

Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY



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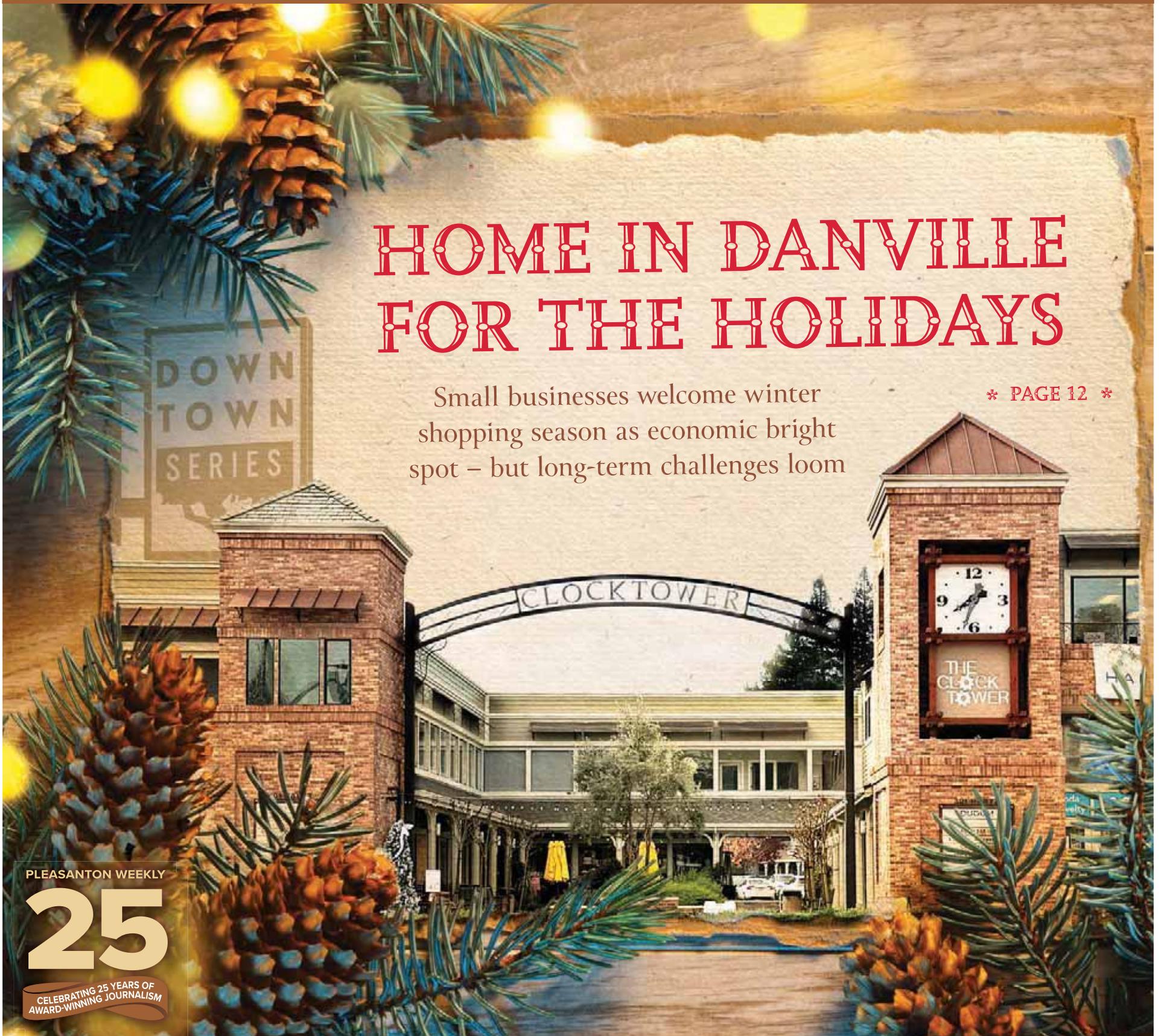
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HOME IN DANVILLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Small businesses welcome winter shopping season as economic bright spot – but long-term challenges loom

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PLEASANTON WEEKLY

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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF
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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Honoring memories

There is a chill in the air these past several weeks, beyond the cold weather that seems to have settled into the Bay Area. I've found myself surrounded by news of death professionally and personally — just one of those spates this grizzled journalist tries to be prepared for, but never gets used to.

My heart sank when I learned that Danville native Anthony N. Arnerich died unexpectedly Dec. 3 due to a tear in his aorta. He had celebrated his 41st birthday some two weeks earlier.

I've known his father Newell Arnerich, the eight-term Danville Town Council member, for more than a decade, but I never had the pleasure of meeting Anthony — who shared a first name with his late grandfather, the former Alameda councilman.

A 2003 graduate of San Ramon Valley High School, Anthony served in the U.S. Marine Corps in Iraq and Kuwait in addition to border missions and humanitarian assignments abroad, according to his obituary. Anthony found a civilian career in information-technology after his military tenure, and was remembered as a devoted son to Newell and Janis, brother to Julia, uncle to Beth and Logan, and friend to many.

"Every day is a day that is important to tell someone you love them and give them a hug like it is the last one," Newell said at the end of a heartfelt message to the community confirming his son's death. Anthony sadly entered the hospital mere hours after Newell was sworn in for his eighth turn as mayor of Danville.

The same day I learned of Anthony's passing, The Golden Skate in San Ramon announced the death of longtime manager Manuel Duarte.

Duarte, the face and the heart of The Golden Skate for nearly three decades who featured prominently in our cover story earlier this year on the beloved and bygone roller rink, was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer in recent weeks and his decline was precipitous.

Duarte died Dec. 3. He is survived by son Manuel Jr., daughter Mayra and three grandchildren. The Golden Skate has been closed since early November amid Duarte's illness, and unfortunately it seems the indefinite closure may become permanent.

Sudden deaths are always difficult, but particularly right before or during the holiday season. I just wish anyone experiencing such

sorrow has close ones or a community around them to lean on during this unimaginable time.

I had the privilege this week to tell the story of Scott Renton, an Amador Valley High alum and aspiring nurse who died in a motorcycle crash on Interstate 580 just west of Pleasanton on Dec. 4. His mom Jamie Renton was gracious enough to give me some time Saturday and share about her son's life.

Scott Renton, 25, worked as an emergency room tech at Washington Hospital in Fremont — also the employer of Alix Sparks, a 41-year-old nurse from Castro Valley. She was killed in that awful crash on Crow Canyon Road on Nov. 29 that San Ramon police allege was a case of DUI by a driver going over 120 mph at the moment of impact.

Deadly traffic collisions are on my mind, even outside of work. In my hometown of Benicia, there was a fatality on Monday and then another one Tuesday on normally quiet Interstate 780. Jarring to see that in quick succession; my thoughts are with those men's families.

I've also been thinking of my dad these days. One of his friends going back to elementary school, Doug Walker, died after a heart attack at home in Vacaville on Nov. 22. He was 60. A husband, father and grandfather, Doug was retired from the garbage company in Vallejo — their family lived across the street from us for a bit when I was a kid before my parents' divorce.

On my mom's side, her cousin Stanford Chatfield also died last month from a heart attack, suffered while he was working as a docent on Alcatraz Island.

There is a small Pleasanton Weekly connection with Stanford. Two months before his death, he wrote a guest commentary for CalMatters that ran on our websites. He reflected on his reentry into society after serving 35 years in prison and the positive impact that Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs (CROP) had on his life.

"The program's real value came from the connections I made, including some formerly incarcerated individuals who had succeeded and some business leaders," Stanford wrote. "Thanks to CROP and employers willing to see beyond my record, I'm doing meaningful work that values my whole story. That's what the dignity of work should look like for everyone coming home." ■

About the Cover

Our 2025 Downtown Series comes to a close this week with our cover story on downtown Danville during the critical holiday shopping season. Photo by Jeremy Walsh; background courtesy Getty Images.

Cover design by Kristin Brown.

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What do you most enjoy about spending time downtown during the holiday season?



Lyle Harada
Quality assurance specialist

I like how the downtown is so bright, comfortable and inviting and evokes feelings of warmth and joy. Even though I'm new to town, I feel like I've been here before and that's a great feeling, especially during the holiday season.



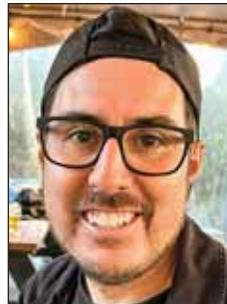
Elena Xie
Server

The highlight for me is the shift in atmosphere. Beyond the beautiful decorations and festive music, what I most enjoy is the palpable sense of community. Customers share in the season's spirit — their smiles, gratitude, and the collective warmth and good will transform our workplace into an extension of the holiday season, and connect me deeply to the heartbeat of Pleasanton.



Mary Ellen Lombardi, with Eloise
Elementary school teacher

I love how the entire downtown outdoors is so beautifully decorated and how the great variety of restaurants are decorated indoors as well. We also love the Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting. In fact, now that I have children we're going to make these events an annual tradition.



Erick Meyers
Sales and marketing

I like all of the feelings of nostalgia because the downtown seems so authentic and quaint, as opposed to synthetic. I'm just here visiting for the day, although I live nearby, and I can't wait to come back in order to explore this very special town further.



Brenna Hill
Special ed aide/employment training specialist

I love how so many people are in a good mood, and friendlier than usual, probably because of all of the uplifting Christmas lights and decorations. I especially love how the windows of the vacant storefronts have been so beautifully painted. Because they would have otherwise been an eyesore compared to all of the stores that are occupied and decorated to the hilt.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Barn transforms

Local downtown property owner Bruce Torquemada is once again bringing a piece of the North Pole to Pleasanton as part of his annual holiday themed transformation of the Kottinger Barn, which he owns on Ray Street.

Residents and members of the public can check out Torquemada's full transformation of the historic barn and plaza, which includes hundreds of lights, a giant Christmas tree and — his newest installations — Disney and Marvel cutouts. Photo opportunities will also be available inside the fully decorated barn.

The proceeds from parking and other costs will go directly to local charities and organizations. Torquemada said the month-long effort has already raised \$1,300 for Little Miracles, a nonprofit which provides free baby essentials to Tri-Valley parents in need.

Youth peace prize

Dublin High School senior Divyansh Agrawal was recently named a finalist for the 2025 International Children's Peace Prize.

Although the climate justice advocate ultimately did not win the award last month, Agrawal said being named among the top three youth leaders from over 200 nominations worldwide was "surreal and incredibly rewarding."

"To me, being a finalist isn't 'me being celebrated,' it's all of us being celebrated. Everywhere I go, I'm carrying years of support, encouragement and love with me," Agrawal said. "It feels like a reminder that change is always a collective effort, and I'm honored to share this recognition with everyone who helped shape my journey."

The Dublin Unified School District recognized Agrawal's work at Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting.

'The Nutcracker'

Valley Dance Theatre, a local nonprofit ballet company and school, will be returning to Livermore's Bankhead Theater to put on eight full-length performances of Tchaikovsky's legendary "Nutcracker."

The Bankhead's resident ballet company's annual holiday performance of "The Nutcracker" will run from Dec. 13-21.

"Each December, the company transforms the Bankhead Theater into a winter wonderland with 'The Nutcracker,' performed alongside the Valley Dance Theater Pit Orchestra and brought to life with lavish costumes and sets created by award-winning designers," the ballet company stated in a press release.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.LivermoreArts.org.

Council OKs changes to city code to streamline permitting process

Also: Admin introduces updated contract with city employee union including 3% raises

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council unanimously approved several changes to the city's municipal codes, which staff said will not only save them time when it comes to reviewing development and building projects, but would also streamline the entire permitting process.

The specific amendments that the council approved include changes to the city's design review process and appeals. As part of these new updates, people will now have 10 days to appeal an application and certain accessory, building or site modifications for different types of developments will be exempt from the design review process.

"This is a significant and, in my opinion, a much needed modernization," Mayor Jack Balch said during the Dec. 2 council meeting. "The staff report shows how much staff time is being spent on small-scale design review ... applications (which are) adding costs to our residents and small businesses who are making small, uncontested, low

impact improvements."

In regard to the appeals update, Balch said that inconsistent approval timelines have been a big concern for many people in the past and that the current appeal period of more than 15 days could make an applicant have to wait, at

See **PROCESS** on Page 10

LARPD mulls future of camp

With rumors swirling, board commits to Tahoe site for now

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is not pulling out of its campground located near the south shore of Lake Tahoe, the agency's Board of Directors confirmed Dec. 3 during a special meeting — an explicit correction to circulating rumors.

On the table, however, was a discussion of the site's end-of-season report as well as the park district's future approach to operations of Camp Shelly.

Meanwhile, park district officials eye the end of their 20-year lease on the site as camp owner U.S. Forest Service has become increasingly regulatory, according to LARPD General Manager Mathew Fuzie.

In setting the record straight, Director David Furst addressed letters expressing concern that LARPD is closing Camp Shelly.

"I don't think that's where we're headed, necessarily," Furst said during the meeting. "To me, this is the first discussion about the future of Camp Shelly and whether we are going to expand it, contract it, get out of the lease, stay with the lease — we haven't made any of those decisions yet."

The 25-site camp sits at an occupancy rate of approximately 75% during its open season lasting from Father's Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, park district recreation supervisor Joseph Benjamin said

See **CAMP** on Page 8



CHUCK DECKERT

A look inside JCPenney last Friday, with banners up highlighting the deals that come with the closure.

JCPenney closing mall store

Retailer cites lease issues as main reason for exit; building owner teases 'new-to-market tenant' on tap

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The JCPenney store at Stoneridge Shopping Center will be closing its doors in the new year due to the retailer's inability to continue its lease, a spokesperson for the company confirmed Friday.

The store's last day open at the mall is scheduled to be Feb. 22.

"Regretfully, we are unable to continue our current lease terms for this store location and have been unable to find another suitable location in the market," a JCPenney spokesperson told the Weekly. "We are grateful to our dedicated associates and the loyal customers who have shopped at our Pleasanton, CA, location through the years."

The JCPenney store has been one of the main anchor tenants at

the mall ever since it first opened in the early 1980s. However, over the past decade, the company has faced several financial challenges, including having to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in May 2020.

Shortly after the bankruptcy filing, Simon Property Group — a real estate investment trust which owns the majority of Stoneridge Shopping Center — was part of a group that bought JCPenney in order to maintain the store's presence at malls across the country.

The property itself where JCPenney sits on is owned by 300 Venture Group, a private real estate investment, development and advisory company based in Danville. The company acquired the land back in 2022, which is also when the company first

formed.

A representative of 300 Venture Group told the Weekly on Saturday that leasing at the mall "remains strong" and teased a new big arrival coming soon — albeit unnamed.

"3VG is close to finalizing a lease with a promising new-to-market tenant, which would be a notable first for the property. While additional details aren't available yet, demand for space across the center continues to be solid," the property owner's rep said.

Following the closure of the JCPenney store, the only other big-name retail store that will be left at the mall will be Macy's — the Sears store closed in late 2018 and the Nordstrom store shuttered its doors in late 2020. ■

Transforming downtown Pleasanton into holiday destination

PDA special events, PAL window art aim to bring more folks to Main Street

By Christian Trujano

The Pleasanton Downtown Association and the Pleasanton Art League recently teamed up to decorate empty storefront windows along Main Street with holiday-themed paintings, an effort that both nonprofits said should help with the overall vitality of downtown Pleasanton during the holiday season.

In addition to the downtown's festive metamorphosis — which also includes active business owners also decorating their stores — residents and downtown patrons will also be able to participate in several holiday-themed events throughout the month, which further adds to the festive spirit, according to PDA Executive Director Gabrielle Welk.

“Our goal this season is to make downtown Pleasanton a destination and somewhere people want to visit, shop, dine, and explore,” Welk told the Weekly.

She said the idea to specifically paint multiple empty business



KRISTEN ONDECK SCHUMACHER / PDA

A family gets their photo taken with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus during the Pleasanton Downtown Association's Magical Holiday Evening event, which took place last Friday.

windows was a great way to “activate our district, especially in areas with vacant storefronts.”

“I'm very grateful to the Pleasanton Downtown Association

and the Pleasanton Art League for coming together, with their volunteers, to beautify our community this holiday season,” Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch told the Weekly.

“Their work decorating storefronts and supporting our local businesses reflects the pride we all share in Pleasanton and our hopes for our city's success.”

According to a newsletter from the PAL, volunteers recently spent a day painting the windows of about five empty storefronts. For many of the PAL volunteers, it was their first time painting windows but according to Alana Shoars, president of the PAL, the experience was priceless.

“It turned out to be an absolute delight,” Shoars stated in the newsletter.

“Drivers honked, waved, and shouted compliments as they passed, letting us know how much the artwork meant to them,” Shoars added. “That instant connection was deeply rewarding and heartwarming ... The whole day was a wonderful reminder of the joy and impact that art can bring to our community.”

Shoars separately told the Weekly

that the window-painting effort greatly ties into the organization's 56-year history and commitment to nurturing the arts within the city, while also giving back to the community.

“What better way to continue that tradition than by bringing a little Holiday Window Magic to vacant storefronts and helping our city envision its future potential?” Shoars asked.

She added that as someone who doesn't have much family to spend the holidays with, this time of the year can be difficult, which is why the window painting project meant so much to her.

“For a little while, it let me feel like a child again and revisit cherished memories of those no longer with me — especially my sainted Irish mother, who truly was one of Santa's elves at heart and would have delighted in painting windows by my side,” Shoars said.

See **DESTINATION** on Page 7

Restaurant hosts beard contest to support teen with cancer

Fundraiser for Rooms of Hope seeks to give 18-year-old dream bedroom amid her battle

By Cierra Bailey

While many may be familiar with the “No Shave November” movement that sees participants all over the country skip shaving for a month to raise awareness and money for cancer and men's health, First Street Alehouse in Livermore has been hosting its own beard growing contest for a cause that extends

through next week.

The restaurant is raising money for Rooms of Hope, a San Ramon-based nonprofit that creates dream room makeovers for children battling life-threatening illnesses, according to the contest webpage.

Specifically, the contest is seeking to bring an 18-year-old named Josy's dream bedroom to life.

On Feb. 10, the teen was

diagnosed with chondroblastic osteosarcoma — an aggressive bone cancer in her mouth. Since then, she has endured several rounds of chemotherapy, a major surgery removing her upper jaw, eye socket and part of her skull, followed by reconstruction using her own bone and skin grafts, according to the contest webpage.

Radiation and more chemo still

lie ahead for her, along with future reconstructive surgeries. Through Rooms of Hope, supporters are seeking to help give Josy and her siblings the healing spaces they deserve.

“Josy is a warrior. She's got a huge battle in front of her but she is optimistic,” said First Street Alehouse owner Brook Witherspoon in a social media video from LPD promoting the contest and the teen's story. “She has aspirations of being a nurse and going and helping children fight illnesses just like what she's battling right now.”

The beard growing contest kicked off on Nov. 1 and runs through next Wednesday (Dec. 17). More than 60 people, including some Livermore police officers and City Councilmember Evan Branning, are growing beards and raising funds for Josy's dream room makeover.

“Everyone deserves a safe and welcoming place, especially when recovering from serious illness,” Branning told Livermore Vine. “I'm glad I can help raise some funds and awareness for children with life changing diseases,” he added.

While this year's contest has gained a lot of traction, the alehouse has done the beard growing contest for the past 18 years, starting as a way to support a customer's sick child grant their wish at the time.

“We love supporting community and the alehouse gives us a platform to be able to give back,” Witherspoon said in the



COURTESY FIRST STREET ALEHOUSE CONTEST

First Street Alehouse in Livermore is raising funds through a beard growing contest to help Josy (pictured) get her dream room from Rooms of Hope as she battles Chondroblastic Osteosarcoma.

promotional video.

Over the course of the contest, the restaurant has hosted special events to help fundraise and increase awareness, including on Giving Tuesday when a portion of sales that day was donated to Rooms of Hope.

Another fundraising event for the contest — dubbed “Beards and Brews” — at 3 Steves Winery featuring their wines, food from the alehouse and beer from Altamont Beer Works is set for this Friday (Dec. 12) at 6 p.m. The event also includes live entertainment and live and silent auction items. Tickets and more information is available at roomsofhope.org. ■

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New public lot opens at Lions Wayside Park

Offers 24 free parking spaces, improved landscaping near Firehouse Arts Center

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The city of Pleasanton recently finished construction of a new parking lot located right next to the renovated Lions Wayside Park, according to a city newsletter.

The lot, which offers 24 new

parking spaces, is located adjacent to the new bandstand at the park and the Firehouse Arts Center, providing additional free parking within downtown Pleasanton.

"Its opening comes at an ideal moment, giving residents and visitors added convenience as the holiday

season gets underway," the city stated in the Dec. 3 e-newsletter. "The project also reflects the City's ongoing investment in a vibrant, accessible downtown — one that supports local businesses and enhances the overall experience for anyone spending time in the area."

According to city communications manager Heather Tiernan, the new parking lot was paid for with surplus funding the city had from the renovation of the Lions Wayside and Delucchi parks. The overall parks renovation project was funded by development fees that were specifically

earmarked to be spent on the parks.

The total cost of the new parking lot was about \$240,000 and the money helped cover expenses including the new lot, landscaping and a new turf that was installed by the Firehouse Arts Center, according to Tiernan. ■

DESTINATION

Continued from Page 6

"It carried me back to a simpler time, and in that spirit, this project became my heartfelt gift to everyone and to the city I've called home for two decades," she added. "We hope this Holiday Window Magic collaboration will become an annual tradition for both PDA and PAL — and that next year even more businesses and volunteers will join in the fun, embrace the season, and rediscover their inner child."

Welk said the PDA intends to start the window painting efforts earlier next year, with the aspiration that a greater number of windows will be adorned.

"By bringing attention, color, and artistry to those spaces, we're ensuring that every part of Main

Street feels cared for and engaging," Welk said.

But it isn't just the empty storefronts that got a holiday makeover.

Downtown shops and businesses are also getting in on the fun as the PDA is also hosting a holiday window decorating contest, which started last week and will continue until the end of the month.

According to the downtown association, businesses along and around Main Street will be decking out their windows and storefronts in holiday decorations for a chance to win the 2025 Best Holiday Decor title. The winner will be determined by shoppers who can vote for their favorite display by scanning a QR code that will be posted on participating business windows.

Welk also said that this year, the PDA partnered with the city to

offer reimbursement to businesses who decorated their store for the holidays.

'A lively, beautifully decorated downtown encourages longer visits, higher spending, and repeat trips.'

Gabrielle Welk,
PDA executive director

"Combined with our lighting reimbursement program, increased holiday décor, and a full calendar of festive happenings, we're creating an environment that naturally drives foot-traffic and supports our small businesses," Welk

said. "A lively, beautifully decorated downtown encourages longer visits, higher spending, and repeat trips."

Starting this week, the festive events will continue with the PDA's 12 Days of Giveaways where downtown shoppers can turn in a receipt from any one of the downtown businesses to 12daysdowntown@gmail.com for a chance to win a giveaway basket filled with goods from the local shops and restaurants, according to the PDA.

The giveaway started Nov. 29 and patrons can submit their receipts up until Dec. 15. The 12 winners will be announced all this week until Dec. 19.

The Finding Frosty Downtown Scavenger Hunt also started last week and runs until Dec. 19. Participants need a map, which is available at Towne Center Books

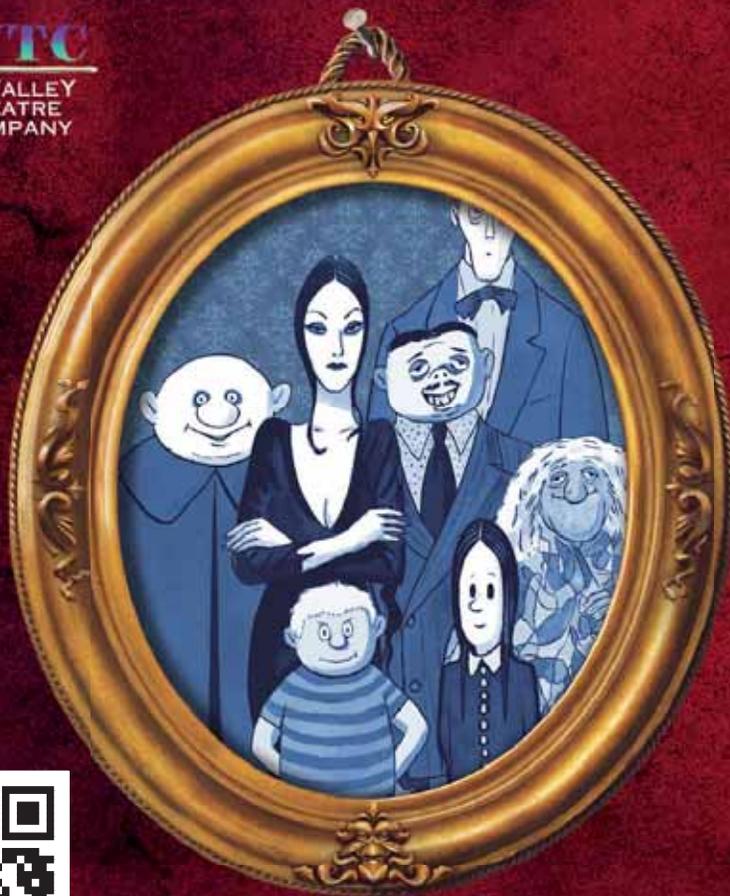
or Five Little Monkeys, that they will then follow to find Frosty at participating downtown locations. Then can return the map to the PDA's office on Division Street for a chance to win local business prizes.

The PDA's annual Spirit + Sweater Stroll arrives downtown this Saturday (Dec. 13) from 5-8 p.m., with more than 15 businesses participating with a food and cocktail pairing. Tickets remain available at pleasantondowntown.net.

"All of these elements significantly contribute to the overall vitality of downtown during the holidays, which is essential for our merchants and our community," Welk said. "When we support our small businesses, we help keep downtown, thriving, welcoming, and full of energy for generations to enjoy." ■

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Livermore mom saves local yarn shop

Stitch & Revel offers materials, classes and events on Las Positas Court

By JUDE STRZEMP

My passion is about building the community as well as elevating the yarn shop experience,” Sanjani Ramkissoon said of opening the new yarn store Stitch & Revel this year in Livermore.

The business, located at 2155 Las Positas Ct., Suite F, officially opened its doors to the public in September after Ramkissoon purchased a yarn store elsewhere in the city dubbed Knit This, Purl That! as well as the shop’s inventory.

In addition to selling yarn, Ramkissoon hosts introductory classes for crochet and knitting at the shop as well as project-based courses for specific items. She plans to introduce additional fiber art classes next year as well.

Ramkissoon also hosts a variety of events including monthly book clubs with fiber themes, social stitching of all mediums and



SOPHIA SUCCATO

Stitch & Revel opened this past September at 2155 Las Positas Ct., Ste. F in Livermore. Seen here is owner Sanjani Ramkissoon.

holiday-related gatherings.

Ramkissoon said she aims for Stitch & Revel to be a fun, welcoming place for customers to shop and connect with fellow makers.

“At Stitch & Revel, the heart of the store is community,” she told Livermore Vine.

Upon hearing this past spring that KTPT owner Sandy Rowney was set

to close shop, Ramkissoon offered to buy the business and inventory.

“It’s nice to be able to save a local yarn shop and keep it in the community,” Ramkissoon said of purchasing KTPT.

“It was an unexpected opportunity that came my way and I think it’s the best decision I made,” she added.

Through owning the store, she has been able to manifest her dream yarn shop, she said.

“As a BIPOC and AAPI-owned shop, Stitch & Revel is proud to be an inclusive, welcoming space for all makers,” the store’s website reads.

Offering a welcoming space is particularly important to Ramkissoon because, in her experience, she said that not all yarn stores provide an inclusive environment.

Stitch & Revel is a place where visitors are welcome to hang out and work on their projects, even for casual drop-ins between their errands and appointments, she added.

Ramkissoon’s passion for fiber arts began over 10 years ago, around the time of her father’s death.

While her dad was undergoing years of dialysis treatments, her mother crocheted to pass the time. But her mother was never really making anything, Ramkissoon recalled.

Ramkissoon later signed her mother up for a knitting class at JOANN and she signed up too for moral support.

“I didn’t really have an interest at that time,” Ramkissoon said. “But the more I stuck to it, I just fell in love with it”.

Stitch & Revel operates with the help of Ramkissoon’s husband and her twin daughters, both of whom are fiber artists too.

As for KTPT, Rowney is set to teach fiber arts at Stitch & Revel and remotely, sell original patterns online as well as host knitting and crochet events, trips and get-togethers, according to the company’s website. ■

More hateful graffiti found at Amador Valley High

Third time racist language, symbols scrawled in restroom on campus within weeks

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Grffiti depicting a hate symbol, a racial slur and derogatory remarks about two administrators was discovered inside a restroom at Amador Valley High School last week, according to the school’s principal.

This marks the third time in less than two months that administrators found hate speech drawn inside a bathroom at the high school. The two previous incidents took place on Oct. 30 and Oct. 31 — hate speech and symbols, including the n-word, were also found in the stalls of a boys’ restroom.

“I am deeply disturbed by this conduct,” AVHS principal Malcolm Norrington said in a Dec. 3 ParentSquare message. “It violates our values and harms members of our community.”

Norrington said that staff found the graffiti on Dec. 2, at about 11:15 a.m. inside the girls’ J-building restroom. In addition to the n-word and a swastika, Norrington said there were also personal attacks written about him and one of the school’s vice principals.

He also said there was other inappropriate language in the bathroom. “Pleasanton Unified does not tolerate any form of hate-motivated behavior,” PUSD’s safety and communications coordinator Susanne Frey told the Pleasanton Weekly.

Norrington said upon discovering the hateful tagging, the school immediately closed the restroom so that custodians could remove the graffiti. At the time, he said the restroom was expected to reopen within 24 to 48 hours.

The campus is increasing super-

vision and monitoring of the restroom areas and the school will be providing counseling and administrative support to any students or staff who were affected by the hate speech and symbols, according to Norrington.

‘I ask families to speak with their students about the impact of hate, the responsibilities of citizenship in a diverse community...’

Malcolm Norrington,
AVHS principal

Frey said there is an ongoing investigation into the incident but that “because this matter involves

student discipline, we cannot disclose information about individual students or consequences, including whether students were identified in prior incidents or whether the two recent incidents are connected”.

Although Norrington said that he was unsettled by the graffiti, he also laid out a restorative approach to disciplining those responsible.

“Students who engage in hate-motivated behavior are scared, misinformed, confused, and a Don,” Norrington said in his message to the community. “They will be held accountable, and they also need guidance, education, and support to repair harm and learn, and we will provide the support.”

He added that the Amador Valley community must also “examine our blind spots, assumptions, biases,

and the conditions that allow harm to occur”.

“While we cannot control every action, we can control our response: one that is firm, compassionate, and focused on safety, learning, and restoration,” he said.

Norrington vowed that the school will reinforce instruction and discussion that addresses racism, antisemitism and respectful discourse. Additionally, he urged families to have meaningful conversations about these difficult topics with their children.

“This requires all of us,” Norrington said. “I ask families to speak with their students about the impact of hate, the responsibilities of citizenship in a diverse community, and the shared work of co-creating a school where everyone belongs.” ■

CAMP

Continued from Page 5

during the meeting.

It has a great location near Lake Tahoe with priority access for Livermore residents, Fuzie added.

On the flip side, the site is a multi-hour drive from the city, it’s challenging to staff and there are “quite a few” reservation cancellations, Fuzie said.

Last year, the proportion of reservations by Livermore residents rose to about 56% in 2025, up from about 40% in 2016 due to LARPD ceasing group reservations, Benjamin added.

“It’s a very short window for Camp Shelly and it’s an

investment in resources for that short window and (for) relatively few people related to the entire population that we are servicing,” Fuzie added.

This past summer, LARPD issued 303 permits overall for the camp, an approximate drop of 29% from the previous year due to water tank maintenance, Benjamin said.

Spurring the maintenance, LARPD discovered during late June that Camp Shelly’s water tank had a bacterial contamination. Sink and shower water was shut off for the remainder of the season.

According to Benjamin, the bacterial contamination “wasn’t the point of needing emergency action”, rather LARPD shut down the water

use to pinpoint the cause of the issue.

“We were shut down by the health department because we couldn’t pass the water testing,” Fuzie clarified.

To-date, the water still needed to pass a test prior to its use, Fuzie added.

In looking toward the future, LARPD has about four years to prepare for the end of its current lease.

“My concern is that the lease renewal is going to trigger more demands from the Forest Service,” Fuzie said.

Future requirements are currently unknown, as LARPD officials have been unsuccessful in their attempts to contact the Forest Service due to the recent government

shutdown, Fuzie explained.

At this time, the LARPD is learning and preparing to be ready for future decision making points, Fuzie added.

Ahead of the meeting, public letters submitted to the board all expressed support for maintaining Camp Shelly operations, Director Jan Palajac said of the printed materials. Additional letters were not yet printed at the time and are set for inclusion in the recorded meeting minutes.

The majority of speakers during public comment also expressed their support for LARPD continuing campground operations.

Camp Shelly is a highlight of the summer, said Mike Ralph, Livermore

resident and longtime site visitor.

“I would hate to think that this unique place didn’t exist in the future,” Ralph added.

Other Livermore residents proposed solutions for how to staff Camp Shelly and increase funds to pay for its operating costs.

One resident also suggested reducing expenses for Camp Shelly, given the relative percent of non-Livermore residents using the site.

Directors are set to determine future operations based on community input as well as information from LARPD staff at later meetings including the cost of leasing Camp Shelly, the total operating cost and the average number of reservations per year. ■



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As 2025 comes to a close, we're reflecting on the stories that made the greatest impact in Pleasanton and across the Tri-Valley – stories that sparked public conversations, elevated unheard voices, and led to meaningful change.

In April, reporter Christian Trujano explored downtown Pleasanton's changing fortunes, tracing how long-standing businesses, new arrivals, and local initiatives have shaped Main Street. His article examined pressures on small businesses, efforts to reinvigorate the district, and the community's hopes for a vibrant future. By combining perspectives of merchants, residents, and city leaders, the reporting sparked a conversation about

the future of Pleasanton's historic core.

Trujano also chronicled Valley View Elementary's dual-immersion program, which has cultivated generations of bilingual, biliterate students. The story highlighted the dedication of teachers, the commitment of families, and the academic benefits of learning two languages, emphasizing the program's role in expanding opportunity and cultural connection in Pleasanton schools.

In October, the Pleasanton Weekly's editorial board detailed the culmination of a yearlong public-records battle related to the ouster of Amador Valley High School's principal. The editorial explained why the information mattered to families and the broader community and demonstrated our essential role as a persistent, independent newsroom. By pursuing the release of documents former principal Jonathan Fey sought to contain, the Weekly reaffirmed the principle that transparency is a

cornerstone of a healthy community.

These stories, and dozens more published throughout the year, reveal the lasting impact that trusted local reporting has in our community. They inform civic decisions, elevate diverse perspectives, and ensure that power is held to account.

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PROCESS

Continued from Page 5

times, months to move to the next step in the approval process.

“We’re trying to move the process in a way that allows for a lot more clarity and efficiency,” City Manager Gerry Beaudin said of the new changes during the council meeting.

The updates, according to staff, will go into effect in early 2026 and staff will work on communicating these new amendments to residents and future applicants.

According to city planners Megan Campbell and Emily Carroll, over the last few years the city has received and heard of complaints saying that the city’s application review process is “burdensome and not user-friendly”.

As part of its research, the city discovered that the design review process was adopted over 30 years ago and over the last three decades, planners have seen instances of the design review

applicability being far reaching.

Campbell provided an example of a business facing a 13-week planning permit process before even moving forward to the building permit process, which could also take more than a month to complete.

Campbell noted that even though it is time-consuming, the design review process is important in major projects that could impact a neighborhood’s character and privacy. However, she also said it could be seen as a detriment in certain cases.

“Small projects that objectively have no impact on the community, the benefit achieved is disproportionate to the exhaustive process requirements and resources required,” Campbell said.

Carroll said that over the past 10 years, staff have processed an average of 110 single-family projects annually, which accounts for 20% to 40% of a community and economic development employee’s time — that time could be longer if additional hearings are required.

This all adds up to additional staff time that, with the new changes to the design review process, could be reduced so that staff could focus on other work.

“It would free up a lot of staff time to be able to focus on larger projects and hopefully make those projects have an easier time through the process as well as focus on other City Council priorities,” Campbell said.

Some examples of single-family projects that would now be exempt from design review thanks to the updates to the city’s codes include fences, new accessory structures, new lofts without second-story windows, additions less than or equal to 15 feet tall, minor modifications to roofs that don’t materially alter the appearance or height of a residence, and minor modifications to second-story windows that don’t impact privacy.

For multi-family and commercial developments, the projects will also be exempt from design review include minor exterior and site modifications and additions, refacing or replacing existing signs with minor alterations, and minor exterior building and site modifications.

“This whole package that staff put together communicates that we’re open for business,” Councilmember Craig Eicher said during the meeting.

“We need to be taking a very business friendly approach to how we conduct ourselves,” Eicher added, “I think some of the barriers that have been in here have negatively impacted our community and I think the only way to rectify those things are to be creative and find new ways to do things.”

The appeal period is now set at 10 calendar days from when the decision regarding the application is rendered. Staff said Pleasanton’s current period of 15 days — which at times has been extended past that — is considerably longer compared to neighboring jurisdictions.

Thanks to the changes, all appeals and City Council reviews must occur during the new appeal window of 10 days.

Councilmember Julie Testa initially expressed some hesitation in reducing the appeal period because she said she believes residents should have ample time to appeal applications to the City Council, but she ultimately agreed to the change.

However, one change that she and Balch could not agree with was staff’s original recommendation to reduce the city’s notification radius of public hearings from 1,000 feet to 300 feet. These notifications pertain to letters and notices sent to residents in the surrounding area of a certain application or project.

According to staff, during this year the city spent roughly \$10,000 on costs related to the notification process for projects. Had the council approved staff’s original recommendation to reduce that notification period to 300 feet, the costs

TAKE US ALONG



In Bruges: Pleasanton Unified School District Trustee Mary Jo Carreon (and Jim Carreon) took the Weekly on a seven-day river cruise down the Rhine River in August. They finished their vacation with a visit to Bruges, Belgium. After eating French Fries, waffles and Dutch chocolate, she posed for a picture in front of one of the many canals and bridges in Bruges.

would have significantly reduced to a couple thousand dollars.

Vice Mayor Jeff Nibert said he was initially concerned about the proposed change to noticing but he also noted staff’s report which pointed out that almost all of the surrounding Tri-Valley cities follow government code of 300 feet for such notices.

But Testa said she had often heard from residents who were angry that they did not receive any notification of a certain project, which is why she said reducing the radius of residents who would be notified would not be beneficial for the city.

Balch also shared similar concerns about transparency.

Ultimately, the council decided to keep the 1,000-foot radius in place.

In other business

City staff daylighted a new tentative agreement between the city and the labor union that represents over 200 employees across various departments.

The agreement between the city and Pleasanton City Employees Association, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 955 will, if approved, replace the previous memorandum of understanding between both parties, which expired on March 31.

Following last week’s review and brief discussion of the agreement, the council will return on Dec. 16 to vote on approving the labor contract.

“I’m really glad that we’ve got a contract that everyone is pleased with and that we know is fair to our hardworking employees,” Testa said

during the Dec. 2 meeting.

According to the newly proposed contract, Pleasanton employees who are represented by PCEA — clerks, police dispatchers, recreation employees, planners, engineers, and maintenance employees — would see their salary ranges go up by 3% once after April 1 of next year and once again in 2027 during the same month.

The new agreement stipulates that the city provide \$1,000 in longevity pay annually to bargaining unit employees who have been with the city for 10 consecutive years, with payments distributed biweekly. That total payout will also be raised to \$1,100 in 2027.

Police dispatchers and police dispatch supervisors who obtain a Peace Officer Standard Training certificate would also receive a certain percentage of certification pay depending on the level of training they obtain.

Other details of the newly proposed agreement include an increase to the amount for bilingual pay from \$50 to \$100; a slight increase to the meal pay for employees required to work more than 12 hours consecutively without a dinner break; an increase to allowances for safety boots; and increase to both the call back and standby time policies.

Staff said the latter of the policies have to do with employees who respond to emergency situations after work hours.

If approved later this month, the new agreement will be effective retroactively from April 1 and will expire on March 31, 2028. ■



This December Dr. Thomas Forest will complete 50 years in practice. He has provided upper cervical chiropractic care to families in his Pleasanton office. He wants to extend his gratitude for the privilege of working in partnership with patients to improve the health of so many families over the years. He feels very fortunate to announce that he has found someone that he trusts and respects to take over this practice. Dr. Sean Marsh is the new owner of Upper Cervical Chiropractic office at 4224 Stanley Blvd. in Pleasanton. The office phone number is 925-846-3357. He will continue to provide the very best of Upper Cervical Chiropractic to this valley.

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Recalled Price enters race to get her old job back

‘Restoring trust ... and ensuring justice is applied equally, fairly, and without political influence’

Former Alameda County district attorney Pamela Price wants her old job back.

Price, who lost the job via a recall election in November 2024, announced her bid last week to retake the office.

“Gun violence in Alameda County continues to surge, and too many families are grieving losses that should never have happened,” Price said in a news release. “I am fighting for real solutions that stop the shootings, strengthen prevention efforts, and protect every neighborhood in this county.”

Price came into office in 2023,

winning her election with roughly 53% of the vote and becoming the first African American woman to hold the county’s top prosecutor job.

Elected largely on a platform of criminal justice reform, Price lost the recall with roughly 63% of voters casting ballots in favor of her removal following a well-funded campaign by her opponents, who painted her as soft on crime, among other things.

She is the county’s first district attorney to lose the office in a recall.

In her announcement, Price vowed to take on corruption and

police violence and to focus on youth rehabilitation and gun violence prevention.

“Her campaign will center on restoring trust in the DA’s office and ensuring that justice is applied equally, fairly, and without political influence,” according to her announcement.

Price was replaced by Ursula Jones Dickson, who was appointed



Pamela Price

by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to serve until the June 2026 election, which will determine who will fill the remainder of Price’s term ending in 2028.

Jones Dickson, in a statement released through her campaign, said Price is “welcome to make the case, less than a year after that recall, that they were wrong. I trust the judgment of Alameda County voters.”

“I inherited a demoralized office and a charging backlog of more than 2,000 cases. We’ve done a lot of work to turn the District Attorney’s office around, and that work will continue for as long as I am District

Attorney,” added Jones Dickson, a former judge in the county.

“As DA, I am putting the rights of victims and survivors back at the center of our work while ensuring that the justice process is conducted in a fair and impartial manner,” the incumbent said. “I also value our partnerships with other agencies and policymakers in addressing serious and violent crimes in a comprehensive and holistic way.” ■

— Story by Bay City News Service, with Pleasanton Weekly staff contributing.

The Brass Door shuttering after nearly 80 years

Christmas Eve marks final day for storied San Ramon institution

By JEANITA LYMAN

A beloved San Ramon Valley institution is in its final days this month after serving as a central community gathering spot for almost 80 years.

Owners of The Brass Door announced this week that the long-standing restaurant at 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd. will be closed for good effective Christmas Day, with its famed prime rib and local wine set to flow during the business’ final day of operation on Christmas Eve.

“Despite our best efforts, we were unable to secure or renew a lease for our location, and we must bring this chapter to a close at the end of that day,” the restaurant’s owners said on Facebook

on Monday.

That chapter has lasted for decades, with the spot initially established in 1946 as the 8/5 Club — when the small, then-unincorporated community had a population of 100, according to the business’s website — featuring a six-seat bar that could hold up to 20 guests.

The initial name was a nod to the original owner Howard “Shorty” Schlesinger’s favorite betting odds for horse races.

“He featured steamed beer and fried chicken, and a row of nickel slot machines,” Brass Door owners wrote on their website. “He served primarily the local ranchers, cattlemen, and travelers along ‘Highway 21’ on their way to San Jose and beyond.”

The club evolved into The Brass Door in 1955, when it was taken over by the original owner’s son Mick Schlesinger and Dick Basso, and “they and the restaurant grew along with the San Ramon Valley.”

As the restaurant became a go-to gathering spot for the community and continued to be a beloved institution into the present day, the owners said they were hopeful for a new chapter at some point in the future.

“While this chapter comes to an end, the spirit and legacy of The Brass Door will remain strong,” the owners said on Facebook. “We hope that one day we may reopen in a new home and welcome you back to a new chapter of this beloved establishment.” ■



JEREMY WALSH

The Brass Door at 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd. at lunchtime Tuesday.

Bella Roma Pizzeria back on the market

Operations continue as ownership set to change hands for second time in a year

By JUDE STRZEMP

The longstanding Bella Roma Pizzeria in Livermore is currently up for sale, following its purchase last year by current ownership, restaurant representatives confirmed to Livermore Vine.

Located at 853 E Stanley Blvd., the eatery — also known as Bella Roma Pizza — has been serving slices for over 30 years, according to its online real estate listing by Century 21 Commercial. In addition to pizzas, the eatery is also known for its pasta dishes, fresh salads and specialty calzones.

The establishment is listed for sale at \$190,000, but it is not immediately clear why the owner of Bella Roma Pizzeria is selling the restaurant.

“With a loyal customer base, solid online reviews and consistent revenue, Bella Roma Pizza offers a rare opportunity for an owner-operator or investor to step into a thriving business with room to grow,” the online listing reads.

Restaurant ownership declined to comment beyond confirming the sale of the business and its previous purchase. ■

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Home in Danville for the holidays

Small businesses welcome winter shopping season as economic bright spot – but long-term challenges loom

BY JEANITA LYMAN

Life imitated art at this year's Lighting of the Old Oak Tree in Danville, as "American Idol" alumna and Hallmark Channel star Grace Leer took to the stage amid gleeful squeals from her young fans at one of her hometown's most important events of the year.

Leer has moved on from small-town life as she's risen to fame following the 18th season of "American Idol", now calling Nashville home as her music, acting and modeling career has continued to blossom. That includes a major role in the 2022 Hallmark film "Time for Her to Come Home for Christmas".

In addition to marking a major annual event for downtown and a triumphant return for Leer, Nov. 28 was her 34th birthday.

"I can't think of a better birthday present than to be in my hometown," Leer told the crowd. "I honestly got tears, I could cry right now. This just means so much to me."

Leer wasn't the only product of Danville living out the classic Hallmark Channel holiday storyline, in which the often jaded, city-dwelling main characters generally find themselves in small towns for the holiday season, where they learn the value of a slower pace of life, community, hospitality and generosity — as family members, college students and young professionals flocked to the town to relatives' houses to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Meanwhile, Danville's downtown businesses found themselves filled



The Pleasanton Weekly, Livermore Vine and DanvilleSanRamon.com embarked on a cover story series in 2025 exploring the downtowns throughout the Tri-Valley. Our project concludes this week with reporter Jeanita Lyman's feature on downtown Danville during the critical holiday shopping season.

with visitors both after the tree lighting on Black Friday, and on Nov. 29 for Small Business Saturday — a nationwide initiative aimed at uplifting small businesses amid the busy holiday shopping season that is especially fitting for a neighborhood such as downtown Danville that are primarily made up of small, local businesses.

Leer closed out that evening's musical performances with her original song from that Hallmark movie, "Star on Top of the Tree".

"There's all these beautiful lights and beautiful things and wonderful treats," Leer said. "But at the end of the day, it's just about being surrounded by the people that we love and family and friends and community."



JEANITA LYMAN

Groups of children — and adults — look on in delight at the festivities at this year's Lighting of the Old Oak Tree in downtown Danville on Nov. 28, including performances from local choirs, remarks from public officials, and appearances from local celebrities including Grace Leer, Father Christmas and the Snow Angel.

The Lighting of the Old Oak Tree kicked off what Danville officials and business owners are hoping will be a reprieve for brick-and-mortar businesses that continue to rebound downtown in the wake of economic dark times in 2020.

The lay of the land

The vast majority of the 60-plus retail stores and 100-plus food and drink establishments in Danville are locally owned small businesses, many of which are also located in the downtown neighborhood.

The official boundaries downtown extend from just south of Sycamore Valley Road, along the retail corridor that borders the major thoroughfare of San Ramon Valley Boulevard (which turns into Hartz

Avenue) to north of Linda Mesa Avenue to the west and north of Diablo Road to the east — where the Old Oak Tree stands, as the town's oldest landmark.

"Does anyone know how old that tree is? Did I hear 400 years?" 2025 Mayor Renee Morgan asked the crowd at the tree lighting ceremony. "Don't let it know you know that, because to me it doesn't look a day over 300."

What many might consider to be the true heart of downtown Danville is defined as the Old Town District, according to the town's official boundaries, which is nestled along Hartz Avenue, Front Street and Railroad Avenue.

The Old Town neighborhood was the center of action, starting with the massive crowd from the tree lighting descending on the wide array of festively decorated shops and restaurants that Friday evening.

While that day marked record sales for Primos, owner Jimmy Jhanda said that the action at the longstanding and beloved pizza parlor and sports bar had kicked off the day before Thanksgiving as part of an unofficial holiday tradition in Danville.

"Wednesday, Primos was extremely busy," Jhanda said. "It's kind of like a just before Thanksgiving tradition, where people in Danville go to Primos. I think for one, people don't want to cook the day before Thanksgiving, so they go out together."

Jhanda also noted that the week of Thanksgiving often sees young people returning home from college or careers to spend the holiday with family — with Primos offering a sense of familiarity and nostalgia as the town's mainstay for celebrations

from young athletes after games or practice, or for other outings.

That's one of Jhanda's first memories of the restaurant years ago, before he and his wife Jennifer Jhanda took over as its new owners this summer.

"When we first moved here our kids were little," Jhanda said. "We had one kid that was 1 and one that was 6, so Primos was kind of a family-friendly place that had a pretty big menu, that we also felt comfortable bringing our kids to. My second memory early on — at least for my daughter — she was really involved in youth sports at a young age right when we moved here."

As the parents of a young athlete in Danville, Jhanda said that the family found themselves at Primos for "every single" team party and



JEANITA LYMAN

Dancers from The Next Step Dance Studio took to downtown Danville to perform for the crowds that dispersed following the Lighting of the Old Oak Tree.



The Doyle Quane law office at 571 Hartz

postgame celebration.

“Just a lot of community and sports and family, so those were kind of the earliest memories,” Jhanda said.

The ‘Times Square’ of Danville

In the years since, Jhanda said that he watched Primos also become a prominent destination to spend a whole day watching college and professional sports alongside fellow fans, bolstered by the popularity of its patio expansion during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a permanent outdoor structure in place since 2022.

“That outdoor patio was a game changer, because people loved that, and that really expanded it to be a full-blown sports bar and grill,” Jhanda said.

That popularity and momentum is still going strong so far, Jhanda said, in the months since he and his wife took over as owners.

As their professional careers peaked, with Jhanda creating and selling a successful startup before retiring from the tech industry, the couple looked toward a next step that would deepen their roots in the town they were raising their children in, and deepen their connection with the community.

In addition to familiarity and fond memories of the establishment, Jhanda said that a major selling point he had considered in purchasing Primos was the opportunity to be part of the widely varied but close-knit downtown Danville business community.

“It’s made us a bigger part of the community, and we’re doing a lot more sponsorships, with Green Valley Elementary, we’re doing a sponsorship with the National Charity League at the Veterans Hall, so we really like that, and it’s kind of a way to give back. But in addition it’s nice because we’re giving back but we’re running a professional, good business,” Jhanda said.

With the need for a large staff given Primos’ enduring popularity, Jhanda said he also took pride in providing local jobs to the community.

“We have 74 employees, and they’re all kind of like young college kids — and high school — and it feels good giving jobs back to these kids in the community,” Jhanda said.

“A lot of people are passionate about it because it’s a staple in the community,” he continued. “It’s kind of like the Peach Pit from ‘90210.”

Other factors in the Jhandas decision to purchase Primos’ were its prime location — with Jhanda calling it the “Times Square” of Danville — and continued success amid its pandemic-era expansion.

“I think Primos — they excelled post-COVID,” Jhanda said.

But unfortunately for many of Primos’ downtown neighbors, the COVID-19 pandemic had the opposite effect, accelerating the rise of online shopping, shutting down public, indoor gathering spaces for months on end, and leading to the loss of vast amounts of employees and income.

A quality product

The lingering impact of the pandemic is something that has weighed heavily on the mind of Jenn Starnes since she came to Danville in 2022, particularly now in her dual role as communications and economic development manager for the town government.

“Our job at the town is to get people to come here, and to understand that’s a partnership we have with the businesses,” Starnes said. “We know we have a quality product — I’ve been in marketing for many years. From a strictly marketing standpoint, we know we have a quality product. We just have to sell it to people.”

That product is downtown Danville and its local businesses. One that Starnes has been busier than ever marketing amid the holiday



JEREMY WALSH

Primos Pizzeria and Pub at 298 Hartz Ave. is situated on what its owner affectionately calls the “Times Square of Danville”.

shopping season and the town’s campaign to support local businesses. She said those efforts have expanded this year to include Google and social media advertising, seeking to reach audiences as far as Sacramento to take advantage of the classic, small-town holiday shopping experience the neighborhood offers.

“It’s more of a tourism position than it is truly an economic development position, because we don’t have big warehouses to fill, we don’t have floors and floors of office space — we have small businesses who have limited resources for getting their message out,” Starnes said. “So a lot of what this position is is really just telling people about Danville.”

While it’s up to businesses themselves to make sales and profits — and motivate customers to come back — Starnes said that her primary focus has been simply to get people to visit those businesses.

“We really believe in our local businesses, that once people get here and they see it — and they see what

you can get here and the experience — you can have shopping that is like an old-timey experience shopping where you go in, and you know the person who owns the business, and they have things that they just got in that they have been waiting for and now they have, that you can’t get anywhere else,” Starnes said.

She added that “every business in Danville is a story” and that shoppers can find gifts that tell a unique story themselves to their loved ones that wouldn’t be possible through online shopping.

The booms and busts throughout history

The Old Town district within the downtown neighborhood isn’t just home to businesses — and businesses aren’t the only buildings with stories. The historic neighborhood that developed around the Southern Pacific Railroad depot — now home to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley — emerged in 1891

in the small farming community that formed following the Mexican American War, having previously been used as grazing land for Mission San Jose when the region was Mexican territory.

The region’s agricultural roots trace back even further, to the Tactan Bay Miwok tribe that was displaced by Spanish colonization.

“Living in village communities of 50 to 200 people, the rhythm of their lives was determined by one harvest or another,” local historian and former Danville mayor and councilmember Beverly Lane wrote in an article for the Contra Costa Historical Society.

Historical evidence suggests that the Danville area was likely the site for larger gatherings between indigenous villages, particularly harvest festivals, according to Lane’s article.

The Southern Pacific railroad line and Danville depot emerged near the turn of the 20th century, ushering in a boom in the agricultural region as Danville and the greater San Ramon Valley gained access to markets for the array of fruits that were produced by the orchards that were established during the early part of the century.

That boom period of growth driven by the railroad didn’t last forever, with passenger service at the Danville depot suspended in the 1930s. Although agriculture continued to dominate the region through the 1940s, Danville would also become an attractive, peaceful community for veterans of the two world wars to settle down in and raise families as the 20th century wore on. That legacy is marked, in part, by the 100-year-old Veterans Memorial Building that serves as a prominent landmark within the downtown neighborhood.

The town’s population would go on to increase 10-fold between 1960 and 2000, according to census data,



JEANITA LYMAN

Ave. decked out for the holidays.



JEREMY WALSH

The former Starbucks on Hartz Avenue, an empty eyesore since the coffee giant’s exit in recent weeks, is set to return to life from noon to 3 p.m. on Dec. 13 and Dec. 20 as the site of pop-up holiday marketplace being sponsored by the town, one of multiple new and ongoing initiatives aimed at increasing foot traffic to downtown businesses.

See **DANVILLE** on Page 14

DANVILLE

Continued from Page 13

landing at 41,715 at the start of the 20th century. It has grown only modestly in the years since then, with the count standing at 43,582 as of the 2020 census.

The rise and fall of the railroad and the agricultural industry wasn't the first boom-and-bust cycle that helped shape downtown Danville in the present era, however. The community was first put on the modern-day map with a local post office and the initial construction of the Danville Hotel during the Gold Rush era in the mid 19th century.

While the hotel initially emerged as a product of the money that flooded into California in the boom phase of the Gold Rush, what remains of the historic building no longer serves as a hotel. Instead, it is now home to businesses that are continuing to weather the storm through the latest bust phase in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of online shopping.

Among those businesses is Blossom and Root Kitchen, the 100% plant-based cafe that opened to widespread fanfare from local food critics in 2022, brought to life by Danville local Susan Virgilio — who is among many of the downtown business owners who have felt the pain of the post-pandemic market.

"We have people like Susan — if people don't come to this beautiful, beautiful restaurant with her thoughtfully curated menu that she pours her heart and soul into, she's not going to be here," Starnes said. "And we have so many businesses right now that have just been pushed and pushed, and people are just not coming back out."

"And these are people's neighbors," she continued. "It's the community, and I think that it's

just a small choice that someone can make to shop locally. And it's hard, because we hear it so much — 'shop local' — but when it comes right down to it, it's easier to sit at home in your jammies and pull up Amazon."

While brick-and-mortar businesses everywhere have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the turn toward online shopping and meal delivery, Danville also faces an obstacle of its own when it comes to attracting visitors: a reputation that formed over the years, compared to other Bay Area communities, as an insulated, wealthy and even intolerant suburban enclave hostile to outsiders.

"There are people who knew Danville as old-school, and I'm sure there are parts in the community, but I think a lot of that comes from history and not from actuality," Starnes said. "Now, people's lived experiences are that there are some people that still maybe don't feel comfortable in Danville. But we want them to feel comfortable here. We are working all the time to make Danville more approachable and more reasonable."

Part of that work, Starnes said, is intertwined with the economic development efforts in the downtown neighborhood.

"You have these small businesses that you can come in and get to know a person," Starnes said. "And even with the community events, we're trying to have more multicultural events, a larger investment in even Pride events, or just having our councilmembers walking up and down the street."

"I have heard that history has not always reflected that, but we have leadership that really believes in that," she continued. "Our role is not to advocate; it's to facilitate and to take what the community wants and drive it forward. But a lot of that is to make sure that the



JEANITA LYMAN

The Japanese restaurant Yo's on Hartz decorated for the holidays as downtown businesses welcomed shoppers and diners following the Lighting of the Old Oak Tree.

entire community is seen and has a part in that."

Another potential misconception about Danville, according to Starnes, is that the town government — whose members have often held decades-long tenures — strives to be in office out of political ambitions, clinging to power, or any reasons other than serving the community.

"A lot of times people look in, and they say oh, there's no term limits — but you don't get the good old-boy networks," Starnes said. "These are people who have businesses in the community. They are people who have lived here, and who have worked here."

Amid the ongoing economic challenges facing local businesses, Starnes said that this year's Lighting of the Old Oak Tree and ensuing holiday shopping season have been heartening.

"We haven't gotten together on the count yet, but it seems like it was bigger this year," Starnes said. "We also were really working on improving the spread of the event and not only programming

things all up and down Hartz. So at Church Street we had a band, we had different things spring up throughout."

While the fruits of those efforts have started to bear out on the economic side as customers flocked to downtown shops and restaurants in the wake of Thanksgiving, Starnes said only time would tell if her additional goal of getting people to come back throughout the season — and year — is successful.

The road ahead

Councilmember Robert Storer, who was elected as vice mayor for the current year at the annual Mayor's Installation on Dec. 2, said he was optimistic about the future of downtown Danville in the year ahead.

"We are very proud of the direction our downtown is going in next year," Storer said. "Next year we will offer many downtown events that will cater especially to our young families, to our more mature residents and all the ones in between. We have something for almost everyone. Come and visit and experience so many new adventures downtown."

While major annual events — and ongoing economic development or "tourism" efforts by Starnes — such as the Lighting of the Old Oak Tree, the Kiwanis Club Fourth of July Parade and the Hot Summer Sundays Car Show are aimed at drawing visitors to town, it is Danville's residents who play the most important role in supporting local businesses in their communities.

"Our primary customers should be our residents," Starnes said. "Because they're here, and our residents sustain all of the business."

Storer echoed that sentiment. "We need people to live local and shop where they live, spend time downtown, enjoy our new designation as one of the coolest Main Streets in California, come see us

all lit up at night, take a stroll and walk your dog downtown while enjoying all the ambience Danville has to offer and please, always, shop downtown first," Storer said.

Starnes said her biggest wish for the new year was that this message would resonate with Danville residents.

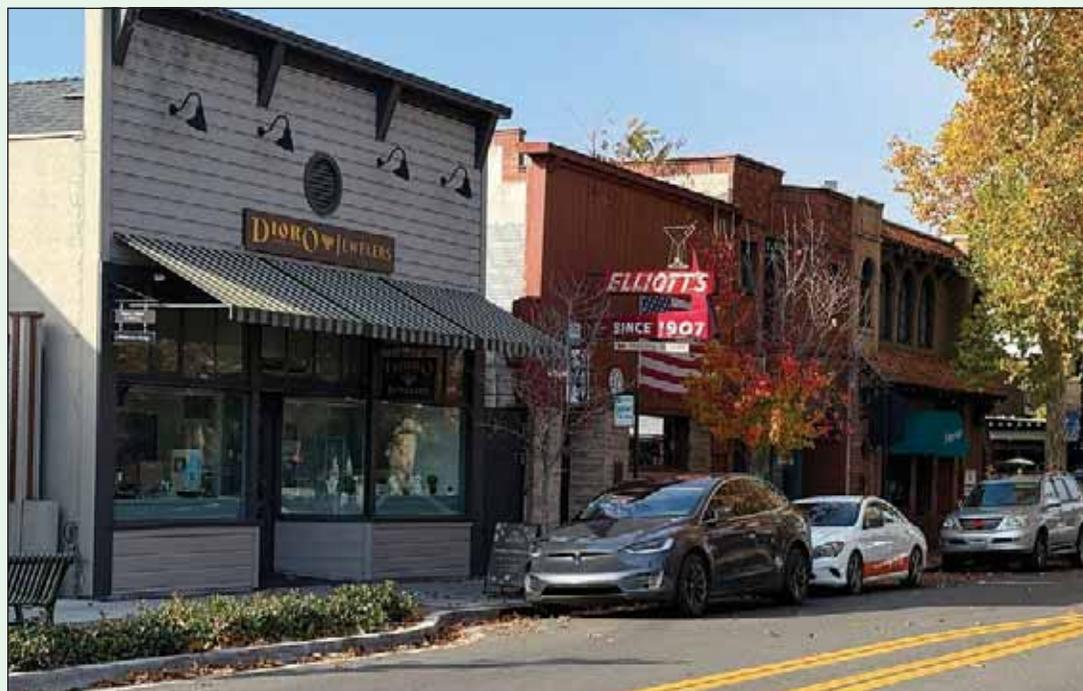
"My hope is that you don't have anybody at the end of the year, or any of the year, saying, 'oh, that store closed, I meant to go there, and I never did,' — that's my hope," Starnes said. "You always read about how 'oh, that store closed, I meant to go there.' Well just go! It's so simple and so actionable, and it has such an impact."

"It's not about sales tax," she continued. "It's about community, and if you want our community to continue to look like this, go to that store you've been passing by. Go to that restaurant. Don't order from DoorDash — just go in your sweatpants. Nobody cares."

"Just go — and that's the other thing about Danville — it's a very casual environment, very friendly environment," Starnes said. "People would rather you show up than stay at home because you don't want to get all dolled up. Just go."

As the holiday shopping season unfolds and plans take shape for new events and initiatives to highlight downtown businesses in the coming year, existing businesses continue to hold out hope — and festive, holiday cheer, with seasonal decorations, specials and attractions throughout the season. At Primos, that includes visits with Santa every Tuesday evening until Christmas.

"Your favorite Danville stores and restaurants are like Hallmark holiday characters, because it is like a Hallmark movie," Starnes said. "People watch these movies and they yearn for that downtown experience where you walk in and 'oh, there's Joe, he owns the corner store, or there's Barbara, she owns the coffee shop.' And we have that here." ■



JEREMY WALSH

Elliott's Bar at 398 Hartz Ave. is one of downtown Danville's longest standing institutions, serving as a popular gathering space and watering hole for more than 100 years.

A parade for the season



PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

The Pleasanton community celebrated the joy of the season at the 2025 Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on a crisp evening downtown Saturday. Enjoy this collection from Weekly photographer Chuck Deckert.



POLICE BULLETIN

'He loved helping other people': Amador alum dies in I-580 crash

The California Highway Patrol continues to investigate the afternoon commute crash on Interstate 580 last week that killed a Pleasanton native and emergency room technician who had his eyes set on engagement and nursing school.

Amador Valley High School alumnus Scott Renton, who celebrated his 25th birthday less than a month ago, was devoted to his burgeoning medical career and loved leaving a positive imprint on everybody he met, his mother told the Weekly.

"He had just finished nursing applications last week," Jamie Renton said Saturday. "Caitlyn is in a physician's assistant school, and they had a very bright future together. They wanted lots of kids. He loved helping babies the most. He had the best smile and told us he loved us all the time."

"He loved helping other people," she added. "And that's the hard part; in the end, we couldn't help him. Just devastating."

As they grieve, questions remain for the family about what happened that afternoon on the freeway before Scott Renton, an experienced motorcyclist, was knocked to the ground coming back toward the Tri-Valley east of Eden Canyon Road. CHP-Dublin put out a call last Friday asking more witnesses to come forward to aid officers' ongoing investigation.

Preliminary findings indicate that Renton's Yamaha RZFR6 was involved in an initial crash with a gray Toyota Sienna on eastbound I-580 just after 4:20 p.m. Dec. 4 west of Pleasanton, according to the CHP. He was thrown off his motorcycle and landed in the left lane of the freeway, where he was struck by a black Toyota Tundra traveling in that lane. He died at the scene.

Jamie Renton recalled for the Weekly the worst phone call a mother could ever receive — but in hindsight she was grateful how it happened. A bystander found Scott Renton's phone at the scene and acted on instinct, "Siri, call mom."

Thinking it was her son on the other line, she was confused to hear a lot of noise and an unfamiliar voice. The man was finally able to convey, "There's been a really bad motorcycle accident, and I don't think he's going to make it ... I'm so sorry, I thought you'd want to know."

Jamie Renton, who works for Castro Valley Unified School District, tried to drive to the scene with a colleague but the traffic backup was too overwhelming. The bystander called back.

"They just stopped working on him," she recalled the man saying. "If he hadn't told me, I wouldn't have known until later that night. So I was so thankful."



COURTESY JAMIE RENTON

Pleasanton native Scott Renton died in a motorcycle crash on Interstate 580 just west of the Tri-Valley on Dec. 4. He was 25.

In addition to his mother and his girlfriend, Scott Renton is survived by dad Brad, brother Kyle, sister Kelly and half-sister Robbie.

Renton had his heart set on the medical field from an early age, his mother recalled.

"Scott has been helping people since he was 16 — the soonest he could start working as a lifeguard," Jamie Renton said. "It wasn't just a cool job for him. He took it very seriously, literally as a 'life' guard. He always ran to a medical scene and was always the first one there."

"He got his EMT certification before his diploma," she added.

After graduating from Amador in 2019, Renton earned an associate degree from Las Positas College in Livermore on a nursing pre-track. He worked for Royal Ambulance for three years and then got an EMT tech job at Washington Hospital in Fremont in August 2024, a job he loved with a group of colleagues he loved — including his future girlfriend, whom he met on his first day.

Renton had his sights set on nursing school, and had just finished applying for programs with deadlines the Monday before he died. He had also recently given his girlfriend a promise ring, hoping the two would get formally engaged after her schooling wrapped, according to his mom.

"He had his girl ... it's just crazy," she said.

A rider since he was 18, Renton "loved motorcycles, he loved snowboarding, he loved mountain biking ... anything outside, he loved", his mother added.

One tough unanswered question for the family is why Renton was riding on I-580 that afternoon.

He had the day off and he was recovering from the flu — not that I-580 would even be on his typical route from the hospital in Fremont. He sent a text to his girlfriend at 4 p.m. and the crash was at 4:22 p.m., according to Jamie Renton.

"None of us know why he was coming back over the grade," his mom said.

Jamie Renton also lamented the level of interaction with CHP-Dublin — and lack thereof — in the aftermath of the crash.

"I opened up the Pleasanton Weekly online and I found out how he died," she said, referring to the initial news article from that night based on information CHP put out on social media about the crash with specifics apparently not shared with the family directly.

Other than an initial phone call from a CHP officer within an hour or so of the crash — asking strange, uncomfortable questions like was he a good rider and did he have social media accounts while she was still in shock — Jamie Renton said, "Have not heard from them." She added that her boss contacted CHP-Dublin on the family's behalf the next day, spoke with investigators and got the up-to-date case information.

The family remains hopeful that CHP officers will be able to determine what exactly happened during the crash — even if it could take two to four months, or more, as they have been told, according to Jamie Renton.

"The CHP is asking for your help with any information regarding this crash," the agency said in its follow-up press release Friday. "We appreciate the public's assistance in these investigations, and often, your help can answer questions we are looking for."

Potential witnesses can call CHP-Dublin at 925-828-0466 and ask for Officer Albarran or Officer Purl.

— Jeremy Walsh

Man accused of driving 150+ mph pleads not guilty in fatal crash

A Pleasanton man has been arraigned for murder and other charges for allegedly killing a passenger in another vehicle while driving drunk at well over 100 mph on Crow Canyon Road in San Ramon during Thanksgiving weekend.

Badal Dholaria, a 27-year-old Foothill High School alumnus, pleaded not guilty to the allegations when appearing in Contra Costa County Superior Court in Martinez on Dec. 4.

Shortly before the court hearing, San Ramon Police Department officials announced their findings from a follow-up investigation of the crash

site Dec. 3 on Crow Canyon Road near the intersection with Bollinger Canyon Road on the western edge of the city.

"Preliminary findings indicate that a Tesla Model S driven by (Dholaria) was traveling at more than 150 mph westbound on Crow Canyon Road," SRPD officials said on social media Dec. 4.

"Dholaria's reckless disregard for public safety led to his vehicle striking the rear passenger side of the victim's Ford Bronco," they continued. "At the time of impact, the Tesla is believed to have still been traveling in excess of 120 mph."

Dholaria is facing a murder charge for the death of Alix Sparks, the 41-year-old Castro Valley woman and passenger in the Bronco who was killed in the collision at approximately 3:30 p.m. Nov. 29. The driver of the Bronco — a 40-year-old Castro Valley man whose name hasn't been released — was injured and treated at the hospital that day.

Dholaria is also facing felony counts for driving under the influence, with a blood alcohol content above 0.08% while causing great bodily injury to both victims. He pleaded not guilty to all charges and allegations.

"I want to be clear: every DUI-related incident represents a choice — a choice that can kill," Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton said in a news release announcing the charges.

"If you're impaired, don't drive. Every time you get behind the wheel under the influence, you're gambling with lives," Becton added. "Whether it's alcohol, marijuana, prescription medications, or illegal drugs, any substance that impairs your ability to operate a vehicle safely makes you a danger on our roads."

The defendant remains in custody

at the Martinez Detention Facility with bail set at \$1.2 million. He is scheduled to return to court for a preliminary hearing on Monday (Dec. 15) at 8:30 a.m.

— Jeanita Lyman

Man stabbed to death; roommate arrested

A Livermore man was arrested last week on suspicion of killing his roommate, who was found dead in the home they shared after not being seen for several days, police said.

Officers went to the residence on the 1000 block of North P Street at around 3:40 p.m. Dec. 2 on a welfare check for a 55-year-old man who was last heard from the Friday before. The man, whose name has not been released, was dead inside the home with apparent stab wounds, the Livermore Police Department stated in a press release Dec. 4.

Investigators soon developed leads to identify the victim's roommate — 30-year-old Brayam Chirinos — as their prime suspect, police said.

San Francisco police allegedly spotted Chirinos driving the victim's vehicle in their city around 9:15 a.m. Dec. 3. He was arrested without incident and booked into the Santa Rita Jail on suspicion of homicide, according to Livermore police.

The case has been submitted to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for charging, according to police, who say the motive remains under investigation.

"I want to thank our detectives for their swift work in identifying and locating the suspect," Livermore Police Chief Jeremy Young said. "I would also like to thank San Francisco Police for their assistance. This suspect would not be in custody without their efforts and strong partnership." ■

— Jeremy Walsh

Employment

Medallia, Inc. has the following positions available in Pleasanton, CA:

Technical Engineering Manager, Professional Services (DIF-CA):

Deployment & Evolution of Medallia Solutions: Lead technical delivery for complex accounts & projects with high-level thinking & execution, through effective partnership with a Project Manager. This position has an annual salary range of \$164,715 - \$184,715. **Data Science, Senior (GVV-CA):** Develop & deploy tools leveraging Artificial Generative Intelligence, optimize customer service operations & deliver tailored responses to client queries. This position has an annual salary range of \$178,000 - \$198,000.

Send resume to hiring@medallia.com. Must reference job title and job code. Background checks required. Both positions permit 100% telecommuting from anywhere in the U.S.

IT Professionals:

Grid Dynamics Holdings Inc., d/b/a Grid Dynamics, located (HQ) in San Ramon, CA seeks multiple F/T positions: Senior Software Engineer (\$135,699-\$155k/yr); Senior Staff Software Engineer (\$150k-\$170k/yr); Staff Software Engineer (\$167,637-\$180k/yr); Senior Software Engineer (\$161,637/yr); Senior Software Engineer (\$146k-\$165k/yr); Senior Quality Assurance Engineer (\$135k-\$155k/yr); Big Data Engineer (\$151,070/yr); Senior Big Data Engineer (\$151,070/yr); Staff Quality Assurance Engineer (\$140k-\$160k/yr). Various worksites - job may allow for remote work; job may involve relocation to anticipated or unanticipated locations across the U.S., including client sites and Grid Dynamics' offices throughout U.S. and/or company HQ. Salary in paren. Apply at jobs@griddynamics.com.

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

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 605520

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): CGT ELECTRIC 8700 hillside st Oakland ca 94605 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 04/12/2024 UNDER FILE NO. 605520 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): CESAR AUGUSTO GONZALEZ TAPIA 8700 HILLSIDE ST OAKLAND CA 94605 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on December 05 2025. (PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

SPORTSPPLUS INJURY PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619129

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

1.) SportsPlus Injury Prevention And Rehabilitation , located at 5990 Stoneridge Dr Suite 102 Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): BRUCE CHIROPRACTIC CORPORATION 5990 Stoneridge Dr Suite 102 Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/02/2015

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 25 2025.

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

GROUP INTELLECT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619228

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

1.) GROUP INTELLECT , located at 1047 Serpentine Ln, Suite 200, Pleasanton CA, 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

GROUP INTELLECT 1047 Serpentine Ln, Suite 200 Pleasanton CA, 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/02/25

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

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

AIM TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNOLOGY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618940

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

1.) AIM Traffic Signal Technology , located at 5854 Sterling Greens Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

AIM ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC. 5854 Sterling Greens Circle 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 18 2025.

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

KAHIDREAMERS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619126

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

1.) KahiDreamers , located at 4510 Hubbard St, Unit 509, Emeryville, CA 94608, Alameda

County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): MANABU KIMURA 4510 Hubbard St, Unit 509 Emeryville, CA 94608

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 25 2025.

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

PMS (PROFESSIONAL MOVING SERVICE) FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619230

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

1.) PMS (PROFESSIONAL MOVING SERVICE) , located at 25341 CYPRESS AVE APT 35 HAYWARD, CA 94544, Alameda County.

Mailing Address: 4217 Orinda Way Bakersfield, CA 93306.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

PMS (PROFESSIONAL MOVING SERVICE) 25341 CYPRESS AVE APT 35 HAYWARD, CA 94544

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 December 03 2025.

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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)

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)

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.

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

8STEW8 INK & STITCH FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618950

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

1.) 8STEW8 Ink & Stitch , located at 30705 Lyric Ter Union City, CA 94587, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.

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

DOMINIK STEWART 30705 Lyric Ter Union City, CA 94587

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/16/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 19 2025.

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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)

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

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)

SWEET MOON BAKES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 8850

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

1.) Sweet Moon Bakes , located at 19973 Santa Maria Ave , Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

DIANA LIEN 19973 Santa Maria Ave Castro Valley, CA 94546

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 01 2025.

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

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)

VERTICA FITNESS LIVERMORE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618906

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

1.) Vertica Fitness Livermore , located at 2480 Nissen Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

GRAVITY DEFIED CORPORATION 541 Loyola Way Livermore, CA 94550

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 17 2025.

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

GRACE EMPOWERMENT AND GROWTH THERAPY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619082

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

1.) GRACE EMPOWERMENT AND GROWTH THERAPY , located at 3671 Platt Court South Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

BRENDA MONTOMERY-TELFOR 3671 Platt Court South Pleasanton, CA 94588

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/15/2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 24 2025.

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

WANDER WONDER DOGS LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 619131

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

1.) Wander Wonder Dogs LLC , located at 2839 Georgia Street Oakland, CA 94602, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

WANDER WONDER DOGS LLC 2839 Georgia Street Oakland, CA 94602

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 25 2025.

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

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)

QUEEN'S NAILS STUDIO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 618526

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

1.) QUEEN'S NAILS STUDIO , located at 160 S K St. LIVERMORE, CA 94550, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

QUEEN'S SOLUTION INC. 160 S K St. LIVERMORE, CA 94550

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/01/2025

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

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

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

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.) Kepsake Letterpress , located at 1928 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94550, Alamada 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)

KIDS KONNECT INFANT CARE AND

PRESCCHOOL

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)

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

Case No.: 25CY156981

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Elsa Jane Ramona Castillo Polanco filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ELSA JANE RAMONA CASTILLO POLANCO to JANNY CASTILLO

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 16, 2026, 9:00 A.M., Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 12/02/2025

Assigned Judge Of Alameda County

Supreme Court

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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

Case No.: 25CV156240

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: JIN ZHANG and YOUYAN ZENG, on behalf of minor child, CHENXU ZHANG, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CHENXU ZHANG to TOM ZHANG

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 30, 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: 11/24/2025

Hon. Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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

Case No.: 25CV157564

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Andrew Alan Moore filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ANDREW ALAN KNOWLTON to ANDREW ALAN MOORE

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 30, 2026, 9:00am, Family law 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: 12/04/2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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

Case No.: 25CV153385

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Zarmina Kochi Hennessy filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ZARMINA KOCHI HENNESSY to ZARMINA HENNESSY

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: 01/23/2026, 9 am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, Ca 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 11/10/2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

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

Case No.: 25CV155264

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: MICHAEL A. NEESE filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MICHAEL ANTHONY CACILHAS to MICHAEL ANTHONY NEESE

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 16, 2026, 9:00 A.M., HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 24405 AMADOR STREET, HAYWARD, CA 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: NOVEMBER 19, 2025

THOMAS J. NIXON

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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 TREAT

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.: 25CV157613

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

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

SORPHEA OUK WONG to SOPHIA OUK WONG ARIYAH SOPHIA WONG to ARIA SOPHIA WONG

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: January 23, 2026, 9:00 AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: December 4, 2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 12, 19, 2025, Jan 2 and 9, 2026)

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

Case No.: 25CV149650

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Margot Merrill Fernandez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MARGOT MERRILL FERNANDEZ to MARGOT MAYVIEW MERRILL

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: 12/26/2025, 9:30am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: October 20, 2025

Chad Finke

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

SUMMONS Case No. 24CV067579

(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (A VISO AL DEMANDADO): **Desoto Cab Company, LLC and Does 1-15**

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): **T.J. Kristi Corporation**

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond Within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you.

Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more Information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): **24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544**
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el numero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): **T.J. Kristi Corporation dba Portola Food & Gas, 4431 Stoneridge Drive, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588 (925) 963-9049**
DATE (Fecha): **03/13/2024**
Chad Finke, Clerk,
by /s/ D. Franklin, Deputy Clerk (Secretario) (Adjunto)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served (PLW Dec 5, 12, 19, 2025 and Jan 2, 2026)

Place a legal notice at
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Mijatovic crushes age group record at U.S. Open

'I have a lot more to prove,' Foothill star says after swimming America's 12th fastest 800M ever

It has been a given that at some point 16-year-old Foothill High junior Luka Mijatovic would become the face of distance swimming in the United States.

That day may be now. Saturday night in the 800-meter finals on the last day of the Toyota United States Open Swimming Championships in Austin, Texas, Mijatovic — swimming for the Pleasanton Seahawks — fired off the blocks and never looked back, winning the race by over three seconds.

His time of 7:48.28 was the 12th fastest all-time by any American and crushed the 15-16 national age group record.

"During warmups, I felt pretty good so I wanted to take it out pretty quick on my race and try to hold on the best I can," Mijatovic said to USA Swimming. "I knew the field was going to be pretty stacked with

Bobby (Finke) and Carson (Foster) in there. I wanted to start pretty strong and continue on and build on that throughout the race."

As the race went on, he did just that, building on the lead and never giving the rest of the field a chance.

"I tried to look around to see where I was. I saw Carson a little bit in the first 300-400; he was holding pretty good. And Ilia (Sibirtsev) next to me of course. But other than that, I was trying to focus on my own race," Mijatovic said.

The national age group record was 23 years old.

"I didn't know it was that old, but I did have my sights on it coming into the meet," Mijatovic said. "I'm pretty happy with the meet. I know it's only December and I have a lot more to prove. I'm continuing building more, training and working harder so I can get progressively

better as I race."

Mijatovic, who announced recently that he will swim for national powerhouse Texas in college, was second in the 400 freestyle and the 400 individual medley. He was fourth in the "B" final in the 200 freestyle.

In the "A" final of the 400 free, Mijatovic was mid-pack until late in the race when he used his traditional closing rush to touch second with a 3:45.30. Leon Marchand, who swims for the University of Texas but is a four-time Olympic Gold medalist for France, was the winner at 3:44.70.

Marchand is also the long-course world record holder in the 200 and 400 IMs.

In the 400 IM, Mijatovic was second with a time of 4:15.91. It was a race where no one was going to beat Foster who finished with a time of 4:07.07.

In the "B" 200 free final he was fourth with a 1:48.88, well back of flight winner Shane Casas of Texas who clocked a 1:46.62.

Rylee Hutchinson, a junior at Amador Valley who also swims for the Seahawks, was sixth in the "B" final of the women's 400 IM with a 4:55.07.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons played three games in the super competitive Riordan Showcase, going 1-2.

In a 71-53 win over Carlmont, Jaylen Smith got 30 points and Kade Krueger scored 15.

In the second game, Riordan pulled away late to win 59-48. Elijah Stanley got 14 points and Smith scored 13. Eli Pace had nine rebounds for the Dons.

Playing a bit shorthanded due to injuries, the Dons then fell 77-28 to St. Ignatius. Pace had eight points and Stanley scored seven points.

Amador boys' soccer

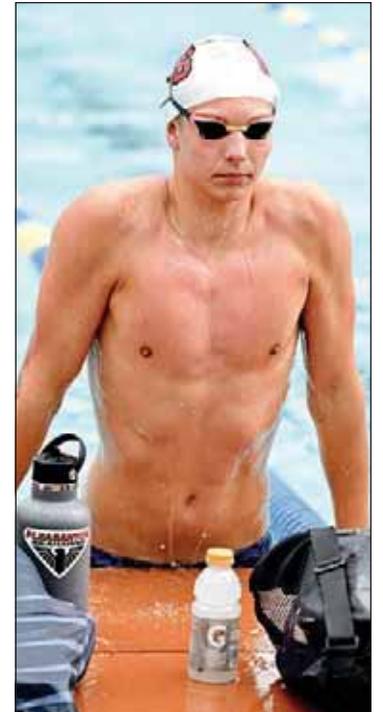
The Dons kicked off their season with three wins and one tough loss.

The week started with a 4-2 victory over Castro Valley. Lucas Cimas scored twice, with Ethan Hernandez and Jonas Lyons scoring a goal each. Mateo Eichler had two assists, with Avi Gorrepati and Ekansh Samanta adding one each.

The next game saw the Dons fall 3-2 to Fremont, getting goals from Nader Hanna and Nicolas Baylosis.

The Dons rallied back with a 4-1 win over American — with Eichler scoring twice and Hernandez and Lyons scoring once.

Finally, the Dons ended the week with a 2-0 win over Castro Valley, thanks to goals from Cimas and Ekansh Samanta. Hernandez



FILE PHOTO BY CHUCK DECKERT

Foothill junior Luka Mijatovic is one of the top young swimmers in the country.

played well in the win.

In junior varsity action, the Dons won three games without allowing a goal.

The week started with a 4-0 win over Fremont, followed by a 6-0 win over American and a 4-0 triumph over Castro Valley. Goalies Colin Harrington and Lucas Shimy played well in three games.

Against Fremont Oliver Heid scored twice, with Kingston Smith and A'Rayyan Faris scoring one each.

Against American, Dyllan Perez Gallegos scored three and Heid, Aidan Han and Harry Brown had one apiece. Finally, against Castro Valley, Smith scored a hat trick and Sawyer Willis scored the final goal.

For the freshmen boys, Simon Hilton and Jason Pineda scored the goals, with Rishen Patel getting an assist, in a win for the Dons over Castro Valley. ■

COMING DEC. 19

Don't miss our special

END OF YEAR DOUBLE EDITION!

We're planning to deliver something special later this month.

We will wrap up the year with a special double edition combining the Dec. 19 and 26 issues.

The Dec. 19 Pleasanton Weekly will be the final newspaper delivered in 2025. We'll be back in print on Jan. 2.

Unlike Santa, though, our journalists will not rest for long after the big day. Just because there will be no paper delivered Dec. 26, our staff will still be working and you can **keep up with the local news on PleasantonWeekly.com.**

Happy Holidays!

Pleasanton Weekly

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Snuggle up with Gertrude

'Twas a cozy night in winter, when all through the home, little Gertrude was waiting, not wanting to roam. After tennis balls dance and fly in the air, she'll settle in your lap on your favorite chair. Warm, gentle and cuddly, she's the gift you'll adore. Adopt Gertrude at Valley Humane Society and make her yours evermore. Call Valley Humane at 925-426-8656 or email info@valleyhumane.org.

Real Estate

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 22-26 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and Nov. 10-14 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

5244 Armani Court L. Stover to N. & S. Hariharan for \$1,275,000
2295 Camino Brazos Cheryl Living Trust to Cox Living Trust for \$1,312,500
3616 Glacier Court Point Green Home Solutions LLC to C. & R. Vo for \$1,280,000
4105 Grant Court Knuppe Family Trust to S. & B. Manickavasagam for \$3,050,000
6196 Inglewood Drive Bay Area Renovations LLC to J. & C. Tsai for \$1,470,000
332 Mavis Drive M. & R. Hazle to Avinash Trust for \$1,450,000
7872 Meadowbrook Court M. & C. Nelson to P. & P. Pathak for \$1,980,000
2389 East Ruby Hill Drive Irwin Family Trust to Raina Trust for \$3,250,000
363 Saint Mary Street Adams Trust to Grady Living Trust for \$4,580,000
4400 Sandalwood Drive Thornally Family Trust to B. & R. Guwala for \$1,850,000
7550 Stonedale Drive A. Revak to A. & R. Shukla for \$1,050,000
3470 Vermont Place Y. Wu to R. & N. Jain for \$1,630,000
1569 Via Di Salerno L. Xie to Hegde Family Trust for \$5,559,000
3676 Vineyard Avenue Simpson Living Trust to C. & Q. Jin for \$1,210,000
1376 Vintner Way D. Utterback to X. & F. Zhang for \$1,505,000
1312 Vintner Way Robinson Trust to T. & V. Mahindroo for \$1,527,000

Livermore

737 Alison Circle Calton Trust to C. & R. Haddal for \$1,650,000
42 Alysia Court Manson Trust to M. Emley for \$1,299,000
342 Clarke Avenue E & A 2025 Investments LLC to F. Cheung for \$930,000
5825 Dresslar Circle Azmi Family Trust to R. & S. Vutukury for \$1,948,000
2672 Kelly Street Hage Living Trust to C. Gregonis for \$767,000
559 North M Street C. & K. Pranschke to K. & M. Rasser for \$1,180,000
476 Mulqueeney Street Cigliuti Trust to D. Bernacil for \$835,000
1015 Redondo Way Pitelka Living Trust to M. & J. Fagundes for \$1,050,000
1362 Saint Mary Drive Dougherty Family Trust to P. & K. Dinino for \$969,000
96 Trixie Drive Stork Family Trust to A. & I. Kaur for \$1,425,000
1350 Wagoner Drive D. & G. Mickle to S. & R. Younanpour for \$1,050,000
1834 Whipoorwill Court Wilson Trust to A. & A. Amonker for \$1,646,500
1103 Winged Foot Court V. Mukala to Salaria Family Trust for \$1,150,000
732 Yolo Way Kurtzer Trust to H. & N. Salihovic for \$900,000

Dublin

6976 Allegheny Drive V. Pandarinathan to Ameen Hsng Co-Operative Of Cal for \$1,250,000
5615 Applegate Way Taflan Trust to S. & N. Ghotra for \$1,815,000
7182 Burton Street C. & J. Jung to Tiwary Family Trust for \$1,140,000

11745 Casa Linda Court T. Bradley to Y. & D. Lila for \$1,430,000
4473 Cherico Lane R. Khalid to A. & S. Gupta for \$1,765,000
11530 Circle Way J. & K. Loftus to P. & A. Kumar for \$1,585,000
6226 Dove Avenue N. Slate to K. & M. Chandrakanth for \$1,050,000
5862 El Dorado Lane Opendoor Property Trust to J. Battu for \$1,275,000
4775 Mahogany Street A. Ikram to H. & P. Su for \$1,650,000
7260 Mount Veeder Road B. Lee to S. & R. Ganapavarapu for \$2,050,000
4667 Myrtle Drive E. & M. Fujinaka to Jean Wang Realtor Inc for \$1,810,000

4766 Newhaven Street J. Ramasetty to S. & M. Narayanan for \$1,680,000
3911 Summit Road S. Aramalla to R. & P. Saini for \$1,110,000
2909 Tulare Hill Drive Lu Living Trust to Saride Family Trust for \$2,900,000

Sunol

2947 Kilkare Road V. Zeng to Y. & J. Alnagem for \$260,000

San Ramon

10 Bryce Canyon Place Rose Koo Lifetime Trust to Kalyan Living Trust for \$1,705,000
7510 Corrinne Street Bridge Trust to J. & B. Kim for \$1,240,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Sept. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 16
Lowest sale reported: \$1,050,000
Highest sale reported: \$5,559,000
Average sales reported: \$2,123,656

Livermore (Sept. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$767,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,948,000
Average sales reported: \$1,199,964

Dublin (Sept. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$1,050,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,900,000
Average sales reported: \$1,607,857

Sunol (Sept. 22-26)

Total sales reported: 1
Lowest sale reported: \$260,000
Highest sale reported: \$260,000
Average sales reported: \$260,000

San Ramon (Nov. 10-14)

Total sales reported: 7
Lowest sale reported: \$950,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,715,000
Average sales reported: \$1,312,500

Source: California REsource

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 REALTOR®
 DRE #01951888
 Direct: 925-200-6231



John E. Fracisco
 REALTOR®
 DRE #02254508
 Direct: 925-789-0046

PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE – HOLIDAY HIBERNATION

The Pleasanton real estate slowed in November, to no one’s surprise. The market typically slows as we enter the holidays, and this year is no exception. Inventory, pending sales, and closed sales all trended lower.

Let’s take a dive into the numbers for November.

Inventory Slides: The inventory of available single-family homes dropped by about half, with 37 homes for sale at the end of November, a 46% decrease from the 64 homes for sale at the end of October and 31% lower than November of last year. This is normal as we enter the holidays, and this year seems to follow that trend. Lower inventory means fewer choices for buyers, and in some cases may put pressure on buyers to make stronger offers if they are motivated to close before the end of the year.

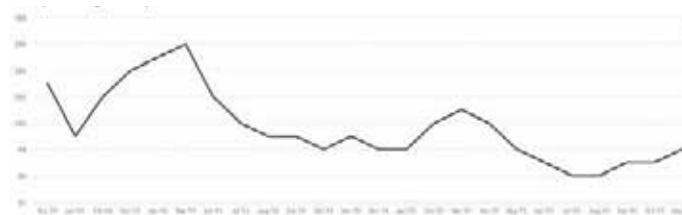
Demand Softens: Pending sales (homes under contract) also slid in November, with 36 pending sales for the month, down 23% from October’s figure of 48. This is 16% higher than November of last year. Closed sales were also down, showing a 36% drop in November with 36 closings, down from 43 closed sales in October. This is also down 18%

Visit The680Blog.com to read the rest of this article.

Pleasanton Market Report Data for November 2025 Single Family Detached Homes

	NOV 2025	CHANGE FROM OCT 2025	CHANGE FROM NOV 2024
Homes sold	28	-36%	-18%
Homes for sale	37	-46%	-31%
Median days on market	20	+48%	+0%
Median price per square foot	\$854	+7.8%	+0.4%
Months of inventory	1.3	+14%	+17%
Median sold price	\$1,717,500	+2.3%	+4.3%
Homes under contract	36	-23%	+16%

Sales Price to Original List Price %



*Wishing you
a Wonderful
Holiday Season
and a Happy
New Year!*

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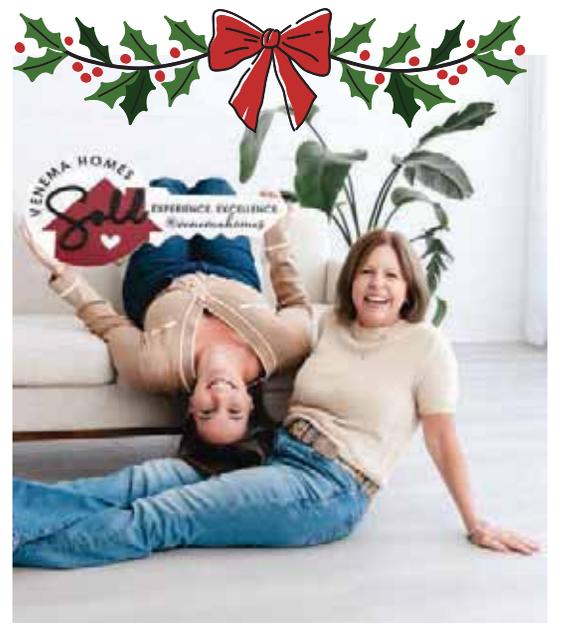
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