# Business Connection-



We are the community that helps businesses start, grow, & thrive.

November 2024

# CloroxPro Introduces New, Plant-Based Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes

lorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes expands the Clorox EcoClean product portfolio of Design for the Environment (DfE) and Safer Choice-certified, ready-to-use cleaners and disinfectants, to provide cleaning professionals more eco-conscious alternatives that work as well as traditional cleaners.

CloroxPro, the trusted makers of Clorox professional products, is proud to announce the expansion of the Clorox EcoClean product platform with the launch of Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes. These Design for the Environment (DfE)-certified, ready-to-use wipes are made with a 100% plant-based substrate and naturally-derived, citric acid active ingredient that kills 99.9% of germs without bleach, ammonia or alcohol.<sup>1</sup>

Designed with people and the planet in mind, Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes clean and disinfect1 without harsh chemical odors and with 38% less plastic.<sup>2</sup> They are ideal for use in shared spaces because they are gentle on surfaces—such as doorknobs, countertops, tables, desks and more—but tough on grease, grime and germs, including cold and flu viruses, norovirus and COVID-19.<sup>3</sup>

"The demand for eco-conscious cleaners and disinfectants continues to increase as facilities prioritize the comfort of their staff and meeting their sustainability goals," said Kyra Caskey, Senior Director of Marketing, CloroxPro. "This is why we are proud to expand the Clorox EcoClean portfolio with ready-to-use disinfecting wipes



Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes expands the Clorox EcoClean product portfolio of Design for the Environment (DfE) and Safer Choice-certified, ready-to-use cleaners and disinfectants, to provide cleaning professionals more eco-conscious alternatives that work as well as traditional cleaners.

that offer cleaning professionals an eco-conscious alternative that works just as well as the leading professional disinfecting wipe."<sup>4</sup>

Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes are the newest addition to the Clorox EcoClean product line, which also includes the following DfE and Safer Choice-certified cleaners and disinfectants:

- Clorox EcoClean Disinfecting Cleaner: a ready-to-use disinfectant cleaner made with a plant-based active ingredient that kills 99.9% of illness-causing germs in two minutes or less, including cold and flu viruses, COVID-19<sup>3</sup>, norovirus, Staph and MRSA.<sup>1</sup>
- Clorox EcoClean All-Purpose Cleaner: a ready-to-use cleaner formulated without parabens, dyes, phthalates, phosphates, petroleum solvents or SLES that breaks down grease, grime and dirt; perfect for use in restrooms, workspaces and school eating areas.
- Clorox EcoClean Glass
  Cleaner: a ready-to-use,
  non-ammoniated product that
  leaves glass and mirrors clean
  and streak-free; specifically
  designed to cut through dirt,
  smudges and fingerprints.

"The expansion of Clorox EcoClean comes at a time when interest in and need for effective, eco-conscious product solutions is skyrocketing – as of April 2024,



## **eco**clean

certified eco-conscious products are required for new custodial contracts that maintain federal buildings and three in four US states have Environmental Purchasing Policies in place," added Caskey.<sup>5</sup> "At CloroxPro, we are committed to helping our customers meet their goals, and EcoClean Disinfecting Wipes are a testament to this commitment."

All Clorox EcoClean products are made using 25% post-consumer recycled plastic packaging and can help facilities reach their sustainability goals, including meeting requirements for LEED, ISSA CIMS - Green Building, and Healthy Green Schools and Colleges.

More information can be found at CloroxPro.com/CloroxEcoClean.

#### **About CloroxPro**

Building on a century-long legacy in cleaning and disinfecting, CloroxPro offers some of the industry's most recognized and trusted

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#### **PLEASANTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM**

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Joe Testa. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

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Pleasanton Young Professionals

**David Wong, David Wong Chiropractic** 

**Chamber Staff** 

President/CEO **James Cooper** 

Membership Director

**Business Operations Manager** Yianna Theodorou

Events & Communications Coordinator Kate D'Or

Business Connection is a bi-monthly publication of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce.

The positions and views advocated here are solely the responsibility of the Chamber.

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Stay connected with the Chamber







## **It's Been a Pleasure**

Shawn Henley

Chamber Board is wind-L ing down, and I commonly get asked, "Shawn, did you enjoy your year as Chair?"

Earlier in the year my response would have been, "Wow, this is a

bigger time commitment than I anticipated!"

In fact, when I was asked what I do for a living, my response was, "Well, my day job is Chair of the Pleasanton Chamber, but I also have a side job as a Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley."

**Board Chair** However, as I now reflect on this past Pleasanton Chamber year serving as the Chamber of Commerce Board Chair, I realize it has been one of the best and most rewarding experiences of my professional career. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the many people who helped me tremendous-

ly during my time as Chair: Chamber Staff — it all starts with our hard-working crew and the tremendous support I received from our CEO James Cooper, Yianna Theodorou, Kate D'Or, and Jeanette Schaub, Thank you all!

Board of Directors — I want to express my sincere gratitude for the dedication and countless hours that the Chamber Board put in this

Bob Rossi (Sunshine Saloon), Jill Buck (Go Green Initiative), Ken Norvell (CMIT Solutions), Jacqueline Brown (Workday), Geno Ashley (Hoge Fenton), Billy Buckley (ENT Networks), Seema Chawla (TekValley Corp), Shelley Despotakis (Chicago Title), Shareef Mahdavi (Merchant Advocate), Manny Peregrina (VIP Audio Visual

y year as the Chair of the Co.), Lori Strazdas (Clorox), Dr. David Wong (Chiropractic), Bill Wheeler (Black Tie Transportation), my past Treasurer, Steve Baker and our incoming 2025 Board Chair, Arne Olson!

Ambassadors - too many to name, but they all self-

lessly commit their time to support our Chamber and its members. They are the glue that holds everything together and they are AWESOME! I hope to, one day in the future, be an Ambassador.

Members — it has been a pleasure getting to know so many of our Chamber members. They have all

had a role in making this a wonderful year. I think my favorite part of being Chair were the ribbon cuttings and celebrating all the new businesses in our community this past year. Another favorite for me were all the introductions of New Members at our monthly Chamber Mixers! Getting to shake their hands and welcoming them to the Pleasanton Chamber. Collectively, it's all our members that have given me a new appreciation of how blessed I am to be a part of this thriving community. There are so many great, friendly and hardworking people that network with one another in the Tri Valley. I was proud to be a part of that.

I have been fortunate to raise my boys here, work here, and live in Pleasanton for the past 32 years. I love the Pleasanton Chamber, and I will continue to support our members and local businesses for years to come. Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your Chamber Board Chair this past year and I look forward to seeing you around town.

Wishing you all health and success!

## **A Voice for Business**

ne of the most important roles the Chamber serves is to advocate on behalf of our members – to government and to the community. Chamber members are mostly

local businesses, so the Chamber's voice is effectively the voice of the local business community. This is an important role for us to play, because businesses need to be heard when issues that affect them are being debated.

What is equally important is that the community.

especially those elected to represent the community, not only hears the Chamber's voice but respects it, even if they disagree. Freedom of speech is the freedom to articulate an opinion or idea without fear of retaliation, censorship, or legal sanction. This right is given to individuals and communities, including a community of businesses.

It isn't always the case that those who disagree can still work together to reach common goals. That is why it is critical that we understand - all of us - that having a difference of opinion is just that, a difference of opinion, and that the true work we all engage in – to make our community the best place to live, work, stay and play - is the most important work we do, individually and collectively.

As an entity, a Chamber of

Commerce has existed for over 400 years as a partnership between local government and local businesses to boost economic growth in the community. At its root, this partnership is

built on two things: trust and respect. The Pleasanton Chamber wants our elected officials to succeed in their work to help the community prosper, even if they pursue decisions we don't agree with. The most important outcome is the one that benefits the community, regardless of the



choices made.

November 5 is Election Day. Votes will be cast, and outcomes will be realized. And while the Chamber has opinions about what we'd like to see happen that day, the most important day is the next day. Once the election is over, we need to continue working in partnership to boost economic growth in Pleasanton and we need to do so with trust and respect. The Chamber stands ready to do our part to make this the best community in the Bay Area. We will do so with our local representatives, regardless of who wins their respective races. And we will continue serving our role as an advocate for the business community, which has been one of our core functions since before there was a United States of

# **David Wong Reflects on His Term as Board Chair of Pleasanton Young Professionals**

A Journey of Growth, Gratitude, and Community

**David Wong** 

**Board Chair** Pleasanton Young

s we're coming towards the end of the year, this will end my term as the Board Chair for the Pleasanton Young

Professionals. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for my involvement in this group, as it has been a wild ride, but also the most humbling experience to be a part of. For the past two years, I was able to make new networks and friends, hone my public speaking skills, developed tremendous growth within myself, and received

opportunities that I wouldn't have gotten without my involvement. When I first took on the role, I had a vision of how I wanted to grow the group, and in order to do so we had to implement intentional strategies. We brought forth collaborations with

other young professional groups, chambers, non-profits, and local businesses. We have also tried new ways of doing things and diminish-

ing old habits and reinventing how we want this group to be perceived as. This group has been around for more than a decade now, and due to the pandemic, we were able to surmount that, do things differently, and we were able to revitalize this growing community as we currently see it today. We've realized how much of a needed

asset this was. Our demographic and our community are looking for inperson ways to connect with other professionals who are concurrently in the same situation as them, and we're able to bring forth a supportive environment of inclusion, as



well as fun.

None of this would be possible without the ongoing support of many. First off, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce staff, ambassadors, and chamber members have been a huge proponent of our growth, by giving us a platform to restart, helping spread the word to grow the group, and allowing it to thrive the way it is

today. All the events take planning. so it also takes a village of individuals, our executive committee, from past and present, who volunteer their time within their busy schedules to create insights and ideas, and make sure our events are well-coordinated, scheduled, and received well. And

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# **Networking and Nourishment**

The Pleasanton Chamber's Fall Tradeshow Mixers Connect Local Businesses and Community

he Chamber's tradeshow mixers have traditionally been the most well attended chamber functions of the year, featuring delicious food, wine and beer tastes from local restaurants. Vendors showcase their products and services with their table-top displays, often with raffle prizes, tchotchke items and other giveaways. who are invested in the region.

RRIOTT

PLEASANTON

Companies and organizations that are exhibiting can promote themselves, connect with local business and community leaders, and grow their customer base. Being an exhibitor is one benefit of chamber membership and attracts businesses from a variety of industries looking to network with others

#### Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Hosted by Marriott Pleasanton 11950 Dublin Canyon Road, **Pleasanton** 

> Open to everyone in the community Complimentary admission Food, drink, prizes, fun

Please register in advance at www.pleasanton.org

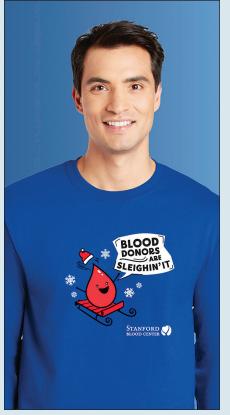




# **Give the Gift** of Life This **Holiday Season**

Donate Blood and Receive a Limited-Edition T-Shirt!

t's the season of giving — and what better gift to give than life-saving blood products? The holidays can be a particularly challenging time to collect enough blood for local patients, so as special thank you, Stanford Blood Center is giving away a long-sleeve holiday t-shirt to each donor from November 1 – December 17. This collectible shirt will only be available this year, so get it while you can! For more information and to make an appointment, please visit www.stanfordbloodcenter.org.



As a special thank you, Stanford Blood Center is giving away a long-sleeve holiday t-shirt to every donor from November 1 to







1:00 PM - Main Street, Pleasanton

**Pleasanton Community Concert Band** 2:00 PM, 301 Main Street

Visit www.trivalleyvdp.com

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR MILITARY CHAPLAINS



Convenient Locations Around the Tri-Valley



www.stanfordhealthcare.org/tri-valley

### **Business Spotlight**

# **Livermore Pleasanton ELKS Lodge No 2117**

The principles of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks (B.P.O.E.) are: CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE, AND FIDELITY

he purpose of the organization is to instill these principles in our community by doing the following

nity by doing the following. Recognizing a belief in a power greater than ourselves, promoting the welfare and enhancing the happiness of its members and their community, promoting the spirit of American patriotism, and cultivating good fellowship.

Elks invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, and we are committed to helping meet the needs of today's veterans.

We are involved with our youth by providing scholarships for education, holding events for backto-school, supporting and promoting the importance of athletics and sponsoring Future Farmers of America programs. We are involved in programs to promote drug awareness (Elks National Drug Awareness Program - the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the United States).

We are committed to serving our veteran population in the area by providing a space for them to socialize and by volunteering within the community, in particular at the Veteran's Hospital and the Las Positas Veterans First Program.

Within our Lodge we offer our members a friendly and safe space to socialize with one another. Our calendar is always full of fun activities and dinners for both community and membership. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month for member-

ship meetings where we do the work of running as a non-profit and brainstorm how to make ends meet, stay active in our community, and continue to enjoy our time as elks!

We also are fortunate to have the Larkspur Event Center as part of our facility. Whether it's a wedding reception, birthday, quinceañera, conference, or a special event, the Larkspur Event Center can accommodate all your rental needs in a stress-free manner. Our ideal location, with upscale facilities and superb service will help make your next event a successful and memorable experience. We call in the "Tri Valley's Hidden Gem"



The Livermore Pleasanton ELKS Lodge No 2117 has existed in the Tri-Valley area since 1959 and we are proud to be members of our community and we are located at 940 Larkspur Drive, Livermore, CA. 94551. Call the Lodge office for more information (925) 455-8829

**Top:** The Members Lounge is open to all ELKS and their guests. There is a dart board, jukebox, big screen TVs, popcorn machine, and a full service bar.

Right: The Larkspur Event Center also includes a fully equipped, certified, commercial kitchen.



### **Business Spotlight**

# Hawaii Fluid Art Brings the Aloha Spirit to Pleasanton with New Studio at Stoneridge Mall

awaii Fluid Art is thrilled to announce the opening of its newest studio in Pleasanton, located in Stoneridge Mall. Set in a tropical Hawaiian theme exuding the Aloha spirit of Hawaii, the studio offers a unique and interactive art experience with fluid art. The studio also features an artist gallery showcasing local and Hawaiian artists (paint, print, candles, jewelry). Owners Neren and Preeta were drawn to the brand's fresh approach to art through fluid painting, a style that blends vivid colors and flowing designs, allowing participants to create stunning masterpieces, regardless of their artistic background.

The studio offers 1-1½-hour hands-on art sessions that are fun, therapeutic, and easy to master. Participants can explore various mediums, including fluid art, resin beach scenes, glass paintings, mosaics, and a popular hat bar.



With step-by-step guidance from instructors, guests are encouraged to express their creativity while crafting a piece as unique as themselves.

What distinguishes Hawaii Fluid Art from other studios is its emphasis on inclusivity, community, and the joy of the creative process. It's not just about making art; it's about experiencing the warmth of the atmosphere and the thrill of experimenting with new techniques. Every session is designed

to foster a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment.

The Pleasanton studio serves as the ideal setting for private and semi-private events, birthday parties, family reunions, date nights, and corporate gatherings. It's a space where people not only create art, but they also make lasting memories. The studio's motto is simple: at Hawaii Fluid Art, everyone is an artist. It's more than just art; it's about self-expression and having a great time.

Hawaii Fluid Art looks forward to becoming a vibrant part of the Pleasanton community, inviting residents to explore the magic of fluid art and discover their inner artist. For more information or to book a session, visit hawaiifluidart. com/pleasanton-ca or call 925-558-6357.

Come, create, and experience art like never before at Hawaii Fluid Art. Mahalo!



Experience the camaraderie, the joy of the creative process, and the thrill of experimenting with new techniques at Hawaii Fluid Art!

#### Business Spotlight



## Starbird Chicken

Revolutionizing Fast Food with Super-Premium Quality and Community Impact in the Bay Area

as the nation's first super-premium fast-food restaurant, is rooted in the Bay Area. Founded by Aaron Noveshen, a seasoned finedining chef and experienced restaurateur, Starbird launched its inaugural location in Sunnyvale, CA, in 2016. Continuing to thrive, the company owns and operates multiple locations throughout the Bay Area.

At Starbird, only the highest quality ingredients are used to craft an enticing menu featuring premium chicken salads, sandwiches, tenders, and house-made sauces, along with wings, nuggets, and more.

tarbird, proudly recognized Every vegetable is freshly chopped in-house, dressings are made daily, and the chicken-always fresh-remains free of antibiotics. Starbird's commitment ensures that each meal served is not only superpremium but also one that leaves patrons feeling good.

Beyond its culinary excellence, Starbird takes immense pride in being a positive force in the Bay Area communities it serves. By supporting and recognizing the efforts of frontline workers, teachers, and other impactful community members, Starbird strives to make a meaningful difference.



Every vegetable is freshly chopped in-house, dressings are made daily, and the chicken - always fresh - remains free of antibiotics

Additionally, the company invests in its team members by offering up to \$5,000 per year per employee to support their educational pursuits.

Starbird Pleasanton is located at 6455 Owens Drive, Suite 5A, Pleasanton CA 94588 welcomes guests Monday through Saturday from 10:30 AM to 10:00 PM, and on Sundays from 10:30 AM to 9:00 PM. For convenience, orders can be placed in-store, online at starbirdchicken.com, or via their mobile app. Moreover, Starbird offers an extensive catering menu, available for both pickup and delivery, ensuring that its delectable offerings can be enjoyed on any occasion.





Providing free meals and other resources across the Tri-Valley. Learn more at openheartkitchen.org

925-580-1616



Scan to donate





#### **Membership Anniversaries**



During the past two months, nearly 80 businesses renewed their investment in the chamber, thereby demonstrating their continued commitment to community excellence while realizing the benefits, services, and representation associated with membership in Pleasanton's leading business organization.

We recommend that you look first to chamber members for your business and consumer needs.

#### **42 Years** KKIQ

#### **25 to 31 Years**

Wilson Property Management

Pleasanton VIP Senior Club & Peddler Shoppe

So Unique Painting

& Decorating

LogoBoss

Select Imaging

Assistance League

of Amador Valley

JGPC Business Law

The Club at Ruby Hill

Terrence J. Rose, Inc.

Axis Community Health

Door Doctor, The

Diversified Mortgage Group

Stone Group, The

Tri-Valley Electrical

Service Inc

O'Neill & Associates

Tri-Valley Career Center

Zone 7 Water Agency

#### 20 to 24 Years

Hoge Fenton
Blue Agave Club
Valley Humane Society, Inc.
Kier & Wright
Civil Engineers
& Surveyors, Inc.

#### **15 to 19 Years**

Maverick Networks, Inc.
Best Western Plus
Pleasanton Inn
The Parkview
Assisted Living
Netrique, Inc.
Callippe Preserve

#### 10 to 14 Years

Golf Course

Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton
USA Mobil Drug Testing of
the East Bay
Lewman Law, APC
Darlene Crane CrossCountry Mortgage
Tri-Valley Evening Rotary
White Oak Law, P.C.

Blaha, Hartford & Perry, APC

American Cancer Society
Discovery Shop

#### 5 to 9 Years

Towne Center Books
Pleasanton American Legion
Post 237
10X Genomics
Smog King
PCJ Real Estate
Advisors, LLC

Nonprofit & Communications Consulting

Golden 1 Credit Union

Farmers Insurance

- Wallace Wong

Metcon-Ti, Inc.

BYE Junk

Cemex

Jill Cash -

State Farm Insurance Aloft Dublin-Pleasanton Merchant Advocate

Merrill Lynch, Michelle

Massey

Jeanette Schaub Health & Wellness by Design PMA Services

#### 1 to 4 Years

Annette Frei Design Mom Relaunch Foundation David Wong Chiropractic **Fondray** Fresh Cut Christmas Trees Ron Essex Photography Meadowlark Dairy Simple Elegance Catering Tri-Valley REACH ProSomnus Sleep Technologies Pleasanton Junior Football League Pleasanton Valley Dental Flylock Security Solutions -East Bay SpringHill Suites

Mark Zevanove - JPAR Iron

Horse Real Estate

Garage Kings

#### **Business Spotlight**

# Discover The Olive Market

Pleasanton's Premier Destination for Authentic Mediterranean Flavors and Delights

he Olive Market Mediterranean is a family owned & operated grocery store and deli experience in the East Bay! We strive to nourish all people through Mediterranean food. What do we define as mediterranean? Any country that touches the Mediterranean Sea.

We are best known for our Mediterranean style deli sandwiches which include quality local & imported cuts combined with local & organic produce—satisfying both meat lovers & vegetarians alike. Get ready to elevate your sandwich game, Pleasanton!

Our market is curated with the best raw ingredients for your cooking adventures. We carry unique & common Mediterranean spices, local and imported olives, specialty olive oils, cheeses from Greece to Lebanon, pastas & condiments from Italy and all in between! We also carry imported chips with flavors you don't often see. With the Holiday season coming up, if you are creating a charcuterie platter, you'll also want to visit the Olive Market for a delightful array of unique ingredients that will make your display truly special.

Our family is full of culture, and we wanted to bring that flavor to you. We continue to source and update our inventory with community & diversity in mind. With that, we can't wait to see you in our store soon! Located at 6455 Owens Drive, Suite D, Pleasanton CA 94588. Visit us at www.theolive.market. Follow us on Instagram for the latest updates @theolivemm.



Delicious Mediterranean-style deli sandwiches featuring 14-month aged prosciutto di Parma, Italian mortadella, salami, and more, or savor a gourmet vegetarian option. There's something for everyone at The Olive Market!



### **Business Spotlight**

# The First Professional Table Tennis League in the U.S. Comes to Pleasanton!

ajor League Table Tennis (MLTT) features world class players — the best in America — representing 40 total countries competing in an innovative team game format. It's an 8-team format, and the 8 teams are the Bay Area Blasters, Chicago Wind, Carolina Gold Rush, Florida Crocs, Princeton Revolution, Portland Paddlers, Seattle Spinners and Texas Smash.

Being the First Professional Table Tennis League in the United States, we are looking to bring the most exciting and one of the most played sports in America to the masses. We are most proud of sharing the benefits of playing Table Tennis for everyone's mental and physical health. The other thing we pride ourselves on is building a community around the venues that we visit across the country.

At every team match, there are 21 points at stake. For every game won by a player, each team is awarded one point. There are 3 games per matchup, and the matchup format is two singles, one doubles, two singles. It all concludes with the Golden Game, a pulse-pounding race to 21 points where every mem-

ber of each 5-person team rotates in every 4 points. The winning team gets another 6 points, which can dramatically change the outcome.

"If you want to see top tier athletes in a specialty sport and are looking for a fun interactive experience, come see Major League Table Tennis. I Guarantee that you have never seen anything like what we do," says Steven Minucci, Director of Ticket Sales.

We will be at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from Friday November 15th to Sunday November 17th. We will be returning to Pleasanton in January to host another event as well. General admission tickets for the event start at \$10. For all members and residents of Pleasanton, use the promo code **Pleasanton** for 25% off the ticket price.

Tickets also grant fans access to the fan zone, where they can play on ping pong tables, meet the pros, and potentially even get a chance to play a few points against them.

Major League Table Tennis was founded in 2023 by software entrepreneur and table tennis enthusiast, Flint Lane. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit https://mltt.com.



#### **Business Spotlight**

# **Experience, Education, and Client-Centered Service**

How Lloyd Steere of eXp Realty of California Guides You Through Every Step of the Real Estate Journey

y approach focuses on educating clients by offering free, comprehensive resources for buyers and sellers on his website at www.lloydsteere.com. I prioritize understanding each client's specific real estate goals and provide services customized to their timelines, ensuring a smooth experience.

What sets me apart is my education, experience, and adaptability. With over 30 years in real estate, including the last 10 years in Northern California, I bring valuable local and global insights to help clients make informed decisions. Whether working with first-time buyers or seasoned investors, I share market trends and use the latest marketing technologies to meet their needs.



Before real estate, I spent 25 years in leadership roles in the B2B sector. This background inspired me to switch careers for more control over my life, and after experiencing a lack of education from the Realtors in my home-buying experiences, I chose to focus on guiding clients through the process. I'm passionate

about helping people, not only in real estate but also by supporting local businesses through referrals.

My goal is to protect and guide clients through one of the largest financial decisions of their lives, and I'm dedicated to building long-term relationships. As I often say, "Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care." My clients know I'm not in this for a quick sale; I aim to be their Realtor for life.

# Clients appreciate my commitment, professionalism, and personalized support. Here's what they have to say:

"Lloyd helped us buy and sell our home with professionalism and care. Knowing we were in good hands made the process less stressful."

- Kenton de Kirby, Moraga, CA "As a first-time homebuyer, Lloyd made me feel comfortable with the entire process and was always available for questions. He was instrumental in securing our dream

- Dillon Mullaney, Livermore, CA "Lloyd was referred to us, and we knew right away he had our best interests in mind. He outlined the process clearly and advocated for us throughout."

- Tim Abbott, Patterson, CA
"Lloyd's professionalism and
commitment to a transparent client
experience are unmatched. He's a
valuable advisor for anyone considering buying or selling a home."

- Jon C, Pleasanton, CA



Lloyd Steere

For more information, reach out to me at (925) 404-3394 or lloyd@ lloydsteere.com, and visit my website at www.lloydsteere.com. Proud Marine Corps Veteran.

# **Business Spotlight**

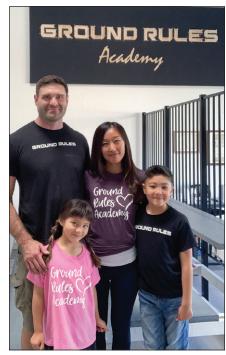
# GROUND RULES Academy

Where Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Meets Lifelong Learning and Personal Growth

ocated just off the 580/680 interchange, Ground Rules Academy is more than a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ) School—it's a unique place where personal growth, fitness, and education converge. Family-owned and operated, this academy is dedicated to not only teaching BJJ as an art, self-defense system, and sport, but also strongly emphasizing the importance of lifelong learning and personal development.

What truly sets Ground Rules Academy apart is its founder, Russell Jensen. With a PhD from the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where he studied under Nobel Laureate Moungi Bawendi, Dr. Jensen brings a wealth of experience in problem solving at the highest levels. In addition to being an accomplished martial artist, Dr. Jensen is also a tenured chemistry professor at Las Positas College. This dual expertise shapes the academy's philosophy, making education a core part of the martial arts experience. Dr. Jensen is also in the late stages of selfpublishing his first book; Ground Rules Simple Physics for the Grappling Arts.

At Ground Rules Academy, BJJ classes go beyond technique. Students are encouraged to approach their training with the same curiosity and tenacity that would permeate an elite academic setting. Dr. Jensen and his team teach not just the physical skills but the theory and strategy behind them, fostering a deeper understanding of the art and accelerating the learning curve. At the core of this philosophy lies a culture that is highly supportive while maintaining rigorous standards, teaching students that they are capable of overcoming challenges in their own lives.



Family owned and operated: The Jensens all contribute to the learning environment at the

The academy offers a range of classes for kids, teens, and adults, making it a welcoming place for individuals and families to learn and grow. Whether you're looking to improve your fitness, build confidence, or learn self-defense, Ground Rules Academy provides the tools to grow, both on and off the mats.

For more information and to register for a free trial class, visit www.groundrulesacademy.com. Follow us on Instagram @ groundrulesacademy.



#### **PYP**

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lastly, the folks who attended our events and created the group that we've all envisioned. A special thank you to all the local businesses for their generous hospitality at our events, as well as the non-profits for letting us get involved with our community over the past two years: Girls Soccer Worldwide, Kids Against Hunger Bay Area, Sleep In Heavenly Peace, Big Bay Ray, and Assistance League of Amador Valley.

And lastly, I would like to thank everyone for all the ongoing support you have brought to the group, and I'm very excited for what the future of the Pleasanton Young Professionals will bring.

As we're going through this transitional period of leadership, we are still holding our events! We just had a very successful networking mixer at Blue Agave Club, and our last networking mixer of the year will be on Wednesday, November 6th from 5-7pm at Good Morning Maxwell Pleasanton. Scan the QR code to register!

#### **Ribbon Cuttings**



#### Creating new jobs, stronger economy



**Ground Rules Academy** — Congratulations to Ground Rules Academy upon their grand opening. Ground Rules Academy provides high-quality Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instruction as a vehicle for the development of integrity, grit, humility, and fitness for all ages. Lessons learned while training BJJ in a rigorous and supportive environment contribute to improved physical and mental health, relationships, performance at school or work, and overall quality of life. Founded by Russ Jensen PhD, a chemistry professor at Las Positas College, Ground Rules Academy focuses on making the learning process as efficient as possible. Located at 7034 Commerce Circle, Suite F, Pleasanton – (925) 400-8805.



American Cancer Society Discovery Shop — The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop celebrated 35 years of business in Pleasanton with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Discovery Shop helps support the fight against cancer through the sale of high quality, gently used, donated merchandise, featuring items such as clothing, accessories, jewelry, furniture, artwork, antiques, collectibles, and other household items. The Discovery Shop Pleasanton has both a furniture store and a clothing store in the Mission Plaza at 1989 Santa Rita Road, Suite E and 1991 Santa Rita Road, Suite L, Pleasanton. Call (925) 462-7374 for current hours of operation.



Prodigy Fitness – Prodigy Fitness and Performance celebrated the grand opening of their new location with a ribbon cuttingceremony. Prodigy Fitness is a Personal Training facility helping busy adults lose weight, get stronger, and have more energy through customized fitness and nutrition programs that won't beat up your body or leave you chasing the latest crash course diet. As well as youth athletes seeking to enhance their performance and reduce injury risk through age-appropriate speed and agility programs. Located at 6689 Owens Drive, Ste. 300, Pleasanton.



Starbird Chicken — Congratulations to Starbird Chicken upon their grand opening here in Pleasanton. This is their 16th location. Starbird Chicken is considered one of the nation's first super-premium fast-food concepts. To celebrate the grand opening, the brand offered a free Starbird meal to its first 500 customers on Friday, September 27th, doors opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Chamber. Starbird Chicken is known for its hand-crafted, feel-good crispy chicken, bold flavors, and chef-driven innovation. Starbird's chicken is raised without antibiotics and is always fresh and never frozen. Individually hand-breaded in a secret blend of gluten-free flour and spices. Starbird's chicken pairs perfectly with any one of its nine tasty, homemade dipping sauces. The menu includes chicken salads, tender boxes, sandwiches, nuggets, wings, and more! Starbird looks forward to serving the Pleasanton community! Located at 6455 Owens Drive, Ste. 5A, Pleasanton.



Gameday Men's Health — Congratulations to Gameday Men's Health Pleasanton upon their grand opening. Gameday is a men's healthclinic that strives to help men feel their best, perform more optimally and experience a higher quality of life. With individualized testosterone therapy, cutting edge ED protocols and personal care from our clinical staff, we are a one stop shop for every man that wants to "up their game" in a setting designed for them to feel comfortable. We have a comfortable "man cave" setting where you can be your authentic self and a staff that is here to help you get there. Book an appointment today! (925) 255-1120. Located at 4683 Chabot Drive, Ste. 203, Pleasanton.

#### Clorox

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brand names for commercial cleaning, including its Clorox Healthcare products and technologies for healthcare facilities. Whether it is schools, offices, restaurants, hotels, hospitals, or other commercial facilities, CloroxPro is committed to meeting the demands of industry professionals. For more information, visit CloroxPro. com.

#### **About The Clorox Company:**

The Clorox Company (NYSE: CLX) champions people to be well and thrive every single day. Its trusted brands, which include Brita®, Burt's Bees®, Clorox®, Fresh Step®, Glad®, Hidden Valley®, Kingsford®, Liquid-Plumr®, Pine-Sol® and Natural Vitality®, can be found in about nine of 10 U.S. homes and internationally with brands such as Clorinda®, Chux® and Poett®. Headquartered in

Oakland, California, since 1913, Clorox was one of the first in the U.S. to integrate ESG into its business reporting. In 2024 the company was ranked No. 1 on Barron's 100 Most Sustainable Companies list for the second consecutive year. Visit the clorox company.com to learn more.

1 When used as directed on hard, non-porous surfaces. See product label for list of organisms. 2 Total virgin plastic reduction vs Clorox Disinfecting Wipes 75 ct. Based on Precision B2B market share unit sales data, 12 months ending April 2024. 3 Kills Sars-CoV-2 on hard, non-porous surfaces. 4 Clorox Disinfecting Wipes based on Precision B2B market share unit sales data, 12 months ending April 2024. When used as directed on soap scum and greasy particulate soil. 5 United States Environmental Protection Agency "About the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program". May 2024. Accessed July 17, 2024.