

# Pleasanton Weekly

'Sundown in San Ojuela'

Page 14

VOL. XXV, NUMBER 29 • AUGUST 9, 2024

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

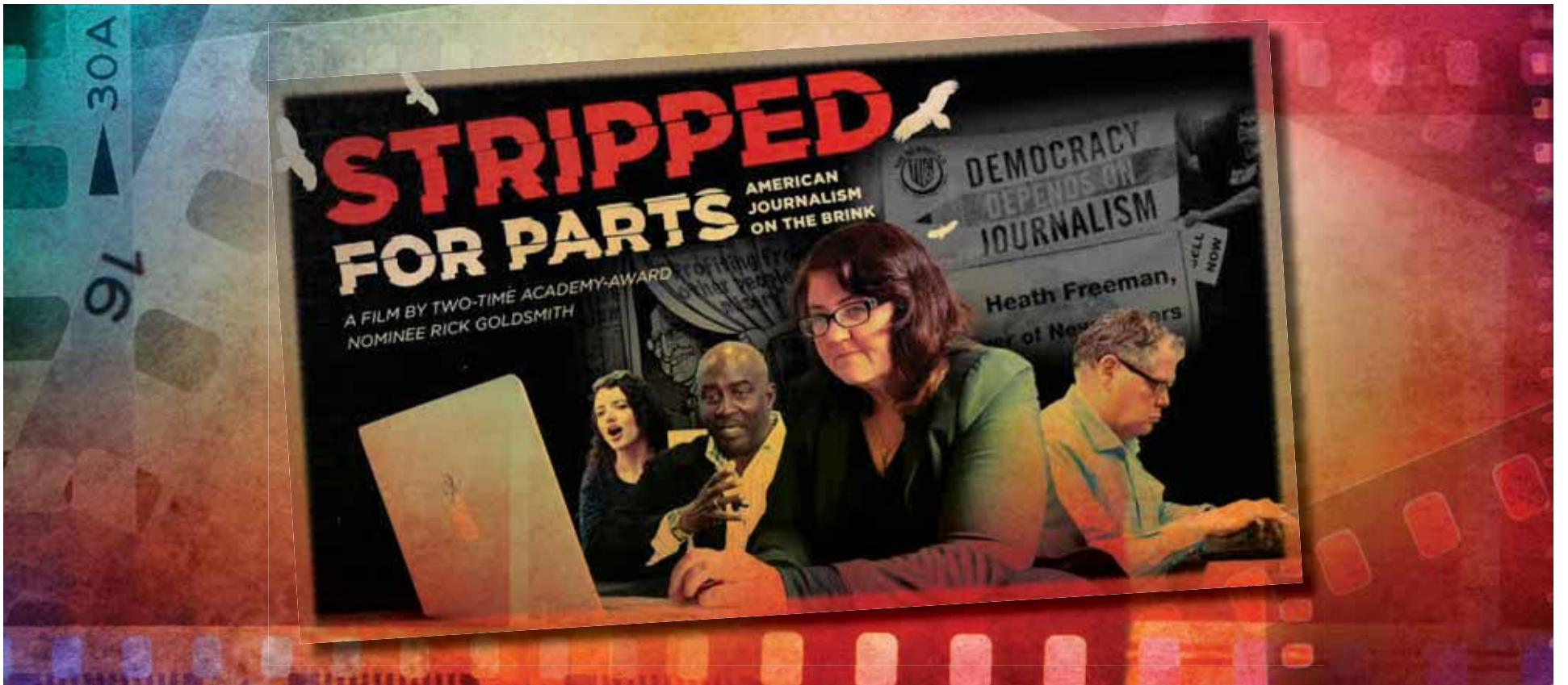
## Firefighters contend with daunting season

TRI-VALLEY CREWS  
TASKED WITH BATTLING  
BLAZES THROUGHOUT  
REGION AND STATE

PAGE 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Lead found in faucets at STEAM Preschool
- 5 | **NEWS** A look inside Open Heart Kitchen Food Bank
- 18 | **SPORTS** Livermore's run to U.S. title game



A SCREENING OF

# STRIPPED FOR PARTS

## AMERICAN JOURNALISM ON THE BRINK

Join us for a special screening of this award-winning documentary, and a conversation afterward on the future of journalism with filmmaker and director Rick Goldsmith, California State Senator Steve Glazer, local journalist and former Tri-Valley Herald Publisher Tim Hunt and Embarcadero Media East Bay President & Publisher Gina Channell Wilcox.

Local journalism throughout America is facing a financial crisis due to the collapse of its ad-supported business model. And while local newspapers seek grassroots public support to survive, a sinister and cynical force on Wall Street has quietly seized on the opportunity to buy up news organizations across the country, decimate their staffs, destroy their independence and deprive local readers of a critical tool supporting democracy. The Mercury News, East Bay Times and many California newspapers are among the approximately 200 newspapers nationwide now owned by Alden Global Capital, a New York-based hedge fund and a major subject of the film.

“**Stripped for Parts: American Journalism on the Brink**” exposes the battle between hedge funds and local community leaders for control over their local news and the future of journalism.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 6**  
**6:45 P.M**

**Firehouse Arts Center**  
4444 Railroad Ave.,  
Pleasanton

**FREE ADMISSION**

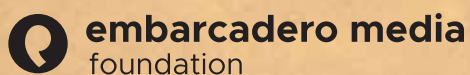
### REGISTRATION & INFO

[tinyurl.com/Stripped-for-Parts](https://tinyurl.com/Stripped-for-Parts)

**SPACE IS LIMITED.**

For more information:  
[gchannell@embarcaderomedia.org](mailto:gchannell@embarcaderomedia.org)

SPONSORED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**USE CODE  
TO REGISTER**



**BECOME A MEMBER TODAY**  
[PleasantonWeekly.com/join](https://PleasantonWeekly.com/join)

# WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

## High aspirations

Imagine my surprise when I got word that the cannabis dispensary storefront at the Darcie Kent Estate Winery property in the Livermore Valley was fully occupied ... and had a new name.

Like many of you, I saw the chatter on social media weeks ago about the prior Garden of Eden-branded dispensary in Livermore being closed with little explanation.

Turns out there's a pretty succinct story behind how Livermore's lone marijuana shop became The Highlands Boutique Dispensary — and it has a lot to do with the vision for creating the model for reinvigorating agritourism in the state.

"California is known for weed and wine," said Mark McMillan, who manages the dispensary plus the wine lounge and other operations at Darcie Kent. "We're a unique spot in California, and in many respects should be a roadmap."

The winery's owners opened the dispensary in fall 2022, and it's been "very, very well received by the community," McMillan told me on Tuesday, noting there has been "great relief" among cannabis customers in the Tri-Valley that now "there is a place where they don't have to drive over the hill."

For most of those first two years, the pot shop was operated by Garden of Eden via a management contract. The regional retailer is best known for its dispensary in Hayward, with other expansion plans on its radar — though those have changed too.

As 2024 progressed, the Kent family wanted to go in a different direction with the popular dispensary and delivery business based at the Tesla Road property.

"What's transpired is ownership has not changed at all," McMillan said. "The Kents decided they wanted to manage it directly ... The store did not close, not one hour."

They turned the page without interruption, according to McMillan. Garden of Eden one day and the next (June 1) The Highlands was born.

I reached out to the Garden of Eden folks, actually a few weeks ago, to get their side of the story because talk in local social media circles seemed to paint a different picture about their Livermore exit. After all, at that time their website still listed the Livermore store as theirs and open as usual.

They never responded, but I did notice that shortly after I emailed them on June 23, the Garden of Eden homepage was updated to include pop-up note:

"As of 05/31/2024 Garden of Eden will no longer be associated with the Livermore location. We understand that change can be unexpected, and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We thank you for your continued support and understanding as we navigate this transition. We look forward to continuing to serve you as our valued customer!"

I also could no longer find a reference to the planned Sunol store Garden of Eden had touted on its website — but it did mention a new cannabis shop on track to open in Tracy this year.

Turning over a new leaf as of June, the Livermore dispensary's rebrand into The Highlands is now complete.

"Fundamentally the operation is similar, but there were some changes," McMillan said, noting that the decor and signage were obviously updated and about 40% of the menu was altered but the layout and most of the staff remained the same.

I checked out Highlands briefly when I went to Darcie Kent for Shakespeare in the Vineyard with my wife on July 20 — which also happened to be the day the venue hosted a celebration for the dispensary rebrand.

Aside: "Twelfth Night" under the stars that evening was fun, but you have to pay attention with all of the dual identities for the quick-witted characters and the dual roles for the actors. SPARC Theater moves its production to Danville's Village Theatre starting this Friday; the cast, crew and set are pretty much all the same, except the balcony scenes will be adjusted a bit because of the lower roof at the venue — so the actors won't be as high indoors.

Inside Highlands and around that part of the property I could see the results of the refresh. I could also buy what McMillan would later try to sell in terms of the opportunities to leverage the beautiful scenery of wine country with another agriculture-centered business.

While they believe theirs is the only dispensary on a working vineyard, McMillan was careful to clarify that the owners and managers are diligent about keeping the operations separate. And Highlands does not have a license to allow cannabis consumption onsite.

The prospects for the future excite the Kents, according to McMillan. For now, the focus is on cementing the new brand "to create a shopping experience which is geared toward educating people and giving them plenty of time and space to ask questions." ■

### About the Cover

The 2024 fire season is proving to be daunting for firefighters throughout California. Photo by Getty Images. Cover design by Kristin Brown.

Vol. XXV, Number 29



# COMPASS

**FLASHBERGER**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP  
DRE# 01243871 | 01001584 Realtor®, CRS, GRI, SRES  
**925.463.0436**  
Sue @SoldInAFlash.com  
SoldInAFlash.com

REMODELED SINGLE STORY IN PLEASANTON!



**4219 PAYNE ROAD, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,603 Sq Ft  
Offered at \$1,659,000

COMING SOON IN LIVERMORE!



3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,967 Sq Ft  
Beautiful single story. Fabulous 1/4 acre parcel.  
Offered at \$1,650,000

6 OFFERS - 1 HAPPY SELLER!



**4628 CARSON COURT, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,806 Sq Ft | 6,200 Sq Ft Lot  
Offered at \$1,550,000

SOLD 10K OVER ASKING



**4662 HELPERT COURT, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | 1,955 Sq Ft | 6,201 Sq Ft Lot  
Sold for \$1,460,000

FIXER UPPER ~ SOLD AS IS!



**6275 INGLEWOOD DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,583 Sq Ft  
Sold for \$1,260,000

COMING SOON IN PLEASANTON!



4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 2,675 Sq Ft  
Beautiful single story home.  
Priced in the high \$1,800,000's

SOLD IN A FLASH!



**710 FOXBROUGH PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
5 Bedrooms | 3.5 Baths | 3 Car Garage  
Detached In-Law or ADU | 3,576 Sq Ft | Half Acre Lot  
Sold for \$2,600,000

SOLD IN A FLASH!



**4672 HERRIN WAY, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,607 Sq Ft | 6,200 Sq Ft Lot  
Sold for \$1,475,000

SOLD ~ NEW ADVENTURES AWAIT!



**3222 GLENDA COURT, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 2,158 Sq Ft  
Sold for \$1,870,000

ANOTHER HAPPY SELLER ~ SOLD!



**886 MONTEVINO DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
5 Bedrooms | 4 Full Baths | 3 Car Garage  
3,254 Sq Ft | 11,749 Sq Ft Lot  
Custom built home in Vintage Heights!  
Sold for \$2,575,000

## YOUR HOME DESERVES AN EXPERT

We can help you sell your home for the best price possible. Contact us to review our comprehensive home - selling services and complete marketing plan.

# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## Where do you do your best thinking?



**Vicki Hubbard** *Retired*

In a pool while swimming laps. Why? Because all distractions are gone. I'm surrounded by water and it's just me. I even wear ear plugs so when the water aerobics class is happening nearby I don't even hear the instructor or the class's music. I love it! It's just me and my thoughts with no distractions, so I can solve problems and come up with creative ideas/solutions.



**Karthik Ramesh** *Software engineer*

Definitely in a coffee shop because having caffeine in my system and a full stomach helps me to think. But it is mostly the atmosphere of being around other people who also are thinking and working. That kind of environment puts me in a great mindset.



**Ricardo Ruiz** *Retired flight medic*

I do my best thinking right after an activity that requires my full and absolute attention to the task at hand, like ice climbing. When I do that, it really cleanses and refreshes my mind so that afterwards, I'm able to think really clearly, deeply and analytically.



**Jessica Lauzon** *Scientist*

I do my best thinking wherever I happen to be before dinner time because it is at that time that I realize the day is almost over. As soon as I know that, my brain really starts sparking.



**Alejandro Campos** *Physicist*

After lunch, I often take a little nap when working from home. I wake up feeling very refreshed, awake and alert. At that point in time I feel like I'm at my best and am able to do my finest thinking.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media Foundation, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join) to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2024 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



# INVEST IN you!



Thrive in a community dedicated to your success.

**APPLY TODAY!**



## Brilliance at the BANKHEAD

A Gala Fundraiser for Livermore Valley Arts

EXPERIENCE AN EVENING OF UNPARALLELED BRILLIANCE AT THE BANKHEAD STARRING



*Katharine McPhee*  
with the Livermore-Amador Symphony

Saturday, September 7

Join us for our most spectacular fundraiser of the year, featuring the incomparable Katharine McPhee live on stage! Star of Broadway's *Waitress*, TV's *Smash*, and runner-up on the fifth season of *American Idol*,

Secure your tickets now and be part of this extraordinary celebration. Let's make a difference together, one sensational performance at a time!

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
[LivermoreArts.org](http://LivermoreArts.org) | 925.373.6800

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



Jean King, Denise Watkins, Joan & Lynn Seppala, Jean Shuler, David Haubert, Alameda County Supervisor, First District, and Phillip & Muriel Dean

## DIGEST

### Filing deadline

The initial deadline is this Friday (Aug. 9) at 5 p.m. for prospective candidates to qualify for the ballot for local elections to city councils, school boards and special district boards in the Tri-Valley.

For any election contest where an incumbent does not file for reelection, the nomination deadline for that specific race will be extended by five calendar days to 5 p.m. next Wednesday (Aug. 14). Full coverage of the candidate lists will appear online at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) on Friday evening, as well as in next week's print edition.

### Try transit

The Wheels bus system this week launched its annual Try Transit to School promotion to encourage students in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore to take the bus during the first month of the academic year.

The program is offering free rides to middle and high school students now through Aug. 31. Officials note there is a new Route 201 in Dublin serving the new Emerald High School.

"The program provides an introduction to public transit so students can experience how easy it is to ride Wheels to and from school while providing parents a safe and reliable alternative that doesn't add more cars to long school lines," officials said. "The free rides are not limited to routes that serve schools; students can also ride Wheels to hang out with friends, go to work, shopping and other activities."

### Dodocaca-nceled

The Dodocaca Festival (short for "dog dog cat cat"), which was set to take over the fairgrounds in Pleasanton this weekend and last, was abruptly postponed before opening day.

"We regret to inform you that due to unforeseen circumstances, we must postpone our Festival originally scheduled for Aug. 2-11 in Alameda County Fairgrounds," Dodocaca reps stated on their website. "We are currently working diligently to secure a new date and will provide updates as soon as possible."

### Small Business Night

The city of Dublin is hosting its second annual Small Business Night at the Dublin Farmers' Market next Thursday (Aug. 15) from 4-8 p.m.

"Come out to Emerald Glen Park and discover the products and services of many Dublin small businesses," city reps said. "While you're there, shop for your favorite produce, hot foods, desserts and more, from other local vendors." ■

## Regulators find high levels of lead in outdoor faucets at STEAM Preschool

PUSD spokesperson says site still able to provide safe drinking water for students and staff

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Unified School District's STEAM Preschool had to shut down four of its outdoor water faucets earlier this year due to excessive levels of lead being found in the water, according to the state's Department of Social Services.

However, because the outdoor faucets are not typically used for drinking or cooking, students at the preschool this year will still have access to safe water as the school year starts, according to PUSD director of communications Patrick Gannon.

"The district replaced the faucet heads (a common cause), however they still tested over the threshold for particles so we are providing alternate access to ensure students and staff always have access to fresh water," Gannon told the Weekly. "Testing was also done on internal water faucets which all were fine."

Lead can cause significant health problems, especially for children, so regular testing is required in all licensed child care centers in California, according to regulators.

"Lead inhibits the bodies of growing children from absorbing iron,

zinc and calcium, minerals essential to proper brain and nerve development," according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "It must be emphasized that there is no known blood lead level for children without some level of risk for some of the adverse neurological effects of lead in children."

Theresa Mier, a spokesperson for the California Department of Social Services, told the Weekly that any licensed child care center located in a building that was constructed before Jan. 1, 2010 must test its drinking water for lead contamination

levels pursuant to state health and safety codes.

Mier said testing is conducted by laboratories with Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program accreditation and the test results are then uploaded to the California State Water Resources Control Board. The Department of Social Services monitors that data for new testing results and notifies child care centers when an action level exceedance (ALE) is reported, which is what recently happened with the PUSD preschool.

See LEAD on Page 8



JUDE STRZEMP

Open Heart Kitchen is opening a food bank in Livermore this fall. It is expected to increase the nonprofit's annual food distributions from 875,000 pounds of food every year to over three million pounds annually, within the first five years of operation.

## Open Heart Kitchen Food Bank launching service this fall

Area's first large-scale food distribution center

By JUDE STRZEMP

About one in four people in Alameda County don't have access to the food they need, according to the Alameda County Community Food Bank.

Open Heart Kitchen, a nonprofit working to address this problem and other needs in the Tri-Valley, is set to launch the area's first large-scale food distribution site in Livermore this fall.

The OHK Food Bank will be able to redistribute millions of pounds of food to local food

pantries at places like Tri-Valley Haven and Las Positas College. Though the date of operation is not yet set, soon it will serve as a much-needed intermediary between the eastern part of the county and the ACCFB, a nonprofit food distributor and advocacy group.

Food banks aren't just for "emergency" distribution anymore; at this point, they're for food distribution, said John Bost, executive director of OHK.

A sneak-peek tour of the facility last week revealed a building fitted with roll-up doors to receive

food shipments from the ACCFB, towering pallet racks for food storage and a giant walk-in fridge and freezer.

They will focus on distributing fresh produce like veggies and fruits. But they will also move milk, eggs, fresh and frozen proteins, canned goods, pastas, rice and beans, Bost said.

The facility is expected to boost OHK's annual food distributions from 875,000 pounds of food every year to over three million pounds,

## Missing pilot is Amador alum

Search called off for plane between Bahamas and Florida

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A Pleasanton native has been reported missing after his plane never made it to its destination on Sunday, a relative told the Weekly.

Christopher Moore, 59, is the pilot at the center of local news in Florida after his plane took off from Sebastian Municipal Airport on Sunday (Aug. 4) but failed to arrive at its destination in the Bahamas, Moore's cousin Mark McMillan told the Weekly.

"Family and friends down there are still kind of searching, but at this point it would be kind of a miracle if he was still alive," McMillan said.

Moore grew up in Pleasanton for most of his youth and graduated from Amador Valley High School before attending San Jose State University, according to McMillan.

At SJSU, Moore got involved with Quadrant Solutions Inc., a magnet company that he eventually took over and turned into one of the magnet suppliers for Apple's iPhone.

McMillan said that Moore had at one point sold the company and was living in Louisville, Ky. — where he had also moved the company's operations — but that

See FOOD on Page 6

See PILOT on Page 10

# Planning Commission's Gaidos running for City Council

Says experience as Pleasanton native who has served on city commissions makes him the 'best choice'

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton's Planning Commission Chair Matt Gaidos has announced that he will be running for the open City Council position for District 4 during this November's general election.

Gaidos told the Weekly that as a Pleasanton native who has been heavily involved in the city's government for several years, he will do what is best for the city if he is elected to the council.

"Pleasanton is where my wife and I were raised, where we continue to choose to live, and where we are raising our 4 school-aged children," Gaidos said. "My experience and lifelong ties to the local community makes me the best



Matt Gaidos

choice to be a council member."

He is currently running against his fellow Planning Commissioner Vivek Mohan, who is the only other District 4 candidate as of time of publication.

Gaidos has been involved in the city's government for a number of years. He has served on the city's Planning Commission since 2022 and before that he had served on the city's Housing Commission for five years, according to his July 29 campaign press release.

Apart from his experience on the city's commissions, Gaidos has also spent the last 16 years working as a prosecutor for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, which is why public safety will be one of his campaign's top priorities.

The deputy district attorney said that because of his "tough-on-crime reputation as a prosecutor and attorney," he believes Pleasanton needs someone like him to help strengthen

the connection between law enforcement and the prosecuting agencies.

"I will leverage my experience to reinforce a bridge between Pleasanton's police and prosecuting agencies so that criminals are held accountable," Gaidos said. "Pleasanton is a safe community, and it will require a comprehensive effort by law enforcement, the courts and residents to keep it that way."

One of his other top campaign priorities will be prioritizing community input for future developments as the city faces state housing and development mandates. He said the city needs someone like him who will support such projects, while also maintaining the city's "character and quality of Pleasanton's landscape and historic downtown."

"As a member of the planning commission, I was heavily involved in the planning process to meet those state mandates," according to

his campaign website. "I am deeply familiar with the tension between meeting housing requirements and maintaining our commitment to open space."

Gaidos said he has previously promoted new housing for seniors and families and he has delivered solutions to house teachers and public safety employees during the city's recent state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation rezoning cycle. One example of these solutions he mentioned in his website was working with the school district to use unutilized properties for housing.

He also said that during his time on the Housing Commission, he helped grant funds from the city's housing fund to support Sunflower Hill, a nonprofit organization based in the Tri-Valley that aims to create affordable housing and opportunities for people with disabilities and special needs.

As the city continues to work through its challenges with addressing forever chemicals — more commonly referred to as PFAS — in the city's drinking water, Gaidos said ensuring clean drinking water will be another one of his top priorities.

He also said as the city currently faces budget challenges, he has the experience with the financial infrastructure of government agencies to address these issues. He said his position will be a fiscally conservative one when it comes to spending taxpayer money.

"Like many Bay Area cities, Pleasanton is facing a daunting budget shortfall that will require pragmatic and creative ways to secure fiscal health," he said. "I'm prepared to join that conversation and be a part of a solution that Pleasanton residents will support."

More information about Gaidos' campaign can be found at [www.vote4gaidos.com](http://www.vote4gaidos.com). ■

## FOOD

Continued from Page 5

within the first five years of operation, according to the OHK website.

"It's just amazing seeing all this," Livermore resident Katie Beauchamp

said after the tour. "I really hope that it gets used to benefit a lot of people."

Distribution from the new facility does not have a set start-date, but the food bank will soon join the ranks of OHK's food-related initiatives like community meals, street

outreach and senior meals.

It also comes as another installment in a busy year for the organization. In January, it opened the Vineyard Resource Center, a site for comprehensive services and amenities like overnight shelter at the

Open Heart Refuge, prepared meals, free showers, case management and more.

"All the different things they're doing have been really encouraging, meeting people's needs in so many different ways," tour attendee Sandy Sage said.

OHK began setting up the new food bank after being selected by the ACCFB to be its redistribution organization for eastern Alameda County.

The food bank in Livermore is meant to alleviate the burden of small-quantity, cross-country transport, which has been inefficient in terms of time and money.

In the near future, the majority of products will be sourced from ACCFB. But in the coming years, OHK also plans to work with local farms to source produce, according to Bost.

"We're especially excited at the prospect of working with BIPOC farmers in Northern California who are often underrepresented in

conversations around food sourcing," he told Livermore Vine.

The early-access tour was a collaboration between OHK and the Livermore Public Library for its Summer Learning program.

"Part of our goal for Summer Learning was to provide learning opportunities for the public and to also showcase the organizations that are making our community stronger, healthier, and Open Heart Kitchen is at the forefront of that effort," said Emily Lowell, supervising librarian at the Livermore Public Library.

Currently OHK is seeking the donations of new items for the Vineyard Resource Center. Requested items include laundry detergent, dryer sheets, shampoo, conditioner, T-shirts, underwear, socks, backpacks and more. Donations can be dropped off at any of the Livermore Public Library locations in donation barrels through Aug. 14.

For more information about OHK and its programs, visit [openheartkitchen.org](http://openheartkitchen.org). ■

Heart of the Tri-Valley  
IN WONDERLAND  
a gala fundraiser benefitting  
OPENheart KITCHEN

Friday, September 6th, at 6PM  
Palm Event Center, Pleasanton  
\$150 per ticket

Scan for gala tickets & more information

[openheartkitchen.org/gala](http://openheartkitchen.org/gala)



Open Heart Kitchen Executive Director John Bost leads the tour of the food bank last week. JUDE STRZEMP

# Chevron moving HQ from Bishop Ranch to Texas

Corporate functions shifting to new Houston office; some support positions continuing in San Ramon

By JEANITA LYMAN

Chevron has announced plans to downsize its operations in San Ramon once again, including the energy giant's headquarters and corporate functions set to shift to a new headquarters out of state to Texas in the coming years.

Houston is set to be the new home to Chevron's corporate headquarters, which for decades have been centered in Bishop Ranch, first at the former Chevron Park site currently being eyed for redevelopment, then in a smaller Bishop Ranch office space after the former site was sold back to Sunset Development Company in 2022.

By the end of this year, Chairman and CEO Mike Wirth and Vice Chairman Mark Nelson are set to relocate to Houston "to co-locate with other senior leaders and enable better collaboration and engagement with executives, employees, and business partners," according to Chevron's announcement Friday morning.

Over the course of the next five years, the company expects to shift all of its corporate operations to the new Houston headquarters, though some workers will remain in San Ramon following the move.

"Positions in support of the company's California operations will remain in San Ramon," Chevron officials said Friday.

As it stands, approximately 7,000 Chevron employees are already based in Houston compared with 2,000 employees in San Ramon.

Local officials reacted to the news later in the day, with the city of San Ramon posting a statement on their website outlining Chevron's longstanding presence in the city and emphasizing that the move does not mean the company is fully exiting the city.

"Chevron has been a part of San Ramon's business community for many years, and the City understands the community's interest in the potential economic impacts to San Ramon," city officials said.

They noted that while Chevron may be less of a presence in San Ramon in the future, the city would continue seeking to accommodate businesses while moving forward with redevelopment plans for the former Chevron Park site.

"San Ramon has a diversified local economy, and no single business or corporation's move will have an outsized impact on local revenue," city officials said. "The San Ramon City Council will continue to prioritize a business-friendly environment, with relatively low business license fees, an attractive community profile where employees want to work and play, and exciting development that welcomes businesses and families to spend more time in San Ramon."

"The City will continue to work with community partners and the Chamber of Commerce to support a vibrant business community, which can continue to accommodate changes in a dynamic economy," they continued.

Officials with Sunset Development, which owns Bishop Ranch, said the move was disappointing, but emphasized that they would continue to accommodate Chevron's changing needs in their current San Ramon office.

"Sunset Development Company has proudly supported Chevron's real estate needs at Bishop Ranch for over 40 years," said Alex Mehran Jr., president and CEO of Sunset Development. "Chevron's recent relocation within Bishop Ranch represented a one-million-square-foot reduction in space and a shift from ownership to tenancy, providing

them with long-term flexibility.

Chevron has been a major tenant for Sunset Development since its first foray into the San Ramon Valley and the emergence of the office park space in the central portion of the city that was known for decades as home to headquarters for both Chevron and AT&T.

The energy company began downsizing its presence in the city starting in 2022, when they sold the former Chevron Park site at 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road back to Sunset, shifting their headquarters to a smaller space at 5001 Executive Parkway blocks away.

"While we are disappointed to see the headquarters leave California, we will continue to provide our highest level of support for their real estate requirements past, present and future," Mehran Jr. said.

Meanwhile, the former

headquarters on Bollinger Canyon Road has been the subject of ongoing discussions between developers and the city, with a large mixed-use development re-named The Orchards on the horizon.

"While no formal development application has been submitted, the project concept includes mixed-use residential, retail and entertainment, which would further diversify the local economy," city officials said.

Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) said in a statement Friday that he was "disappointed, but not surprised" by Chevron's announcement earlier in the day.

"I have long been involved and advocated for California's renewable portfolio standard and climate goals to protect both public health and the environment, and for years I have encouraged Chevron to be a

diverse energy company investing in clean renewable sources of energy as we in California have been responsibly transitioning away from climate destroying energy and towards clean energy that protects the climate and public health," DeSaulnier said.

"Unfortunately, these efforts have been much less successful than I had hoped and, in many ways, Chevron left California years ago," he continued. "I hope as Chevron relocates their corporate facilities, they will keep California's climate goals in mind. I've reached out to the city of San Ramon and I would be happy to work with Chevron, or any other company, in reaching these important energy goals and to continue to support its employees in Contra Costa County."

See **CHEVRON** on Page 8

## I am pleased to announce my affiliation with **Summit Financial Group, LLC**



**KRISTIN SULLIVAN, CWS®, MBA**

Financial Advisor, RJFS

925.866.7800

kristin@summitadvisors.com

**Pleasanton resident for 28 years!**

Summit Financial Group, LLC, is a comprehensive financial planning and wealth management organization aligned with Raymond James. Summit offers valuable insights and tailored strategies to help our clients achieve their financial dreams, always recognizing that enriching lives is our highest priority.

2000 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 450 // San Ramon, CA 94583

T 925.866.7800 // F 925.866.7803



Investment advisory services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. Summit Financial Group, LLC is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services. Raymond James is a registered trademark of Raymond James Financial, Inc. © 2024 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. 24-BRFHT-0011 TA 7/24

# Harris announces candidacy for PUSD Trustee Area 3

Pleasanton parent wants to focus on rebuilding relationships ahead of difficult budget discussions

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton native Donalyn Harris, a longtime member of various parent-teacher associations across the school district and a former substitute teacher for nearly 10 years, will be throwing her name in the race for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees race in Area 3.



Donalyn Harris

Harris told the Weekly that while it is her first time running for a trustee position, she wants to use her years of experience to rebuild relationships between the community and the district so that they could all focus on what really matters — the students.

“We just accomplish so much more when we are working together, and our kids deserve that,” she said.

Challenging incumbent Area 3 Trustee Kelly Mokashi, who is seeking a second term this fall, Harris currently works in corporate sales administration but has had a long history with PUSD.

The homegrown Pleasantonian went through the entire school system growing up, just like her own kids. She has been a part of several parent-teacher associations, served on the Pleasanton Partnerships In Education Foundation Board of Directors and was in the classroom as a substitute teacher from 2015 until earlier this year.

She also served on the PUSD Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Council in 2020 and served as the president of the Pleasanton Parent Teachers Association Council from 2020 to 2022.

Harris said she had been thinking about running for a spot on the school board for quite some time now but it wasn’t until one of her kids recently told her how they

wanted to advocate for others just like her that she got inspired to run.

One of Harris’ top campaign priorities will be focusing on the district’s ongoing budget issues as PUSD continues to face declining enrollment.

With her oldest child having graduated from PUSD in 2013 and her youngest having started kindergarten that same year, she said she has seen the district face budget cuts during the 2008 recession and knows how important it is to make sure these cuts stay away from the classroom.

She also said that especially after a difficult negotiation session between the district and the teachers union this past year, there is an underlying sentiment of distrust between the community and the district that needs to be addressed before PUSD makes such decisions.

“We just have to be focused at every level of interaction between the schools and the community,” Harris

said. “We are rebuilding something because a lot of people are hurt ... part of healing is understanding that sometimes people make mistakes but we’re willing to work through them together.”

She said it will have to take consistent and open dialogue between the district and the community in order to repair that relationship.

She said as a substitute teacher, longtime PTA member and as someone who is friends with many people at the district level, she knows everyone just wants what is best for the students and that it is important to focus on those similarities that people share rather than the things people disagree about because those commonalities will help everyone focus on what’s best for the district.

She said if she is elected, another one of her priorities in regards to the ongoing budget issues will be using her platform to advocate for the state to move away from the current attendance-based model that is used to

determine a school district’s budget.

She said she has already been discussing moving away from the current funding formula during her time on various parent teacher associations and that if she is elected, she will work on a grassroots movement to put pressure on state legislators to understand it is time to find another way to determine a district’s funding.

“We want full and fair funding,” Harris said. “We should say ‘why do we do that, why do we tie funding to attendance.’”

She also said regardless of the election, she will continue to advocate for what’s best for students.

“If I do have the opportunity to serve my community on the Board of Trustees, I would do so with a very humble servant’s heart,” Harris said. “(But) no matter what happens with this election, I’m still going to be advocating for our community.”

To learn more about Harris’s campaign, visit [www.harrisforpleasanton.com](http://www.harrisforpleasanton.com). ■

## LEAD

Continued from Page 5

On Jan. 8, the Department of Social Services’ Community Care Licensing Division conducted an inspection to test for lead in the water and see if levels exceeded what is allowed by the state, according to the facility evaluation report from that inspection. Gannon said all the testing was initiated by the district’s early and expanded learning team, which oversees STEAM Preschool.

According to the Jan. 8 facility evaluation report for the STEAM Preschool, the state department was

notified of elevated lead levels that exceeded 5.5 parts per billion — the state action level threshold is five parts per billion, or 5 micrograms of lead per 1 liter of water, according to the Department of Social Services.

“Based on record review ... 4 outdoor water hoses (and) faucets had an ALE of 5.5 ppb or greater, which posed a potential health and safety risk to children in care,” the Jan. 8 facility evaluation report stated.

According to the CDC, lead typically enters drinking water primarily through plumbing materials, but Gannon has not clarified if this was the reason for the excess of lead in the

water at STEAM Preschool.

January was also not the first time the STEAM Preschool saw high levels of lead in the water.

According to the California Water Resources Control Board’s child care center lead sampling results from July 15, the preschool tested 45 micrograms per deciliter back in Nov. 2, 2023. Three other samples at the preschool during that same time period tested between 22 to 29 micrograms per deciliter.

“As of October 28, 2021, CDC uses a blood lead reference value of 3.5 micrograms per deciliter to identify children with blood lead levels that

are higher than most children’s levels,” according to the CDC. “This new level is based on the U.S. population of children ages 1-5 years who represent the top 2.5% of children with the highest blood lead levels.”

Since the Jan. 8 visit, re-testing had been completed and failed, which led to the preschool getting a Type B citation that forced the school to cap off the spigots in February. This was after the faucet heads were replaced, as Gannon said, which did not lower the lead levels.

After citing the school, Mier said the Community Care Licensing Division does work with child care centers like STEAM on plans of correction, which includes having the facility use alternative sources of water for cooking and drinking that do not have excessive levels of lead; using bottled water; or using filters certified for lead removal.

“If lead levels continue to exceed the action level of 5 parts per billion, the facility must continue to remediate the fountain(s) or faucet(s) or remove them from service,” Mier said. “The facility is not allowed to use them again until the facility has

met the requirements specified in section 101705 of the CDSS Written Directives for Lead Testing of Water in Licensed Child Care Centers. The CDSS works with licensees to come into compliance and provides direct technical assistance as needed.”

Gannon said that because the STEAM Preschool is relatively small and consisting of a few classrooms, “staff have been able to easily ensure that students have access to drinking water at all times throughout the day.”

“We have done testing across the district as required by law. Findings (none significant) were all addressed by either replacing the water faucets or providing an alternate source,” Gannon said in a follow-up email Saturday.

“We don’t know the exact source of what’s causing the high readings on the outdoor faucets, but since those are not primary water sources and the site is eventually moving to a new location that will centralize our early education programs (this is a Measure I project), it is not worth the public resources to try and identify the source and remedy the situation,” he added. ■

BUY TICKETS:



# REACH

## FOR YOUR DREAMS

### EVENING at the OASIS

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

6PM · MCGRAIL VINEYARD

Join us for a magical giving event, where you can make the dream of independent living for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities come true!

THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIER EVENT SPONSORS







## CHEVRON

Continued from Page 7

In Friday’s press release, Chevron sought to emphasize that they were seeking to expand their role in renewable energy in addition to oil and gas.

“We aim to grow our oil and gas business, lower the carbon intensity of our operations and grow lower carbon businesses in renewable fuels, carbon capture and offsets, hydrogen and other emerging technologies,” Chevron officials said.

In addition to the move, Chevron officials announced a number of leadership changes Friday, including the departure of Nigel Hearne, vice president for oil, products and gas after 35 years with the company and Rhonda Morris, vice president and chief human resource officer after 31 years.

Nelson is set to take on Hearne’s responsibilities starting Oct. 1, with Morris being succeeded by Michelle Green, current vice president for human resources, oil, products and gas starting Jan. 1. ■

# LVJUSD highlights new administrators ahead of school year

Former Christensen VP Burkholder's transition to Croce principal among four key staffing changes

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District welcomes Jennifer Burkholder as the new principal of Croce Elementary after serving three years as vice principal at Christensen Middle School.

The position at Croce was vacated by Steven Martin, whose retirement becomes effective Aug. 30, according to the school district.

Burkholder has been part of the district since 2014, when she worked as the lead behavior analyst at Croce. She also has experience as a special education teacher, where she learned about the importance of personalized learning, inclusive practices and teamwork in meeting the unique needs of all students.

Burkholder expressed her excitement about going back to Croce in statement from the district.

"I am thrilled to return to Croce and apply my diverse experience as a special education teacher, behaviorist, and vice principal to the strong foundation of student success that exists," she said.

As Burkholder transitions



Jennifer Burkholder



Janine Mains



Ashley Sprader



Kayla Wasley

to Croce, Janine Mains will fill her seat as vice principal at Christensen Middle School.

Previously, Mains served as LVJUSD's Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) director. She intends to apply this experience to support Christensen's AVID program, which helps to prepare students to be college-ready.

Mains also brings her experience as a former elementary and secondary teacher and educational technology instructional coach to her new role as vice principal at the middle school.

"I am excited to join the Christensen team and look forward to supporting all of our students reaching their full potential," Mains said.

Marylin Avenue STEAM

Academy will also see new faculty this school year.

Ashley Sprader, a Granada High School alum, is the new STEAM Magnet program coordinator at Marylin.

She has 18 years of educational experience as a preschool teacher, school counselor, district behaviorist, PBIS coordinator and student services coordinator. Sprader has also led award-winning grant initiatives and been part of local and county-wide educational committees and programs.

"Contributing to the growing success of Marylin's STEAM Magnet program is something I look forward to. I am excited to join a team of dedicated staff who share my belief in creating impactful and positive learning environments for all students,"

Sprader said of her new position.

At the district office, Kayla Wasley will join the executive leadership team as LVJUSD's assistant superintendent of Business Services later this month.

Wasley brings more than 10 years of business leadership to her new role.

She has been chief business official for school districts since 2015. And most recently, she served as director of External Business Services for the El Dorado County Office of Education.

As a fiscal leader, Wasley has a track record for helping districts overcome budgetary challenges, collaborating on budget priorities and prioritizing transparency about school finances to staff and the public.

She said a vital part of fiscal transparency is being able to

communicate complex information in ways that are easy for everyone to understand.

"Leadership changes provide opportunities for new perspectives and energy that are important for the growth and continuous improvement of an organization," Superintendent Torie Gibson said. "We are excited for our new administrators to join us in our efforts to serve Livermore students best."

On Tuesday (Aug. 13) the new administrators, district and site leaders, teachers and support staff will welcome TK-12 students to their first day of school. District officials said the start date has been shifted forward to better align with neighboring districts, with May 29, 2025 set as the last day of school for the 2024-25 school year. ■

## Former Home Depot worker sues retailer for age discrimination

Retaliation, wrongful termination, emotional distress among other allegations about San Ramon store

By TONY HICKS / BCN

A former Home Depot cashier is suing the retail giant, saying she was the victim of age discrimination, retaliation, wrongful termination and emotional distress after a customer bullied her into completing a suspicious transaction.

Filed July 31 in Contra Costa County Superior Court, the suit alleges Carleen Acevedo, now 72, was fired at age 70 and was discarded "like trash" after she came face-to-face with a thief, her lawyers said Monday in a statement.

The suit accuses Home Depot of using the incident as a pretext to fire her, "demonstrating a disregard for employee safety at a time when smash-and-grab robberies were rampant."

Acevedo worked alone in the San Ramon store's garden center July 14, 2023, when she assisted a customer using a debit card. The back of the card had instructions to process payments as cash transactions.

Afterward, Acevedo thought about the transaction and became suspicious of the behavior of the customer and the debit card.

The customer returned later and

wanted to buy some high-dollar items. Acevedo was uncomfortable with the transactions, according to the lawsuit, and tried to call her manager or another head cashier for assistance but no one answered.

When Acevedo explained she was calling her supervisor, the customer allegedly aggressively told her, "Don't call them." Then he menacingly leaned over, as if preparing to strike her, the suit says.

Fearing for her safety, Acevedo completed the transaction but also printed a duplicate copy of the receipt for her manager, which also angered the customer, the lawsuit says.

Her lawyers from Oakland-based Benton Employment Law said when she processed the transaction under duress, Acevedo was petrified of the man. She was aware of company policy that employees weren't supposed to stop customers from stealing.

She knew a security guard at a nearby Home Depot in Pleasanton had been shot to death by a shoplifter in April 2023.

Home Depot fired Acevedo on July 18, 2023, allegedly for violating the company's standards of

performance and alleged gross negligence "but those were just pretexts and she was fired because of her age," said her attorney, Chambord Benton-Hayes.

A message left for Home Depot's media relations department wasn't immediately returned Monday.

Acevedo is also alleging age discrimination after she complained to management in January 2023, after seven years at the company, that a newly hired teenager received a higher wage than her. Acevedo eventually received a pay raise, but the company allegedly never informed her of the result of any investigation of her legally protected complaint of age discrimination.

"Ms. Acevedo got caught between a thief using intimidation to take merchandise and a management team looking for any excuse to fire her," Benton-Hays said. "She followed company policy when faced with an aggressive thief. The real reason she was fired was that she had the temerity to complain of wage discrimination based on her age."

The lawsuit seeks past and future compensatory and punitive damages, in an amount to be determined. ■

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

### Talking Real Estate with Doug Buenz | Compass

## Pleasanton August Market Update

The Pleasanton real estate market was drifting along in July. Inventory and prices were down, and closed sales edged up. Volatility in economic data, national and international politics contributed to a climate of uncertainty. And the volatility in the equity markets added to this sense of unease. With a hotly contested election and looming war in the Middle East, it is shaping up to be a volatile Fall season. Buckle up. The good news is we are likely to see mortgage rates finally ease, which will definitely help the real estate market.

Let's take a dive into the numbers for June

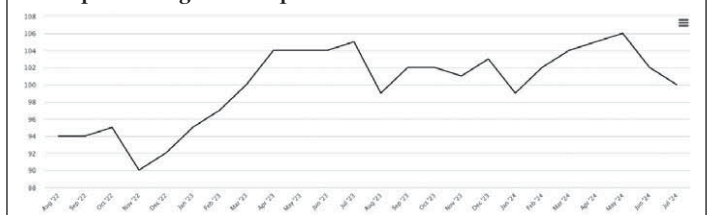
**Supply/Inventory:** The inventory of available single-family homes declined slightly in July. There were 72 single family homes >> [To read the rest of this article go to The680Blog.com.](https://www.the680blog.com)

### Pleasanton Market Report

Data for July 2024 – Single Family Detached Homes

	JUL 2024	CHANGE FROM JUN 2024	CHANGE FROM JUL 2023
Homes sold	56	↑3.7%	↑24%
Homes for sale	72	↓15%	↑106%
Median days on market	12	↓14%	↑50%
Median price per square foot	\$870	↓5.7%	↑4.2%
Months of inventory	1.3	↓18%	↑65%
Median sold price	\$1,750,000	↓5.9%	↓5.4%
Homes under contract	45	↓0%	↑9.8%

#### Sold price/original list price %



**Doug Buenz**  
(925) 621-0680  
doug@680homes.com  
DRE 00843458

**680** | DOUG BUENZ GROUP  
680homes.com

COMPASS

Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01079009.

# Silicon Valley BART extension boosted by \$5B+ federal grant

FTA money will close much of remaining gap to fully fund project eyed for completion by 2040

**By THOMAS HUGHES / BCN**  
Silicon Valley elected leaders and transportation advocates celebrated a federal award of nearly \$5.1 billion on Friday that brings the Silicon Valley BART extension one step closer to fruition.

The grant from the Federal Transit Administration will close a gap of all but \$700 million of the \$12.7 billion project, \$4.6 billion of which has been generated locally in Santa Clara County over the past two decades through sales tax increases and other measures.

The last 6 miles of the 16-mile extension are being completed by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority as part of Phase II of the project. The line will extend from the Berryessa Transit Center through downtown San Jose and end in the city of Santa Clara.

VTA board chair and Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez said at a hybrid press conference on Aug. 2 that the award marked an important milestone for the project. She said the remaining funding gap could

be closed further by freezing certain spending and renegotiating the project's budget.

"We're going to ask everybody to help," Chavez said.

Chavez was joined at the planned site of the Santa Clara BART station at 480 Brokaw Road by San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan and state Sen. Dave Cortese, along with California Transportation Commission Chair Carl Guardino, VTA CEO Carolyn Gonot and organized labor representative Jean Cohen.

Mahan said the award was the second largest in the Federal Transit Agency's history, which he said represented a vote of confidence in the region going forward.

"It's a national bet on Silicon Valley, on the innovation economy. It's a bet on national competitiveness. But more than anything, it's a bet on the ingenuity and hard work of the people of Santa Clara County," Mahan said.

The project is projected to create 75,000 union jobs.

Cortese, who is the chair of the state senate's Transportation Committee,



Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board Chair Cindy Chavez celebrates a \$5.1 billion grant from the federal government in Santa Clara on Aug. 2. The grant will fund the Silicon Valley BART extension through San Jose.

said he had confidence the final funding gap could be closed

"We're going to get it done," he said. He said there was now more upfront

funding for this project than any other transportation project he has worked on and moving forward represented a "prudent risk?"

The project is scheduled to be completed by 2040 and is expected to serve over 54,000 daily passengers on weekdays. ■

## Sunflower Hill marching forward without executive director

Recruitment expected to begin next year as nonprofit realigns strategic goals after leadership departure

**By JEREMY WALSH**  
Tri-Valley nonprofit Sunflower Hill is positioning to recruit for a new executive director in 2025 after its previous leader departed earlier this year from the organization that focuses on residential, vocational and educational programs for local adults with developmental disabilities.

Jen Lenard-Benson "left" Sunflower Hill in March after two years at the helm, according to Janeen Rubino-Brumm, president of the nonprofit's Board of Directors. Rubino-Brumm did not comment on the circumstances of Lenard-Benson's exit,

which was not widely publicized at the time.

The homegrown nonprofit, which celebrated its 10th anniversary last year and has major residential projects in the works in Lafayette and Dublin among its ongoing initiatives, plans to move forward operations for the rest of 2024 without an executive director, in part with support in key areas from board members, according to Rubino-Brumm.

"We do plan to eventually recruit for an ED but our board decided to take some time to realign organizational strategic goals and set the stage for the next few years," she told the Pleasanton

Weekly this week. "With several housing developments underway and 10 years of the garden at Hagemann Ranch, it was a good time to do so."

"Our Board of Directors and founders has always been a 'working board' per se, working closely with our staff," she added. "Susan Houghton, our founder, leads the Dublin Grace Pointe land project. Lynn Monica, our garden co-founder, works directly with staff at the garden. And our board members and committees are very engaged in the overall day-to-day and organizational operations."

Attempts to contact Lenard-Benson have been unsuccessful.

Her LinkedIn page states her tenure at Sunflower Hill ended in March, and she is currently listed among the active board members for the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance.

Lenard-Benson joined Sunflower Hill in March 2022 as the organization's second permanent executive director.

She succeeded Edie Nehls, who worked as the nonprofit's first executive director from May 2018 to October 2021, a period that included the construction and opening of its Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch affordable housing community in Pleasanton for adults with intellectual and

developmental disabilities. The nonprofit's board opted to then bring in Janet Cohen as an interim executive director during that prior leadership transition.

For its first five years, Sunflower Hill operated without an executive director and founder Houghton largely serving as the face of its leadership.

Operations director Jennifer Oxe appears to be the highest-ranked staff member for Sunflower Hill at the moment, according to its website. Looking forward, Rubino-Brumm said, "Our plan right now is to post the job for the executive director after the first of the year." ■

## PILOT

Continued from Page 5

he also had a place in the Bahamas.

According to a statement from the Federal Aviation Administration, an alert notice went out for a single-engine BRM Aero Bristell that was reported overdue after departing from the Florida airport on Sunday. An alert notice lets local authorities know an aircraft is missing so they can begin a search.

"The plane's last known position was approximately 50 miles northwest of Freeport, Bahamas," according to the FAA statement.

The family had a ping on Moore's phone that came from near Treasure Cay, a parcel of land connected to Great Abaco Island in the Bahamas,

which is northwest of Freeport, according to McMillan.

"They think he got pretty close to the Bahamas and so that's part of why they're searching," he said.

The FAA had no further information on the search and deferred to the U.S. Coast Guard and the Bahamian government for more information. At the time of publication, neither agency had responded to requests for comment.

McMillan said it appears authorities have "given up on the search" but as he understands, Moore's family is still searching for him or anything that could lead to some closure such as remnants from his plane.

McMillan said it was particularly hard for him to hear his cousin was missing because he saw him as

more of a brother. When the two were kids, Moore moved in with McMillan's family for several years following the death of his mother.

"He was a good person, very self-made," McMillan said.

He said Moore's partner and son are among those still searching for him and that because the family had been very active in the Bahamian community, there are people in the Bahamas with boats and a desire to help with the search.

"It's unlikely he's still alive," McMillan said. "You can hope for a miracle but it's unlikely that he's still alive," he added, noting that although the thought of losing his cousin is sad, he takes some solace in knowing he was doing something he loved. ■



Pleasanton native Christopher Moore (left) was reported missing last Sunday after his plane did not land at its intended destination in the Bahamas.

# County grant spurs new RideCare program in Tri-Valley

CityServe initiative focusing on transportation for seniors, adults with disabilities

By OLIVIA PENNEY

CityServe of the Tri-Valley announced its multi-year grant award of \$1 million from the Alameda County Transportation Commission that will go toward kickstarting the nonprofit's new RideCare initiative dedicated to providing reliable transportation for seniors and adults with disabilities.

"RideCare will connect Tri-Valley volunteer drivers with those in need of transportation, coordinating rides to medical appointments, grocery runs, and other planned and group trips throughout the Tri-Valley," CityServe officials said in a recent press release.

"RideCare is more than just a transportation service; it's a lifeline for older adults and individuals with disabilities in the Tri-Valley. By offering free, door-through-door rides, we are empowering our community members with the mobility they need to access vital resources and live with dignity," CityServe CEO Christine Beitsch-Bahmani told the Pleasanton Weekly.

CityServe officials said they intend to launch RideCare in

August 2025.

"This vulnerable population has difficulty when they secure rides through other ride services that make them wait on the street or outside, especially during inclement weather. CityServe of the Tri-Valley clients tell staff that other ride services turn one appointment into a whole-day affair with long waits for the transportation service before and after their appointment," Beitsch-Bahmani stated.

Beitsch-Bahmani said she also recognizes these discrepancies over a national scale, "because our nation's investments in transportation infrastructure have disproportionately favored cars and highways, those who cannot afford cars or do not drive cars often lack viable transportation options."

"Of the nearly 2 million people with disabilities who never leave their homes, 560,000 never leave home because of transportation difficulties," she added. "This program aims to connect them to vital community resources that may improve their financial stability, basic needs, sense of community, physical health, emotional health/

well being, and vocational/education opportunities."

CityServe's previous Vast

Transportation Program will remain active and enhanced by the grant. Tri-Valley residents

with desire to volunteer can reach RideCare at [ridecare@cityserveserves.org](mailto:ridecare@cityserveserves.org). ■

## East Bay SPCA debuts telehealth service

Program has already helped reduce stress in pets and their owners, VP says

By BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The East Bay SPCA has launched a telemedicine service available to all California residents for a variety of services like consultations and accessing certain prescriptions.

Appointments can be made for prescriptions for preventive treatments such as flea, tick and heartworm medication, and special medication needs for holidays or stressful events. Pets adopted from East Bay SPCA that were on prescriptions can have them extended

with a telehealth appointment.

Consultations for pets with anxiety prior to an in-person vet visit can be scheduled, as well as consultations for pets enrolled in the East Bay SPCA's training services that need medication for anxiety.

The telehealth service is being run through the Oakland-based Theodore B. Travers Family Veterinary Clinic.

Kristen Beitzel, vice president of medical services at East Bay SPCA, said in a statement that the service has already helped reduce stress in pets and their

owners that have used it.

"Thanks to our new telemedicine program, we have been able to increase access to care and decrease fear and stress felt by pets and their people when coming to a veterinary clinic," Beitzel said.

Appointments are available Mondays through Fridays. The patient must be in California when the appointment takes place.

To schedule an appointment, call 510-569-1606. More information is available online at [eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org). ■

# TRY TRANSIT TO SCHOOL

Students ride FREE on Wheels



# Firefighters contend with daunting season

Tri-Valley crews tasked with battling blazes throughout region and state

BY JEANITA LYMAN

**A**s the record-breaking Park Fire in the northeast part of the state ballooned rapidly in its early days, residents in other areas of California — including the Tri-Valley — also found themselves facing threats from flames during hot, summer weather conditions that made it easier for wildfires to start and spread.

Shortly after the Park Fire initially ignited near Chico on July 24 and residents of the outlying rural communities were evacuated, smaller wildfires within and surrounding the Tri-Valley also led to evacuations for some, and a reminder of the dangers of wildfires hitting so close to home for all.

On July 26, the Creek Fire that started near Welch Creek and Calaveras roads in Sunol forced evacuations for a number of residents of the rural community in the southern Tri-Valley, with the Point Fire that started just 37 minutes earlier also forcing evacuations to the north of the region near Mount Diablo. Meanwhile, the smaller Flynn Fire near Livermore had been burning since the previous evening on July 25.

Sunol Glen parent Diana Rohini LaVigne said that while she wasn't personally impacted by the Creek Fire, her connection to the community — including a close friend who was forced to evacuate — had put her into a panic as the fire grew in its initial hours.

"It took her the longest hour to get back to me," LaVigne said.

Her friend, Jamie Do, had meanwhile been preparing to evacuate, leaving with her family and pets shortly after responding to LaVigne.

"At the end of the day, I am super thankful to the fire crews for defending my home and neighbor's homes," Do said. "I am happy we got out safely. Things can be replaced. Time and people you need to cherish it when you have it."

While all three local fires were 100% contained or close to it by Aug. 3, firefighters throughout the region are now turning their attention and resources toward the ongoing Park Fire in the northern part of the state, which has become one of the largest on record and continues to pose a formidable challenge to fire crews from throughout the state.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is among the local fire

agencies juggling their roles responding to and preventing fires locally in the Tri-Valley while also participating in a statewide mutual aid effort to provide additional support to Cal Fire in their ongoing battle with other menacing wildfires in the state such as the Park Fire.

"We sent three units to the Creek Fire, and I actually believe our unit, station four, were the first ones to put water on the fire," acting deputy chief Kurtis Dickey told the Pleasanton Weekly. "Two crews spent the night there. We did get one back — we brought four back because they were pretty exhausted, and then we left station two and station nine on the fire all night long."

While the unincorporated community of Sunol is technically under Cal Fire's jurisdiction, Dickey noted that the state fire agency's resources were spread thin with the continued challenge posed by the Park Fire, leading LPFD and other local agencies to lend a hand.

"They don't have too many units available, so they asked a lot of the local jurisdictions to stay and help out so we agreed to leaving two crews," Dickey said.

As fire crews gained control over the Creek Fire and Point Fire, and evacuation orders were lifted in the subsequent days, LPFD along with the Alameda County Fire Department and Contra Costa Fire Protection District were among the local agencies who turned their focus towards the Park Fire as part of ongoing mutual aid efforts throughout the state.

In addition to mutual aid, LPFD and other fire agencies are among the volunteers for a program through the state's Office of Emergency Services, in which they house a fire engine owned by the state government that can be called into service for demands throughout the state.

When providing mutual aid to agencies out of the area, LPFD sends out strike teams composed of five units and one leader, with various vehicles depending on the demands, Dickey said. In the case of wildfires, type six and type three engines equipped for off-road navigation are generally the vehicles of choice.

As of Aug. 2, LPFD was part of a strike team, with one unit from the local department joining forces with units from the Oakland, Hayward and Alameda County fire departments.

"The strike team made up of the five units. They are a team that cannot be separated, so everything



The same Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department crew that had previously been out of the 22 was reassigned to the Park Fire upon their return.

they do they do together," Dickey said.

Dickey estimated that there were likely nearly 100 strike teams from across the state deployed to the Park Fire as of last week and 542 engines on the scene.

While the Park Fire and the local fires have captured public attention in recent weeks and served as a reminder of the threats posed by wildfires, Dickey said this year's fire season had already been a busy one, with LPFD crews having already been deployed to the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County that burned 3,007 during its 13-day duration that started on July 22.

"Our group, when they left, they were sent to the Gold Fire in northwest California," Dickey said. "They were sent out on July 23, spent a couple of days at the Gold Fire, then went to the Park Fire."

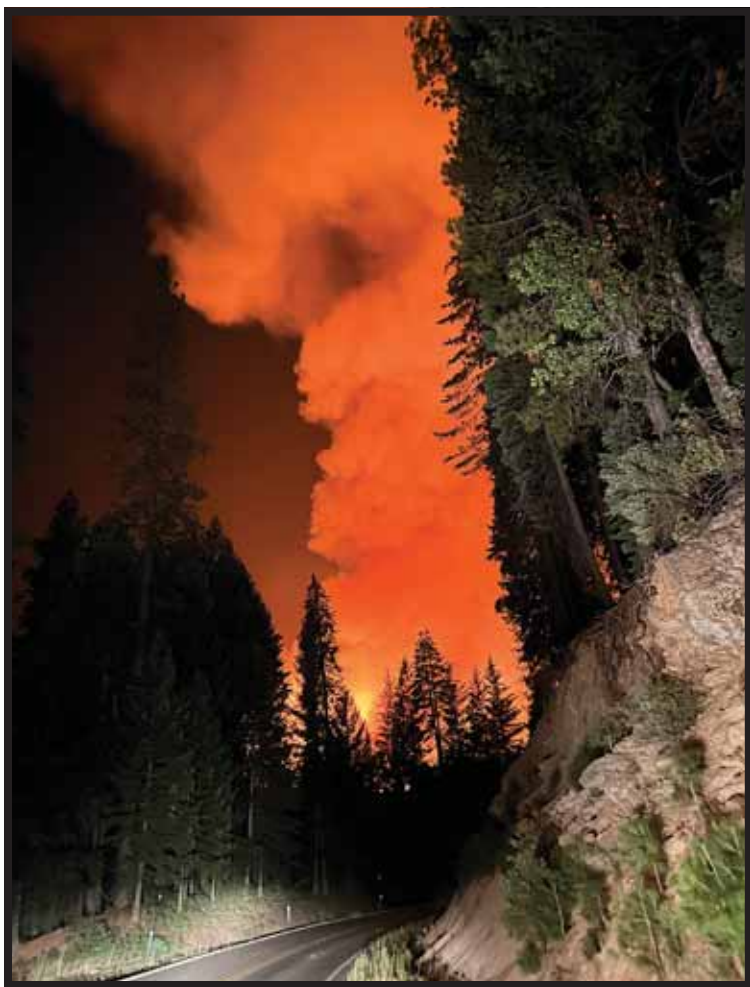
As crews continue to battle the ever-growing Park Fire this week, ACFD announced on Aug. 5 that some of the same firefighters who

had battled the Creek Fire — crew eight — were on the scene at the Park Fire along with two ACFD engines and an OES vehicle, marking the crew's first out-of-county deployment.

"Our members are working 24-hour shifts in challenging terrain, along with other departments to combat the 4th largest fire in California's history," ACFD officials said on Facebook.

While the 24-hour shifts are grueling with a firefighting force that's becoming increasingly stretched thin throughout the state, Dickey emphasized that while fire vehicles remain on the scene for the duration of a deployment, firefighters themselves are rotated out and given the opportunity to rest for 24 hours after their long, grueling shifts.

As of Aug. 5, a hand crew from Con Fire consisting of two captains, 16 fire control workers and a battalion chief serving as a safety officer provided a bulldozer for assistance to Cal Fire crews at the Park Fire.



LPFD

Since being initially ignited in a popular park on the outskirts of Chico on July 24, the Park Fire has gone on to burn more than 400,000 acres to date.



COURTESY ACFD

LPFD firefighters battling the Park Fire are part of a strike team made up of units from the Oakland, Hayward, and Alameda County fire departments.



area battling the Gold Fire that started on July

generally caused by human error. “The traffic on the Altamont causes a significant amount of fires — car fires or sparks or cigarettes, so we’re up there daily with little fires and sometimes they get a little bit more than little,” he said.

Dickey added that other local hotspots the department keeps a close watch on and responds to frequently are off Interstate 580 between North Livermore Avenue and First Street, as well as the Stanley area near the railroad tracks and Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, which was the site of a sizable fire last year.

While a majority of fires are caused by humans, Dickey noted that wildfires pose a threat to rural areas, not cities.

“There’s not a whole lot that can burn within the city, and we get on the fires really quickly, but there’s always that threat of the houses all around and the scare it gives people,” Dickey said. “Our big threat is obviously the ridge, and we haven’t had a large fire on the ridge in a number of years. But that certainly would be a major ordeal just because the houses are mixed in there.”

The causes of the Point, Creek and Flynn fires all remained under investigation as of last week, with court proceedings ongoing for the suspected arsonist behind the Park Fire in Chico. But many fires are caused by predictable and preventable human behavior, Dickey said.

“I think a lot of people don’t understand how quickly a fire can start,” Dickey said. “Unfortunately a lot of fires do start from smoking material, so even if you think your cigarette is out and put it on the ground, it can still start a fire.”

Hot coals from summer barbecues are another common cause, Dickey said.

“People in the summer are still doing small fires in the backyard — Just make sure any hot coals from barbecue or fire pits are disposed of properly. It needs to be in metal cans and away from the structure.”

In addition, a further complication facing numerous fields including firefighting is also compounding the struggle to contend with this year’s fire season — recruitment and retention of qualified professionals.

“The entire state is struggling with hiring firefighters, so everyone is a bit low on their personnel to begin with. So trying to assist and be part of the mutual aid system becomes difficult when you’re trying to staff your own department,” Dickey said. “But we can’t send any more resources because if we did, we wouldn’t be able to staff our own department.”

Dickey said that he believed part of the shortfall in firefighting professionals was due to pipeline issues caused by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to an 18-month gap in paramedic training programs and the professionals who would have come out of them, as well as the proliferation of remote work that might be more attractive and comfortable than the notion of 24-hour long shifts on the frontlines of wildfires.

However, he emphasized that the work is rewarding in ways that can’t be matched by other professions.

“The teamwork, the excitement of working in an organization that serves the community helping people is very rewarding, and just the enjoyment again of working on a team that’s motivated for the greater good, for helping people, helping the state when it’s on fire — you could be a part of saving someone’s life,” Dickey said. ■



In addition to battling the Park Fire head-on, firefighters in the region have been taking preventative measures to remove trees in an effort to stave off the flames from residences and major roadways.

Meanwhile back at home, Dickey said that he and other local agencies were continuing to brace themselves for fires locally, particularly along the Altamont.

“On the Altamont it feels like there’s a fire nearly every day there,” Dickey said. “Our engine eight out of Springtown and Livermore is the first unit into the hills, even though it’s a state responsible area and Alameda County, but Alameda County units are coming out of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.”

Like a vast majority of wildfires throughout the state, Dickey noted that fires on the Altamont are



**Sunflower Hill**

# ENCHANTED GARDEN

## Gala

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024**

**6-10 PM**



Step into a world of enchantment at our annual gala, where dreams blossom into reality! Join us as we pay tribute to the Sunflower Hill Garden, celebrating its profound impact on our community and the cherished partnerships that make it possible.

Explore Our Sponsorship Opportunities!

Visit our website for more details and to purchase tickets: [www.sunflowerhill.org](http://www.sunflowerhill.org)

For more information, email [oxe@sunflowerhill.org](mailto:oxe@sunflowerhill.org)

LIVERMORE VALLEY  
arts

# LIVE AT THE BANKHEAD

MIKE SUPER

MAGIC & ILLUSION



**2.OH!**

**SHOW**

ALL NEW  
**MAGIC!**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**FINALIST**  
ON AMERICA'S  
GOT TALENT!

\*\*\*\*\*  
**WINNER**  
OF NBC'S  
PHENOMENON!






FRI AUGUST 23

**GET TICKETS NOW!**

LivermoreArts.org | 925.373.6800

## Dublin author publishing debut novel 'Sundown in San Ojuela'

'I hope people take away feeling that it's OK for them to be who they are'

BY JUDE STRZEMP

**M**ara Olivas is releasing her first novel this November called "Sundown in San Ojuela", a fictional story that explores family history and identity through a queer, Indigenous and Chicana lens.

The book is a tongue-in-cheek gothic western about a clairvoyant girl named Liz Remolina who takes an uneasy journey back home to uncover the mystery of her aunt's murder. To Liz's terror, she finds that "monsters and ancient gods stalk the night".

Previously, Dublin author's short fiction as a horror writer and Chicanafuturist has reached publications such as *Uncanny Magazine*, *Weird Horror Magazine*, *Apex* and *Bourbon Penn*.

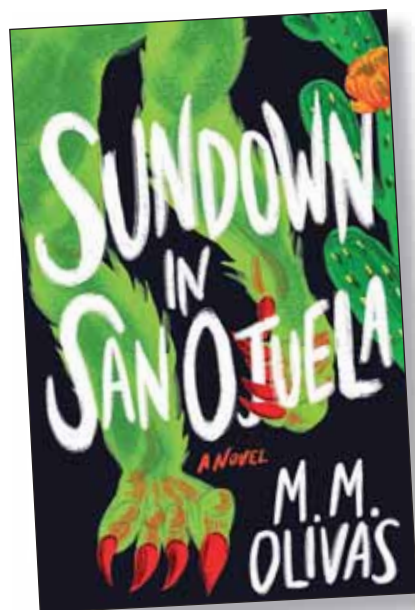
As a trans, first-generation Chicana author, Olivas said she is passionate about telling stories to fill in the dearth of narratives that center her identities. These stories are ones she wished she could have read as a kid and ones she hopes others will love too.

"Who's my audience? Who am I writing for?" she prompted. "It's me. It's the smaller version of me."

"Sundown in San Ojuela" emerged from her undergraduate thesis in creative writing at the University of California, Riverside where she worked with award-winning fiction author Nalo Hopkins.

In the realm of speculative fiction, which encompasses science fiction and fantasy, Olivas finds a boundless space to write about themes of interest.

"If I want to talk about the horrors of colonialism upon the Indigenous people of Mesoamerica and how that still perpetuates to this very day, I can have immortal vampires be a really good allegory for that, and characters who then existed all the way through that,



from that beginning up until the present day, when my story takes place," she said.

Following graduation in 2020, she continued writing the "Sundown in San Ojuela" for another two years until she sold it in February 2022.

Olivas appreciates the support of Hopkins, her editor and the Clarion Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers' Workshop — an application-based program for authors with the potential for a highly successful writing career, according to the Clarion website.

"Clarion set me up with professors who gave me time and attention with my work as well as industry knowledge," she wrote. "Clarion also provides lots of opportunities for writers to get involved within the spec(ulative fiction) community, but most importantly, it gave me a cohort that I feel so lucky to be so bonded with."



Mara Olivas, a budding horror author from Dublin, is publishing "Sundown in San Ojuela" this November.

Only recently has the reality of her book kicked in.

Even a month ago, the emotional loftiness of publishing her first novel hadn't hit. It'd been multiple years in the making, given the slow turning of production cycles.

"It felt more like a Wikipedia fact, rather than something I was experiencing," she said.

But recent interviews, conferences and panels have brought the achievement to reality. Those and the arrival of advanced reader copies with her name.

Upon the novel's release Olivas will tour locally, in Los Angeles, the East Coast and more.

"With 'Sundown in San Ojuela,' I hope people take away feeling that it's OK for them to be who they are, as a level of pride, and maybe joy in the possibility of a future that does get better

— especially for people who are struggling at home, either closeted or in difficult situations at home," Olivas said.

She also hopes that this novel spurs people who aren't in marginalized groups to become increasingly empathetic in their views, political opinions and how they treat others in the community.

Currently Olivas is forging ahead in an MFA program at San Jose State, where she's pursuing a master's in creative writing, learning to teach writing and working on her next novel.

"Sundown in San Ojuela" and its audiobook will be available on Nov. 19. The novel is currently available for preorder through the publisher Lanternfish Press website and many other booksellers. ■

## Hear Flory and his throwback theorbo at Trinity Lutheran

Music spanning more than five centuries to be showcased in Pleasanton concert series

BY OLIVIA PENNEY

**T**heorbo player Andrew Flory will soon be performing onstage in Pleasanton, as part of the Trinity Concert Series arriving at Trinity Lutheran Church next Friday evening.

For those not well-versed in the sounds of 17th-century Italy and France, a theorbo is a plucked string instrument with a long neck extension in the lute family. Such an instrument offers a unique experience for modern listeners to historically accurate sounds and experiences. Shakespeare identified lute instruments as vessels with enough power to transform listeners into a state of ecstasy, representing the magic and power of music.

Based in Rochester, N.Y., Flory has gained a reputation as a seasoned theorbo player, classically trained guitarist, lutenist, and educator. He received his Doctor of Musical

Arts in classical guitar performance from the Eastman School of Music in his hometown, his Master of Music degree from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, and his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Arkansas.

Flory's set attests to the aged style of the instrument, saying, "My solo theorbo program features music by Alessandro Piccinini (1566-1638), G.G. Kapsberger (1580-1651), and Robert de Visée (1655-1732)" in an announcement from Trinity Lutheran.

"As a multi-instrumentalist and Early music specialist, Andrew captivates audiences around the world with his colorful and nuanced musicality in his repertoire that spans over 500 years across many instruments," church reps added.

Flory offers a combined guitar and theorbo program in addition to his solo theorbo

performance to allow listeners to hear the theorbo paired with classical guitar works.

"Your listeners at Trinity would experience the wide stylistic differences of 17th century Italian and French theorbo repertoire and will feel the power and nuance that the theorbo offers," Flory stated.

"I think his performance will be extraordinary. He's obviously terrifically well-trained, Eastman School of Music etc. And performing on theorbo is already extremely unusual. I'll be there," Dwight Stone, minister of worship and music at Trinity Lutheran Church, told the Pleasanton Weekly.

The concert is set for next Friday (Aug. 16) from 7-8:30 p.m. at the church at 1225 Hopyard Road. A contribution of \$20 is requested for adults, \$5 for students, children are free. However, Stone noted that no one will be turned away for lack of funds. ■



Noted theorbo player Andrew Flory is set to headline the Trinity Concert Series.

# 'Twelfth Night' beginning three-weekend run in Danville

SPARC Theater taking full outdoor production to inside stage — for first time ever

By JEREMY WALSH

Reopening at a new venue in less than two weeks sure seems on brand for a fast-paced play about mistaken identities in a production filled with actors in dual roles.

SPARC Theater is following up the outdoor run of its adaptation of "Twelfth Night" as part of its annual Shakespeare in the Vineyard program with an indoor installment of the same Bard romantic-comedy at the historic Village Theatre in downtown Danville starting this weekend.

It's the first time the storied Livermore-based troupe has ever put on a full production on an inside stage, noted SPARC executive artistic director Lisa Tromovitch.

"We're excited to experience the play indoors with the audience," said Tromovitch, who is also directing the play. "While we'll miss the vineyard setting, we're looking forward to air conditioning, the opportunities to do Sunday matinees (my favorite because you can go out after the show with your friends and talk about the play), and the way it will sound and feel with the acoustics of an indoor space."

She added, "We've never done a full Shakespeare play indoors — new

plays, one-acts, musical cabarets and original pieces at the Bothwell, in a bar, a yoga studio, schools, a church, an historic building (in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore) and our downtown Livermore studio, but we've long needed an indoor venue to mount more full productions."

SPARC is bringing its live theater production to Danville for three weekends after a "wonderful" run during July on the outdoor stage at Darcie Kent Vineyards in Livermore, Tromovitch said.

The Shakespeare story, as adapted locally by Jennifer Le Blanc, follows the story of brother and sister twins Sebastian and Viola in the wake of a shipwreck where neither knows their sibling survived — and Viola takes on the male disguise of Cesario to find work in the new land. Competing love triangles develop and tensions are heightened comedically from the cases of mistaken identity that ensue.

Tromovitch noted that the whole cast from Livermore is staying intact for the Danville shows, and other than using some Village Theatre technical staff, the same overall production team is taking part.

Laura Domingo stars as Viola/Cesario and Li-Leng Au plays Sebastian (and Valentine and Maria)

alongside Actors' Equity Association performers Cassidy Brown (as Duke Orsino and Malvolio) and Elena Wright (as Olivia and Sir Andrew) and supporting cast Matt Ballin and Gregg Le Blanc.

One adjustment the production did have to make because of the shifting venues: restaging the balcony scenes because the historic theater's roof is lower than the two-story stage built for the outdoor venue, according to Tromovitch.

"Evan Lopes, the lighting designer, has to start from scratch with a full grid of lighting instruments instead of just two towers," she said. "Austin Andrade, the technical director, built new stairs and a platform. The panels that make up the set are placed in a metal frame that makes up the outdoor stage. These panels have to be re-rigged for assembling indoors."

"There has been some prep! We needed the time between to get ready," Tromovitch added.

The other big focus in these interim weeks has been spreading the word about their arrival in Danville, which was first announced publicly in May.

"Getting the attention of local theater-goers in the Danville-San Ramon-Alamo area who are not



GREGG LE BLANC | CUMULUSLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Li-Leng Au as Sebastian and Elena Wright as Olivia in SPARC Theater's production of "Twelfth Night", which moves from outdoors in Livermore to indoors in Danville from Aug. 9-25.

expecting us is harder than one may think. We're putting out new marketing, working in partnership with the Town of Danville staff and Danville volunteers," Tromovitch said.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people, building a community of patrons that enjoy live professional theater. I've made so many friends through the theater," she added. "The whole area lost so much when live community experiences were shut

down during the pandemic. I look forward to rebuilding that community and expanding it throughout the Tri-Valley."

"Twelfth Night" opens at the Village Theatre and Art Gallery on Front Street in Danville this Friday (Aug. 9) and continues through Aug. 25. Show times are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets and more information, visit [danville.ca.gov/sparc](http://danville.ca.gov/sparc). ■

## LVO ready for second Opera in the Vineyard of summer

Operatic classics, plus show tunes, at scenic fundraiser next weekend

By JEREMY WALSH

Music lovers and supporters of the arts in the Tri-Valley are coming together next weekend for the second "Opera in the Vineyard" fundraiser of the summer.

Benefiting Livermore Valley Opera, which is getting ready for the debut of its season-opening production in September, "Opera in the Vineyard" will see professional singers entertaining with operatic classics and Broadway favorites as attendees also enjoy the wine and scenery at Garré Vineyard & Winery, according to organizers. The event follows the first installment of the two-part series in June.

"This program will include more Broadway show tunes in addition to classic opera favorites to appeal to a broader audience and to add to the delightful charm of this popular event," said Leslie Silberman, marketing and communications director for LVO.

"About 50% of event attendees are typically newcomers and enjoying this musical magic for the first time," Silberman added. "This is a truly memorable experience that may in turn encourage guests to



BARBARA MALLON / LVO

Performing in the June installment of Opera in the Vineyard are (from left): Varvara Milinder on piano, Nia Lewis, Edith Dowd, Chester Pidduck and Andrew Pardini.

attend a mainstage production in the coming season. This event is a community showcase of Livermore Valley Opera as a longstanding cultural gem in the Tri-Valley community."

Among the performers at the fundraiser will be Eugene Brancoveanu, who is set to play the role of Sulpice in its production of Gaetano Donizetti's 1840 opera "The Daughter of the Regiment",

which runs from Sept. 28 to Oct. 6 at the Bankhead Theater.

Gates open at Garré on Tesla Road in Livermore at 4:15 p.m. next Sunday (Aug. 18), with the formal Opera in the Vineyard program to run from 5-8 p.m. Wine and charcuterie boxes will be available for purchase — attendees can bring picnics too, but no outside wine permitted.

For tickets and more information, go to [www.lvopera.com](http://www.lvopera.com). ■

## Rincon Library restarting after-school Homework Help

Dedicated space for students to study, complete homework or get help from education volunteers

By JUDE STRZEMP

As the beginning of the school year approaches, the Rincon Branch Library in Livermore is set to resume its free after-school Homework Help program.

Starting on Aug. 26, the program will offer students of all ages a dedicated space to study, do homework and receive help from adult volunteers. These coaches can assist students with reading, math or homework in general.

The space will be stocked with free tools students may need for school assignments. Resources include a computer, a free-to-use printer for all school assignments, and supplies like pencils, pens, paper, calculators, flash cards, resource books and more.

"(The program is) important because students fell behind during the pandemic, so they've needed that extra guidance," said Nallely Cervantes, librarian at Rincon.

It also helps boost student morale and gives them a sense of community. Assistance will be available through May 15 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5 p.m., and Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m., except for school holidays and breaks.

For more information on Rincon Library, located at 725 Rincon Ave. in May Nissen Park, or its Homework Help program, visit the library website at [library.livermoreca.gov](http://library.livermoreca.gov). ■



LIVERMORE LIBRARY

The Rincon Branch Library in Livermore.

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Newsom touts 'swift' deal to bring National Guard prosecutors to Alameda County

Gov. Gavin Newsom last Friday announced a "swiftly" finalized agreement to allow California National Guard lawyers to prosecute crimes in Alameda County.

Newsom said the memorandum of understanding between the National Guard and California Department of Justice took only two weeks to finalize, compared to the unsuccessful "nearly five-month attempt to formalize a similar agreement" with Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price.

The announcement, which repeatedly emphasizes how quickly the agreement was reached, appears to be another salvo in the ongoing back-and-forth between Newsom and Price regarding his efforts to increase arrests and prosecutions in Alameda County.

"Today we're advancing accountability and justice for East Bay

communities, by quickly securing an agreement to provide additional resources to prosecute criminal behavior," Newsom said in a news release. "I am grateful for the quick work here by the Attorney General and the California National Guard to swiftly finalize this agreement so these talented attorneys can soon help secure justice for the people of the Bay Area."

The seeds of discontent were sown in February, when Newsom offered to send lawyers to help prosecute certain violent, drug and property crimes, along with a "surge" of California Highway Patrol officers to make arrests in the county.

At the time, Price said she welcomed the help, but on July 11 Newsom publicly rebuked the District Attorney's Office for allegedly dragging its feet on an agreement that would allow the National Guard lawyers to get to work and rescinded his offer.

Price said the governor didn't reach out to her directly before issuing his statement, didn't acknowledge the work her office did to get the plan off the ground and was misinformed about the resources her office was putting into the project.

On Friday, Price again said she welcomed state assistance, but also said that Newsom's much-touted CHP "surge" has only resulted in

11 criminal cases being referred to her office for prosecution.

"We hope the swift agreement reached between the DOJ and CalGuard yields equally swift results, and my office is willing to assist in that effort in any way possible," Price said in a news release.

"To the extent that there have been a large number of arrests related to CHP surge operations, our records do not reflect those cases being referred to this office for prosecution by either the CHP or the DOJ," she said.

Newsom's office said that in the first six months of the surge, 562 suspects were arrested, 1,142 stolen cars were recovered and 55 guns connected to crimes were taken off the street.

—Kiley Russell, Bay City News

### In other news

- An Alameda woman is facing three felony embezzlement charges after allegedly using her position as president of a nonprofit swim club to steal money from the organization.

Sarah Lynn New, 45, allegedly withdrew thousands of dollars from a bank account belonging to the Alameda Gators Swim Team after she took the helm of the group in 2023, according to Alameda County DA Price.

If convicted, New could face up to nine years in prison and be required to pay back the money she allegedly stole.

Price didn't say how New allegedly spent the money or reveal any other details of the investigation, which she said is ongoing.

"We're not precluding the possibility of additional charges, but at this time we're able to say that we've begun the process of holding

Ms. New accountable for the harm that has been caused to the children who were directly impacted," Price said at a news conference last week.

New was arrested Aug. 1 and booked into Santa Rita Jail, although her bail amount wasn't listed in jail records.

—Kiley Russell, Bay City News

- A judge ordered Bay Area car dealer DGDG Automotive to pay \$290,000 in an environmental protection case alleging the company unlawfully disposed of hazardous waste.

The civil complaint was filed by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office and was joined by four other district attorneys' offices in Contra Costa, Alameda, Solano, and Monterey counties.

Prosecutors alleged DGDG Automotive LLC, also known as Del Grande Dealer Group, didn't properly manage hazardous waste, such as brake parts cleaner, automotive fluids, and parts containing circuit boards.

The settlement also resolves allegations DGDG failed to redact or shred paperwork containing customer information before throwing it away.

"Hazardous waste and documents containing confidential customer information must be disposed of properly to avoid harm to the environment and consumers," Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen said in a statement. "It may be more expensive to do it, but it's the law and it's worth it."

On July 29, a judge ordered DGDG to pay \$215,000 in civil penalties. The auto dealer does business at more than 16 locations in Northern California.

DGDG was also ordered to pay approximately \$50,000 for the cost of the investigation and \$25,000 to help fund the training of California regulators.

The judge also ordered DGDG to designate an employee to manage and oversee its hazardous waste management and employee training programs.

A message left for DGDG's attorney on the case, Brian Bunger, wasn't immediately returned.

The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office said DGDG cooperated with prosecutors during the investigation and took significant steps to improve its compliance with the environmental and consumer protection violations brought to its attention.

The investigation began in 2021 when investigators from the District Attorney's Office conducted unannounced inspections of DGDG trash containers and found hazardous waste and pages of customer records. Additional inspections over the next year turned up violations at the company's businesses in Alameda, Solano, Contra Costa and Monterey counties. ■

—Tony Hicks, Bay City News

# POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

## Aug. 3

### Alcohol violation

- 12:21 a.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue
- 10:07 a.m. at Old Santa Rita and Santa Rita roads

### Theft

- 8:31 a.m. on the 2800 block of Hopyard Road
- 12:03 p.m. on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue
- 7:12 p.m. on the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Assault/battery

- 10:34 p.m. at I-680 Southbound and Stoneridge Drive

### DUI

- 1:38 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

## Aug. 2

### Burglary

- 2:57 a.m. on the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Vandalism

- 7:41 a.m. on the 5700 block of Owens Drive

### Fraud

- 8:26 a.m. on the 4100 block of Crisfield Lane

### Domestic battery

- 12:07 p.m. on Santa Rita Road
- 1:15 p.m. on Valley Avenue

### Theft

- 2:33 p.m. on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue
- 9:29 p.m., 2600 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto

## Aug. 1

### Alcohol violation

- 12:12 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 8:23 p.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

## July 31

### Alcohol violation

- 11:28 p.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

### Theft

- 9:04 a.m., 5000 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto
- 11 a.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road
- 12:59 p.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road
- 5:33 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

### Domestic battery

- 3:12 p.m. on Koll Center Parkway

## July 30

### Domestic battery

- 7:46 a.m. on Valley Avenue

### Theft

- 8:21 a.m., 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 8:27 a.m., 4900 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 9:33 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto
- 1:05 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

### Drug violation

- 9:04 a.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Graffiti offense

- 9:17 a.m. on the 6700 block of Hansen Drive

### Robbery

- 9:26 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### Fire

- 9:53 p.m. on the 2700 block of Oregon Court



Gavin Newsom

## Claudia Juhl

June 28, 1933 – June 28, 2024

Claudia Juhl died peacefully at home on her 91st birthday.

She was raised on a Pleasanton cattle ranch owned by the family since 1913. She attended the Tassajara School, a one-room schoolhouse with her 3 siblings. Claudia continued to U.C. Berkeley where she met Ralph Juhl a week before registration. They married 4 years later, 2 days after she graduated from Cal.

Claudia dedicated her life to her family, home design projects, and travel. She sewed her children's clothes when they were young and enjoyed cross-stitching and knitting. Travel was an important part of her life; she lived in Denmark for a year with Ralph and their 3 children to explore her Danish heritage. She visited all 7 continents including an around-the-world tour. In April, she returned to Denmark to revisit cherished locations.

Claudia loved the water, particularly the deep-water aerobics class at The Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center. She appreciated the comradery of her fellow swim-mates and instructors.

She is survived by her daughter Carol and son David. She is also survived by her son-in-law Peter Skewes-Cox, six grandchildren Peter Jr (Nancy), Stina (Kerry), Andrew, William (Frida), Lisby (Chris), Justin and eleven great-grandchildren, Peter III, Maya, Daniel, Robert, Willa, Jack, Ana, Soren, Bjork, Lola and Bobbie. She was preceded in death by her daughter Colleen, husband Ralph of 55 years, and parents Edward & Sally Rasmussen.

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life at The Club at Castlewood on Friday, August 23, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

A memorial donation may be made to Shriner's Hospital for Children. <https://lovetotherescue.org/how-you-can-help/programs/give-in-memory>





FD #429 MORTUARY

LOCALLY OWNED  
AND OPERATED SINCE 1891

**BURIAL & CREMATION**

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICES**

**RECEPTION FACILITIES**

**ADVANCE PLANNING MADE EASY**

FOR A FREE CONSULTATION  
OR IN-HOME VISIT CALL



DEANNA MOSER

**925.846.5624**

TO VIEW OUR FACILITIES VISIT:  
[WWW.GRAHAMHITCH.COM](http://WWW.GRAHAMHITCH.COM)

**4167 FIRST STREET,  
PLEASANTON**

PAID OBITUARY

## Pleasanton Weekly

### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox, Ext. 1171, gchannell@PleasantonWeekly.com

### EDITORIAL

#### Editorial Director

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172, jwalsh@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Editor

Cierra Bailey, (650) 223-6528 cbailey@LivermoreVine.com

#### Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

#### Staff Reporters

Jeanita Lyman, Ext. 1179, jlyman@PleasantonWeekly.com

Jude Strzemp, Ext. 1175, jstrzemp@PleasantonWeekly.com

Christian Trujano, Ext. 1176, ctrujano@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Editorial Intern

Olivia Penney

#### Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Tim Hunt, Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

#### ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager  
Kristin Brown

#### Designers

Linda Atilano, Paul Llewellyn, Mary Watanabe, Doug Young

#### ADVERTISING

##### Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177, kklein@PleasantonWeekly.com

##### Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173, ccano@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### BUSINESS

##### Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

##### Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174, cchan@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

##### Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com  
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

##### Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

##### Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email: circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media Foundation, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join) to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

© 2024 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



## LETTERS

### Opposed to City Council's sales tax plan

It is obviously clear that the Pleasanton City Council has failed us with their irresponsible over spending in the general fund and in the capital improvement projects. Instead of doing their job they decided to pass the buck and hope to sneak in a sales tax increase come the November ballot.

Do not be fooled by their scare tactics of threatening to reduce your safety services. The City Council should be able to find a 5% reduction in the city's overall budget that does not place the citizens' safety and well-being in danger.

This tax increase will be in place for at least 10 years, and most likely end up being permanent. When have you ever seen a temporary tax decreased? Don't be fooled by their rhetoric. Vote no on the tax increase pushed by Brown, Testa, Arkin and Nibert.

—David Ott

### Building new neighborhoods and RHNA

By the time this letter is out, the Livermore City Council will have voted on the first major development of the Isabel Neighborhood

Specific Plan (Isabel NSP).

That neighborhood — in west Livermore, north of the freeway — is a complete neighborhood, designed to be near a potential BART stop. (When BART divorced Livermore in 2018, that TOD (transit-oriented development) element did not stop being relevant; it shifted to Valley Link, which will connect Livermore with Tracy and ultimately Stockton.)

The project itself consists of over 1,200 for-sale units of various kinds. There are also mixed-use buildings with around 75,000 square feet of retail, two acres of a public park and plazas, and public infrastructure, including separated bike lanes and bus stop improvements.

It is consistent with all of Livermore's guiding documents, as well as state law.

What this project exemplifies is how Livermore does long-term planning. The Isabel NSP itself was a response to two regional and state forces: better transportation options and the need for more affordable housing.

Public transportation options — BART originally, Valley Link now — are one way to do so; placing housing near that transportation (as the Isabel NSP does) helps with the

“last mile” problem.

The Isabel NSP was designed in anticipation of the sixth cycle of RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Allocation) numbers. RHNA numbers — the number of housing units cities must plan for — are assigned first by the state to the region, then by the region to each municipality.

In this cycle, Livermore was assigned 4,570 housing units. This

was not a surprise; Livermore's staff had already anticipated and planned for around that number, with much of the new housing part of the Isabel NSP.

Now, as the projects that will make up the Isabel NSP are underway, the fruits of good planning become reality. It is something we can all look at with pride.

—Trish Munro

## Gene A Libert

July 16, 1931 – July 5, 2024

Resident of Pleasanton

Gene Arnold Libert, former Air Force Veteran and American Airlines Captain, passed away peacefully at his long-time home in Pleasanton, California. Gene passed away July 5, 2024, just 11 days shy of his 93rd birthday. Gene was born on July 16, 1931, in the small town of Westville, Illinois, to Sophie and Alpha Libert, the youngest of three boys. After his schooling in Westville, Gene joined the Air Force in 1952 where he served as an F-106 fighter pilot for 14 years. After leaving the Air Force in 1966, Gene flew for American Airlines for an additional 25 years. Gene met his wife Burney in Detroit, Michigan and were married for 68 years before his passing. Gene and Burney would eventually settle in Pleasanton, California where they raised their five children, Keith, Kevin, Kim, Kelly, and Kristopher. Gene was an exceptional storyteller and possessed a terrific sense of humor. He was beloved by his family and friends. Gene is survived and remembered fondly and lovingly by his wife, Burney, his five children, ten grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. The Celebration of Life for Gene will be held at a future date.



PAID OBITUARY

## TAKE US ALONG



**Adriatic adventure:** Bob and Marianne Eisberg walk the “City Wall” surrounding Dubrovnik, Croatia on a stop during their Adriatic Treasures adventure in the spring.

To submit your “Take Us Along” entry, email your photograph to [editor@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:editor@pleasantonweekly.com). Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

# Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/employment\\_ads/](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/).

For assistance email [LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com).

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by  
 THE ROSE HOTEL  
 925-846-8802 | RoseHotel.net

## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Livermore Little League's push to U.S. title game at hometown World Series

'We really went out there and proved ourselves,' coach Lee says

Best team in the Western United States, and the second best in the entire United States.

Those are pretty lofty titles to throw around, but it is exactly what the Livermore Little League Intermediate All-Stars can carry around with them following last week.

Playing in the Little League Intermediate World Series in Livermore, the 12-player team of mostly rising eighth graders, advanced to the U.S. Championship game, falling 3-1 to the Southwest representatives from Louisiana last Saturday (Aug. 3).

Kenner, La. went on to win the whole World Series, beating Seoul, South Korea 8-7 in the final on Sunday at Max Baer Park.

Not too bad for the local side. "I don't think we could have imagined that," Livermore manager John Lee said of the team making it all the way to the U.S. Championship game. "We really went out there and proved

ourselves. I am so happy the kids got to that point and had a chance to experience it."

It didn't start out smoothly, as Livermore fell 4-2 to Kenner in their first game, dropping into the losers' bracket where it becomes a big chore to advance deep into the tournament.

But the Livermore boys rallied in a big way.

Next up was a team from Delaware, representing the East.

"It didn't look good in that one," said Lee, as his team fell behind 3-0.

Livermore battled back and tied it 3-3, forcing extra innings. They fell behind again, this time 5-3 in the ninth, eventually getting three in the bottom half of the inning, winning the game on a bases-loaded walk.

"We knew we could come back as we have been down that road before," Lee said as the team had shown resilience throughout the summer.

After that it was a 5-4 win over a team from Georgia representing the Southeast, followed by a 12-5 win over a team from San Diego that

represented the West.

That left the team in the U.S. Championship game, once again Livermore faced the boys from Louisiana.

Livermore led 1-0 in the sixth inning before Kenner rallied to take a 3-1 lead.

"Five outs away," Lee said. "We still felt we would win the game. We were only down 3-1 and we had two at-bats left as we were the home team. But when it doesn't go through, it's tough to handle."

Lee and his staff spent time after the game talking with the team about the amazing accomplishment of their run this summer. It may take some time, but these 12 kids need to walk tall.

"It will be interesting to see (how they handle it), but I think they will take a lot of pride moving forward," Lee said. "This shows them what they are capable of. It's a launching point going forward as to that they are capable of great things."

The roster of the Livermore



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Livermore Little League team represented its hometown at the 2024 Intermediate World Series held in Livermore.

team: Lucas Boosahda, Cody Truitt, Richie Goins, Brady Kohn, Josh Ragan, Braiden Weber, Will Backers, Rhett Bystrom, Johnny Lee, Jack Wilhite, Grant Perotti and Gant Leathers. Joining Lee on the coaching staff were Dave Perotti and John Wilhite.

#### Fall sports are about to roll

It's time for the 2024 East Bay Athletic League fall season to fully be underway, which also means it's time to turn in your results to us each week.

We get rolling on the new school year with football, girls' volleyball, water polo, girls' tennis, cross-country, girls' tennis, girls' golf and flag football.

I want to make sure to get as many

results as possible, and that's where you come in! The easiest thing is to have a parent volunteer collect the information each week and in turn send it to me.

The deadline each week is noon on Sundays — you can turn information in earlier — and you can send it to [acesmag@aol.com](mailto:acesmag@aol.com).

Next week I will put out the information I need for each sport, as it's simple and can be done in 10 minutes a week. Help your coach out and make sure the kids get recognized for all their hard work. ■

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

### A's strike deal with developer for share of Coliseum

\$125M agreement still needs to be formally approved by Board of Supervisors

BY COLE REYNOLDS / BCN

The Oakland A's will sell its half of the Oakland Coliseum to the investment company African American Sports and Entertainment Group for \$125 million, the baseball team announced Monday.

The sale comes after AASEG, which plans to turn the stadium site into multi-use development, signed a deal with Oakland last week to buy the city's half of the Coliseum for \$105 million. The A's said Monday's agreement with the development company is pending approval from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, as the county is still listed on the title of the Coliseum.

"As Oakland natives who grew up merely blocks away from the Coliseum, and as longtime Oakland business owners, we are filled with gratitude for this opportunity to assume stewardship of the Coliseum site," said Ray Bobbitt, the founder of AASEG.

Should the sale be greenlit by the Board of Supervisors, it would end a more than three-year saga in which AASEG negotiated to acquire the Coliseum. Bobbitt said

the negotiations were fast-tracked over the last few months, as Oakland passed a budget that relied on funds from the sale to close fiscal gaps. He also said that the

imminent departure of the A's, who are set to leave Oakland next year for Sacramento, made negotiations easier for their share of the stadium.

The Oakland A's bought an



JEREMY WALSH

The Oakland Coliseum during a past A's game.

interest in Alameda County's half of the stadium in 2019 for \$85 million, which the team said it paid off earlier this year. At a press conference last week, Bobbitt said the county was still listed on the building's title.

"I appreciate the collaboration between the A's and AASEG and am excited for the future of the Coliseum site," Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert said.

Both Bobbitt and Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao have touted the development firm's plan for a "multi-billion dollar" investment to build housing on the Coliseum site. When the Oakland City Council advanced the sale in June, it approved up to 4,000 units, with 25% of them affordable. However, at an event last week, Bobbitt couldn't yet commit to a timeline for the process.

Thao commended the A's Monday for striking a deal with AASEG, saying that it brought this investment project closer to fruition.

"This is another incredibly exciting day," Thao said. "When we agreed on our terms with AASEG for the City's half of the Coliseum site, we knew this was right around the corner." ■

## Entertainment

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK** Join the fun Friday night at Pleasanton Downtown Association's Concert in the Park featuring live music spanning various genres. 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 9. The 925 Band and the Wise Girls. Lions Wayside Park.

**FREDDY JONES BAND** Experience a night of alternative rock nostalgia like never before for an electrifying celebration of the Freddy Jones Band's 30th Anniversary of their timeless hit, In a Daydream. 8 p.m., Aug. 9. Tickets \$25-\$60. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**ILLEAGLES (EAGLES TRIBUTE) AT WENTE** This San Francisco Bay Area tribute band delivers engaging and captivating performances that leave crowds enthralled from start to finish, founded by six talented musicians driven by their love for Eagles music. 5 p.m., Aug. 9. Tickets \$50. Visit [wentevineyards.com](http://wentevineyards.com).

**JAZZ AT INKLINGS** The next free Jazz at Inklings features vocalist Sandra Agora and the Matt Finders Trio. 6:30 p.m., Aug. 10. Seating is limited. For reservations visit [meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society](http://meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society).

**TRI-VALLEY HIGH: THE SERIES** Don't miss the laughs, the drama and the angst based on audience suggestions as Creatures of Impulse creates a brand new experience in the moment. 7:30, July 3. Tickets \$10. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH ERNEST SHACKLETON** Sir Ernest Shackleton led three expeditions to Antarctica yet his Endurance expedition is renowned as the most glorious of failures. Shackleton demonstrated courage, resilience and leadership in the face of overwhelming natural obstacles. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Aug. 13. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

**TUESDAY TUNES** Tuesday Tunes are every Tuesday night, 6:45 p.m., through Aug. 20. Shea Homes Stage, Livermore Plaza. 2400 First St., Livermore.

**OPERA IN THE VINEYARD** Escape to a world of music and merriment at Opera in the Vineyard and enjoy unique performances of opera arias, show tunes and cabaret. Door open 4:15 p.m., Aug. 18. Individual tickets \$80. Garré Vineyard & Winery. Visit [livermorevalleyopera.com](http://livermorevalleyopera.com).

**A TRIBUTE TO TOBY KEITH** This electrifying show is guaranteed to leave audiences on their feet, singing along to hit after hit of great country music, all brought to life by the Hollywood Yates. 8 p.m., Aug. 16. Tickets \$55-\$75. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**AN EVENING OF BLISS** Join for an Evening of Bliss with renowned author John Gray, the best selling author of over 23 books on love and relationships. Choose bliss in the midst of chaos through science

backed shortcuts. 7 p.m., Aug. 16. Tickets \$22-\$33. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**PIANO MEN GENERATIONS** Piano Men Generations is a celebration of the legendary Billy Joel and Elton John, brought to life by the father and son duo of Terry and Nick Davies taking you on a journey through the timeless hits that have captured the hearts of music lovers for decades. 7:30 p.m., Aug. 22. Tickets \$45-\$65. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**MIKE SUPER AT THE BANKHEAD** Mike Super has taken the performance of magic to new, mainstream levels turning the magic show on its side and dumping it out into the audience where you become Mike's onstage assistant. 8 p.m., Aug. 23. Tickets \$25-\$75. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**EVOLUTION AT WENTE** San Francisco's ultimate tribute to Journey, comprised of exceptionally skilled musicians from the Bay Area, showcases a profound reverence for Journey's music while delivering high-energy performances to fans across the country. 5 p.m., Aug. 24. Tickets \$50. Visit [wentevineyards.com](http://wentevineyards.com).

**MAMMA MIA! MOVIE SING-A-LONG** Valley Concert Chorale presents this experience to sing favorite ABBA songs from the romantic comedy film, Mamma Mia! Join and sing-along to amazing songs at Vine Cinema and Alehouse. 10 a.m., Aug. 24. Tickets \$10-\$15. Visit [valleyconcertchorale.org](http://valleyconcertchorale.org).

## Exhibits

**FLORA IN FOCUS** Flora in Focus, a flower themed group art show, returns to the Livermore Civic Center Library. Aug. 1-31. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

**TEXTURES OF REMEMBRANCE** This exhibit explores a date that impacts many Vietnamese Americans: April 30, 1975, the end of the Vietnam War featuring works by 25 Vietnamese artists and writers. Through Sept. 21. Visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

**LOCOMOTIVE EXHIBIT** The exhibit, Rails Connect: A Livermore-Pleasanton Railroad Journey through Art & History, is on display at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery featuring artists and photographers with artwork that highlights Livermore and the Amador Valley's rich railway history and culture. 1-5 p.m., Through Oct. 5

## Talks

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS** Speaker Jenny Lyon has been teaching the art of quilting since 2006. Her lecture is "My Tippy Top Tips for Successful and Joyful Free Motion Quilting". 1:30-3:30 p.m., Aug. 10. Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Visit [amadorvalleyquilters.org/](http://amadorvalleyquilters.org/) Wordpress.

**FREE WALKING TOURS** Join the Museum on Main staff and learn about Pleasanton's long and varied history in this free walking tour named in remembrance of local architect Charles Huff. 9 a.m., Aug. 10. Rain or shine. 603 Main St.

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** Thomas MacEntee presents "AI and Genealogy: Trouble Ahead?" Learn how AI is currently being used to improve the genealogy experience and whether or not you should seek out other uses of artificial intelligence for your own genealogy research. 7-8:30, Aug. 12. Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. Visit [l-ags.org](http://l-ags.org).

**EDUCATION PRESENTATION BY STANFORD TRI-VALLEY** This free webinar, "Advance Directive, Medical Power of Attorney and Other Health Care Documents That You Should Have in Place" is presented by Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley. 12-1 p.m., Aug. 15. Visit [pleasanton.org](http://pleasanton.org).

**STANFORD HEALTH CARE TRI-VALLEY ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES** Join the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce and Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley for a free virtual educational presentation presented by Mino Sastry. 1-2 p.m., Aug. 21. Visit [sanramon.org](http://sanramon.org).

**LARPD BOARD MEETING IN THE PARK** Receive an update on current LARPD projects and give feedback or suggestions regarding local park issues. 6 p.m., Aug. 21. Vista Meadows Park, 2450 Westminster Way, Livermore.

**AN OVERVIEW OF LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE** This free presentation from Legal Assistance for Seniors discusses "The ABC's of LTC: An Overview of Long Term Care Insurance". 1-2 p.m., Aug. 22. To register visit [larpd.org](http://larpd.org) or call 925-373-5700.

**MEET AUTHOR SUSAN CASEY** In this free author event Susan Casey will discuss her book "The Underworld: Journeys to the Depths of the Ocean". Registration is not required to attend. 7 p.m., Aug. 22. Livermore Civic Center Library.

**TRI-VALLEY MAYORS' SUMMIT LUNCHEON** Enjoy a festive Italian luncheon and a chance to connect with five Tri-Valley Mayors at the Annual Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit Luncheon. 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Aug. 22. Blackhawk Museum. Tickets \$85. Register at [danvilleareachamber.com](http://danvilleareachamber.com).

**CRUISING DOWN MEMORY LANE** Community members are invited to enjoy stories from five of the 38 storytellers featured in Cruising Down Memory Lane: Stories of Pleasanton in the 1950s. Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing. 2 p.m., Aug. 25. Livermore Civic Center Library.

**HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS** Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets in-person and virtually via Zoom. Overcome fear of speaking in a friendly, supportive

## PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

### Meet Nibbles

Nibbles is a spunky and affectionate terrier/cattle dog mix looking for his forever family. He's a youngster at 3 years old and a sturdy 16 pounds. He loves belly rubs and curling up next to his humans. This energetic fellow would do best in an active household with a yard. He is house-trained and sleeps well in his crate at night. Nibbles plays with toys and likes going on walks. He is a smart and curious boy. If you're looking for a lively and loving addition to your family, Nibbles might be the perfect fit. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue via [tvar.org](http://tvar.org).

atmosphere. Visit [haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org](http://haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Festivals

**BRICK FEST LIVE** Join the largest hands-on event of its kind with over a million LEGO bricks on display and ready for play. Brick Fest Live allows families to enjoy creations from all over the world made entirely of this timeless toy. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 17; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 18. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**GOODGUYS WEST COAST NATIONALS** America's Favorite Car Show returns to its roots for a celebration of cool cars, cool people and good times bringing over 3,000 of the country's finest 1999 and older hot rods, trucks, customs, lowriders, muscle cars and classics together. Aug. 23-25. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Outdoor Recreation

**WILD, ODD, AND WEIRD ANIMALS** In this wildlife science event for all ages learn about science and the environment while viewing rescued wild animals from Bay Area Wild. This program explores the gentler side of the most misunderstood animals of the wild kingdom. Bring a blanket to sit on. 10:15 a.m., Aug. 9. Livermore Rincon Library.

**RANGER PROGRAM: TARANTULAS** Join an LARPD Ranger for a presentation about these unique arachnids and meet their tarantula, Peaches. Face fears, increase knowledge and grow to appreciate the role tarantulas play in ecosystems. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Aug. 10. Visit [larpd.org](http://larpd.org).

**PARK AFTER DARK: UV HIKE** Explore biofluorescence, bioluminescence and nighttime pollinators with a LARPD Ranger during this special UV night hike. This will be a slow 1.5-2 mile hike up into the hills. 8-9:30 p.m., Aug. 17. Call 925-373-5505 to register. Holdener Park, 2995 Hansen Road, Livermore.

**SUNSET FOR THE SOUL HIKE** Watch the sun set over the hills and discover the beauty that the sky and wildlife have in store at this time of day. 7:30-9 p.m., Aug. 23. Del Valle Regional Park, East Ridge Trailhead. Visit [ebparks.org](http://ebparks.org).

## Farmers' Markets

**PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET** The Pleasanton Farmers' Market is Saturday year round featuring vendors with seasonal fruits and vegetables, plus artisan goods. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. W. Angela St.

**LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS' MARKET** The Livermore Thursday Night Farmers' Market is 4-8 p.m. at Carnegie Park with over 60 vendors. Rain or shine. 2155 3rd St.

**LIVERMORE SUNDAY FARMERS' MARKET** Gather for music, food and fresh local and organic products directly from producers. Support small businesses and local sustainable agriculture. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sundays. Between J St. and L St.

## Fundraisers

**COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER SUMMER BBQ** Join the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative Summer BBQ for great food, music and fun. All funds raised go to the Juanita Huagen Scholarship fund. 6 p.m., Aug. 17. Tickets \$75. For more information visit [bit.ly/2024-cc-bbq](http://bit.ly/2024-cc-bbq).

**HEART OF THE TRI-VALLEY GALA** "Let's Paint the Roses Red" is the theme for this Open Heart Kitchen fundraiser. 6 p.m., Sept. 6. Tickets \$150. Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, visit [hopenheartkitchen.org](http://hopenheartkitchen.org).

**ENCHANTED GARDEN GALA** Join Sunflower Hill for their biggest fundraiser of the year and experience an unforgettable evening filled with magic and wonder. Step into the beauty of an Enchanted

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

# Public Notices

SPONSE TIME FOR IS 30 DAYS TO OPPOSE THIS RECORDING OF GRANT DEED, ON 8/1/2024 AT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR PARCEL NO. (APN) 092-0119-023-00, LEGAL DESCRIPTION: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND IS DESCRIBED AS BELOW. LOT 41, TRACT 2155, FILED JULY 12, 1961 IN MAP BOOK 44, PAGE 55, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS. (PLW Aug 9, 2024)

ECO TINY HOUSES  
ADU PREMIUM  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608242

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

1.) ECO TINY HOUSES, 2.) ADU PREMIUM, located at 3421 HOLLIS ST UNIT A1 OAKLAND, CA 94608, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 964 46th St APT 233 Emeryville, CA 94608

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

SUPPLYOR LLC  
3421 HOLLIS ST UNIT A1  
Emeryville, CA 94608

State of Incorporation/Organization: WYOMING

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/02/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 26 2024. (PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

AFC URGENT CARE PLEASANTON  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608264

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

1.) AFC Urgent Care Pleasanton , located at 5311 Hopyard Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

PARHELION HEALTHCARE INC.  
5311 Hopyard Rd  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/12/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 29 2024. (PLW Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024)

SPECIAL EVENTS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608366

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

1.) SPECIAL EVENTS, located at 174 LAWRENCE DRIVE, SUITE A, LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

MEEN VENTURES, LLC  
174 LAWRENCE DRIVE, SUITE A  
LIVERMORE, CA 94551

State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 01 2024. (PLW Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024)

BALLET REVERIE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608382

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

1.) Ballet Reverie, located at 4619 Las Lomitas Drive Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

BALLET REVERIE, LLC  
4619 Las Lomitas Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 02 2024. (PLW Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024)

INNOVATIONS HAIR SALON  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 607430

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

1.) Innovations Hair Salon, located at 19581 Center Street, Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

ASHLEY KURTZ  
8265 Norris Canyon Rd  
Castro Valley, CA 94552

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/20/24

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 24 2024. (PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

HAYWARD SELF STORAGE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 607983

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

1.) Hayward Self Storage, located at 24801 Industrial Blvd. Hayward, CA 94545, Alameda County. Mailing Address: Brinkman Investments LP PO BOX 1769, Cave Creek, AZ 85327.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Partnership.

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

SHERI LEE CHEFALO  
41311 N. 54th St.  
Cave Creek, AZ 85331

VICKI MONTANA  
1039 E. Caroline Lane  
Tempe, AZ 85284

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/01/2006

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 16 2024. (PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

CLOCKWISE ESCAPE ROOM  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608273

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

1.) Clockwise Escape Room , located at 1720 Broadway, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA, 94612, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 7093 Honeycastle Drive, San Ramon, CA 94582.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

LOCKBOX ESCAPES LLC  
7093 Honeycastle Drive  
San Ramon, CA 94582

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 29 2024. (PLW Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024)

GOLDEN BAY MECHANICAL CO.  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 607757

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

1.) Golden Bay Mechanical Co., located at 6117 LedgeWood Terrace, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

ANDREW YOUNGMIN PAK  
6117 LedgeWood Terrace  
Dublin, CA, 94568

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 08 2024. (PLW Jul 26, Aug 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

OASIN CLEANING SERVICES  
OASIN SERVICES  
OASIN LANDSCAPE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 607867

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

1.) Oasin Cleaning Services, 2.) Oasin

Services, 3.) Oasin Landscape, located at 14568 Chickasaw Way Manteca, CA 95336, San Joaquin County.

This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.

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

ANTONIO HERNANDEZ BAUTISTA  
14568 Chickasaw Way  
Manteca, CA 95336

BERTHA A VEGA MONTROYA  
14568 Chickasaw Way  
Manteca, CA 95336

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/11/2011

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 11 2024. (PLW Jul 26, Aug 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

WEST COAST ALCHEMY  
WEST COAST SUCCULENTS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 608200

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

1.) West Coast Alchemy, 2.) West Coast Succulents, located at 4450 Mohr Ave. #28 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

BRIAN SALCEDO  
4450 Mohr Ave. #28  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 24 2024. (PLW Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 24CV079587

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Mithila Joshi; Chinmay Soman filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SUHANU MITHILA SOMAN to SUHANU MITHILA JOSHI-SOMAN

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/11/2024, 9:30am, Dept. 1B of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon Street, 2nd FL, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 6/13/2024

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 24CV083326

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Kimberly Faye Pangborn filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

KIMBERLY FAYE PANGBORN to KIMBERLY FAYE DREMALAR

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: November 15, 2024, 9:30 AM, Superior Court of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda County located at Rene C. Davidson Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: July 15, 2024

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jul 26, Aug 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 24CV084691

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: KIRA INOUE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

TREY DAVID MCINTOSH to TREY DAVID INOUE-MCINTOSH

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 11/15/2024, 9:30am, RENE C. DAVIDSON COURTHOUSE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 1225 FALLON STREET, 2ND FL, OAKLAND, CA 94553.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 7/25/2024

THOMAS NIXON

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 24CV084701

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Shih Hung Liu filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

JIE YU LIU to ANNIE LIU

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 11/22/2024, 9:30 AM, René C. Davidson Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 7/25/2024

Thomas I. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 24CV084701

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Shih Hung Liu filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

JIE YU LIU to ANNIE LIU

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 11/22/2024, 9:30 AM, René C. Davidson Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 7/25/2024

Thomas I. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2024)

**The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.**

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

**The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/legal\\_notices/](https://PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/)**

For assistance email [LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com).

## CALENDAR

### CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

Garden where dreams blossom and possibilities are endless. 6-10 p.m., Sept. 21. Tickets \$175. Blackhawk Museum. Visit [paybee.io/in-person-event/sunflowerhil/5](https://paybee.io/in-person-event/sunflowerhil/5).

**REGISTER FOR TRI-VALLEY HAVEN'S PACE FOR PEACE** This 5K/10K Run & Walk is 8 a.m., Oct. 5. Race begins and ends at the Haven's Community Building, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Register at [paceforpeace.itsyourrace.com/register](https://paceforpeace.itsyourrace.com/register).

## Support

**FAMILY/CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** The NAMI Tri-Valley Family/Caregiver Support Group is 7-9 p.m., Aug. 12. For more information, contact 925-344-4480 or visit [namitrivalley.org](https://namitrivalley.org).

**VA MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH** The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's Mobile Medical Outreach Unit provides examinations, consultations and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. No appointment necessary. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 15, Livermore Civic Center Library. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Aug. 26, Pleasanton Library.

**OPEN HEART REFUGE** Open Heart Refuge is a 20-bed overnight shelter in Livermore for adults who are in crisis or experiencing homelessness, operating 7 days a week from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. and includes both a hot dinner and hot breakfast. For more information visit [openheartkitchen.org/refuge](https://openheartkitchen.org/refuge).

## Government

**PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL** Pleasanton City Council Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Aug. 20. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](https://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Aug. 28. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](https://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

## Volunteer

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES PACKOUT** The next Pleasanton Military Families Packout is 8:45 a.m., Aug. 16-17. Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Donations are needed. Visit [pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org](https://pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org).

**VOLUNTEER FOR CITY SERVE** City Serve is looking for committed and enthusiastic volunteers to serve the community by working with local non-profits and Mercy Space Partners. For more information visit [cityservecares.org](https://cityservecares.org).

**BOOKLEGER VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION** Learn more about volunteering with the Pleasanton Public Library and the Pleasanton Unified School District's cooperative program and bring the joy of reading to PUSD classrooms. 10-11 a.m., Aug. 20. Pleasanton Library.

# WE'RE PROUD TO BRING OUR READERS SOME OF THE BEST JOURNALISM IN THE STATE.

The annual **California Journalism Awards** competition, which celebrates excellence in reporting, design, photography and multimedia recognized our team with **7 awards** in the following categories:

1st - Coverage of Youth and Education

1st - Feature Story

2nd - In-Depth Reporting

2nd - Columns

3rd - Health Reporting

3rd - Profile Story

5th - Coverage of Local Government



HERE'S WHAT SOME OF THE JUDGES OF THE 2023 CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS ARE SAYING ABOUT OUR WORK —

Very thorough and balances policy explanations and the personal experiences of families. The writer does a good job giving context, and the story is structured well with sections that make sense and flow well.

— First Place,  
Coverage of Youth and  
Education

School systems are bleeding teachers; perhaps nowhere more than in high-cost communities where educators can no longer afford to live. This piece looks at the issue from the district and teacher points of view. This was a very solid look at the issue.

— Second Place, In-Depth Reporting

Catalytic converter theft story was nicely reported with lots of details and facts. This story surprised me with how interesting — and timely — it was.

— First Place, Feature Story



Please help support the local journalism and the award-winning team that is driven by the desire to bring you fresh, original reporting.

**We couldn't do it without you.**

**Pleasanton  
Weekly**

SUPPORT LOCAL  
**JOURNALISM**



**BECOME A  
MEMBER**



# Real Estate

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during May 20-24 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and July 8-12 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 6050 Allbrook Circle** L. Bondad to V. & V. Parulekar for \$1,620,000
- 3726 Bairn Court** Ham Trust to 3726 Bairn Court LLC for \$1,000,000
- 1718 Beachwood Way** Wolf Trust to W. & Q. Dong for \$2,280,000
- 4322 Fairlands Drive** M. Rouhani-Shahraki to H. & B. Choi for \$1,170,000
- 2173 Inverness Court** Dehart Trust to Brynjulson Trust for \$1,900,000
- 4646 Ithaca Way** Loscutoff Living Trust to H. & R. Bhanushali for \$920,000
- 4471 Linda Way** J. & A. Hess to Johnson Trust for \$2,450,000
- 2793 Longspur Way** R. Subbagari to Bose-Dyckson Family Trust for \$1,975,000
- 7845 Medinah Court** Williams Trust to R. Owner for \$1,650,000
- 7852 Perry Lane** Faccini Living Trust to P. & J. Mullapudy for \$3,310,000
- 3806 Pimlico Drive** K. & P. Lubojacky to E. Santos for \$680,000
- 3864 Promenade Way** Pickard Family Trust to V. & G. Ganesan for \$1,385,000
- 1811 Sinclair Drive** Matile Living Trust to R. & R. Gowthaman for \$1,687,000
- 2401 Skylark Way** Allison Family Trust to D. & J. Nelson for \$2,410,000
- 2664 Turnstone Drive** J. & M. Sagoo to Zca Homes LLC for \$1,640,000

### Livermore

- 836 Arbor Court** J. James to N. & R. Atmakuri for \$1,160,000
- 5629 Arlene Way** S. Grant to R. & A. Balani for \$1,454,000
- 1338 Aster Lane** Tap Line LLC to Y. & H. Jeong for \$975,000
- 860 Berryessa Court** Krishnan Family Trust to T. & M. Pham for \$1,105,000
- 1678 Blackoak Court** S. & A. Stephens to S. & H. Sangha for \$1,500,000
- 862 Cole Common** J. Walton to M. & S. Arif for \$935,000
- 417 Hanover Street** D. & S. Wagner to V. & D. Vakula for \$1,425,000
- 931 Hanover Street** Z. Hakim to P. & N. Choudhari for \$1,275,000
- 1882 Heidelberg Drive** Silva Living Trust to Nm Homes LLC for \$1,020,000
- 2746 Kelly Street** Calmetro Service Inc to J. Schilling for \$1,028,000
- 4860 Kimberley Common** H. Valdez to J. & J. Lee for \$1,370,000
- 921 Laguna Street** J. Loney to Bandigari Family Trust for \$1,400,000
- 812 Megan Road** P. & M. Carvalho to K. & T. Cullen for \$1,155,000
- 975 Murrieta Boulevard #38** Whippet Trust to J. & J. Samples for \$415,000
- 1044 Redondo Way** Higgins Trust to C. & J. Alapan for \$1,165,000
- 1419 Roselli Drive** E. & D. Kuelimer to Pradeep & Hyndhavi Trust for \$1,451,000
- 3113 Salisbury Court** R. Kumar to R. Suarez-Perez for \$1,800,000



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

- 210 Selby Lane** Caron Family Trust to K. Langworthy for \$1,080,000
- 1499 Spring Valley Common** Mancebo Trust to M. Mccormick for \$605,000
- 4128 Torrey Pine Way** G. & M. Hisel to E. & A. Fraser for \$890,000
- 266 Wood Street #404** B. Motta to C. Scroggins for \$680,000

### Dublin

- 6909 Brighton Drive** A. Daniels to G. & R. Kathiresan for \$1,340,000
- 7237 Cronin Circle** V. & S. Cheong to Opendoor Property Trust for \$746,000
- 7259 Dover Lane** Lohman Trust to X. & B. Benson for \$1,475,000
- 7933 Firebrand Drive** Blackburn Trust to D. & P. Koshiya for \$1,225,000
- 7843 Gardella Drive** Maxion Living Trust to G. & S. Hom for \$1,400,000
- 4398 Healdsburg Way** Bedi Family Trust to B. & U. Shah for \$1,600,000
- 6745 Hyde Court** Smyth Living Trust to Varalas LLC for \$1,250,000
- 7075 North Mariposa Court** C. Sun to L. & Y. Landge for \$1,250,000
- 4260 Midlands Court** A. Bisht to M. & A. Fararooni for \$1,410,000
- 7674 Millbrook Avenue** Garcia Trust to C. Sung for \$1,530,000
- 5570 Newfields Lane** Singh Trust to N. & S. Kudva for \$2,590,000
- 4859 Perugia Street** Mehrook Living Trust to G. & P. Chatrath for \$1,010,000
- 11468 Rothschild Place** R. Zazo to R. & D. Tiruchirappally for \$2,110,000
- 2572 Vannucci Way** Marlin Family Trust to F. & F. Venkataram for \$2,175,000
- 3697 Whitworth Drive** Szollos-Geraghty Family Trust to S. & A. Kona for \$1,190,000

### San Ramon

- 3048 Cabrillo Avenue** Wang Trust to Moka & Dittakavi Family Trust for \$1,589,000
- 2489 Camino De Jugar** Zarganis Family Trust to J. & J. Martinez for \$1,268,000
- 2135 Canyon Lakes Drive** B. Smith to Madadi Family Trust for \$1,500,000
- 44 Centennial Way** H. & M. Horowitz to S. & S. Biswas for \$2,150,000
- 234 Copper Ridge Road #104** Hand-Perry Living Trust to K. & M. Kelly for \$625,000
- 7547 Corrinne Street** Harvey Trust to Kumar Living Trust for \$1,415,000
- 10029 El Dorado Drive** Griffin Family Trust to P. & N. Tumma for \$1,600,000
- 7495 Hillsboro Avenue** Ploeger Family Trust to Tare Family Trust for \$1,600,000
- 53 Jamaica Drive** Fielder Trust to S. & N. Parab for \$1,915,000
- 7477 Northland Avenue** Chick Trust to S. & S. Muyeed for \$1,480,000
- 382 South Overlook Drive** Cerri 2019 Trust to Hand-Perry Living Trust for \$810,000
- 3062 Pine Valley Road** K. & R. Sherman to S. & N. Kalra for \$1,520,000
- 115 Reflections Drive #15** Malhotra Family Trust to S. Nguyen for \$510,000
- 3361 Roma Place** Fabert Family Trust to N. & C. Maruti for \$1,705,000
- 238 Silk Hill Court** K. Keller to Gopinath Trust for \$2,840,000
- 81 Tumbleweed Court** Olivier Family Trust to Vijay & Sangeetha Trust for \$2,125,000
- 209 Westvale Court** O. & J. Skance to L. Wonnacott for \$1,600,000
- 309 Whitcliff Court** Cooper Family Trust to F. & N. Mousavi for \$2,640,000

Source: California REsource

*Coming Soon!*  
ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT! LAGUNA OAKS BEAUTY!

Offered at: \$3,878,000  
Call or text Cindy for details



#### 2769 LYLEWOOD DRIVE, PLEASANTON

5 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath + Media Room + Office | 4689 SF | 21,637 SF - Premium Lot  
Built in 1995 | Remodeled Kitchen | 3-Car Garage | Side Yard Access | Pool/Spa  
Outdoor Covered Kitchen with Granite Counters and TV & Ceiling Fans

A MUST SEE!

The CINDY GEE Team  
REALTOR/NOTARY

kwLuxury  
HOMES INTERNATIONAL  
CINDY IS ALSO A NOTARY

cindygeesold@gmail.com



CINDY GEE

925.963.1984

459 Main Street  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
Dre# 01307919

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (May 20-24)

Total sales reported: 15  
Lowest sale reported: \$680,000  
Highest sale reported: \$3,310,000  
Average sales reported: \$1,738,466

### Livermore (May 20-24)

Total sales reported: 21  
Lowest sale reported: \$415,000  
Highest sale reported: \$1,800,000  
Average sales reported: \$1,137,523

### Dublin (May 20-24)

Total sales reported: 15  
Lowest sale reported: \$746,000  
Highest sale reported: \$2,590,000  
Average sales reported: \$1,486,733

### San Ramon (July 8-12)

Total sales reported: 18  
Lowest sale reported: \$510,000  
Highest sale reported: \$2,840,000  
Average sales reported: \$1,594,500

Source: California REsource

## Back to School Giveaway



Nominate your favorite **local** teacher and give them a chance to win fantastic prizes, totaling over **\$2,000!**

Grand Prize: \$500 Towards Teachers Wishlist  
2 Winners: \$300 Towards Teachers Wishlist  
10 Winners: \$100 Amazon Gift Card



Calling all **Local** Teachers, Students, Parents and Community! This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the educators who dedicate their time and energy to shaping our future. Visit our Facebook Page or Instagram and tag yourself or a Local Teacher that you want to nominate! Teachers' names will be drawn August 15th.

 Venema Homes Real Estate Team  @VenemaHomes



**Scan the QR Code to Nominate a Teacher!**





# ARMARIO HOMES

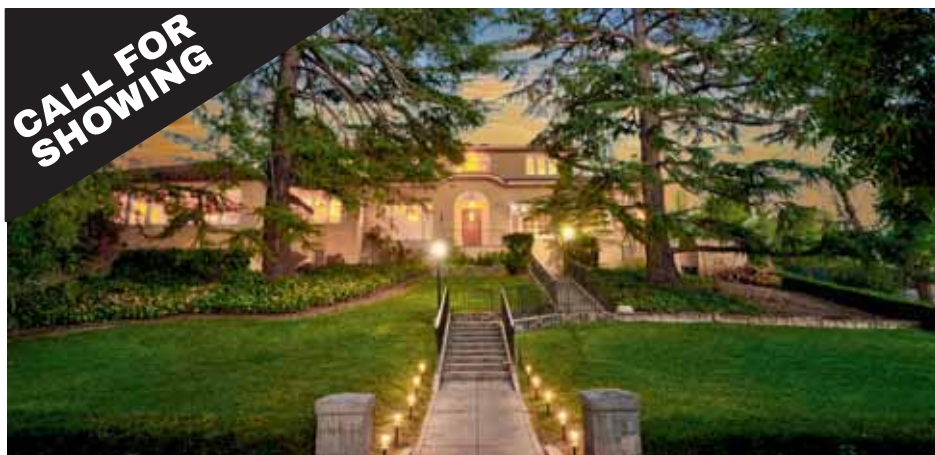
TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY

**EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY**

**VIEW THIS LUXURY RUBY HILL HOME BEFORE IT HITS THE MARKET!**



CALL FOR PRICE & SHOWING - 6 BED | 6.5 BATH | 7,000 SQFT  
PROPERTY INCLUDES 1,000 SQFT ADU WITH KITCHEN & BATH  
DEANNA ARMARIO - (925) 694-0806



**CALL FOR SHOWING**

4698 2ND STREET, PLEASANTON - \$2,995,000  
4 BED | 3 BATH | 3,281 SQFT



**CALL FOR SHOWING**

798 E ANGELA ST, PLEASANTON - \$1,679,000  
3 BED | 2 BATH | 1,950 SQFT

## Select the BEST Realtors

So far in 2024, Armario Homes:

- ✓ COMPLETED \$70 MILLION IN SALES
- ✓ NEGOTIATED 31 SALES FOR CLIENTS
- ✓ PRODUCED TOP-DOLLAR SALES FOR HOME SELLERS!



**DeAnna Armario (925) 694-0806**  
459 Main Street, Pleasanton - [www.ArmarioHomes.com](http://www.ArmarioHomes.com)  
DRE# 01363180 | Broker DRE# 02065804