

Pleasanton Weekly

'The Hairy Ape'
Page 14

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HAPPY



PLEASANTON WEEKLY CELEBRATES BIG ANNIVERSARY WITH COMMUNITY AT CONCERT IN THE PARK

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Spring at the Bankhead

In the final weeks of summer 2025, Livermore Valley Arts already has its sights set on spring 2026.

The nonprofit operator of the Bankhead Theater this week unveiled the back end of its 2025-26 performance schedule — “a perfect mélange of genres” that includes attention-grabbers like “Glee” alum Matthew Morrison, Grammy nominee Ruthie Foster and Blind Boys of Alabama, Wizard of Oz On Ice, Ravi Shankar Ensemble, Dinosaur World Live and “The Glass Menagerie”.

“Even though we are just announcing the last three or so months of our 2025-2026, there is such an eclectic, exciting mix of shows in just this quarter of the year,” CEO Chris Carter said in Wednesday’s press release. “Family shows, dance shows, Broadway, blues, Mariachi, and more, you can enjoy whatever is your fancy at The Bankhead, as well as discover something new!”

The announcement concentrated on March through May, although Foster’s concert was an addition to the February slate and the return engagement of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir to close the season on June 27 were also highlighted.

Music will be at the forefront in the spring.

Acts like vocal group Kings Return on March 6, Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy and The Celtic All-Stars on March 22, Morrison (a former Brilliance at the Bankhead headliner) on March 26 and “The Other Mozart” about the composer’s sister on March 29.

Plus there’s the Ravi Shankar Ensemble on April 3, Aida Cuevas presenting “Mexican Symphonic Serenade” on April 10, An Evening with Emerson, Lake & Palmer on April 18, Toad the Wet Sprocket lead singer Glen Phillips on May 9 and Grammy winner Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea the next night.

For dance fans, the American Ballet Theatre Studio Company is performing on March 20 and shadow-illusion troupe Catapult follows April 17.

Livermore’s SPARC Theater is partnering with LVA to produce Tennessee Williams’ “The Glass Menagerie” at The Stage Door Lounge at the Bankhead from May 1-3.

Other shows include Best of the SF Comedy on March 21, Wizard of Oz On Ice (how are they going to do that?!) on April 12, Dinosaur World Live on April 24 and God is a Scottish

Drag Queen: The Second Coming on May 8.

The spring schedule reveal came during a busy time for the theater in downtown Livermore.

At the precipice of a jam-packed September, LVA is riding the high of its successful Brilliance at the Bankhead gala Aug. 23, headlined by Grammy-winning country and pop singer LeAnn Rimes.

“I was thrilled by the incredible support from our community,” the nonprofit’s director of development Brittany Mulgrew told me. “This year’s event is on track to be our largest fundraiser ever, with ticket sales exceeding expectations and guests clearly enjoying the entire evening. The enthusiasm at the event was inspiring, and it reaffirms the vital role the arts play in bringing people together!”

The roll continues this Friday, with “Seinfeld” alum and Tony Award winner Jason Alexander kicking off the 2025-26 Rae Dorough Speaker Series at 8 p.m.

The series has two more speakers in 2025: former senior intelligence official and counterintelligence special agent Lue Elizondo presenting on so-called “unidentified anomalous phenomena” on Sept. 18, and “A Pirate’s Life” with archeologist and “National Geographic” explorer Lisa Briggs on Nov. 13.

Unfortunately, news came out just as I was writing this column Wednesday that comedic actress Jane Lynch (also of “Glee” fame) caught COVID so her stage show with friend Kate Flannery (“The Office”) on Saturday evening has been canceled.

Postponements happen; such is life for a live entertainment venue.

Musician Colin Hay, of Men at Work fame, is set to play his sold-out show at the Bankhead on Oct. 10 after he had to back out due to personal impacts from the Palisades Fire.

Music and comedy, that’s the September formula.

The ABBA Concert Experience is this Sunday afternoon, 90s Mix Tape Live is next Saturday (Sept. 13), Pacific Chamber Orchestra’s “Anastasia in Concert” is next Sunday (Sept. 14) and fellow resident company Livermore Valley Opera opens its “La Traviata” production Sept. 27.

As for laughs, look to the San Francisco Comedy Competition next Friday (Sept. 12), Funny Women of a Certain Age on Sept. 19 and “Saturday Night Live” alum Jon Lovitz on Sept. 26. “Yeah, that’s the ticket!” ■

About the Cover

Hundreds turned out to the Pleasanton Weekly’s 25th Anniversary Party, held last Friday in conjunction with the PDA’s closing Concert in the Park of the 2025 summer season. Photos by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXVI, Number 32

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LET'S DISCUSS:
Read the latest local news headlines and comment on stories at **PleasantonWeekly.com**

What draws you to read the Pleasanton Weekly every week?



Sara Solis
Bartender

I love knowing what's happening in our community because I've lived in Pleasanton for most of my life. And I especially love the Take Us Along feature because it gives such a wonderful glimpse into people's personal lives.



Robin Constantinides
Middle school teacher

I don't live in Pleasanton anymore, but when I did, I enjoyed reading the Weekly to stay informed of local news and activities. I especially loved the coverage of the local children. My daughter made it into the paper twice — once for sports and once for standing in a very long line at the post office right around Christmas.



Justin Lavell
Nursing student/bartender

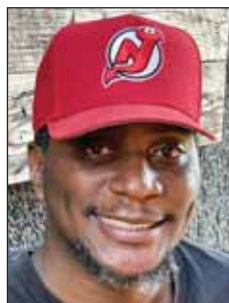
My stepdad always brings the paper home from his barbershop downtown, so I read the Weekly quite regularly. I love being updated on all of the local news, events and people in our community.



Hannah Ray, with Brewer
Registered dietician

I really like reading the Streetwise column that appears on Page 4 every week. I always look to see whether I know anyone who's in it. And I also enjoy thinking about the questions and how I would have answered had I been one of the people interviewed.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis



Isaiah Ray
Sheetmetal worker

I wasn't aware of the Pleasanton Weekly until recently, but now that I am, I really enjoy reading it from cover to cover, for all of the local news, events and people. It helps me to feel better connected to my community.

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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TAKE US ALONG!

And as you head out on your vacation, be sure to bring a copy (or just the cover) of the **Pleasanton Weekly** for a **Take Us Along photo**. A popular reader-submitted photo feature, Take Us Along sees Pleasanton residents pose for a picture with the paper in their favorite vacation spots. To submit your entry, email your photograph to editor@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.



Disneyland

DIGEST

Holocaust survivor

One of the youngest known survivors of Dr. Josef Mengele's infamous experiments on identical twins during the Holocaust will be coming to Chabad of the Tri-Valley in Pleasanton next week to discuss her life and the award-winning documentary she directed.

Sora Vigorito, who was among 89 pairs of identical twins who went through the so-called Angel of Death's laboratory, will be speaking during the event scheduled for Monday (Sept. 8). The event will begin at 7:30 p.m.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit jewishtri-valley.com.

Library book sale

The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is hosting a book and media sale at the city's library over the span of several days next week to help raise money for library programs and special needs.

The nonprofit hosts book sales twice a year to support the library — each sale raises almost \$15,000, according to the organization. The sale begins on Thursday (Sept. 11) and will last until that Sunday (Sept. 14). Library members will be offered early access from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday and the greater public will be invited from 2-7 p.m.

On Friday and Saturday, the sale is open to all from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Sunday, the sale will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Witches Night Out

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Witches Night Out event, taking place on Oct. 1 in downtown Livermore.

According to Livermore Downtown Inc., the event will feature the new Bewitching Alley Bazaar pop-up marketplace, a costume contest and a virtual witches hat contest.

The event will run from 4-9 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit livermoredowntown.com.

CSUEB orchestra

String musicians of all genres are invited to sign up for the California State University, East Bay Chamber Orchestra, which meets every Wednesday from 7-8:50 p.m.

The ensemble is structured to welcome adults with any musical background. The group focuses on learning and playing different styles of music, including classical, movie music, video game music, pop and rock.

For more information and to join, contact orchestra director Rebecca Roudman at CsubOrchestra@gmail.com. ■

Districts uphold state's protections for LGBTQ+ students amid federal rollback

U.S. government pursues lawsuit against California agencies for allegedly violating Title IX

By JUDE STRZEMP

Policy across Tri-Valley school districts make it abundantly clear — students have state-supported protections for attributes including their identities, even as federal civil rights law dissipates.

State law allows students to use facilities and participate in sports that align with their gender identity.

Meanwhile, Title IX — the federal law prohibiting sex-based discrimination in education programs and activities receiving federal monies — dropped explicit protection this year for gender identity

and expression, sexual orientation, sex characteristics and pregnancy.

Since the change to Title IX, the U.S. government has pursued an ongoing lawsuit against the California Department of Education and high school sports association California Interscholastic Federation for their alleged violation of Title IX.

"While there have been federal changes, our students in public schools are still protected by strong state laws and have local recourse if they have been the victim of harassment or discrimination," said Lainie Pascall, education chair of LGBTQ+

advocacy group PFLAG Tri-Valley.

"However, rolling back Title IX protections nationally sends the message that LGBTQIA+ students' rights can be tossed aside to score political points. It emboldens bullies and puts LGBTQIA+ students at increased risk of harassment," Pascall added.

Nation sways one way

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to

discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

The U.S. Department of Education may issue rules to make effective Title IX's prohibition on sex discrimination, consistent with the objectives of the statute, according to its website.

In April 2024, the ED under then-president Joe Biden issued a final rule amending the regulations implementing Title IX in part to clarify that sex discrimination includes discrimination on the basis

See **STUDENTS** on Page 11



CHUCK DECKERT

A shopper exits the Walmart Neighborhood Market, located at 3112 Santa Rita Road, on Tuesday afternoon. The store is scheduled to close Oct. 2, according to a company spokesperson.

Walmart closing Neighborhood Market on Santa Rita Road next month

Company says decision made after 'careful review'

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton shoppers will soon have only one Walmart to go to in the city after the company announced Tuesday it plans to close its other store location at the beginning of next month.

The decision to shutter the Walmart Neighborhood Market, located at 3112 Santa Rita Road, on Oct. 2 was "made after careful review", according to Walmart spokesperson Anne Hatfield.

"The way customers want to be served is constantly changing,

and we are evolving to meet their needs and serve them how, when and where they want," Hatfield said. "We consider many factors, including the current portfolio mix, customer needs, financial performance and the proximity of other nearby stores."

Hatfield provided no additional reasons for the sudden closure.

"We are grateful to the customers who have given us the privilege of serving them at our Pleasanton Neighborhood Market," she said. "We look forward to continuing to serve them at our other

Pleasanton store or other nearby locations, on walmart.com and through delivery to their home or business."

The store's pharmacy will also be closing on Oct. 2. Hatfield said pharmacy staff will work with customers to transfer their prescriptions to another convenient Walmart location.

While the retailer is closing one of its two Pleasanton locations, Hatfield pointed out the proximity of the nearby traditional

See **MARKET** on Page 8

Zoning changes to draw innovation

City hopes new rules will appeal to firms in science and tech

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The City Council recently adopted updates to the municipal zoning code that, according to city officials, will make it easier for innovation-based businesses to relocate and grow in Pleasanton.

The ordinance, approved unanimously by councilmembers on their consent calendar Aug. 19, amends various chapters Pleasanton Municipal Code regarding "Innovation-Based Businesses" (IBBs) by defining them as "a distinct use category and providing tailored zoning requirements that will facilitate these high-value, relatively low-impact industrial uses in appropriate locations", according to the pre-meeting staff report.

IBBs include industries like life sciences, biotechnology, robotics, advanced manufacturing and food technology, according to the city. Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch had been touting the idea of investing in the city's future by attracting industries similar to these since his State of the City address back in March.

"This is about real changes to make it easier to do business in Pleasanton," Balch said in a press release last week. "This zoning

See **ZONING** on Page 9

Main Street Brewery to shutter after nearly 30 years

Owner says 'the time has come' with final day in business set for Sept. 21

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A downtown Pleasanton staple is closing up shop later this month after serving the community for nearly three decades, marking the second recent business closure on Main Street with Starbucks making its exit back in July.

Matt Billings, owner of Main Street Brewery, said that after 30 years, he and his wife — Sharon Billings — felt like it was time to move on to the next chapter of their lives, which is why they decided to close the brewery on Sept. 21.

"The time has come," Billings said regarding the closure.

First established in 1996, the downtown pub and restaurant is one of the last remaining places

on Main Street reminiscent of a dive bar. Walking through the front entrance, patrons are greeted by the makeshift stage and an old-school bar filled with regular customers and folks looking to enjoy some cold drinks and food.

'There's a lot of emotions going on ... I appreciate the support over the years.'

Matt Billings,
Main Street Brewery owner

Since its establishment, Billings said the brewery — located on the north end of downtown at 830 Main St. — has become a popular destination for many members of the community. He said he and his team are honored to have served all of those families, which makes the

announcement of the closure that much more bittersweet.

"We've made a lot of friends over

See **BREWERY** on Page 10



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Main Street Brewery has announced its plans to permanently close on Sept. 21 after nearly 30 years of serving the downtown community.

Livermore dog wins insurer's Hambone Award

Injured while protecting owners from bull, voted as most unusual claim of the year

BY CONNOR HUARD

Ziya, a Belgian Malinois from Livermore, won Nationwide's 17th annual Hambone Award, a recognition given to the most unusual pet insurance claim each year.

Voting for the winner took place between Aug. 5-12, during which Ziya competed against 10 other finalists, according to a statement

from Nationwide.

The unexpected incident that earned Ziya the award involved him going toe to toe with a bull to protect his people.

Ziya's family, the Allens, own 80 acres of land and rent out portions of it to a cattle farmer. One foggy morning on a walk with his owners, Ziya encountered a cattle-herding fence with a large breach in it and

standing shortly outside of it was a bull.

Ziya quickly leaped to protect his family from the bull while they moved back toward their home. The bull kicked the dog in the upper jaw, dislodging one of Ziya's upper canines.

After making it to safety, Tim Allen inspected Ziya and then rushed him to the emergency

veterinarian. However, the injury wasn't serious and Nationwide covered the eligible bills.

"I'm incredibly proud of Ziya for winning the Hambone Award," Allen told Livermore Vine. "It was a scary and traumatic moment, but in the end everything turned out okay, and I'm grateful his story is being recognized."

The two runners-up to Ziya in

the Hambone Award competition were Foxtrot, a Texan Great Dane who swallowed a turkey leg whole, and Duke, a lab-mix from Ohio who ate an entire spatula head covered in peanut butter. The winner and the runners-up all received Petco gift cards, but Ziya and his family also got to take home the Hambone Award trophy. ■

Tri-Valley to observe Sept. 11 anniversary

Annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony in Danville; LFPD stations to hold moment of silence

BY JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley communities are set to remember and reflect on the lives lost from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the somber 24th anniversary next week.

The largest public observance will take place in Danville, where the Exchange Club of San Ramon Valley is holding its annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the All-Wars Memorial in Oak Hill Park. Retired Menlo Park fire chief Harold Schapelhouman will serve as the keynote speaker.

"An American hero, (Schapelhouman) helped rescue survivors at Ground Zero and also responded to major national tragedies including Hurricane Katrina, the Oklahoma City bombing, the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster, and numerous fires and floods, including the Kerrville, Texas

Flood," club officials said.

Exchange Club president Tim White and past-president Karen Stepper, a Danville Town Council member, will emcee the ceremony, which "honors the bravery and sacrifice of the fire, police, and military personnel who responded to the 9/11 attacks".

Local Scouts and American Heritage Girls will present 50 U.S. flags in tribute, a wreath ceremony will honor Gold Star families, and an honor guard and the Monte Vista High School choir will also participate. The club will also highlight this year's 9/11 Essay Competition.

Down the freeway in Pleasanton and Livermore, the joint fire department will hold an observance at each fire station and its administrative headquarters at 9:45 a.m. Thursday (Sept. 11).

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Depart-



COURTESY EXCHANGE CLUB

Harold Schapelhouman, retired Menlo Park fire chief, shown here earlier in his career at Ground Zero in New York City in 2001. Schapelhouman is the keynote speaker for the 24th annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony organized by the Exchange Club of the San Ramon Valley.

ment has done a similar moment of silence and flag-lowering ceremony for the 9/11 anniversary at all fire stations throughout recent years. ■

Commission uncertain on downtown project pitch

Staff, applicant must figure out commercial vs. residential aspects of Old Bernal development

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Planning Commission had many split feelings last week over a downtown application that seeks to build a multi-story home on Old Bernal Avenue that includes some commercial aspects on the first floor.

Commissioners had lengthy discussions at their Aug. 27 meeting over whether they should make exceptions to the city's Downtown Specific Plan — the proposed project does not meet many standards listed in the plan — to allow the project to move forward and lose that commercial space near downtown, or if they should deny the project, which some said might lead to larger, undesirable projects in the future.

“Part of that question would then be: if we don't do this, what could happen to (the property),” Commissioner Brandon Pace said. “There are things that could happen where we lose control.”

The approximately 21,384-square-foot project site is located at 231 Old Bernal Ave., between Augustine Street and Peters Avenue.

The proposal includes the demolition of a roughly 6,000-square-foot

commercial office building that had housed a handful of businesses. According to the applicant, Gautam Patel — a Pleasanton resident who owns a real estate business with members of his family — said most of the tenants are gone and that one is currently looking for another space.

In its place, the applicant seeks to construct a new, approximately 38-foot-tall building that includes a roughly 15,000-square-foot, single-family residence. The building would be a mix of two and three stories and would also include a 725-square-foot, ground-floor, live-work space along with other site improvements.

Six total parking stalls are also being proposed along with the removal of 12 nonheritage trees.

The height of the proposed structure was a key point of contention for some at the dais, including Commissioner Stephanie Wedge.

“Pretty soon we're not even going to see the ridge,” Wedge said. “We're just going to lose all the beauty in the Bay Area as we keep going vertical and higher.”

According to staff, the zoning for this plot of land on Old Bernal Avenue stipulates that the height

of buildings should not be over 36 feet tall.

Others on the commission said they could live with the height and that, at most, the applicant should try to at least look to reduce the height by those two feet, if possible.

The main discussion points during the meeting boiled down to whether the commission saw the project as a commercial space with residential on the two top floors or if it was simply a residential house

with minimal aspects of commercial space.

And for many on the commission, they simply did not see the project as a commercial space.

“I don't want to call it a mixed-use project, when it's really not,” Commissioner Anurag Jain said during the meeting. “There is no storefront. The access to the commercial space is part of the house. It doesn't stand out as a commercial activity.”

But according to Patel, the reason why the project doesn't comply with some of the standards required of commercial space in that area is because of the greater context behind the project.

Patel said multiple members of his greater family want to all move in together in that proposed project and while the ground floor offices would be nice for his real estate

See **PROJECT** on Page 8

Blessing of the Grapes

Local clergy recently gathered in the vineyards for the Livermore Valley's annual Blessing of the Grapes. As a kickoff to the harvest season, the ceremony Aug. 26 at JMC Cellars in Livermore was also meant to bring good fortune in the grape pickings. The blessing follows a centuries-long tradition, practiced by many religions in wine-making regions of the world. Shown (from left): Jessica Carroll, owner and winemaker at JMC Cellars; Father Augustine Joseph from St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore; Rabbi Laurence Elis Milder from Congregation Beth Emek; Pastor Steve Wilde from First Presbyterian Church of Livermore; and Brandi Lombardi, executive director of the Livermore Valley Wine Community.



KATIE WATTS-WHITAKER

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AVAILABLE

Eaves Pleasanton



Open Waiting List for BMR One- and Two-Bedroom Units

The City of Pleasanton, in coordination with Eaves Pleasanton, is opening the Waiting List for **One-Bedroom and Two-Bedroom Below Market Rate (BMR) units** at Eaves Pleasanton located at 3650 Andrews Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Waiting List Open: August 15th - September 12th, 2025

- Applicants required to submit Pre-Application for placement on Waiting List.
- Applications must be received by Friday, September 12th, 2025 at 5pm.
- Lottery will be administered to determine the Waiting List order for the **City Preference System for Pleasanton residents and employees** for City-assisted affordable housing developments.
- Applicants must meet maximum income limits and household size requirements.

Complete and submit your application online starting August 15th 2025.

Paper applications available by request at eavespleasanton@eavesbyavalon.com.

Electronic Pre-Application forms and eligibility guidelines are available at



<https://www.avaloncommunities.com/california/pleasanton-apartments/eaves-pleasanton-affordable-housing-program/>

or scan QR code to apply.

Pre-Applications must be received electronically, by mail, or in person before the deadline at Eaves Pleasanton Leasing Office - 3650 Andrews Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Emailed or faxed Pre-Applications will not be accepted. Only 1 application may be submitted per household; Duplicate submissions will disqualify all entries.

For more information email eavespleasanton@eavesbyavalon.com or call 925-420-4435.

Monthly Rents			
	Monthly Rent	Min. Household Size	Max. Household Size
50% AMI Program			
One-Bedroom	\$1,598	1	3
Two-Bedroom	\$1,798	2	5
60% AMI Program			
One-Bedroom	\$1,917	1	3
Two-Bedroom	\$2,157	2	5

Eaves Pleasanton residents are responsible for gas, electric, sewer, water, phone, cable, internet, and renter's insurance. Renter's insurance is required. Additional fees for parking and pets may apply.

Household Maximum Income Limits		
Household Size	50% AMI Program	60% AMI Program
One (1) Person	\$55,950	\$67,110
Two (2) People	\$63,950	\$76,710
Three (3) People	\$71,950	\$86,280
Four (4) People	\$79,900	\$95,880
Five (5) People	\$86,300	\$103,560

Section 8 voucher holders are encouraged to apply.

No exceptions or consideration will be given to Pre-Applications received after the deadline date. Pre-Applications postmarked September 12, 2025, will be accepted. Rates and income limits may change with or without notice. Suggested minimum income limits do not apply to households applying with a housing voucher. Applicants with disabilities may request modifications to the rental unit and/or accommodation according to our rules, policies, practices, or services, if such modifications or accommodations are necessary to afford equal opportunity to use and enjoy the premises. AvalonBay Communities, Inc. does not discriminate in the selection of applicants on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, ancestry, children, familial status, genetic information, marital status, public assistance reciprocity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran/military status, or any other basis prohibited by law.



Equal Housing Opportunity, Other Restrictions Apply.

New owners take over Primos pizzeria in downtown Danville

‘We’re not here to change that — we’re here to protect it, refresh it, and make sure it’s still around for the next 50 years’

By JEREMY WALSH

The staple pizzeria at the gateway to downtown Danville has changed hands this summer — and while the new owners vow not to change the soul of the prominent restaurant, they say they are working on a few tweaks to breathe new life for the future.

Jimmy and Jennifer Jhanda announced Aug. 5 that they purchased Primo’s Pizzeria and Pub, located on the northeast corner of Hartz Avenue and Diablo Road. The couple were looking for an opportunity to invest in their local business community upon his retirement from the tech industry, and the popular pizza place “checked all the boxes.”

“Primos is legendary in Danville and has a great soul,” Jimmy Jhanda said in a press release. “We’re not here to change that — we’re here to protect it, refresh it, and make sure it’s still around for the next 50 years.”

The restaurant, with its outspread



JEREMY WALSH

Primos is under new ownership, with Jimmy and Jennifer Jhanda announcing their acquisition of the downtown Danville restaurant in August.

patio seating area in addition to indoor tables and bar, has remained open during the transition, but marquee signage was taken down and not replaced as of Thursday

morning. It’s unclear whether grammar was part of the motivation with the signs, but the Jhandas’ press release notably refers to their eatery as Primos — without the apostrophe.

MARKET

Continued from Page 5

Walmart store at 4501 Rosewood Drive.

“We remain very committed to California,” she said. “It’s important to point out that we have three Walmart stores within eight miles of this location — the next closest store

is one mile away. Another nearby store completed a multi-million-dollar remodel earlier this year.”

Pleasanton’s remaining Walmart on Rosewood Drive is located inside the Metro 580 shopping center, which saw the closures of the Kohl’s department store and Party City within the past year. The expansive retail property is on the city’s

Housing Element site inventory list.

The other closest Walmarts are the recently renovated Neighborhood Market on Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon and the traditional store on Las Positas Road in Livermore.

According to Hatfield, approximately 90 employees work at the Santa Rita market. The company said it hopes those employees stay

with the company, and they will be eligible to transfer to another Walmart store.

“Right now our focus is on supporting them ... and we will work with each associate to identify new job opportunities for them,” Hatfield said.

As for the shopping center on Santa Rita Road between Stoneridge

Drive and West Las Positas Boulevard, a vacancy will be nothing new in recent memory. Prior to Walmart Neighborhood Market’s arrival, the building housed the Nob Hill Foods supermarket, which closed in 2010. It then remained empty for three years before the Walmart alternative concept store opened its doors. ■

PROJECT

Continued from Page 7

business, the main goal for this project is to avoid other developers coming in and proposing something similar to the Harrison Street project from three years ago that was eventually shut down by the city.

The project had aimed to build a five-story, mixed-use building on the edge of downtown Pleasanton at 4884 Harrison St.

“If projects like (the Harrison project) were to proceed, then we would very strongly consider moving out of the town,” Patel said.

Patel said he and his family were so opposed to the Harrison project that they actually bought the property and have recently filed a new application to propose eight townhomes ranging from two to three stories high. Staff said that the application is brand new and is still going through the process of being reviewed.

The goal, Patel said, is to build projects in the area that fit within the neighborhoods. But he also recognized that the project doesn’t have to be approved, if the city chooses not to.

“We’re trying to make something work in order to mitigate

what we believe is likely the outcome with these lots afterwards, given that we live in Pleasanton and if there isn’t something here then that’s OK ... we would probably just go and then move on and we’ll sell it,” Patel said.

Another major point of discussion during the meeting was the fact that allowing the project to move forward, could cost the city land that might have been used to build more housing, rather than housing for a single family — even if that family is relatively large.

Per the city’s General Plan Land Use Element, the allowable density for a mixed use residential development such as the proposed project is 20 or more dwelling units per acre. As proposed, the project is considered a one residential unit, which means to conform to the General Plan, the project would need to propose a minimum of 10 units, associate planner Diego Mora said.

The balance between wanting to build something that fits within the neighborhood and also keeping in mind the state-mandated requirements to build almost 6,000 new units of housing was what many on the dais struggled with during the workshop.

“That’s what makes this so hard

because here we are trying to find 6,000 units for the city,” Pace said.

Commission Chair Ken Morgan added that the contention becomes: if they are trying to find about 6,000 new units of housing and they have this small piece of land, do they prefer having a project that houses three families or 10?

“Building one single-family residence that’s 38 feet tall, just looks too huge and imposing,” Morgan said. “It looks a little bit like a mansion, and to me, it’s not accomplishing our goals of providing more housing for Pleasanton.”

The other major point of contention was the loss of commercial space given that the offices proposed for the ground floor would mostly serve the family’s real estate business.

The conversation regarding this subject went back and forth for the most part with many on the commission agreeing that if the project were to move forward, there would need to be more commercial aspects to the exterior.

However, Commissioner Vivek Mohan pointed out that the site for the proposed location isn’t necessarily the most economically viable location for businesses and that he would be fine with moving this project forward as strictly

residential. He also said, in general, Pleasanton is seeing a decline in commercial viability.

“I think Pleasanton, probably at this point, is a more desirable bedroom community than a commercial (one) — that’s just a statement of fact,” Mohan said. “Unless we do something dramatically different ... the existing commercial spaces are not getting filled up.”

“If it looks like a nice residential complex or building, with trees and everything else maintained to the best of our abilities, I actually would support this,” Mohan added. “And I would support more of this construction in this area because that’s the demand today in the city.”

Pace had similar thoughts in that he supports neighborhoods where there is uniformity and he doesn’t think the proposed location is commercially viable so as long as the aesthetics conform with the surrounding area, he is not as concerned about commercial requirements.

“This isn’t Barone’s where it’s literally right off Main Street and everyone is going to go there and shop. That’s just not happening,” Pace said.

In the end, both Mohan and Pace said they were fine with

Primos, while breathing in new life where it counts. Think: the same welcoming vibe, comfort classics on the menu, plus a few fresh twists and surprises coming soon.”

“Primos has always had a great vibe,” said Aziz, who will be handling the day-to-day. “We’re dialing that up. More flavor, more fun, and more community — that’s the mission.”

The Jhandas called Aziz “a local restaurant powerhouse guru ... known for turning restaurants into neighborhood hotspots” and said he’s been making his mark at Primos in these early weeks in the front and back of the house.

“Under this new leadership dream team, guests can expect updated decor, community focused events, and a refreshed menu that honors Primos’ roots while adding new crowd pleasers. But don’t worry — your favorites aren’t going anywhere,” Aziz said in the press release. ■

LVA vows to keep cultural events alive despite funding dip

CEO says partner organizations will take over managing logistics of annual celebrations

By CIERRA BAILEY

With a diverse lineup of ticketed shows on-stage at the Bankhead Theater each year, the venue's outdoor plaza has also become a hub for family-friendly community celebrations of culture in the Tri-Valley.

Livermore Valley Arts CEO Chris Carter says the cultural events that have been established as annual traditions will continue into the foreseeable future even though some recent funding impacts have slightly shifted the path forward.

According to Carter, the outdoor community events that include the Indigenous People's Celebration, Taste of Africa, Filipino Barrio Fiesta, Pridefest, Diwali, Lunar New Year, AANHPI (Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander) Celebration, Hispanic Heritage Celebration and Juneteenth will now be fully managed by the partner organizations that have worked with LVA over the years to bring the events to life. This includes the Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Livermore Pride, Tri-Valley for Black Lives and Cheza Nami, among others.

LVA will continue to support

each event financially as it has in the past but the logistics, including booking performers and vendors, securing any necessary rental equipment and other tasks, will be handled by the nonprofits and community groups at the center of each respective event.

"Cheza Nami's a good example. They do the Taste of Africa event and they really are the managers of that event — we don't manage it," Carter told Livermore Vine in an interview. "We sponsor it, we partner with them on it with the management of the Livermore Filipino Barrio Fiesta and it's all in the same weekend and share resources and things like that, so that event was going to continue whether we were involved or not and then the Barrio Fiesta was going to continue whether we were involved or not."

"But one thing that we hadn't really discussed too much as we talked about transitioning was considering that these events continue on, we've been funding them pretty heavily and they still need funding so I don't want to abandon that," he added.

Additionally, Carter told Livermore Vine that there had been discussions between him and Arthur Barinque — a community

and event organizer contracted by the Bankhead to help produce and facilitate these events — about doing a larger cultural festival in addition to the individual events; however, moving forward with that idea is not currently feasible financially and LVA determined that keeping the individual celebrations alive was of higher priority right now.

Carter said that while the cultural celebrations are valued and meaningful to the community, they are typically free to the public and don't generate any revenue for LVA or the Bankhead Theater and therefore, in the face of financial strain, a shift was necessary.

"I like the idea of these events continuing. I think it's important. I've gotten a lot of feedback from different people around the community that they're important events," Carter said.

"We kind of came to a little crossroads with our budget trying to figure out what we could potentially do and not do," Carter acknowledged. "This last year's been — for a lot of nonprofit organizations — kind of a weird year. We didn't hit our goal for fundraising this last year; we missed it by quite a bit so we're trying to figure out the best way to go forward."

He noted, however, that they are planning to announce a big

fundraising campaign this month. "We have a strategy to get our fundraising back up, but it was definitely a hard year," Carter said.

LVA missed its fundraising goal last year by \$600,000, according to Carter. "It wasn't that we did anything different — we're actually pretty good at fundraising — but people's philanthropic priorities changed this year and oftentimes when that happens, the arts gets dropped to the bottom of the list."

The funding for the cultural event series is through LVA's education and outreach fund along with additional sponsors that help cover the cost, like Las Positas College.

"It's substantive when you add everything up over the whole year — it's somewhere between \$70,000 and \$100,000 every year that we're putting towards these events," Carter said.

In the future, Carter said he'd love to see some sort of a grant from the city to support the cultural series, noting that council members are often in attendance at the events. "I know they have a lot on their plate too, but I've been saying for years this is not something we can continually do at this pace without more support," he said.

While finances may have forced LVA to make the transition sooner, Carter noted that it had been a goal for the various organizing

groups to take over managing their respective events, similar to the Quest Science Center's Tri-Valley Innovation Fair that originated at the Bankhead.

"We actually started that here and Quest was one of our partners and then over the years it became more obvious that it was actually in better hands with Quest leading and organizing the program and so we turned it over to them and we became a fiscal sponsor for it. So we still contributed to the event as a sponsor, but we let them take over the management of the event and they've actually moved it from downtown Livermore to the fairgrounds because it got so big," Carter said.

Looking ahead, the door for a new weekend cultural festival produced by LVA is not completely closed, Carter said. "If we have a good year, if things get better, I told Arthur we could talk again after the new year about putting this weekend celebration back on the table maybe for the summer or for next fall. I'd love to do that if we could get that figured out for sure," he said.

In the meantime, some of the upcoming events remaining in this year's cultural event series include Taste of Africa on Oct. 4, Barrio Fiesta set for Oct. 5 and Pridefest on Oct. 18. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Traveling in southern Africa: Pleasanton's Debbie Ayres visited South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana this spring, including stopping for a Take Us Along at the Soweto Township sign in Johannesburg. "I really wanted a photo in front of a lion, but thought I had better not move & turn my back on her," she quipped.

ZONING

Continued from Page 5

update removes barriers and gives businesses flexibility to innovate, grow, and succeed while helping Pleasanton remain a hub of opportunity."

According to the press release, these updates reflect the City Council's priority for advancing economic development in order to improve the city's revenues and they also support the city's Economic Development Strategic Plan, which calls for "attracting life sciences and other innovation-based businesses by modernizing zoning and reducing barriers".

"By updating the city's land use regulations to better accommodate these industries, Pleasanton is strengthening its ability to compete for new investment and high-quality jobs in the Bay Area," according to the city's press release.

According to the city, the zoning changes include establishing a clear definition for IBBs, streamlining design review requirements and expanding areas where these businesses may be located, such as the Hacienda Business Park, the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone and areas around Stoneridge Mall.

The changes also include updates to the city's development standards in order to "reflect modern industry needs while ensuring new projects fit Pleasanton's character and remain compatible with nearby neighborhoods".

All of these updates, according to the city, will help provide greater certainty for prospective innovation-based businesses to move into the city in a quicker, more streamlined manner.

"For the community, these changes mean a stronger and more resilient local economy, smart

growth that balances business expansion with Pleasanton's unique character and quality of life, and greater access to high-quality, well-paying jobs close to home," the city's press release stated.

"The approval of these zoning updates lays the groundwork for sustained economic vitality in Pleasanton," the press release further stated. "By creating a business-friendly environment that supports innovation and attracts investment, the City is positioning itself for long-term prosperity and stability." ■

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Cal Fire urges folks to make 'go bags', evacuation plan

'Set, Go' awareness campaign comes as California enters peak wildfire season

BY SARAH STIERCH /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A new campaign urging Californians to be prepared for wildfire evacuations launched this week, Cal Fire said.

The "Set, Go" campaign starts with asking Californians to create a family wildfire action plan, which includes identifying escape routes, practicing evacuation drills, designating a safe meeting place, and assigning an out-of-area contact for family communications.

It continues by guiding residents on how to create an emergency supply kit, also known as a go bag, to take with them in case of evacuation.

Go bags should have non-perishable food, water, medications, important documents, flashlights, clothing, radios, chargers and pet supplies, Cal Fire said.

Finally, the campaign asks that Californians always be ready in case an evacuation is needed due to a wildfire.

This includes keeping sturdy shoes and a flashlight by one's bed and having at least half a tank of fuel in one's vehicle. Residents should also know how to shut off their home's utilities.

The agency also asks residents to connect with their neighbors to ensure everyone is prepared in case of a fire emergency.

The "Set, Go" campaign comes

as the state enters peak wildfire season.

Cal Fire says that families who have go bags and practice their evacuation plans are more likely to evacuate quicker and safely. It also reduces anxiety and stress associated with last-minute escapes due to fire threat.

"By encouraging Californians to plan, pack, and go early, the 'Set, Go' campaign emphasizes how preparation can make the difference between a safe evacuation and a dangerous situation," Cal Fire said.

For more information on wildfire evacuation preparedness and safety, visit <http://www.readyforwildfire.org>. ■



CAL FIRE VIA BAY CITY NEWS

An image for Cal Fire's new "Set, Go" campaign launched on Monday, Aug. 25 shows a family evacuating during a wildfire. The new campaign encourages California residents to be prepared in case a wildfire evacuation takes place.

County funds more renovation of historic theater

\$17.8M second phase involves interior reconstruction and exterior preservation

BY KILEY RUSSELL /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The long-suffering but historic Lorenzo Theater is on its way to a new life as a multipurpose entertainment venue and community space thanks to a fresh influx of cash from Alameda County.

The county Board of Supervisors in June approved \$17.8 million for the second phase of a project to rehabilitate the building, which was built in 1947 as a 700-person theater and severely damaged by two fires in 2020.

"The Lorenzo Theater is a cultural landmark and a source of pride for San Lorenzo," said Sandi Rivera, director of the Alameda County Community Development Agency. "This restoration is a key

step in revitalizing the downtown area and creating new opportunities for community, culture, and economic growth."

Most of the money is coming from insurance payouts for the fires. The project, awarded to Plant Construction Company in San Francisco, is expected to kick off this September and wrap up in December 2026, according to county officials. A groundbreaking ceremony was held last week.

The work will tackle interior reconstruction and preservation of the theater's exterior, including the marquee, tower and ticket booth.

It will also include restoration of the Lorenzo's historic mural, painted by prolific theater muralist Anthony Heinsbergen, who used fluorescent paint and black lights

for the work, according to a website maintained by the Lorenzo Theater Foundation, which has advised the county on the project.

The now-complete first phase of the renovation included stabilizing the building's structure, putting on a new roof and installing new trusses and doing a full seismic upgrade and debris removal.

Empty since 1982, the theater was built in the "art moderne" architectural style and is on the California Register of Historical Resources.

It has been the subject of several plans that never came to fruition over the years, including converting it to a brewery, a teen center, a classic car showroom and a daycare, according to the foundation's website.

The county bought the building in 2009 for \$415,000 from a local veterinarian who had plans to convert it to an animal clinic, said Jaimie Orfanos, assistant director of the county's Economic and Civic Development Department.

Now, the idea is to open the space up for multiple uses, Orfanos said.

"It needs to be many things, it can't just show The Rocky Horror Show any more," she said, adding that potential uses include a movie theater, a live theater, a music venue, a banquet hall and community facility, among other things.

"It needs to be really vibrant and living a full life," Orfanos said. "This is really at the heart of San Lorenzo." ■

BREWERY

Continued from Page 6

the years," he said. "So much has gone on in the last 30 years so it's a difficult decision."

He also said it's been a difficult time for the customers who have been filling up the brewery to try and support the business during its last few weeks of operations. He said he appreciates the support he has received from longtime patrons expressing how much the establishment meant to them on social media in recent days.

"There's a lot of emotions going on," Billings said. "I appreciate the support over the years. Especially the heartfelt (comments) these past couple of weeks. It's been pretty amazing."

That outpouring of support was reflected in the hundreds of likes and comments on an Aug. 29 Facebook post announcing the owners' plans to close this month.

Billings said he plans on sending the brewery off in style with football Sunday on Sept. 21, along with an evening matinee featuring live music from the Cocktail Monkeys, a local Bay Area band that plays a wide range of music that covers classic rock, modern pop and rhythm and blues.

Billings noted that this closure does not signify retirement; however, he doesn't have any immediate plans for what the next endeavor will be.

"I wish I could say I had some but it'll be recovery time for a few minutes," he said. "It's a step into the next adventure."

The Main Street Brewery closure is the latest prominent downtown business closure following the departure of Starbucks, which closed its location at 511 Main St. in July. ■

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Grant Fire near freeway burned 13 acres before containment

ACFD reports blaze sparked by vehicle fire that spread to nearby vegetation

Firefighters responded and fully extinguished a vegetation fire in Alameda County that caused a brief closure on Interstate 580 east of Livermore on Friday afternoon.

The fire, which was given the moniker "Grant Fire", grew to 13 acres in an unincorporated area just off the freeway at West Grant Line Road, which connects to Altamont Pass Road.

The fire started at about 2:40 p.m. Friday and was mostly contained by 9:30 p.m.

Cal Fire issued its final report on the fire about 24 hours later, reporting that no structures were damaged and no injuries were reported. Cal Fire said the cause remained under investigation, but the Alameda County Fire Department stated that the incident was sparked by a vehicle fire that spread to nearby vegetation. ■

— Story by Bay City News Service. Livermore Vine editorial director Jeremy Walsh contributed.



COURTESY ACFD

The Grant Fire burned 13 acres near Interstate 580 east of Livermore on Aug. 29.

STUDENTS

Continued from Page 5

of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity.

The 2024 Title IX regulations took effect Aug. 1, 2024, but its implementation was blocked in about half of the states.

Just months later on Jan. 9, 2025, a federal district court issued a decision vacating the 2024 Title IX regulations. The decision meant 2024 Title IX regulations and resources became ineffective in all jurisdictions, according to the ED website.

Title IX was reverted to its 2020 regulations, which does not include specific language referring to sexual harassment based on gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, sex characteristics or pregnancy.

Everyone, regardless of demographic, personal characteristics or identity, is entitled to the same protections against sexual harassment, according to the 2020 final rule.

A closer look at two examples in the final rule reveals the nuance of Title IX protections.

Sexual harassment directed at gay or lesbian students that is “sufficiently serious to limit or deny a student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the school’s program” is prohibited by Title IX, according to the 2020 final rule.

“If students heckle another student with comments based on the student’s sexual orientation (e.g. ‘gay students are not welcome at this table in the cafeteria’), but their actions do not involve conduct of a sexual nature, their actions would not be sexual harassment covered by Title IX,” according to the 2020 Title IX final rule.

The regulations provide the best protections for all people in a federally funded educational program or activity who experience sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, the ED states in the final rule.

On Feb. 5, an executive order by President Donald Trump — dubbed “Keeping Men Out of Women’s Sports” — stated U.S. policy to rescind all funds from educational programs that “deprive women and girls of fair athletic opportunities, which results in the endangerment, humiliation, and silencing of women and girls and deprives them of privacy.”

The executive order also states that the U.S. opposes “male competitive participation in women’s sports more broadly, as a matter of safety, fairness, dignity and truth.”

California backs its law, and the dispute lands in court

Despite the rollback of Title IX coverage, state protections remain. California education code

protections include the Sex Equity in Education Act, which permits students to participate in sex-segregated school programs and activities, including athletics and competitions, and use facilities consistent with their gender identity, regardless of the gender listed on the student’s records.

In accordance with state law, CIF permits students to participate in programs and activities consistent with their gender identity, according to CIF director of media Rebecca Brutlag.

“The CIF provides students with the opportunity to belong, connect, and compete in education-based experiences in compliance with California law,” Brutlag told the Weekly.

Additionally, the state’s education code prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender, gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation as well as disability, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes including immigration status. The code applies to programs and activities at educational institutions that receive or benefit from state financial assistance or enroll pupils who receive state student financial aid.

Each local educational agency is responsible for following the state laws in addition to Title IX requirements, according to the CDE website.

In the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, Pleasanton Unified School District and Dublin Unified School District, board policy prohibits sex discrimination and sex-based harassment targeted at any student, based on the student’s actual or perceived sex; sex stereotypes; sex characteristics; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity; gender expression; pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy or lactation, including related medical conditions or recovery as well as parental, marital and family status.

In a recent move CIF considered consistent with California law, including education code, the association announced a pilot entry process in May for the 2025 CIF State Track and Field Championships.

Under the pilot, CIF invited any “biological” female student-athlete to compete in the championships if they “would have earned the next qualifying mark for one of their section’s automatic qualifying entries in the CIF state meet, and did not achieve the CIF state at-large mark in the finals at their section meet,” according to a May 27 statement by CIF officials.

“The CIF believes this pilot entry process achieves the participation opportunities we seek to afford our student-athletes,” CIF officials said in a statement.

But Pascall considers the pilot policy discriminatory, as it singles out trans students and makes their identities public in violation of

California law.

“LGBTQIA+ students do not give up their right to privacy and dignity simply because they play sports or attend a public school,” Pascall said. “California can, and should hold the line to protect students when federal leadership has failed.”

Following investigations of CDE and CIF, the ED’s Office for Civil Rights announced in a June 25 statement deeming both were disobeying Title IX.

“California has actively prevented equality of opportunity by allowing males in girls’ sports and intimate spaces,” the ED Office for Civil Rights officials said in a statement.

‘What all kids need to learn is tolerance for those who are different from themselves.’

Joanne Morrison,
Livermore resident

“The Trump Administration will relentlessly enforce Title IX protections for women and girls, and our findings today make clear that California has failed to adhere to its obligations under federal law,” U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon said in a statement. “The state must swiftly come into compliance with Title IX or face the consequences that follow.”

The federal government filed a lawsuit July 9 against CDE and CIF in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California over allegedly violating Title IX.

The U.S. seeks a judgment granting declaratory, injunctive and damages relief for the alleged violations of Title IX and the federal funding contracts the defendants entered with the promise of Title IX compliance and its implementing regulations.

“This lawsuit is a cruel and baseless political stunt,” said Tony Hoang, executive director of the statewide LGBTQ+ civil rights organization Equality California. “This is not about fairness in sports — it is about erasing trans people from public life.”

“Transgender youth are not a threat, but they continue to be targeted by the Trump Administration in a coordinated campaign of hate and misinformation,” Hoang added.

Tri-Valley districts wade through uneven guidance

Mirroring contention at the state and federal level, the subject of LGBTQ+ students and sports participation arose at the LVJUSD Board of Education regular meeting Aug. 12 during public comment.

On one side, three commenters suggested that transgender female students have an unfair advantage in competitions with cisgender female

students. A fourth commenter shared this opinion and wrote his opposition to the board.

Among the commenters opposing transgender females’ participation in girls’ sports was Moms for Liberty, Contra Costa County chapter chair Lisa Disbrow.

Moms of Liberty is a conservative political organization that advocates for parents to “defend their parental rights at all levels of government,” according to their mission statement.

“There are no trans people,” Disbrow said during the meeting. “There are females (and) there are males who have a psychology that they want to identify as the other sex.”

The district’s permission of students to participate in sports based on gender identity will be overturned because of Title IX, Disbrow added.

Moms of Liberty does not express the viewpoint of the Livermore community, public commenter Joanne Morrison said.

Morrison was among the two public commenters to voice support for students participating in the sport aligned with their gender identity. A third commenter submitted their agreement via letter to the board.

“Parents can teach their kids whatever they like at home or in their places of worship, but it does not belong in public school curriculum,” Morrison said. “What all kids need to learn is tolerance for those who are different from themselves.”

Another public commenter expressed general support for Livermore being a welcoming place for all.

Prior to the meeting Aug. 12, the district planned to agendize a Title IX discussion.

“After careful consideration, we will not be agendizing this item at this time,” LVJUSD Superintendent Torie Gibson said in a statement. “The issue of gender identity and participation in school athletics is currently under legal review at the national level, with conflicting court rulings and an expected U.S. Supreme Court decision to provide clarity.”

“Given the unsettled legal landscape, our district is required to follow the law as it stands — regardless of personal beliefs or viewpoints,” Gibson added.

The district is committed to complying with all applicable laws, including Title IX, and continues to monitor guidance from the ED, the CDE and CIF, according to Gibson.

Within neighboring Dublin, DUSD rescinded an administrative regulation this spring regarding Title IX sex discrimination grievance procedures that had been developed in accordance with the 2024 Title IX regulations.

“With the rescission of the 2024 regulations, these administrative regulations are now misaligned with federal requirements,” according to

the March 11 DUSD agenda item prepared by assistant superintendent of human resources Heather Campos.

“To ensure compliance, we must cancel the 2024 regulations and revert back to the 2020 standards,” the agenda states.

“While recent changes to Title IX may alter federal protections, our dedication does not waver,” DUSD assistant superintendent of educational services Matt Campbell told the Weekly. “We are firmly committed to protecting all students from discrimination, including that based on sexual orientation and gender identity.”

DUSD will continue to safeguard student rights through other means such as the uniform complaint process and general complaint procedures, Campbell added.

Meanwhile, Pleasanton has not completed the process of updating its board policies to align with current Title IX regulations, according to PUSD spokesperson Susanne Frey.

The district is currently reviewing updated model policies that the California School Board Association released in June 2025, Frey added.

“Although federal regulations narrowed in 2025, California law continues to fully protect our students regardless of the federal rollback,” Frey said.

A complaint alleging harassment and discrimination on the basis of gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation would be handled pursuant to the uniform complaint procedures, Frey explained.

“Importantly, all complaints are investigated and no protections have been lost,” Frey added.

Neither the ED nor the San Ramon Valley Unified School District responded to requests for comment. ■



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25 YEARS HAPPY

Pleasanton Weekly celebrates big annivers



STORY BY JEREMY WALSH |

What an awesome 25th Anniversary Party last Friday night. The Pleasanton Weekly piggybacked on the Pleasanton Downtown Association's popular summer series by co-sponsoring the final Concert in the Park of the season to serve as our community celebration marking a quarter-century since our debut paper in 2000. The RPM Band rocked an audience of hundreds sprawled across Lions Wayside Park and adjacent Delucchi Park. The Weekly team, as well as organizational leaders from our parent Embarcadero Media Foundation, enjoyed engaging with so many readers and residents at our table and throughout the park, including local elected officials from all three of our Tri-Valley



25TH Anniversary with community at Concert in the Park



PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

markets and State Senator Jerry McNerney who presented us a special proclamation. The evening brought our staff closer to the Pleasanton community and re-energized us all for the next four months to close 2025 on an even higher note — as we look to build momentum for 2026 and the next 25 years.

Learn more about supporting our brand of local journalism in the Tri-Valley at www.pleasantonweekly.com. While there, be sure to check out our 25th Anniversary Page, which includes Staff and Reader Memories, Take Us Along from the past, Memorable Covers, Upcoming Events and information on becoming a Legacy Donor. Thank you, Pleasanton! ■



THE EXISTENTIAL ANGST OF MODERNITY

Themes of Eugene O'Neill's 1922 play 'The Hairy Ape' as resonant as ever

By JEANITA LYMAN

The protagonist of the main event for this year's Eugene O'Neill Festival starts the story as a happy man, content and proud of his work in the boiler room of a transatlantic ocean liner — until his feeling of belonging is ruptured by the comment of an upper class woman reminding him of his place in society.

"Oh, the filthy beast!" is the quote that serves as the catalyst for main character Yank to venture into the throes of the plot as he begins to question everything he's ever known, and as suppressed emotions from his past begin to emerge to the surface.

EONF Artistic Director Eric Fraisher Hayes said it was this moment, and Yank's response to it, that he and lead actor James Hiser were seeking to explore further as the two reunited in their same roles for this year's production of "The Hairy Ape" more than a decade after they had originally put on the play together.

"The play starts with Yank, this character who has made a world out of the stokehole where the furnaces are, that's his world, and he's the best at it," Hayes said in an interview with DanvilleSanRamon. "That's his

world, and he dominates it, and he thinks everything makes sense."

The later comment from the woman — who benefits from the wealth generated by Yank's work, yet eschews any appreciation for his role and mastery beyond that of a cog in the machine — forces the main character to confront a reality in which he is far from dominant.

"Then this woman, who is the daughter of the guy who owns the ocean liner, she goes down just for the hell of it to see how these grubby, dirty men work down in the furnaces, and she's horrified by what she sees in Yank," Hayes continued. "And it really tears a hole in the whole idea of where he belongs, and sends him off on a quest to go find his place, looking to get back at her."

Where Yank ultimately finds himself at the conclusion of the plot is alluded to in the play's title.

"He ends up at the zoo, where he finds himself talking to the gorilla in the cage — the hairy ape — who feels at that point is the only one who understands him," Hayes said.

While Hayes has experience telling the story of "The Hairy Ape," he said that in his second time around, he is seeking to explore the main



character and the themes of the play in a more nuanced way.

"I'm really interested in exploring the themes of the worker and who owns things, and who belongs and who doesn't," Hayes said. "I re-

'Seeking to belong came out of my understanding of this play, how Yank was on a quest to find his place.'

ERIC FRAISHER HAYES,
EONF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

ally wanted to personalize the story, because I kept coming back to the question of why does this woman's rejection throw him so off. I got really into the question of why, why would this be so important to him,

and in doing that I looked through the play and I found these places in the play script where he refers to his family life."

The snippets of Yank's family life that Hayes was drawn to include the character's abusive father and his mother's death from alcoholism, making for an overall shaky psychological foundation for the protagonist during his youth — and inspiring Hayes' framing of the play in its early moments this time around.

"In his head he's in his own little world that reminds him of the womb, where he's safe and things make sense," Hayes said. "In a sense, he then I think creates a completely masculine — you could even say toxic — world of metal and fire and muscle, and that's his world, and when this woman comes to see him it kind of jars loose this idea that 'maybe there's something outside of this artificial, mechanical womb I created for myself.'"

While Hayes' approach seeks to explore the inner workings of the main character, in doing so he seeks to illuminate universal themes that resonate with a wide range of audience members, ultimately inspiring the theme of this year's festival, "Seeking to Belong."

"Seeking to belong came out of my understanding of this play, how Yank was on a quest to find his place, and so seeking to belong was the phrase that came to mind," Hayes said. "I do think in general, it feels like our country is kind of in a crisis with ideas about belonging, and who belongs and who doesn't."

"The Hairy Ape" debuts Friday (Sept. 5) for a three-weekend run. Two of those weekends are at the Tao House, with the show coming to town at the Village Theatre in downtown Danville for its final weekend. Sept. 20 and Sept. 21.

Tickets and more information are available at eugeneoneill.org. ■



PHOTOS BY ERIC FRAISHER HAYES

Clockwise from top: James Hiser in a promo photo for "The Hairy Ape". The 1922 play headlines this year's Eugene O'Neill Festival in Danville. The cast of "The Hairy Ape" rehearse at the Tao House.

Splatter festival returns to Dublin next weekend

Music, dance, art, carnival rides and games among happenings at Emerald Glen Park

By JUDE STRZEMP

The city of Dublin is set to host its annual, multi-cultural festival next weekend at Emerald Glen Park to close out the summer.

Scheduled for next Saturday (Sept. 13) from 12-8:30 p.m., Splatter is a free, family-friendly event with art activities, art installations, artist demonstrations, live music and dance performances, a world craft bazaar and culinary marketplace as well as children's carnival rides and games.

The festival will also feature dance parties and a 250-drone light show.

"It's a living expression of community identity, unity and creativity," city spokesperson Shari Jackman said of Splatter. "It marks the end of summer with art, joy, and a shared embrace of the city's rich cultures."

On the Main Stage, featured performances include Beatles tribute The Sun Kings at noon, War/Low Rider tribute Cisco Kid at 2 p.m. and an evening dance party concert with Bee Gees tribute You Should Be Dancing at 4 p.m. Prior to the final concert by Boombox Heroes at 6:30 p.m., the Emerald High School Band will perform in front of the stage.

In addition to performances on the Main Stage, the festival will showcase culturally diverse music, dance and art throughout the day in the Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater. Community group performances are set to include

Riar Academy of Performing Arts, Kung Fu USA, WeDance and Lars & In Charge, featuring Nicole Maria, according to city officials.

The Side Yard Stage will feature performances from local talent and may include music, dance, poetry and more, according to city officials. Scheduled performers include Madison Lauren, Sairaj Parva, Midnight Reruns and the August Reed Band.

Roaming entertainers, interactive art activities and art demonstrations will also be scattered throughout the festival.

Whether Bollywood dance, Chinese ballet, hula, Scottish dancing, hip-hop, kung fu or drum circles, Jackman said there is something at Splatter for every cultural interest.

Food and beverage options at Splatter will include food trucks as well as local, craft beer and wine served by the Rotary Club of Dublin

Attendees 21 and older may also opt into "The Rose Lounge — VIP Experience" to indulge in culturally diverse cuisine from 5-8:30 p.m.

Set in a "private, velvet-roped lounge", the VIP experience includes interactive food stations, elevated wine and beer tastings, unique roaming entertainment, a private dance floor and a front row seat to the drone light show, according to city officials. Tickets for the VIP experience are limited.

The festival also features a bazaar,



COURTESY CITY OF DUBLIN

Dublin is celebrating its multi-cultural community with the annual Splatter festival on Sept. 13 at Emerald Glen Park.

where attendees can "shop around the globe" for an array of goods from different cultures, according to city officials.

In partnership with the Dublin Arts Collective, "High Life" art exhibition is returning to Splatter for display in The Wave at Emerald Glen Park from 1-6 p.m. The exhibit will feature work created by Alameda County high school students, according to the Dublin Arts Collective website.

With this exhibit, Dublin Arts Collective aims to encourage artistic endeavors in young artists considering creative careers, according to the organization website.

In addition to the festivities, city officials invite residents to weigh in on the design concepts for a new, two-acre

linear park in the future Dublin Centre Development. Residents can give their input from 3-6 p.m. in an area of the park dubbed "Sponsor Row".

As for travel logistics, there will be limited parking available in the south parking lot along Central Parkway, behind The Wave. Street parking will be available on Central Parkway and Gleason Drive. Off-site event parking will be available at the East County Hall of Justice lot, located at 5151 Gleason Drive in Dublin. A free,

continuous shuttle will also run every 30 minutes from Fallon Sports Park to the festival.

Splatter is produced by Dublin's parks and community services department, with sponsorship support from local businesses.

For further schedules and information, attendees can download the "DublinCAEvent" app. More information about Splatter's volunteer opportunities, vending and sponsorships are available at www.dublinsplatter.com. ■

Valley Concert Chorale ushering in new season

Group excited for auditions this month – and gig at Carnegie Hall next June

By CIERRA BAILEY

Another new season is on the horizon for Valley Concert Chorale — and with it, the group seeks to welcome new talent.

VCC's 2025-26 season is set to begin with holiday concerts entitled "An American Holiday: Christmas Choral Music from the Americas" featuring songs from Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico and the U.S., according to a recent announcement from the chorus.

The chorale performs three concert sets a season with a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary and folk to jazz.

In March, the chorale will perform a mass set to be formally announced at a later date, and in May, they will present John Rutter's "Requiem" in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church of Livermore and Las Positas Community College Chamber Choir. The "Requiem" will also be performed at Carnegie Hall in June.

VCC board president Sarah Allendorf said in the statement that

the choral group is especially excited for their performance in New York City in the new season. "It will be an amazing experience for the Chorale!" she said.

With a new artistic director at the helm, VCC is looking to bring on more new voices for the eventful season ahead as they are kicking off auditions next week.

"We are very excited about growing the chorale as we enter into the next performance season with our new director Joseph Castro who joined us earlier this year," Allendorf said. "We want to offer interested singers options to finding out about us and want to audition."

Castro has been leading the chorale for several months, succeeding John Emory Bush upon his retirement in 2024 after 26 years. A Bay Area native, Castro is a choral conductor, festival clinician, soloist and adjudicator who has worked with choirs from the elementary through collegiate levels in public, private, nonprofit and faith-based settings,

according to VCC's statement.

Additional newcomers will perform under Castro's leadership following the two upcoming audition dates set for Sept. 8 and 15.

Interested singers have two options to audition, including scheduling an appointment on either audition date — before each rehearsal begins — or attend an open rehearsal and audition at the end of each night.

The 15-minute audition appointment will include some basic sight-reading and a rhythmic exercise, according to VCC's statement. To determine vocal range, auditioners are advised to come prepared to sing a short song — such as an art song, hymn or folk song — in any language. Additionally, singers must commit to the season with Monday evening rehearsals held at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore.

More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at valleyconcertchorale.org or the general information line at 925-866-4003. ■

'Through Every Lens'

Camera club exhibition this month

By JEREMY WALSH

The Livermore Valley Camera Club is showing off some of its members' finest work from across the globe in the photography exhibition "Through Every Lens" in the Robert Livermore Community Center all month long.

"From vivid color to striking black-and-white, the display reflects the diverse interests and artistic styles of the club's photographers. Many of the framed and

matted prints will be available for purchase," club officials said.

Some of the photographs have won awards at the club level, as well as in competitions held by the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs and the Alameda County Fair.

Founded in 1958, the club now meets on the first and third Mondays of each month (except December) from 7-9 p.m. at 5690 Sonoma Drive in Pleasanton. Learn more at lvcc.photoclubservices.com. ■



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

"Capuchin Monkeys" by Richard Finn is part of the Livermore Valley Camera Club's exhibition "Through Every Lens" in September 2025.



Lorraine Ann Hereld

June 4, 1932 – August 14, 2025

Lorraine Hereld passed away in her sleep on Thursday after three years in care following a stroke. Married to the late Gerald P. Hereld (2016), she was the daughter of the late John C. and Bertha (Twite) MacLennan. Lorraine was born in New York City and grew up in Mattapoisett, MA.

From the start she excelled in mathematics and art, both of which she cultivated throughout her lifetime. While in school, she enjoyed performing in plays and singing.

She studied Engineering at the University of Rhode Island for 3 years. There she met Jerry and left with him before finishing her degree so that they could start a family while he spent three years in the Army Corps of Engineers. Training at bases in the States followed by two years stationed in Germany gave them their first three (of five) children, the opportunity to travel around the country and then in Europe, and dear life-long friends. They settled in California on their return where Lorraine poured her energy and talents into raising and caring for her family. Later, when their children were older, she went back to school at San Jose State University and earned a Master of Arts degree in 1977 in visual arts.

Warm, charming, and outgoing, she made friends easily. She enjoyed family gatherings, socializing with her many friends, and bowling in the local women's league. She was an accomplished artist. In addition to her artmaking, she applied her talents to a career in graphic arts working for a medical publishing company, running a graphics arts consulting company, and starting a small craft stencil business with her daughter Kerry.

One of her great passions was teaching mathematics to elementary school students as a teaching assistant and tutor, for which she garnered gratitude and praise from teachers, parents, and students. She often spoke lovingly of her experiences and enthusiastically about the many approaches she developed for capturing the attention of her students and encouraging their growth.

Lorraine is survived by her devoted children Mark Hereld (Anne Brody) of Chicago, Kurt Hereld (Maria Robertson) of Pleasanton, Scott (Linda) Hereld of Santa Clara, and Kerry (Dave) Ayres of Pleasanton. She is also survived by her daughter-in-law Sherry Hereld of Rockwall, TX; six grandchildren Kelly (Brad) Traina, Luke Hereld (Kate Barnett), Justin (Mimi) Ayres, Jake (Rachel) Hereld, Lauren Ayres (Lindsey Salerno), and Katherine Ayres (Lily Barrowman); three great-grandchildren Westley Traina, Luna Ayres, and Hudson Hereld; and her half-sister Pam Chacon of Long Beach, CA.

In addition to her loving husband Jerry Hereld (2016), Lorraine is predeceased by her son Dale Hereld of Rockwall, TX (2024) and her sister Barbara Barber of Mattapoisett, MA (2016).

PAID OBITUARY



Pleasanton Police Chief Tracy Avelar addresses the congregation at Lighthouse Baptist Church during First Responder Sunday on Aug. 24.

POLICE BULLETIN

Pilot, ex-girlfriend ordered to stand trial for child sex abuse charges

More details in a high-profile child sex abuse case emerged last week when both defendants and the main witness in the case appeared in court for a preliminary hearing.

The initial allegations made national news upon the arrest of Delta co-pilot, Rustom Bhagwagar, from the runway in late July.

Bhagwagar and Jennifer Spitz Powell joined prosecutors and their own defense attorneys in the courtroom at the AF Bray Courthouse in Martinez on Aug. 29, during which their alleged respective roles in the abuse became more clear.

Prosecutors allege the abuse occurred when the two defendants were in a romantic relationship from 2017 to 2022, with Spitz Powell being charged with aiding and abetting — and sometimes participating — in the abuse that Bhagwagar allegedly inflicted on a relative of hers when the child was between the ages of 6 and 11.

Both defendants previously pleaded not guilty to the charges against them.

The preliminary hearing, aimed at providing both sides an opportunity to present initial evidence and witnesses in the case, centered on testimony from Contra Costa County Sheriff's Deputy Stephen Coupe and his account of a forensic interview with the unnamed, underage victim.

Coupe said that the child's first memory of sexual abuse was when the then-couple lived at Spitz Powell's parents' house in Alamo at 6 years old, and that the abuse escalated once they moved into a separate home in Walnut Creek at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the case centers on

child sexual abuse, Bhagwagar was allegedly physically and verbally abusive in other ways to both the child and Spitz Powell, including holding the child's hands under boiling water, throwing a pet from the balcony and threatening further harm to Spitz Powell if the child didn't comply with sexual abuse.

According to Coupe's account of the victim's interview, the sexual abuse would occur whenever Bhagwagar was in town, sometimes with Spitz Powell present. While a majority of the abuse in the 24 charges facing both defendants was alleged to be directly by Bhagwagar, prosecutors allege Spitz Powell aided and abetted in all of the sexual abuse by allowing Bhagwagar access to the child.

While neither Spitz Powell nor Bhagwagar took the stand at last week's hearing, Coupe's testimony included an account of a recorded phone call between the child and Spitz Powell. According to Coupe's account, Spitz Powell indicated that she knew about some, but not all, of the abuse. She said it was "hard to explain" when confronted about the first alleged incident but that she had tried to put a stop to the abuse, according to Coupe's account.

Following that call, Spitz Powell would go on to participate in the investigation herself, ultimately resulting in Bhagwagar's prominent arrest at San Francisco International Airport, authorities said. In a call recorded by investigators between Spitz Powell and Bhagwagar — who had been separated for more than a year at that point — Bhagwagar allegedly said that he "knew it was a matter of if not when he would get into trouble", according to Coupe.

Bhagwagar was evasive over the phone with Spitz Powell, Coupe said, ultimately concluding the conversation by saying he would fly to San Francisco to discuss the matter with her in person. When that flight landed, he was taken into custody from the cockpit by federal

and Contra Costa County authorities on July 26.

Despite her cooperation with authorities, Spitz Powell was taken into custody days later upon turning herself in once charges were brought forward.

At the conclusion of the preliminary hearing, Superior Court Judge Julia Campins found sufficient evidence to hold both Spitz Powell and Bhagwagar to answer on all 24 counts they are facing.

The two defendants both remain at the Martinez Detention Facility on \$15 million bail each. They are set for an arraignment hearing on Sept. 16 at 8:30 a.m.

— Jeanita Lyman

First Responder Sunday

Lighthouse Baptist Church held its annual First Responder Sunday on Aug. 24, welcoming and honoring the "dedication, service and sacrifice to our community" of local law enforcement and firefighting personnel.

In front of the congregation gathered in the historic church on Neal Street on the edge of downtown Pleasanton, Pastor Bill Bryson told the first responders, "Thank you for your dedication to service and to us, the people you serve. Thank you for the hardships you go through, for the danger you put yourselves in for others and ourselves. Thank you."

The pastor also reminded congregants to pray for first responders anytime they hear a siren.

Those in attendance for the occasion included Pleasanton Police Chief Tracy Avelar, Dublin Police Chief Victor Fox, Pleasanton Police Capt. Roy Gamez, Alameda County Sheriff's Cmdr. Justin Miguel, Sheriff's Capt. Ray Kelly, Dublin Police Officer Gary Codde, California Highway Patrol Officer Tyler Hahn and Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Battalion Chief Chris Jesberg. ■

— Jeremy Walsh

GUEST OPINION

BY KATHERINE CHEN

Uncovering local food insecurity — how can you help?

A red tomato, slightly green near the stem. To me, it may be a simple ingredient for my mom's classic soup. To you, a staple ingredient for dinner. But for some, it is a lifeline, received from the local food bank.

When I learned that up to one in four Alameda County residents face food insecurity, I was shocked, as few seemed to talk about it and even less engaged to help. In Pleasanton, the invisible struggle of hunger often stays hidden behind closed doors, as many families carry shame and fear of judgment.

I was challenged to find a solution and seized the opportunity to lend a helping hand this past summer.

As part of the Systems Transfor-

mation Pathway in my International Baccalaureate diploma program at United World Colleges Atlantic in Wales, I was tasked to research the intricacies and relationships within the Bay Area's food system. My capstone project, conducted in Livermore, aimed to bring youth-led change to the community.

To design my project, I interviewed multiple stakeholders. The farmers I interviewed at the Pleasanton Farmers' Market described the steep challenges of becoming organic-certified, from soil testing to tracking fertilizer receipts.

Organizers from local NGOs Fertile Groundworks and Open Heart Kitchen highlighted their year-round

shortage of volunteers, slowing their services to provide food and shelter. A UC Davis professor of biological engineering shared his experience in designing automated tools for farmers, struggling to create cheap products affordable for local farmers.

Despite the many resources fighting hunger in the Bay Area (food banks, hotlines, round-up options at cashiers to donate to food charities), residents remain largely unaware of how widespread the problem is.

To bridge this gap, I organized three



volunteer days at Fertile Groundworks — a community garden in Livermore that donates produce to local food banks/organizations — for teens, adults and families to work in soil, learn about food insecurity and be a part of the process to grow produce.

My involvement in recruiting volunteers to garden with me in Livermore's community garden included advertising the event on Nextdoor, in libraries, and at the farmers market. On the event days, volunteers joined me to weed, harvest and prepare produce for distribution. Together, we harvested over 500 pounds of vegetables, proving that community service makes a tangible difference.

The participants not only gained perspectives about food and health but also left feeling empowered to continue their service as a part of the solution to food insecurity.

Local organizations like Fertile Groundworks, Open Heart Kitchen, Culinary Angels, Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry and more depend on volunteers like us for the greatest

impact. Therefore, it is up to us — young people and older people alike — to give back to our community and volunteer, if not donate to local food charities and organizations to support those who are struggling behind the scenes.

Brenda, the program director at Fertile Groundworks, reminded me that "people are hungry all year-round" — meaning there is much more we can do in the summer, winter or on a long weekend to lend a helping hand.

I encourage you to bring your family, friends and coworkers to support local food banks, community gardens or service organizations. Your small actions can help ensure that everyone has access to the simple dignity of food. ■

Editor's note: Katherine Chen (class of 2026) is a student studying abroad at United World Colleges Atlantic in Wales, U.K. A local resident of Pleasanton, she is an active participant in both communities, bridging her work at UWC Atlantic with the Tri-Valley community.

Pleasanton Weekly

PUBLISHER

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

EDITORIAL

Associate Publisher / Editorial Director

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

Editor

Cierra Bailey, (650) 223-6528, cbailey@PleasantonWeekly.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 Interns

Pareena Gupta, Connor Huard

Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Deborah Grossman, Tim Hunt, Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

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

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

Circulation email: circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

LETTERS

International affairs

National security is of utmost importance; foreign aid is how we secure it.

National security and foreign aid are often seen as tangential entities. National security conjures images of large, marching militaries or closed, concrete borders. Foreign aid is seen as a nonprofit undertaking, one carried out by large organizations like UNICEF or smaller local enterprises.

These vivid images are not completely stereotypical, but they don't paint the whole picture. As an intern at the Borgen Project, I learnt a very vital dogma: foreign aid secures national security.

There are pronounced correlations that prove that focusing on non-combat, diplomatic strategies can alleviate poverty in developing countries while securing America's borders.

The most dangerous countries in the world are also the poorest. Families who cannot afford expensive education send their kids to religious schools, which, while providing an avenue for education, can also be a breeding ground for extremist ideology.

In the late 1980s, Charlie Wilson pleaded for Congress to build schools in Afghanistan after their war with the Soviets. The consequences of his failed plea can be seen in the rise of extremism in Afghanistan in the following years.

The solution to this cause is best summarized by former secretary of defense Chuck Hagel:

"America's role in the world

should reflect the hope and promise of our country, and possibilities for all mankind, tempered with a wisdom that has been the hallmark of our national character. That means pursuing a principled and engaged realism that employs diplomatic, economic, and security tools as well as our values to advance our security and our prosperity."

— Atheeth Ravikrishnan

Two-party system

For the time being, and for the foreseeable future, we live in a two-party system. That means that Democrats are the only political party that can check the power of Trump, MAGA and Republicans who choose to bow to a fascist regime. It also means that Democrats have to win in the 2026 midterm elections and the 2028 general election.

This is a tall order given all the woes that currently beset the party: no clear leader, lousy messaging, an inability to connect with young people and, perhaps most importantly to recognize with the recent observance of Labor Day, the loss of working class voters including low-income and low-propensity voters.

Yet this could also be an opportunity. To paraphrase NASA's Gene Krantz during the Apollo 13 crisis in 1970, "This could be our (Democrats) finest hour." Labor Day can serve as a reminder to us that working people have the power to drastically alter the political environment. We have seen this time and again in our country's history: think of the conditions that led to the New Deal, the civil rights movement, and the war on poverty.

As Bishop William J. Barber from

the Poor People's campaign has noted, the combination of working people, moral leaders, and strong allies coming together can "reconstruct democracy".

— Ward Kanowsky

Teen's nonprofit brings music education to kids

As a high school student, I'm proud to share the work of YouthTones, a nonprofit I started with a team of teen volunteers to bring music education to kids in the Bay Area. Our mission is simple: connect young musicians with children to provide free or affordable music lessons.

Through YouthTones, our team helps students develop not only musical skills, but also confidence, creativity, and a sense of community. What makes this program special is that it's entirely run by teens — our volunteers aren't just teaching music, they're mentoring and inspiring the next generation of young musicians.

Watching the students grow, overcome challenges, and find joy in music has been incredibly rewarding. Many families in our area don't have easy access to music lessons, and YouthTones helps fill that gap.

I hope our story inspires others to recognize the power of youth leadership and the impact a group of motivated teens can have in their community. Music has the power to bring people together, and our team at YouthTones is dedicated to making that power accessible to every child who wants to learn.

— Henna Lam

AI ethics

When I began studying artificial intelligence as a college student, I learned how AI could be a tool for

social good, helping us understand climate change, improve public health and reduce waste through smart automation. I still see that potential. But the way we are building AI today is taking us further from that vision.

Like many students entering tech, I first saw AI as innovation. I was taught to celebrate breakthroughs in machine learning, natural language processing and automation. But it did not take long before I started questioning what was missing from those conversations.

The environmental costs of large scale AI models are enormous. A 2023 MIT report found that training a single large language model could emit over 626 thousand pounds of carbon dioxide, equal to five cars over their lifetimes. These models run in data centers that consume massive electricity and water, often in areas already strained by climate change.

These facts are not minor. They are just ignored. Something we also overlook is the labor behind AI. Thousands of underpaid workers in countries like Kenya, the Philippines and Venezuela label toxic content so others can have so called safe systems. Their trauma goes unseen.

In school, we barely talked about climate or workers. That needs to change.

AI can support climate action, but not if it causes harm or worsens inequality. We cannot build sustainable solutions on extractive foundations.

I still believe in AI. But belief is not enough. If we do not build ethically now, we may not get a second chance.

— Aadya Madgula



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Major League Table Tennis back at fairgrounds

Olympian Zhang leads Bay Area Blasters in matches against Florida, Texas, Portland

Those of us in Pleasanton have survived the huge weekends at the Alameda County Fairgrounds for the Goodguys car show as well as the Scottish Games.

Both have been late-summer staples for years at the fairgrounds and the two events pretty much take over the city on those weekends, turning downtown Pleasanton into a celebration.

Now that the big events have come and gone, I think this weekend — Sept. 5-7 — has an event worth everyone checking out.

Major League Table Tennis is back for opening weekend at the fairgrounds, as our Bay Area Blasters are playing host to three other teams for the opening weekend of the MLTT season.

I wrote a story on the league back in January as they were halfway through the season. The story was published on Jan. 7 if you wanted to go back and check it out.

This weekend our Bay Area Blasters will welcome the Florida Crocs, Texas Smash and Portland Paddlers. Each team will play the other three teams in matches on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Back to lead the Blasters is United States Olympian and Bay Area resident Lily Zhang.

Zhang is a four-time Olympian and six-time U.S. Women's Singles National Champion; she also claimed gold in Women's Team and bronze in Singles at the 2015 Pan Am Games.

There are 10 teams in the league for this season.

Major League Table Tennis is America's first-ever professional ping pong league. Founded by tech entrepreneur Flint Lane in 2023, the league quickly earned rave reviews for its unique team-based format.

Each team match features 21 total points up for grabs. Teams earn one point for every individual game won across the match. The standard match format includes five total games: two singles, one doubles and two more singles.

It all culminated in the Golden Game — a high-stakes, race to 21 points finale, where each member of the five-player team rotates in every four points. The winning team gets an additional six points, and as can be imagined, the Golden Game can turn the tide of the match.

The schedule for this weekend is:



COURTESY MLTT

Lily Zhang and her Bay Area Blasters teammates are competing in Pleasanton this Friday through Sunday.

Friday (Sept. 5): Florida Crocs vs. Portland Paddlers, 4 p.m.; Texas Smash vs. Bay Area Blasters, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday (Sept. 6): Florida Crocs vs. Texas Smash, 4 p.m.; Portland Paddlers vs. Bay Area Blasters, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday (Sept. 7): Portland Paddlers vs. Texas Smash, 11 a.m. Florida Crocs vs. Bay Area Blasters, 2 p.m.

This is something that should interest all of us. At some time in our lives, we have all played ping pong — some of us still do. When I was in college at Chico State, we had a center in a warehouse called “Ping Pong Palace”.

We spent many hours in the Palace playing. It was really cool — it even had a small tournament court with bleachers - and wasn't “Beer Pong”, which was another coming-of-age event as we grew through early adulthood.

I work at Harvest Park Middle School as the campus supervisor, and we have three tables

that are packed, even during passing periods as kids rush to the tables, getting in some play, even during the four-minute passing period.

And some of these kids are good players. I used to fancy myself as a pretty good player when I was younger, but I watch some of these middle schoolers play and I am amazed.

It's a sport we can play well into our senior citizen years and enjoy with our grandkids.

Now you have a chance to see some of the world's best plying their trade in intimate settings for not too much money.

If you can't make it out this weekend, the MLTT will be back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Feb. 13-15, 2026. For tickets or to follow the MLTT, go to www.mltt.com. ■

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.

San Jose approves Sharks deal amid criticism

Agreement with NHL team will see city foot majority of bill for \$425M renovations of SAP Center

By BRANDON PHO / SAN JOSE SPOTLIGHT

San Jose leaders have approved a deal to keep the Sharks in town through 2051 — including a \$351 million subsidy for arena upgrades. Critics question how the city plans to finance the proposal during a structural budget deficit.

The City Council voted unanimously last week in support of a deal that would keep the city's marquee hockey team downtown for the next 25 years. Officials agreed to pay a majority of the total \$425 million required to renovate the 32-year-old SAP Center, while Sharks Sports & Entertainment will pay \$100 million. The deal also commits the city and Sharks to begin planning a new arena by September 2027.

Some have questioned why taxpayers have to foot the bulk of renovation costs at a time of economic hardship and threats to social safety net programs. Sharks owner and SAP Chairman Hasso Plattner possessed a net worth of \$15 billion as of August, according to Forbes. But there were



SJ SHARKS / COURTESY SJ SPOTLIGHT

SAP Center is home to the NHL's San Jose Sharks.

more proponents than critics at the podium Aug. 26 who saw the Sharks as an invaluable part of the city — and a no-brainer investment.

Mayor Matt Mahan said SAP Center has evolved from a mere arena to community gathering place

— and that the deal provides an opportunity to reshape a major part of the city into a walkable and dynamic space under a formal arena district.

“The truth is cities are never static. We live in a dynamic world. We're either growing, investing, evolving

and reinventing ourselves — or we're stagnating and declining,” Mahan said before the vote. “I think there's a real statement, assuming we move forward tonight, that San Jose is a major world-class city that deserves to have the very best ... events,

performances and experiences, and should be recognized as the largest city in Northern California.”

City leaders say they could pay for the deal through bonds and higher hotel taxes, but that doesn't sit well with some people at a time where federal spending cuts will devastate local food assistance programs and the county's public hospital system serving San Jose residents.

Jean Cohen, executive officer of the South Bay Labor Council, supports keeping the Sharks in town. But she said San Jose's taxpayer general fund is exposed — and a financing plan for arena upgrades and new facilities should come before the agreement is approved, not after.

Mahan, who has championed the proposal while casting doubt on a sales tax measure to support the county's public hospital system, declined to comment on the South Bay Labor Council's concerns. Representatives for the Sharks also declined to directly comment before the meeting.

City leaders and team officials argue SAP Center is the NHL's oldest active arena without major renovations — and no longer meets NHL

Recapping Week 1 of high school football action

Cal, SRV, Monte Vista all win in Mountain Division; only Dublin, Livermore victorious in Valley

By DENNIS MILLER

It seems like it wasn't that long ago when the Amador Valley High School football team made an amazing run through the postseason, falling just short of a state title.

While it seems like yesterday, we've launched the next football season and with one game under their respective belts, the local sides are fighting for the right to get their shots at the postseason.

I think the easiest way to look at the season is to run through each team in the East Bay Athletic League briefly and see how they opened the season.

Let's split them up by division, divisions that are split with competitive balance in mind — and it works.

Mountain Division

The Mountain division is the "death group" of the EBAL with Amador Valley, California, Monte Vista and San Ramon Valley. De La Salle is technically in the Mountain and the Spartans play most of the Mountain teams, but they also are awarded the automatic North Coast Section berth, so the games against the Spartans do not count in league.

Last year Amador Valley went 1-2 in EBAL play, losing 29-28 to San Ramon Valley and 54-48 in overtime to California. The one win was a 32-28 win over Monte Vista.

The regular season got the Dons ready for the postseason, as there would be no team in NCS in their division that would be as good as they played in the regular season.

As mentioned above, the Dons went all the way to a CIF State Bowl game.

That's a far cry from a competitive situation like when the Dons went 4-0 in Valley play in 2023 and outscored



FREDDY ZAMORA

Anthony Harrington, shown here trying to juke a defender last season, will be a major player for the Amador Valley football team this year.

their four opponents 208-7 in the four-game season. The Dons went out and promptly lost their first NCS game, falling 41-14 to Pittsburg.

The old phrase "iron sharpens iron" is very true about the Mountain play.

Amador Valley (0-1): The Dons went on the road to a very strong program in Vanden and fell 21-14. You never want to lose a game but the Dons were less than full strength and played well.

This team features a senior class that head coach Danny Jones called the strongest group of juniors he ever coached. Yes, it was a big hit when quarterback Tristan Ti'a graduated and moved on to Oregon State, but with talent the Dons still have, good quarterback play could see them move deep into the postseason again.

California (1-0): The Grizzlies are always solid but took a big hit when running back Jhadis Luckey, who rushed for 2,000 yards and scored 31 touchdowns, jumped ship and transferred to Clayton Valley.

The talk is that the Grizzlies took a big hit due to graduation and Luckey left the team in a lurch, in a perplexing move. Trust me, any team with Danny Calcagno as head coach will always be a contender. The tight win over Patterson is a good one, as Patterson is a program that is on the rise.

Monte Vista (1-0): The Mustangs got a convincing 49-23 win over Foothill. A program that has always prided itself on a prolific offense seems to be in that spot again this year.

They've got a big test this week against Riordan, a team that destroyed

an always good McClymonds team 41-18 to open the season.

San Ramon Valley (1-0): The Wolves have become the standard for excellence the last 10 years in the Mountain Division. The Wolves are the epitome of iron sharpens iron, never ducking an opponent.

Cole Dawes has the keys to the offense this year and opened with 265 yards passing and a pair of touchdowns with no interceptions.

Valley Division

I love the concept of the Valley Division because all the teams start the season with a chance to win the league. It's made for better competition, with meaningful games each week.

Dougherty Valley (0-1): Tough start for the Wildcats as they fell 41-0 to College Park. They have a stretch of three winnable games as they face San Leandro, Hercules, and Kennedy. If things fall the right way, Dougherty could be looking at a 3-1 record.

Dublin (1-0): The Gaels laid a 42-7 hurting on Berkeley, a team that has put some decent teams on the field in the last few years. The Gaels have a nice pool of athletes to choose from for their athletic teams each season and are fully capable of winning the Valley.

Foothill (0-1): It's a numbers game for the Falcons each year as evident once again, there is no freshman team at the school. Numbers or not, there is a lone constant with the Falcons. Greg Haubner-coached teams, while small in stature, show up and play hard every week. That keeps the Falcons in games and gives them a chance to win league.

Granada (0-1): The Matadors also suffer a one-sided loss to open the season, falling 42-7 to Campolindo. Campo is tough every year, and it's a reach the Mats were going to win the game. Another tough one at Heritage this week.

Livermore (1-0): The Cowboys have been one of the better teams in the Valley each year, and rolling Castro Valley 51-13 to open the season shows they are ready to compete again this year. John Wade, one of the top coaches in all NCS, is back at the helm. Quarterback Matteo Lorti is back after throwing for 1,838 yards last season. He came out on fire, hitting 73% of his passes for 334 yards and a pair of touchdowns. AJ Carey caught seven passes for 142 yards and a TD.

If you have an idea for a Big Picture story, please do not hesitate to contact me at acesmag@aol.com. ■

Editor's note: This column originally appeared in Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a weekly sports e-newsletter published by Embarcadero Media Foundation.

To sign up for free, scan the QR code in the promo ad below.

SHARKS

Continued from Page 18

requirements. Officials have cited a list of infrastructure issues they say hinders the recruitment of new players, including inconvenient layouts, aging systems and outdated back-of-house areas.

"Last year we had an unfortunate incident with some raw sewage after a 32-year-old pipe burst and dumped it on the media and right outside the Sharks locker room," Sharks Sports & Entertainment President Jonathan Becher said at the meeting. "We've had a harder time keeping up with the increasing number of NHL regulations and we're just out of compliance."

Becher said most of the core components in the arena — elevators, plumbing and electrical systems — are well beyond their lifetimes.

"It's a surprise we've only had one incident in the last 32 years," he said.

Downtown business advocates warned sports teams can always move

elsewhere. They specifically pointed to Oakland's loss of the Oakland Athletics baseball team under owner John Fisher.

"You can see what happens when you lose your sports teams and don't invest in your venues," Alan "Gumby" Marques, interim CEO of the San Jose Downtown Association, said in public comment.

Officials estimate in the next five years Sharks Sports & Entertainment will generate more than \$1.25 billion in economic impact and support 25,000 hotel room nights annually.

Becher said the arena's renovation — and ultimate replacement — has the potential to fundamentally change the city.

"Yes the Sharks will be here to at least 2051 — probably a lot longer than that. But more than that, an enviable SAP Center becomes the linchpin of an even more vitalized downtown," Becher said. "And if the other things we'll begin to discuss come true, maybe a reimagined city of San Jose entirely." ■

Grab your front row seat today!

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PLAYBOOK

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- Profiles of interesting coaches and athletes
- Post-game analysis
- Entertaining features
- Local sports trends

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Employment

Workday, Inc. has multiple openings in their Pleasanton, CA office: Software Engineer/Software Development Engineer (REF # 20637.884) (Salary: \$176,860 - \$204,000 per year) Plans, designs, develops and tests software systems or applications for software enhancements and new cloud-based products and internet related tools. Quality Assurance / Automation Engineer (REF # 20637.888) (Salary: \$160,139 - \$182,400) Designs, builds, and utilizes test automation frameworks to optimize Workdays approach to software quality. Software Engineer/Software Development Engineer (REF # 20637.885) (Salary: \$176,860 - \$240,000) Plans, designs, develops and tests software systems or applications for software enhancements and new cloud-based products and internet related tools. May oversee projects and/or programs as assigned by management. Data Analyst (REF # 20637.2594) (Salary: \$128,398 - \$160,800) Enable product development by informing product roadmaps with insights derived from internal and external sources. Sr Information Systems Software Application Engineer (REF # 20637.2787) (Salary: \$184,579 - \$216,000) Engage closely with architects, software engineers and other operations teams to deliver highly available and scalable services.

Workday pay ranges vary based on work location and recruiters can share more during the hiring process. As a part of the total compensation package, this role may be eligible for the Workday Bonus Plan or a role-specific commission/bonus, as well as annual refresh stock grants. Each candidate's compensation offer will be based on multiple factors including, but not limited to, geography, experience, skills, future potential and internal pay parity. For more information regarding Workday's comprehensive benefits, please go to workday.com/en-us/company/careers/life-at-workday.html

Interested candidates email resume to: workdayjobs@workday.com. Must reference Job REF #

Nova Platform Inc. has an opening in San Ramon, CA for Senior Account Executive: Prospect and create lists of people to outreach to in target accounts. Full-time telecommuting permitted from anywhere within the U.S. Frequent travel to customer locations in the Los Angeles, California area required. Salary: \$140,920.00-160,000.00 per annum. To apply, send resume specifying Req#L24-159070 tobi@novatab.com

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Machine Learning Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Deliver advanced analytics and Machine Learning models to meet the needs of Workday. Salary: \$188,885.00 - \$233,000.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference #20637.3124.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Principal, Software Engineer (Distributed Systems) in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Drive the architectural direction for our distributed query engine and further deepen your technical strengths. Salary: \$206,800.00 - \$310,200.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference #20637.2916.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Sr. Information Systems Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Define and maintain a strategy and roadmap for our collaboration landscape, including application rationalization and enterprise standards. Salary: \$168,397.00 to \$188,800.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference #20637.3163.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Senior Financial Systems Analyst in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Evaluate financial and workforce planning business processes. Salary: \$85,966.00 - \$191,900.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference #20637.3150.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Systems Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Works closely with multi-functional teams across the organization and responsible for the growth, ongoing maintenance, and development of a large infrastructure. Salary: \$168,397.00 - \$170,600.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference job #20637.2710.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Sr Data Platform Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Develop and automate high-performance data processing systems to drive Workday business growth and improve the product experience. Salary: \$143,790.00 - \$240,200.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference job #20637.2239.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Sr Software Development Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Collaborate with development engineers and product managers to analyze functional requirements. Salary: \$180,960.00 - \$259,200 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference job #20637.2422.

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Sr Associate Software Development Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Design and implement Cloud infrastructure. Salary: \$155,605.00 - \$204,000.00 per year, 40 hours per week. Must reference job #20637.316.

Workday pay ranges vary based on work location and recruiters can share more during the hiring process. As a part of the total compensation package, this role may be eligible for the Workday Bonus Plan or a role-specific commission/bonus, as well as annual refresh stock grants. Each candidate's compensation offer will be based on multiple factors including, but not limited to, geography, experience, skills, future potential and internal pay parity. For more information regarding Workday's comprehensive benefits, please go to workday.com/en-us/company/careers/life-at-workday.html

Some positions may allow for telecommuting. Some positions may require travel. Interested candidates email resume to: workdayjobs@workday.com. Must reference job REF #

To advertise here please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

CALENDAR

Entertainment

A CONVERSATION WITH JASON ALEXANDER As Long As You re Asking, A Conversation with Jason Alexander is an evening of comedy, music and conversation with the award-winning star of stage and screen where Alexander will present a variety of topics for the audience to pick and choose. 8 p.m., Sept. 5. Visit \$75-\$160. Visit livermorearts.org.

WENTE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES This series brings a vibrant mix of tribute bands where guests enjoy a live performance, a variety of foods and favorite Wente wines. Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission \$55. Sept. 5, 24K Magic (Bruno Mars Tribute). Visit wentevineyards.com.

A JAZZ TRIBUTE TO DISNEY CLASSICS Step into a world of timeless melodies and swinging rhythms as acclaimed trumpeter Jeff Bordes leads a stellar jazz ensemble featuring the enchanting vocals of Alanna Vicente in a magical tribute to Disney classics. 7 p.m., Sept. 6. Tickets \$30-\$40. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE ABBA CONCERT EXPERIENCE This eight-piece production show performs all the greatest hits of one of the world's most beloved super groups. This family friendly show is a delight for all ages. 3 p.m., Sept. 7. Tickets \$59-\$79. Visit livermorearts.org.

LIVE GARBA WITH PARTH OZA Slip into your most colorful chaniya choli or kurta, gather your party and immerse yourself in the joyous tradition of Garba for an unforgettable night of music and dance as the internationally acclaimed Parth Oza takes the stage. 7:30-11:30 p.m., Sept. 12. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

SAN FRANCISCO COMEDY COMPETITION Now in its 49th year, this renowned competition has launched the careers of comedy greats. Don't miss the chance to witness history in the making and see tomorrow's comedy stars before they hit it big. 8 p.m., Sept. 12. Tickets \$30-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org.

90s MIX TAPE LIVE With a lineup of four Broadway vocalists putting their own spin on songs, this show is the biggest bops of the decade. 8 p.m., Sept. 13. Tickets \$40-\$70. Visit livermorearts.org.

ANASTASIA IN CONCERT Join this Pacific Chamber Orchestra concert and enjoy the brilliance of Broadway, film and pop as presented by the best pros of the SF Bay Area. 3 p.m., Sept. 14. Tickets \$25-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

SAN FRANCISCO BRASS BAND The award-winning San Francisco Brass Band will be performing a concert titled Love Stories that celebrate the many faces of love. The program will be exploring music of passion, romance and human connection. 4 p.m., Sept. 21. Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. Visit sfband.org/events.

Talks

THE MANHATTAN PROJECT Author and scientist Jeff Colvin will give this presentation in the Livermore Civic Center Library. He is the author or co-author of nearly 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications. 2 p.m., Sept. 7. Registration is not required to attend this free program for adults.

BALI: WHERE THE HEART, ART AND THE SEA ALL DANCE TOGETHER Juls Vistnes presents this free Armchair Travelers program of a 14-day adventure in Bali sharing personal experiences and adventures, along with some handy travel tips. 1:30 p.m., Sept. 11. Livermore Civic Center Library.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB The September meeting is Garden Design with Susan Ballinger where she will discuss how to incorporate colors, special plants and texture to create a sense of mystery. 6-8 p.m., Sept. 11. Crosswinds Church, Livermore. Visit lavgc.org.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH AL CAPONE Capone's brief but bloody story is a flamboyant slice of American history. Join Doug Mishler as Al Capone, and learn all about Capone's career in old Chicago during the roaring 1920s. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sept. 18. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org.

AUTHOR REYNA GRANDE AT LIVERMORE LIBRARY Join during Latinx Heritage Month for a book talk with award-winning author Reyna Grande and afterwards meet the author for a book signing. Books will be available for purchase on-site from Towne Center Books. 2-4 p.m., Sept. 20. Livermore Civic Center Library.

Festivals & Fairs

DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON'S FORKFUL Pleasanton's renowned restaurants come together to serve the perfect forkful of their signature dishes. Expect to indulge in delightful bite-sized portions that will tantalize taste buds and leave you wanting more. 3-5 p.m., Sept. 13. Visit pleasantondowntown.net.

THRIFT FEST AT THE FAIRGROUNDS Celebrate creativity and community at Thrift Fest, a one-day only curated event featuring over 125 vintage vendors, makers and artists. Explore retro clothing, jewelry, handmade home goods, art and more. 12-6 p.m., Sept. 20. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

EXOTIC BIRD MART The Exotic Bird Mart returns for bird enthusiasts of buyers and sellers alike. See parrots, finches, canaries, lovebirds, cockatiels, cockatoos, poultry, gamebirds and more and shop the huge inventory of accessories and supplies. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept. 21. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Outdoor Rec

SENSORY SPLASH SWIM MORNINGS Join for Sensory Splash Swim Mornings designed for individuals with sensory sensitivities or disabilities to enjoy a calm and welcoming aquatic experience where the pool offers reduced noise, minimal crowds and a relaxed atmosphere. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27. \$5. Robert Livermore Aquatics Center.

RANGER PROGRAM: TARANTULAS Explore the amazing world of tarantulas and following a short talk see and touch some arachnid sample items and meet Candycorn, the resident tarantula. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 6. Visit larpd.org.

RANGER PROGRAM Explore the amazing world of insects that crawl, hang out and fly about at Sycamore Grove and then craft a bug to take home. 2-3 p.m., Sept. 7. Meet at the Ranger Station Picnic Area. Visit larpd.org.

RANGER PROGRAM In Snakes of Sycamore, learn about the many scaly and slithering friends at Sycamore Grove Park. 1-2 p.m., Sept. 13. Meet at the Ranger Station Picnic Area, 5035 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Register for free at larpd.org.

PATTERSON RANCH TRAIL HIKE Take in the beautiful views of the Tri-Valley along the newest trail the park where a park ranger will lead a 2-mile uphill hike to the view of Patterson Ranch and talk about what wonders we see along the way. 8-10 a.m., Sept. 21. Sycamore Grove Park. Free registration at larpd.org.

Volunteer

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD Make simple dresses for girls in third world countries and help with sewing, ironing and cutting. Sewing machines or sergers, irons, ironing boards and scissors are needed. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept. 13. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. For questions, contact suzbeck@yahoo.com.

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Ride home with Catbus

Just like his Studio Ghibli namesake, Catbus is full of wonder — though instead of transporting you across the countryside at lightning speed, this brown tabby prefers slow, cozy trips ... preferably from your lap to the treat jar. At first, Catbus might peek at you from behind a corner like you're a curious Totoro in the woods. But give him a little patience and kindness, and zoom, he'll open up and carry your heart away with soft purrs and shy headbutts. Visit Catbus in Dublin or online at eastbayspca.org.

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 577322

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): WILEY PRICE & RADULOVICH, LLP 1301 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 310 Alameda, CA 94501 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 03/18/2021 UNDER FILE NO. 577322 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): JOSEPH E. WILEY 10 Tappan Court Orinda, CA 94563 IAN P. FELLERMAN 7330 School House Lane Roseville, CA 94747 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 26 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 609835

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): FIBRENEW ALAMEDA COUNTY 4419 Cristy way Castro Valley CA 94546 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 10/09/2024 UNDER FILE NO. 609835 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): C & H Mobile Repair Services Inc. 4419 Cristy Way Castro valley Ca 94546 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Corporation. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 19 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 577081

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): FIBRENEW ALAMEDA COUNTY 4419 Cristy Way Castro Valley Ca 94546 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 03/09/2021 UNDER FILE NO. 577081 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): C & H Mobile Repair Services Inc. 4419 Cristy Way Castro Valley CA 94546 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Corporation. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 19 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 585184

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): BIJOUSTELLA LLC 2608 Lotus St. Pleasanton, CA 94588 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 12/21/2021 UNDER FILE NO. 585184 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): BIJOUSTELLA LLC 2608 Lotus St. Pleasanton, CA 94588 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 15 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

Odyssey HealthCare Operating A, LP DBA Gentiva located in Pleasanton, CA, is voluntarily ceasing operations as a Medicare certified Hospice agency effective September 22, 2025, and will no longer participate in the Health Insurance Program for Aged and Disabled, Title XVIII of the Social Security Administration. The provider agreement under Medicare Provider #55-1562 between Odyssey HealthCare Operating A, LP in Pleasanton and the Secretary of Health and Human Services will be terminated within the provisions of the Social Security Act. For additional information regarding this notice, please call (855) 488-7024. (PLW Sep 5, 2025)

JB PROPERTY MANAGEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616847

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) JB Property Management , located at 909 Marina Village Pkwy, #675, Alameda, CA 94501, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): JBL CAPITAL ALAMEDA, LLC 909 Marina Village Pkwy, #675 Alameda, CA. 94501 State of Incorporation/Organization: Wyoming 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 13 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

DB STANDARD HOME INSPECTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617159

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) DB STANDARD HOME INSPECTION , located at 4368 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DAVID BEHIEL 4368 Mirador Drive Pleasanton, CA 94566 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/10/16 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 25 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

HAIMOURAUTO LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616801

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) HAIMOURAUTO LLC , located at 218 Ray St Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 336 Torino Dr Apt 1 San Carlos, CA 94070 This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): HAIMOURAUTO LLC 336 Torino Dr Apt 1 San Carlos, CA 94070 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/12/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 12 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

JAZZERCISE DUBLIN CA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617069

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Jazzercise Dublin CA , located at 7600 Amador Valley Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 7090 Utica Ct., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): APRIL ELIZABETH RONCA FINCO 7090 Utica Ct Dublin, CA 94568 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed

above on August 1, 2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 21 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

PAC PLACEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617303

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) PAC Placement , located at 1950 Broadway APT. 2703, Oakland, CA 94612, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a General Partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): KELLY PACAMARRA 1950 Broadway APT. 2703 Oakland, CA 94612 SHEILA PACAMARRA 1950 Broadway APT. 2703 Oakland, CA 94612 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 29 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

THE AMERICAN LEASE EXCHANGE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617149

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) The American Lease Exchange , located at 397 Ray St #203, Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DD CAPITAL VENTURES INC 397 Ray St #203 Pleasanton CA 94566 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/16/2015 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 25 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

SUDYCO LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617087

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) SUDYCO LLC , located at 291 McLeod Street, Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): SUDYCO LLC 291 McLeod Street Livermore, CA 94550 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/25/2020 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 21 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

WIN WIN REALTY GROUP FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617177

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Win Win Realty Group , located at 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): RT BAY HOMES INC 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd Suite 300 Pleasanton, CA 94588 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 25 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

ECO CANNABIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617136

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Eco Cannabis , located at 2435 Telegraph Avenue Oakland, CA 94612, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a

Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): GLASSROCK INC 2435 Telegraph Avenue Oakland, CA 94612 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/01/2019 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 22 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

LUMINARY HAVEN LUMINARY HAVEN HOME FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617172

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) LUMINARY HAVEN , 2.) LUMINARY HAVEN HOME , located at 6335 Ridgewood Dr, Castro Valley, CA 94552, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): CAMMY BELTRAN 6335 Ridgewood Dr Castro Valley, CA 94552 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 25 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

THERAPY FOR HAPPINESS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617170

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Therapy For Happiness , located at 39803 Paseo Padre Pkwy, STE A, Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): SURINDER K HARISH 39803 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Suite A Fremont, CA 94538 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on June 19, 2014 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 25 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

C & H MOBILE REPAIR SERVICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617022

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) C & H Mobile Repair Service , located at 4419 Cristy Way Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): C & H MOBILE REPAIR SERVICE INC. 4419 Cristy Way Castro Valley, CA 94546 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/19/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 19 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

ART OF COMFORT ART OF COMFORT HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

File No.: 616973

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Art Of Comfort , 2.) Art Of Comfort Heating And Air Conditioning , 3.) Art Of Comfort Electrical , 4.) Art Of Comfort Heating Air Conditioning And Electrical , located at 1048 Serpentine Lane STE #314 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): ECO TECH SOLUTIONS LLC 1048 Serpentine Lane STE #314 Pleasanton, CA 94566 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/01/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 18 2025. (PLW Sep 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2025)

MONICA DIS ON POSHMARK DBA DISMSER RESALE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616572

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) MONICA DIS ON POSHMARK DBA DISMSER RESALE , located at 1685 Peachtree Common, Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Married Couple. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): MONICA DISMER 1685 Peachtree Common Livermore, CA 94551 DONDI DISMER 1685 Peachtree Common Livermore, CA 94551 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/01/2024 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 01 2025. (PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

LOOT & CO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616544

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Loot & Co , located at 2323 Broadway St Oakland, CA 94612, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): FORTUNA COMMERCE LLC 2323 Broadway St Oakland, CA 94612 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/5/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 31 2025. (PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

FLOOR COVERINGS INTERNATIONAL OF EAST BAY, CA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616974

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) FLOOR COVERINGS INTERNATIONAL OF EAST BAY, CA , located at 5600 Sunol Blvd. Ste D. Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DJSWMFLOORSINC 5076 Allred Rd. Mariposa, CA 95338 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 18 2025. (PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

IVORY IVORY ENTERPRISES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616759

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) IVORY , 2.) IVORY ENTERPRISES , located at 5994 W Las Positas Blvd Ste 201, Pleasanton, CA 94588 , Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): TOA PREMIER MARKETING INC 5994 W Las Positas Blvd Ste 201 Pleasanton, CA 94588 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 11 2025. (PLW Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

Continued on next page

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

SUNLOGIC PROPERTIES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616985

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

1.) SUNLOGIC PROPERTIES , located at 48 Uvas Falls Terrace, Fremont, CA 94539, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

YI WEN LO

48 Uvas Falls Terrace

Fremont, CA 94539

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/18/25

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 18 2025.

(PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

TRI-VALLEY GARAGE PROS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616816

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

1.) Tri-Valley Garage Pros , located at 5888 Northfront Rd 1002, 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):

TRIBAY INSTALLATIONS LLC

5888 Northfront Rd 1002

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 12 2025.

(PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

DG CONSTRUCTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 615993

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

1.) DG Construction , located at 18433 Pepper St. Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

DANIEL HERRERA GARCIA

18433 Pepper St.

Castro Valley, CA 94546

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 09 2025.

(PLW Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

RYTHU BAZAAR MINERVA CAFE KONASEEMA KITCHEN BAKERS' FUN GODAVARI CUTZ

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616744

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

1.) RYTHU BAZAAR , 2.) MINERVA CAFE , 3.) KONASEEMA KITCHEN , 4.) BAKERS' FUN , 5.) GODAVARI CUTZ , located at 3185 WALNUT AVE FREMONT, CA 94538, ALAMEDA County.

Mailing Address: 2676 Garden Farms Ave, Lathrop, CA 95330

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

RYTHU BAZAAR LLC

3185 WALNUT AVE

FREMONT, CA 94538

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/28/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 08 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

MOK1 AUTOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616608

The following person (persons) is (are) doing

business as:

1.) MOK1 AUTOS , located at 3597 First Street, Suite #1 Livermore, CA 94551 , Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1085 Rosamund Dr San Ramon, CA 94582

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

MOK LLC

1085 Rosamund Dr

San Ramon, CA 94582

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 04 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

SPRINKLES & SHINE EARLY LEARNING & ENRICHMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616467

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

1.) SPRINKLES & SHINE EARLY LEARNING & ENRICHMENT , located at 34589 SHENANDOAH PLACE, FREMONT, CA 94555, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

ADIYOGI INC.

34589 SHENANDOAH PLACE

FREMONT, CA 94555

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/1/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 28 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

YVONNE CHAN MUSIC ACADEMY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616752

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

1.) YVONNE CHAN MUSIC ACADEMY , located at 3465 DUBLIN BLVD 316,DUBLIN CA 94568, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

YEE YAN CHAN

3465 DUBLIN BLVD 316

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 August 11 2025.

(PLW Aug 22, 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

AG TECHNOLOGIES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616708

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

1.) AG Technologies , located at 433 Ann Court, Livermore CA 94550, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

ANDREW P. GODDARD

433 Ann Court

Livermore, CA 94550

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 07 2025.

(PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

FLORIRIS SHOKA ATELIER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616542

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

1.) Floriris , 2.) Shoka Atelier , located at 34300 Siward Dr Fremont, CA 94555, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

JIAXIN ZHENG

34300 Siward Dr

Fremont, CA 94555

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/29/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 31 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

SWINDALE PRINTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616620

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

1.) Swindale Printing , located at 74 Neal St. Suite 203 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 529 Oriole Ave, Livermore, CA 94551.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

ZACKARY SWINDALE

74 Neal St.

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 August 04 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

THE WELLNEST GROUP TWG DEVELOPMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616614

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

1.) THE WELLNEST GROUP , 2.) TWG DEVELOPMENT , located at 1970 BROADWAY SUITE 450, OAKLAND, CA 94612, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

BUGZ N BIRDZ CORP

1970 BROADWAY SUITE 450

OAKLAND, CA 94612

State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/1/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 04 2025.

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25CV118737

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Emma Rose Clopton filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

EMMA ROSE CLOPTON to EMMA ROSE IBANEZ

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: August 22, 2025, 9:30am, 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: April 15,2025

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 29, Sep 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25CV132809

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Cassidy Wong filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CASSIDY WONG to CASSIDY HYUN WONG

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: 10/03/2025, 9:00 AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 07/21/2025

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25CV130956

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Brittany M. Saldivar filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

BRITTANY MONA MARIE CASTANO SALDIVAR to BRITTANY RAMONA SALDIVAR

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: October 03, 2025, 9:00 AM, Hayward hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward Ca 94544. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 08/01/2025

Thomas J Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25CV133891

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Gurleen Singh Nagra filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

GURLEEN SINGH NAGRA to GARY SINGH NAGRA

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: OCTOBER 03, 2025, 09:00 AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 08/01/2025

Thomas J Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

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

Case No.: 25CV137991

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Maria Vitakis and Sophia Vitakis filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MARIA VITAKIS and SOPHIA VITAKIS to MARIA SOPHIA VITAKIS

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 10/10/2025, 9:00am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 8/4/2025

Thomas I Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 15, 22, 29 and Sep 5, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SOPHOCLES ALEXANDER VITAKIS

Case No.: 25PR137991

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of SOPHOCLES ALEXANDER VITAKIS. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Maria Vitakis and Sophia Vitakis in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: Maria Vitakis and Sophia Vitakis be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on September 24 2025 at 9:45am in Department 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: David T. Moutoux, Esq. Moutoux Law Offices 865 Laurel Street, Suite 2 San Carlos, CA 94070 650-596-8135 (PLW Aug 29, Sep 5 and 12, 2025)

PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM/LEGAL_NOTICES/

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821 Kolb Place, Santa Clara
\$1,895,000

COMING SOON



3126 Arbor Drive, Vintage Hills
\$1,750,000

NEW



954 Crellin Road, Vintage Hills
\$1,699,000

NEW



1655 Orvieto Court, Ruby Hill
\$3,885,000

NEW



4073 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton
\$3,198,000

FOR SALE



260 Mara Place, San Ramon
\$1,799,000

PENDING



1916 Ticino Court, Ruby Hill
\$6,500,000

PENDING



Representing Buyer

964 Piemonte Drive, Ruby Hill
\$4,020,000

PENDING



1818 Sannita Court, Ruby Hill
\$4,800,000

PENDING



Representing Buyer

3869 Silver Oaks Way, Livermore
\$850,000

PENDING



3939, 3935, 3931 Vineyard Ave
\$2,050,000



Just Sold

- 1818 Sannita Court, Ruby Hill x2
- 669 Sylvaner Court, Pleasanton
- 1552 Oxsen Street, Pleasanton
- 6130 Allbrook Circle, Pleasanton
- 516 Tanager Road, Livermore (Rep Buyer)
- 3539 Palermo Way, Dublin (Rep Buyer)
- 7038 Calistoga Lane, Dublin (Rep Buyer)
- 3607 Central Parkway, Dublin
- 1565 Trimmingham Drive, Pleasanton