	N					
65	E	N	U	R	E				66	T	E	E	N	A		67	D	P	I		
68	O	T	T	E	R				69	S	E	A	R	S		70	S	E	E		

Troop 4

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and a part of their group. We had great conversations making dinner and swimming together. One of my favorite memories of this trip was the feeling of refresh-

ment in the icy cold river after a long day of hiking. At first, I could barely breathe, with the snow melt compressing my lungs. However, once my body numbed,



Joey Anastasi, First Class Scout from Troop 4 (right) at the National Jamboree at Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia this summer



Troop 4 Scout Naomi Treichler at the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea

Troop 15

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a safe distance from the trail and other backpackers.

After setting up camp, they often went swimming in the freezing cold lakes of the Sierra.

“The views were nice, but the water was cold,” said second class Scout Thomas Moison.

Their favorite lakes were Bear Lake, with a rock in the middle they could swim to; Emigrant Lake, a massive alpine lake at 8800 feet; and Toejam Lake, nestled in a secluded valley that had fairly warm water.

Every day, Scouts would plan and cook their own meals. Favorites were nutella, plantains, and dried apricot crepes, couscous with peas and corn, and chicken pesto wraps.

Although this all sounds nice, the Scouts also faced many difficult challenges. At the start of the trek the backpacks weighed 40 to 50 pounds, making the first day’s ascent hard. Throughout their hike, Scouts had various pains from the rough trail and heavy

packs. Some scouts had rolled ankles, while others got blisters.

Tenderfoot Scout Henry Call got two bruises after the first day and Tenderfoot Scout Owen Curran was extremely unlucky. He used his dad’s pack for the trek, but it turned out to be too big for him and the hip belt wouldn’t fit.

“My back [like it] was broken at the end of the hike,” he said. Other problems were that their filter for water was slow, so it took hours to filter.

Arguably the biggest problems were the mosquitoes. The mosquito repellent was out after day four, and everyone had to rely on mosquito nets and clothing to not get bitten.

But after all the highs and lows throughout the week, Troop 15 Scouts had one of the best weeks in the wilderness they could have asked for.

Gianluca Richmond is an 8th grader and a Piedmont Scout in Troop 15.



The terrain seen at high altitudes of the Sierra.



Fritz Laub (Troop 11), Leo Kansal, Marguerite Laub (Troop 11), and Troop 4 Scout Lizzie Rachwald at a river crossing during a 30-mile backpacking trip in the John Muir Wilderness Area this summer

all I felt was refreshment.

“I really loved the great food and pre-packing night. Even though this trip was amazing, the mosquitos were everywhere some nights, making it hard to sleep. I will always remember to bring mosquito repellent on backpacking trips.

“I can’t wait until next year to join this group on a 50- miler!”

Troop 4 Scouts in Piedmont meet on Monday nights from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Ellen Driscoll Playhouse at Havens Elementary. To learn more about Troop 4, contact Scoutmasters Arvind Seshan (arvind_seshan@yahoo.com) and Eric Mellers (emell99@hotmail.com).



Troop 4 Scouts Edison Zhu and Niko Wolff volunteering at the Alameda County Community Food Bank



Scouts Thomas Moison, Landon Heppner, and Thomas Ero swimming at Deer Lake.



The sun sets as the moon rises above Emigrant Lake.

Wednesday Walkers

Continued from [page 25](#)

ily members’ houses remain: 235 Mountain (1908), 56 Sharon (1921), and 52 Sharon (1922). The walkers walked up Mountain to Sharon Avenue and started their climb, taking a side trip to Sharon Court. As they were regrouping at the top of the hill, John McLeod, who lives there, came out and shared some history. The group invited John to join them for the rest of Gail Lombardi’s history and the walk, and happily agreed. The group continued up Sharon Avenue past 27, 33, and 37 Sharon where Casa Montana once stood, and also Windsor’s 40 and 44 Sharon.

After completing the Sharon loop and getting back to Mountain Avenue, the group walked up the gentle hill to Sea View. They noted the site where early Piedmont philanthropist Wallace Alexander built the Brown Gables mansion in the early 1900s. It was torn down three years after Casa Montana in 1939, and no longer exists. On the way back, they stopped to check on the progress of a new garage being built on Crocker Avenue. As they were admiring the progress, Jeremy Droga, the owner, came out, introduced himself, and answered questions. When complete, it will be

a three-car garage with a rooftop garden and elevator. Jeremy is a sculptor and said the addition will be compatible with the work of renowned architect Albert Farr, who designed the home in 1906. There had been more talking than usual on this walk, but it had been full of Piedmont history, and meeting new people. The Walking on Wednesdays group meets every Wednesday at the Exedra (Highland & Magnolia Avenues) at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to join the group and there is no charge. New walkers and their friendly K-9 best friends are especially welcome. Registration with the Piedmont Recreation Department is required at <https://tinyurl.com/3ethkehu>.

Piedmont Football

Continued from [page 12](#)

all bring a different knowledge, from football to who they are as men. It’s been one of the better off-seasons I’ve had in my years of coaching,” said Seiden. Piedmont will have a scrimmage at Skyline in Oakland this

Saturday, August 19 at 9:00 a.m. Their 10-game regular season gets underway on August 25 in Colusa County at Pierce High School in Arbuckle. They return to the Bay Area to face Miramonte in Orinda on September 1.



Tommy Ashton during running back drills with assistant coach DeMario Glenn trying to jar the ball loose.

Players to Watch

Continued from [page 12](#)

basketball court in the winter as a rotational forward on Ben Spencer’s squad, putting in work on the defensive end and knocking down 3-point shots from the wing. He’s expected to have a larger role this year.



MEI ASSALIAN Golf

Mei Assalian had a strong performance at the 2022 North Coast Section championship tournament at the Rooster Run Golf Club in Petaluma, finishing 30th of 120 golfers with an 18-hole round of 92 strokes. She qualified for the prestigious tournament by finishing eighth at the WACC Tournament at Monarch Bay, shooting an 18-hole round of 74. Assalian earned an All-League selection and was named the team captain as a sophomore back in the fall.

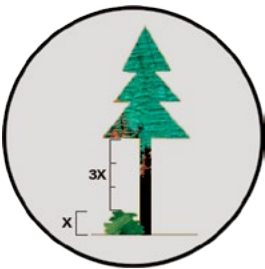
Mei Assalian was the Post’s Honorable Mention for Sophomore of the Year.



PREPARE YOUR YARD FOR FIRE SEASON

Create vertical space between trees and shrubs

Trim trees so the lowest branches are 6 feet from the ground, or 3 times the height of shrubs beneath the tree.

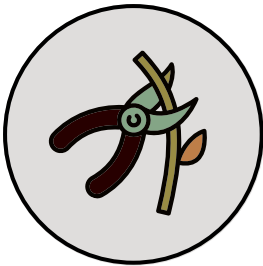


Remove branches hanging over your roof

Remove any branches within 10 feet of a chimney. Remove or prune plants and shrubs near windows.

Remove yard debris and dead or dying vegetation

Trim plants of any unhealthy material. Clear leaves, pine needles, and other debris from roofs, gutters, and the ground.



Questions? Call us at (510) 420-3030. More tips at piedmont.ca.gov/vegetation

2023 Calendar of Events August 16 – September 11

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

Wednesday, August 16

7:30 p.m.Recreation Commission..... City Hall

Wednesday, August 23

7 p.m.School Board City Hall

Monday, September 4

6 p.m.City Council..... City Hall

Wednesday, September 6

5:30 p.m.Park Commission City Hall

Monday, September 11

5:30 p.m.Planning Commission..... City Hall

Where in the World Are We?



Members of Piedmont Troop 11 celebrate completing an 80+ mile backpacking trip at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico with a photo on the iconic Tooth of Time (elevation 9,000 feet). They started the ascent at 5 a.m. and climbed about 3 hours to reach the peak. Pictured are: (front) Adult Advisor Jen Ferguson, Drew Kobal, Asst. Scoutmaster Martin Crawford-Jakubiak, Kane Crawford-Jakubiak, Sunmi Yoo; (back) Scoutmaster Rob Kobal, Sean McKee, Gus Leonard, Will Myers, Theo Ferguson and Marguerite Laub.

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.