

Pleasanton Weekly

Holiday Fund
underway

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NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

VOL. XXVI, NUMBER 44 • NOVEMBER 28, 2025

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Light up the tracks

Train of Lights rides through
Niles Canyon all holiday season long | Page 14



PLEASANTON WEEKLY

25

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

The Power of Giving

Community leaders, organizers, volunteers and contributors joined in celebration earlier this month at The Power of Giving, the annual showcase of the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance.

"A strong, engaged crowd" of nearly 370 people (representing more than 70 local nonprofits) filled the Bankhead Theater to reflect on the year that was, to look ahead to 2026 and to honor the organization's 2025 Impact Maker Award winners, TVNPA President/CEO Kathy Young told me by email before this long holiday weekend.

"The Power of Giving was a tremendous success," Young said. "The feedback we've received is that the evening was inspirational, fun and filled with hope — which is exactly what we were aiming for."

"For me, the biggest takeaway is what happens when the community comes together to lift up the people and organizations working every day to improve lives," she added. "It's a true celebration of our nonprofit community, our partners, and what's possible when we show up for one another."

That is emblematic of TVNPA's central mission, after all — serving as a central hub, of sorts, of the entire nonprofit community in the region, according to Young.

"Our role is to connect the dots — between nonprofits, businesses, local government, schools and community members — so that organizations aren't working in isolation," Young told me. "We provide education, networking and a place to share resources and ideas, which ultimately helps nonprofits be more effective and better able to serve the people who rely on them."

"Our value to the community shows up in those connections," she added. "When a nonprofit leader needs a partner, a funder wants to understand local needs, or a city is looking for who's doing the work on the ground, TVNPA is often the place they come first."

We have leaned on TVNPA on more than one occasion.

Its CommonPoint Nonprofit Center in Livermore — which includes conference room space available for nonprofits and other groups by reservation — has hosted our Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund grant presentation. The venue is such a great offering in the community.

TVNPA has also worked to build out its anti-poverty efforts (via the Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative) and grantmaking work (through the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund), Young noted.

"Over the past several years, we've really established ourselves as part of the core infrastructure of the Tri-Valley nonprofit ecosystem,"

she said. "We've gone from being 'a group that hosts meetings' to being seen as a trusted convener, a thought partner and an advocate for the sector. That's the goal we started with, and we're proud of how far we've come — while knowing there is still a lot of work ahead."

That growing reputation includes establishing The Power of Giving as perhaps the premier celebration of nonprofits in the Tri-Valley.

I had hoped to attend the event Nov. 6 in downtown Livermore but couldn't swing the scheduling. (And, shameless plug, The Power of Giving is an example of the type of gala or special event that can become exclusive ticket giveaways for our Support Local Journalism members when we have media sponsorship agreements.)

I'm glad to hear the 2025 showcase was so powerful.

"This is intended to be a celebration of the nonprofits in our community and the people who support them — donors, volunteers, partners and champions," Young said. "The real success of the night is in shining a light on the incredible organizations in our region, especially those people may not have heard of, and creating a space where the community can see the breadth of impact happening right here at home."

To that end, three people, three nonprofits and one business were recognized with TVNPA's 2025 Impact Maker Awards.

The winners were the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association (Arts & Culture), UNCLE Credit Union (Corporate / Philanthropic Partner), Alan Hu Foundation (Excellence in Impact — Under \$1M), Tri-Valley Haven (Excellence in Impact — Over \$1M), Lisa Henderson of Set to Thrive (Unsung Hero), Carrie Oldes of Spectrum Community Services (Unsung Hero) and Carolyn Siegfried (Lifetime Achievement).

With its annual celebration now in the rearview, TVNPA is focusing on ending the year strong and getting the new year off on the right foot. November turning into December provides a critical opportunity for final fundraising and messaging in the tax year for all nonprofits (including our own journalism foundation).

For TVNPA, every donation its "Raising Nonprofits: Supporting Communities" campaign receives right now is boosted through a 50% match from the Community Health & Education Foundation (CHEF). So a gift of \$50 becomes \$75.

"Beyond that, some of our most meaningful work has come out of conversations and connections we couldn't have predicted so I'm excited to see what emerges in 2026 as we keep listening to our community," Young teased. ■

About the Cover

A sight from Niles Canyon Railway's test run of the 2025 Train of Lights on Nov. 17. Photo by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXVI, Number 44



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What are you feeling most grateful for this Thanksgiving season?



Katie Ruiter
Chief operating officer

I'm so grateful for all of the love and support I've received from family and friends over the course of this past year, which has been a very difficult and challenging one. I've endured so many life changes in a very short amount of time, but I see the light at the end of the tunnel, and am optimistic about my future, because of the presence and guidance I've received from the people who believe in me most.



Kelly Tucker
Wealth management

My little daughter Evalyn, absolutely. She turns 5 on Thanksgiving Day. We tried for years to have a child. And we're so grateful for the blessing of finally having her and being her parents. She looks like Dad and has the personality of Mom. So watch out world!



Wes Lem
Active pensioner

I am most grateful this Thanksgiving for being blessed with wonderful family and friends, old and new. And I wish a Happy Thanksgiving to all!



Mandip and Charli Slettevold
Nurse and elementary school student

Our dog, Max! He's just so goofy and makes us laugh all the time. He steals and hides our shoes if we don't take him out right away for the daily walks he expects and loves. But we could never, ever be angry at him about that, or about anything else he does, because he is just so amazing.



Zara Slettevold, with Ollie
Elementary school student

I'm so thankful for my family. And also for my third grade teacher, Mrs. Sumerlin. My mom helps me learn how to cook and my dad helps me with and signs off on my homework. And my teacher is really nice and fun, which makes me want to go to school every day.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Open Waiting List for BMR Three-Bedroom Units

The City of Pleasanton, in coordination with Avalon Pleasanton, is opening the Waiting List for **Three-Bedroom** Below Market Rate (BMR) units at Avalon Pleasanton located at 5649 Owens Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Waiting List Open: 11/20/25–12/8/25

- Applicants required to submit Pre-Application for placement on Waiting List.
- Applications must be received by Monday, December 8 at 5:00pm.
- Lottery will be administered to determine the Waiting List order, per the City Preference System for Pleasanton residents and employees for City-assisted affordable housing developments.
- Applicants must meet maximum income limits and household size requirements.



Complete and submit your application no later than Monday, December 8, 2025 by 5:00pm.

Paper applications available by request at avalonpleasanton@avalonbay.com.

Electronic Pre-Application form is available at AvalonPleasanton.com.

Pre-Applications must be received electronically, by mail, or in person before the deadline at Avalon Pleasanton Leasing Office - 5649 Owens Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

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

For more information email avalonpleasanton@avalonbay.com or call **888-450-8816**.

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Household Size	Maximum Income
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DIGEST

Cleanest city in CA

Pleasanton's reputation for positive appearances made the rounds last week when national bloggers and aggregators picked up on a listing from earlier this summer that declared Pleasanton as the cleanest city in California.

Actually the survey from the landscaping industry website LawnStarter ranked the "Dirtiest Cities in the United States" (measuring the cleanliness, or lack thereof, in 300 of the biggest cities across the country) — and Pleasanton found itself at the bottom of the list, a very good place to be in context.

Pleasanton placed as the No. 9 "least dirty city" in the U.S., and the best in California. The survey methodology measured factors like water and air quality, resident satisfaction and fuel consumption. San Bernardino in Southern California ranked as the dirtiest city while South Bend, Ind. was the least dirty.

Too \$hort in concert

Bay Area rap legend Too \$hort will be performing at the Alameda County Fair for the second summer in a row, with fair officials confirming his concert for June 25 in a press release last Friday.

The fair is slow-revealing its 2026 Big O Tires Concert Series lineup in an attempt to generate early buzz for the summer showcase and upcoming ticket sales and Black Friday through Cyber Monday deals. The Beach Boys were announced as the headliner concert one week earlier.

Callippe's quiet 20th

CourseCo, the golf management company that operates Pleasanton's Callippe Preserve Golf Course, celebrated the city-owned golf course's 20th anniversary with a sold-out tournament and breakfast Nov. 6.

The event garnered attention within the local golf community but was not widely publicized among the larger community.

"Since CourseCo organized the celebration as more of a golfer-focused gathering, it wasn't promoted as a large community event, and the City didn't issue a media advisory," city communications manager Heather Tiernan told the Weekly. "We're glad to recognize this milestone and appreciate the strong partnership that has helped make Callippe Preserve a great place to play for the past 20 years."

Small Business Saturday

The Pleasanton Downtown Association and the city government are encouraging residents and visitors to patronize businesses on and around Main Street this weekend as part of the annual Small Business Saturday campaign. ■

PFAS contamination discovered in Livermore Airport's groundwater, soil

Further investigation required before determining next steps, regional water board says

By JUDE STRZEMP
A city consultant recently discovered PFAS chemicals in the soil and groundwater of the Livermore Municipal Airport, spurring the regional water board to call for additional evaluation of the site.

The PFAS investigation report published Oct. 13 by Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. was meant to determine whether PFAS — an abbreviation for perfluoroalkyl and

polyfluoroalkyl substances — have been released at the airport and whether a discharge has contributed to PFAS plumes in the Livermore Valley Main Basin or contamination in municipal drinking water supply wells operated by the Zone 7 Water Agency.

Although PFAS are commonly detected in soil and groundwater, including in areas without known PFAS releases, the city must submit an additional investigative work

plan by Feb. 2, 2026 in part to "define the extent of the groundwater contamination plume", Executive Officer Eileen White of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board wrote Oct. 27 to Livermore City Manager Marianna Burch.

The contamination threatens to pollute state waters as well as adversely affect human health and or groundwater uses, senior water resources control engineer Katie

Kulha of the regional water board wrote Oct. 17 in a standard letter to Burch.

"We are still investigating the contamination at the airport," water resources control engineer Kimberlee West of the regional water board told Livermore Vine. "We need to better understand the contamination before we can determine next steps, which may include abatement and remediation."

See **PFAS** on Page 6



CALTRANS

Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert, standing next to other local and state leaders, cuts the ceremonial ribbon Nov. 17 to celebrate the completion of the \$244 million Highway 84-Interstate 680 interchange improvements project.

'A safer, more efficient route'

Highway 84-Interstate 680 interchange improvements complete

By JEREMY WALSH
State and local leaders came together last week to celebrate the completion of the Highway 84-Interstate 680 interchange upgrades in Sunol, lauding the years-long investment to improve commute and safety conditions through the Tri-Valley for the following decades.

The nearly \$244 million project, which first started more than 10 years ago, represented the final step in bringing the state's Highway 84 up to expressway standards between I-580 in Livermore and I-680 in Sunol — "strengthening connectivity for commuters, freight, and regional

travelers", Caltrans officials said.

Caltrans District 4 Acting Director David Abuehl called the project "a tremendous investment in regional mobility and safety" in a press release issued after the Nov. 17 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This corridor is a vital link between the Tri-Valley and the South Bay, and through strong collaboration with our partners, we've delivered a safer, more efficient route that will serve travelers and communities for decades to come," Abuehl added.

Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch, who attended last week's ceremony, told the Weekly that

the 84-680 interchange "represents something deeply meaningful for Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley".

"Growing up here, Highway 84 was always a concern as our region grew and traffic volumes increased. My first-grade teacher from Sunol Glen survived a head-on collision near Pigeon Pass back when it was still a two-lane winding road," Balch said.

"Seeing these improvements completed is gratifying," he added. "As someone who has driven the corridor many times before, during, and now after

See **INTERCHANGE** on Page 8

Swalwell launches bid for governor

Promises to protect against Trump policies, build 'new California'

By JEREMY WALSH

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, the Tri-Valley Democrat and former Dublin councilman who has positioned himself as among the most vocal political antagonists of President Donald Trump, officially launched his campaign for governor of California last week.

With a candidacy video dropping online almost in parallel with his appearance on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" airing on ABC on Nov. 20, the seventh-term congressman vowed, "We can build ourselves a new California that we can share in together."

"I'm running for Governor because prices are too high and people are scared. California's next governor has two jobs. One, keep the worst president in history out of our homes, out of our streets, and out of our lives. I will be California's fighter and protector," Swalwell said in his announcement, ending weeks of speculation about his gubernatorial ambitions.

"The second job of Governor is to bring a new California. It's great that we can say we are the fourth largest economy in the world. But what does that mean if you work



Eric Swalwell

See **SWALWELL** on Page 8

City working to amend and extend contract with PGS

Staff given six months to negotiate with garbage company ahead of deal expiration

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

With the city's current franchise agreement with Pleasanton Garbage Service set to end in a few years, the Pleasanton City Council unanimously agreed last week to give city staff six months to continue negotiating a three- to- five-year extension of the current agreement with the waste service provider.

During the next six months, staff will work out an amendment to the current contract that includes the multi-year extension, additional services, a process for decoupling transfer station services from the current solid waste services agreement, and a process and timeline for developing a current and future design plan for PGS's transfer station, located at 3110 Busch Road. The amendment will later go before the council for a vote.

The design plan for the transfer station, which was one of the main focus points during the council meeting, will help address current compliance issues, capacity needs, operation impacts, transfer

of ownership due to the sale of PGS or the property, and the fiscal impacts for developing a potential new transfer station, according to staff.

"There's certainly compatibility issues that have been created with the latest changes that are happening in the neighborhood. But I would say that when we're looking at investing in whether it's the ratepayers, PGS through the ratepayers, or ultimately a public facility, there are opportunities and potential wins to be had by relocating the facility," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said during the Nov. 18 council meeting.

PGS has served Pleasanton since 1969 and, according to staff, residents have been generally satisfied with the organization's work in collecting trash, waste and recycling while also transferring materials from its transfer station for processing and disposal.

However, the city is assessing what the future of its waste management system could look like amid ongoing compliance issues with state-mandated regulatory requirements,

infrastructure and capital needs, the contract expiration approaching in June 2029 as well as the fact that new development could soon come to the area surrounding the PGS facility on Busch Road.

Over the last few months, the city has been analyzing factors including transfer station costs, the feasibility of directly hauling waste and garbage to landfills, and the possibility of doing community drop off services. Residents and commercial stakeholders were also engaged by the city to determine current solid waste and recycling services provided by PGS — the majority of both groups were satisfied overall with PGS's services.

Staff presented the stakeholder engagement outcomes and facility feasibility and cost analysis to the council. Some of the costs staff went over included a minimum of \$10 million for retrofitting the current PGS transfer station facility; a \$70 million minimum for refurbishing the facility and building a new one for long-term needs; and different costs

associated with direct haul.

Even though most of the residents had a favorable view of PGS, 58% also support a competitive request for proposal process just to see what other options are available, according to Rob Hilton with HF&H Consultants.

Hilton highlighted the value of having the only transfer station in all of the Tri-Valley cities.

"Under the current situation, with the current depreciation costs and operating costs of the facility, it's about \$1.2 million cheaper to use the transfer station, consolidate loads and transfer them up to the landfill and compost facility," Hilton said.

Much of the conversation also revolved around the possibility of the city owning a transfer station in the future and how constructing and maintaining such a facility would reflect on rates.

"Part of the issue here that we're straining against is it's a little bit of the tail wagging the dog," Hilton added. "We've got 95% of the cost that the ratepayers pay that are

associated with collection (and) this 5% associated with the facility, but people want the convenience of the in-town, publicly available facility. PGS is the only one that owns one."

Everyone on the council agreed that, as outlined by staff, the community wants to maintain the transfer station and that the city should try to keep it online.

"If we have a good thing and we can keep it going, we should," Councilmember Matt Gaidos said.

That remained true even after Hilton pointed out that the majority of people who want the transfer station to remain active haven't really used the facility.

"I do think the transfer station is valuable to Pleasanton," Mayor Jack Balch also added. "When you need it, you need it."

Councilmember Julie Testa also introduced a friendly amendment to staff's recommendation, which was approved, to include language that allows for a discussion of opportunities for alternative recycling options. ■

LAVTA receives nearly \$65M in federal funding

Modernization money slated for constructing new facilities, purchasing low-emission vehicles

BY JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority has been awarded a \$63.95 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration for the construction of a new agency campus and eight hybrid buses, according to an announcement last Friday.

Funded through the FTA's Low or No Emission ("Low-No") Grant Program, the forthcoming campus on Atlantis Court in Livermore is set to feature modern facilities for operations, administration and maintenance that support the latest

technology, LAVTA officials said in a statement announcing their receipt of the award.

The agency, which operates Wheels bus services, also intends to use funds to replace eight aging buses with new, low-emission vehicles from Livermore manufacturer GILLIG. The new buses are meant to reduce maintenance downtime and service calls. Meanwhile, over half of LAVTA's buses are on track to reach retirement age over the next five years.

The overall project dubbed "LAVTA BIG BUS" is expected to

improve service reliability, reduce emissions and allow for the expansion of transit service throughout the Tri-Valley, LAVTA officials said.

"This grant award is tremendous for the agency. I'm proud to support LAVTA's efforts to build out the Atlantis Campus with modern facilities and new hybrid buses so that we can connect the Tri-Valley for the next 40 years," LAVTA Board Chair Julie Testa said in a statement.

This year, the FTA awarded over \$2 billion through the grant to 167

projects across 47 states and territories for modernizing local transportation systems.

Of the awarded funds, LAVTA received the highest value grant in California and the fourth largest in the country, according to agency officials.

The award covers approximately 75% of the overall cost of the project, LAVTA officials said, adding that the high value of the grant indicates that their project matches federal priorities such as modernizing the nation's infrastructure, reducing emissions and improving

access to transportation for local communities.

Additional funding partners include the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the State of California.

"This critical investment completes the funding plan for Atlantis," LAVTA Executive Director Christy Wegener said in a statement. "This project will create good-paying local jobs, ensure Wheels can expand services to meet the growing needs of the Tri-Valley community and ensure access to safe and efficient transit." ■

PFAS

Continued from Page 5

During the investigation by Geosyntec from July to August 2025, 14 airport locations were sampled to assess for potential PFAS in areas of interest such as the runway, aircraft hangars and five rivers fuel farm, the report states.

Four newly installed groundwater monitoring wells were also assessed for potential PFAS migration onto and off of the site.

In all groundwater samples, the chemical mixture of PFAS exceeded permissible concentration levels, referred to as the hazard index maximum contaminant level, White recounted in her letter to the city. Individual PFAS were also detected at concentrations above permissible levels in various locations.

Failure to meet water quality standards means the groundwater "may be unsuitable for drinking without treatment", West explained.

However, groundwater is treated before it is distributed as drinking water, West said. As such, all water supplied by public water agencies in the Tri-Valley meets the regulatory water quality standards set by the state and federal governments — typically the quality is significantly better than required, she added.

In the airport groundwater, the highest PFAS concentrations detected were located hydraulically down-gradient of the south hangar area, the report states.

One kind of "forever chemical" called PFOS was found at an estimated concentration of 3,100 nanograms per liter, many multiples in excess of the 4.0 nanograms per liter

maximum contaminant level for PFOS set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A known release of aqueous film-forming foam for fire suppression in 1990 at hangar S-1 may have contributed to the PFAS concentrations observed in the groundwater in the area, according to White.

Additionally, groundwater in the runway area was found to contain elevated concentrations of PFAS breakdown products, White said in her letter. The chemicals are common transformation products of a type of aqueous film-forming foam, indicating that the foam may have been released near or upgradient of the runways.

Currently, aqueous film-forming foam is not stored at the site, the report states.

Soil samples from the airport

contained PFAS amounts generally consistent with "background" levels, meaning concentrations that are generally detected in the environment without relation to the specific site under investigation, according to the report.

But in soil from the south hangar area, a type of PFAS called PFOA was found to exceed environmental screening levels for construction worker direct exposure — sites of excess may pose a chemical threat and further investigation or evaluation should be considered to better assess the threat, according to the EPA.

Notably, several surficial soil samples were collected below asphalt and concrete slabs, which serve as a barrier to human exposure.

Even at concentrations less than environmental screening levels PFAS detected in soil may indicate a surface

release, White wrote in her letter.

The report suggests that PFAS in the airport soil may have come from sources such as aerial deposition and other activities that have not been identified, the report states.

As part of the Geosyntec report, the company recommended further evaluating the presence of PFAS at the airport including additional groundwater, grabwater and soil sampling to evaluate chemical concentrations.

Staff of the regional water board will be overseeing the investigation of the airport and potential clean up of the site.

Based on the regional water board's average billing rate, oversight is estimated to cost the city \$28,200 through June 2026, according to Kulha. The actual price will depend on the nature and extent of the necessary oversight. ■

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Support Journalism that Builds Community

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to journalism that strengthens our communities. Every week, our reporters deliver in-depth, award-winning stories that illuminate local issues in the Tri-Valley, from housing and hunger to education and economic development.

We attend city council, county government, and school board meetings, following policies that shape daily life and holding officials and powerful interests accountable through persistent, transparent reporting. In election years, we help voters make informed choices with clear, unbiased coverage, candidate forums, and reporting that gives Tri-Valley residents the insight they need at the ballot box.

Strong local journalism fosters transparency, encourages

civic engagement, and helps our community stay informed and resilient. Thanks to community generosity and careful cost-saving measures, last year was our first year operating in the black since 2018. Reader donations covered nearly 20% of our operating expenses and played a crucial role in sustaining our newsroom.

This year, we need to continue to raise donation revenue to sustain this essential work. With your support, we can maintain and expand our editorial coverage, and continue serving our community for the long term.

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Admin responds after hateful graffiti at Amador

‘Every member of the Don community is known, valued and supported,’ principal says

By JEREMY WALSH

The Amador Valley High School community has been recovering after an “extensive” amount of hate speech, including racial epithets, was scrawled in multiple bathroom stalls at the Pleasanton campus in recent weeks.

The offensive graffiti was removed soon after being discovered and a full investigation undertaken to identify those responsible, while school and district officials also attempted to reinforce that such behavior is unacceptable and that no student should experience discrimination on campus, according to communications obtained by the Pleasanton Weekly.

“Pleasanton Unified School District condemns all forms of hate-motivated behavior,” district officials told the Weekly on Friday.

“Acts of hate — including graffiti, slurs, symbols, or any expression rooted in bias — have no place in our schools or community,” they added. “PUSD is firmly committed to maintaining safe, inclusive learning environments where every student is treated with dignity and respect.”

The situation unfolded the week of Halloween, principal Malcolm Norrington stated in an email to the school community at the time. He opened his narrative with the header, “This Does Not Define Us. We Will Grow Through This.”

Norrington said staff discovered “extensive vandalism” in a stall in a boys’ restroom on Oct. 30 and again in a second stall in the same bathroom on Oct. 31.

“The graffiti was the n-word, hate symbols, and other hate-motivated statements,” Norrington wrote. “This conduct is antithetical to our values and does not reflect the Amador Valley community. I apologize to anyone who was affected by such hate-motivated behavior. We regret the harm this causes and extend our support to anyone affected.”

“Upon discovery, the affected stalls were immediately closed (the restroom remained open), thoroughly cleaned, and restored for safe use,” the principal added.

Norrington issued his email to the Amador community on the morning of Nov. 2 — a Sunday. Notice of the graffiti and response was not sent to the greater PUSD community nor the public, but district administration provided details Friday morning after the Weekly inquired.

The principal stated that support and resources are available on campus for those affected by hate-motivated incidents such as the graffiti, and he reiterated the school’s expectations for a “safe, supportive and inclusive” learning environment.

“In short, we continue to embrace the opportunity to serve and support all our Don family members, thereby

enhancing our school climate by building relationships, fostering trust, and creating an environment where everyone knows and feels they belong,” Norrington said in closing. “Fostering a climate where every member of the Don community is known, valued, and supported — All Our Kids Are All Our Kids.”

PUSD officials told the Weekly that a swift response and thorough investigation occurred in alignment with the district’s Administrative Regulation No. 5145.9.

“Hate has no home in PUSD,” officials said. “Please note that because this matter involves student discipline, we cannot disclose any information related to individual students or disciplinary actions.” ■

SWALWELL

Continued from Page 5

your ass off and don’t have a stake in it? Nothing,” Swalwell, 45, added in his press release. “My promise is this: if you work hard you should do better for yourself and dream bigger for your kids. That’s the new California promise.”

Swalwell enters a crowded field of Democrats and Republicans competing to succeed Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is terming out. The primary election is June 2 after which the top two finishers, regardless of party, will advance to a runoff in November 2026.

It remains unclear what Swalwell’s announcement seven months before the primary means for the 14th Congressional District, which spans from Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin westward to Castro Valley, Hayward and Union City and south to Fremont. The official ballot won’t be finalized until spring, and Swalwell hasn’t confirmed whether he plans to leave both doors open while seeing how his gubernatorial campaign gains traction.

That’s what he did in 2019

during a short-lived bid for the Democratic nomination for U.S. president in 2020, bowing out after just a few months and refocusing on an ultimately successful reelection campaign for U.S. House of Representatives.

The launch of “Swalwell for Governor” represents another step in the political ascent for the congressman who first arrived on the national stage as a 32-year-old Dublin City Council member and Alameda County prosecutor by upsetting incumbent Rep. Pete Stark, a fellow Democrat, in the 2012 election.

While rising through the ranks within his own party in Washington, D.C., Swalwell carved out an identity for himself as a young politician leveraging social media and frequent television news appearances, including CNN and Fox News, to elevate his brand — which has now evolved into that of a middle-aged husband and father with three kids under 9.

Swalwell’s reputation has also been shaped by his frequent, vocal opposition of Trump and much of the MAGA movement during both of the president’s terms and all three campaigns, scoring Swalwell

political points among liberals in his congressional district and beyond but alienating conservative constituents at home.

Earlier in the month, Swalwell found himself in national headlines after sources told media outlets like CBS News that Federal Housing Finance Agency Director Bill Pulte referred Swalwell to the Justice Department for tax and mortgage fraud allegations similar to accusations the Trump administration has made against U.S. Sen. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) and New York Attorney General Letitia James.

The Tri-Valley congressman has publicly denied the allegations, calling them political payback by the administration for loud criticism of the president and for his still-active lawsuit against Trump seeking to hold the president civilly liable for the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection.

Being an overt Trump adversary appears to be a key aspect of Swalwell’s campaign for governor.

“Our state is under attack. The President has militarized our streets, canceled cancer research, zeroed out clean energy climate projects, and is chasing our immigrant friends and

neighbors through their workplaces, kids’ schools, and houses of worship,” Swalwell’s press release stated. “A lot of candidates talk about taking on Trump. I’m taking him on in real time.”

The other overarching angle is improving California in 2026 and beyond by focusing on “affordability, economic growth, and modernizing state government so it works better for everyone”, according to his campaign announcement.

“I’ve worked as a planning commissioner and city councilman in a place of low income and low expectations and helped lead my hometown to become one of California’s most prosperous cities. I’ll take that approach to the whole state,” Swalwell said. “My priorities will be homes and jobs. The average first-time homeowner is 40 years old, and we have the highest unemployment rate in America.”

Swalwell jumps into a governor race that already features Democrats like former Orange County congresswoman Katie Porter (the one-time frontrunner whose campaign took a hit after bad-look videos earlier this fall), billionaire Tom Steyer, former U.S. health and

human services secretary Xavier Becerra, ex-Los Angeles mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, current State Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond and former state controller Betty Yee, according to a recent CalMatters recap of candidates. Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco and former TV personality Steve Hilton are the prominent Republicans bidding so far.

Swalwell hopes to stand apart from the other candidates by re-energizing voters amid a stagnant field, according to his adviser Kate Maeder, general consultant and partner of KMM Strategies.

“Talk to an average voter, or political insider, and they would tell you the same thing — none of the current candidates for Governor are inspiring. That changes today with Eric Swalwell,” Maeder said in the campaign launch press release. “He is the right leader at the right time. His experience in the arena taking on Trump, his deep California roots, and his commitment to making our state more affordable will energize Democrats, which is what we need at the top of the ticket right now going into the midterms.” ■

INTERCHANGE

Continued from Page 5

construction, the improvements are noticeable and appreciated.”

Balch credited Alameda County voters for supporting transportation infrastructure by passing the Measure B and Measure BB sales taxes, as well as the efforts of all public agencies and private contractors involved in this project and the longstanding advocacy of late former Pleasanton mayor Jerry Thorne in championing Highway 84 improvements from the beginning.

“As Mayor Thorne knew, the upgrades deliver real benefits of safer travel, reduced cut-through

traffic in Pleasanton neighborhoods, more reliable drive times, and stronger regional connectivity. These are quality-of-life improvements,” Balch said.

Key aspects of the interchange project in Sunol included finishing the widening of Highway 84 into a four-lane expressway and reconstructing and realigning the ramps connecting the state highway and the federal freeway, including adding a new flyover ramp from Calaveras Road to northbound I-680.

The project also featured extending the southbound I-680 toll express lane by approximately two miles, constructing new frontage roads to consolidate local access,

and providing new bikeways for multimodal connectivity, Caltrans noted.

Beyond the literal improvements on the ground in Sunol, stakeholders hope the project will alleviate congestion on the two freeways in the Tri-Valley and reduce cut-through commuters on city streets and county roads. Opening up Highway 84 as an expressway also aims to enhance regional travel between San Joaquin County and Silicon Valley.

Funded through local, state and regional sources, the interchange project included \$122 million from Measure BB, \$1 million from Measure B, \$85 million from Regional Measure 3, \$11 million

from the State Transportation Improvement Program, \$8.6 million from Senate Bill 1, \$14.9 million from the Tri-Valley Transportation Council and \$1.3 million from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, officials said.

Environmental work spanned from spring 2015 to summer 2018, final design and right-of-way acquisition ran from 2018 to 2020, and construction lasted from spring 2021 until this fall, according to the Alameda County Transportation Commission, which oversaw the project.

“Many of my constituents drive this road several times each day, so I know this project strengthens ties

between some of the fastest-growing communities in the East Bay and helps drive economic vibrancy as well as safety and mobility for all,” said David Haubert, president of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors chair of Alameda CTC.

Livermore Vice Mayor Evan Branning, who was also at the ribbon-cutting last week, told the Weekly, “I’m very excited for this upgrade to be completed. It will greatly ease the connection to Livermore from the south and provide a great opportunity for our friends to visit our wineries, downtown and events, and ease the commutes of everyone using Highway 84.” ■

Folks urge council to formally oppose ICE in Dublin

Fears over potential reopening of federal prison for use as immigration detention center

By JEANITA LYMAN

The Dublin City Council was greeted outside its most recent meeting with a vigil and protest that drew dozens from across the region calling for the city to formally stand against the idea of establishing an ICE facility within the city limits.

That message continued to resonate throughout the council chambers as the meeting was called to order Tuesday evening, in which members of the public spent approximately an hour and a half urging the council to adopt a citywide resolution opposing the use of the FCI Dublin site by ICE.

The former federal women's prison shuttered last year amid widespread reports of neglect, abuse and retaliation against the inmates it housed.

No new details have emerged about the federal government's consideration of the prison as a potential site for what would be the Bay Area's only immigration detention facility. However, local residents and immigration rights advocates note that while the latest information from the Bureau of Prisons suggested that consideration was

off the table, there has been no confirmation that the plan has been formally cancelled.

Organizers with the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, one of numerous activist groups that came together to form the ICE out of Dublin Coalition earlier this year, have returned to Alameda County after traveling to southern California to observe and protest against conditions at ICE facilities in McFarland, Bakersfield and California City.

The California City facility was opened in August, in a repurposing of the site of the former California City Corrections Facility, which was closed last year amid a drop in the state's incarcerated population and a 2019 state law requiring an end to private prison contracts.

"Furthermore, given the way that California City Detention Facility opened up so rapidly and without necessary permits, combined with ongoing ICE enforcement in the region and the recent threat of escalation, community members know it is important to be proactive in ensuring additional detention capacity is not created in the area," said Alex Mensing, communications director

for the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice in an announcement Monday.

Residents and advocates at the City Council meeting pointed to widespread harms that could emerge from establishing a permanent ICE presence in the Bay Area — particularly in the Tri-Valley, and particularly in Dublin, with its high immigrant population.

"As a Dublin resident for 25 years, I am generally very proud of this city and how we take care of our community," Gabrielle Marshall said at the Nov. 18 meeting.

"Tonight, I am here to urge the Dublin City Council to pass a resolution to oppose the possible reopening of FCI Dublin as an immigration Detention Center," she continued. "As Dublin residents, we want a city where all residents can thrive, where everyone's rights are respected, where children can go to school, and people can go to the hospital without fear of unlawful detainment or imprisonment."

Marshall and others that evening pointed to research suggesting that ICE activity in areas surrounding schools and hospitals "escalates rapidly".

"Immigrants and citizens alike are more than twice as likely to be apprehended, as opposed to a county that has less or no immigration detention capacity," Marshall said. "We do not want masked men in unmarked cars, abducting our people based on racial language and occupational profiling."

While the potential impacts on the surrounding Tri-Valley community were a central theme of the night's discussion, there are other factors that have made the potential reopening of FCI Dublin for use by ICE distasteful to many. Those include the former prison's widespread infrastructure problems and sexual abuse scandals — resulting in criminal charges for at least 10 of its former employees — and the Bay Area's role in the incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II, approximately 8,000 of whom were housed across the bay at Tanforan.

Among those incarcerated were the parents of Douglas Yoshida, a Dublin resident and emergency room physician at Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley — the closest hospital to the FCI Dublin site.

"My father at age 15 was forcibly

taken from his home during World War II," Yoshida said. "He and his family were first placed in horse stables that reek of manure and then shipped off to the desert in Utah. His mother had cancer. And soldiers took her away. The family did not know where they were, where she was for several weeks."

"Does that sound familiar? That is what President Roosevelt did invoking the alien enemies Act, and then an executive order to incarcerate 125,000 Japanese Americans without due process," he continued. "Trump has invoked the same act (to) round up, assault and detain tens of thousands of immigrants."

Yoshida also pointed to his experiences treating women who were incarcerated at FCI Dublin.

"This Legacy of abuse cannot continue," Yoshida said. "If it is converted, it'll be run by a private corporation — corporations that have a long history of prisoner abuse and abysmal medical care."

He added that abuse and a lack of proper healthcare at the facility should it reopen would put further pressure on his hospital's existing

See ICE on Page 11

Veterinarian accused of stealing prescription drugs

Allegations under review by Attorney General's Office; license remains active for now

By JEANITA LYMAN

A local veterinarian could be facing disciplinary action by the state for allegedly diverting prescription medication from the practice for personal use.

The accusation was filed with the California Veterinary Medical Board on July 10, alleging that Surya Chaudhri of Animal Medical Center of Pleasanton used his position to illegally obtain the opioid midazolam from the practice for unauthorized uses.

No citations or fines had been issued as of Tuesday. Chaudhri's license remained active, and the practice at 3901 Santa Rita Road is still open. The office had not returned a request for comment as of Tuesday morning.

The accusation filed this summer comes following an investigation that kicked off in 2023, during which allegations emerged from Animal Medical Center's co-owner that Chaudhri had been diverting midazolam from the pair's other practice — Acadia Pet Center in San Jose — to their Pleasanton location.

The two had owned equal shares of both practices since 2022, with Chaudhri primarily working out of Animal Medical Center and his co-owner primarily working out of Acadia Pet Center, although Chaudhri would provide coverage as needed at their San Jose location.

According to the vet board accusation, Chaudhri confessed to taking the drug for personal use and said he was struggling with substance abuse issues, which he went on to seek treatment for "because he realized he had a problem and wanted to get better". He denied abusing any other drugs and declined to provide further details to investigators.

The co-owner told investigators that after Chaudhri's confession, he determined that a total of 770 milliliters of the drug had been diverted on four different occasions in 2023.

The diverted medicine "was never administered or going to be administered to an animal patient", according to the co-owner, having instead been logged as being taken from the San Jose practice to the Pleasanton practice. He added that no other drugs had been diverted.

Chaudhri's acquisition of the two practices in 2022 came shortly after he was released from probation for a 2018 DUI in Alameda County. He is facing further legal trouble in both Alameda and Contra Costa counties from multiple banks, with at least one case ongoing in Contra Costa County and at least two cases resulting in penalties of more than \$40,000 each.

Meanwhile, the accusation from the California Veterinary Medical Board lists three causes for discipline, two for unprofessional conduct for

self-administering a controlled substance and violating controlled substance laws, and one for violating the Veterinary Medical Practice Act.

The accusation filed this summer marks an escalation of the

disciplinary process to the California Attorney General's Office and serves as the first public document in the process, according to the California Veterinary Medical Board's website. From there, the defense can opt to

negotiate a stipulated agreement prior to a full administrative hearing.

The timeframe for the disciplinary process "is generally a minimum of two years", according to the vet board. ■

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Pauline Marie Maredy

March 1, 1941 – November 10, 2025

Polly passed away peacefully at her home in Pleasanton after an illness of four years. She is survived by Jack, her husband of sixty-two years. She also leaves behind a son, Jeffrey of San Francisco; a son, Brian (Wynde), of Colorado Springs; and a daughter, Melissa (Tim) of Wilmington, NC. She is also survived by her five beloved grandchildren, Rylie, Vance, and Ellia of Colorado Springs and Caroline and Eliza of Wilmington, NC. She also has one brother, Ed (Louann) of Sandersville, Georgia, and was preceded in death by her twin sister, Kathy O'Brien of Pleasanton, who passed away earlier this year.

Polly was born in the hamlet of Footdale, Pennsylvania to Margaret and Louis Rudziensky. Polly received many accolades for her academic achievements in school and, upon graduating, took a job at GEICO Insurance headquarters in Chevy Chase, Maryland. In 1960, she met her husband-to-be, Jack, who was serving in the Marine Corps at Quantico, Virginia. They were married in April of 1963 in Marlboro, Maryland.

In 1973, Polly and her family moved from the East Coast to the town of Pleasanton. They chose the area because of its friendly reputation and excellent school system. During the fifty-two years that followed, Polly became a vibrant, highly respected, and popular member of the community. In 1980, Sally Rayhill, the principal at Harvest Park Middle School, recruited Polly to be her secretary. When Pleasanton Middle School was built in 1990, Sally asked Polly to join her and help open the new school. At both schools, Polly made lifelong friendships and truly loved the people she worked alongside. During Polly's tenure, she received awards for her teamwork, professionalism, and dedication.

Polly joined the Pleasanton Assistance League in 1990 as a charter member. Her friends remember her as a dedicated member who contributed countless hours to the many fine causes of this organization.

In 2002, Polly retired so that she and Jack could enjoy memorable cruises and travel to places such as Hawaii, New England, Ireland, Spain, and France – and of course to Colorado and North Carolina to see the grandkids. Although Polly loved to travel and had family spread out across the country, leaving Pleasanton and the close friends she had made over fifty-two years was never an option.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center on Saturday, February 7, at 3:30. Her family invites the many friends and loved ones who Polly treasured to help celebrate the sweet memories we have of our kind, loving, and compassionate wife, mother, and friend.

PAID OBITUARY

Livermore celebrates Flagpole Plaza renovations

Sidewalks, dining areas and landscaping among features renewed downtown

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Flagpole Plaza downtown Livermore officially reopened last week with a celebratory ribbon cutting event, marking the end of a monthslong remodel.

Located at the corner of South Livermore Avenue and First Street, the upgraded space is ADA-compliant and features new stamped concrete sidewalks, new landscaping, designated outdoor dining areas, enhanced lighting and game tables as well as security cameras connected to the Livermore Police Department's real-time awareness center.

City officials intend for the revamped, historical plaza to serve as a gathering space with improved pedestrian connectivity and access to the surrounding businesses and restaurants, according to Livermore spokesperson Sonia Lee.

The project costed an estimated \$3,460,000, Lee confirmed with Livermore Vine.

Cutting the ribbon Nov. 19, Livermore Mayor John Marchand celebrated the project's completion with city council members, city staff, members of the project team, community leaders and residents, Lee recounted.

Livermore has been recognized as having the best downtown in the East Bay by East Bay Times readers, Mayor John Marchand said during the ceremony.

"This Flagpole Plaza renovation shows our commitment to continually making our downtown even



COURTESY CITY OF LIVERMORE

The recently completed renovation project at Flagpole Plaza in downtown Livermore.

better, ensuring it remains a vibrant hub," he added.

Prior to the most recent renovations beginning Feb. 18, the plaza featured a large grass area that was later replaced by decomposed granite to accommodate outdoor dining, following the onset of COVID-19 during 2020, according to the city website.

The plaza partially opened Aug. 1, but "a few final touches" were still in the works, city officials wrote same-day on social media.

During last week's ceremony, Livermore community development director Brent Smith recognized the city's project team and general contractor McGuire & Hester for their work to minimize the impact of construction on local businesses, according to Lee.

Smith also thanked Livermore Downtown Inc. and downtown businesses, especially those located on the J Street block, for contributing to the city's vibrant downtown. ■

Poppy Bank expands into Tri-Valley

New branch opens in downtown Danville; San Ramon location on tap for 2026

By JEREMY WALSH

A longtime bank building in downtown Danville has a new tenant, with Bay Area-based Poppy Bank continuing its expansion efforts into Contra Costa County earlier this fall.

The stage is also set for another San Ramon Valley location in the new year.

Poppy Bank took over the unit vacated by First Republic Bank on the south side of downtown Danville, celebrating its grand-opening at 680 Hartz Ave. on Sept. 25 and holding its ribbon-cutting ceremony almost a month later, according to bank officials.

The financial institution had opened a new full-service branch in downtown Walnut Creek not long before, and another location is scheduled to begin operations in San

Ramon in early 2026, bank officials said — without sharing where the San Ramon branch would be.

"As Poppy Bank continues to grow, we look forward to extending our services further into the East Bay with the opening of our Danville branch," President and CEO Khalid Acheckzai said in a press release. "As a community bank, we are invested in the economic prosperity of each area we serve, and we look forward to building relationships and supporting the businesses and individuals that make up this tight-knit community."

Headquartered in Santa Rosa and boasting assets of \$7 billion, Poppy Bank plans to soon reach more than 40 branches throughout California in addition to loan production offices in Northern and Southern California, as well as Nevada, Arizona and Texas. ■



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ICE

Continued from Page 9

emergency services, noting that “if you’ve had to use our ER recently, you know how crowded it is.”

Kendra Drysdale, a survivor of abuse at FCI Dublin with family throughout the region, said that the potential reopening of the site for use by ICE was “both personal and local.”

“I’m here tonight on behalf of all of the survivors to urge you to oppose the reopening of FCI Dublin — not by the Bureau of Prisons and not by ICE,” Drysdale said. “This facility represents one of the darkest human rights scandals in California’s history.”

Meanwhile, Yoshida wasn’t the only medical professional to call for council action at this week’s meeting and oppose the repurposing of FCI Dublin.

“As a nurse, my message is really simple — allowing ICE running around loose in our community will scare our patients (from) seeking the vital healthcare they need,” said Joeten Labos, an ICU nurse at San Ramon Regional Medical Center. “Also, I don’t want them coming into our hospitals and yanking them out of the hospital beds. Nurses already have a lot to deal with — short staffing, no meal breaks, and now you’re gonna add ICE to the list? Come on now.”

“I also like to think that Dublin is the heart of the Tri-Valley,” he continued. “So allowing ICE to come in here is like injecting a big, nasty cholesterol into that heart.”

Other speakers pointed to existing harms to the local community amid the nationwide immigration crackdown and surge in ICE activity in the first year of the Trump administration’s second term and its impact on immigrant communities locally.

Supreet Pabla, a 40-year Dublin resident, said that she had been giving her ninth grade son and his friend a ride recently and saw the

friend duck when they passed a police car.

“I asked him why he did that, and he said he’s sorry — he thought that it was an ICE vehicle,” Pabla said. “He then informed me that his family’s immigration hearing did not go well, and that he fears he may be deported. That poor 14-year-old boy already has to wake up every morning, fearing that he may be separated from his family and or deported. Opening an ICE detention center in Dublin would only further that fear.”

While the vast majority of public speakers during the non-agendized public comment portion of the public meeting had gathered to call on the council to pass a resolution denouncing ICE’s use of the FCI Dublin site, there were some exceptions.

“Tonight I’ve come here to support the opening of the new ICE facility in Dublin, even though the city has nothing to do with federal property,” said Mike Grant, owner of Guns Unlimited, which was formerly based in Dublin. “It’s vital that we gather up all these illegals and deport them under our law.”

Meanwhile, former San Ramon mayoral candidate Chirag Kathrani applauded the level of civic engagement at that evening’s meeting, and announced that his volunteer-run AI endeavor OpGov was now processing and summarizing agendas and meetings into automated “articles” on the Dublin City Council.

By and large though, the atmosphere was one of overwhelming consensus and support, despite the council being unable to comment on non-agendized items.

“We truly appreciate your engagement and the time you have taken to voice your thoughts,” Mayor Sherry Hu said. “As you can see from our council — we have a very diverse council here. Myself, I’m a first generation immigrant. I came to this country when I was almost 30, so I understand what you’re talking about and I feel how you feel.”

With the Brown Act prohibiting further comment, Hu asked City Manager Colleen Tribby for an update on steps the council has taken so far to prevent the establishment of an ICE facility in the city.

“We have written two letters of opposition to ICE coming to Dublin,” Tribby said. “One was in April, and one was, I think it was this week we sent it, and it was voicing our concerns about the facility being unsafe and unfit, raising our concerns about the structure being inadequate, voicing our concerns about the facility being located near a residential area and the impacts on our city infrastructure.”

In that letter, Tribby said that the city had also asked for information from the federal government — as it had been doing for months — “to no avail.”

“We’ve been working closely with members of Congress, and have received no response from the Department of Homeland Security, no response from the Bureau of Prisons,” Tribby said.

Tribby noted that with the FCI Dublin site being federally owned, it would not be subject to the city’s zoning ordinances or permitting processes.

“Federal law supersedes local law, and that would be true in this case,” Tribby said, adding that the city was nonetheless working closely with local activist groups such as Indivisible Tri-Valley.

While many speakers that evening acknowledged that there were limits in what the city could do to prevent federal action on the federally owned site, they nonetheless called for a formal resolution by city leaders to be brought to the next City Council agenda on Dec. 2.

“If we hope to return and retain a democracy, every one of us — every business, large and small, every institution of learning, and every state and local governing body must take a stand,” said 50-year Dublin resident Richard Stein. “If each of us doesn’t just stand up to protect our democracy, we could lose it. So please, City Council, be courageous, and pass a resolution opposing having an ICE facility.”

At the end of the night, Councilmember Jean Josey brought the issue back to the table at the conclusion of her report to her peers, asking staff to prepare a resolution to bring to the council.

“I appreciate the City Council, the action that we’ve taken as a city so far from our staff — writing letter to Bureau of Prisons, writing letters to Homeland Security — I know that we have been in contact with our legislative staff, at least three congressmen’s offices, we’ve been in touch with our senators’ offices, we have made our position known as a city,” Josey said. “We have intentionally not gone a lot beyond that because we did not want to invite ICE in, knowing this regime has had a habit of targeting and revenge. But I think we are at the point now where it is time to go further.” ■



Jim Lee Bridges

December 9, 1936 – November 12, 2025

Jim Lee Bridges passed away peacefully with his son and daughter by his side from complications of pneumonia at Stanford Hospital in Pleasanton, after 88 wonderful years on this earth.

Jim was born in Livermore, CA, the oldest of 6 siblings. He grew up in and around Richmond, CA and has been a Pleasanton resident for the past 54 years. He graduated from El Cerrito High School, where he ran track and was chosen as a pole vaulter for his height and slim build. At 17 years old, he began his career as a stock boy for Sears Roebuck and rose up to Manager for various departments such as Catalog, Furniture, Home Improvement and Appliances for over 10 Bay Area stores and retired after 42 years. He had a multitude of hobbies and was well known for his artistic capabilities such as drawing/painting and woodworking/craftsmanship — making furniture, wine boxes, birdhouses, planters, rebuilding his fireplace, building outdoor sheds and decks and putting in tile and hardwood floors himself. He was an avid golfer, water and snow skier. He and his wife Renee were Oakland A’s Season Ticket Holders for many years sitting behind home plate in Section 216. He loved the Raiders and watching Sunday football. Jim was an avid wine connoisseur and even made his own wine in his garage for a few years. He planted a garden every year, cultivating fresh tomatoes and zucchini that he loved to share with family, friends and neighbors. Jim was a loyal, dependable friend and had many close friendships that spanned over 30 years. In his later years, he treasured his weekly coffee dates and dinners with Dee & Denis and wine outings/lunch with Ralph & Donna. He enjoyed traveling with Renee to their annual trip to Mendocino, where they first honeymooned, while also enjoying trips to Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, the East Coast, Italy, and France. Not a fan of flying, Jim enjoyed driving to places like Half Moon Bay/Yosemite with his daughter, wine tasting trips to Paso Robles with family and going to “his club,” the Italian American Club, while visiting his son in Las Vegas. But he was most known for being a loving, unconditionally supportive, PROTECTIVE devoted husband and father — there was nothing he wouldn’t do for his wife, son and daughter. He would drive you to the moon and back if you needed a lift. And if you drove yourself, you better call him when you get there so he knows you got there safely.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Renee, and is survived by his son Scott Bridges (Sherry) of Las Vegas NV and his daughter Lisa Bridges of Pleasanton; his last remaining sibling, sister Carol Green of Fairfield, CA; and is affectionately known as “Uncle Jim” to over 35 nieces and nephews. The family plans to hold a Celebration of Life for both Jim and Renee in the upcoming year. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society. To our loving Father, Brother, Uncle and Friend, you were right when you always said you “lived a good life.” We were the lucky ones who got to share it with you. We will always remember you, and may you now rest in peace with your lovely Renee, in God’s love.

The family plans to hold a Celebration of Life for both Jim and Renee in the upcoming year.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

PAID OBITUARY



COURTESY ABBY LOURENCO

Val Vista residents celebrate retiring mail carrier

Residents in Pleasanton’s Val Vista neighborhood came together this month to celebrate their longtime mail carrier Kathy Jimenez, who was retiring from the U.S. Postal Service after 34 years — including 30 years with Val Vista on her route.

“She is beloved by all the humans, dogs and cats of our neighborhood,” resident Abby Lourenco told the Weekly on Nov. 15. “She is the most joyful, remarkable person and is a true pillar of our community. Today we threw a party to celebrate her, and the neighborhood turned out!”



AXIS COMMUNITY HEALTH



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY



2025-26 Holiday Fund begins

10 critical nonprofits in Tri-Valley to benefit from Pleasanton Weekly fundraising campaign

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pleasanton Weekly, and its sister publications Livermore Vine and DanvilleSanRamon, are encouraging the community to contribute to 10 critical nonprofits in the Tri-Valley this season as part of the 2025-26 Holiday Fund.

The annual giving campaign, which runs from now through mid-January, will benefit 10 local organizations: Axis Community Health, CityServe of the Tri-Valley, Culinary Angels, Goodness Village, Open Heart Kitchen, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education, Sunflower Hill, Tri-Valley Haven, Tri-Valley REACH and Valley Humane Society.

With the holiday season upon us, our news organization humbly asks readers, businesses and other community partners to consider giving to these safety-net nonprofits committed to supporting residents in need throughout the Tri-Valley. Every single dollar raised during the Holiday Fund will be split evenly among the beneficiaries.

The program is being managed by our Embarcadero Media Foundation, which means that 100% of the money raised will go directly to the 10 designated nonprofits, with all donations fully tax deductible as well as eligible for corporate matching where applicable thanks to our foundation's own 501(c)(3) status. We cover all administration and other expenses at no cost to the Holiday Fund.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/holiday_fund to help spread some

cheer this holiday season. Learn more about the beneficiaries below:

Valley Humane Society

Strengthening the bond between people and pets for nearly 40 years, Pleasanton-based Valley Humane Society facilities adoptions of dogs and cats, provides life-saving medical care like spay and neuter operations, offers its AniMeals Pet Food Pantry and shares emotional support through its Canine Comfort Pet-Assisted Therapy program.

As an independent local nonprofit, Valley Humane relies heavily on contributions from residents and businesses. Donations made during the holiday season help bolster its focus on keeping families

and pets together.

"We're truly honored to be selected this year!" President & CEO Melanie Sadek said of the Holiday Fund. "Valley Humane relies entirely on community support — no federal or state funding keeps our programs going. Thank you for recognizing how much companion animals mean to us all and for celebrating the joy they bring to people every day."

Tri-Valley REACH

Dedicated to empowering adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to live independently in the area, Tri-Valley REACH owns and maintains safe, high-quality residences offered to I/DD tenants at rent-capped affordable rates.

"The number of individuals with I/DD seeking to live independently in our community continues to grow; however, finding affordable housing for this population, which is at or below 30% area median income, remains a serious challenge," REACH Board Chair Kay King told the Weekly.

Donations to the Holiday Fund will help REACH add another accessory-dwelling unit to an existing property. The all-volunteer nonprofit, which operates with an annual budget of only \$400,000, also supports enrichment through programs like T-RADD athletics, sponsoring sports scholarships and hosting community events.

"With the State of California adopting a streamlined approach to ADUs to ease the housing shortage, it has opened up a pathway for REACH to expand its housing offerings to the I/DD community," said Patrick O'Brien, REACH treasurer. "With the support of the City of Pleasanton and Alameda County along with generous contributions from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, REACH is ready to start a second ADU for two new residents."

Tri-Valley Haven

Participation in the 2025-26 Holiday Fund will have "a profound impact on the families we serve," according to Executive Director Christine Dillman.

The community-based nonprofit operates a domestic violence shelter, homeless shelter, food pantry, counseling and comprehensive advocacy services for survivors of

sexual or domestic violence and those experiencing housing and food insecurity.

"These grant funds allow us to provide food and holiday support to local families who are facing severe economic hardship or escaping violence," Dillman said. "At a time when so many are struggling to meet their basic needs, this community investment brings stability, dignity and hope. We are deeply grateful for the partnership and generosity that help our neighbors rebuild their lives."

Sunflower Hill

Sunflower Hill is committed to creating opportunities for adults with I/DD to live, work, learn and thrive as part of the greater community in the Tri-Valley.

Its residential complex at Irby Ranch in Pleasanton provides 30 independent, affordable apartments, along with a wealth of experiential programming for its residents — and two more Sunflower Hill housing opportunities are in development in Dublin, along with one in Lafayette.

The Sunflower Hill Garden at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore serves as a place where I/DD adults can build educational, vocational and life skills, in addition to cultivating fresh produce that benefits other nonprofits in the area.

"At a time when so many nonprofits face uncertainty, local giving matters more than ever. And thanks to the Pleasanton Weekly, it's a very easy process," founder Susan Houghton said. "Donations



SHAROLYN BORRIS / PPIE

Clockwise from top left: Axis Community Health is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable, low-income and underserved people in the region. Moet and Veuve Clicquot the dogs with their new family. Pleasanton's elementary music teachers aim to spark creativity, confidence, and connection in every student.

will help the heart of our mission — creating joyful, inclusive spaces for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live, learn, work and thrive.”

PPIE

The Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation focuses on bringing together families, businesses and civic partners to enhance learning opportunities for all students in the Pleasanton Unified School District.

And with the tough budgetary landscape PUSD is now facing, PPIE’s efforts are as crucial as ever, Executive Director Andrea Wilson noted.

“The holiday season of giving comes at a crucial time for our schools,” she said. “With the district facing significant budget cuts, community support through PPIE truly matters. Every contribution — big or small — helps us keep students connected, inspired and supported.”

Specifically, PPIE is raising money to support mental health and wellness services, elementary music, library hours and classroom innovation grants for all 15 public schools in Pleasanton.

“This season always reminds me how even the smallest acts of generosity can make a big difference,” PPIE Board President Jenifer Flynn said. “Your support of the Holiday Fund helps PPIE continue funding the programs our students count on — especially now, as our district faces tough budget cuts. I’m so grateful for the incredible community that continues to stand behind our schools.”

Open Heart Kitchen

The Tri-Valley’s largest provider of free meals to those in need, Open Heart Kitchen serves the region through its Community Meal Program, Senior Meal Program, Open Heart Food Bank and Open Heart Refuge overnight shelter.

As demand for its services has grown steadily, donations to the Holiday Fund will help OHK sustain and expand its Community Meal Program, which provides freshly prepared, nutritious meals to anyone in need at the Vineyard Resource Center in Livermore.

“It truly takes a village to do what we do, and for the last 30 years, this village has shown up,” Executive Director John Bost said.

“We’re proud not only to serve our neighbors, but to stand shoulder to shoulder with people who share our belief that the strength of a community is measured by how it cares for its most vulnerable,” Bost added. “Thank you, Pleasanton Weekly readers, for being faithful and tireless champions in our growing village of compassion.”

Goodness Village

Goodness Village maintains a safe, supportive tiny-home community in Livermore where folks

emerging from chronic homelessness can rebuild stability, health and connection.

“Being chosen for the Holiday Fund is a powerful reminder that our neighbors’ strength and stories matter. These resources let us honor their resilience and bring warmth, connection, and hope to their holiday season,” Executive Director Kim Curtis told the Weekly.

“This holiday support isn’t just a gift — it’s a celebration of courage, community and the promise of brighter days,” she said.

Culinary Angels

“Every meal we share is a message of love and care,” Culinary Angels Board Member Ellen Bozzo said.

The volunteer-based nonprofit has a singular mission: preparing and delivering nutritious, organic meals to individuals undergoing cancer treatment and their caregivers across the Tri-Valley.

Donations are coming at a critical time, as Culinary Angels attempts to meet an increased demand for meals while coping with increased costs for ingredients and delivery supplies, according to Executive Director Mansoor Sakhyy.

“We’re so grateful to once again be part of the Holiday Fund. This support makes it possible for us to continue providing nutritious, organic meals to people who need strength and comfort the most,” Sakhyy said. “Next year marks our 10-year anniversary of serving the Tri-Valley, and this kind of community partnership reminds us just how far we’ve come — and how much more we can do together.”

CityServe of the Tri-Valley


With a cache of senior support programming in the Tri-Valley, as well as coordinating services for people experiencing homelessness and other needs, CityServe seeks to engender a community “where everyone can find help and everyone can help”.

“The Holiday Fund makes it possible for CityServe to do what we do best: connect people to care with compassion,” CEO Christine Beitsch-Bahmani told the Weekly. “This investment ensures our senior wellness programs don’t just meet needs — they foster belonging, confidence and community.”

“This funding helps us bring wellness to life — not just through services, but through the personal connections that make people feel known, supported and part of something bigger,” she added.

Axis Community Health

The Tri-Valley’s only community health center providing comprehensive care to patients of all ages, Axis is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable, low-income and underserved



Holiday Fund

Please consider donating online, which enables your gift to be processed immediately. The secure website is:
PleasantonWeekly.com/holiday-fund

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The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is sponsored by the Embarcadero Media Foundation. It is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, allowing your donation to be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly unless the boxes below are checked.

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people in the region. Its mission is simple to state, but complex to realize: “Make sure every person has access to high-quality medical, dental and behavioral health services so they can stay strong, healthy and cared for throughout the year.”

Local community contributions like the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund are critical to fulfilling the holistic vision.

“Families across the Tri-Valley are facing real hardship, and access to care should never be something they have to give up,” Axis CEO Liz Perez-Howe said. “This support strengthens our ability to deliver medical, dental and behavioral health services to the people who rely on us most. We are grateful for the partnership and the shared commitment to a healthier, more equitable community.” ■



Tri-Valley Haven staff and volunteers collect donations for families in need during the holiday season.



Light up the tracks

PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

Niles Canyon Railway's Train of Lights has left the station, starting its seasonal rides full of holiday cheer last weekend and continuing through Dec. 30. The popular roundtrip on a vintage locomotive between Sunol and Niles is the largest annual fundraiser for the nonprofit that operates the historic railroad museum. While tickets are already sold out for this year, Pleasanton Weekly photographer Chuck Deckert had a seat on the test train Nov. 17 to capture this Tri-Valley tradition. ■

Train of Lights rides through Niles Canyon all holiday season long

Holiday entertaining with The Vineyard Mom

Livermore's Dabney shares culinary creations as author, instructor, influencer and TV guest

BY DEBORAH GROSSMAN

I met Leslie Dabney at a local wine event and thought she looked familiar. When she talked about being a TV host, I recognized her as The Vineyard Mom on Saturday KRON4 cooking segments.

Beyond hosting on KRON4, ABC and Fox affiliates, Dabney creates food and wine pairings for wineries and shares recipes and entertaining ideas on her lifestyle social media platforms. At one of her recent cooking classes, I left with tasty, homemade pickled veggies. The name The Vineyard Mom came easily to Dabney. A longtime resident of Livermore, the busy mom and swim coach served a hot dinner for her husband and two daughters every night.

"When I was young, we moved four times to different states. Dinnertime with the family, wherever we lived, meant consistency, comfort and deliciousness," she said. Dabney learned culinary skills taught from mother and grandmother, both talented home cooks, and took cooking classes. Living close to Livermore Valley wineries led to Dabney's interest in food and wine pairing. She started blogging recipes and authoring her book, "Take Me to The Vineyard", as The Vineyard Mom in 2020. Though he is not currently working as a winemaker, her husband Bill Dabney has a degree in viticulture and enology from UC Davis and advises her on the winemaking process. Dabney's specialty is developing recipes to pair with wine. A brand ambassador and content provider for wineries from Livermore Valley, Napa and Sonoma to France, Spain, Italy and Argentina, she creates recipes based on their wine. She also publishes monthly recipes with wine suggestions for South Livermore Magazine and Edible East Bay.

"My cooking philosophy is simple. Everyone can make the recipe and adjust them to their tastes. You won't need to buy special spices or order Himalayan goat milk," said Dabney. In the Himalayas, goat milk is prized as a healthy beverage.



Leslie Dabney, known as The Vineyard Mom, poses on the set of KRON4's "LIVE! In the Bay".

'My cooking philosophy is simple. Everyone can make the recipe and adjust them to their tastes.'

Leslie Dabney,
The Vineyard Mom

Dabney's recipes are well described in her blogs. On Nov. 14 on KRON4, she demonstrated a recipe for Mini Apple Crumble Pies, and my ears perked up. Making pie dough is my least favorite kitchen task. But I like pie, and the simple recipe takes pantry ingredients — and store-bought pie dough. You cut the dough into four-inch rounds which are fitted into cavities of muffin tins. Sliced apples, sugar, flour and cinnamon are mixed and topped with a crumble mix. Bake, top with whipped cream, and serve. The easy recipe eliminates the last-minute hunt for the pie slicer and pleas for "only a tiny slice".

Her portfolio of TV hosting, writing and leading classes includes expertise in lifestyle entertaining. She shares news of her activities and alerts on recipes on her Instagram

account, TheVineyardMomLiving. Dabney emailed some practical holiday hosting tips.

- No need for fancy centerpieces or flowers. Baskets of fall fruit and veggies, votive candles and greenery from your yard will not only look beautiful and colorful but will be cost effective. Place utensils in a napkin, wrap it with twine and place a sage or rosemary sprig under the twine.
- When serving buffet-style, stack plates, napkins, utensils and glasses in a separate area or room to free up counter space.
- Prep in advance and set the table the day before. Double check that serving utensils are available for each dish to be served.

Holiday beverage tips: Serve a red and a white wine depending on personal choice. Red wine like Pinot Noir and Sangiovese pair well with turkey; white suggestions include sparkling wine, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc. Serve a favorite beer brand and non-alcoholic drinks such as apple cider and sparkling water. Dabney recommends making a signature cocktail that can be made in advance and batched so guests can serve themselves.

At her "Let's Get Pickled" event in early November at Prueitt Farms Winery, I saw firsthand how Leslie makes cooking easy. Coordinated with owner Bob Prueitt, we tasted Prueitt wine while pickling cauliflower, green beans and cucumbers. Dabney was organized and affable during the class. Prueitt welcomed everyone with a glass of his sparkling wine. He noted that his winery

was the only one in Livermore Valley with a bus stop outside. Sometimes, he said, he rides the bus downtown to meet friends. His property on East Avenue features his house and Chardonnay vineyard, plus horses and a barn which serves as the tasting room and event space.

Lighthearted like Dabney, Prueitt told the group that the red blend was a GSM, meaning, "Gimme some more". He then explained it was a Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre blend. He served several of his Chardonnays made in different styles from crisp and citrusy to fuller bodied.

Dabney gave options to the class on cutting their vegetables and adding dill or not. She prepared the pickling brine in advance.

At the end, we labeled our veggie jars, I chatted with Elizabeth Thompson of Pleasanton who liked the pickling exercise and may attend more of Dabney's classes.

The labels on my jars blandly stated the veggie name. While observing other culinary creations, I noticed a jar of long green bean pieces labeled

"Alien Fingers". The creator was Dabney's daughter, Katie Dabney, who lives in San Jose. Katie confirmed that her mom cooked all the family meals and added, "We only went to restaurants for special occasions."

After the event, I contacted my tablemate, Amy Levin of Dublin, who told me, "My pickled veggies were crisp and refreshing. I look forward to serving them as Thanksgiving appetizers. Paired with Prueitt wines purchased at the event, they will commence the poignant and rich meal with loved ones." I have taken a more mundane route and replaced celery with the diced, pickled cauliflower for crunch in a lunchtime tuna salad.

Though Dabney's "Take Me to the Vineyard" is out of print, she is working on another, yet-untitled book with easy-to-make recipes for appetizers, salads and pasta. Now she is planning her next KRON4 TV segment and preparing for holiday meals which include the family's cranberry relish dressed up for the occasion with orange zest. ■



The Vineyard Mom's mini apple crumble pies.

BILL DABNEY



Pickled vegetables courtesy of Katie Dabney, the daughter of The Vineyard Mom.

DEBORAH GROSSMAN

POLICE BULLETIN

State awards Tri-Valley police departments \$275K for road safety

Law enforcement agencies across the Tri-Valley recently received tens of thousands of dollars each in grant funding from the state to improve road safety through ongoing enforcement and education programs.

Recipient agencies of the traffic enforcement program grant — awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety — included police departments in Livermore (\$90,000), Pleasanton (\$60,000) and San Ramon (\$40,000) as well as Dublin Police Services (\$85,000).

Additionally, the San Ramon Police Department received an OTS grant worth \$88,500 for traffic records improvements, according to Lt. Tami Williams.

While the Danville Police Department applied for OTS grants, the agency was ultimately not awarded the funds, according to town spokesperson Jenn Starnes.

“Through focused traffic enforcement and education, we’re working toward a future where everyone will be safe on California roads,” OTS Director Stephanie Dougherty said in a statement. “By encouraging people to prioritize safety in their daily choices, we are creating a strong road safety culture together.”

The grant supports programs and resources including DUI checkpoints and patrols focused on stopping suspected impaired drivers, community presentations on traffic safety issues, officer training and/or recertification as well as enforcement operations focused on distracted driving and top violations that cause crashes: speeding, failure to yield, stop sign and/or red-light running and improper turning or lane changes.

The enforcement and educational programs are meant to help reduce the number of serious injuries and deaths on the road, according to a statement from officials at the Livermore Police Department.

The grant is offered through the state’s traffic enforcement program with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

“We are grateful to receive this grant, which will strengthen our traffic enforcement efforts and improve road safety,” LPD Sgt. Scott Harrison said.

— Jude Strzemp

Juveniles arrested after pursuit ends in crash

Two juveniles were arrested last week following a car chase in Livermore that ended in a suspected stolen car crashing into an apartment building, police said.

The pursuit marked the second time in five days that the 14-year-old suspected driver of the car allegedly

fled police in a stolen vehicle.

Shortly after 1 a.m. Nov. 18, officers with the Livermore PD discovered a car driving on Interstate 580 that matched the description of a recently reported stolen vehicle.

Police tried to make a traffic stop of the car as it exited the freeway onto Isabel Avenue. The driver allegedly did not yield and a pursuit began.

During the chase, the suspected stolen car ran stop signs and drove twice the speed limit at times, according to the department.

Officers later located the car at the Leahy Square housing complex. The driver fled again when police approached, the department said.

Moments later, the 14-year-old and a 15-year-old passenger jumped out of the car that was still moving. The car then apparently rolled into the side of an apartment building, causing an estimated \$5,000 in damage, according to police.

Both juveniles were quickly detained and arrested on suspicion of possessing a stolen vehicle, evading a peace officer with disregard for public safety, and property damage.

— Bay City News Service

Woman accused of shooting teen in San Ramon

A 40-year-old Union City woman was taken into custody Sunday night after police allege she shot a 17-year-old boy in San Ramon earlier that evening.

Emergency personnel arrived at the scene on Talavera Drive at approximately 6:18 p.m. Sunday evening, where they found the teen suffering from a single gunshot wound in the upper shoulder and transported him to the hospital, according to the San Ramon PD.

The juvenile victim was released following treatment, according to a press release from SRPD on Monday.

Later Sunday evening, police arrested the suspect, identified as Xiaojie Zhang, on a Ramey warrant for attempted homicide.

“While we are not revealing the relationship between the victim and the suspect, we can confirm that the two were known to each other,” SRPD officials said in Monday’s press release.

After her arrest at 11:28 p.m. Sunday evening, police discovered two firearms at Zhang’s Union City home. While the investigation remained ongoing as of Monday afternoon, police said there was no further threat to the community.

Zhang continued to be in jail custody on \$1 million bail as of Monday afternoon.

— Jeanita Lyman

Police dog finds drug stash

A 56-year-old man was arrested last week after Livermore police allegedly found methamphetamine and psilocybin packaged for sale in his vehicle.



LPD VIA BCN

Livermore PD seized six ounces of methamphetamine and psilocybin packaged for sale during a K9-assisted traffic stop near Springtown Boulevard and Bluebell Drive last week.

Police served a warrant about 11 a.m. Nov. 19 at a home in the 1500 block of Springtown Boulevard related to the sales of methamphetamine and a possible drug lab.

During the operation, officers pulled over the man as he was leaving the area.

A police dog assisted in the traffic stop and alerted officers to the presence of narcotics. A search of the vehicle allegedly uncovered 6 ounces of methamphetamine along with psilocybin packaged for sales.

The man was arrested on suspicion of possession of a controlled substance for sale, possession/purchase of a narcotic for sale, and transporting/selling a narcotic/controlled substance.

He was booked into Santa Rita Jail with \$90,000 bail.

— Bay City News Service

PG&E urges vigilance as utility scams surge

PG&E is asking customers to be more vigilant about scams this holiday season as the number of utility customers being targeted is “alarmingly high” this year.

More than 21,000 reports have been filed in 2025 by customers who say they were contacted by phone or online scammers posing as PG&E employees, the utility said last week — which coincided with Utility Scam Awareness Day. The utility estimates customers have lost nearly \$300,000, with an average loss of \$670 per person.

PG&E says the holidays are a prime time for scammers, who often target distracted customers. Scammers most commonly reach out by phone, although online and in-person scams also occur.

“Scammers will try to create a false sense of urgency to pressure customers by threatening immediate disconnection of your utility services if immediate payment is not made,” said Matt Foley, PG&E’s lead scam investigator.

PG&E never contacts customers for the first time within an hour of a planned disconnection, Foley said. The utility also does not request payment through prepaid debit cards

or payment apps such as Venmo or Zelle.

“If a call doesn’t feel right, hang up and log into your account at PGE.com or call our customer service line to verify your billing details,” he said.

Small and medium-sized businesses are also frequent targets, PG&E said. The utility has received nearly 700 reports of scam attempts involving businesses this year.

To reduce utility fraud, PG&E is working with the group Utilities United Against Scams, which urges customers to “slow down, verify and stop the scam”. Customers who receive a call threatening disconnection and demanding payment should hang up immediately.

Account details — including whether a disconnection is pending — can be verified by logging into a PG&E account at www.pge.com or by calling customer service at 800-743-5000.

Suspected scams should be reported to PG&E at 833-500-SCAM, at pge.com/scams, or to local law enforcement.

— Sarah Stierch,
Bay City News Service

Pest control giant to pay \$3.15M over illegal dumping

Three pest control companies have agreed to pay a combined \$3.15 million after investigators found they illegally dumped pesticides and hazardous waste into municipal landfills and improperly discarded customer records containing confidential information.

The settlement resolves allegations brought by 13 California district attorneys’ offices against Clark Pest Control of Stockton, Orkin Services of California and Crane Pest Control, which prosecutors say violated state laws governing pesticide disposal, hazardous waste management and consumer privacy. The companies are subsidiaries of Rollins Inc., a Georgia-based international pest control provider with more than 70 facilities across California.

The investigation began in 2021 and was led jointly by the San Mateo County and Contra Costa County district attorney’s offices. Kenneth

A. Mifsud, now the deputy district attorney overseeing San Mateo County Consumer & Environmental Protection Unit, launched the probe while working in Contra Costa and continued to lead it after moving to San Mateo.

“It made sense that I can continue on the case and continue to lead the case with others. We’re representing the people of the state of California. We don’t have ‘clients,’” Mifsud said.

Investigators across the state conducted a series of undercover waste inspections from March 2021 through February 2022, auditing 40 dumpsters from 22 Clark and Orkin facilities.

“We try to do a fairly decent sampling but we can’t do every facility since we don’t have the resources, but if we’re finding consistent findings, and we were, then we choose a time to contact the company and meet with them,” Mifsud said.

According to the DA’s office, investigators found thousands of pesticide-containing items and hazardous materials dumped into company bins destined for landfills not permitted to receive such waste. The items included liquid, powder and foam pesticides; baits and pellets; aerosol sprays; ignitable and corrosive chemicals; hazardous batteries; e-waste; hand sanitizers; adhesives; caulking; and cleaning solutions.

Investigators also found thousands of customer records, including service orders, contracts, invoices and route reports, that had been thrown away without being shredded. State law requires businesses to render personal information unreadable before disposal to protect consumer privacy, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney’s Office.

“Since being notified that a few of our brands in California were being investigated, we quickly began working cooperatively with the District Attorneys’ offices. Since that time, we have improved our operational and service processes and policies to better reflect the highest industry standards,” an Orkin spokesperson said in a statement to the Weekly. “As the industry leader, we look forward to continuing to support our current and future customers in California to help them manage their pest control needs.”

Under the stipulated judgment, the companies will pay \$2,017,000 in civil penalties, \$400,000 for supplemental environmental compliance projects, \$333,000 to cover investigative costs and will receive \$400,000 in credit for additional environmental compliance measures.

They must also adopt some operational reforms for at least five years.

The settlement was filed in coordination with district attorneys from Alameda, Santa Clara, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma, Yolo, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Diego and Ventura counties, alongside San Mateo and Contra Costa counties. ■

— Arden Margulis,
Menlo Park Almanac

Opinion

LETTERS

Loud leaf blowers

Section 9.06.030 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code states:

“Beginning June 1, 2024, it is unlawful for any person to operate a gasoline-powered leaf blower at any time in the city.”

Section 9.06.050(A) adds:

“A violation of this chapter may be documented by an administrative citation ... issued by a police officer or community services officer of the police department, or a code enforcement officer of the community development department.”

I invite members of those agencies to visit any residential neighborhood in the city on any weekday to witness how extensively these code provisions are being observed.

I'll supply the earplugs.

— Glenn Evans

Prop 50

The MAGA crowd must be quaking in their boots after getting shellacked

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in these off-year elections. Your regular writers have double downed on their hero president's childish name-calling. Stupid, ignorant, communist, imbecile, and my favorite, scalawags!

I would bet that most people would look at my diploma from the U.S. Naval Academy, my work at the Naval Postgraduate School and my decade as a Naval officer and conclude that I am neither stupid nor ignorant. And yet I voted for Prop 50.

Contrary to a writer's justification of the Texas gerrymander mid-census redistricting is extremely rare. Over and over Gov. Newsom said he would call off Prop 50 if Texas abandoned their partisan gerrymander. But with Trump-leaning on Greg Abbott that wasn't going to happen.

Most independent, non-partisan redistricting committees are in blue states. Until Republicans give up their gerrymandering power, why should Democrats disarm? What is needed is a national standard requiring non-partisan redistricting committees. Think that will fly in a Republican Congress?

After all the name-calling, and to cite J.D. Vance, the pearl-clutching, only one writer correctly identified our political system. The U.S. is not a pure democracy. We don't vote on every law proposed. At least Ms. Kirby knows we are a Democratic Republic.

— Brian Sanborn

Thanks for concert suggestion

There are many ways to appreciate Pleasanton all year, but one that might be overlooked by many is the Firehouse Arts Center.

Your What A Week column two weeks ago highlighted some upcoming shows, and the Bee Gees Tribute Concert suggestion for last Sunday arrived just in time to celebrate my wife's birthday.

I might also note that this is a perfect example of local independent journalism at its finest. Thank you, Pleasanton Weekly.

— Terrence (Tj) McGrath

Proactive AI stops bad actors

Newspapers are responsible for their own demise because they allowed biased content, which in turn unleashed bad actors throughout the industry, sensationalism and fake news which captured the advertising dollar.

Gone are the stalwarts in the industry, the likes of Daniel Pearl, Marie Covin and Chauncy Bailey, Walter Cronkite and Edward R. Murrow. They were committed to truth, courage under fire, and their impact on society. Fortunately, we have Tim Hunt writing for Pleasanton Weekly, a nonprofit newspaper with some of the best editorial content around.

Bad actors will destroy America with artificial intelligence publishing

fake stories and videos. AI is a double-edged sword. While bad actors use it to fabricate convincing fake news, counter AI systems are evolving rapidly to detect and neutralize misinformation.

The challenge is ongoing, but with the right tools and awareness, individuals and organizations can significantly reduce the harm caused by fabricated stories.

Easy to use: NewsGuard, SurfSafe, Google Fact check Explorer, Botometer.

Intermediate: Claim Buster, Hoaxy, inVid & WeVerify, AdVerit.ai.

Advanced (best for organizations and professionals): Microsoft Video Authentication, Realty Defender, Deepware Scanner.

Track and locate tools are available, many are free, few require a fee. Proactive AI stops bad actors, changing the paradigm.

— Michael Austin

I'm disgusted

As a Christian I'm disgusted My president a serial sex abuser Elected by a majority of Americans Filling his government with similar goons

Misogyny now reigns unconcealed But he promises to protect women By creating a climate of aggression and domination

My daughters and granddaughters less secure

— David Peterson

Honoring the power of organ donation

On behalf of the Donor Network West Foundation, we extend our sincerest gratitude to the nearly 1,000 community members who stepped up to support those impacted by organ donation at the 15th Annual Run/Walk in San Ramon Saturday, Sept. 13.

Together, we raised more than \$240,000 and counting, which will enhance post-transplant resources, grief support services, clinical innovation, and research and education initiatives.

In its 15th year, the event gathered transplant recipients, organ donor families, living donors, hospital partners and supporters who, together, made vital strides for organ donation.

More than 10,000 people in northern California and northern Nevada are waiting for a life-saving organ transplant. Events like these inspire hope for those waiting and honor organ donors and their families.

One person can save up to eight lives through organ donation. Learn more about joining the organ donor registry and how to support community resources at DonorNetworkWest.org.

— Janice Whaley, Ph.D., president and CEO, Donor Network West

— William "Bubba" Paris, executive director, Donor Network West Foundation

YOUR TURN

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 550 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Media Foundation to also publish it online, including in our online archives.

For more information contact Editor Jeremy Walsh at (925) 600-0840.

The impact of AI on kids in the next 5 years

My name is Advait John, and I am an 8th grade student at Stanley Middle School. I am writing to share my thoughts on how artificial intelligence (AI) will impact children over the next five years.

AI is already becoming a part of education, games, and daily life, and I believe it will continue to shape how kids learn, socialize, and develop skills. While AI can provide personalized learning and creative tools, it also brings challenges like screen time management, privacy concerns, and the need to develop critical thinking alongside technology.

I hope my perspective can contribute to a discussion about how to help children use AI responsibly and benefit from its opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be thrilled if my thoughts could be shared with your readers.

— Advait John

Shopping center for sale

The San Ramon shopping center for sale article is filled with false assumptions about people shopping and living in the area. Incomes of residents cannot be verified as claimed. Secondly Subway, McDonald's, Starbucks etc are not representative of tenants in a high income area.

— Berton Kanne

On 'Psychology of Cults'

At the core of virtually every cult is a singular, unyielding prime directive: recruit and retain. Recruitment is not just a goal — it is often framed as a

moral or spiritual imperative.

Cults thrive on expansion because each new member brings not only validation to the group's ideology but often material resources — money, labor, or influence — that fuel the cult's survival. Leaders instill a sense of urgency and righteousness in spreading the message, framing recruitment as an act of salvation or truth-telling.

This mission is often cloaked in noble language — “awakening others”, “liberating minds” or “sharing the light” — but it serves a critical functional role: fortifying the cult's structure by expanding its base of psychological and financial support.

Once a person is brought into the fold, however, the rules change dramatically. Cults are notoriously resistant to letting people go. They use emotional manipulation, isolation, indoctrination and sometimes threats to make exit feel impossible or catastrophic. Leaving is often portrayed not just as betrayal, but as a descent into moral failure or existential doom.

Members may be told that outsiders are dangerous, that dissent leads to punishment, or that abandoning the group severs them from love, safety, or even eternal life. In high-control groups, individuals are systematically cut off from former support systems — family, friends, outside institutions — making reintegration into mainstream life profoundly difficult.

This dual strategy of aggressive outreach followed by suffocating containment is what allows cults to grow and persist, even in the face of external scrutiny or internal collapse.

— John Williams, via online comment

Employment

Recruiters:

Entry to Sr. Level Technical Recruiters are needed for our Pleasanton, CA office. The annual wage is \$67954. Travel may be req'd. Pls. send resume, Cvr Ltr., & Sal. Req. to Triune Infomatics INC, 7041 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 260, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising. If you wish to learn more about the employment advertising options, please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Reminiscing with my old teammates and coach

‘In some ways it was like those high school days had never left’

My high school years were amazing.

Much of it had to do with my years playing soccer for the Amador Valley High varsity team. My junior and senior years we lost one game total. That came my junior year, and it came early in the season.

My senior year (1979) we didn't lose, winning everything along the way — tournaments, the East Bay Athletic League and the playoffs. There was no North Coast Section back then, but the EBAL champ would face off against the winner of the Catholic Athletic League, which were the two best leagues ... and this year it wasn't close.

My senior year we faced De La Salle, and the final score was 6-2. We finished the year No. 1 in the nation and gave up only like six or seven goals in 21 games.

I can remember the quote from the De La Salle coach following the game that was run in the local paper. Maybe a tad bit paraphrasing, but it's close: "They can be beat, but not by

a team in the United States."

It is arguably the best Amador team in any sport and featured three players that went on to play professional soccer in Kevin Crow, Steve Englebrick and Marty Espinoza.

Of our 11 starters, I was the lone one not to play sports in college. I blew my knee out that summer — and by the time I recovered, I was in college, discovered how good pizza and beer are, and the rest was history.

It was the middle year of a three-year run at Amador where the soccer team went 55 games without a loss. It was a record for all high school sports in the country and stood until the De La Salle football program blew it away.

High school soccer in those days was monstrous, with the games being played right after school back then, guaranteeing a big crowd as the students stuck around to watch the games.

Great memories for all of us, but initially we didn't realize the deep reason why those years were so

special: our coach.

Mike Geib was a longtime teacher at Amador and turned out to be the most successful soccer coach in the school's history.

The older we got, the more we were able to reflect upon everything that made those years extra special — Geib.

While you are younger, I don't think any athlete fully appreciates the role their coaches played in their lives. When you get older and have kids of your own, you start to grasp lessons learned from your coaches and understand they were more than just wins and losses, but life itself.

Three weeks ago, a group of five of us former players had Coach Geib over to my house on a Saturday afternoon. I had talked to his daughter a couple weeks earlier, and she told me he could use a visit with us.

We set a date and his daughter brought over coach and his wife.

It was a couple of hours of telling stories, laughing and remembering some of the best days of our lives.



COURTESY DENNIS MILLER

Former Amador soccer players (left to right) Scott Wilcox, Kevin Crow, Steve Wilcox, Dennis Miller and Keith Clay surround former coach Mike Geib.

In some ways it was like those high school days had never left.

As much as it meant to coach, I couldn't help the feeling it meant every bit to the five of us. This was back in the days when you played youth soccer through high school with the same group of friends.

You went to battle with your buddies year-round, and it provided memories that are as vivid in our 60s and as they were when we were growing up.

We all look forward to our next visit with coach and feel blessed we still have a chance to spend time with a coach that helped shape all our lives.

Thanks, Coach Geib — we all love you.

Amador girls' water polo

The Dons fell 17-5 to Los Altos in the first round of the CIF NorCal playoffs.

Susan Swyers scored twice, with Dori Selway, Addi Drain and Genna Schmidt scoring one each. Deepika Suresh made six saves for the Dons.

Los Altos fell 10-7 in the championship match to Merced.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons knocked off James Logan 70-44 last Friday behind 22 points from Jaylen Smith.

Cade Krueger and Dante Ventura had 11 points each, with Elijah Stanley adding nine points. ■

Youth swim team raises over \$10K for Open Heart Kitchen

Livermore Aquacowboys' annual swim-a-thon driven by desire to 'give back to the community'

By JUDE STRZEMP

A Livermore-based swim team recently raised more than \$10,000 at its annual swim-a-thon for Open Heart Kitchen, a nonprofit that provides meals and support to people facing food insecurity in the Tri-Valley.

The Livermore Aquacowboys fundraiser on Oct. 11 featured 87 swimmers who traversed a total of nearly 8,000 laps in the pool at the Robert Livermore Community Center, according to a joint press release by the team and OHK.

Through the swim-a-thon, the Aquacowboys raised the second largest sum of any group since OHK began offering virtual fundraising for community groups, according to the statement.

"We chose to fundraise for Open Heart Kitchen because we know there is an increasing need in our community, and we wanted to give back to the community that has supported us throughout the years we've been living and growing up here," swim team senior Cassie Clark said in a statement.

Organizers of the swim-a-thon and fundraiser included Clark along with fellow swimmers Xochitl Araiza, Steven Hsueh, Eva Kaye, Gabby Kleman, Megan Lemler, Chase Lewis, Bridget O'Bryan, Tyler Ortiz, Leo Quijalvo and McKinley Scobie.

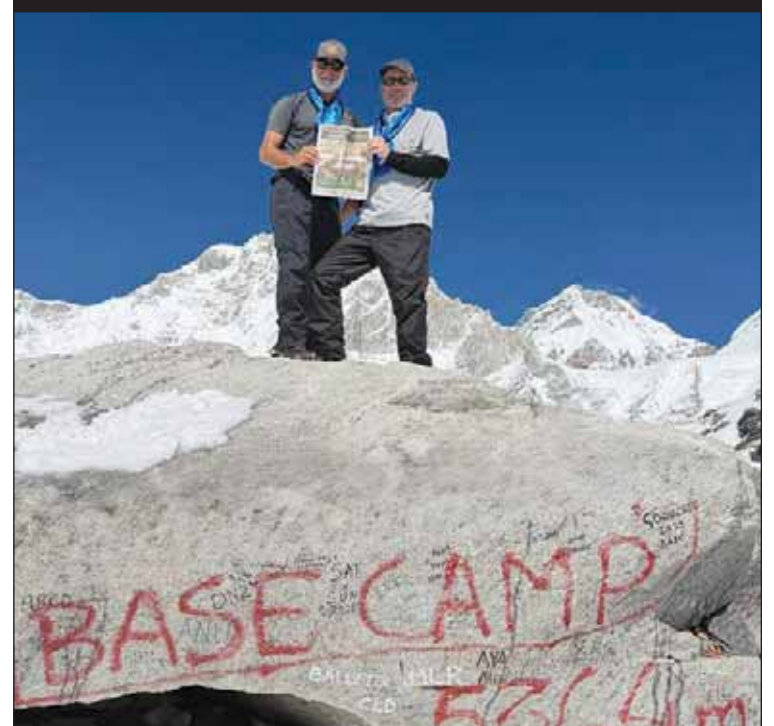


COURTESY OHK

The Livermore Aquacowboys host swim-a-thon last month.

"The commitment of the Livermore Aquacowboys swim team to support Open Heart Kitchen's work in the Tri-Valley represents the very best of our community, and it gives me great hope to know that the world we all live in rests in the generous, capable and compassionate hands of our youngest generations," OHK Executive Director John Bost said. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Mount Everest Base Camp: Pleasanton residents Tony Battilega and Paul David recently took a 12-day trek through the Himalayas to the Mount Everest Base Camp. On day eight, the two men reached their destination at 18,000 feet. In total, the friends covered nearly 100 miles and 30,000 vertical feet.

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

Entertainment

JEFF BORDES & FRIENDS: A NEW ORLEANS CHRISTMAS Kick off the holiday season with the energy and spirit of a New Orleans Second Line Parade as Jeff Bordes & Friends bring a fresh, high-energy take on holiday favorites, blending the sounds of funk, blues, swing and more. 8 p.m., Nov. 29. Tickets \$25-\$45. Visit livermorearts.org.

HANDEL, MESSIAH Pacific Chamber Orchestra's traditional and uplifting presentation of Part I and favorites from Parts II and III is a perfect way to begin the holiday season. 3 p.m., Nov. 30. Tickets \$25-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

PHANTOM ICON FRANC D'AMBROSIO Best-known for his impressive portrayal of the lead role in Andrew Lloyd Webber, *The Phantom of the Opera*, D'Ambrosio performed as the famed masked man more than 2,000 times. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Tickets \$50-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

PYTC CABARET - SINGER'S CHOICE This special cabaret showcases the unique voices, styles and stories of talented high school students as they perform songs personally selected from heartfelt ballads to show-stopping numbers. 7 p.m., Dec. 5. Tickets \$13. Visit firehousearts.org.

SING-IT-YOURSELF MESSIAH Join Valley Concert Chorale for this Sing-It-Yourself Messiah, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Ashbury United Methodist Church, Livermore. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

JOYFUL SOUNDS OF THE SEASON Deck the halls with Livermore-Amador Symphony's festive music perfect for the start of the holiday season. 8 p.m., Dec. 6. Tickets \$31-\$46. Visit livermorearts.org.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY BAND The Pleasanton Community Band performs this free holiday concert at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy., Pleasanton. 3-4:30 p.m., Dec. 7.

IRISH CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA A cherished holiday tradition, Irish Christmas in America brings the magic of the season featuring heartwarming songs, lively dance and rich storytelling that celebrate Ireland's holiday spirit. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 8. Tickets \$25-\$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

Festivities

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY Shop Small Business Saturday is an exciting event to celebrate and support local businesses in Pleasanton. Downtown Pleasanton businesses will participate offering special discounts on shopping, dining and services. 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Nov. 29.

MUSEUM ON MAIN CHRISTMAS MARKET Join at Pleasanton's Museum on Main for a Christmas Market where talented local crafters sell high-quality gifts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Grab a snack

from the Cub Scouts and listen to live music while sipping hot chocolate and visiting Santa from 12-4 p.m. Nov. 29. 603 Main St.

LIVERMORE HOLIDAY VILLAGE IN THE PARK Join as Carnegie Park is turned into a magical holiday village, like a Hallmark Christmas movie, but real. 4-8 p.m., Dec. 5. Visit livermoredowntown.com.

PLEASANTON, DOWNTOWN'S MAGICAL HOLIDAY EVENING Experience the magic of the holiday season on Division Street to capture cherished memories. with free photos alongside Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Museum on Main. and enjoy a variety of family friendly activities and live music. 4-7 p.m., Dec. 5.

HOLIDAY ART FAIR Shop for art and fine handcrafts in front of the Bankhead Theater. Open to the public. 1-5 p.m., Dec. 6.

PLEASANTON HOMETOWN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION The celebration begins at 5 p.m. Dec. 6 with a parade of floats, marching bands, community groups and more. 6:45 p.m., tree lighting with musical entertainment and a special appearance by Santa.

LIVERMORE SIGHTS AND SOUND PARADE Enjoy floats and performances by local businesses, bands, schools, clubs and more with tree lighting to immediately follow. 6 p.m., Dec. 6.

WINTER GLOW EXPERIENCE: A DRIVE-THRU HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW Experience the magic of the holiday season with the Winter Glow Experience, a dazzling drive-thru spectacular featuring hundreds of larger-than-life festive displays. Bundle up in the car and enjoy a synchronized light show along a 1-mile holiday route. Now to Jan. 4. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Talks

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY In this zoom or in person meeting, Madeline Yanov, owner of Time Travel Genealogy, presents *What did Daddy (and Mommy) Do?* Locating Family Members in Old Business Records, Part II. 7-8:30 p.m., Dec. 8. Congregation Beth Emek. Visit l-ags.org.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS Join for Holiday Tea and celebrate the beautiful work done by AVQ volunteers to bring warmth and comfort to Community Quilt recipients. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Dec. 13. Pleasanton Middle School. For more information visit amadorvalleyquilters.org/WordPress/.

Exhibits

FIREHOUSE LOBBY EXHIBIT This solo exhibition of Isadore Kamins, *A Colorful Life*, features nearly 20 works by the artist in this retrospective exhibition organized by his family in memory of his expansive creative endeavors. Through Dec. 20. Visit firehousearts.org.

PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE'S ANNUAL FALL MEMBERS' SHOW Featuring approximately 75 works of all mediums, this annual group exhibition showcases the diverse and talented work of PAL members. Through Dec. 20. The Harrington Gallery. Visit firehousearts.org.

GREETINGS FROM EVERYWHERE EXHIBIT In this exhibit the museum displays a wide variety of items that residents of Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley have acquired on their travels sharing the stories of those souvenirs with the common thread of carrying memories. Through Jan. 3. Museum on Main.

KNOCK KNOCK: THE ART OF WIT AND WHIMSY On display this fall and winter at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery this lighthearted & joyful exhibition celebrates the playful side of creativity, showcasing artwork that elicits laughter, sparks delight, & nudges the imagination in unexpected directions. Through Jan. 4. Visit livermorearts.org.

Support

TRI-VALLEY FOOD DRIVE Support local families through a Tri-Valley-wide food drive with unexpired canned and shelf-stable food donations including vegetables, beans, meats and other essential pantry items. Drop off at Pleasanton Library, Dublin Library or Dublin Senior Center. Now through Nov. 28.

HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS Hope Hospice offers this one-hour free workshop as a safe space to discuss the unique considerations of grieving during the winter holiday season. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Dec. 2. To register, call 925-829-8770 or submit an inquiry form at HopeHospice.com/grief.

VA MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH Medical providers will be on-site to offer examinations, consultations and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System with no appointment necessary. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Dec. 4. Livermore Civic Center Library parking lot.

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

13TH ANNUAL WARM COAT DRIVE Donate clean and gently used coats to local nonprofit Hively, a social service organization that provides resources and support to families in the Tri-Valley community. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Dec. 6. W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton. RSVP at connectahomes.com/give-back.

TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is partnering with Toys for Tots to support children in need. Donate new, unwrapped toys to the Robert Livermore Community

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Fun with the Flash

The Flash is a bright and expressive young dog with a goofy charm all his own. With his adorable one-up ear and big, heart-melting smile, he mixes curious, slow-motion "sniffy strolls" with sudden bursts of playful zoomies.

He loves exploring new scents, leaning in for affection and rolling happily in the grass. Smart and enthusiastic, Flash is an affectionate pup eager to fill your days with smiles, adventure and cuddles. Visit him at East Bay SPCA in Dublin or online at eastbayspca.org.

Center and the Aquatic Center. Through Dec. 11. Visit larpd.org.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE LARPD is partnering with the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry to support local families this holiday season. Drop off non-perishable items like potatoes, stuffing, canned vegetables, pumpkin pie mix and more. Robert Livermore Community Center. Through Dec. 12. Visit larpd.org.

Volunteer

VOLUNTEER IN THE PARKS Volunteers are vital to the East Bay regional parks with opportunities available year-round across the park district. Visit ebparks.org/volunteer.

CARING VISITOR PROGRAM CityServe's Caring Visitor Program is designed to combat the harmful effects of chronic loneliness. Caring Visitors are matched with isolated seniors who just need a friend. For more information, visit cityservecares.org.

VOLUNTEER AT OPEN HEART KITCHEN Volunteers at Open Heart Kitchen help create a more food secure future in the Tri-Valley. Visit openheartkitchen.org/volunteer.

VOLUNTEER AT TRI-VALLEY HAVEN Tri-Valley Haven's mission is to advocate for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness. Volunteers might field calls on the crisis line, take care of children, distribute food or work at the Thrift Store. Visit trivalleyhaven.org/volunteer/.

RIDECARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED RideCare is CityServe premier transportation program that connects older adults and individuals with disabilities with free transportation and connects them to locations throughout greater Alameda County. Visit cityservecares.org/ridecare.

VOLUNTEER AT VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY Join Valley Humane Society's valued team of volunteers for a rewarding experience that has a meaningful impact on the lives of animals and people in the community. Visit valleyhumane.org/volunteer.

Outdoor Rec

FREE PARK DAY Each year, to encourage time in nature, EBRPD celebrates Green Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, as a free park day in East Bay regional parks. Nov. 28. Visit ebparks.org.

Farmers Markets

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

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

Seniors

WOODSHOP AT PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday. \$5.75R/\$6.75NR.

SOLE MATES WALKING GROUP This free walking group at the Pleasanton Senior Center is 8:45-10 a.m., Wednesdays.

VINTAGE LOUNGE PUZZLING Stop by the Vintage Lounge to showcase to enjoy puzzle-solving. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays. Livermore Senior Center, 4444 East Ave.

DROP-IN MAHJONG AT RLCC American Version Mahjong meets 1-4 p.m., Wednesdays in the Sycamore Room. Free lessons are available if new to the game. Drop in fees apply. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave.

SPECTRUM MEALS ON WHEELS Spectrum Meals on Wheels provides home delivered meals (60+). For more information, call 510-881-0305 or visit spectrumcs.org.

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 598947

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):

WHOLE LOTTA PCS

4E

4EVER IN IT

FADED BY FONS

CASA FLORES

PCS

19062 Times Avenue

Hayward, CA 94541

FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 06/26/2023

UNDER FILE NO. 598947

REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):

ALFONSO JUNIOR FLORES JR.

19062 Times Avenue

Hayward, CA 94541

THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY AN Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on October 28 2025.
(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

NOELLE BRADDOCK THERAPY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618222

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

1.) Noelle Braddock Therapy , located at 248 3rd Street Suite 1214 Oakland, CA 94607, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

NOELLE BRADDOCK, LICENSED

PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELOR, A

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

248 3rd Street Suite 1214

Oakland, CA 94607

State of Incorporation/Organization:

California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/15/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 10 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

R3THINK LABS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618860

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

1.) R3THINK LABS , located at 1120 Chestnut Street, Alameda, CA 94501, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

R3THINK CONNECTIVITY SOLUTIONS, INC.

838 Walker Road, Suite 21-2

Dover, DE 19904

State of Incorporation/Organization:

Delaware

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/07/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 14 2025.

(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

MOBILITY 4U

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618759

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

1.) Mobility 4U , located at 4636 Schlosser Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.

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

SANJA BAJOVIC

4636 Schlosser Ct.

Castro Valley, CA 94546

TEOFIK FEHIMOVIC

4636 Schlosser Ct.

Castro Valley, CA 94546

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/10/2006

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 07 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

LEVEL MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618708

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

1.) LEVEL MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS , located

at 37069 Ash St. Newark, CA 94560, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

LUIS MARTIN FRANCO GUTIERREZ

37069 Ash St.

Newark, CA 94560

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/23/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 05 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

MASONFIT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618864

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

1.) MASONFIT , located at 7004 MacArthur Blvd Apt 302 Oakland, CA 94605, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.

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

KIRIA MASON

7004 MacArthur Blvd Apt 302

Oakland, CA 94605

JERMAINE MASON

7004 MacArthur Blvd Apt 302

Oakland, CA 94605

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/20/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 14 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

ETERNAL SUNSHINE EVENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618636

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

1.) Eternal Sunshine Events , located at 561 Amberwood Way, Livermore CA 94551, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

JANINE MENDOZA

561 Amberwood Way

Livermore, CA 94551

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 November 03 2025.

(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

TUTURA HERITAGE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618839

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

1.) Tutura Heritage , located at 2119 Addison St Apt 8 Berkeley, CA 94704, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

CHRIS PUTTERE PHOTOGRAPHY, INC

2119 Addison St Apt 8

Berkeley, CA 94704

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 November 12 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

PLEASANTON CARDIOLOGY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618706

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

1.) Pleasanton Cardiology , located at 5565 West Las Positas Blvd, Suite 340, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

HENRY A. CHEN, M.D.

PO Box 817

Pleasanton, CA 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization:

California

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 05 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

HANUMAN HOLISTIC LIVING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618922

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

1.) Hanuman Holistic Living , located at 1134E Ballena Blvd. #7, Alameda, CA 94501, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

TAMMY HAYANO

1134E Ballena Blvd. #7

Alameda, CA 94501

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/15/2025

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

(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

KINDRED CONNECTS

SOMA CYCLES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618553

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

1.) Kindred Connects , 2.) Soma Cycles , located at 2537 Jacobs Street, Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 25444 University Court, Hayward, CA 94542.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

RED ORCHIDEE, LLC

2537 Jacobs Street

Hayward, CA 94541

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/27/2025

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

(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

T'ALAYA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618015

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

1.) T'alaya , located at 1255 80th avenue Oakland, CA 94621, Alameda County. Mailing Address: PO BOX 14673 Oakland, CA 94614

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

FLYLADYTEE LLC

PO BOX 14673

Oakland, CA 94614

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 October 01 2025.

(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

YLDKAT STUDIOS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618794

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

1.) YLDKAT Studios , located at 23740 Nevada Rd., Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

AYANTIKA SEN

23740 Nevada Rd.

Hayward, CA 94541

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/26/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 10 2025.

(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

M-PLUS CONSULTANTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618575

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

1.) M-PLUS CONSULTANTS , located at 25600 UNIVERSITY COURT, HAYWARD, CA 94542, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

MARVIN AMOSU

25600 UNIVERSITY COURT

HAYWARD, CA 94542

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/27/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 29 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

KEEPSAKE LETTERPRESS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618778

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

1.) Keepsake Letterpress , located at 1928 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

KATHRYN ESTOCAPIO

1928 De Vaca Way

Livermore, CA 94550

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 10 2025.

(PLW Nov 21, 28, Dec 5 and 12, 2025)

LALAAREE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618670

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

1.) Lalaaree , located at 90 Sonas Dr. Hayward, CA 94542, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

AMT VENTURES

90 Sonas Dr

Hayward, CA 94542

State of Incorporation/Organization:

California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/30/2025

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

(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

PARADISE SENIOR CARE PLEASANTON

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618652

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

1.) PARADISE SENIOR CARE PLEASANTON , located at 6839 SINGLETREE CT. PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 247 Eagle Nest Dr. Oakley, CA 94561

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

LYS CARE LLC

6839 SINGLETREE CT

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/01/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 03 2025.

(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

BBB BEAUTY BY BRIE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618106

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

1.) BBB BEAUTY BY BRIE , located at 1260 A Street Hayward, CA 94545, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 2494 Grove Way #33 Castro Valley, CA 94546

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

BREANNA DECOITO

2494 Grove Way #33

Castro Valley, CA 94546

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/06/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 06 2025.

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

DELIVERUS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618609
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DELIVERUS , located at 490 43rd St Suite 200 Oakland, CA 94609, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DELIVERUS
264 Sheridan Rd
Oakland, CA 94618
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 October 30 2025.
(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

KIDS KONNECT INFANT CARE AND PRESCHOOL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618902
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Kids Konnect Infant Care And Preschool , located at 1600 Bancroft Ave San Leandro, CA 94577, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
WARD & ASSOCIATES MANAGEMENT
1600 Bancroft Ave
San Leandro, CA 94577
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/02/2008
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 17 2025.
(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

TIGER HOME INSPECTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618298
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Tiger Home Inspection , located at 5348 Hillflower Dr. Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SUN YI
5348 Hillflower Dr.
Livermore, CA 94551
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 October 15 2025.
(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

ENDEARING WEDDINGS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618062
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Endearing Weddings , located at 1357 Briones Court Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
STEVE JOHNSON
1357 Briones Court
Pleasanton, CA 94588
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/1/25
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 03 2025.
(PLW Nov 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV141589
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Jessica Lyn Osterberg filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
JESSICA LYN OSTERBERG to JESSICA LYN TREAN
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: 01/09/2026, 9:00, Department 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: 10/08/2025
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV154498
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: EAN HUAT KHOR filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
EAN HUAT KHOR to DAVE EAN-HUAT KHOR
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: JANUARY 23, 2026, 9:00 A.M., HAYWARD BRANCH 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: 11/13/2025
HON. THOMAS NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV153035
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Volha Miliayeva filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
VOLHA MILIAYEVA to OLGA MILES
ALIAKSEI MILIAYEU to ALEXEY MILES
TSIMAFEI MILIAYEU to TIMOTHY MILES
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: 1/09/26, 9.00AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, California 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: November 7, 2025
THOMAS J.NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JOHN JAY EARGLE, AKA JOHN J. EARGLE, AKA JOHN EARGLE
Case No.: 25PR154178
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JOHN JAY EARGLE, AKA JOHN J. EARGLE, AKA JOHN EARGLE.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Michael G. Mauldin in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: Michael G. Mauldin 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 December 19 2025 at 9:45 a.m. in Dept. 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:
Tiffani C. Aanstad, Esq.
Aanstad Law

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 December 19 2025 at 9:45 a.m. in Dept. 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:
Frank H. Russow, Attorney at Law
Law Offices of Frank H. Russow
1195 Main Street, Santa Clara, CA 95050
Santa Clara, CA 95050
408-985-7700
(PLW Nov 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

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: 1/09/26, 9.00AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, California 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: November 7, 2025
THOMAS J.NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

430 S. Auburn Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-798-4321
(PLW Nov 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

IOANNIS KARKALEMIS
Case No.: 25PR152450
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of IOANNIS KARKALEMIS.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Constantinos Karkalemis in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: Constantinos Karkalemis 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 December 12 2025 at 9:45 am in Dept. 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Frank H. Russow, Attorney at Law
Law Offices of Frank H. Russow
1195 Main Street, Santa Clara, CA 95050
Santa Clara, CA 95050
408-985-7700
(PLW Nov 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

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: 1/09/26, 9.00AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, California 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: November 7, 2025
THOMAS J.NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 14, 21, 28 and Dec 5, 2025)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/
For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

Business

PLEASANTON CHAMBER NETWORKING MIXER The Pleasanton Chamber Networking Mixer is 5-7 p.m., the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit pleasanton.org.

PLEASANTON YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MIXER Join the Pleasanton Young Professionals mixer, 5 p.m., the first Thursday of each month. No host bar, free raffle. Free for chamber members to attend, \$10 for guests. Visit pleasanton.org.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS MIXER The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours Mixer is 4:30-6:30 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit livermorechamber.org.

BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEETING The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce virtual Business Alliance Meeting is 8-9:30 a.m., the first Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit livermorechamber.org.

Government

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL Pleasanton City Council meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Dec. 2. City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is 5 p.m., Dec. 11. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the boardroom at the District Office, 685 E. Jack London Blvd. The next meeting is Dec. 9. Visit livermoreschools.org.

Community Calendar

Find local clubs, events, fundraisers, support groups and more at PleasantonWeekly.com/calendar



Real Estate

Prominent shopping center for sale just off I-680

Lucky, McDonald's, Starbucks among tenants in Gateway Centre now on market in San Ramon

By JEREMY WALSH

A shopping center anchored by Lucky, Dollar Tree and McDonald's is now listed for sale at an undisclosed price near the border of San Ramon and Dublin.

Prominently situated just west of the Interstate 680 and Alcosta Boulevard interchange, Gateway Centre also features tenants like Starbucks, Dairy Queen, Desi Pizza,

Subway and Fremont Bank in its 112,553 square feet of fully occupied commercial and retail building space, according to SRS Capital Markets.

SRS released a marketing email last week touting the availability of 10.6-acre property at 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon. The associated online listing, dated Nov. 4, said the Gateway Centre is being sold

at "market price" with brokers to be contacted for the price.

"Well-balanced mix of national and regional tenancy across food & beverage, health & wellness, daily services, and education," the email said in its pitch for the property. "Wealthy and highly educated trade area boasting an affluent average household income over \$250,000 and nearly 70% of the

population holding a bachelor's degree or higher."

A representative for SRS, which is coordinating the sale along with Eastdil Secured, declined to reveal the price or offer other details when contacted by the Weekly. The marketing email describes the listing as "outstanding opportunity to acquire the 100% fee simple interest in Gateway Centre." ■



COURTESY SRS CAPITAL MARKETS

Gateway Centre 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon is listed for sale at an undisclosed price.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Sept. 8-12)

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$710,000
Highest sale reported: \$4,776,000
Average sales reported: \$1,722,277

Livermore (Sept. 8-12)

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$395,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,798,000
Average sales reported: \$1,044,230

Dublin (Sept. 8-12)

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$735,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,750,000
Average sales reported: \$1,314,000

San Ramon (Oct. 27-31)

Total sales reported: 23
Lowest sale reported: \$246,500
Highest sale reported: \$3,585,000
Average sales reported: \$1,360,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 8-12 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Oct. 27-31 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

6426 Alvord Way L. & B. Ragan to Y. & C. Chang for \$1,364,500
5786 Belleza Drive S. Gandhi to M. Fathima for \$790,000
4491 Downing Court Henninger Family Trust to N. & P. Kalita for \$1,440,000
3211 Harvey Court Pixley Family Trust to M. & J. Duan for \$1,880,000
3868 Orion Court Mello Living Trust to K. & J. Loftus for \$2,105,000
744 Palomino Drive Bruner Trust to Z. & H. Saberi for \$710,000
3854 Phoebe Court Strickler Trust to A. & G. Qin for \$1,285,000
1960 Rheem Drive Ponce Living Trust to S. & P. Mohan for \$1,150,000
1818 Sannita Court Bansal Trust to Vemulakonda Family Trust for \$4,776,000

Livermore

342 Chris Common #109 W. Sin to K. & J. Mann for \$395,000
676 Colusa Way Danner Living Trust to N. Lynn for \$900,000
1034 Delaware Way C. Ma to N. & H. Shekher for \$1,135,000
253 Fennel Way Krishnamohan Family Trust to L. & W. Spence for \$1,180,000
438 Harding Avenue Booth Family Trust to Av Homes LLC for \$925,000
1396 Juliet Court Lord Living Trust to E. & R. Densberger for \$1,150,000
5929 Linwood Common Zca Homes LLC to T. & J. Sarracino for \$997,000
597 Mcleod Street R. Burns to J. Sanders for \$800,000
535 Murdell Lane Vigus Living Trust to A. Fernandes for \$1,250,000
5286 Norma Way Zca Homes LLC to Davies 2005 Trust for \$1,230,000
3997 Portola Common #5 Lau Family Trust to D. & N. Kosovalic for \$815,000
554 Sandalwood Drive S. Yarbrough to M. & K. Clark for \$1,000,000
523 Summertree Drive N. & J. Belluomini to Clinton Trust for \$1,798,000

Dublin

5585 Apex Drive Chappell Living Trust to A. Li-Fatou for \$850,000
7152 Aubrey Way A. Khan to N. & N. Singh for \$2,750,000
4191 Clarinbridge Circle Kung Trust to W & Co LLC for \$735,000
3933 Eminence Street N. Polasani to A. & S. Mendu for \$1,075,000
8698 Fenwick Way Johnson Family Trust to N. & A. Adarsh for \$1,440,000
5989 Hillbrook Place S. & S. Bearden to H. Kim for \$1,600,000
6533 King Way Burnham Trust to C. & S. Oglesbee for \$1,175,000
6988 Lancaster Road H. Survivors to T. & L. Vanho for \$966,000
8460 Valencia Street Venturino Trust to V. Saripalli for \$1,235,000

San Ramon

10 Almond Orchard Lane A. & S. Berry to M. & A. Kondratenko for \$1,303,000
301 Arrowleaf Street H. Zhang to S. Sarosh for \$2,205,000
3394 Ashbourne Circle C. & J. Adeyanju to S. & S. Bhattacharya for \$3,585,000
9752 Belladonna Drive S. & V. Shiwa to K. & P. Saraswathi for \$1,300,000
2917 Biddleford Drive Wormer 1994 Family Trust to M. Lee for \$1,415,000
18895 Bollinger Canyon Road Parks Trust to C. Mast for \$246,500
22 Cobblestone Court D. & B. Jess to S. & A. Bagchi for \$1,580,000
3240 De Anza Place Frommeothelydo Family Trust to S. Ajeetha for \$1,360,000
174 Dogwood Place D. Gilley to M. & T. Aghashiri for \$890,000
41 Eagle Lake Court #32 Safinia Family Trust to C. & Y. Kim for \$1,244,500
3055 Hastings Way D. & S. So to S. & M. Ray for \$2,525,000
3011 Ivory Terrace Summerhill City Village LLC to Y. Chen for \$1,340,500
260 Mara Place Areosa Family Trust to Z. Zheng for \$1,799,000
406 Melrose Court X. Ding to S. Cider for \$2,655,000
2392 Millstream Lane T. Legris to P. & S. Lin for \$1,010,000

Source: California REsource

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I'm thankful - a few of my clients comments

Sold

80 Canary Ct, Livermore

"It was a great experience to work with Kris who recently handled the sale of my home. Her experience and professionalism were very apparent in the way she arranged every detail and kept me up to date about every aspect of the process. I highly recommend her."

~ Represented the Sellers



Sold

Alisal - land

"Kris was completely professional, thoughtful and comfortable to work with on my behalf as Seller's representative of my property. Kris was kind and was always available to talk to and returned my phone calls in a prompt manner, no matter how busy she was. She approached and subsequently resolved any obstacles that had to be met with her expertise. I would, with pleasure, recommend Kris for any real estate needs to any buyer or seller."

~ Represented the Seller of vacant land Sue A.



Sold

4147 Jensen St, Pleasanton

"We recently partnered with Kris to purchase a home for our daughter. From the beginning, Kris Moxley demonstrated an impressive level of professionalism and dedication. She took the time to thoroughly understand our needs and preferences, and she went above and beyond to ensure that we found a home that perfectly matched our criteria. Her commitment to finding the right property for us was evident in her proactive approach and tireless efforts. One of Kris's most commendable qualities is her ability to resolve any situation with ease. Furthermore, Kris is well-known and respected among her peers, which facilitated smooth interactions and collaborations within the industry, benefiting us throughout the process."

John and Karen ~ Representing the sellers and buyers



Sold

Grand Island, on the Delta

"Kris did an outstanding job selling our home on the Sacramento river. This is a vacation home for us, and she helped us navigate the process all the way. She did a great job marketing to a broad audience. Her staging and communication were wonderful. She communicated extremely well with us through the entire process, and we always felt comfortable and represented well in the sale of our home. Highly recommend Kris."

~ Represented the sellers and buyers



Sold

Ancona, Livermore

"Our journey with Kris began when we met her at an open house and were impressed by her patience, positivity, and expertise."

- She's a perfect balance between tough and charming.
- She's a good listener, a strong negotiator, and respected by her peers.
- She has a lot of experience and knowledge from selling houses, making everything easy from the beginning to the end.
- She's very encouraging, honest, and caring.

We're grateful for her perfect mix of old-school service and professionalism, with cutting-edge technology, that brought us a successful home purchase. Kris Moxley, an outstanding realtor, is highly professional, dedicated, and knowledgeable. We highly recommend her to anyone seeking a trustworthy real estate professional."

~ Represented the buyers



Kris Moxley

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