

Pleasanton Weekly

Love and loss with 'La Traviata'

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THE FIREHOUSE LINEUP

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Winery for sale?

Wesley Katz knows the rumor mill is swirling in the Livermore Valley. People were coming up to him while pouring at the wine auction last weekend, and they've been stopping by the winery that bears his late father's name to ask if word around town was true.

Reserving a few minutes for me by phone Tuesday during this hectic harvest time, Wesley confirmed the difficult duality of the moment: The Mitchell Katz Winery property on South Vasco Road is listed for sale for \$4.2 million, and he hopes to keep the now-second-generation winery working "forever".

"I can't really quite pinpoint one reason, other than it feels like I'm killing myself with the amount of work I'm putting myself through," 27-year-old Wesley told me.

"I've been doing this for two years now, and I now understand why my dad fell asleep after dinner during the Giants' game most nights," he said, through tears. "It's just hard ... It's hard without him."

Wesley is overseeing Mitchell Katz Winery as the winemaker and operator, pausing his burgeoning fire-fighting career to explore his passion for wine-making and maintain their small family winery. After his father's death in a car crash two years ago, Wesley co-owns the property and winery with his brother Jackson Katz, whose career is in the wine industry out of the area.

"Not only did I lose my father, our business lost its owner," Wesley said. "He did so much for the Livermore wine industry, and Livermore as a whole."

While kind enough to confirm the legitimacy of the Redfin listing online and open up about his experience since losing his father, Wesley was understandably guarded against getting into too many specifics about why the 11.85-acre property at the corner of South Vasco and Tesla roads is on the market.

So much seems to have come to a head this summer.

On June 24, the driver who caused the crash that killed Mitchell Katz weeks before his 60th birthday was sentenced in court after pleading no contest to misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter.

Emilio Chambers Cruz, now 29, of Westley in Stanislaus County, was driving 64 mph in a 40 mph zone on East Avenue near Mitra Street two cars behind Mitchell on the afternoon of July 21, 2023 when he tried

to pass both vehicles using a left-turn lane but clipped the median and crashed into the vintner's SUV, which careened into a tree.

"The fact that they were discussing letting him clean up trash on the highway for a few months as punishment for killing my dad was a little outrageous," Wesley told me.

Ultimately, the victim impact statements of Wesley and Jackson and their mother, Mitchell's ex-wife, persuaded Judge Stuart Hing more so than the support letters from Cruz's partner and best friend.

The judge thought the defendant showed little to no remorse by his words and actions in the courtroom and outside, such as mocking the court on social media, Wesley recalled. "I don't think a single person, including his attorney, believed what he was saying."

Cruz was sentenced to 10 months in Santa Rita Jail, although he'd only serve half that time with good behavior and is pushing the court to release him to serve out his time in the California Conservation Corps.

Not long after the criminal case resolved, Wesley celebrated his birthday and then the family and the winery remembered Mitchell as his birthday passed Aug. 27.

Suffice it to say it was a busy summer for Mitchell Katz Winery — and actually in a lot of positive ways, Wesley said, momentarily energized despite the physical and emotional fatigue.

"Summer concerts have been a hit," he told me, noting that the closing show of the series is this Saturday (Sept. 27). From 5:30-8:30 p.m., Frankie Bones will be playing the music and Smashed Broz Burgers will be serving the food at the winery.

They've also been pushing to enter more wine contests during 2025 "to get their awards up to date". Mitchell Katz Winery's 2020 Livermore Valley Cabernet Franc Casa de Vinas earned Double Gold and Best of Category at the 2025 International Cabernet Franc Wine Festival earlier this year.

They also won Double Gold for 2022 Mt. Meenao Late Harvest Zinfandel in Late Harvest and Dessert Wines at Libation Media's 2025 National Small Producer Wine Invitational last month.

And perhaps more importantly, the 2025 harvest is going very well so far.

"We just picked the Estate Cab. Absolutely perfect .. The Cabernet Sangiovese, absolutely perfect," Wesley told me on his way back to work that evening. ■

About the Cover

The Firehouse Arts Center has revealed the roster for the fall season in its annual Presenting Series. See the full lineup inside, Pages 12-13. Photos courtesy Firehouse Arts. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXVI, Number 35



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What do you do to gear up for the transition from summer into fall?



Zoë Grell
Bartender

I take out my big box of cute flannel shirts, and even cuter sweaters, and pretend for about three weeks that I'm going to become "fall fashionable". But then after those three weeks pass, I'll be back to wearing just T-shirts and pants. They are my cozy, comfort-wear all year long.



Evan Williams, with Teddy
Marketing consultant

I like to transition by starting out with my recipes. I change them up by leaning into the harvest. As we get into the fall, I start making robust stews and soups that take advantage of the flavors and colors of the season.



Ebony Kavianpour, with Baby Z
Stay-at-home mom

Basically I just transfer all of my summer clothes that are hanging in my closet into a big bin. And then I replace them with all of my fall clothes, like sweaters, sweater dresses and boots.



Rachel McGovern
Phlebotomist

I really hate being cold, so as fall approaches, I break out my sweaters, my toasty slippers and my heated blanket. And I pull out my recipes for cold weather comfort foods like hearty soups.



Mary Goroff
Retired

Well, I have a huge garden with about a million flowers in it. So as fall approaches I clear out all of the dead foliage in order to make room for a new season of flowers, like dahlias, roses and chrysanthemums.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Highway 84 work

Caltrans is temporarily implementing a one-way traffic control on Highway 84 in Sunol near the Rosewines Undercrossing and Niles Canyon Railway Brightside Yard over the next four weeks in order to install and connect specially designed guardrails to a newly constructed bridge on eastbound Highway 84.

Work started as of Wednesday night and will be set to continue until Oct. 24, subject to any weather related delays. The one-way traffic control will be in place 24 hours every day for the duration of the project.

According to the transportation agency, the temporary one-way traffic control will result in longer delays during commute hours.

Apostille Pop-Up

Alameda County, in partnership with California Secretary of State Shirley Weber's office, will be hosting an Apostille Pop-Up Shop on Friday (Sept. 26) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dublin Public Library in order to help people authenticate their public documents for international use.

According to its website, the state secretary's office launched these apostille pop up events throughout the year as a way to connect people with an apostille to "authenticate California public officials' signatures on documents to be used outside the United States of America".

In-person apostille services that will be offered at the event include authentication of documents such as birth certificates, marriage certificates and educational documents for international use.

Fast-growing firm

EdTheory, a Pleasanton-based company that provides contract therapy and teaching services to schools, recently announced it has been recognized by Staffing Industry Analysts as one of the fastest-growing staffing firms in the United States for 2025.

According to the company's social and community service manager, Rayman Thomas, EdTheory — located at 6701 Koll Center Parkway — was ranked No. 1 in the education staffing sector and at No. 16 nationally across all industries.

"Our mission is to address the increasing demand for K-12 specialists by connecting children and families with highly qualified, passionate professionals," Thomas said. "We are eager to bring this same level of commitment to Pleasanton and would love to explore opportunities to support local outreach programs, civic initiatives, or community events." ■

Balch-Testa dustup overshadows discussion on utility discount programs

Disagreement escalates to mayor slamming gavel and walking out upon calling for recess

By Christian Trujano

Tensions flared during the Pleasanton City Council's discussion last week regarding the future of the city's two utility discount programs as Mayor Jack Balch and Councilmember Julie Testa engaged in a heated exchange that culminated in Balch striking his gavel and calling for a recess before briefly departing from the dais.

The back-and-forth ensued as

the council was providing input to staff about how to move forward with the senior and low-income utility discount programs ahead of a final vote next month.

The council was discussing whether the city should condense the two programs, along with other eligibility criteria and additional funding specifics. When Balch was going over some of his suggestions, Testa spoke up in opposition to his recommendations.

"I think it should be 10-year residency and that it should be income-qualified at 120% (area median income), age-qualified at 65, 24 CCF, no (budget) cap, 20% discount," Testa said.

Balch retorted, "So you're telling me if you're a mother — 40 years old — with a child but have only lived in our town for seven years, you're not allowed a discount?"

"No I didn't say that. Don't put words in my mouth," Testa replied.

The tense interaction escalated, ending with Balch slamming his gavel and calling for a quick recess.

Upon returning to the dais the council continued the conversation, mostly agreeing on proposed updates to the program and eventually providing staff enough to work with as they develop different recommendation options for the council to vote on next month.

See **DUSTUP** on Page 11



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The staircase leading to what used to be the popular Barone's Restaurant in downtown Pleasanton is all that was left of the longstanding eatery on Sept. 16.

Barone's Restaurant demolished as redevelopment plans forge ahead

New homes, commercial space to replace downtown staple

By Christian Trujano

A stairway leading to nowhere was all that was left of Barone's Restaurant in downtown Pleasanton on Sept. 18 as demolition had begun for the redevelopment project set to bring in over a dozen new homes and a commercial space.

The city issued the demolition permit on Aug. 26 for the restaurant building and four accessory structures on site, which had all been mostly torn down early last week, according to Pleasanton's communications manager Heather Tiernan.

The redevelopment project, which the City Council approved during its Jan. 9 meeting, consists of 14 new detached two-and-a-half-story, single-family homes; two single-story retail or commercial buildings with a plaza and a 13-stall parking lot all across the 2.3-acre project site at 475 and 493 St. John St.

The two commercial buildings would total approximately 3,125 square feet in area combined and the plaza would be about 1,568 square feet.

Tiernan said the next step in the redevelopment process is for the project applicant — San Jose-based Robson Homes LLC — to submit plans for the homes and undergo the review process.

She added that the retaining walls, onsite grading permits and temporary power are all currently under review by the city but construction of the new homes might still be several months out as the review process typically takes four to six months. She said the city does not yet have information on the commercial space.

As for traffic on St. John Street during the construction work, Tiernan said the city's traffic engineers have received some mitigation plans for the area but so far

they were mainly related to utilities and not the roadway.

"There will be more information available as the process continues," Tiernan said.

The Weekly's request for comment from Robson Homes regarding the redevelopment project was not returned as of Monday night.

The Barone family initially announced their intent to shut down early in 2021.

Following their announcement, the restaurant shuttered in December 2022 after nearly 30 years of service due to several reasons, including impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Barone's temporarily reopened in August 2023 as a pared down concept with appetizers, finger foods, cocktails and entertainment three nights a week, as well as private event rentals, before ultimately shutting down for good in October 2024. ■

Largest Workday Rising to date

Company seeks to strike optimistic tone on future of AI and work

By Jeanita Lyman

Thousands of staff members, customers and leaders for the city of Pleasanton's top employer descended upon downtown San Francisco last week for the largest Workday Rising conference yet.

Workday Rising returned to the Bay Area this year after taking place in Las Vegas last year, with dozens of panels and speakers focused on the future of AI in the workplace pointing toward an optimistic outlook amid growing concerns about automation and the job market.

For their part, Workday leaders and conference attendees had plenty to be optimistic about during the four-day event from Sept. 15-18 during which more than 30,000 people took over multiple blocks and venues in the heart of downtown San Francisco.

Specifically, the conference was the site of a half-dozen announcements at a keynote event Sept. 16, consisting of new developments in its AI agent capabilities and offerings in partnership with other organizations, as well as Workday's acquisition of the Swedish AI company Sana.

"Our focus has always been on creating intuitive AI tools that improve how people learn and work," Sana CEO Joel Hellermark said

See **WORKDAY** on Page 10

Downtown businesses to see assessment fee changes

City Council supports proposed increase that stakeholders say will bring more revenue to Main Street

By **CHRISTIAN TRUJANO**

Downtown business owners could see an increase in fees they have to pay the Pleasanton Downtown Association next year, following the Pleasanton City Council's unanimous support for a fee restructuring.

The proposed fee restructuring was just one piece of the Sept. 16 discussion on the Downtown Pleasanton's Business Improvement District (BID) 2025 annual report and the 2026 budget, which aims to improve the partnership between the PDA and downtown business and property owners so that those businesses can thrive in and around Main Street.

"Economic vitality downtown is not a Sunday issue anymore for us. It's urgent now," Mayor Jack Balch said during the meeting. "We've seen the closures, the residents are

asking what's coming next and so are the fellow businesses ... so it's just about being very clear about our competition and what we need to do to bolster our economic outlook on the downtown."

According to the city, every business located within the boundaries of the downtown area is part of the BID. The boundaries stretch from Peters Avenue to the west, First Street to the east, Bernal Avenue to the south and Del Valle Parkway to the north.

Businesses within the boundaries are required to pay membership fees to the PDA, which are calculated through an annual assessment based on the proximity to Main Street. For example, businesses located on the ground level of Main Street typically pay a higher annual fee than those located on the second floor or on

other downtown streets.

The BID assessment is also based on the annual business licence — nonprofits within the BID are not assessed.

Every year, the PDA undergoes a process to levy the downtown Pleasanton BID and is now in the process of doing so for the next year's collection period. The council had already appointed an advisory board to prepare the PDA's 2025 annual report and 2026 budget before approving the documents last week.

As part of the approval, the council voiced their support for some of the recommended changes to the BID for next year, including the fee restructuring.

City economic development manager Lisa Adamos said that for 2025, the BID assessment was estimated at \$80,000 which the city

matched dollar for dollar as approved at the Jan. 21 council meeting. She said the current structure also projects about \$80,000 for the next year.

But instead of maintaining the status quo, which has mostly stayed the same since 1996, Adamos said the PDA is now suggesting a significant change that would have business owners pay more each year.

Currently, the minimum assessment fee is \$50 and the maximum is \$350. Certain businesses pay an annual fee of \$200.

Under the newly proposed assessment structure option, all businesses located curbside and downstairs on Main Street would be assessed at a rate of three times their business license while businesses with a Main Street address located upstairs or not curbside would be assessed at a rate of two times their

business license.

All other businesses located off Main Street would be assessed at a rate of one and a half times their business license.

Additionally, the proposed restructuring would increase the minimum assessment from \$50 to \$125 and the maximum from \$350 to \$750. The annual charge paid by any business exempt from the city's business license tax would go up from \$200 to \$450.

The assessment would also be subject to an annual escalator tied to the CPI, Adamos said.

With that recommendation, the estimated assessment would be about \$140,000 — an increase of approximately \$60,000 compared to last year's assessment.

"Over the past several months

See **FEE CHANGES** on Page 9

LVJUSD mourns recent deaths of staffers

Colleagues honor memories of two longtime district employees who died weeks apart

By **JUDE STRZEMP**

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District community is grieving the loss of two staff members who died just over a month apart.

Marilyn Inez Burns, executive assistant to the principal at Croce Elementary School, died Aug. 4. Weeks later, Brett Armond Francois — child welfare and attendance specialist at multiple school sites — died after battling cancer.

"He was kind and generous with

this time, always finding ways to support students no matter the situation," Joe Michell K-8 School principal Donielle Machi said of Francois. "His smile was ever-present, and his signature style, even down to his perfectly matched shoes, brought joy to those around him."

"Brett's presence made a difference every day, and he will be deeply missed," Machi added.

Francois worked at the district for nearly two decades, serving as a campus supervisor at Granada

High School and later as a multi-site child welfare and attendance specialist.

Outside of work, Francois was a devoted husband, father, friend and coach of his daughters' Little League teams, according to a family obituary.

The Patterson resident was also a New York Yankees fan with a knack for cooking.

"Brett gave so much to our schools, our community and to everyone who knew him," said April Mata, executive assistant to the principal

at Joe Michell. "What I will miss most are his stories about his wife and daughters, the love he had for his dogs, his humor and jokes and of course his 'fit'."

"His legacy will live on through so many of us, as he has left a lasting impression on countless hearts," Mata added.

Over the past two and a half years, Francois battled Stage 3 metastatic squamous cell cancer, according to a GoFundMe page dedicated to supporting the Francois family through funeral expenses, memorial services and remaining medical costs. Prior to his death, he was also found to have stage four metastatic prostatic adenocarcinoma, which spread to his sternum.

Francois started a six-month course of nuclear infusion as a "last-resort" treatment, according to the GoFundMe.

"Brett faced his battle with cancer with the same courage and selflessness he showed in every other part of his life," his obituary states. "Even during treatment, all he wanted was to return to work and continue helping the students he cared so deeply about."

Francois died Sept. 8 surrounded by family, according to the GoFundMe. He was 54 years old.

He is survived by his wife Gladys Francois; three daughters Alexandra, Evina, and Ilianna; his son-in-law Scott Anderson as well as his pets Jeter, Bernie, Mo and Andy, according to his obituary. Memorial services for Francois



Brett Francois

were undetermined as of press time.

Burns was 69 years old when she died unexpectedly last month.

A Livermore resident, Burns worked at Croce for 21 years — accumulating an overall tenure at the district of more than 30 years, according to Croce principal Jennifer Burkholder.

"Marilyn was a central piece of Croce," Burkholder said. "She was a confidant, someone we trusted with our hardest moments."

"She was a mentor, guiding not just our staff, but others new in their role in the district. She was a nurse when a scraped knee or a worried parent came through the door. She was a mother to the staff, always reminding us of what mattered most, and she was truly a grandmother to every student who walked our halls," the principal added.

The LVJUSD Board of Education honored Burns on Aug. 12, during the trustees' first meeting of the school year.

Of her unexpected passing, Board President Emily Prusso said, "She was an important figure in our community and will be greatly missed and my prayers are with her family at this time."

"My sincere condolences go out to the Croce community, the school site as well as Marilyn's family," Superintendent Torie Gibson said during the meeting.

The meeting was later adjourned in honor of Burns and her memory. ■



Marilyn Burns

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Mock CVS store serves as training ground

New PUSD skills lab offers students with disabilities place to prepare for future jobs

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District students with intellectual disabilities and other special needs will now have the chance to improve their skills in the workplace thanks to the recent opening of the district's CVS Health Skills Lab.

Located at Village High School, the skills lab, which officially opened on Sept. 17, is a near-exact replica of a CVS store where students who are enrolled in PUSD's Workability Program can get hand-on learning experience working in a retail setting. The lab features a counter with working registers, fully stocked shelving with products and other things that were donated by CVS Health.

"This gives them work experience so that when they go look for a job on their own after they leave the district, they have some experience to back them up to help them get that job," PUSD workability specialist Janeen Rubino-Brumm told the Weekly.

Following his visit to the skills lab on Tuesday (Sept. 23), U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) said in a statement to the Weekly

that the space is all about "dignity, independence and opportunity."

"These training program ensures students with disabilities are equipped with technical and professional competencies. By giving students with disabilities a space that looks and feels like a real workplace, Pleasanton Unified and CVS Health are showing what true partnership can achieve," Swalwell said. "Every young person deserves the chance to build confidence, learn skills, and find their purpose in the workforce. I'm thrilled to see this innovation right here in my district, and I'll continue to support keep these programs in Congress that open doors and change lives."

Rubino-Brumm said while the lab will continue to be housed at the Village High School site despite the district's plans to turn that area into the Educational Options Center — a marquee project listed under the \$395 million Measure I bond.

According to the district, the Workability Program, which is funded by the California Department of Education, "provides work opportunities and

career education, experience and information to local students with disabilities enrolled in high school and transition classes".

Rubino-Brumm said about four years ago, she heard about a CVS Skills Lab opening in Southern California and that since then, she has been working with the company to open what is now the first-of-its-kind skills lab in Northern California.

According to her, the lab helps juniors, seniors and post-secondary students with intellectual or other disabilities become more confident in working in a real-world environment while also giving them valuable work and life skills.

"What this does is it allows our students in the transition program and in our other two high schools to learn retail skills, customer service skills ... stocking, organizing, greeting people ... things like that," Rubino-Brumm said.

She said as a parent of a son with intellectual disabilities, this work is really important to her because she understands how important it is for students with disabilities to gain independence following

their time in high school.

"That is always our goal, is to help our students become independent, confident and employed so that they can contribute to their communities, which is really what they want," Rubino-Brumm said. "They want to contribute in meaningful ways just like everybody else in their life and this will enable them to do that."

She also said given that the employment rate for people with intellectual disabilities in California is so low, school districts like PUSD must do everything they can to help this population of students succeed after their four years of high school are over. In February 2024, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the employment-population ratio for individuals with disabilities was 22.7%. For comparison, the employment-population ratio for those without a disability was 65.5%.

"It is a key to our future success," Ethan Sorensen, a PUSD student enrolled in the Workability Program, said of the new skills lab.

After learning the necessary work skills at the lab, students

enrolled in the program can work with any one of the 16 businesses that offer jobs to these students through the program. Some of those employers include Grocery Outlet, Meadowlark Dairy, Open Heart Kitchen and the Pleasanton Golf Center.

However, Rubino-Brumm said the program has lost funding over recent months and that student hours have been capped, meaning they have a limited number of hours they can work for pay.

She said the Workability Program has been looking at nonprofits, the city and most recently, the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop to continue providing spaces for these students to work. Eventually, she hopes they can get more funding so that the students can continue making money.

"The whole point of (the Workability Program) is to get our students to the point where they can go out and work and feel confident in what they're doing," she said. "It's just so sad and disappointing that they can't continue to make the money now like they have been." ■



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Pleasanton Weekly



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Women's health summit shines light on industry opportunities

Startup Tri-Valley to start quarterly series next year to continue featuring underrepresented topics

By CIERRA BAILEY

On a warm afternoon in late August, the event center at Wente Vineyards was bustling with lively discussions between an intimate, yet diverse group of healthcare professionals, investors, innovators, elected officials and community leaders.

The central topic? Women's health.

As a follow-up to The Unseen Opportunity in Women's Health conference this spring, Startup Tri-Valley — in collaboration with Genevieve LeMarchal, managing partner of venture capitalist firm Suncoast Ventures — held a smaller summit that aimed to dive deeper into the investment opportunities that exist within the women's health space and the potential for the Tri-Valley to become a hub

for women's health innovation.

Yolanda Fintschenko, executive director of the i-GATE Innovation Hub — the parent organization of Startup Tri-Valley — highlighted in her remarks that women's health is an underserved market. "At the last event, The Unseen Opportunity in Women's Health, Genevieve and her keynote address inspired our organization and region to capture this economic engine while meeting unmet clinical needs for women," she said.

She continued, "Our region is uniquely positioned to lead — with four hospital systems, a growing investor base, and a science-driven startup ecosystem. Yet no region has claimed the identity as the center of mass for women's health innovation. We believe the Tri-Valley can be that place."

During the event, Fintschenko also announced that the momentum will continue with the launch of a women's health series of quarterly events in 2026 that will bring together founders, clinicians, investors, and patient advocates to spotlight underrepresented topics and unseen investment opportunities in women's health.

Innovators present at the Aug. 27 summit included Emily Sylvester, founder of Mother of Fact, a digital health platform advancing maternal nutrition. Based in New England, Sylvester was awarded a travel grant by Visit Tri-Valley to attend the summit and bring along her infant daughter.

"It sounds like a small thing but it's actually not because a small amount of support, not even just monetarily, allows a founder to stay in the game who would otherwise, circumstantially, have to leave," LeMarchal said, referring to Sylvester's travel grant from Visit Tri-Valley to help illustrate the type of collaboration and support that she and Fintschenko seek to facilitate.

"I have seen far too many women, myself even included, under pressure to shelve our

careers and shelve our dreams because of family and motherhood and I don't think that has to be possible with the right creative support structures in place," LeMarchal added.

"So if we want women's health innovation to thrive, we have to make sure that women entrepreneurs are not forced out at the very moment when their idea is needed in the world the most," she said.

Neil Ray, founder and CEO of San Ramon-based Raydiant Oximetry, was also in the room and participated in an informal panel discussion, sharing insights about his journey with his company which specializes in developing a safe, noninvasive fetal pulse oximeter that measures fetal oxygen levels.

Maria Molland, former CEO of Thinx which designs and develops undergarments that absorb menstrual blood, was on the panel with Ray. She offered perspective from an investment standpoint as she is currently an executive in residence at private equity firm Frazier Healthcare Partners, where she seeks to invest in scalable businesses in women's health and wellness.

While they each had unique experiences to draw from, among the advice they both shared for entrepreneurs was an emphasis on data. Collecting as much data to bolster the value and efficacy of a product and its potential to make money are essential to pique the interest of investors.

"I think it's about how you leverage the data that you have," Molland said. "It doesn't have to be a large dataset — it can be a small dataset. It can be things that are what patients say after using your product or your service, what their improved symptoms are or what the outcomes are. It even can be biometric data ... if you're kind of more in the wellness space. I think it's just being scrappy about how you source that data," she added.

Additionally, Ray underscored the importance of giving investors a reason to believe.

"Data's a great reason to believe but as you tell your story or think about your story, give your people close to you, like your friends and family, a reason to believe. Because if you can't get them to believe in your idea, it's going to be really hard to get an investor to believe in your idea." ■



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Pleasanton lawyer appointed as county judge

Parikh previously sat on city's Human Services Commission

By JEREMY WALSH

Longtime Pleasanton resident Meera T. Parikh, a career lawyer and former member of the city's Human Services Commission, reached a new professional height on Friday when Gov. Gavin Newsom appointed her as a judge in the Alameda County Superior Court.

Parikh worked as a partner and litigation attorney at Castro Valley-based Poniatowski Leding Parikh PC since 2007, specializing in business and real estate cases. She had also served as a judge pro tem for the Alameda County court for the past four years.

"I am honored by the Governor's appointment and grateful for the trust placed in me," Parikh told the Pleasanton Weekly on Monday.

"After more than 20 years of practicing law in this community, I was inspired to broaden my impact by serving Alameda County from the bench," she said. "I have always aspired to a career of service, and this role is the next step in that journey. Building trust in the courts begins with assuring that people feel seen, heard, and respected, and my goal



Meera T. Parikh



Gregory Brown



Andrew R. Verriere

is to ensure justice is both fair and accessible to all."

A graduate of the Santa Clara University School of Law, Parikh began her legal career in 2001 as a patent attorney. She sat on the Pleasanton Human Services Commission from 2015 until 2023, including leading as chairperson in 2019.

She fills the vacancy on the bench created after Judge Mark McCannon moved to the San Mateo County Superior Court in February.

As part of his judicial appointments Friday, Newsom also named Gregory Brown to the Alameda County Superior Court to succeed retiring Judge Stephen M. Pulido.

An Alameda County resident, Brown had worked for the

California Attorney General's Office as a supervising deputy attorney general since 2019.

A graduate of the University of Chicago School of Law and former clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals,

Brown's career as an attorney began in private practice and then moved to become a public prosecutor in 2008 — which included time as a deputy attorney general and a deputy solicitor general.

Up Interstate 680, Andrew R. Verriere was appointed to the Contra Costa County Superior Court.

Verriere, who took his seat on the bench Tuesday in Department 11 at the George D. Carroll Courthouse in Richmond, had served as a court commissioner since 2023. Before that, he was a shareholder for six years at the firm bearing his name — Hartog, Baer, Zabronsky & Verriere.

"I am incredibly grateful to Governor Newsom for this opportunity. It is an honor to serve

the members of the community," Verriere told the Weekly on Sunday.

Verriere is a former member of the Danville Planning Commission, sitting four years as an alternate before completing one term in a regular seat from 2017 to 2020.

An alumnus of the UC Berkeley School of Law, Verriere began his legal career as an associate at Jones Day from 2009 to 2011 and then had stints at Barr & Barr Attorneys (2009 to 2011), Morrill Law Firm (2011 to 2012), Seyfarth Shaw (2015 to 2017) and Hartog, Baer, Zabronsky & Verriere (2017 to 2023).

As a commissioner for the Contra Costa County Superior Court since May 2023, Verriere focused on traffic, unlawful detainer, small claims, and domestic violence and civil harassment restraining order matters, according to a press release from the county court Tuesday.

Verriere was elevated to a full judgeship to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Brian F. Haynes.

The trio, who are all registered Democrats, were among seven new judges appointed to Bay Area benches and 15 total across the state. Others in the area included Bobby Luna and Ai Mori in the San Francisco County Superior Court, Mandy Tovar in Santa Cruz County and Matthew Siroka in Marin County.

Additionally, Alameda County resident Kendall Hannon, a deputy attorney general with the California Attorney General's Office was named as a judge in the Siskiyou County Superior Court in the far north part of the state.

The salary for each of the judicial positions is \$244,727, the governor's office said. ■

FEE CHANGES

Continued from Page 6

the PDA has made a strong effort to engage with businesses and communicate the benefits of being part of the district," Adamos said. "Based on that outreach, the advisory board and PDA staff believe there is adequate support from businesses to recommend this BID restructuring."

PDA Executive Director Gabrielle Welk went over some of the ways the increase in funding would help the downtown organization better support businesses in the area. She said the PDA plans on putting that money toward business support expansion, new events and community programs, downtown beautification and placemaking programs and improving visitor experience by leveraging technology.

She said the additional funds would also be used to enhance tourism and support business recruitment and retention initiatives.

Welk also mentioned there are some new businesses that might not know much about the PDA or the benefits of becoming a member with the PDA but that the organization is — and has been — working on developing those relationships so they understand what is going on as the PDA continues moving forward with its assessment process.

"We have had conversations with many many businesses and ... (many of them) have expressed



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A person walks past former downtown staple Christesen's Western Wear, which closed in 2021.

that they would be in full support of that," Welk said. "I think the businesses that are aware of what their benefits currently are and that interact with us are showing full support."

Several of those downtown business and property owners also spoke up in support of the assessment increase as a way to better improve the partnership between them and the PDA.

"I don't see this as a fee, I see this as a partnership," Neighborhood Sports Bar and Cellar Door owner Scott Larson said during public comment. "If somebody said I have a team of three people that can help you increase your marketing, increase your social media presence, put money in my drawer ... and this team is going to cost you \$750 a year — (that's a) no brainer."

Balch also asked Welk to address some of the recent vacancies in downtown Pleasanton — Starbucks and Main Street Brewery are among those on that list — to which Welk said the increase in assessment revenue could also help the PDA's efforts to recruit new businesses to the area.

She said the PDA has also been coming up with strategies to address the vacancies like making the empty buildings look more inviting and circulating more information to prospective tenants about the viability of downtown Pleasanton.

And while the BID assessment restructuring is just one aspect of the PDA's overall strategic plan to modernize its structure, increase funding capacity and expand engagement with local downtown stakeholders, Welk and city staff said it is key to help ensure the long-term success of businesses in the area.

"I think it's great to see the PDA and the businesses coming together and building something for their own benefit with the help of city staff," Councilmember Craig Eicher said. "It's nice to see you guys driving it as opposed to the city driving it and I think that's going to be a big win for you in the long run."

Staff will present an ordinance to levy the new assessment for 2026 to the council at the Oct. 7 meeting and staff will then return for a second reading and public hearing on Nov. 4. ■





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WORKDAY

Continued from Page 5

in last week's announcement. "I'm excited to bring these tools to 75 million Workday users and partner with Workday's iconic team to launch a new era of superintelligence for work."

Under the \$1.1 billion deal, expected to close at the end of the company's fourth quarter, Workday will acquire all outstanding shares of Sana. The hefty price tag is well worth it, according to Workday leadership, given the company's status at "the forefront of AI for work," its existing one million-plus users and the potential to use its existing technology to accelerate Workday's goals.

"Sana's team, AI-native approach, and beautiful design perfectly align with our vision to reimagine the future of work," said Gerrit Kazmaier, Workday's president of product and technology. "This will make Workday the new front door for work, delivering a proactive, personalized, and intelligent experience

that unlocks unmatched AI capabilities for the workplace."

Among the other major announcements on the AI agent front — and a major theme of the event — is the expansion of AI agents for HR and finance under Workday's Illuminate AI. The new agents, set to debut in 2026, will be capable of complex tasks such as performance reviews, financial close, and workforce planning, according to Workday officials. "Too many AI efforts amount to random acts of automation that never scale or deliver real value," Kazmaier said. "The barrier of self-building AI on legacy systems and closed platforms is simply too high."

"Workday Illuminate is different," he continued. "With purpose-built AI agents and a single, open enterprise platform, we're redefining ERP for the AI era — transforming it from a passive system of record into a system of action that drives real outcomes."

The optimistic tone of last week's conference came amid an atmosphere of growing skepticism and

trepidation regarding AI and the workplace in recent months, in downtown San Francisco and beyond, including the Tri-Valley.

Over the summer, scenes from downtown San Francisco went viral amid a marketing campaign from Artisan with the slogan "Stop Hiring Humans" — just one of many campaigns from the Bay Area's numerous AI companies that have, intentionally or not, exacerbated fears and anxieties for many on the internet and on the ground.

Meanwhile, hundreds of workers throughout the region and in the Tri-Valley — including at Workday itself, which cut 617 employees earlier this year — have been impacted by waves of layoff notices in recent months.

News about those workforce cuts have often come amid announcements of new developments in AI agent technology and the increased proliferation of the technology, fueling a narrative that AI is replacing human workers — particularly for those impacted by layoffs who struggle to find new positions.

Nonetheless, Workday officials have been adamant throughout those announcements and at last week's conference that their vision for the future is not one in which AI replaces workers, but instead helps them maximize their potential. In doing so, the goal is in turn to maximize the return on investment for employers, just 5% of whom had seen a return on investment from skyrocketing spending on the technology last year, according to an MIT study that was referenced by multiple speakers at Workday Rising.

Among the Workday leaders most hopeful about using AI to develop human potential is the Workday Foundation's chief philanthropy officer and self-described "eternal optimist" Carrie Varoquiers.



COURTESY WORKDAY

More than 30,000 gathered at the Moscone Center in Downtown San Francisco and surrounding blocks for the largest-ever Workday Rising conference from Sept. 15 through Sept. 18.

"I think that there will be disruption," Varoquiers said in an interview with the Pleasanton Weekly. "I think it would be naive to say, oh no, nothing's going to change. But that change could be super positive for a lot of people. I do think that there is the messy middle, which we are in right now, where everyone's like 'I don't know what's gonna happen, and so I'm a little bit concerned,' and so we need to show people examples."

Varoquiers pointed to research showing that AI can accelerate learning for some critically in-demand jobs. Specifically, she said one study had found that with the use of AI, students were capable of completing ultrasound technician training that typically takes 18 months in the course of one day.

"I think that we need to remain cognizant of the fact that we are driving the bus — we are not passengers in the bus of our life," Varoquiers said. "We can take control and decide that we want to expand our skill set or switch careers, and we can do so successfully."

Varoquiers said that with this in

mind, the foundation is working on a video series that seeks to provide concrete examples of people who have successfully "upskilled" into new jobs, "and shine a light on the positive stories of people that are more satisfied than they were before." Filming is set to start in November.

The video series is set to be part of an ongoing set of initiatives, Varoquiers said, that seek to spread the word about the "upskilling" concept — the subject of a Netflix documentary released earlier this year, on which she served as executive producer. That concept is also at the heart of the foundation's ongoing Workforce Week, in partnership with Year Up United.

"I see it as a total positive," Varoquiers said. "Jobs are going to shift. My job has totally shifted from when I started out in this field. Technology is a big part of that. Grants management systems didn't exist. When I started, we were keeping files. And so I think we have to just realize that technology is an enabling tool when it's helpful." ■

Tom Wolfenberger

June 1, 1967 – July 13, 2025

Tom was born on June 1, 1967 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, California, to Elizabeth and Joe Wolfenberger and grew up in Pleasanton, California. Tom played soccer and baseball in Pleasanton and pre-high school had a paper route for the Valley Times. While attending Amador Valley High School, he worked at Meadowlark Dairy, the Pleasanton Sports Park and Mobil gas station. He also was a roadie for his friends' band Tyrannicide. Tom graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1986 and attended Las Positas Jr. College with an interest in Forestry, while working for Pleasanton Garbage before becoming a union carpenter.



Tom passed away on July 13, 2025, peacefully from natural causes. He is survived by his parents, Elizabeth and Joe Wolfenberger, his sister Gena, his brother Barry and his two sons Tommy and Timmy, as well as a niece, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Outside of work, Tom loved the outdoors and was an avid fisherman. His sister, nephew and sons are among the many that learned and caught their first fish with Tom. He was knowledgeable, patient and so excited and proud for them when they hauled in their first fish. He spent many opening weekends and days fishing at Pardee Reservoir growing up and into adulthood. In recent years he started participating in fishing tournaments with his son, brother and friends. Tom was happiest with a fishing rod in hand but also loved anything outdoors and was passionate about sustainment of both.

In lieu of flowers we ask that you honor Tom's memory by simply thinking of him each time you are enjoying the outdoors and/or fishing.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Oct. 10, at 6:30pm at Graham Hitch Mortuary, 4167 1st Street, Pleasanton.

PAID OBITUARY

DUSTUP

Continued from Page 5

The discussion surrounding Pleasanton's two utility discount programs initially started in May when the council directed staff to analyze the senior discount program following staff's recommendation to eliminate it as part of the city's water rate structure overhaul.

The program provides a 20% water bill discount to about 3,200 of seniors who are 65 years or older, according to staff.

The low-income program serves about 225 households and provides a 30% discount on Pleasanton and Zone 7 Water Agency fixed and variable fees, as well as Pleasanton sewer fixed fees.

During the Sept. 16 meeting, staff provided an analysis and comparison to other Tri-Valley city programs as part of the study that public works director Siew-Chin Yeong presented.

The study highlighted several key issues including the fact that, not only did both programs combined cost the city almost \$505,000 last fiscal year from its general fund, but that no other Tri-Valley city offers a program like the senior discount program.

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, the senior water discount cost the city nearly \$382,000, which jumped up to just over \$450,000 the following year. In comparison, the low-income water discount cost the city nearly \$45,000 in the 2023-24 fiscal year and nearly \$55,000 the following year.

"(Regarding) the current program, the costs are growing quickly," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said.

Yeong said there are several factors the city needs to consider when discussing the future of the two utility discount programs.

She said Pleasanton's high cost of living leaves certain households ineligible for support when those same households might be struggling with rising utility costs and higher inflation, which could put serious financial pressures on seniors and low-income households.

But she also said the city needs to be smart about how much money it wants to put toward helping those people, especially given the city's financial challenges highlighted over the past year and a half.

"Our goal is to continue offering meaningful assistance without compromising the city's budget," Yeong said. "As low-income customers may be the group that needed the support the most, staff suggest council to consider not changing the current discount program for low-income resident customers."

With these considerations in mind, staff sought direction from the council that night on whether it should move forward with one single water and sewer discount program that would offer a 30% utility

bill discount to qualified low-income and income-qualified senior residents or if it should maintain both separate programs.

"What we're trying to do here is just compare — if you are a senior in the community, are you going to get a discount because of your age or are you going to get it because of the income?" Beaudin said. "The income-based program is going to exist whether you're a senior or not, but we're really just trying to decide what to do with this preexisting senior program."

Other discussion points staff wanted direction on included settling on an area median income (AMI) criteria for the low-income residents, lowering the maximum water usage criteria, capping the budget for the discount program to \$425,000 and keeping the 30% discount for the entire utility bill.

Beaudin said the \$450,000 the city spent on just the senior discount program last year is "pretty significant" while the low-income discount, even if they doubled it,

would still only be \$100,000.

"The goal isn't to just keep growing the program and try to chase it," Beaudin said. "It's to keep it within a certain number and be realistic with the general budget."

Overall, everyone on the dais agreed on maintaining some sort of an income-based discount program and that the maximum water usage criteria should be reduced to 24 CCF — one CCF is equal to 748 gallons of water.

Most on the council also agreed to have staff look more into increasing the AMI limit to 100%, with the caveat that they also said they would be OK with an 80% AMI.

One major discussion point was an issue brought up by Vice Mayor Jeff Nibert and Councilmember Matt Gaidos who both suggested staff look into residency criteria for the discounts.

"We've created a lot of discounts and subsidized benefits to people who haven't necessarily lived in this area," Gaidos said. "I want to

make sure we're taking care of the folks who have contributed and paid taxes into not only locally but in general."

"I think that once you start an account and you are a new resident of Pleasanton, you should have to live here for a few years before you get the discount," Gaidos added.

Nibert later clarified he thinks that residency criteria should only apply for a senior-focused discount program.

Testa agreed with that point but Balch did not, which foreshadowed the heated exchange later that night. Balch mainly had qualms over how a criteria for residency would work for people who might not live within city boundaries but still pay water bills to the city.

But the main contention during the meeting was that Testa did not agree with getting rid of the senior discount program altogether and moving solely to an income-based one.

"I think it's really important that we support our seniors aging in

place and being able to remain in their homes and community," Testa said. "We should do everything we can to support this demographic."

However, Beaudin said there is "no way to sustain a \$425,000 existing senior discount program" along with a low-income program.

Balch then suggested staff look at a program where seniors could get an enhancement to their discount — given they also qualify for low-income — if they are 65 years or older and lived in the city a number of years, Testa did not agree with and what ultimately led to the conflict.

Following the meeting, staff will use council's input to develop a final recommendation along with alternatives based on the varying opinions of the council and present those as an action item next month so that, once approved, staff could make any potential updates in time for the new water rates, which are on track to be approved and take effect Jan. 1. ■



Jon Lopez

March 13, 1951 – September 11, 2025

"There's no normal life, it's just life."

Jon Lopez, a Pleasanton resident of 41 years, passed away on September 11, 2025 at the age of 74 after a months long battle with cancer.

Born in Van Nuys in 1951, Jon grew up in Southern California with his six brothers and one sister before moving to Pleasanton in 1984, where he worked for ValleyCrest for more than three decades.

A lover of books, puzzles, soccer, golfing and fishing, Jon could fill a movie theater with his laugh and talk the ear off of anyone he met. In his final years, he was happiest when gardening, but the most recent achievement he was proudest of was helping his grandson win the Cub Scout pinewood derby. With his quiet last words of "mama," we hope that if possible, he was reunited with his beloved mother Verna at the time of his death.

Jon is survived by his wife of 45 years, Karen; his four children: Christopher, Niki, Jason, and Angela; daughter-in-law Shaine; his five grandchildren: Harlee, Samirah, Joshua, Asher, and Melody; six of his siblings; and his dog, Barney. Besides his mother, Jon was preceded in death by his father, Steve; step-father, Frank; and older brother, Steven.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks anyone interested in honoring Jon's memory to donate books to their local library.

Thanks for always being there, Daddo.

PAID OBITUARY

Debbie Ann DiLaura

December 7, 1953 – July 30, 2025

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Debbie Ann DiLaura, who left this world on July 30, 2025, at the age of 71. Debbie lived a life defined by deep love, steadfast dedication, and a passion for both adventure and the simple joys of home.



Born on December 17, 1953, Debbie was a woman of strength and perseverance. For 47 years, she built a successful career in the shipping container industry, earning the admiration of colleagues and customers alike for her tenacity, knowledge, and unwavering professionalism. Her work was more than a job — it was a testament to her character and commitment.

Outside of her career, Debbie was an avid traveler, always eager to explore new places and soak in the beauty of the world around her. Whether it was a road trip across the country or a far-off destination, she found joy in every journey and made lifelong memories along the way.

Those who knew Debbie knew of her deep love for animals. Her dogs and horses were not just pets—they were family. She gave them unconditional love and care, finding peace and purpose in their companionship.

Above all, Debbie cherished her role as a devoted wife to Sam DiLaura. Their love was one of partnership, laughter, and mutual respect. She was also a loving and proud stepmother to A.J. and Jamie, embracing them with warmth, support, and affection.

Debbie's legacy is one of love, resilience, and an adventurous spirit. She touched many lives with her kindness, her stories, and her generous heart. She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, October 3rd at 11:00 am at Crosswinds Church: 1660 Freisman Rd, Livermore.

PAID OBITUARY

THE FIREHOUSE

CITY-RUN THEATER UNVEILS SCHEDULE OF FALL SHOWS

By JEREMY WALSH

Finding something to do for a night out in their hometown this fall just got an injection of fresh optionality for Pleasanton residents.

The Firehouse Arts Center, the city-owned theater in downtown Pleasanton, last week announced the first half of its Presenting Series for the 2025-26 season — 10 performances from October to December emblematic of the types of offerings that the black-box stage has become known for in recent years.

“This season is really about variety and connection,” said Julian Mireles, recreation supervisor for the city of Pleasanton and the person who oversees the venue’s scheduling.

“We’re excited to open with high-energy tribute concerts like Journey Revisited and In the Spirit of Lennon, then move into youth-driven productions like ‘Beetlejuice JR.’ from the Pleasanton Youth Theater Company,” Mireles told the Pleasanton Weekly on Friday. “The December lineup is especially festive, from the Golden Follies’ holiday revue to Chorus Eclectic’s Gnome for the Holidays and the Holiday Youth Music Festival.”

“What stands out is how the schedule balances professional touring acts with opportunities for local youth and community artists to shine; it’s a mix that will resonate with audiences across generations,” he added.

Shows sponsored by the city inside the 221-seat theater are the centerpiece of programming at the public arts center converted from the former historic firehouse property on the west side of downtown Pleasanton.

But they aren’t the only offerings. The Harrington Gallery draws visual arts lovers and the classroom space supports city youth arts programs and others — plus the venue rents out to others looking for a stage in the Tri-Valley.

“The Firehouse Arts Center is more than a theater; it’s a hub for community connection and economic vitality,” Pleasanton City Manager Gerry Beaudin told the Weekly.

That perspective is key to the mindset behind the Firehouse’s 2025-26 Presenting Series.

So too is the financial reality of the moment for the city government.

This year’s Firehouse booking process was heavily impacted by the extensive debates at city hall over spending cuts that left key decisions unsettled until later into the spring than usual before the traditional June budget adoption — questions that continue to loom over

city recreation programming for the 2026-27 fiscal year and beyond.

The timeline led city staff to lean into segmenting the season-scheduling effort.

“The budget discussions did add complexity. Like many cities, Pleasanton is navigating a structural deficit, so there were questions early on about how resources would be allocated,” said Heidi Murphy, director of the city’s Library and Recreation Department, which manages the Firehouse.

Another factor, she noted, was the effort and outcome over the past year to consolidate the city’s youth theater, improv and music programs all into the Firehouse after the city transferred the Amador Theater back to the school district.

“Our team took a phased, financially responsible approach: securing a strong fall slate while continuing to work behind the scenes on spring programming, ensuring we could balance quality with sustainability,” Murphy added.

Count Mayor Jack Balch among those pleased with the results so far.

“I have had a chance to look at the fall brochure and was impressed by the variety of offerings. That’s the beauty of the arts, something for everyone,” he told the Weekly on Friday.

“The Firehouse Arts Center really is unique, it honors our city’s history as an old firehouse while now serving the community in a new way through art, culture, and the pull of visitors to our downtown,” Balch said.

“Last year we sold more than 16,000 tickets. That is a lot of people in our downtown, where they can stroll, shop and dine,” the mayor continued. “With the newly renovated Lions Wayside Park and Bandstand nearby and soon connecting better when the new parking area is completed, these amenities will only continue to enhance our downtown.”

THE FALL LIST

“It’s a lineup that will entertain, inspire and bring people together,” Mireles said in the press release last week announcing the Presenting Series autumn schedule — plus the news that the city secured downtown restaurant Sabio on Main as the Firehouse’s new concessionaire. The shows pretty much fall into three categories: tribute acts, youth performances and holiday productions.

The cover slate starts things off next Friday evening (Oct. 3) with Journey Revisited playing hits from the heyday of the famous rock band



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

Journey Revisited, a tribute band covering the heyday hits of the Bay Area rock group, opens the Presenting Series fall season next Friday.



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

“Singers Choice” on Dec. 5 is a cabaret by Pleasanton Youth Theater Company.



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

The popular Golden Follies are presenting their high-kicking matinee “A Very Follies Holiday” on Dec. 13.



CHUCK DECKERT

Julian Mireles, recreation supervisor for the city of Pleasanton, oversees the booking process for the Firehouse Arts Center.

HOUSE LINEUP

SHOWS — SPRING SLATE STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION

with strong Bay Area roots.

“Featuring lead vocalist Frank House, keyboardist/vocalist Kevin Jachetta and a powerhouse rhythm section ... their dynamic musicianship and passion for the music create a concert experience that truly brings back the glory days of Journey,” Firehouse reps wrote in the venue’s newly released fall season brochure.

Two other tribute acts are on the bill: In the Spirit of Lennon, an acoustic homage to John Lennon on Oct. 10, and Billy Nation, highlighting the music of Billy Joel on Nov. 21.

PYTC also features prominently in the lineup, including a musical adaptation for the spooky season — just don’t say the name three times in a row.

“Beetlejuice JR.” will be on the Firehouse stage on Fridays through Sundays from Nov. 7-16. PYTC will follow with its “Singers Choice” cabaret on Dec. 5 and its “Holiday Youth Music Festival” on Dec. 19.

Another city-run youth performance troupe caught the mayor’s eye as he looked over the fall schedule.

“Personally, my family and I have always had a fondness for Creatures of Impulse (one of our neighbors participated for years), so the ‘Puppets of Impulse’ intrigues me. I enjoy light and funny right now, which is exactly what this show sounds like,” Balch said.

An award-winning teen improv program that specializes in long-form improvisation, Creatures of Impulse makes its 2025-26 debut at the Firehouse with “Mafia-Esque” (“a completely improvised murder mystery”) from Oct. 23-25, and then presents “Puppets of Impulse” (“a completely improvised puppet musical”) from Dec. 11-13.

Also during the holiday season, The Golden Follies senior Las Vegas-style revue will perform “A Very Follies Holiday” on Dec. 13 and Chorus Eclectic will sing seasonal favorites at “Gnome for the Holidays” on Dec. 18.

In the Harrington Gallery this autumn are the final two weeks of the “Fresh Works Jr.” exhibition before the Pleasanton Art League’s 18th annual Fall Members’ Show runs Oct. 25 through Dec. 20.

City-led programming isn’t all that’s on tap either.

Dotting the calendar too are nine shows being put on by outside folks renting the theater — on the Firehouse Arts website, those listings include the familiar disclaimer: “Please note, this event is independently organized and not sponsored by the City of Pleasanton.”

Theater writer and performer Molly Bell is bringing her “Miss Hysterical” musical comedy to the Firehouse this Saturday night (Sept. 27).

Other such performances include Best of San Francisco Stand-up Comedy on Oct. 4, “Sakkhe Shejari” (“an episodic drama that celebrates the bittersweet bonds between three neighboring couples in a lively Mumbai apartment complex”) on Oct. 11, the East Bay Children’s Theatre production of “Jackie and the Beanstalk” on Oct. 12, Samson Koletkar (“aka Mahatma Moses, the world’s only Indian Jewish stand-up comedian”) on Oct. 26, Pleasanton Community Concert Band’s “Family Concert” on Oct. 19 and Coldplay tribute group Trouble on Nov. 22.

THE FUTURE LEERS

With the excitement of publicly unveiling the Firehouse’s fall lineup still fresh and preparations for those early shows well underway, city staff and contractors are working hard behind the scenes to book what Mireles promises to be “a robust slate of performances and programs” for winter and spring 2026.

He pointed to PYTC’s planned production of “Mary Poppins JR.” as a highlight already on the spring schedule.

The fall brochure also teases a concert from Chicago and Steely Dan tribute act Aja Vu Band on Jan. 9, the play “The Addams Family Musical: Younger@Part” (also courtesy of PYTC) from Jan. 17-25 and the East Bay’s own 19-piece CoolTones Big Band performing March 21.

Dozens of potential dates remain to be filled.

Enacting a phased approach to scheduling the 2025-26 season means the back half of the bill will be secured and revealed while the city government’s financial results for the current fiscal year comes into clearer view — and tough conversations at the city offices about next year’s budget could be picking up as those acts appear on the theater’s stage.

As the city grapples with how to maintain strong recreational programming in the face of a difficult overall budget reality, Beaudin pushed back at the notion this would be a tipping point year for the Firehouse.

“We’re not at a point yet where we’re making decisions about the future of the Firehouse Arts Center,” he said. “Right now, the City is focused on broad efforts to strengthen our revenue base — including economic development, exploring a



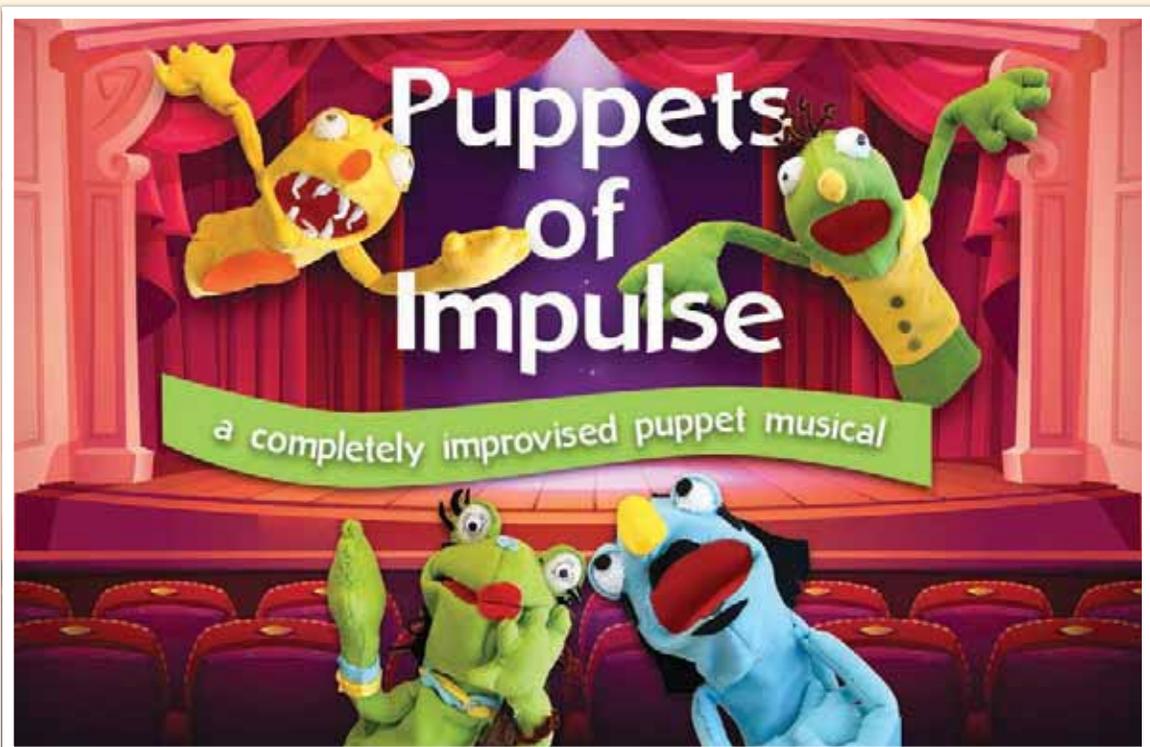
COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

Billy Joel tribute act Billy Nation will be in concert at the Firehouse on Nov. 21.



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

PYTC’s “Holiday Youth Music Festival” is scheduled for Dec. 19.



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

Creatures of Impulse will bring long-form improvisation with “Puppets of Impulse” from Dec. 11-13.

potential hotel tax, and conducting an organizational assessment of city services. Those efforts are our focus at this time.”

“The City will continue engaging the community as part of our future budget processes,” Beaudin added. “Resident participation — whether through ticket sales, gallery visits, youth theater enrollment, or donations — helps us understand how much value people place on the Firehouse’s programs. While not every program is expected to fully pay for itself, strong community support makes it easier for the City to sustain them.”

The path to sustainability in the short term, according to Murphy, is “to balance high-quality programming with financial responsibility, expanding partnerships with downtown businesses like Sabio on Main, partners like Pleasanton Art League

and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, and leveraging community rentals and youth programs that keep the venue vibrant year-round.”

As for the long term, a nonprofit arm for the Firehouse could help steady the ship. “Staff would love community support in creating a foundation to support the arts,” Murphy said.

Because city leaders share what they believe to be a collective goal across Pleasanton: a thriving Firehouse Arts Center in 2025 and beyond.

“The Firehouse is a gem of the Pleasanton community,” Balch said. “It connects people, strengthens our downtown, and pulls people into Pleasanton to support our local businesses. While we are always looking for ways to be efficient with the taxpayer dollars, the Firehouse is providing value

beyond the performances.”

The city manager concurs. “By drawing audiences downtown, performances help support local restaurants, shops, and businesses,” Beaudin said. “Beyond the economic impact, the Firehouse provides a unique space where local youth can shine through programs like (PYTC), residents can enjoy touring acts close to home, and visual artists can showcase their work in the Harrington Gallery.”

“Its intimate scale is part of its charm, artists and audiences alike appreciate the closeness and energy of the venue, though it also requires balancing creativity with financial realities to keep programming both high-quality and accessible,” Beaudin added. “Together, these elements make the Firehouse an essential piece of Pleasanton’s cultural and community landscape.” ■

Love and loss

Livermore Valley Opera opens season with Verdi classic 'La Traviata'

By JUDE STRZEMP

Lil-fated romance set to timeless music.

That is the story of Giuseppe Verdi's "La Traviata".

Presented by Livermore Valley Opera, the fall production is set to take the stage at the Bankhead Theater beginning later this month. It marks the opening of the Tri-Valley opera company's 34th season.

Set in 19th-century Paris, "La Traviata" features a courtesan named Violetta Valéry who runs away with Alfredo Germont, a young bourgeois.

But intervention by Alfredo's father, Giorgio Germont, prompts Violetta to turn away from her lover. By the time Alfredo comes to his senses, there is scarcely enough time for apologies, as Violetta succumbs to tuberculosis.

The production has "great tunes and wonderful drama," LV Opera artistic director Erie Mills said.

Sung in Italian with English subtitles, no one needs to feel intimidated to attend an opera, said Candace Evans, "La Traviata" stage director and choreographer.

"It's not like going to a rugby match and not knowing the rules. Opera is just life," Evans said.

"Wear your jeans and tennies or wear your sequin evening gown. It doesn't matter," Evans added. "You're there for a human experience, told through unbelievably beautiful music."

Whether audience members have seen the opera before, they are likely to recognize the tunes, Evans said.

"The music — it just gets inside you," Evans said. "It is so lyric, and so melodic and so transportive."

In addition to the music, the narrative is very relatable, Evans said.

"We all have a love story or 10 in our lives, of someone and something at a time, and if it worked or didn't work," Evans added.

One can also connect through the perspective of health and illness, according to Evans.

Those who saw the recent pandemic lived a parallel scenario to people's experience of tuberculosis in the 19th century, wherein there was a deadly illness of unknown cause and remedy, Evans explained.



COURTESY LV OPERA
Livermore Valley Opera is set to present "La Traviata" at the Bankhead Theater Sept. 27-28 and Oct. 4-5. Playing as the show's lead couple are Avery Boettcher and Brad Bickhardt (shown in posed pictures above and rehearsal photo at left).

As a classic production, audiences often know Violetta is doomed from the start, according to soprano Avery Boettcher, who is cast as Violetta.

"But still, people come to see her try to make the best of it. It's like every time you watch the movie 'Titanic' you're like, 'I hope it doesn't hit the iceberg this time.' And it always does," Boettcher said.

For over a decade Boettcher has

been wanting to play Violetta.

"It is a dream come true in real-time," Boettcher said of her debut performance as Violetta. "It's a beautiful and moving story."

Composed of three acts, "La Traviata" requires distinct singing for the part of Violetta, Boettcher said.

"It's like a triathlon," Boettcher said. "You have to train your body to do three different types of singing and

train yourself to do all of them at once, so that by the time you get to the end, you still have enough strength and skill to be able to maneuver the difficulty that is embedded in the music."

While rehearsals last only a few weeks, Boettcher said she has been working on her role rigorously for about three or four years.

Joining Boettcher on stage is tenor

Brad Bickhardt, who is making his third appearance as Alfredo — a role he first played five years ago.

"Having five years to revisit this role and additional time for this, I feel as if the role has grown and matured as I have physically and vocally matured as well," Bickhardt said.

In Evans' role, she says she works to bring the story to life at the level of the individual performer as well as the overall piece.

The performers are telling the story with their words, but there is also an undercurrent of storytelling, Evans said.

In opera, people don't always tell the truth with their lines, she explained. "I remind singers that your body tells the truth before your mouth speaks," Evans said.

Tricky to performances on stage, the actors and actresses know their lines before they move. This means the performers must work backwards to elicit movement.

With this in mind, Evans said she finds ways for performers to incorporate gestures, sitting and standing, turns and props.

"(As) the audience, we are tuned to watch people's bodies to get the truth, even over the words," Evans explained.

"My duty is to open the story. If I've done a good job of that, even if you didn't read the titles, you'd have a pretty darn good idea of what was going on, just because of what is physically happening on the stage," Evans said.

The upcoming production of "La Traviata" also features baritone Krassen Karagiozov as Giorgio, Tiffany Gao as Flora Bervoix, Chad Somers as Gastone de Letorières, Kirk Eichelberger as Dottore Grenvil, Leandra Ramm as Annina, Gilead Wurman as Baron Douphol and Kevin Brown as Marchese d'Obigny.

Alexander Katsman serves as music director and Bruce Olstad as chorusmaster.

Performances of "La Traviata" are scheduled at the Bankhead Theater this weekend (Sept. 27-28) and next (Oct. 4-5). For more information and tickets, visit LVOpera.com or livermorearts.org. ■

‘SNL’ alum Jon Lovitz performing at Bankhead

‘The act is basically watching a grown man acting like he’s 8 ... It’s a fun, silly show’

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Get ready for a night of playful piano, witty jokes and possibly some faux opera singing as “Saturday Night Live” legend and movie funnyman Jon Lovitz takes the stage Friday for a night of standup comedy at the Bankhead Theater.

The comedy legend, best known for his Emmy-nominated run on “SNL” and for his legendary supporting roles on movies like “The Wedding Singer” and “A League of Their Own” will be returning to the Tri-Valley for the second time after having previously performed in Pleasanton years ago.

“I’m just looking forward to it,” Lovitz told the Weekly. “I like making people laugh, I really enjoy it. I’ve always been like that, that’s just how I am.”

Lovitz has been a comedy staple in households for 40 years after getting his big TV break on “Saturday Night Live” in 1985. After his stint with the show ended in the early ‘90s, Lovitz went on to appear in a number of movies, playing supporting roles that gave the public countless unforgettable moments.

Most recently, Lovitz briefly reappeared alongside comedic actor Adam Sandler in “Happy Gilmore 2” as a sort of cameo due to the long history between the two former “SNL” stars.

Originally a sketch comedy performer, it wasn’t until the early 2000s that Lovitz began his career in standup comedy.

Lovitz recalled when he first started doing standup, even though he knew he would sell tickets, he was still nervous because he was new to that world.

But after more than two decades of telling jokes on stage, he said he feels a lot more comfortable and confident with his standup act.

“It’s a lot of experience ... that’s what I think I’m bringing to the show,” he said. “A guy who knows what he’s doing.”

And while he isn’t nervous for this week’s show, Lovitz said he still wants to make sure he’s prepared.

“When you’re not prepared, that’s when you get nervous,” he said.

According to Lovitz, the show in Livermore will cover a lot of topics going on in the world and a lot of things he doesn’t quite understand, including politics.

“If I looked at the act overall, I go ‘God there’s just a big social change happening and people my age don’t get it. Like it just makes no sense whatsoever,’” he said.

But even though it will be R-rated, he said the show won’t be as raunchy as much as it will be him having fun up there making fun of everyone — including himself — and everything as he tries to make sense of the world.

“Overall my act is pretty silly,” Lovitz said.

He also said that at his core, he has always loved making people laugh ever since he was a little kid and that the show will basically be his inner child coming out to continue making others laugh as well.

“The act is basically watching a grown man acting like he’s 8,” he said. “It’s a fun, silly show and I know people will really enjoy it and I appreciate them coming.”

Lovitz will be taking the stage at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore this Friday (Sept. 26) starting at 8 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.livermorearts.org. ■



WASSERMAN MEDIA / COURTESY LVA

Jon Lovitz spoke with the Pleasanton Weekly ahead of his appearance this Friday at the Bankhead Theater.

Pirates of Emerson returns to fairgrounds

Haunted theme park ‘not for the faint of heart’

BY JUDE STRZEMP

Resurrecting in Pleasanton this weekend, Pirates of Emerson is set to open for another season of haunts.

Now in its 35th year, the Halloween-time theme park boasts over 90 actors across four haunted houses as well as carnival games, live music and a virtual reality experience.

With no way to fit all the spookiness in one building, the park is located on 6 acres of the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

“It’s definitely an intense atmosphere. There’s smoke machines, strobe lights, loud music and people getting in your face and chasing you with chainsaws,” proprietor Brian Fields told Pleasanton Weekly. “It’s not for the faint of heart.”

Beginning as an at-home operation for the Fields family in Fremont, the attraction has grown to become larger than ever expected, he added.

In preparation for thousands of annual visitors, nearly all year is spent designing and building new settings and effects, according to the park website.

“It’s completely immersive when



COURTESY PIRATES OF EMERSON

Pirates of Emerson is back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds during weekends and select Thursdays now to Nov. 2.

you go through our haunted houses,” Fields said. “You don’t walk by the scenes and look at things. You walk through the scenes and you’re part of it.”

“When you get in there, you can’t help but be scared,” Fields added.

Pirates of Emerson prides itself on being young adult-oriented over being a children’s haunted house, Fields explained.

The attraction is recommended for ages 13 years and up, and anyone under 16 years old must be

accompanied by an adult who is at least 21 years old, according to the park website.

Live music performances at Pirates of Emerson are set to include Creepo, Black Son Massacre, Shark in the Water and Live the Day.

Pirates of Emerson is scheduled to run during weekends and select Thursdays from this Friday (Sept. 2) to Nov. 2. For more information and tickets, visit piratesofemerson.com. ■

LVA launches \$1M campaign

Includes \$500K match offer to boost nonprofit

BY JEREMY WALSH

Livermore Valley Arts, the nonprofit organization behind programming at the Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center, has introduced a new, seven-figure fundraising campaign to help “sustain and grow” the venues that host hundreds of shows, classes and special events each year.

A centerpiece of the \$1 million campaign, which aims to generate much-needed support amid a revenue drop for LVA, is the offer from undisclosed local patrons of the arts to match up to \$500,000 worth of donations made between now and the end of 2025.

“This is an extraordinary opportunity for our community to double its impact,” LVA’s CEO Chris Carter said in a press release. “From performances and youth education to free community events and cultural celebrations, Livermore Valley Arts exists to bring people together through the transformative power of the arts. This challenge match ensures those programs will continue to thrive.”

LVA officials noted that the organization produces, presents or sponsors more than 400 events each year between the two venues, including touring artists, local resident performance companies, youth theater, multicultural celebrations, art exhibitions, classes and more — along with free and subsidized programs.

But after experiencing a \$600,000 fundraising shortfall last fiscal year, LVA is doubling down on the reality of the moment in its messaging: “Without philanthropic support, many of the programs that make the arts accessible for all could be at risk.”

Having an eye on the big picture, Carter added, “With this challenge match, our community has the chance to ensure that art continues to inspire, heal, and strengthen us all.”

To donate or learn more, go to livermorearts.org, call 925-583-2313 or stop by the LVA offices at the Bankhead at 2400 First St. ■

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

City Center jewelry store targeted in another armed robbery

The Heller Jewelers store in City Center Bishop Ranch was hit in an armed takeover-style robbery Monday, according to the San Ramon Police Department.

At 1:50 p.m., officers responded to the jewelry store located at 6000 Bollinger Canyon Road after approximately 20 masked individuals entered the establishment, allegedly smashing display cases and taking several items. SRPD officials said no one was injured in the heist, despite several of the suspects allegedly being armed with handguns and at least one person firing rounds through the front entrance.

The suspects fled in cars they had waiting in the City Center valet parking area, police said. Officers pursued some of the vehicles but stopped due to the inherent danger to the public and because air support was able to take over tracking the suspects through Contra Costa County and into Alameda County.

Multiple suspects were detained at two locations in Oakland and a second location in Dublin, according to SRPD.

Police Chief Denton Carlson told the San Ramon City Council during Tuesday night's meeting that seven of 23 suspects had been arrested to date. The case remains under investigation.

Monday's crime marks the second armed robbery at the City Center



JEREMY WALSH

Heller Jewelers in City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon in February 2025.

Heller Jewelry store in two years. On St. Patrick's Day 2023, a similar incident was recorded and shared on social media by several witnesses. Five men — who were all eventually apprehended — were seen running into the store, breaking display cases, taking merchandise and fleeing the scene.

— Cierra Bailey

Motorcyclist dies in crash

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau has released the identity of a motorcyclist who died following a crash early Monday morning at the intersection of Airway Boulevard and Isabel Avenue in Livermore.

The decedent was identified as Darin Chuck Ming Chan, a 37-year-old woman from Livermore.

Livermore police responded to the scene of the collision involving Chan and another vehicle just after 4 a.m. Monday.

In a statement Tuesday evening, the department said preliminary

findings suggest that Chan was stopped at the traffic light on westbound Airway Boulevard, preparing to turn right onto northbound Isabel Avenue.

As she began the turn, she lost control of the motorcycle for unknown reasons, traveled across Isabel Avenue and struck a vehicle that was slowing for the red light while preparing to turn left. The motorcycle then collided with a concrete barrier. Chan was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A 35-year-old man from Modesto was the sole occupant of the other vehicle, LPD officials said. He called 911 immediately and has been cooperating with investigators.

One southbound lane of Isabel Avenue near Interstate 580 was closed Monday for approximately four hours for the investigation and roadway cleanup.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact LPD's Traffic Unit at 925-371-4850.

— Cierra Bailey

PPD arrests four juveniles for robbery

A group of Stockton juveniles were arrested Monday afternoon on suspicion of robbing a Pleasanton resident's cellphone and other property in the Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park, police said Wednesday.

According to Pleasanton Police Department Lt. Nicholas Albert, the four suspects — who ranged from ages 12 to 15 — were ultimately booked into the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center. He said the victim sustained minor injuries and was able to recover his property.

Albert said the incident started Monday afternoon when police were notified of a "strong-arm robbery" that had occurred at the park, located at 5801 Valley Ave.

"The victim, a Pleasanton resident, had just exited a local bus when he noticed a group of male juveniles follow him off the bus and into the park," Albert said. "The group quickly approached the victim and demanded his cellphone and belongings."

After using physical force to allegedly steal the victim's cellphone and other property, Albert said the four suspects fled into the nearby residential community.

Shortly after, Albert said officers — with the help of air support from the East Bay Regional Park District Police Department — were able to locate and detain the suspects near Shenandoah Court.

It is unclear as of time of publication whether or not the suspects have been charged, if they are still being held at the juvenile center, or how long they had been following the victim before the incident took place.

— Christian Trujano

Driver arrested after fatal wreck on Altamont Pass

A Stockton man was taken into custody on suspicion of fatal DUI after authorities allege he killed another driver in a crash on Interstate 580 east of Livermore early Sunday morning.

The deadly collision unfolded at about 4:45 a.m. when a white Honda Accord rear-ended a black Tesla Model Y on eastbound I-580 west of Grant Line Road on the Altamont Pass in unincorporated Alameda County, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The Tesla driver suffered mortal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene, according to Officer Tyler Hahn of the CHP-Dublin office. The coroner's bureau identified the decedent as 66-year-old Akram Ghazal from Tracy.

The Honda driver, a 21-year-old

Stockton man, sustained moderate injuries and was transported to Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley hospital in Pleasanton for evaluation, according to Hahn.

CHP investigators, who suspect alcohol and/or drugs may have been factors in the crash, placed the 21-year-old under arrest and booked him into Santa Rita Jail in Dublin after his release from the hospital, according to Hahn. The driver's name has not yet been released.

Officers encourage anyone who witnessed the crash or may have other information relevant to the circumstances to contact CHP-Dublin at 925-828-0466 and ask for either investigating officer, A. Reyes or R. Purl.

— Jeremy Walsh

Teen cyclist hurt

A student biking to Wells Middle School was involved in a collision with a vehicle on Monday morning, according to authorities in Dublin.

The 14-year-old boy was wearing a helmet and experienced "very minor injuries", DPS spokesperson Miguel Campos told the Weekly on Tuesday. After receiving treatment on-scene, he was released to his parent, Campos added.

Police determined the incident was non-criminal in nature and found that neither alcohol nor other drugs were factors in the collision.

"We are grateful for the quick response of those who provided assistance, and we are relieved that this situation was not more serious," Wells principal Monica MacDonald wrote in a message Tuesday to families. "This event serves as an important reminder of the need for all of us — students, parents, and staff — to be vigilant and mindful of safety when traveling to and from campus."

The collision took place at about 8:05 a.m. Monday at Amador Valley Boulevard and Emerald Avenue, according to police.

The student was back on campus the following day, according to MacDonald's message to the campus community.

MacDonald also urged parents to review safety procedures with their students regarding school commutes such as using designated crosswalks as well as wearing helmets and bright or reflective clothing while on bicycles.

The tips also extended to guardians for driving students to and from school. Safety procedures for motorists include reducing speeds in school zones and refraining from double parking or letting children cross between cars in pick-up and drop-off zones. ■

— Jude Strzemp

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BY MELANIE SADEK

The changing role of animal services: Why we need the community's help

Animal welfare is evolving in ways that place the well-being of animals above convenience. That's a good thing.

Today, shelters are caring for more animals than their buildings were designed to hold. Based on census data and ownership estimates, there are 85,000 households in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin with roughly 55,000 dogs and 33,000 owned cats living in them. Even when a fraction of these animals need help, it stretches the system to the limit.

At Valley Humane, we receive up to five surrender requests every day, often marked "ASAP". At the same time, public shelters ask us to transfer in animals so they can make space for the variety of legally mandated intakes they manage like strays, medical/police emergencies

or animal abuse cases, to name a few.

Without help from the community — by reclaiming lost pets, adopting or rehoming on their own — shelters become overcrowded, and euthanasia for space becomes a possibility.

This is why we encourage people to explore other options first. Valley Humane offers a free Home to Home rehoming site (home-home.org), where you can post your pet and share with your network, while Valley Humane also shares your pet. Families who love their animals take great care in choosing safe homes, and research shows that direct rehoming is very safe.



We also hear frustration about cats — why animal services won't trap a feral cat or pick up a neighborhood visitor. These decisions are about protecting cats. Feral cats are not adoptable; if brought to a shelter, they are usually euthanized.

The humane solution is trap-neuter-return (TNR): spaying or neutering, then releasing them back to their territory. This approach reduces

populations, nuisance behaviors and protects birds over time. Valley Humane provides surgeries at a lower cost for community cats.

For friendly cats, the challenge is different. Many indoor/outdoor cats roam and are mistaken as strays. Sadly, only 3% of cats in shelters are reclaimed by their owners, often because they lack identification, like a microchip.

Before taking a cat to a shelter, check with neighbors. A breakaway collar with your phone number can help you find the owner. And if you're unsure whether a cat (or dog) has a chip, Valley Humane will scan them for free.

When life with a pet becomes difficult, it can be hard to know what to do. Please remember, no one loves your animal like you do. If you're facing challenges like the cost of care, biting, litter box issues or end-of-life decisions, Valley Humane is here to help connect you with resources before you consider rehoming or surrendering. Very few adopters are looking to take on a difficult animal — they're simply hoping to welcome

a good family member.

Lifesaving is a collaboration. You can help by ensuring your animals have a collar with a tag and a microchip, all with updated information. Take the time and necessary steps to rehome your animals without going through a shelter and adopt. When you adopt you are giving a sweet animal another opportunity for love and a family.

We are partners in building a community where people and pets thrive together. That requires all of us — community members, nonprofits and government — working side by side.

If you'd like to learn more about today's sheltering system and the pressures it faces, I invite you to read my blog post: "Undervalued and Underfunded: The Quiet Crisis Facing Animal Shelters."

With compassion and collaboration, we can ensure the best possible outcomes for animals — and for the people who love them. ■

Editor's note: Melanie Sadek is a certified animal welfare administrator and the president and CEO of Valley Humane Society, based in Pleasanton.

LETTERS

Support industrial projects on east side

Pleasanton's east side around the Chain of Lakes should be zoned to accommodate future industrial warehousing, manufacturing, research and development facilities.

Livermore sets the example Pleasanton ought to follow when it comes to industrial economic development. The recently approved proposal by Livermore's City Council to support Pacific Fusion's application to build a billion-dollar research facility on their west side along Jack London Boulevard demonstrates commendable foresight.

One can easily envision the Chain of Lakes area becoming a hub for high-tech research and industrial development that could be the envy of all of California.

Cities with diverse economic foundations have resilient general funds. Pleasanton needs to look at industrial development just as favorably as it does commercial or residential development.

A city's industrial space positively supports commercial office demand which together function to keep a city's tenancy rate high. Making Pleasanton a center for industrial development, not just commercial development, steers the whole community towards a flourishing future.

I urge our local leaders to favor industrial development on Pleasanton's east side.

— Matthew Gray

Thank you, from OHK

On behalf of Open Heart Kitchen, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Pleasanton Weekly for its in-kind sponsorship of our 30th Anniversary Gala. That support was part of the incredible community effort that helped us raise more than \$250,000

on Sept. 5 at Casa Real Events Center in Pleasanton to provide meals and overnight emergency shelter for our Tri-Valley neighbors in need.

While galas are always important tools for raising much-needed funding for nonprofits, this year's Gala took on all the more significance in light of an \$850,000 federal grant cut we sustained in March.

That loss forced us to close our pop-up pantry program and reduce to-go meals at our Community Meal Program. At such a challenging time, your partnership helped amplify our story and rally our community around the neighbors who rely on us most.

For 30 years, Open Heart Kitchen has led the way in fastening the local safety net, making sure no one in our community has to face hunger or hardship alone. The Gala was more than a celebration; it was a reminder that together, we're building a food-secure tomorrow where every neighbor has the dignity of a hot meal and a safe place to rest.

With gratitude,

— John Bost, executive director,
Open Heart Kitchen

Correcting the record on Zone 7 and Delta project

The Delta Conveyance Project and Zone 7's water supply are mischaracterized in an editorial published by the Independent on Sept. 18, 2025.

Zone 7 receives 90% of our water supply from the State Water Project. The same State Water Project that pumps water into the California Aqueduct pumps water into the South Bay Aqueduct and delivers water to our region.

State Water Project reliability is decreasing due to climate change and water quality and environmental regulations. Our analysis shows that without the Delta Conveyance Project, we can expect future water

supply shortages in six out of every 20 years.

The Delta Conveyance Project will significantly reduce future shortages in the Tri-Valley.

— Valerie Pryor,
general manager, Zone 7

Sidewalks are not toilets

There's a growing menace on our sidewalks, and it's not just the cracks or uneven pavement. It's the dog poop left behind by careless, disrespectful and frankly unprofessional pet owners who treat the public walkways like their personal dumping grounds.

As a runner and walker, I've had the misfortune of dodging these landmines more times than I can count. Sometimes I'm not lucky enough to dodge them. The experience is disgusting, and entirely preventable.

Let's be clear: owning a pet is a privilege, not a license to pollute. Picking up after your dog isn't common courtesy — it's a basic civil responsibility. When you fail to do so, you're not just being lazy. You're showing blatant disregard for your neighbors, your community, and shared spaces we all rely on.

This isn't about one forgotten poop bag; it's about a pattern of behavior that reflects a deeper problem: entitlement. The kind that says, "My dog's waste isn't my problem." Well, it is. And it becomes everyone's problem when sidewalks turn into an obstacle course of filth.

The consequences go beyond aesthetics. Dog feces carry bacteria and parasites that pose health risks to humans and other animals. Children playing nearby, elderly people walking with limited mobility, and runners trying to stay healthy shouldn't have to navigate a minefield of microbial hazards.

It's time for communities to crack down — with fines, public shaming

and signage that makes it clear: poop belongs in a bag, not on the pavement.

— Michael Austin

Dignity over contempt

Are you wondering more and more these days if your fellow citizens are ruining this country? Or concluding lately that we need a "national divorce", that it is a good idea to cancel your own family, friends and neighbors because they are or aren't woke, have TDS, or are MAGA?

Or have you been convinced recently that good people have a moral duty to destroy evil people before they destroy you?

If the answer is yes, you might be experiencing manipulation by the conflict industry. This is a market of destruction. This contempt industrial complex preys upon your emotions with divisive language to attract customers, maximize profits, and keep you coming back for more.

It's a \$2.5 trillion industry according to recent estimates!

To counter having our own emotions used against us for the profit of others, we need a renewed commitment to human dignity. There's a wonderful online tool called The Dignity Index that I invite you all to use. It measures how much contempt or dignity speech from any source may contain and gives practical advice like "Be curious, not furious."

The website also offers examples and constructive conversation prompts. By building up our own skills and supporting only the leaders that also commit to treating everyone with the dignity we are endowed by our Creator with, it is possible to create a collective defense against the destruction left in the wake of profiteers and ease the divisions.

They can't sell what you don't buy.

— Stacey Borsody ■

Pleasanton Weekly

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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Watching my friend get inducted into Cal North Hall of Fame

'A sensational night' at PayPal Park honoring Amador great Kevin Crow

When you're younger, playing ball with your buddies at the park, you might dream about playing in the World Cup, Super Bowl and World Series — but realistically, there's not a lot of conversation about individual glory as that's the furthest thing from your mind.

It's all about being with your buddies and having a great time, with the future a distant thought.

As you grow older, the days at the park with your buddies dwindle but friendships never do. Pickup days playing a multitude of sports are gone, giving way to organized sports through high school.

The fortunate ones continue as teammates all the way through high school. And while the talent level becomes clear and continues to separate the older you get, the fact that everyone is still teammates allows the memories to continue to build.

I honestly feel at that point you don't truly understand how the moments will go through the rest of your life. They do — trust me.

After high school, separation begins as people usually carry on

their careers at different colleges or stop playing competitive athletics altogether.

A very few of the fortunate ones make it to the professional level. And as they move forward to compete with the world's elite, whether they realize it, they carry forward a part of their buddies and the memories forged so many years before.

The sense of pride their friends feel when they see one of their lifelong friends reach the pinnacle of their sport. It's not something everyone gets to experience, but if you do, consider yourself blessed.

And I do.

Saturday night before the San Jose Earthquakes professional soccer game at PayPal Park, the 2025 Cal North Soccer Association Hall of Fame inductees were honored.

Kevin Crow, a 1979 graduate of Amador Valley High School and an alumnus of the Ballistic United Soccer Club, was one of two inductees on the night.

And true to the foundation of the person Crow has become, he brought along one of sisters, his son and two lifelong friends that were

there as teammates and buddies for the entire ride from playing pickup ball through high school.

While the night belonged to Kevin, his sister Kristy, son Kamron, Steve Wilcox and I carried tremendous pride as Kevin was honored.

Sunday morning, we had a text exchange about what a night it was.

Increasing my joy of the night is that my parents Harry and Georgianne Miller were inducted in 2000, so it gave me a chance to see their names on the Wall of Fame.

My father Harry passed away in August of 2021, but my mother is still alive. They were pioneers and founders in the Ballistic United Soccer Club, and I was honored that the Cal North organization had Crow and I take a picture pointing



MILLER FAMILY

Kevin Crow (second from left) with friends and families at the 2025 Cal-North Soccer Association Hall of Fame induction ceremony Saturday.

to their names on the plaque.

I want to thank the people from CYSA for the thought of getting the picture.

I've written about Crow's accomplishments several times, including in the last couple of months with the announcement of going into the Cal North Hall.

In a nutshell, he was an all-league performer at Amador Valley, then an all-league selection and all-American at San Diego State. Professionally, he was the last natural-born American to make first team all-league in the outdoor North American Soccer League.

From there professional soccer moved indoor for the popular Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL) and he was named Defensive Player of the Year five times for the San Diego Sockers, a team that won multiple titles.

He represented the United States in Olympic soccer twice and played many times for the U.S. Men's National Team.

It was a sensational night, allowing those of us who grew up together to celebrate the accomplishments of one of our best friends and give us all a chance to reflect on our amazing childhood! ■

As Pac-12 rebuilds, new football shows filmed in Pleasanton

Madden's Goal Line Studios now home to pregame, halftime and postgame programs

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton's Goal Line Studios, the media production space created by late football legend John Madden, has become the new home of pregame, halftime and postgame shows for the Pac-12 as the sports conference gears up for the next stage of its rebirth next year.

Coverage this season focuses on the Pac-12's only two remaining members, Oregon State and Washington State, with the new studio debuting Sept. 6 for shows broadcast as part of "CW Football Saturday" programming. But anticipation is high for many more shows and content with seven new schools scheduled to join the conference for the 2026-27 academic year.

Pac-12 Enterprises — the successor to Pac-12 Networks, which broadcast games and analysis shows for the old Pac-12 and had moved its entire operations to San Ramon from San Francisco in 2023 — found itself searching for

solutions in the new reality as a conference with just the Beavers and Cougars. The 10 other teams defected to other conferences in the summer of 2024, such as UCLA, Oregon and USC to the Big Ten and Cal and Stanford to the ACC.

"After the first year of Pac-12 Enterprises' operations in San Ramon (in 2024), servicing Oregon State and Washington State broadcast production commitments as well as introducing a dozen new external clients, a discovery was made. Right down the street in the East Bay, a pretty notable studio facility existed with legendary ties to West Coast Football: Goal Line Studios," the conference said in its fact sheet on the new broadcasting deal.

Founded by John Madden, Goal Line Studios is now led by Joe Madden after his father's death in late 2021 — and the 7,000-square-foot studio in Pleasanton was modernized in March 2023.

Pac-12 Enterprises and Goal Line Studios have inked an exclusive

partnership deal for football pregame, halftime and postgame shows for CW Sports until 2031. It wasn't immediately clear how other sports may be involved this season or in the future. News of the agreement was first reported by Sportico.

The shows will be filmed at the studio in Pleasanton and connected to the Pac-12 control room in San Ramon, where the programs will be produced, conference officials told the Pleasanton Weekly.

The setup in Pleasanton includes "a massive LED wall (106 feet by 20 feet) for an immersive viewing experience" and "the only plug-and-play live broadcast multicamera virtual production studio in Northern California," according to Goal Line Studios.

Starting with the 2026 fall sports season, the Pac-12 membership is slated to increase to nine schools with the additions of Boise State, Fresno State, Colorado State, Gonzaga, San Diego State, Texas State and Utah State. ■

Employment

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Principal, Cybersecurity Risk in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Responsible for the overall security strategy for the platforms and initiatives within this Org.

Salary: \$192,000 - \$288,000 a year, 40 hours per week.

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 20637.3171

Workday, Inc. has multiple openings in their Pleasanton, CA office: Sr Software Engineer (Distributed Systems) (REF # 20637.3387) (Salary: \$206,315 - \$279,900) Plans, designs, develops and tests software systems or applications for software enhancements and new cloud-based products and internet related tools. Sr Associate Software Development Engineer (REF # 20637.1267) (Salary: \$130,250 - \$180,000) Plans, designs, develops and tests software systems or applications for software enhancements and new cloud-based products and internet related tools. Information Systems Software Application Engineer (REF # 20637.3375) (Salary: \$155,605 - \$189,600) Lead multiple projects from requirements gathering through solution design, build, testing and deployment. Sr Business Systems Analyst (REF # 20637.3237) (Salary: \$168,397 - \$209,800) Work closely with business stakeholders, product owners, and project managers to elicit, document, and prioritize business requirements related to Workday CX projects for Business Technology, GoToMarket teams.

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

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Entertainment

MISS HYSTERICAL Bay Area Theater Critics Circle Award winner and New York Fringe Festival Best Performer Molly Bell brings her boldest creation yet to her hometown stage. 7:30 p.m., Sept. 27. Tickets \$33-\$45. Visit firehousearts.org.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND The Pleasanton Community Band performs at the Pleasanton Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 27. West Angela Street.

POPS ON THE GREEN This annual concert, sponsored by the Symphony Guild, is on the lawn in front of the Bankhead Theater with music from Carmen, Guys and Dolls, Superman and more. Bring a picnic or snack. Admission is free, but donations are collected to support the Livermore-Amador Symphony. 3-4 p.m., Sept. 27.

VERDI'S LA TRAVIATA Join Livermore Valley Opera and step into a world of passion, sacrifice and timeless music with Verdi's beloved masterpiece, La Traviata. With powerful voices, sweeping melodies and stunning production, this is opera at its most moving. Sept. 27-28; Oct. 4-5. Visit livermorearts.org.

AN EVENING WITH JAKE SHIMABUKURO Ukulele virtuoso Jake Shimabukuro transforms the ukulele into an instrument of infinite possibilities. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 2. Tickets \$85-\$115. Visit livermorearts.org.

DEBBIE GIBSON Debbie Gibson's talent has led to over 16 million in album sales and a prolific theatrical career spanning 17 musicals. 8 p.m., Oct. 3. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

JOURNEY REVISITED This California-based band has dedicated itself to bringing back the classic sounds of Journey. With their exceptional musicianship and raw talent, they recreate the iconic sound of the album-oriented rock era. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 3. Tickets \$33-\$38. Visit firehousearts.org.

BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO STAND-UP COMEDY From the producers of one of the longest running independent shows in America comes this comedy tour de force from some of the hottest up and coming acts in the Bay Area. 8 p.m., Oct. 4. Tickets \$23. Visit firehousearts.org.

Talks

ALAN HU FOUNDATION WEBINAR In this free Webinar, Dr. Ellen Fitzsimmons-Craft will present Eating Disorders: Recognition, Screening, and Treatment (And How Technology Can Help) where she will review diagnoses and risk factors for eating disorders. 6-7 p.m., Sept. 30. Register by Sept. 29 at alanhufoundation.org.

COFFEE WITH A COP Join the Pleasanton Police Department for National Coffee with a Cop

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Catch with Cindy

Meet Cindy, a playful, affectionate pup with a big heart and an even bigger love for toys — especially tennis balls and squeaky ones. She shines brightest during playtime or on group runs with fellow shelter dogs. This sweet, engaged 2-year-old is happiest sharing her love, especially if she's receiving all the scratches you have to offer. Cindy is waiting in foster to find her person — visit eastbayspca.org to learn more about adopting her.

Day for a chance to enjoy a free cup of coffee while connecting with members of the Pleasanton Police Department in a relaxed and friendly setting. 8-10 a.m., Oct. 1. Starbucks, 6786 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH EDGAR ALLAN POE Using a combination of biographical information and the dramatic interpretation of Poe's literature, Duffy Hudson provides a unique, in-depth theatrical experience of the life and works of one of America's best-known and enigmatic personalities. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Oct. 2. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org.

Exhibitions

PLEASANTON QUILT, CRAFT & SEWING SHOW Get ready for a good time with brand new vendors and endless inspiration. Enjoy free classes, tons of swag and a chance to win \$500 cash just for being in line. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 26; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 27. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

CORGI CON AT THE FAIRGROUNDS Spend the day with fluffy stumpers and celebrate all things Corgi. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 27. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

ALAMEDA FALL HOME SHOW Discover endless possibilities at hundreds of exhibits from custom kitchens and baths, windows and doors, heating and air, roofing and floors, pools and spas, landscaping displays and more. Oct. 3-5. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

EMILIE MUNSCH - INSPIRED BY NATURE This Lobby Exhibition features 13 works by the artist celebrating a decade of tactile exploration and environmental mindfulness through the medium of collage. Through Oct. 25. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE WORK OF WINGS This exhibit at the Livermore Civic Center Library showcases the Livermore Art Association exploring flight, freedom, growth and transformation. This vibrant mix of media invites viewers to reflect on art's power to help us rise, transform and take flight. Oct. 1-31.

JILL VELLINGER EXHIBIT The Firehouse Arts Center features the work of Jill Vellinger on the Nancy Thompson Memorial Wall featuring approximately 10 of the artist's representative still lifes and landscapes. Through Nov. 1. Visit firehousearts.org.

Fundraisers

PACE FOR PEACE Join Tri-Valley Haven's annual Pace for Peace 5K/10K Walk/Run with a 1K kids dash where all proceeds directly support their Domestic Violence Services Department which provides safety, shelter and healing to survivors and their families. 8 a.m., Oct. 4. Visit trivalleyhaven.org.

HOPE HOSPICE GOLF MARATHON Join this fun and challenging charity golf event among an exclusive group of golfers which raises support for hospice care in the Tri-Valley and adjacent East Bay cities. Oct. 20, Castlewood Country Club. Visit p2p.onecause.com/hope100golf.

Outdoor Rec

CATS OF SYCAMORE GROVE Learn the difference between bobcats and mountain lions with an LARP Ranger. 3-4 p.m., Sept. 27. Free registration at larpd.org.

RANGER PROGRAM In this Ranger Program on Skulls and Bones, see both real and replica bones for an up close and personal experience. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Oct. 4. Visit larpd.org.

EARLY BIRD WALK Start the morning at Sycamore Grove Park as nature begins to rustle awake and observe and identify birds by sound and sight on this slow-paced walk. 7:30-8:30 a.m., Oct. 5. Visit larpd.org.

Support

HALLOWEEN COSTUME DRIVE Tri-Valley Haven is accepting unused costumes for children and teens ages 0-17 through Oct. 17. Help make this spooky season fun and memorable for local families in need. Drop off costumes, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore.

Public Notices

DV-730 Order to Renew Domestic Violence Restraining Order

Instructions: Restraining Order After Hearing (form DV-130, JV-255, or JV-265) must be attached to this form.

1 Protected Person
Name: ROBERT LATONA

2 Restrained Person
Full Name: AYLA ORTIZ
Address: 2503 SANTA RITA ROAD #49
City: PLEASANTON State: CA Zip: 94566
624 Encos Way, Apt #11
Livermore, CA 94551

3 Renewal and Expiration
The request to renew the attached restraining order is:
a. Granted.
The attached restraining order is renewed and will (check one):
(1) Expire on (must be renewed for at least five years)
(Date): _____ (time): _____ a.m. p.m. midnight
(2) Not expire (permanent order)
(*Child custody and visitation, property, and support orders may have been changed (modified) and may be different from those issued on the attached restraining order.)
SEE ALSO: A24-0082, A24-0086 - WDA
b. Denied. The attached restraining order expires as stated in that order.

FILED
AUG 07 2025
B. MC CAUSE
Superior Court of California, County of CONTRA COSTA
751 FINE STREET
P.O. BOX 913
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

This is a Court Order.

Order to Renew Domestic Violence Restraining Order (CLETS-OAH) (Domestic Violence Prevention)

Case Number: MSD19-05244

4 Hearing
There was a hearing on (date): 8/1/25 at (time): _____ a.m. p.m.
These people were at the hearing (check all that apply):
 The person in (1) The lawyer for the person in (1) (name): Barry D. Witt, Esq.
 The person in (2) The lawyer for the person in (2) (name): _____

5 Lawyer's Fees and Costs
The person in (1) in (2) must pay the following lawyer's fees and costs:
Pay to: _____ For: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Due date: _____
Pay to: _____ For: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Due date: _____

6 Service by Person in
(Check a or b.)
a. No other proof of service is needed. The people in (1) and (2) attended the hearing, either physically or remotely (by telephone or videoconference), or agreed in writing to this order.
b. The person in (2) was not present. The person in (1) must have person in (2) served with a copy of this order by (check all that apply):
(1) Mail (at the address listed on form DV-710)
(2) Other: 2503 Santa Rita Rd #49, Pleasanton, CA 94566
(3) The court has scheduled a firearms and ammunition compliance hearing. The person in (1) must have person in (2) served with a copy of this order by:
(a) Personal service by (date): _____
(b) Mail at the person in (2)'s last known address by (date): _____
Court will email Attorney Witt with a copy of order by close of business on 8/1/25.

This is a Court Order.

Order to Renew Domestic Violence Restraining Order (CLETS-OAH) (Domestic Violence Prevention)

Case Number: MSD19-05244

7 No Fee to Serve (Notify) Restrained Person
The sheriff or marshal will serve this order for free. If you want the sheriff to serve your papers, (1) complete form SER-001, Request for Sheriff to Serve Court Papers, and (2) give form SER-001 and a copy of this order to the sheriff.

8 Attached Pages
All of the attached pages are part of this order.
a. Number of pages attached to this three-page form: 18
b. Attachments include forms (check all that apply):
 DV-820 Other: DV-130 FILED 3-9-22, DV17, blank Proof of Service for Alternative Service, FL-982.
Judge's Signature: _____ Date: 08/07/2025
WENDY COATS
Certificate of Compliance With VAWA
This restraining (protective) order meets all "full faith and credit" requirements of the Violence Against Women Act, 18 U.S.C. section 2265 (1994) (VAWA) upon notice of the restrained person. This court has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter; the restrained person has been or will be afforded notice and a timely opportunity to be heard as provided by the laws of this jurisdiction. This order is valid and entitled to enforcement in each jurisdiction throughout the 50 states of the United States, the District of Columbia, all tribal lands, and all U.S. territories, commonwealths, and possessions and shall be enforced as if it were an order of that jurisdiction.

This is a Court Order.

Order to Renew Domestic Violence Restraining Order (CLETS-OAH) (Domestic Violence Prevention)

Case Number: MSD19-05244

Clerk's Certificate
I certify that this Order to Renew Restraining Order (form DV-730) is a true and correct copy of the original on file in the court.
Date: 8/1/25 Clerk, by B. MC CAUSE, Deputy
B. MC CAUSE

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): BJOUSTELLA LLC 2608 Lotus St. Pleasanton, CA 94588 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 12/21/2021 UNDER FILE NO. 585184 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): BJOUSTELLA 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)

The Texas RRC will hold a hearing to subdivide the Big Foot Olmos B Sand Unit with Central Gulf Petroleum Inc as petitioner on October 8, 2025 at 130 pm at the offices of the RRC located at 1701 N Congress Ave Austin, Texas. Interested parties may attend. (PLW Sep 12, 19, 26 and Oct 3, 2025)

THE ENTRY EDIT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617632

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) The Entry Edit , located at 3263 Vineyard Ave. spc 99, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): EMILY WARREN 3263 Vineyard Ave. spc 99 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 September 15 2025. (PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

QUEEN'S NAILS STUDIO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617309

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Queen's Nails Studio , located at 160 S K St. Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 2985 First St., Unit 1204 Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DAVID NGUYEN 2985 First St., Unit 1204 Livermore, CA 94550 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/01/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 02 2025. (PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

MARIPOSA FREMONT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617551

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Mariposa Fremont , located at 4022 Papillion Terrace Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 111 Pine Street Suite 1300, San Francisco, CA 94111 This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): 4022 PAPIILLION TERRACE LLC 111 Pine Street Suite 1300 San Francisco, CA 94111 State of Incorporation/Organization: Delaware Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on December 30, 2021 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 11 2025. (PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 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)

KIND DENTAL CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617477

The following person (persons) is (are) doing

business as:

1.) KIND DENTAL CARE , located at 1472 Cedarwood Ln, Suite A Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): ZDENT PROFESSIONAL DENTAL CORPORATION 1472 Cedarwood Ln, Suite A Pleasanton, CA 94566 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 September 09 2025. (PLW Sep 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

STORIES WE TELL THERAPY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617636

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Stories We Tell Therapy , located at 2991 Sacramento Street #544, Berkeley, CA 94702, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): COURTNEY QUATTRINI 2991 Sacramento Street #544 Berkeley, CA 94702 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/15/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 16 2025. (PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

MONARCH FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617308

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Monarch , located at 151 Lawrence Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): ZIMENO, INC. 151 Lawrence Drive Livermore, CA 94551 State of Incorporation/Organization: Delaware 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 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

PEARLS & TEETH, DENTAL PRACTICE OF VEENA MADHURE, DDS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 616999

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Pearls & Teeth, Dental Practice Of Veena Madhure, DDS , located at 5720 Stoneridge Mall Rd, #285, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): VEENA MADHURE DDS. INC 1619 Angsley Ln San Ramon, CA 94582 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/15/2020 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 18 2025. (PLW Sep 12, 19, 26 and Oct 3, 2025)

TWIXTE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617354

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Twixte , located at 1881 Trestle Glen Rd, Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): ACCELERANT SYSTEMS, INC. 1881 Trestle Glen Rd Oakland, CA 94610 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 September 03 2025. (PLW Sep 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

SWASS INVENSIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617438

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) SWASS INVENSIONS , located at 166 SHANIKO CMN, FREMONT,CA 94539, ALAMEDA County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): SWAPNA PEDDI 166 SHANIKO CMN FREMONT, CA 94539 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/07/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 05 2025. (PLW Sep 12, 19, 26 and Oct 3, 2025)

GOLDEN STATE LUXURY GROUP FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617559

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) GOLDEN STATE LUXURY GROUP , located at 480 St John St. #240 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): MICHAEL G ROBERTS RE LLC 480 St John St #240 Pleasanton CA 94566 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/31/2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 11 2025. (PLW Sep 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

PINK HORIZON CONSULTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 617388

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Pink Horizon Consulting , located at 4050 Chalk Hill Way, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): JASKARAN KAUR 4050 Chalk Hill Way Dublin, CA 94568 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 September 04 2025. (PLW Sep 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 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)

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)

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)

ART OF COMFORT ART OF COMFORT HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING ART OF COMFORT ELECTRICAL ART OF COMFORT HEATING AIR CONDITIONING AND ELECTRICAL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

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)

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)

Continued on next page

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

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)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV126150
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Vinh Thong Kong filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
VINH THONG KONG to THOMAS KONG
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: Oct 24 2025, 9:30 AM, Fremont Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 39439 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538.
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: June 12, 2025
Thomas J Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV142442
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Christl Violet Bickham filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
CHRISTL VIOLETT BICKHAM to VIOLETT CHRISTL BICKHAM
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 11/21/25, 9:00AM, Hayward Hall of Justice Dept. 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: 9/11/25
Danielle Harbour
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 26, Oct 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV118690
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: FNU Saleha filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
FNU SALEHA to SALEHA SAYED
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: 10/24/2025, 9:00 AM, Dept. 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador St, 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: 09/08/2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 19, 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
Case No.: 25CV133875
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Andrew Eligio filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
ANDREW ELIGIO to LEON SCOTT MARSH
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, 9:00AM, Hayward Hall Of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda County 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: 07/31/2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 12, 19, 26 and Oct 3, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MARY C. TAI
Case No.: 25PR133722
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MARY C. TAI.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: THERESA MY TAI-BOTTENHORN in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: THERESA MY TAI-BOTTENHORN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 November 19 2025 at 9:45 AM in Dept 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.
Petitioner in Pro Per:
Theresa MY Tai-Bottenhorn
1190 Cagle Court
Dixon, CA 95620
650-823-7322
(PLW Sep 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
WILLIAM COULTER WALSH III
Case No.: 25PR143558
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of WILLIAM COULTER WALSH III.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Thomas W. Hancock in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: Thomas W. Hancock 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 October 27 2025 at 9:45 AM in Department 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. 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:
Robert K. Roskoph, Esq.
Crist Biorn Shepherd Roskoph APC
2479 E. Bayshore Road, Suite 155
Palo Alto, CA 94303
650-321-5000
(PLW Sep 26, Oct 3 and 10, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
GILDA R. VERSALES (ALSO KNOWN AS GILDA RAQUEL D. VERSALES-MEDINA, GILDA RAQUEL D. VERSALES, AND GILDA RAQUEL VERSALES)
Case No.: 25PR125402
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of GILDA R. VERSALES (ALSO KNOWN AS GILDA RAQUEL D. VERSALES-MEDINA, GILDA RAQUEL D. VERSALES, AND GILDA RAQUEL VERSALES).
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Solace V. Medina in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: Solace V. Medina 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 October 13 2025 at 9:45 AM in Berkeley Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. 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:
Emily J. Buchbinder
Law Office of Emily J. Buchbinder
525 Capitol Avenue
Capitola, CA 95010
831-462-1313
(PLW Sep 19, 26 and Oct 3, 2025)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/](https://www.pleasantonweekly.com/legal_notices/)
For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

New developers take over townhome project

IHP Capital Partners, The Grupe Company acquire 2.5 acres in San Ramon to build 57 units

BY CIERRA BAILEY

With a number of projects in the works in Bishop Ranch and other neighborhoods within the city of San Ramon, yet another planned housing development was announced last week.

Newport Beach-based real estate investment firm, IHP Capital Partners, and its joint venture partner, The Grupe Company — a vertically integrated real estate development firm — have acquired a 2.5-acre infill parcel in San Ramon for the development of Aria, which seeks to become a vibrant new neighborhood of 57 for-sale townhomes designed for modern living, according to a statement from the developers Sept. 18.

“San Ramon is a highly desirable East Bay city recognized for its excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and abundant outdoor recreation,” said Reneé McDonnell, partner at IHP Capital Partners. “IHP is thrilled to re-connect with our long-time partner, The Grupe Company and collaborate with Homes Built for America to transform an underutilized site into an exciting new neighborhood of premium homes,” McDonnell added.

Aria marks IHP’s first new partnership

with The Grupe Company in several years, building on a relationship that spans more than three decades and includes the entitlement and development of over 5,700 lots and 1,100 homes, according to IHP’s statement. This project also represents IHP’s first collaboration with builder Homes Built for America.

Located on Deerwood Road, Aria will offer three- and four-story townhomes ranging from approximately 1,500 to 2,000 square feet. The plans include 48 market-rate units and nine affordable residences.

The project’s site plan and design are led by R3 Studios, which is based in Oakland. However, their work is familiar to the Tri-Valley as their portfolio includes the Sorrento at Dublin Ranch residential community and the Fallon Gateway shopping center also in Dublin, according to the company’s website.

The Aria site in San Ramon was purchased from The True Life Companies. With entitlements secured, IHP said in its statement that land development is underway with construction scheduled to begin by the end of this year. Home sales are expected to launch



COURTESY IHP CAPITAL PARTNERS

Rendering of the Aria townhomes development planned for San Ramon.

in early 2026 and community completion is anticipated by 2027. Pricing is to be announced at a later date.

“Aria will bring much-needed quality housing to the East Bay,” said Chris Bley, co-president of IHP.

Bley continued, “The Grupe Company has been a trusted partner of IHP for decades,

and together we are committed to creating in-demand communities that home shoppers prefer while addressing California’s housing shortage. By working closely with the seller to secure entitlements before closing, we ensured Aria was shovel-ready and we could get started quickly in delivering a vibrant new neighborhood for San Ramon.” ■

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during June 30 to July 11 for Pleasanton, Sunol, Livermore and Dublin.

Pleasanton

3122 Conti Court Kim Trust to M. James for \$3,025,000
4730 Del Valle Parkway Kulas Family Trust to Heroor Living Trust for \$1,815,000
3499 Dennis Drive G. Spears to Kulkarni Family Trust for \$2,325,000
5204 Hummingbird Road E. & J. Cummings to H. & A. Mehta for \$1,800,000
6852 Massey Court S. Smith to Wh3 LLC for \$1,025,000
5120 Merano Court F. Wu to C. & B. Zeng for \$1,320,000
4919 Mohr Avenue Zamboanga Trust to Agaramour Family Trust for \$1,505,000
2248 Oakland Avenue Y. Kim to Y. & M. Rashid for \$1,400,500
2236 Oakland Avenue Yarbrough Trust to Mukherjee Living Trust for \$1,260,000
3521 Olympic Court Manzi Living Trust to R. & P. Nagaraj for \$1,550,000
129 Ray Street B. Luo to T. Haynes for \$579,000
7903 Riviera Court S. Raney to A. & R. Anderson for \$1,750,000
1818 Sannita Court T. & C. Song to Bansal Trust for \$4,650,000
2540 Tapestry Way Morrissey Family Trust to R. & M. Ramkumar for \$1,440,000
4374 Valley Avenue #D1 Zca Homes LLC to Jele & Company Inc for \$760,000
1853 Via Di Salerno P. Nguyen to L. & P. Tsai for \$5,348,000
4397 2nd Street C. & W. Peterson to C. & M. Gaidos for \$1,040,000
2707 Alpina Court A. Jayanthilal to H. & A. Choudhury for \$1,458,000
5740 Belleza Drive Wadhwa Family Trust to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$1,025,000
3194 Caramello Court Poreda Family Trust to C. Yee for \$790,000
726 Foxbrough Place S. Yazdani to N. & D. Yarlagadda for \$2,500,000
7907 Hillsboro Court Admin Trust to N. & K. Pradeepkumar for \$1,650,000

4861 Knox Gate Court Rapine Family Trust to S. & S. Pothapragada for \$1,850,000
4818 Knox Gate Court Peterson Family Trust to S. & P. Seela for \$1,600,000
1552 Oxsen Street S. & M. Evans to K. & R. Fortner for \$1,190,000
4473 Railroad Avenue S. Larson to 4Teats LLC for \$1,750,000
6788 Riddell Street Magaro Trust to M. & Y. Choi for \$2,700,000
367 Rose Avenue Busier Living Trust to S. & A. Dahlkemper for \$1,183,000
7193 Rosediff Court S. & S. Martino to Arora Family Trust for \$3,710,000
5072 Skylark Court Welch Trust to R. & M. Chettiar for \$2,175,000
3452 Smoketree Commons #D Jahn Trust to M. & M. Bruns for \$555,000
669 Sylvaner Drive Wanlin Family Trust to S. & M. Evans for \$1,700,000
7281 Valley Trails Drive #Dr R. & S. Palmer to A. & B. Sachdeva for \$1,350,000

Sunol

10730 Foothill Road Duve Trust to K. & C. Jen for \$2,200,000
12083 Ruth Lane A. Smith to T. & E. Malinich for \$650,000

Livermore

166 Anna Maria Street P. Chinick to K. Vaithyanathan for \$1,185,000
269 Anna Maria Street T. Elbert to R. & S. Wilbanks for \$1,150,000
344 Charlotte Common Arons Living Trust to A. Davis for \$780,000
5799 Cherry Way J. & S. Tumu to S. & B. Krishnan for \$1,510,000
2715 Cooper Circle M. & E. Gillis to L. & A. Holt for \$2,250,000
1033 El Caminito Coelho 1996 Family Trust to K. & M. Pardhi for \$1,005,000
850 El Rancho Drive R. Jaiswal to J. & S. Tinney for \$958,000
6613 Forget Me Not M. Busse to L. Chen for \$798,000
2347 Hampton Road Giuliacci Trust to S. Lapizzo for \$1,325,000

458 Knottingham Circle Bains Family Trust to E. & D. Woolf for \$1,750,000
2306 Merlot Lane M. Springer to J. & E. Tamer for \$2,325,000
1775 Morning Glory Road Mp Community Solutions LLC to S. & P. Manohar for \$1,005,000
741 North N Street Mackay Family Trust to J. & M. Hadley for \$1,155,000
447 Sheridan Circle Hiner Family Trust to R. & K. Sandhu for \$1,838,000
620 Swallow Drive Zeunen Trust to E. & M. Ayad for \$1,200,000
1545 Wagoner Drive Allen Trust to C. & C. Antoine for \$1,110,000
266 Wood Street #404 C. Scroggins to V. & P. Moberg for \$749,000
335 Beverly Street C. & J. Vasicek to N. & R. Roope for \$1,500,000
648 Buckeye Drive C. Blair to E. & B. Sternecker for \$1,100,000
3995 California Way J. Delamotte to C. & M. Vaccaro for \$805,000
784 Camden Common S. & C. Herwadkar to E. Mui for \$888,000
2355 Chateau Way G. Hindley to V. & N. Brown for \$1,685,000
1247 Columbus Avenue M. Anderson to Cornerstone Bridgepoint LLC for \$920,000
1749 Corte Sueno S. & K. Gatrell to N. & T. Nun for \$995,000
2152 Elsa Common Wilson Living Trust to A. & M. Quach for \$1,165,000
635 Hanover Street Vankayalapati Family Trust to H. Maarten for \$1,010,000
188 Heligan Lane #2 A. Novenario to Ni & Tran Trust for \$725,000
164 Heligan Lane #2 F. Diersen to T. & E. Lopez for \$765,000
1168 Hillcrest Court C. Wasilewski to Scudder Family Trust for \$1,053,500
613 Joyce Street Gulliford Living Trust to Gutierrez Living Trust for \$1,170,000
5191 Lillian Court K. & J. Followill to S. & R. Payne for \$1,020,000
5929 Linwood Common Feliciano Trust to Zca Homes LLC for \$700,000
1163 Lomitas Avenue Duterte Trust to T. & D. Allum for \$1,700,000

759 South N Street Johnston Trust to J. & A. Lehr for \$718,000
1075 Norfolk Road T. & K. Madsen to J. & M. Castillo for \$1,075,000
1346 Roselli Drive M. Lazaro to Trust No1346 for \$517,500
574 Selby Lane D. Senkbeil to K. & M. Raol for \$1,060,000
1022 Sherry Way Hudson Living Trust to K. Clarke for \$1,405,000
4230 Stanford Way K. & J. Discala to Brightman Family Trust for \$1,150,000
516 Tanager Road Hancock Trust to Jain Family Trust for \$1,130,000
3963 Yale Way N. Selleck to A. Lum for \$900,000

Dublin

2762 Alliston Loop J. Yang to S. & R. Peddi for \$1,670,000
11656 Betlen Drive A. Rubio to P. & J. Pattathil for \$1,510,000
7014 Calistoga Lane J. Wong to Sidharta & Davina Living Trust for \$1,420,000
3454 Capoterra Way Hyman Trust to K. & P. Sejwal for \$1,440,000
2187 Carbondale Circle L. & A. Effandi to C. & H. Cha for \$1,840,000
8766 Davona Drive Jatczak Living Trust to V. & V. Baskaran for \$1,415,000
7776 Dublin Green Court L. & N. Lim to V. & S. Sabnis for \$1,300,000
2192 Haggerty Drive K. & P. Kapadia to S. & D. Dalvi for \$2,000,000
4590 Hawk Way S. & A. Castillo to U. & P. Bhowmik for \$1,320,000
5709 Iron Horse Parkway #A Lennar Homes Of California LLC to M. & A. Pei for \$1,108,000
1797 Porcellano Way S. Khan to S. & U. Mukherjee for \$2,850,000
5516 Springvale Drive Donn Family Trust to S. & S. Palit for \$1,825,000
2976 Stringham Way A. Singireddy to H. & S. Kwok for \$1,280,000
6983 Alamo Creek Trail A. Sripuram to Catapult Custodian LLC for \$1,350,000

Source: California REsource



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- 1569 Via Di Salerno - Pending \$5.55
- 1818 Sannita Court x2 - Sold \$4.776
- 965 Piemonte Drive - Sold \$4.02
- 2434 Pomino Way - Sold \$3.23
- 2951 Sorano Court - Sold \$4.0