

Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS
FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

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Legendary light

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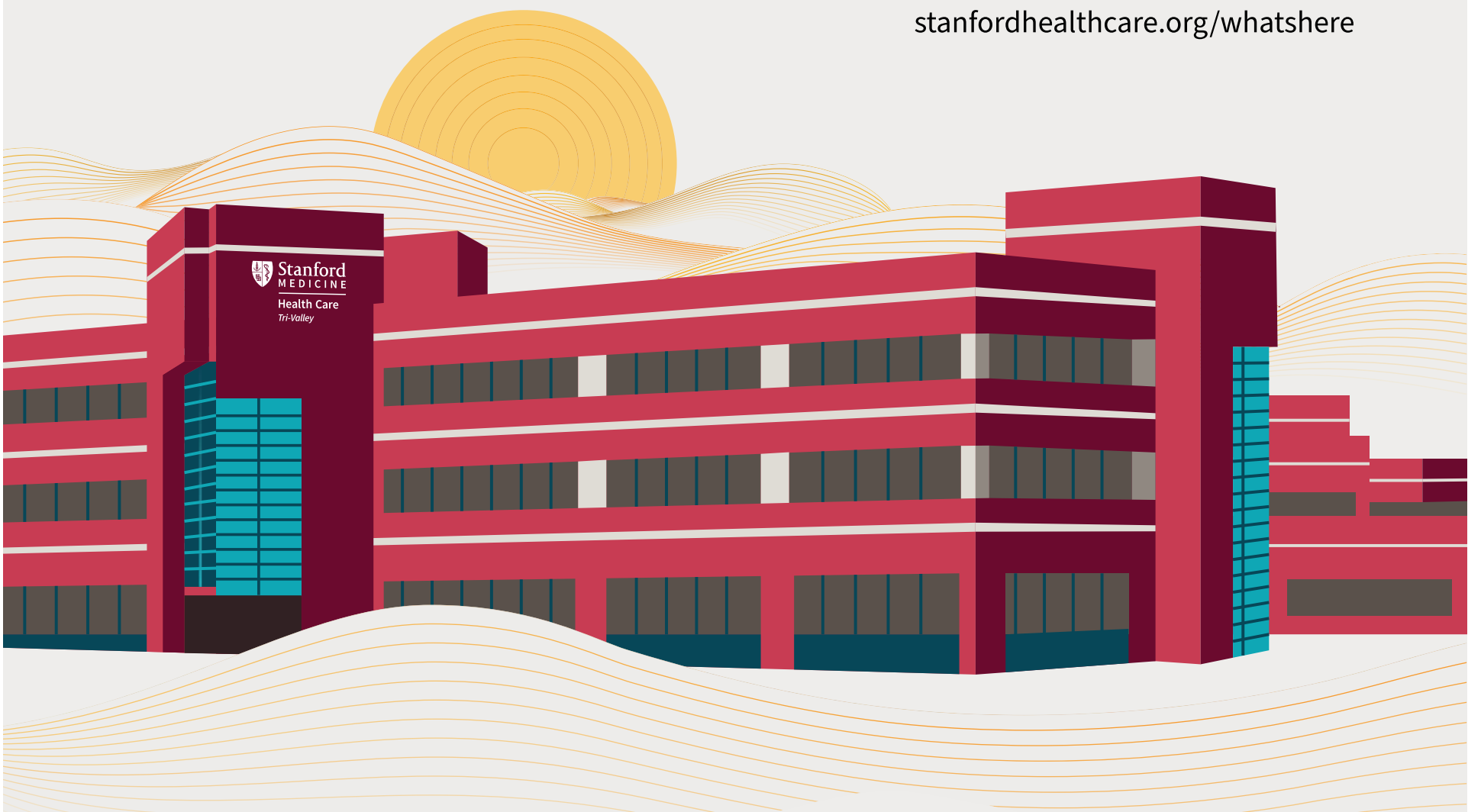
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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Ready, set, file

Election season is almost here. The candidate nomination period for the Nov. 3 ballot opened on Monday.

Those hoping to qualify in city, school board and special district races have until Aug. 7 to submit their paperwork and make the cut. That deadline would be extended by five business days (until 5 p.m. Aug. 12) for any contest where an eligible incumbent does not file.

The race has already been underway for several folks in the Tri-Valley who announced their intent to run weeks ago, or more — examples include Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch, Pleasanton City Council hopeful Jamie Yee, Livermore City Councilmember Evan Branning and Dublin City Councilmember Michael McCorriston, who's bidding for mayor.

The full lists will be determined in the next 3-1/2 weeks. In the meantime, we are working hard to chase down incumbents and prospective candidates for their decisions — are they in or out? Kudos to those like longtime Danville Town Councilmember Karen Stepper, who publicly confirmed in April that she would not run again and helped ensure an honest, clean slate for newcomers. Plenty of incumbents keep that information quiet until the last minute in a bit of questionable electoral gamesmanship so only their preferred successor has the time to put in a bid.

One election where who's running and who's not is still unclear but begets some intriguing hypotheticals is Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education. This is the first ballot for LVJUSD under districting for trustee seats, instead of all at-large, so where current trustees live is a crucial factor.

Incumbent Emily Prusso falls into Area 5, and she hasn't confirmed whether she's running again.

Do you know who else lives in Area 5? Deena Kaplanis and Christaan VandenHeuvel, who were each elected at-large two years ago. So one or both could run for a fresh four-year term in Area 5 from a safe seat — and if one wins, there would be a vacancy for that at-large spot.

Trustee Steven Drouin resides in Area 2, which is on the ballot, and I don't believe he's shown his cards yet. Longtime Trustee Craig Bueno's term is up this year, but he doesn't live in Area 3 so he can't run for reelection ... in November anyway; if that Area 5 scenario plays out for Kaplanis or VandenHeuvel,

maybe Bueno makes a play for the resulting at-large vacancy.

That area pattern — 2, 3, 5 — is the same for Dublin Unified School District's Board of Trustees. Pleasanton Unified has Laurie Walker's Area 2 and Justin Brown's Area 5 on the ballot.

City of Pleasanton could be an interesting contest, particularly if someone shows up to challenge Balch for mayor. The council seats on the ballot are first-term Councilmember Jeff Nibert's District 1 and District 3 where Councilmember Julie Testa has served two consecutive terms, the limit in Pleasanton.

In Livermore, the terms are up for Mayor John Marchand, Branning in District 1 and Councilmember Ben Barrientos in District 2. For Dublin, there's Mayor Sherry Hu and City Council Districts 2 and 4 will be on the ballot for the first time ever.

We're also tracking the special districts: Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Dublin San Ramon Services, East Bay Regional Park District and BART. (Plus all of the city, town, school and special district contests in the San Ramon Valley, which I've left off here for space ... but that's a list of nearly a dozen elections on our plate too.)

While local candidates remain up in the air, several ballot issues are set in the Tri-Valley so far.

The Pleasanton City Council is asking voters to approve a hotel tax increase amid the city's budget deficit. The city of Dublin — which is in better financial condition at the moment — balked at a transient occupancy tax hike of its own weeks ago amid some pushback from hoteliers, but the council still has time to push it forward by early August.

Then there's the sales tax measure to bail out BART and other transit agencies that will be on ballots in five counties, including Alameda and Contra Costa. It appears Alameda County voters will also decide on a \$30 minimum wage.

Of course, the big Congressional District 14 runoff is set for Nov. 3 too: Democrats Aisha Wahab and Melissa Hernandez.

But remember, first Hernandez and Wahab will face off in a special runoff election for District 14 (to complete the unexpired Eric Swalwell term) on Aug. 18. That's barely a month away now; guess it's election time again already. ■

About the Cover

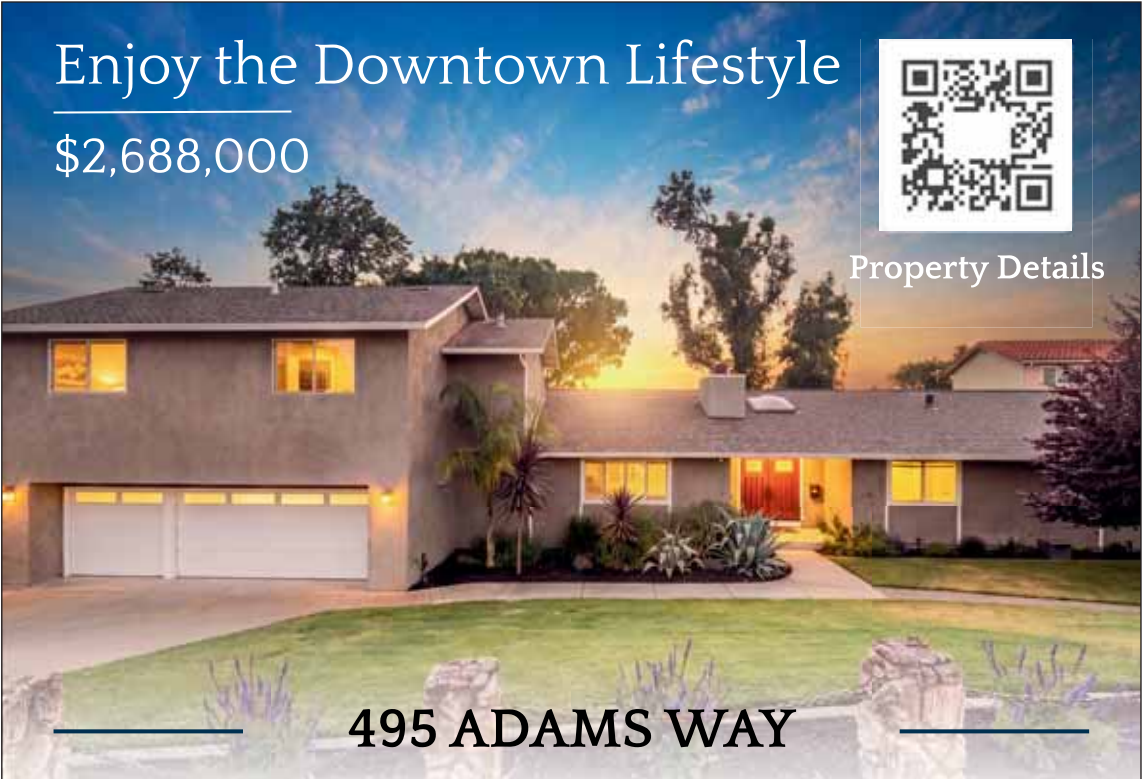
Tom and Paige Lemmons are advancing their bold vision for the future as new owners of historic Concannon Vineyard in Livermore. Photo by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Mary Watanabe. Vol. XXVII, Number 25

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Is there a movie you enjoy so much that you can watch it over and over (and over) again without ever getting tired of it?



Madison Monahan
Therapist

“A Bug’s Life”, for sure, is a movie I can watch over and over again and never tire of. I have great memories of watching it with friends, at basically every age, stage and phase of my life. I appreciate its unique style of animation, and it makes me feel nostalgic.



Ryan Safty, with Grant
City planner

I can watch “Step Brothers” over and over again. It’s such an easy watch, it’s super-funny, and it’s chock-full of really (although not so family-friendly) quotable material. So much great stuff.



Elliot Carlson, with Bodhi
Engineer

I could watch any of the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy movies, over and over again, because each one is so great, and long enough that once you’ve watched it the way through, you’re ready to watch it all over again.



Kyle Hutchison
Engineer

I can watch the movie “Crazy, Stupid, Love”, with Ryan Gosling and Steve Carell, a million times. And then a million more. It’s just the most perfect romcom with all sorts of twists and turns, and it’s chock-full of great comedy.



Ken Hobson, with Bochy
Retired

I could, and do, watch the “Top Gun” sequel “Maverick” over and over again because I always wanted to be a fighter pilot. I loved the original “Top Gun” movie when it first came out while I was in college during the 1980s, but I love the sequel even more because of its fantastic special effects.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

National Night Out

Most Tri-Valley residents still have time to register their neighborhoods for next month's 43rd National Night Out, an annual event that aims to strengthen police-community relations through block parties visited by officers.

Neighborhoods are encouraged to register for the Aug. 4 event through the National Night Out organization at natw.org/registration. To receive a visit from their police departments, each neighborhood must register with their respective city.

While the Pleasanton Police Department has not announced a deadline, registration typically closes in late July so make sure to register soon. Livermore already closed its registration on July 7.

San Ramon will be closing its National Night out registration on Monday (July 20) and Danville will be closing registration the following day (July 21). Dublin will close its registration next Friday (July 24).

Highway 84 work

As Caltrans continues its work on replacing the Arroyo de la Laguna Bridge, cyclists and pedestrians are reminded that a daytime shuttle is available for them to use in order to safely cross the bridge during construction.

According to the transportation agency, the project aims to replace the 87-year-old bridge with a modern one that features a wider, safer and more accessible roadway. Construction began in May.

The shuttle, which began its services on June 15, runs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day until November. Caltrans will also continue its overnight closures between Main Street and Pleasanton Sunol Road in Sunol. Those overnight closures are scheduled between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Caltrans said the overnight closures will last approximately four months.

Mayors Summit

Registration is now open for residents and other community members to attend this year's 2026 Tri-Valley Mayors Summit, which will be held at the Garre Vineyard & Winery in Livermore on July 30.

Presented by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, this annual event brings together all five of the Tri-Valley mayors for a "dynamic conversation about the opportunities and challenges shaping the Tri-Valley's future."

"The Summit highlights the strong partnership among all five chambers as we work collectively to support business vitality, innovation, and regional collaboration," the event description states.

To attend, register at livermorechamber.org. ■

City Council places hotel tax increase on November ballot

Residents will vote on raising TOT rate from 8% to 10% in 2027, then up to 12% in 2028

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton residents will be voting on increasing the city's hotel tax rate during the Nov. 3 general election following the City Council's unanimous decision last week to place the revenue measure on the upcoming ballot.

The general tax measure, which will need a simple majority vote to pass, seeks to increase the city's hotel tax rate from 8% to 10%

starting July 2027. The measure stipulates an additional increase from 10% to 12% would take effect the following year, which the city says could generate up to \$2.8 million annually once the full increase to 12% is realized.

"While our fiscal challenges will require fiscal discipline, I do believe asking the voters for the Pleasanton transient tax to increase, which hasn't changed since 1983, is appropriate and reasonable at this time,"

Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch said during the July 7 council meeting.

Pleasanton has been dealing with fiscal challenges with its budget over the past couple of years, including a structural deficit.

"The city is facing a structural budget gap, which simply means our costs are going faster than our revenues," Aaron Zavala, assistant to the city manager, told the council last week.

"In the 10-year financial forecast

we reviewed with you on May 19, the baseline projects ongoing annual general fund shortfalls," Zavala added. "This is before the additional gap we face in infrastructure funding."

Zavala said the city has been addressing this structural deficit in two ways; reducing spending and pursuing new revenues like the transient occupancy tax increase.

See **HOTEL TAX** on Page 8

A carnival wedding

Couple tie the knot at Alameda County Fair

By CIERRA BAILEY

"Just magical" — those were the words Karla Anderson used to describe her wedding day this week at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

She made her grand entrance on the Sky Ride during the July 7 ceremony, meeting her mentor at the end who walked her down the aisle toward the old fashion Ferris wheel where she joined her groom to exchange "I dos."

Anderson, 48, is a longtime employee of Butler Amusements, which provides rides and attractions for the local fair each year as well as other carnivals throughout the state and country.

She told the Pleasanton Weekly that since she's dedicated her life to the carnival business, it was only fitting for her and now-husband, Edward Anderson, to tie the knot at one of the largest stops on their fair route.

"I live, eat, breathe and sleep Butler Amusements, so it was just the right thing to do," Anderson said. "It was here with everybody around us — my family traveled in — and the atmosphere."

The newlyweds had the fairgrounds all to themselves for the occasion Tuesday, as the fair's days of operation are from Wednesday to Sunday.

Although they started planning the wedding just two months ago, the Andersons' marriage was six years in the making after the couple met during the COVID-19 pandemic and officially became engaged two years ago.

In the years since they met, Edward joined the carnival world as an independent contractor who "keeps the sparkle," mostly handling beautification for Butler, according to Anderson.



RACELLE CAMPANELLI

Edward and Karla Anderson were married July 7 at the Alameda County Fair.

The Atwater native said much of her family made the trek to Pleasanton from the Central Valley as well as a sister who came from Arizona and her mentor who traveled from Oregon. Between family, friends and colleagues, Anderson said there were nearly 200 people in attendance for her wedding day.

Anderson's work family was instrumental in putting her special day together. The ceremony was officiated by Butler Amusements Chief Operating Officer Sean Butler.

"It's one thing when someone officiates and they don't know you but when someone knows you and gets the right words out there, that was important," Anderson said, adding that it was special to be surrounded by everyone she loves for the occasion.

The reception was held at The Farmhouse restaurant on the fairgrounds property and the cake was

handmade by another member of the Butler family. Anderson said her best friend coordinated the day with a "classy, carnies" flare.

"My family is not involved in the carnival — I'm the only one in the carnival business — and then I have my whole carnival family. Having everybody in one spot to celebrate a union like that was just amazing," she said. The couple ended their night staying downtown Pleasanton at The Rose Hotel.

While the newlyweds had to join the rest of the Butler Amusements crew back at work the next day, Anderson said more celebration and a possible honeymoon will follow during the off-season. In the meantime, she is still basking in the magic of her wedding day.

"Honestly, I couldn't ask for a more beautiful ceremony all in the atmosphere of what I know so well and my comfort zone," Anderson said. ■

Castlewood, county still at 'stalemate'

No resolution to \$1.4M charge as motions fail at board

By TIM HUNT

The debate between Alameda County and Castlewood Property Owners Association over a \$1.4 million charge assessed to the association continues unresolved.

Supervisor David Haubert, who represents Castlewood, agreed that it's a "stalemate" after the board took a series of actions on June 30 in response to proposals from county public works director Daniel Wollesenbet. The Alameda County Public Works Agency manages the county service area that serves the association's homeowners and The Club at Castlewood. At Haubert's request, the seven recommendations were divided into two motions.

Five passed with three supervisors voting affirmatively, Supervisor Nate Miley abstaining and Haubert voting no. Miley represents most of Pleasanton and previously represented Castlewood for 10 years.

The two measures to allocate the funds, which took a four-fifths vote, both failed 3-1-1. That left unresolved repayment of the \$1.4 million that the association disputes and was run up from fiscal years 2021-24. Supervisors earlier approved loaning the money from county funds, which includes a modest interest rate. Public works revised proposal would have made

See **CASTLEWOOD** on Page 10

PPD admits feds had access to license plate reader data

Oakland privacy coalition revealed discovery at council meeting following public records request

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Police Department officials acknowledged flaws in its previous automatic license plate reading system after a public records request by an Oakland-based citizens' coalition revealed that the system allowed federal agencies to have access to its data, which is a violation of state and city law.

While the department has stopped using the system as of last October, the discovery of the violation was made public during the July 7 Pleasanton City Council meeting when Mike Katz-Lacabe, a director of research for Oakland Privacy, informed the city and public of his findings during public comment.

The Oakland Privacy citizens' coalition "works statewide to defend the right to privacy, enhance public transparency and promote oversight regarding the use of surveillance techniques and equipment," according to its website.

"Not only is it disappointing that the agency tasked with enforcing the law is itself failing to follow the law, its actions may have endangered the residents, visitors, neighbors and families of

Pleasanton," Katz-Lacabe said during the meeting.

According to the "Agency Data Sharing Report" published by Oakland Privacy, which also called out several other agencies in the state for the same issue, the San Diego Sector Border Patrol was one of the dozens of agencies that were able to access PPD's license plate reader data.

"With our old system, the San Diego Border Patrol Office was not prohibited from being able to access our data as all other federal agencies were," PPD Lt. Nicholas Albert told the Pleasanton Weekly. "However, we have no ability to confirm whether any data was actually accessed at any period of time by them."

According to city documents, Pleasanton first began using automatic license plate readers (ALPR) back in 2018 as a tool for officers and dispatchers to quickly alert police when vehicles that were implicated in criminal activity entered the city and to identify other vehicles involved in crimes throughout the city.

But it wasn't until 2020 that the city installed 30 Motorola Vigilant cameras at nearly a dozen

intersections. Two years later, the city also installed eight ALPR cameras from Flock Safety, which is another license plate reader company that has faced public scrutiny for allowing federal agencies to access information.

The Motorola Vigilant cameras and relevant contract with the company had remained active until October 2025. The City Council approved a new contract with Flock the previous month after testing out the technology with those original eight cameras. According to a July 15, 2025 staff report, 20 of the other Motorola cameras were "inoperable and, due to advances in technology, no longer meet operational needs."

The Motorola Vigilant system is now facing criticism for not prohibiting the San Diego Sector Border Patrol from accessing Pleasanton's ALPR data, despite the city having canceled its contracts with them.

Katz-Lacabe said during the council meeting this is illegal under California Senate Bill 34 which states that law enforcement agencies are not allowed to share license plate reader data with any federal and out-of-state agencies,

or private entities.

Additionally, the PPD's policy states, "ALPR system audits should be conducted on a regular basis."

Katz-Lacabe said either these audits are not being conducted or the audits are "not thorough enough to check whether the police department is complying with California state law."

"They say they're not doing it now, they don't have a contract with Motorola anymore. Great," Katz-Lacabe said. "But at least up until October 2025, they were doing something against the law and the question now is for how long were they doing it, what impact did it have, how did it happen, who's responsible and how will they make sure that doesn't happen going forward."

Whether those agencies, including the San Diego Sector Border Patrol, actually accessed that data from Pleasanton specifically is unknown, Katz-Lacabe told the Weekly in a follow-up interview. He said he believes once the city installed the Motorola license plate reader cameras, that's when the city could have possibly started sharing data with outside agencies like the San Diego

Sector Border Patrol.

"Because the legacy system was no longer in use, it was not part of our ongoing auditing process," Albert said. "It appears that when all federal agency connections were removed, the San Diego Sector Border Patrol entry was inadvertently overlooked because it was listed under California rather than as a federal agency."

Katz-Lacabe noted how even though the city might have canceled its contract with Motorola Vigilant, the data sharing report had a Jan. 6 date marked, which could mean that the San Diego Sector Border Patrol could still have access to the system.

And even though Albert said that with the "new Flock system, it is not possible for federal agencies to access any of our data", others were also left feeling skeptical about the city's five-year, \$639,760 contract with Flock Safety, which also included the installation of 54 replacement ALPR cameras.

"This is the type of data breach that we were concerned about with Flock," Dan Morley, a member of the progressive organization

See **PLATE READER** on Page 9

Math wiz earns top score on AP Calculus exam at 11

'I like the challenge, solving difficult problems,' Saravanan says

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

While most 5-year-old kids in Pleasanton were navigating kindergarten on a screen during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Terisa Saravanan was at home learning second grade-level math.

Now Saravanan is one of the youngest students in the nation to score a 5 on the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam.

"I like the challenge, solving difficult problems," Saravanan told the Weekly.

Dad Saravanan Jayavelu is an

engineer and information technology specialist who moved to Pleasanton in 2019 with his two daughters, the youngest of whom is Saravanan (whose last name is the same as her father's first name).

Saravanan, who was 5 years old when they moved to the Tri-Valley, started kindergarten at Vintage Hills Elementary School that same year. Shortly after, the COVID-19 pandemic forced schools across the Pleasanton Unified School District, and the country, to practice remote learning.

Because of pandemic conditions,

Jayavelu said he assumed the responsibility of teaching his daughter. But as he began teaching her, he soon realized just how fast Saravanan was learning the material, especially when it came to math.

He said by age 5, she was able to grasp the concept of numbers going up to a quintillion. That's when he knew his daughter was gifted.

"She learned borrow-subtraction in like less than half an hour," Jayavelu said. "Children don't learn it until second grade."

Upon realizing her skill, he decided to homeschool his daughter

so she could continue moving at her own, quick pace.

"By age 5 she had actually moved on to learning variables, long multiplication, long division and at age six she learned 90 degree trigonometry," he added.

Over the few years, Saravanan continued her homeschool education — and continued to rapidly progress. In the past four years, she completed, or is in the process of completing, a total of four high school mathematics courses (including honors algebra at 9), in addition to her elementary and middle school studies in other subjects.

Those high school courses included the prerequisite course needed to advance to AP Calculus AB, a subject her dad had already been teaching her since she was 9.

"(In) calculus, she's at my level," her dad said. "When we were doing AP Calculus together, there were times actually she was teaching me."

That led her to eventually take the AP test this past spring and become one of the youngest students to earn a score of 5, which is the highest possible score for AP exams and allows her to receive college credit for the course.

She said even though she was nervous before taking the four-hour AP test, she was fairly confident in the days leading up to the



COURTESY SARAVANAN JAYAVELU

Terisa Saravanan recently became one of the youngest students to receive a score of 5 in AP Calculus AB.

exam that she would get a score of 5.

"On the day of the exam, I asked her, 'What score are you expecting to get?'" he said. "She said 5."

While the news didn't immediately register the night the two learned her score, she said she was very happy about the result the following day.

Looking ahead, Saravanan said she wants to become a nuclear and quantum physicist, both of which require a lot of math. Jayavelu said while his hope is for his daughter to get into college by or around age 15, he doesn't want to push her too much and mainly wants her to be happy. ■



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Fusion energy firm opens research HQ in Livermore

By JUDE STRZEMP

Livermore-based company Inertia officially opened its headquarters last week, marking progress on its mission to commercialize fusion energy.

Aiming to break ground by 2030 on a utility-scale fusion energy power plant, Inertia intends to have a plant operating by mid-2030 to produce clean, abundant and inexpensive energy.

Inertia's plan builds upon the achievement of fusion ignition, first accomplished in 2022 at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's National Ignition Facility. In the experiment, controlled nuclear fusion produces more energy than is input by laser.

But ahead of creating a power plant, the fusion energy company must first create the world's most powerful and efficient laser as well as the first fusion target factory, Inertia CEO and co-founder Jeff Lawson said last Friday during the grand opening of the facility.

The research and process development required to reach Inertia's goal is slated to occur at the 50,000 square-foot headquarters in partnership with the LLNL.

"We can make every part of humanity's energy needs cheaper, better, cleaner, because of the power of



JUDE STRZEMP

Inertia CTO and co-founder Mike Dunne shows fragments of silicon that must be shaped into small spheres to cast carbon shells for the fuel targets.

fusion energy," Lawson said during a ceremony celebrating the opening of the headquarters.

Established in 2024, Inertia moved into its home base at 7800 Las Positas Road during early 2026. Following a six-month cleanup and renovation of the former wire extruding factory, Inertia leaders were ready to welcome the public to the facility.

Through its work at the HQ, Inertia intends to build a fusion energy power plant that produces 1.5 gigawatts of electricity — enough output to power over one million homes.

The envisioned power plant laser system will be composed of 1,000

smaller lasers, cumulatively one million times more powerful than NIF at just one tenth of the facility's footprint. A continuous production of power will be possible thanks to the firing at ten targets per second.

"A lot of people think about the future of energy as the electricity that's coming out of the plug in your home, and the bill you pay, and that is, of course, an important part of the future of energy," Lawson said on Friday.

But the future of energy is also in data centers and industrial processes such as the production of cement, steel and fertilizer, he said.

"We can take all of those industries,

make them cheaper, more cost effective and make them green with fusion energy," Lawson said.

Laying the groundwork for a fusion energy power plant, Inertia is working with industry partners to scale up the supply chain for required laser diodes.

The company also intends to advance the state of high power lasers at its Livermore facility.

The process will involve building a single unit cell prototype at its headquarters, 50 times more powerful than the current leading laser, according to Lawson.

Single-unit cells will later be constructed in a factory and packed in shipping containers for their modular construction, he said.

On the other side of operations, Inertia plans to advance target-manufacturing capabilities to a factory-level of one million targets daily, up from a one-by-one manufacturing process.

During a tour of the headquarters, Inertia chief scientist and co-founder Annie Kritcher showed a miniature prototype of a fuel target.

It is composed of a lead can, plastic membranes and a capsule made of a carbon shell with deuterium and tritium fuel, Kritcher explained.

Kritcher designed the world's first working target.

"Thanks to the NIF experiments, we know exactly how rough, how round, how perfect these targets need to be to produce fusion energy," Kritcher said.

Inertia co-founder and chief technology officer Mike Dunne estimated that in about one year, a process development area will be converted to a production line for the fuel capsule.

The goal is for the targets to cost less than \$1 each and have about \$75 worth of energy if put on the grid.

During a grand-opening ceremony Friday, Lawson expressed optimism regarding Inertia's ability to commercialize fusion energy.

"Compared to proving the basic science of fusion energy, mass manufacturing of laser diodes, of targets, these are relatively achievable things," Lawson said.

On its mission to commercialize fusion energy, Inertia has access to the codes LLNL uses to simulate and design the fusion experiment at NIF, he explained.

"It's not going to be easy, but if we're successful working together it will show again the amazing things that this country can deliver for the world if we all work together," NIF photon science directorate principal associate director Vincent Tang said at the grand-opening. ■



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Spectrum partners with OHK for Meals on Wheels

Previous contract with Stanford Health not renewed due to closure of preparation site

By JUDE STRZEMP

Spectrum Community Services this month forged a new partnership with Open Heart Kitchen as the producer of meals for its homebound senior food delivery program.

The collaboration with OHK marks a shift away from longtime partner Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley for Meals on Wheels.

The health care provider had prepared fresh meals for Spectrum's program since 1997 — then-ValleyCare Health System — but it no longer has the kitchen capacity due to closure of its preparation facility in Livermore.

"We are deeply grateful for their commitment and proud of what we accomplished together," Spectrum Executive Director Lara Calvert said

regarding Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley. "As we begin this next chapter with Open Heart Kitchen, our priority remains unchanged: ensuring that seniors in the Tri-Valley continue to receive hot meals produced locally in the Tri-Valley by dedicated local neighbors five days a week."

Through the partnership with OHK, effective July 1, medically tailored meals will continue to be available, according to Calvert.

Spectrum intends for the partnership with OHK to be long-lasting. The initial contract has a four-year term, mirroring the length of the contract Spectrum holds for Meals on Wheels.

"We are honored to partner with Spectrum Community Services to help ensure homebound older adults

in the Tri-Valley continue receiving nutritious meals and compassionate support," OHK Executive Director John Bost said in a statement. "Our organizations share a deep commitment to food access, dignity, and community care, and we look forward to working together to support seniors who rely on Meals on Wheels for nourishment, safety, and connection."

The Stanford Health Care building planned for closure at 1111 E. Stanley Blvd. in Livermore does not meet modern seismic standards, so kitchen operations were slated to stop at the end of the contract with Spectrum, Stanford Health spokesperson Denise Bouillercie told the Pleasanton Weekly in an email interview.

"This decision is driven by safety

and regulatory requirements and is not a reflection of the value Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley places on the program," Bouillercie added.

Additionally, due to the lack of acute care provided at 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Stanford Health has decided to "formalize the removal of hospital services with California Department of Public Health from this facility and is in the process of winding down operations within the building," Bouillercie said.

Shifting food preparation to the kitchen at Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley in Pleasanton was not an option because it is at capacity, Calvert said.

As for funding, public dollars for food preparation have been shifted to OHK.

Spectrum's Meals on Wheels

contract is partially funded by the Alameda County Area Agency on Aging. However, a funding gap remains.

Spectrum continues to seek community donations for an estimated gap of \$5 per meal.

"That's a big part of why community support matters so much right now," Calvert said.

In addition to the shift in partnership, Spectrum is relocating its Livermore office to the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance's Common Point Nonprofit Center, the site of dozens of other nonprofit organizations.

Located just half a mile away from OHK's Vineyard Resource Center, the new location allows for a deeper partnership with OHK, according to Spectrum officials. ■

HOTEL TAX

Continued from Page 5

A TOT — also known as a hotel tax — is a tax on short-term stays at hotels and motels.

"It is one of the few revenue tools where the cost falls mostly on visitors, rather than Pleasanton residents," Zavala said.

According to Zavala, Pleasanton has the lowest TOT compared to other cities in Alameda County at 8% — the majority of others have a tax rate between 10% and 14%. The city hasn't increased its hotel tax in 43 years, he added.

After directing staff to mobilize around the hotel tax nearly one year ago, staff began talking

to hotel managers throughout the city and surveyed residents to see whether the two groups would support such a measure on the November ballot.

Zavala previously said residents, for the most part, supported the increase while the hoteliers' stance on the increase was mostly neutral, with the caveat that they had

requested the two-year step up versus a one-year increase from 8% to 12%.

Following the city's evaluation on the feasibility of passing the hotel tax increase measure, staff presented the draft ballot language and related information to the council on June 2, which is also when the council signaled to staff to finalize all of the documents needed to place the measure on the ballot.

According to the measure's ballot language, the revenue generated by the hotel tax increase could be used to maintain city services including, but not limited to, police and fire, park and street maintenance, recreation programs and other general government needs.

"This measure is a meaningful, visitor-funded step that keeps dollars here in Pleasanton for the services our residents rely on," Zavala said.

During the June 2 meeting, the council was aligned on the tax rate increase, except for councilmembers Julie Testa and Jeff Nibert, who both pushed for the full transition from 8% to 12% to occur in the first year.

Testa held her stance last week, saying she did not believe the increase should have been phased over two years because it leaves money on the table but she still supports the measure.

Interim City Manager Joe Calabrigo noted how the projected \$2.8 million from the 12% increase would offset the current structural deficit — which he said is in the ballpark of between \$7 million to \$8 million — by roughly a third. The city previously placed a half-cent sales tax increase, Measure PP, on the November 2024 ballot to further offset that deficit but failed to get enough support from residents.

Despite disagreeing with the

phased approach, Testa voted along with the rest of the council to place the measure on the November ballot.

"I still have absolute support for putting this on the ballot," Testa said. "I think it is needed and I believe it will be strongly supported by the community."

"It's not enough to replace Measure PP ... but we can't not take this opportunity to at least support our budget deficit," she added.

Nibert also said as the city continues to pursue economic growth and vitality to address its structural deficit, there is "no way we can grow Pleasanton" enough to get out of that financial hole over the next few years. Still, he said the hotel tax would at least bring in consistent revenue annually.

Councilmember Craig Eicher also noted that while the hotel tax increase, if passed, will help Pleasanton generate new recurring revenue without raising taxes on residents or local businesses, it is just one of the many actions the city is taking to stabilize its budget.

"In addition to this modest revenue generation tax, we will need to continue our efforts at growing our city's economy, while also aggressively managing our budget to ensure future balanced budgets while meeting the service needs of our community," Eicher said.

Following last week's approval, the city attorney will work on preparing an impartial analysis of the measure, which will be due to the city on Aug. 5. The council also formed an ad hoc committee composed of Eicher and Nibert that will work on drafting a primary argument in support of the measure on behalf of the City Council.

That pro argument, along with any opposition argument, will be due to the city clerk's office on Aug. 13 — any rebuttal arguments will be due Aug. 20. ■



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Birkenstock, Gymboree new at Livermore outlets

Marine Layer, Windsor, Journey's also on retailer roster; World Cup pop-up winding down

By RIVA UPADHYAYA

With summer in full swing, the San Francisco Premium Outlets in Livermore recently welcomed five new stores. From fashion and footwear to lifestyle brands, the new openings offer fresh attractions across retail categories.

"At San Francisco Premium Outlets, we're committed to bringing our shoppers an exciting mix of brands that reflects the way

the Bay Area shops today," said Jennifer Koidal, general manager of the outlets.

In celebration of this year's premiere international soccer tournament, the Livermore outlets introduced a FIFA World Cup Official Store in June. The exclusive pop-up store features a large range of official gear, including official team jerseys, T-shirts, mascot merchandise and accessories. The store is scheduled to close on July 19, after the World Cup's final

match of 2026.

A popular shoe brand best known for its contoured footbed sandals, Birkenstock officially opened at the outlets in March. The new location marks its first outlet store in Northern California.

Footwear and accessories retailer Journey's also recently expanded its store, offering a wider selection of trending brands.

The new store Gymboree sells clothes for babies and children.

Since opening in May, it's offered kid-friendly apparel at outlet-value prices.

Marine Layer, a lifestyle brand known for its ultra-soft apparel, also opened in May.

There's more in store for the outlets this summer too. Windsor, a special-occasions dress store, is set to open at the outlets this week. The new Windsor will replace its previous counterpart at the Stoneridge Shopping Center, which closed over a year ago.

Finally, high-end Italian brand Peserico will open in late August, according to a press release from the outlets.

"From Northern California's first Birkenstock outlet to brands like Peserico, Marine Layer, and Windsor, these new openings add even more variety for our shoppers. We're excited to welcome them and continue giving local residents and visitors fresh reasons to visit the center," Koidal said. ■

PLATE READER

Continued from Page 6

Indivisible Tri-Valley, told the Weekly.

He also noted how he and other Indivisible members had asked the City Council in the past to take into account the dangers of using the automatic license plate reader technology and how they had been assured by the council, staff and even the police chief that the department does not share any data with federal agencies.

"I trusted what our Pleasanton council members and police representatives said at the meeting, when they considered the contracts, saying that these breaches won't happen," Morley said.

"These data breaches still happen, even though Flock claims (or) tells the city 'trust us' " Morley added. "I don't really trust Flock. I tend to trust our city and I'd like to hear their response to these breaches of data."

Katz-Lacabe also criticized the department's newest contract with Flock noting how the company had been under fire recently in San Francisco and other places after federal agencies accessed the company's license-plate surveillance data.

And while he said there are currently no federal agencies with direct access to license plate readers from Flock that he is aware of, local police agencies can access Flock data and perform searches on behalf of federal agencies.

"That has been documented to be happening in many, many places where they will do a search on behalf of the FBI or the DEA or border patrol or ICE," he said. "As far as I can tell, Flock is correct when they say there is no direct federal agency access to the license plate reader data, but these kinds of side searches ... Those still occur and there is no way that Pleasanton can prevent it."

He also pointed out how Flock is a private company that could make changes to its policies and how it decides to share data at any time without notifying its customers, which should cause concern to

cities like Pleasanton.

Despite all of this, Katz-Lacabe remains hopeful that the city can address the issue moving forward.

"I look forward to this violation of state law being quickly addressed and a transparent investigation into

how this happened, how long this has been occurring and accountability for those responsible, including a plan for how it will be prevented in the future," Katz-Lacabe told the council.

He also noted how he has

requested subsequent public records reports and audits on the matter.

"The Pleasanton Police Department is committed to protecting the privacy of our community, complying with all applicable

laws, and maintaining the public's trust," Albert said. "When issues are identified, we take them seriously, act promptly to address them, and review our processes to help prevent similar situations in the future." ■



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Morgan's Masonry Supply announces closure

Longtime San Ramon business expected to make way for housing on property

By JEANITA LYMAN

The end is near for Morgan's Masonry Supply, one of San Ramon's longest standing businesses and a mainstay in the city's northwest corner, with a closing sale now underway and a new housing project on the horizon.

The exact timing of that transition is not yet clear. An employee told DanvilleSanRamon that as of Friday, Morgan's will continue to be open for business for the time being, with no closure date yet determined.

But the future of the site at 2233 San Ramon Valley Blvd. has been determined, and it does not include

the masonry store that has been in operation for decades as the city has grown around it.

Applications for a 131-unit apartment project designated for extremely low to low incomes were advanced in 2024, having been determined as a housing opportunity site in the city's Housing Element — both of which were factors that led to an expedited approval process.

"Because of the site's status as a Housing Opportunity Site and their proposal to designate 100% of the units as affordable units, the project qualified for 'by-right' approval meaning there is no discretionary

review required," city planning division manager Cindy Yee said.

The site has been eyed for redevelopment even longer than that, with a 200-unit mixed-use project previously considered in 2017 during a conceptual review workshop.

"The property owners of Morgan's Masonry have engaged potential buyers of their site over the last five years to redevelop their property; the owners have elected to work with a developer interested in proposing housing on the site," City Manager Steven Spedowski said. "The San Ramon Village Specific Plan identified the property as a potential residential development site back in the 1990s."

While it's unclear exactly when

the business will close and when the apartment complex will be constructed, what is clear is that the new development will be sitting on a well-known and beloved historic site that dates back to before the city's incorporation in 1983.

But that was also the case for Morgan's Masonry Supply itself, built on the site of the former San Ramon Grammar School that itself served as a keystone for the growing community.

The business was established by late Danville residents Murphy Morgan and Gladys Morgan after the school's closure in the mid-20th century, with the former passing away and leaving his mark on the San Ramon Valley in 1978, followed by the latter in

2008, according to her obituary. The couple's grandchildren had gone on to take over the family business prior to Gladys Morgan's death.

The schoolhouse's impact on the region as one of the features that put the San Ramon Valley on the map early on is recognized with a historic plaque at the site.

While it's also not yet clear how Morgan's Masonry will be recognized for its historic role in the city, the supplies it has provided for countless landscaping, paving, and other construction projects throughout the region over the decades are already serving as a tribute. There will be more to come — and at a discount — as the business commences with its closing sale. ■

TAKE US ALONG

Spring break in Spain: Tina and Claire Wagner enjoyed spring break in Barcelona at the Sagrada Familia. Since moving to New York City, Claire misses out on so many things going on in her hometown. One way mom Tina keeps her updated is by sharing the Pleasanton Weekly.



Tri-Valley REACH sets gala at McGrail Vineyards

By JEREMY WALSH

"Cruisin' On Main Street" is the theme of this year's fundraising gala for Tri-Valley REACH later this summer at McGrail Vineyards in Livermore Valley wine country.

The annual REACH for Your Dreams event comes at a crucial time for the nonprofit dedicated to providing affordable housing, enrichment programs and social connection for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Tri-Valley.

"The demand for affordable, sustainable housing for adults with I/DD has never been greater, but at Tri-Valley REACH our mission extends well beyond housing. We are committed to creating opportunities for

independence, recreation and community connection, ensuring that individuals with I/DD can thrive," board secretary Carolyn Zalewski told the Pleasanton Weekly.

"As a parent of an adult child with I/DD, I've seen firsthand how REACH-sponsored programs foster friendships, build confidence and create joy," she said. "Whether it's through sports, the arts, or social events, REACH is making a positive difference in lives every single day. For that, our family and so many others are grateful."

The outdoor dinner event, scheduled for the evening of Sept. 9, raises critical funding and awareness for the organization, according to vice chair Sharon Almeida. In addition

to ongoing maintenance and other costs for its established properties, one new project that will benefit is Tri-Valley REACH's second accessory dwelling unit under construction in Pleasanton, set to offer another independent living opportunity for two more people.

"It's a wonderful, heartwarming evening that brings together residents, families, community leaders and generous donors that care about building an inclusive community that supports individuals that are often overlooked," Almeida said. "Hearing directly from the people Tri-Valley REACH supports is so inspiring."

For tickets, sponsorships or other information, visit trivalleyreach.org. ■



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CASTLEWOOD

Continued from Page 5

it an intra-fund loan within the county service area carrying no interest and would be repaid with surplus money in any of the dedicated service area funds.

The approved measures also direct public works to initiate annexation discussions with both the city of Pleasanton and the Local Agency Formation Commission that must approve any arrangements. The service area provides water and sewer services to about 190 homes in Castlewood, adjoining developments and along Foothill Road. A road fund also is included in the accounts.

The \$1.4 million charge has been contested since the supervisors approved public works making the loan in the prior fiscal year. Property owner representatives have said publicly they have received insufficient information supporting the charges, an assertion public works disputes. The association filed legal

action to force a property owners vote under Proposition 218 requirements and the settlement agreement included the ballot. It failed, with more than 90% opposed to the charge.

That left the charge unresolved and resulted in the action that took place on the last day of the county's fiscal year.

Annexation to Pleasanton may be the best solution for the association because the county has declared it wants to be out of the service area business. Given the city's budget challenges, it must be a cash-positive arrangement for Pleasanton.

One pressing issue that both the association and supervisors have identified is electrical generators to back up the pumps that fill the two 150,000-gallon water tanks on the hillside above the country club. With PG&E regularly cutting electrical power during high fire danger, there's a need for backup power to keep water moving into the tanks.

The current bandage approach is

portable generators that are rented for \$80,000 annually but require an employee of Bracewell Engineering to respond to outages and literally plug in and start the generators. The firm is based in Morgan Hill. A prior arrangement had a Castlewood employee responsible, but that person retired and no agreement between the county and the country club has been set to replace that function.

The association's board also wants the county to install a system to modulate pressure on the pipes when the pumps start and stop. Discussions about this were proceeding earlier in the year, but have stalled.

There are other issues under discussion, but the loan and fire protection are the biggest ones.

Property owners already were smarting from the 172% increase in water rates that took effect July 2025 making the rates the highest of any utility in the surrounding area. ■

Editor's note: Tim Hunt's family home is within the Castlewood county service area.

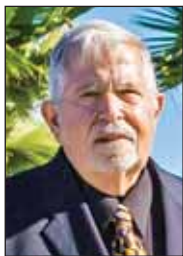
Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Retired Pleasanton police chief Bill Eastman dies

Former police chief William "Bill" Eastman, who led the Pleasanton Police Department for nearly 20 years during the city's growth of the 1980s and '90s, died earlier this summer. He was 85.

A transplant from Southern California when he earned the chief post, Eastman made his mark on Pleasanton as the department expanded from just 32 officers when he was hired, moved out of the small, historic police building on Main Street soon after his arrival and instituted the D.A.R.E. program under his watch. He also represented the city as president of the California Police Chiefs Association and ran for mayor in retirement.



Bill Eastman

"I accomplished a lot in my years as police chief and I think I can offer even more that will help Pleasanton for the next 20 years," Eastman told the Weekly in 2002 when he announced his mayoral bid. "Pleasanton is still a very good town and I'm getting into the mayor's race to keep it that way."

Eastman, whose tenure fell amid a stretch of just six permanent police chiefs in 86 years for Pleasanton, retired in 1999 and remained in the community after his law enforcement career. He died June 29, cause undisclosed. His family has not yet posted an obituary, beyond a death notice online through Neptune Society.

Born in St. Louis in 1940, Eastman served in the U.S. Marine Corps and earned degrees from Pepperdine University and the University of Southern California. He rose through the ranks of the Culver City Police Department before applying for — and winning — the Pleasanton police chief position in 1981, succeeding Walter McCloud.

Eastman arrived in a city in evolution, with Stoneridge Shopping Center newly opened and Hacienda Business Park on its way, in addition to new residential developments in the queue. That growth continued at various levels throughout his 18-year-plus tenure.

Eastman was also there when infamous Pleasanton crimes made regional and national news such as the Tina Faelz murder in 1984, Tina Belt kidnapping in 1987 and Vanessa Lei Samson kidnapping and murder in 1997.

Five years into his tenure, Pleasanton made headlines becoming the first police department in the country to drug-screen all of its officers — and all 63 passed the voluntary tests, as reported by the San Francisco Chronicle at the time. Eastman also caught eyes in 1989 when, as president of the state chiefs association, he wrote an open letter to Oakland Athletics star Jose Canseco for rampant speeding off the base paths.

He took a special interest in youth prevention programs, including launching D.A.R.E. for drug awareness, reactivating Operation AWOL on truancy, and investing resources in "Stranger Danger" and bicycle safety lessons in Pleasanton schools.

He and wife DiAnn raised two daughters through Foothill High School while he was with Pleasanton PD.

One of his final public appearances with the city happened in 2016 when he posed with three other retired top cops and then-chief David Spiller for a reunion of Pleasanton's five living police chiefs at the time.

—Jeremy Walsh

Puppies abandoned

More than a dozen stray puppies discovered last week in a Walmart parking lot in Livermore were taken in by the East Bay SPCA for future adoption.

Believed to be 9-week-old Border Collie mixes, 17 dogs were initially found in the lot uncontained without an owner on July 8, according to officials at the nonprofit organization.

One puppy was killed by a car, but a good Samaritan transported the 16 surviving dogs to East Bay SPCA's Dublin and Oakland campuses for emergency after-hours intake.

Evaluated as having "overall good health", the dogs are estimated to go up for adoption within the next week, East Bay SPCA officials said in a statement about the rescue.

"This situation serves as a perfect example of why we exist, and why we need the support of our community to exist," East Bay SPCA vice president of operations Jes Cytron said in a statement. "Without the Good Samaritan's immediate rescue and transport, and without consistent adoptions and fosters to keep shelter space open, helping these puppies would not have been possible."



EAST BAY SPCA

Two of the 16 surviving puppies taken in by East Bay SPCA in Dublin.

Prior to adoption, the puppies must be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, dewormed and microchipped. The nonprofit's Behavior team will also work with some of the dogs to "develop important socialization skills," East Bay SPCA officials said.

The organization holds a three-year contract with the Livermore Police Department for providing stray animals with shelter, care and placement. Recently closing out the first year of the contract, East Bay SPCA admitted to 731 animals to the shelter from Livermore, including 504 strays. ■

—Jude Strzemp

Mavis Fiorio Williams

July 29, 1926 - July 4, 2026

A beautiful life has been lived!

Mavis passed on July 4, 2026, at her home in Pleasanton, California that she and her husband, Bob built in 1956.

She was in her 100th year and was the oldest living graduate of Amador High School and at the time of her death, she was the oldest living Pleasanton born resident.

Mavis was born to Charles and Lillie Schneider Fiorio. Lillies' father, Jacob Schneider, arrived in Pleasanton in 1880, from Alsfeld, Germany. Jacob and his wife Mary Jane Graham were one of the twelve Heritage families who settled in Pleasanton. Mavis had an older brother, Jack Fiorio who passed in 2010; he operated the family market on Rose Avenue in Pleasanton. Mavis worked hard in the store during World War II and often shared many stories of life in Pleasanton as a young adult in the 1930's and 1940's.

In addition to serving the City of Pleasanton as the Queen of the Alameda County Fair in 1948, she was also active in the Eastern Star, and many other youth organizations over the years.

Mavis had her drivers' license at a young age and delivered groceries to many local families from the family store. With fewer than 1500 people in town, Mavis recalled the Police Chief calling her parents, requesting her to slow down and obey the stop signs; he couldn't catch her!

Although the police couldn't catch her, and others tried, Bob Williams captured her heart in 1948 and they were happily married in 1950 for 53 years until his death in 2003.

Mavis loved her family, friends and neighbors. She had a quick wit, was a good storyteller, an avid gardener and enjoyed playing bridge, rummy and the piano. She deeply appreciated the many conversations and visits with her neighbors, often reminiscing about times past in Pleasanton.

Mavis lived through wars, depressions, good days, hard times, disappointments, surprises, grief and joy. Overall, she lived a full life as a true Pollyanna; practicing gratitude and looking for solutions when facing adversity. She somehow found the silver lining. Mavis believed that tomorrow could be better and after 100 years of living well, that kind of optimism is not naïve, it's wisdom.

She is survived by her daughter, Janis Hebebrand, her son George Williams and their families. She was deeply loved and will be greatly missed. Mavis will be peacefully laid to rest with her husband in her family's section of the Pioneer Cemetery in Pleasanton.

Mavis asked that no services be held and that donations in her memory be sent to the Pleasanton Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton, California 94566.



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What's new at Concannon Vineyard

**Fresh owners lead changes throughout historic
Livermore Valley winery**

BY DEBORAH GROSSMAN

A sense of tradition endures at Concannon Vineyard. The tall dinosaur-shaped topiary bush guards an unused gate near the main entrance. Visitors linger under the grape arbor and pavilion on the lawn. Staff eagerly share the heritage of Concannon Cabernet Sauvignon and Petite Sirah.

Several clues point to Concannon's new ownership. Young vines are sprouting up poles. Newly renovated event spaces are open. During Twilight Tunes on Thursday evenings, local musicians serenade guests sipping Sparkling Sauvignon Blanc and other new wines.

"It is exciting to preserve the historic legacy of the Concannon family. We are focused on investing in the estate and vineyard redevelopment," said Tom Lemmons, co-owner of Concannon with his wife Paige of Lemmons Family Vineyards. The couple purchased the Concannon property in November 2024 from The Wine Group, the second largest wine company in the U.S.

A year and a half later, the Lemmons family expanded the wine experiences at Concannon by acquiring Cuda Ridge Winery from Larry and Margie Dino. Winemaker Larry Dino has crafted small lots of acclaimed Bordeaux style wines for 19 years in Livermore. The new Cuda Ridge Tasting Room will open a few steps from the Concannon tasting space on Aug. 1.

Tom and Paige Lemmons are Livermore High School graduates and live a few miles from the winery. Though they had not previously been winegrowers or vintners, their love of wine motivated them to purchase two 20-acre properties on the Crane Ridge development in 2017. They planted grapevines and established Lemmons Family Vineyards.

The announcement on the sale of Concannon stated that the new owners were the Lemmonses of Lemmons Family Vineyards and Darcie and David Kent of the Darcie Kent Winery. The Kents' role was defined as heading winery operations.

The Kent winery team had experience at the property. David Kent served as CEO of The Wine Group from 2000 to 2012, and their winemaker had previously worked at TWG.



Above: Paige and Tom Lemmons are advancing their vision as new owners of Concannon Vineyard. Top left: Cuda Ridge winemaker Larry Dino (left) and Concannon winemaker Brett Fikse engage in a taste test.

But in January, the Kents announced that they would transition from Concannon on July 31; the change unexpectedly occurred in March.

What happened between the two sides during those 16 months of collaboration remains unclear — and is the central issue being disputed in legal proceedings between the parties that are making their way through Alameda County Superior Court. But as it stands now, the Lemmons family is alone in operating Concannon, and the Kents are no longer involved.

New visitor experiences

The new Cuda Ridge Tasting Room replaces the former Concannon wine club space across the courtyard from the main tasting entrance. Guests can sample Cuda Ridge award-winning Cabernet

Franc and other acclaimed wines. Familiar decor from their previous Arroyo Road tasting room may include photos of Dino's 1970 Plum Crazy Purple Plymouth Barracuda that inspired the name of the winery.

Tastings of Concannon wines are held on the terrace, in the tasting room, and on weekends, in the historic library. Pavillion seated tastings and picnics on the main lawn are available seasonally. Children are welcomed on three weekdays and during the monthly Second Sundays with Kids event on the lawn.

Wine tastings for Club 1883, the rebranded Concannon wine club, are held in the lounge-style Members' Estate Room at the back of the main tasting area.

A locally owned outpost of the national Pedego electric bike company is located behind the Concannon tasting room building. Pedego e-bike rentals for the



From top down: Young grapevines grow into their own at the Concannon property. Inside the barrel room at the historic winery. Selection of Concannon and Cuda Ridge wines.

E-Bike Wine Country Tour listed on the Concannon website are an approachable way to explore Livermore Valley wine country and/or the Concannon estate. Post-ride Concannon wine tastings are reserved separately.

Heidi Rasmussen, director of sales and hospitality, looks forward to a new series of wellness programs called The Senses. These sessions combine sensory elements such as the upcoming "Art of Blending" event with aroma experiences that relate to winemaking.

In spring 2027, Rasmussen will offer elevated tastings in the historic Victorian behind the main lawn. Vineyard tours via eight-seater golf carts and legacy walking tours are also planned.

Beyond tastings, Concannon hospitality now focuses on entertainment. On Thursday evenings, Twilight Tunes events present

rotating music, wine, and food trucks. Rasmussen plans to hold indoor events in the cooler months with tribute bands performing music by Journey or Fleetwood Mac.

The Late Pour Comedy Night, a new monthly event in the Members' Estate Room, has consistently sold out. A recent set by Tremaine Webb of San Ramon, one of three comedians performing that night, kept the crowd laughing.

Jamie Luu of Livermore has begun attending The Late Pour shows. A former Concannon wine club member, she dropped out when the former Underdog Lounge, located in the same room, closed in 2017.

"We have always loved the winery, the hospitality, the wine, and the grounds. We are glad to rejoin the club, receive the club discounts, and enjoy the shows," Luu said.

With the popularity of The Late



Did you know? Concannon trivia

- When Prohibition was repealed in 1933, Concannon was the first winery to ship wine to Seattle and other major cities.
- Katherine Vajda, one of the first technically trained woman winemakers in the U.S., served as Concannon's lead winemaker during the 1950s.
- Concannon received a California Historical Landmark plaque in 1958. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren attended the ceremony.
- President Ronald Reagan chose a bottle of Concannon Reserve 100 Year Anniversary Petite Sirah as America's official gift to Ireland during his trip in 1964.
- Concannon became one of the first California wineries to be certified sustainable in 2009.
- Prohibition-dated bottles of Concannon wine were donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History collection in 2014.

Photos of these events are available on the Concannon website, <https://concannon.wine/gallery/>.



COURTESY CONCANNON

Aerial views show the Concannon Vineyard property on Tesla Road of the past (left) and the present (above).



COURTESY CONCANNON

Katherine Vajda worked as the lead winemaker at Concannon in the 1950s, one of the few women to hold such a role in the nation at the time.

Pour and continued interest in winemaker restaurant dinners, Rasmussen hopes to start holding the comedy and dinner events in the event center's Barrel Room.

Comprised of three diverse rooms and outdoor spaces, the event center will host community gatherings and weddings — an outdoor Olive Grove comprises an altar and covered bar area. A terrace outside The Bubbles Lounge faces a scenic Pinot Noir vineyard. The modern ambiance of the Vineyard Ballroom leads to the expansive Barrel Room with two 70-year-old, upright French casks standing tall at the back and oak barrels stacked along the walls.

During the annual TASTE: the Livermore Valley Wine Experience in mid-October, Concannon will host two major events at the event center: Taste our Terroir, the annual kick-off program, and Barrels and Bootleggers: A Speakeasy Wine Affair.

In 2027, the annual Founder's Winemaker Dinner will be held in the event center on or around March 17th to honor James

Concannon, the Irish immigrant who was born on St. Patrick's Day and established the winery in 1883.

Beyond club member release parties, public Cuda Ridge Winery events are also launching at Concannon. The popular Hippy Fest events will again feature peace signs, tie-dye, and rock 'n' roll bands on Memorial Day Weekend Sunday with more space to sip, reminisce and dance.

Future hospitality plans

Tom Lemmons' background informs several upcoming hospitality offerings at Concannon.

At age 17, Lemmons wanted to be a firefighter and EMT like his dad, a retired battalion chief for the Alameda County Fire Department. He joined the Army, certified as an EMT and degreed in fire science.

A decorated Army captain, he returned to active duty after 9/11 serving as a combat and medevac pilot in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lemmons is already planning

the second, large-scale Annual Memorial Appreciation Day for 2027. In May, he hosted the first event, highlighted by a Blackhawk helicopter landing in the empty field next to the Victorian house. Along with the local fire chief and police chief, Lemmons honored the on-hand first responders, veterans, their families and Gold Star Families.

In 2000, Lemmons established a fire sprinkler and alarm company. As the business evolved into a fire suppression and life safety design and installation endeavor, Lemmons acquired

extensive experience in construction.

"After purchasing the two Crane Ridge properties, I considered constructing a winery there at some point, but the opportunity to own a historic winery was so attractive that we took that path," he said.

The idea for a Livermore Valley Wine Country Center was referenced in the 2024 acquisition announcement.

"We're tossing around names, but the LV Wine Center remains part of our long-term vision," Lemmons said. "We see it as a community

gathering place that may include a specialty sandwich shop, butcher shop, photography studio, Pedego e-bikes and tech startup office space. Our current target is to begin opening in late 2027 or early 2028."

A longer-range centerpiece to the property is a boutique hotel to be constructed behind the wine production area. When asked for status on the project, Lemmons said, "We're currently working through layouts, concepts and cost estimates with city officials."

The Livermore Valley Wine Community supports Lemmons' plans. "Having visitors stay overnight amidst our wine country would encourage guests to experience multiple wineries, restaurants, and local businesses, and help to showcase everything the Tri-Valley has to offer," said Executive Director Brandi Lombardi.

Vineyard news

When TWG purchased Concannon in 2002, they relocated their corporate headquarters and consolidated some of their winery operations onsite. When Lemmons took over, the vineyards were not in top shape.

With a commitment to sustainable agriculture and plans to obtain organic certification, the winery approached the Tri-Valley Conservancy about revitalizing the vineyards. Given that the TVC

See **CONCANNON** on Page 14

CONCANNON

Continued from Page 13

mission promotes sustainable vineyards, Lemmons received the second Sponsored Replanting Program loan to support vineyard replanting.

This year the Concannon team will replant about a third of the 150 projected acreage with Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon Blanc — Livermore Valley's signature grapes.

In 1893, founder James Concannon brought grapevine cuttings from two famous Bordeaux wineries and planted them in what is now called the Cabernet Sauvignon Mother Vine Vineyard.

After serving in World War I, Capt. Joe Concannon, James' son, returned to manage the vineyard and make wine during Prohibition under sacramental use regulations.

Third generation vintner, Jim Concannon, made wine history in 1961 by bottling the first single varietal Petite Sirah in the world. The vintner collaborated with the University of California at Davis on another successful project. With cuttings from Concannon's Mother Vine Vineyard, UC Davis developed virus-free clones (versions) of Cabernet Sauvignon grapevines.

By the 1970s, vineyard planting of the new Concannon clones 7 and 8 locally and throughout Napa Valley and other wine regions



COURTESY CONCANNON

Opening night concert at the Concannon Event Center.

jumpstarted the fame of California Cabernet Sauvignon.

The Concannon clones now comprise about 80% of the state's Cabernet Sauvignon. Grapes from the half-acre Mother Vine Vineyard with its rare, thick-trunked vines are still harvested for special wines.

The upgraded winery and new wines

As TWG production ramped up the Livermore production for its numerous wine brands, a parade of grape-filled trucks lined up at harvest time for processing. The company built a large bottling plant to process six million cases of wine annually.

"Concannon wines are now about quality, not quantity," said

Lemmons, who plans to bottle about 32,000 cases in 2027. Currently selling wine only at the winery and through the wine club, Lemmons hopes to expand to companies such as BevMo in 2027.

To enhance wine quality, Lemmons has invested in new winery equipment. Concannon head winemaker Brett Fikse and his team now use an optical scanner to sort the best grapes and transfer them to a new grape press from France that handles the fruit more gently.

Vice president Kevin Baskin has enabled smooth integration of the new equipment and optimization of the existing process. An experienced mechanical engineer and project manager, Baskin worked for TWG for 20

years, left briefly, and then returned to work with Lemmons in 2025.

Like Baskin, Fikse had worked at TWG and was appointed head winemaker of the Concannon brand in 2023 before joining Lemmons' team. "I discovered the lure of wine and specifically Viognier at a tasting in Lodi. Now I am pleased to make Viognier as a single varietal wine," Fikse said.

At the San Chronicle Wine Competition in January, Concannon won 17 awards for the 2023 and 2024 vintage of both red and white wines. New wines in the portfolio include a well-received Sparkling Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Franc Blanc, Albarniño, Grüner Veltliner and Clone 30 Cabernet Sauvignon. Fikse is especially keen about the reintroduction of Merlot as a standalone varietal wine.

Dino looks forward to making Cuda Ridge wine at Concannon. "Before, my wine was literally handcrafted. At Concannon, we will remain a boutique operation with an opportunity to source more Concannon grapes, use the new equipment, and gradually ramp up production," he said.

Though Fikse is head winemaker at Concannon, Dino leads for Cuda Ridge and his wine will not become a Concannon taste-alike. Dino will offer a new release of a bestseller, Cuda Ridge Margo Rosé of Cabernet Franc. The vintner is crafting a new wine, L'Alliance, a blend of Semillon and Sauvignon

Blanc, to honor the new relationship with Concannon.

The two winemakers will collaborate on each step of the winemaking process while retaining their own wine styles. "I pick grapes earlier than Brett and make less fruit-forward wine," Dino said.

Fikse agreed they have different experiences and perspectives on winemaking and added, "The biggest advantage of working together is that we learn from each other."

With two talented winemakers, property upgrades, a new events calendar, sustainable grape growing practice and new wines, the Lemmons family is poised to remake historic Concannon into a buzzworthy destination. Add in the longer-range hospitality plans, the new Concannon experience may have a significant impact on Livermore Valley wine country. ■

Upcoming events

- Twilight Tunes: Music, wine, and food trucks, Thursdays through August
- Winemaker Dinner: Terra Mia Ristorante, Livermore, July 23
- The Senses: Essential Oils & Wine: The Art of Blending, July 25
- The Late Pour Comedy Night: July 31
- Cuda Ridge Tasting Room Opening: Aug. 1
- Sunset Estate Blocks E-bike Tour: Guided e-bike tour through estate vineyards with Winemaker Brett Fikse, Aug. 9
- Second Sunday with The Kids: Aug. 9.

Trade Traffic for Waterfront Living

Less than an hour from the East Bay, Delta Coves is attracting Bay Area homebuyers seeking a waterfront lifestyle surrounded by open space and natural beauty. Located on Bethel Island at the gateway to more than 1,000 miles of California Delta waterways, the private community features a swimmable lagoon, private boat docks and resort-style amenities. Homes by Blue Mountain Communities and Davidson Communities range from approximately 1,600 to more than 4,000 square feet, with prices from the \$500s to the \$2 millions. Residents enjoy boating, paddleboarding, fishing, fitness facilities, social events and year-round recreation on and around the water.



Read the spotlight



Centennial Bulb at Livermore fire station celebrates 125 years of light

Legendary lamp

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JUDE STRZEMP

Flipping the script on what makes for a tourist attraction, a light bulb in Livermore draws visitors from around the world to look up at the ceiling of a fire station.

The star of the show is the world's oldest and longest-burning lamp — the Centennial Light Bulb.

Since 1901, the bulb has burned for over 1.5 million hours with intermittent outs, according to retired deputy fire chief Tom Bramell of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.

Besides in-person visits to its home at LPFD's Fire Station No. 6, the bulb has grown its following with its own website, livestream camera feed, email address and social media account, not to mention its features in film, TV shows and international news.

The story of the 125-year burning bulb was up for retelling on a Wednesday morning in late June as lamp aficionado Bramell presented its history before a crowd of Alameda County Fire dispatchers-in-training.

"It's interesting — the amount of people that come from all over, to come view a light bulb," LPFD battalion chief Anthony Bertuccelli told the Pleasanton Weekly with a laugh after a morning of tours.

The 60-watt mill-type, Shelby Electric Company lamp, was constructed in about 1900 in Shelby, Ohio, Bramell told the group.

It was advertised as being 20% more efficient, with a 30% longer lifespan, than other bulbs for sale at the time, according to Bramell.

As its name suggests, the type of lamp was intended for use in mills and was manufactured for a commensurate durability — contrary to the current trend of planned obsolescence, Bramell noted.

"In that period of time, they were manufacturing equipment to last," he told the Weekly.

Livermore's fire department installed the lamp in 1901 at a former station on Second



The Centennial Light Bulb — and the story behind its 125 years of illumination — draws interest to Livermore's Fire Station No. 6 on a regular basis.

Street between L Street and K Street after its donation by Dennis Bernal, late owner of the Livermore Power and Water Company.

Five years later, the lamp was relocated to a newer fire station at the intersection of First and McLeod streets. It was here that Bramell joined the fire department in the 1970s and began learning about the bulb that he would eventually write a book about, "A Million Hours of Service."

During the presentation at Fire Station No. 6, Bramell held a photograph before the crowd depicting a fire engine and the Centennial Light Bulb.

"We'd get on this engine and we'd stand on the tail-step," Bramell said. "On the way out the door, it hung down far enough, you would reach over your head and you'd tap the ball for good luck."

The fire chief knew about its longevity, but

the bulb did not garner much conversation, he explained.

"We were more concerned about fires and emergencies," Bramell said.

Nevertheless, people appeared at the station to see the bulb and then-rookie Bramell was tasked with talking to visitors.

"So I've been talking about this since the early '70s," he told the modern-day visitors in June.

The lamp's popularity boomed after the publication of a news story in 1972 by reporter Mike Dunstan, according to Bramell.

"When he made the front page, that article went international," Bramell said. "That was good news for him, bad news for us because everyday we had people coming. They wanted to see this light bulb."

The lamp was relocated in 1976 to its current home inside Fire Station No. 6 at 4550

East Ave. The transition stirred just one of a few false-alarms of the bulb's burn out.

In another scare during 2013, which turned out to be a dead battery in the lamp's uninterruptible power supply, Bramell considered how he'd respond to its absence.

"I'm losing a dear friend because I felt that closeness to the light bulb," he told the Weekly of his mindset. "Even today, they'll call me and at the drop of a hat, I'll be down here to talk about it."

There's plenty to discuss with the lamp surpassing its one millionth hour of operation and 125th anniversary, which spurred a community celebration June 6 at the fire station.

Even on non-event days, a lineup of commemorative items surround the lamp.

There is a banner near the bulb displaying a timeline of local and world history dating back to 1901, a row of framed recognitions and a glass case with lamp relics.

"Someone will come by the station every day — at least one or two, if not a tour bus," Bramell added.

One such group came in part from Hong Kong, visiting the lamp for a surprise birthday party shortly after the soon-to-be dispatchers.

Bramell kicked off another history lesson on the bulb.

Guest of honor Eugene Sun, from Hong Kong, said he was fascinated by the relic.

Party-goer Sanam Thakur shared the sentiment and said she had been wanting to see the lamp for years.

"It's actually really beautiful, like the way the filament is designed," Thakur said. "Seeing its history in relation to the rest of U.S. history, or even global history, is quite eye-opening."

In the coming years, the bulb may be relocated to the station entrance, as the city eyes the structure's future remodel.

But for now, the inconspicuous lamp continues to draw visitors to the back of Fire Station No. 6. ■

Tri-Valley Scholarship Roundup

Organizations award thousands of dollars to students throughout region

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

This past 2025-26 scholarship awards cycle was a particularly busy and noteworthy one for many Tri-Valley organizations and nonprofits.

From the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative being able to award more students thanks to an increase in funding this year, to the Pedrozzi Foundation in Livermore celebrating 10 years of honoring elementary school students through its young scholars program, this academic year saw hundreds of kids and teens getting the recognition — and financial support — they need to continue in their educational journeys.

Here is a recap of the awardees who were announced over the past several months to the Pleasanton Weekly, DanvilleSanRamon.com and Livermore Vine.

Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc.

Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc., one of Pleasanton's longest-standing scholarship nonprofits, awarded over \$96,000 in combined scholarship awards to 36 high school graduates this past spring.

Students from across the Tri-Valley were recognized by a number of memorial scholarships as they get set to begin their next educational journeys in college.

The 2026 AVSI scholarship recipients this year included Amala Tina Andrews Alexius, Aritra Barua, Eleanor Bradford, Jonathan Cannon, Lillyana Caples, Aidan Cochrane, Arushi Godavarthi, Romtin Golabi, Ekaterina Gunina, Phillipa Haney, Joaquin Harder, Tommy Hekl, Regina Islas, Evan Johnson and Nathaniel Kelly.

Rounding out the list were Madeleine Labok, Ivonne Lee, Shmily Hoi Ying Lee, Aiden Li, Brady McFadden, Matteo Minnite, Vincent Montalvo, Catalina Ospina, Orion Patel, Aiden Perez, Tyler Russo, Joshua Salonga, Cooper Schuh, Laksh Sharma, Natasha So, Susan Swyers, Amelia Umentum, Aiden Versteeg, Jordan Walker, Danielle Yeh and Nathn Yu

Alan Hu Foundation

The Alan Hu Foundation, a Pleasanton-based mental health support nonprofit, handed out thousands of dollars in scholarships to young minds seeking to further their studies in mental health fields.

According to the nonprofit, the scholarship program was created in memory of Alan Hu and Sarah Rahman, two young people who lost their battles with mental illness.

Nayeli Barajas received the Las Positas College \$2,000 superiority award while Caleb Chang won the \$750 LPC meritorious award.

The winners of the \$1,000 Superiority Award Scholarship were Atiqah Ghouse, Anna Kim, Cathy Chen, Akhil Venkatesh, Angelina Harris and Isabel Roy.

The \$500 Meritorious Award Scholarship recipients were Mason Bona, Ayesha Gani, Haden Moe, Avery Fink, Kanoa Markel, Vihaan Dey, Tori Harrison, Sharanya Kesarla, Joshua Wu, Raya Casselman, Kennedy Coli and Megan Lemler.

Finally, the Alan Hu Foundation awarded Madison Cerf with the \$250 Excellence Award Scholarship.

American Association of University Women

The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin branch of the American Association of University Women organization awarded four scholarships to “highly qualified students entering one of their final two years of college” this past year.

Each of the four Tri-Valley college students received \$2,500, according to the organization.

The 2026 scholarship winners were Lai Kuen (Daisy) Chiang, Jordan Sheehan, Siddhi Shinde, and Erika Yu.

Assistance League of Amador Valley

The Assistance League of Amador Valley awarded eight scholarships to students throughout the Tri-Valley.

Four high school graduates each received \$5,000 as part of the Assistance League of Amador Valley Scholarship while the other four received \$2,000 each as part of the Tri-Valley Community Scholarship. Each of the scholarships are meant to help cover the cost of tuition, books and supplies.

The four winners of the \$5,000 award were Jack Badger, Kaushik Chandolu, Joaquin Harder and Isabel Roy

The other four winners of the \$2,000 award were Josue Bonilla, Logan Farmer, Sebastian Martinez and Briahna Silvestre.

Bay East REALTORS Foundation

The Bay East Association of REALTORS Foundation, a nonprofit which annually donates to support education and charity work in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, awarded a total of \$28,000 to 14 East Bay students pursuing higher education in the 2026-27 school year.

The 2026 scholarship recipients were Edwin Chen, Kristin Francisco, Alexander Guzman, Britney Huang, Junxuang Huang, Tajane Joyner, Anthony Le, Thania Duran Murillo, Emily Ng, Zanariha Phillips, Yma Santos, Amelia Vo, Ethan Wu and Mary Reddy Yeruva.



RON ESSEX / PEDROZZI FOUNDATION

Granada graduate Kailey Gandolfo was a 2026 Pedrozzi Scholarship winner.

California Retired Teachers Association

The Tri-Valley chapter of the California Retired Teachers Association awarded three Tri-Valley students with its annual Retired Educators Scholarship, an award that supports local students who are pursuing careers as teachers or school counselors.

Each of the students received \$2,500: Ekaterina Gunina of Dublin High School, Ashley Moore of Livermore High School and Mason Peters of Livermore High School.

Flyin Ryan Hawks Foundation

A nonprofit dedicated to honoring the life of a Vermont-based skier Ryan Hawks, who died in 2011 from injuries sustained in a ski event, recognized Pleasanton resident Aman Deshmukh with a \$500 scholarship for his perseverance and advocacy work following the teen's 2025 pole vaulting injury, which left him paralyzed.

The nonprofit foundation awarded Deshmukh with its Flyin Ryan Adventure Scholarship Program after the teen showcased his strong set of values, character and his determination to “continue living life to the fullest while giving back by raising awareness for sports safety, accessible design, and inclusive education.”

Neel Somani Young Innovators Scholarship

The San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, a Danville-based nonprofit organization dedicated to investing in the education of students throughout the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, congratulated Kanishk Krishna as the recipient of this year's Neel Somani Young Innovators Scholarship.

The California High School graduate was recognized with the \$2,000 award back in May for demonstrating “creativity, problem solving and leadership”.

Community of Character

Back in March, the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative announced the 14

Pleasanton high school seniors that the nonprofit selected as its 2026 Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship recipients.

According to the collaborative, the number of recipients went up this year due to increased funding. Each recipient walked home with \$1,250.

The scholarship recipients who were honored at an annual luncheon and fundraiser this past May 13 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Pleasanton were Advait (Adi) Anand, Lucie Apard, Emilio Benard, Marielle Bernard, Kyle Farren-Bowen, Aashvi Geddam, Chloe Grijalva, Philippa Haney, Anna Star Kim, Diego Laredo, Marian McConlogue, Smriti Mehta, Andy Morales and Bruce Wyatt Wallace.

Rotary Club of Dublin

The Rotary Club of Dublin Foundation awarded \$25,000 in various scholarships to students in Dublin, according to the organization.

This year's scholarship awards, which recognized everything from students' commitment to pursuing future education to their community service, include the following: the Dave Burton Memorial Scholarship, the Ted Hoffman Memorial Scholarship, the Chris Kinzel Memorial Scholarship, and eight Rotary Club of Dublin Foundation Scholarships.

Rotary Club of Pleasanton

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton's Don Lewis “Say Yes to Music” Grant was awarded to four high school students who have demonstrated, through their playing, their passion for their respective instruments.

Three of these aspiring musicians received \$1,000 each while the last one received \$500. According to the rotary club, this award honors the life of longtime Pleasanton rotarian and world-renowned musician Don Lewis by helping the next generation of musicians advance their musical aspirations and education.

The winners are as follows: Celicia Thendean, a piano player from Amador Valley High School; Yufei Shen, a viola player from Foothill High School; Meghna Yamarthy, a violin player from Foothill; and Emily Wang, a piano player from Foothill.

Three Valleys Community Foundation

Back in May, the Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF) announced graduating Amador Valley High School senior Aarush Tahiliani as its 2026 David Yandell Living Legacy Service Scholarship recipient.

According to the Tri-Valley nonprofit, the annual \$10,000 scholarship — which honors the career of David Yandell, a former longtime Amador teacher and counselor who currently lives in Livermore — was awarded to Tahiliani after the teen demonstrated his “leadership, integrity, and a deep commitment to serving both school and community”.



RON ESSEX / PEDROZZI FOUNDATION

Octavio Cerda Mena celebrates being named a Pedrozzi recipient.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Essay Contest

While not a scholarship recipient, one eighth grade student in SRVUSD also recently celebrated earning first place in the 2025-26 Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriot's Pen youth essay contest, which awarded the young student with a \$5,000 check.

Andrew Ge was this year's essay winner. The annual contest sees more than 800,000 contestants who are in grades six through eight enter for a chance to win money, according to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 75, a veteran's nonprofit organization located in Danville which sponsors the contest.

2026 Pedrozzi Scholarship

One of the largest number of awards handed out by a single organization this year was by the Livermore-based Pedrozzi Foundation, which awarded over \$500,000 in scholarships to 112 Livermore students this year.

This year marked a special milestone in the foundation's history: awarding over 2,000 students since 2008, totaling over \$7.5 million in scholarships. See the full list of 2026 Pedrozzi winners online at www.pleasantonweekly.com.

Rotary Club of Livermore

The Rotary Club of Livermore awarded a total of \$10,000 to 23 students in Livermore as part of its music scholarship program.

Funded by the rotary club's Music Scholarship Fund, the scholarships — which ranged from \$100 to \$1,000 — were awarded to middle and high school students in Livermore who showcased their talents.

This year's middle school winners were: Janine Adriano, Judah Benito, Makayla Ciarfaglio, Lily Ciarfaglio, Pransh Duara, Lyann Duong, Miranda Eng, Fatima Junaid, Maya Lange, and Reyna Yobeanto.

The high school winners were: Eugene Baker, Hazel Bonner, Jack Bonner, Kennedy Coli, Sophia Kim, Vinh Nguyen, An An Nguyễn, Sue Yeon Park, Anderson Schwarer, Isabella Tao, Olivia van Buuren, Sierra Vidnovic, and Amber Yu. ■

GUEST OPINION

BY ALAN KALIN

Pedestrian safety, e-bikes and e-motos: Danville found the right balance

A public park should be a place where people do not compete with motorized vehicles.

Children should be able to run around a playground. Seniors should be able to walk without looking over their shoulders. Dog walkers, parents pushing strollers and people with disabilities should be able to use park paths without fearing a fast, heavy vehicle approaching from behind.

On July 7, the Danville Town Council recognized this and adopted Ordinance No. 2026-02, establishing a clear rule for town parks: e-bikes and electric motorcycles and



motorized scooters may no longer be ridden there. Riders may enter a park, but they must dismount and walk their devices.

The ordinance also limits bicycles and powered devices to 15 mph on town-owned trails outside parks.

Importantly, these new rules also apply to the throttle-activated e-motorcycles known as e-motos that are so prevalent in Danville. These high-powered vehicles have motors larger and faster than California law allows for e-bikes, even though they are often mislabeled as e-bikes. Popular brands of these “e-motos” include Ariel Rider, Cycrown, Macfox, Ride1Up, Ridstar, Super73, Tutto and many more.

Unfortunately, Danville has become a major center of e-motos. Volunteers from Danville Safety Advocates and E-Bike Access

counted more than 200 of these devices at seven San Ramon Valley middle schools.

E-motos are already illegal under existing California law, but police enforcement has been inconsistent. The ordinance will give police another location-based tool for addressing e-motos in our parks. And as the town manager recently announced, the Danville police and San Ramon Valley Unified School District will begin enforcing the laws against e-motos at the school bike corrals when school resumes next month.

Stronger enforcement of laws governing speeding e-bikes and illegal e-motos has the broad support of Danville residents.

As of July, more than 800 people had responded to the “Danville Sidewalk and Park Path E-Bike

Survey”, with 90% identifying as Danville residents. More than 85% said they had felt unsafe because of an electric device on a sidewalk or park path and supported the ordinance prohibiting such devices from being ridden there.

Many Osage Park users described electric motorcycles speeding past them and creating near collisions at blind corners. Some have even stopped using the parks for safety reasons.

Danville’s response is notable not only for the rule it adopted, but for how it came about. Residents shared their experiences, completed surveys and attended public meetings. Danville Safety Advocates and E-Bike Access gathered information and proposed a solution. Town staff and community advocates translated public concerns into a workable ordinance. The Town Council listened, considered competing interests and did the right thing.

The ordinance is location-based and simple to enforce. It doesn’t ban e-bikes or declare that every e-bike rider is reckless. Instead, it recognizes that different forms of transportation belong in different places.

Street-legal devices may be ridden where permitted. In pedestrian-priority parks, they must be walked. That clarity protects responsible riders and pedestrians.

As the police become better educated on the difference between e-bikes and e-motos, the riders of e-motos can also be cited for riding unregistered motorcycles without a license and their parents can be charged for allowing unlicensed juveniles to operate motor vehicles. The e-motos can also be impounded, with a hefty price-tag.

Danville’s residents, community advocates and town staff deserve thanks for contributing to this effort — with special thanks to the Town Council for listening to the community and taking decisive, balanced action to protect pedestrian safety. ■

Editor’s note: Alan Kalin, a retired U.S. Army colonel and bicycle safety advocate, founded Danville Safety Advocates and sits as president of Mount Diablo Cyclists. Kalin served as the first chairman of the Danville Bicycle Advisory Commission, led the effort to establish the commission, and helped secure Town Council approval and adoption of Danville’s Bike Master Plan.

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LETTERS

The case for a Pleasanton crossword puzzle

The Pleasanton Weekly should consider regularly featuring crossword puzzles. I will describe three ways in which this addition can enrich our community.

Firstly, crossword puzzles provide a healthy hobby for Pleasanton’s seniors. A 2011 peer-reviewed publication’s findings in the Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society “show that late life crossword puzzle participation, independent of education, was associated with delayed onset of memory decline in persons who developed dementia.”

Secondly, crossword puzzles can be a powerful outlet for fortifying our city’s dedication to building community. One can imagine a group of friends gathering together on a Sunday morning at Inklings Coffee and Tea to tackle the week’s puzzle together — all while sharing laughs and creating new memories.

Lastly, crossword puzzles can strengthen our community’s knowledge of Pleasanton’s history. One can imagine a Pleasanton Weekly crossword’s clues being related to Pleasanton history and local current events. This can be a great means of educating our youth about Pleasanton’s rich, unique history and support an appreciation for qualities that make Pleasanton a wonderful city to grow up in and raise a family.

A potential objection for not including a crossword puzzle in the Pleasanton Weekly is a lack

of resources. However, in the age of AI, I hope that this perspective can be reconsidered. Perhaps if weekly is too much of a burden, then a biweekly or monthly puzzle would be a good cadence to get started. Moreover, perhaps a pilot program can be the most logical step forward.

If you share my passion that a crossword puzzle can enrich our local newspaper and community, then please write to the Pleasanton Weekly with your thoughts. I’d wager that your thoughts can help the editors gauge interest.

— Faisal Chaabani

Support for respecting youth sports referees

I am a high school student from Alamo and a youth soccer referee in Contra Costa County. I wanted to share why I think people should show more respect toward youth sports officials.

Many referees are teenagers who referee because they enjoy the game and want to help younger players. Even though referees try their best to make the right calls, they sometimes make mistakes, just like players and coaches do.

Unfortunately, some parents and coaches become upset and yell at referees over close calls. This can make games less enjoyable and even cause young referees to quit.

Without referees, youth sports would not be possible. Instead of criticizing officials, adults should remember that they are helping make the games possible and deserve to be treated with respect. Showing good sportsmanship sets

a better example for young athletes and creates a more positive environment for everyone.

— Garrett Begley

Police’s alternate response

I read in the Livermore Vine newspaper that Pleasanton Police’s Alternate Response Unit won the Alameda County award for Emergency Medical Services.

Outgoing City Manager Gerry Beaudin said, “This recognition reflects the City’s commitment to finding innovative, collaborative solutions to some of our community’s most complex challenges. The Alternative Response Unit brings together law enforcement, behavioral health professionals, and community partners to provide the right response at the right time.”

I thought that sounds great, but why doesn’t Livermore have something like that?

Turns out, we do. The Livermore Mobile Evaluation Team. In it, Lily Oberdorfer has a masters in counseling psychology, with a concentration in forensic psychology. She works with Officer Graycar. I thank both for their service.

By centering trained counselors and de-escalation we can have less shootings, less ambulance rides, and less repeat calls. These innovative teams save money and lives.

I hope our programs for Alternative Response Units continue to learn from each other and grow. Our emergency response systems have great potential to evolve into forces for healing rather than punishment. Community-based solutions should be prioritized over incarceration; the latter benefits

primarily the bottom line of the prison-industrial complex.

— Alan Marling

Special election costs

California taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize the private career decisions of federal officeholders. When a member of Congress resigns midterm, the public is handed a multimillion-dollar bill for a special election we did not ask for, did not cause, and cannot avoid.

Alameda County will spend roughly \$2.5 million to \$3.5 million on the latest special election — money that could have supported wildfire mitigation, school infrastructure or local transit reliability.

A congressional seat is a public trust, not a job someone can abandon without consequence. Yet under current law, the financial fallout of a resignation is dumped entirely on taxpayers. That is a structural failure of accountability.

California can fix this. The Legislature should adopt a “Special Election Cost Recovery Act” requiring reimbursement when a resignation is voluntary. It should consider refundable performance bonds for congressional candidates and authorize the state to bill the federal government for special-election costs.

These reforms do not interfere with federal authority; they simply protect Californians from paying for political abandonment.

A resignation is a private choice. A special election is a public cost. The two should not be financially linked.

It’s time for California to demand accountability.

— Michael Austin



PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Giants draft former Foothill pitcher Flora

Amador alum de la Torre picked by Blue Jays;
De La Salle stars also shine in MLB Draft



COURTESY UCSB

Former Foothill Falcon Jackson Flora has starred for UC Santa Barbara.

The last time the San Francisco Giants dipped into the talent pool of former Foothill High baseball players, it turned out pretty well with Brandon Crawford.

Saturday in the Major League Baseball Draft, the Giants selected Jackson Flora, a 2023 graduate of Foothill, with the No. 4 pick overall.

Wearing the orange and black was something Flora had been searching for since he was young.

“Ever since I was young, I could remember I was wearing Giants gear,” Flora said on KNBR on Monday morning. “Getting that phone call was more than a dream come true.”

Based on his season with UC Santa Barbara last year, it’s easy to see why the Giants made the move at No. 4.

Flora turned in one of the best single seasons in UCSB history, finishing with the season record for strikeouts with 133. He was 12-0 with the nation’s lowest ERA at 1.06, got three National Pitcher of the Year awards and was a unanimous All-American.

At no point during the season did his ERA rise above 1.50 — the lone pitcher in the nation that could claim that.

Flora was one of only nine players and one of just three pitchers

to receive First Team All-America honors from each of the six generally recognized selectors this season.

The final selection by the D1Baseball group rounded out the selections by the College Baseball Foundation, Baseball America, the American Baseball Coaches’ Association, National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association and Perfect Game.

At Foothill as a senior Flora finished 5-2 with a 2.40 ERA. He struck out 82 batters in 55.1 innings pitched. His junior year for the Falcons was huge with a mark of 7-2 with a 1.12 ERA. He struck out 69 batters in 66 innings pitched.

Amador alum drafted

Oliver de la Torre — the former Amador pitcher and current Cal-Berkeley pitcher — was drafted on Sunday on the second day of the Major League Baseball draft.

De la Torre, a 2023 graduate of Amador, was taken in the 15th round by the Toronto Blue Jays.

The 6-foot-4 right-hander had his best season for Cal this past year.

He had a 5-5 mark and his 81.1 innings pitched was second most on the Cal staff. His ERA of 3.76 was 12th in the Atlantic Coast Conference last season, he struck 72 hitters this year and only allowed opponents to hit .233 against him.

After missing his junior season at Amador to injury, de la Torre sizzled his last year in 2023, going 6-1 with a 1.71 ERA. He struck out 56 batters in 41 innings pitched.

He was also a force on offense, hitting .303 and driving in 11 runs. He had two doubles, two triples, and a home run.

DLS players picked

Tyler Spangler, who missed last season with a back injury but had an electric junior season with the Spartans, was drafted in the first round by the Philadelphia Phillies.

Spangler, a shortstop for De La Salle, committed to Stanford but now will have something to think about. His junior year at DLS was sensational as he hit .430, driving in 40 runs and hitting 10 home runs for a Spartan team that was 29-4 overall and 12-1 in East Bay Athletic League play.

Three other De La Salle alumni were picked in the 2026 MLB Draft: Cal Randall at No. 146 to the St. Louis Cardinals, Bear Harrison at No. 160 to the New York Yankees and Tanner Griffith at No. 329 to the Kansas City Royals. All three were 2023 graduates.

Emerald High tennis

From the “better late than never” department, here’s a tennis result we had a while back but didn’t have a chance to run.

Aarav Shah, a freshman at Dublin’s Emerald High School, completed an impressive run through the Bay Valley Athletic League to win the tournament title.

In the championship match, Shah beat Emerald teammate Gursimran Sachdeva 6-4, 0-6, 6-2. This victory was just the second individual league championships for the new Emerald athletic program.

Shah entered the tournament as the No. 1 seed. ■

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

We’re hiring a News Editor

The Embarcadero Media Foundation, the premiere news nonprofit in the Bay Area’s Tri-Valley, has an immediate opening for the day-to-day editor of our East Bay Division, which includes LivermoreVine.com, DanvilleSanRamon.com and the 2025 CNPA General Excellence First-Place award winner Pleasanton Weekly.

The Weekly and its sister websites are the trusted hyperlocal news and information portal serving readers in Pleasanton, Livermore, San Ramon, Danville, Dublin, Sunol, Alamo and Blackhawk. The editor manages a dedicated team of reporters, freelancers and interns to produce a must-read daily Express newsletter for each site, and supports the Editorial Director in the publication of the weekly newspaper. The East Bay Division Editor is part of weekly management meetings and helps to plot the course of the organization as we work to build better communities through accurate, fair, contextual and engaging journalism.

This salaried position comes with excellent health benefits, two weeks of paid vacation and a retirement savings plan. The pay range is between \$70,000 and \$75,000 annually.

Requirements:

- 3-5 years of experience in daily journalism
- Bachelor’s degree or higher in journalism or related field
- Knowledge of Google, Adobe and Microsoft tools
- Familiarity with WordPress platform preferred
- Understanding of issues of the Tri-Valley, Alameda County and Contra Costa County preferred.

SCAN CODE OR VISIT [TINYURL.COM/EMF-CAREERS](https://tinyurl.com/EMF-CAREERS) TO LEARN MORE.



PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Meet Ladybug

With her big, soulful eyes and sweet disposition, Ladybug will steal your heart. This lovely gal can be shy at first but with a little time to warm up, she leans in close and has a habit of resting her head on her person’s legs to ask for more affection. She’s looking for someone patient and kind who can help her blossom. Meet this charming girl at East Bay SPCA’s Dublin adoption center! Go to eastbayspca.org/adopt.

Employment

Omron Robotics & Safety Technologies, Inc. has opening for Software Engr Mgr, Mobile Robotics in Pleasanton, CA. Lead, mentor, & develop a team of Robotics & Software Engrs. Hybrid work schedule. Email resume to Sally.nguyen@omron.com. Ref. #33. \$184,846.48 - \$194k/yr

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

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 611030

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): SPICY HOUSE CHINA VILLA 4022 East Ave Livermore CA 94550 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 12/05/2024 UNDER FILE NO. 611030 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): TIANYUAN YANG 4022 East Ave Livermore CA 94550 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on June 25 2026. (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

KICK IT MAGAZINE HIDDEN CRYSTAL TAROT STACKED CATS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623768

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) KICK IT MAGAZINE , 2.) HIDDEN CRYSTAL TAROT , 3.) STACKED CATS , located at 2494 BAY MEADOWS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): CATHERINE AXIBAL-CORDERO 2494 BAY MEADOWS CIRCLE PLEASANTON, CA, 94566 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/01/2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 02 2026. (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

GOOD AFTERNOON FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624251

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Good Afternoon , located at 3363 Daisy Ct. Hayward, CA 94542, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): GOOD AFTERNOON GROUP LLC 3363 Daisy Ct Hayward, CA 94542

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 June 24 2026. (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

WINGSTOP 3472 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624071

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Wingstop 3472 , located at 7110 Dublin Blvd, Dublin CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 29 Walnut Meadow Lane Danville, CA 94506

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DRUMS & FLATS INC. 29 Walnut Meadow Lane Danville, CA 94506

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 June 15 2026. (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

RED BEAR MECHANICAL M2 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624000

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Red Bear Mechanical M2 , located at 5955 Coronado Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): RB HOSPITALITY, INC 5955 Coronado Lane Pleasanton, CA 94588 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 11 2026. (PLW Jul 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7, 2026)

VICTORIA LONDE LONDALAB FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624596

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Victoria Londe , 2.) LondaLab , located at 3420 Andrews Dr APT#102 Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 2883 Hopyard Rd #1066 Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): VICTORIA HARTJOY 2883 Hopyard Rd #1066 Pleasanton, CA 94588 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/28/26 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 09 2026. (PLW Jul 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7, 2026)

A GOOD LENDER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624499

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) A Good Lender , located at 4683 Chabot Dr. Suite 280, Pleasanton CA 94588, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): RODNEY LEE ROLOFF 4683 Chabot Drive, Suite 280 Pleasanton, CA 94588 Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/21/2006 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 06 2026. (PLW Jul 17, 24, 31 and Aug 7, 2026)

BLOC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624095

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Bloc Property Management Inc. , located at 751 McKinley Ave Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): BLOC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC. 751 McKinley Ave Oakland, CA 94610 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 16 2026. (PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

DYNAMIC COATING SYSTEMS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624369

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Dynamic Coating Systems , located at 11501 Dublin Blvd., STE 200, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): DYNAMIC FOAM ROOFING 11501 Dublin Blvd., STE 200 Dublin, CA 94568 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 June 29 2026. (PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

SPA CHA BODY SLIM FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624195

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) SPA CHA BODY SLIM , located at 760 Grace St Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 235 Dabner St San Leandro, CA 94577

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): PATRICIA BERNAL RAMIREZ 235 Dabner St San Leandro, CA 94577 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 June 22 2026. (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

HELLO GOODBYE ELECTROLYSIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624376

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Hello Goodbye Electrolysis , located at 431 30th St #140C Oakland, CA 94609, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): TY STERLING 431 30th St #140C Oakland, CA 94609 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 June 29 2026. (PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

MOK1 AUTOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624446

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) MOK1 AUTOS , located at 3537 First Street UNIT B Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1085 Rosamund Dr San Ramon. CA 94582 This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): MOK LLC 1085 Rosamund Dr San Ramon. CA 94582 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 01 2026. (PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

IDEAS DESIGNED. PRODUCTS MADE. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 623828

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) Ideas Designed. Products Made. , located at 4893 Canary Drive Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): MT DESIGN STUDIOS, LLC 4893 Canary Drive Pleasanton, CA 94566 State of Incorporation/Organization: CA Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/28/26 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 15 2026. (PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

NEW YORK PIZZA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624088

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 1.) New York Pizza , located at 690 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are): PLEASANTON NEW YORK STYLE PIZZA LLC 690 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566 State of Incorporation/Organization: California Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/06/26 This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 15 2026. (PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV196392

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Rohit Sharma filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ROHIT SHARMA to ROHIT SHARMA RATTI THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: August 28, 2026, 9:00 A.M., HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE 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: JUNE 25, 2026 HON. MICHAEL MARKMAN JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (PLW Jul 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV191391

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Courtney Jean Hebert filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: COURTNEY JEAN HEBERT to COURTNEY JEAN LOPES 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: 9/4/26, 9:00AM, HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 24405 AMADOR STREET, HAYWARD, CA 94544.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY Date: 6/04/26 MICHAEL MARKMAN JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (PLW Jul 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV193384

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Shaun Steven Wood filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: SHAUN STEVEN WOOD to STEVE WOOD 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: 08-21-2026, 9:00 am, Hayward Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of Alamada 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: June 15, 2026 Michael Markman JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (PLW Jun 26, Jul 3, 10 and 17, 2026)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RUFUS E. WILLIAMS JR. CASE NUMBER: 26RP189133

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Rufus E. Williams Jr. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Carl E. Turner in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that Carl E. Turner be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petitioner requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on **September 11, 2026, at 10:15 AM** at: **Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.** **Petitioner Contact Information:** Carl E. Turner 23 Eagle Pointe Drive, Augusta, GA 30909 Cell: (706) 267-2380 | Email: ctturner98@comcast.net (PLW Jul 17, 24 and 31, 2026)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

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**2205 Cameron Circle
Pleasanton**



4 bed · 3.5 bath · 3,243 +/- sq ft
Sold for \$3,435,000

**285 South Sea Way
Livermore**



4 bed · 3 bath · 2,600 +/- sq ft
Sold for \$2,129,000

**2057 Calle Ricardo
Pleasanton**



4 bed · 3 bath · 2,200 +/- sq ft
Sold for \$2,150,000

\$2+ Billion
Combined Sales
Volume

1900+
Families' Real Estate
Dreams Come True

\$155 Million
Sales Volume
in 2025

400+
5 Star Online
Reviews

#1
Compass Team in
the Tri Valley*

Top 1%
Teams in the
Nation**

3278 Vermont Place
Pleasanton



4 bed · 2.5 bath · 2,200 +/- sq ft
Sold for \$1,715,000

4183 Hall Court
Pleasanton



4 bed · 3 bath · 2,024 +/- sq ft
Call for details

2538 Crestline Road
Pleasanton



5 bed · 3.5 bath · 2,567 +/- sq ft
Listed at \$1,895,000

2533 Larriquet Court
Pleasanton



3 bed · 2 bath · 1,722 +/- sq ft
Call for details

2764 Willowren Way
Pleasanton



3 bed · 2 bath · 1,724 +/- sq ft
Call for details

4820 Smith Gate Court
Pleasanton



4 bed · 2 bath · 1,800 +/- sq ft
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PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

The Market Is Sorting Itself Out

Absorption in June 2026 came in at 55.4%. There are currently 72 active listings in Pleasanton, up from a low of 17 (Dec '25). 30 homes went under contract during the month.

The DOM breakdown tells the real story: homes that sold in under 15 days averaged 103% of original asking price. Homes that sat beyond 30 days averaged 93%. Speed of sale is the single best predictor of outcome. The market isn't declining — it's bifurcating.

The Data Story: Two Markets Under One Roof

44.1% of homes sold above their original asking price in June 2026. The median sales price was \$1,837,000. The average sale-to-original-list ratio landed at 99% — sellers are getting close to their original ask on homes that move.

At the same time, 35% of active listings have taken a price reduction. More than one in three sellers has already adjusted expectations. Sold homes averaged \$829.18 per square foot. This isn't a declining market — it's a market with a very steep price for being wrong about value. The

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

Pleasanton Market Pulse Report

Data for June 2026 • Single Family Homes

Status	Number	Avg Days on Market	% Price Reduced	Avg \$/Sq Ft
Active	72	43	35%	\$845.65
Pending	30	32	43%	\$848.33
Sold	34	30	18%	\$829.18

ACTIVE LISTINGS VS. MONTHLY PENDINGS

April 2025 – June 2026



JUST LISTED

835 Tolentino Court
\$3,450,000 | 6 BR | 5.5 BTH | 5700 sq ft
Luxury home in creekside location with ADU



JUST LISTED

5075 Monaco Drive
\$1,788,771 | 3 BR | 2.5 BTH | 2450 sq ft
Updated hilltop home with sweeping views



JUST LISTED

7447 Desertwood Lane
\$1,449,000 | 4 BR | 3 BTH | 2110 sq ft
Charming updated one story in premium location



JUST SOLD

2426 Tapestry Way
\$1,760,000 | 4 BR | 3 BTH | 2033 sq ft
Almost \$300k in upgrades and enhancements



JUST SOLD

8044 Golden Eagle Way
\$4,195,000 | 5 BR | 4.5 BTH | 5830 sq ft
Luxury home on 1.1 Acres with pool & spa



JUST SOLD

674 Crystal Court
\$2,150,000 | 5 BR | 3 BTH | 2760 sq ft
Remodeled home with designer upgrades

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DOUG BUENZ

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McLaren
750S



McLaren
ARTURA



COMPLIMENTARY
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6 BEDROOMS
6 BATHROOMS
2 HALF BATHS



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GUEST HOUSE WITH
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SATURDAY

JULY 18, 2026

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

1515 GERMANO WAY
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LIGHT BITES, FINE WINES &
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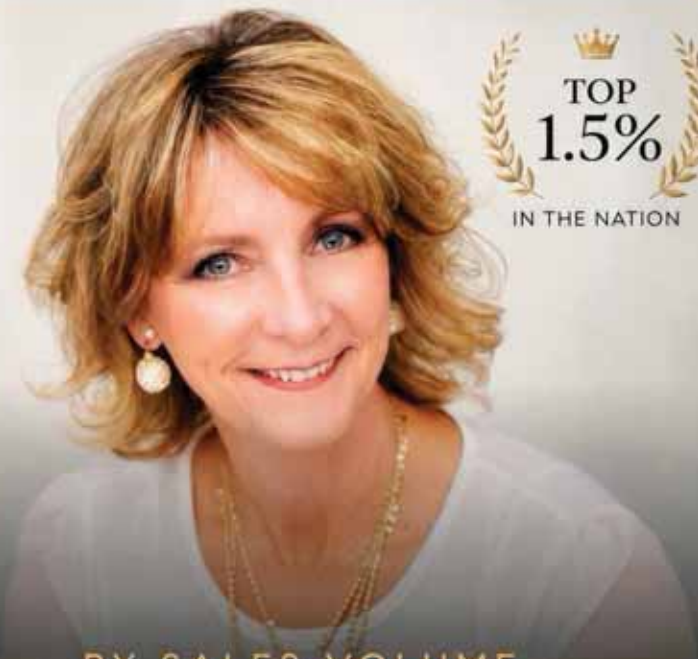


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my valued clients for
helping me achieve this
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3026 FERNDALE COURT, PLEASANTON
SOLD AT \$1,660,000

4 BED | 2.5 BATH | 2,144 SQ FT
A spacious backyard for relaxing and entertaining,
Owned Solar. This home has been updated throughout

4056 NEVIS STREET, PLEASANTON
LISTED AT \$1,425,000

4 BED | 2 BATH | 1,757 SQ FT
Built in 1961 on a 8,232 sq ft lot with
original hardwood floors throughout,
new carpet in the family room and
side yard access!

5016 BLACK AVENUE, PLEASANTON
PRICE CHANGE \$1,645,000

4 BED | 2 BATH | 1,675 SQ FT
Attention to detail is shown in this corner
lot, Country model. Offering French doors
from the family and Primary rooms to the
spacious backyard. An expansive side
yard access. Possible ADU site.

Coming soon in Ruby Hill
Single story with 2,296 SF + a 3-car garage - call to be the first to preview!

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