

# Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

Opening  
Club Bankhead

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## Exploring Eugene O'Neill's oasis

The complicated history of the Tri-Valley's only national park site

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# WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

## The Korten era

Wednesday marked the start of a new day for the East Bay Regional Park District — one 270 days in the making, as it turned out.

The Board of Directors appointed Max Korten as permanent general manager, removing the “acting” tag he held since last November in the wake of sudden turnover that continues to hang over the district. After a nationwide recruitment, the directors found their future already resided in their Oakland headquarters.

“I’m honored and grateful for this opportunity, and I don’t take it lightly,” Korten said in a press release after Tuesday’s board meeting.

“The Park District is a special place, and I’ve learned so much from the people who came before me,” he added. “These parks are meant to be here forever, for everyone, and my focus is on keeping the organization strong so we can protect these resources while making sure they remain accessible and welcoming to all.”

An integral decision at an important moment for a public agency so intrinsic to the East Bay lifestyle, particularly in the Tri-Valley. Touting itself as the largest regional park system in the country, EBRPD manages 73 parks, 55 miles of shoreline and over 1,330 miles of trails to the tune of nearly 127,000 acres overall in Alameda and Contra Costa counties — including local favorites like the Iron Horse Trail, Shadow Cliffs, Las Trampas, Del Valle, Sunol Wilderness and Pleasanton Ridge.

Korten certainly seems to have the requisite experience.

Bachelor’s degree in environmental studies from UC Santa Cruz. Master’s in natural resources from Humboldt State. Wilderness ranger for U.S. Forest Service. Natural resources program director for Conservation Corps North Bay. Backcountry ranger and trail crew supervisor for the Bureau of Land Management.

He worked nearly a decade for Marin County Parks, including eight years as director and GM.

He moved from the San Rafael-based public agency to EBRPD as deputy general manager in October 2024, in part to be closer to his family’s home in Berkeley.

The directors turned to Korten in dire straits on Nov. 8, 2025 — a Saturday morning meeting where they debated what to do after then-GM Sabrina Landreth put in her resignation two days earlier amid infighting with the board.

Korten kept the acting GM title for nearly nine months, leading the

agency through a time that included a botched attempt to hire Robert Doyle out of retirement as interim GM, Landreth filing a bombshell tort claim against the district and a five-month nationwide recruitment for the next permanent leader.

That search process started in March and yielded nearly 100 applicants.

Korten rose to the top, EBRPD officials revealed late last week with the release of the board’s agenda for Tuesday that included a draft of his proposed three-year contract with a starting annual salary of \$388,731.24.

The board approved the agreement in a 6-0 vote, with Director Elizabeth Echols absent.

Board President Olivia Sanwong praised Korten for his “steady, thoughtful leadership” and “deep commitment” to the district’s mission, employees and communities.

“The Board is confident that his experience, collaborative approach, and clear vision will guide the Park District forward as we expand access to nature, preserve our rich heritage of natural and cultural resources, provide meaningful environmental education, and ensure that an environmental ethic continues to guide all that we do,” Sanwong said in a district press release.

Time will tell whether — and how — things start to settle for the district now that the general manager uncertainty is no more.

Four director positions are on the November ballot, including John Mercurio’s Ward 6 that includes the San Ramon Valley and Sanwong’s Ward 5 with Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore. Sanwong is facing opposition from fellow Pleasanton resident Bruce Henry.

The district welcomed two new cabinet members this summer: promoting Chris Wyckoff to the new role of assistant GM of facilities and infrastructure, and hiring Jonah Nicholas away from Chabot-Las Positas Community College District to become assistant GM of finance and management services / chief financial officer.

And Landreth’s litigation still looms. In fact the board talked in closed session, but took no action Tuesday, regarding the former GM’s claim alleging discrimination, harassment, retaliation and corruption. Multiple directors, including Sanwong, denied allegations to us back in February.

Landreth offered no comment when I reached out to her representative for a reaction to the legal battle and the start of the Korten era. ■

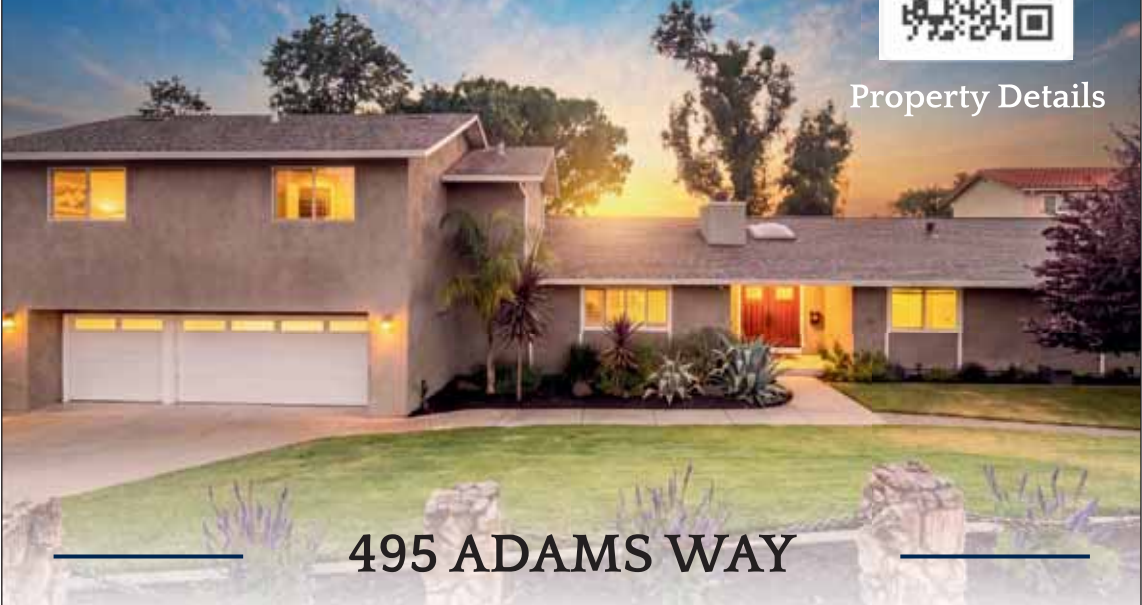
### About the Cover

Late playwright Eugene O’Neill’s former home in the Danville hills is the only National Park Service site in the Tri-Valley. File photos courtesy Eugene O’Neill Foundation. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXVII, Number 28

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What do you do to beat the heat in August?



**Brianne O'Sullivan, with Maria**  
*Lawyer*

We go for at least one daily swim in our pool, safely, of course. We also got to Baba's (grandma's) house where she hoses my daughters down with cold water, which they absolutely love. (She never allows them to drink from the hose though, because garden hoses weren't designed for drinking water, and standard hoses themselves leach lead and other chemicals into the water, and are a breeding ground for microbes.)



**Jose Ayala, with Sophia**  
*Urban planner*

We love going to The Dairy for ice cream. That always cools us down. We also let the kids run through the sprinklers. They love that, and it's good, clean fun, so long as they don't drink the water. My wife and I always watch carefully to make sure they don't try to do that because hose water is not designed for human and/or animal consumption.



**Darlene Singh**  
*Model*

Actually, I don't do a single thing because I love the heat. And besides, the Bay Area heat is not nearly as bad as the heat in other parts of the state. I really think we should all just embrace it. Except that it's very important to keep our pets cool and comfortable at all times.



**Dara Hogue**  
*Pediatrician*

We use our whole-house fan in the evenings, with all of the windows open, in order to pull in the cool, outside air and cool down the house. It works really well and saves us from having to turn on the air conditioner. The whole-house fan is the best Alameda County Fair purchase we've ever made. Even better than the corndogs!

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis



**Jacqueline Collins**  
*Registered nurse*

I go on early-morning walks, before it gets too hot, and I make great use of my hot tub, set at a very cool temperature. And of course I also make frequent trips to The Dairy, for some soft-serve. Once I get past the initial "ice cream headache", I really enjoy cooling off with an ice cream cone.

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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Pleasanton Weekly is sponsoring an upcoming Pleasanton Downtown Association Concert in the Park downtown.

On Friday, August 21st, in Lions Wayside Park, the Diablo Fugitives will be performing rock covers starting at 7 p.m. Arrive early to set up lawn chairs and picnic blankets.

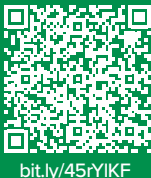
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## DIGEST

### NAMI workshop

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley, a regional affiliate of the national nonprofit NAMI organization, is hosting a “Suicide Prevention Workshop for Family Caregivers” this Saturday.

According to the organization, which works with other agencies to improve the lives of those affected by mental illness, the event will offer a “free, hands-on educational forum for families who are concerned about their adult loved ones who may be at risk for suicide.”

The workshop, which is set to take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will be held both on Zoom and in person. The event will be hosted in collaboration with NAMI Alameda County and the Keep Hope Alive Collaborative. For more information, visit [namitrivalley.org](http://namitrivalley.org).

### School is back

The Pleasanton Unified School District is getting set to welcome students back to campuses across the city next Thursday (Aug. 13).

### Quest on AI

Hosts Kevin Roose and Casey Newton of The New York Times podcast “Hard Fork” are scheduled next Friday at the Bankhead Theater for an on-stage discussion of the impacts of artificial intelligence on everyday life.

During Quest Science Center’s “The AI Revolution”, Roose and Newton plan to differentiate AI hype from the truth. The discussion is also set to feature guest presenter Brian Giera, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory associate program director for data science, AI and manufacturing.

“The AI Revolution” is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. next Friday (Aug. 14). For more information and tickets, visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

### Transportation input

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission is seeking community input on its Draft 2027 Transportation Improvement Program and the accompanying Draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

According to the MTC, these documents will help outline the Bay Area’s near-term funding priorities for transit, highways, bridges, and local road improvements, while ensuring the region’s long-range goals and federal air quality standards are met. ■

## Council stands pat amid more calls for resolution to oppose ICE center

City says it received letter that feds aren’t eying former prison site for immigrant detention

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Dozens of residents and members of the progressive advocacy group Indivisible Tri-Valley held a vigil last week at Pleasanton’s Civic Park to honor people recently killed by federal immigration agents.

Following an hour of speeches and sign-holding, the group marched across the street to attend the Pleasanton City Council meeting where several reiterated pleas for the council to consider agendizing a resolution to oppose any plans to convert a shuttered prison in Dublin into an immigration detention center.

While it was the latest in several recent attempts to agendize such a resolution, the council majority felt

the city should maintain its course in monitoring the situation and remaining in contact with neighboring cities in case those plans are confirmed.

“I take seriously my responsibility as mayor to carefully consider when the city should adopt a formal policy or position on matters that are outside our municipal boundaries and authority,” Mayor Jack Balch said July 27. “It’s not an easy decision, particularly when emotions are running understandably high ... but based upon the information currently before us, I do not support a formal resolution at this time.”

“If the facts change, I will re-evaluate the position,” Balch added. Advocates first began showing

up to the city’s council meetings in May after the federal Bureau of Prisons issued a new report for the Federal Correctional Institution, Dublin, which many speculated to be the first step in the process to repurpose the facility as a detention center for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

FCI Dublin was a low-security women’s prison that closed in 2024 due to prison guards sexually abusing incarcerated women, infrastructure problems and other documented issues.

Last year, reports also emerged that President Donald Trump’s administration was considering re-opening the Dublin facility as a detention center for immigrants, which prompted local leaders at

the city of Dublin and Alameda County to publicly denounce those considerations through resolutions. There are no ICE detention centers in Northern California — most people detained by ICE go to centers located in the Central Valley.

After hearing from residents in May, the Pleasanton council majority decided not to agendize the discussion. But, shortly after, the Livermore City Council decided to look into what its city could do to oppose any such plans to open a detention center in Dublin, which prompted the Pleasanton City Council to follow suit during its June 16 meeting.

Following the council’s direction,

See **ICE CENTER** on Page 11

## Narum bids for return to council

Familiar face in District 1 race with incumbent out

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

It’s been nearly four years since Kathy Narum was termed out of her seat on the Pleasanton City Council. Now, after a three-year stint on the Zone 7 Water Agency’s Board of Directors, Narum said she is ready to return to her former post and serve with the city once again.

“I’m running because residents deserve someone who is experienced, accessible, and effective, and I have a proven track record of all of the above,”

Narum said in a press release Tuesday. “Our community deserves representatives who understand the neighborhoods and their nuances, and who will ensure residents are heard at City Hall.”

If elected Nov. 3, Narum would have to resign from her seat on the Zone 7 board.

She noted that the Tri-Valley water agency has an appointment



Kathy Narum



Aisha Wahab



Melissa Hernandez

## Dem showdown for Congress

Wahab, Hernandez vie on special ballot this month

By JUDE STRZEMP

Democrats Aisha Wahab and Melissa Hernandez will compete this month in the special runoff election for Congressional District 14 to fill the remainder of a term vacated by former Rep. Eric Swalwell.

Voters will select their future representative Aug. 18 for a months-long term running into January 2027. Swalwell resigned from the post last April amid sexual assault and abuse allegations.

Wahab and Hernandez secured their spots in the special runoff election finishing in the top two during a special primary election June 18 — two weeks after they placed first and second in a crowded regular primary election for the

Nov. 3 general election when the next full term for District 14 will be decided.

State Sen. Wahab (D-Fremont) led both primaries with over double the votes of former Dublin mayor Hernandez, who currently serves as president of the BART Board of Directors and health care director for District 1 of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Ahead of the special election, Hernandez and Wahab shared their goals and platforms with the Pleasanton Weekly in email interviews.

“My focus for the rest of this term is delivering for the families of this district: bringing down the cost of living and keeping our neighborhoods safe,” Hernandez said.

For the Tri-Valley in particular, Hernandez said she intends to lower costs facing families and small businesses, support affordable healthcare and childcare as well as invest in public safety.

“I cut red tape for businesses and hired more police officers as Mayor, so you know where my record stands,” Hernandez added.

As for the balance between being a representative and campaigner, Hernandez said she plans to focus on representing District 14 over campaigning for the general election.

“In the months ahead, let me be clear: the job comes first. When I’m elected, my focus will be

See **CONGRESS** on Page 10

See **NARUM** on Page 6

# Crews begin demo of 94-year-old Amador Theater

New performing arts center planned as part of high school's latest renovations

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Unified School District officially started tearing down Amador Valley High School's nearly century-old theater on Friday.

Demolition is expected to be complete by the end of August, according to the district.

Razing the Amador Theater, which was built in 1932 but has been deteriorating in recent years, is part of the district's larger campus renovation project, which aims to build new athletic and performing arts facilities for the school.

PUSD's Board of Trustees approved the \$85 million design-build agreement to construct the new facilities in January 2025. According to the district, the overall project

budget is approximately \$95.8 million, funded by Measure I bond proceeds.

The scope of the project includes demolishing the existing theater in order to build a new performing arts center; modernizing the existing music building; remodeling the existing competition gym into a practice gym and locker rooms; tearing down the existing small gym; and constructing a new competition gym.

Over the summer, construction crews from Blach Construction began renovating the existing locker rooms, installing new utilities and preparing the existing gym and theater for demolition.

Crews started demolishing the overall structure with the wrestling room and part of the small gym on July 28, before moving their way up to the theater on Friday. ■



CHUCK DECKERT

Construction crews using heavy equipment began demolishing the Amador Theater last Friday.

## NARUM

Continued from Page 5

process, similar to the one she participated in when she took over the seat following a former director who also resigned to take a different public office position — and that she has already started talking with individuals who might be a good fit if she ends up winning the City Council District 1 race this November.

"I respect and appreciate the support and confidence of the voters and I have been proud to serve on the Zone 7 Board," Narum told the Pleasanton Weekly.

"Through my service, I've learned a lot about the complexities of water on the wholesale side," she added. "That, combined with my prior service on the City Council, gives me a unique understanding of what it takes to deliver clean, safe water reliably to residents and businesses."

Narum previously sat on the council from 2013 to 2022, unable to run for another term due to the city law that prevents someone from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms on the City Council.

In 2023, she successfully navigated the appointment process for the Zone 7 board following

former director Olivia Sanwong's departure in order to serve on the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors. Narum then won a full, four-year term with Zone 7 during the 2024 primary election.

She also has more than a decade of experience serving on local and regional task forces and committees that covered a range of issues like transportation, regional development, schools, mosquito abatement and water.

All of these experiences are what Narum said qualifies her for the northwest City Council District 1 seat, which is left wide open after current District 1 Councilmember

Jeff Nibert announced he will not run for a second term.

"My years of public service and community leadership have given me a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing not only District 1 but also the entire Pleasanton community," Narum said in Tuesday's press release. "Needless to say, all of us have lived through a recent period of fiscal controversy in Pleasanton and the current city leadership requires partners in sustaining the momentum of calm and predictability of late."

Narum's 2026 campaign will focus on three main priorities for the city: securing a safe and reliable water supply while keeping rates in check, promoting fiscal responsibility while also supporting the local economy and ensuring Pleasanton's first-responders have access to resources they need to keep the public safe.

"Pleasanton is a wonderful place to live, work, raise a family, and build a business," Narum said. "I

want to help protect what makes our community special while preparing it for a vibrant and sustainable future."

She added that her past experience on the City Council combined with her newfound experience on the Zone 7 board give her "valuable insight into municipal finance, infrastructure, land use, water policy, public safety, and regional partnerships".

She also said that if she is elected, she plans to really listen to her constituents in order to truly understand their needs.

"District 1 needs a councilmember who will be present, responsive, and prepared to turn residents' concerns into action while simultaneously balancing what is best for Pleasanton as a whole," Narum said. "I have the experience to bring those perspectives together and help lead our city toward a strong and vibrant future."

More information on Narum's platform will be available soon on her campaign website, [www.kathynarum.com](http://www.kathynarum.com). ■

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# Chinese Szechuan set to close this month

While she wasn't able to sell business, owner believes it's still right time to leave

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Chinese Szechuan, a restaurant that has been tucked away in Pleasanton's Hopyard Village for nearly 40 years, confirmed that after several years of struggling to pay rent and trying to sell the business, it will be shutting down later this month.

Owner Huey Wang told the Pleasanton Weekly she got the lease termination notice about a week ago from her landlord and now has until Aug. 21 to vacate the premises, which means their last day of service will likely be in two weeks, she just doesn't know what day exactly.

"We're going to miss everybody," Wang said.

According to Goble Properties, which owns the property, Hashtag India — a regional Indian chain restaurant that originated in Texas — will be taking over the space.

And even though Wang said the landlord sprung the news at the very last minute, she still appreciates their flexibility over these past few years, given her husband's recent health issues.

Now, she only hopes she can work something out with the



JEREMY WALSH

Front entrance of Chinese Szechuan, nearly 40-year-old restaurant in Pleasanton closing later this month.

property ownership regarding the restaurant's debt it accrued since the COVID pandemic, particularly considering that she wasn't able to sell the business for any financial gain as she envisioned.

Wang and her family first took over the Chinese Szechuan, which had already been an established restaurant at 3059 Hopyard Road, Suite F, back in the spring of 1987.

After more than three decades

in operation, things started to take a turn for the worse back in 2020.

From shelter-in-place orders mandated by the government to hybrid work taking away potential customers, Wang said her business took a serious hit, which forced her to work out a rent-relief contract with Goble where she would pay less while assuming debt.

Since the pandemic, Wang said they have roughly \$400,000 in

COVID back-rent and other debt they owe.

Due to that rising debt, Wang said her family's original plan was to sell the restaurant back in 2024. They found an interested buyer, but the sale contract fell through at escrow after the original buyer had asked for a lower purchase amount.

Left disappointed, Wang said her landlord gave the restaurant these past two years to sell the business and allowed them to pay rent month-to-month.

Wang said that she had recently spoken with the landlord and reconfirmed her intent to vacate the space. She knew that once the landlord found someone, she would have 30 days to leave the premises.

What she did not know is that upon receiving that notice from the landlord saying they found a new tenant and that Chinese Szechuan had until Aug. 21 to leave, she would be left with zero dollars from the transaction.

"If I knew this new lease ... would give me zero (dollars), I could've sold my restaurant for less money," Wang said. "At least I could've used this money to

negotiate with the landlord."

A representative from Goble Properties told the Weekly that even though its policy does not allow them to "comment publicly on tenant lease matters or the circumstances surrounding individual tenancies", they are still grateful for the restaurant.

"We appreciate the many years that Chinese Szechuan has been a tenant at Hopyard Village and wish the owners all the best in the future," the Goble Properties representative said.

Wang also clarified she has no negative feelings toward the landlord for finding another tenant. In fact, she said she appreciates how much they have worked with her family over the years.

She also said her husband was recently diagnosed with a neuromuscular disease and recently needed a low-dose session of chemotherapy and still had to return to work shortly after, which made her sad and made her want to close that much more.

Still, she continued to hold out hope that she could find someone to sell the restaurant to, even when

See **RESTAURANT** on Page 9

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# PUSD's Brown declines to seek reelection this fall

Prospective Area 5 candidates will have until next Wednesday to qualify for ballot

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District Trustee Justin Brown has confirmed he will not be running for a second term on the district's Board of Trustees this November, leaving Area 5 wide open for new candidates.

Because Brown, the incumbent, will not be seeking reelection, prospective candidates will now have until Aug. 12 to file their candidacy papers for the Area 5 seat, which represents Vintage Hills and Hearst elementary schools and Pleasanton Middle School, as well as part of Foothill High's attendance area.

In an email to the Pleasanton Weekly, Brown said even though his decision not to run was "extremely difficult," it was ultimately the right thing to do for his family.

"Serving the students, families, teachers, and staff of this district for the past four years has been one of the great honors of my life," Brown said.

"Ultimately, the demands of the role on my family, with my children entering grades 6, 8, and 9, along with growing professional pressures and the need to prioritize my health, led me to conclude that another four-year term is not in the cards at this time."

Brown first joined the school board in 2022, having previously served on the Pleasanton Planning Commission and on



Justin Brown

the city's Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee. He works at ServiceNow, an American software company based in Santa Clara as a global integrations technical support leader, according to his LinkedIn.

Over the past four years, Brown has had a hand in approving countless school board items, including bond-funded facility renovation projects and dozens of policy updates.

"Throughout my time on the Board, I have tried to act with integrity of purpose, to listen first, to act only in the best interest of the public, and to treat every member of our district community, including our labor partners, with respect, even when we disagreed.

Over the past couple years he and

the board also approved millions of dollars worth of budget cuts in response to several budget challenges, including declining enrollment, a structural budget deficit and other monetary factors.

More recently, he and the board approved a new round of budget cuts after the county negatively certified the district's budget last December, a task he said was difficult but necessary.

"I am especially proud of the Board's work over the past two years to lift the district out of deficit spending and put it back on the path to an unqualified budget certification," Brown said. "That was not an easy task, and was accomplished with empathy and compassion."

Now that Brown confirmed he is

not running for reelection, he said one of his main priorities is to make sure he will leave his seat in capable hands.

"I have begun reaching out to community members who may be in a position to serve, and I encourage anyone interested to consider running," Brown said. "A diverse, thoughtful, and financially literate board is essential to our district's continued success."

He also said he will "remain fully engaged" until his term is up this December and added that he hopes to serve Pleasanton again in the future.

"It has been a true honor to serve this community, and I am grateful for the partnership, professionalism, and friendship I have found along the way," Brown said. ■

## \$30 minimum wage won't be on November ballot

Alameda County supervisors ask for study on impacts in 3-2 vote on initiative measure

BY ERIC URBACH /  
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

Alameda County's Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to delay adding a \$30 minimum wage proposal to the November ballot, opting instead for additional study to be conducted on the measure's effects before going before voters.

After proponents with the Alameda County Living Wage for All coalition gathered signatures to qualify the initiative, the Board of Supervisors under state law had the choice of adopting the measure, placing it on November's ballot, or asking for a study to measure its impact that would be received by the board within 30 days. The board opted to ask for a study.

On a 3-2 vote, the board's decision to delay will put the measure past the deadline to appear on the Nov. 3 ballot, postponing it until the next countywide election, currently the presidential primary election scheduled for 2028. Supervisors David Haubert, Nate Miley and Lena Tam voted to delay, while Elisa Marquez and Nikki Fortunato Bas voted to put the measure on the ballot.

"Yesterday's procedural vote will not prevent a living wage for all from reaching the ballot in Alameda County. It simply means voters will pass these critical reforms in the next election," the leadership group for the coalition said in a statement Wednesday. "What workers needed from these supervisors yesterday was courage to stand up to big

business — and on that, three supervisors failed dramatically."

The ballot measure would raise Alameda County's minimum wage to \$30 an hour in stages over the next decade. The measure would only apply to employers in the unincorporated parts of the county, not those doing business inside any city boundary, although the group is working to put a similar initiative on an Oakland ballot. Large companies in the county would be required to raise their minimum pay to \$30 an hour by 2030, while small businesses were given until 2037 to do the same.

During the hearing, Fortunato Bas said that she believed everyone deserved a living wage for one job and said that the board should

honor the signature-gathering efforts, noting that over 100,000 people had signed.

Haubert and Miley both stood firm in the need for additional study, eventually receiving the support of Tam on the vote to delay.

The Alameda County Living Wage for All coalition is part of the national One Fair Wage campaign, which aims to establish a living wage at the federal level, in eight states, and the District of Columbia.

The coalition led the signature gathering effort to put a \$30 minimum wage measure onto the ballot, collecting over 100,000 signatures and submitting those to the county for certification on July 8.

On July 24, the signatures were certified by Alameda County,

clearing the way for the Board of Supervisors to vote on Tuesday.

Edward Escobar, founder of the Coalition for Community Engagement, which led a press conference earlier in the day in opposition to the measure, said he was extremely pleased with the outcome of Tuesday's vote, saying it will give him and his organization enough time to mount the opposition to the measure.

Escobar shared his perspective that the measure would harm local business and speed up automation of sectors in the age of artificial intelligence, adding that the advocates for the measure were part of a national group promoting a policy and did not represent the workers and small businesses of Alameda County. ■

## Culinary Angels set for 10th anniversary gala

BY JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley nonprofit Culinary Angels is celebrating its major milestone in 2026 with a gala in Livermore Valley wine country this fall to raise funds and awareness upon the occasion.

The "Bounty of Hope" 10th anniversary gala represents an important event for the nonprofit that prepares and delivers "locally sourced, organic, nutrient-rich meals and nutrition education to cancer patients and their families" in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville.

"This is the organization's largest and most important fundraiser this year, relying on revenue generated from this event to sustain their programs," Culinary Angels officials

said in a press release.

"Culinary Angels operates primarily with volunteers; however, the provision of high-quality nutritious meals still requires significant financial outlay," they added. "Thus, the funds raised at the event from the organization's generous donors and attendees are critical to the viability of its operations."

The gala — set for Oct. 11 at Concannon Vineyard — will feature a buffet dinner by On The Vine Catering, wines from the venue, live and silent auctions, live music by Megan Gonzales and a program emceed by Juliette Goodrich of KPIX News CBS Bay Area that includes highlighting the nonprofit's accomplishments, its partners and plans for growth.

"Driven by the surge in com-

munity support and growing local demand, Culinary Angels has successfully increased its service delivery from one meal to two meals per week per recipient and caregiver," reps told the Pleasanton Weekly. "The organization is actively scaling operations with the goal of providing three meals per week to clients by this fall."

"A Youth Program has also been started and will launch in the fall to align it with increased meal production. Culinary Angels is primarily volunteer driven and this new program will share the spirit of volunteerism with youth in the community," they added.

For tickets to "Bounty of Hope" or more information about the nonprofit, go to [culinaryangels.org](http://culinaryangels.org). ■

### TAKE US ALONG



An Italian cafe: Anne Stark enjoys the Pleasanton Weekly at a cafe in Castelnovo di Garfagnana in Northern Tuscany while on vacation earlier this year with husband David, who snapped the picture.

# Ailing domestic cat euthanized after rabies diagnosis

Local animal shelter says incident in Pleasanton serves as reminder to vaccinate pets

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

An ill domestic cat from Pleasanton was put down this summer after testing positive for rabies, which prompted local organizations to remind pet owners to keep their animals' vaccinations up to date.

The Alameda County Vector Control Services District also asked residents to make sure their pets avoid any contact with bats, which is believed to be how the cat contracted the deadly disease.

"Bats are the No. 1 carrier of rabies in Alameda County and this cat did test positive for a bat-rabies variant strain so we're fairly confident that it got rabies from a bat," Valerie Ahlgren, a rabies expert with the district, told the Pleasanton Weekly on July 29.

Ahlgren said the cat that was euthanized in Pleasanton was reported to have been an indoor-only cat. However, she said the cat did have

access to a second-story balcony, which is where Ahlgren said the cat likely encountered a bat.

According to the county officials, rabid bats have been more of a problem in Alameda County since 2019. Between then and 2025, 27 bats have tested positive for rabies in Alameda County.

"Rabies is detected more frequently in bats, with 8 rabid bats detected in Alameda County, including City of Berkeley, in 2025," according to the county's website.

Typically when a pet comes into contact with a rabid animal, like a bat, Ahlgren said they are placed under quarantine. Vaccinated pets are quarantined for about a month while unvaccinated pets are isolated for six months.

This is so health officials can monitor the pets and see whether the rabies disease develops or not. Ahlgren said rabies can sometimes take anywhere from three to eight

weeks to develop in cats.

Euthanasia, she noted, is usually the last resort after the infected animal has already been quarantined and given rabies booster shots.

"There's no reason to euthanize a pet, somebody's pet, for exposure," Ahlgren said.

But when it came to the Pleasanton cat, she said the family had no idea it had even come into contact with the bat. Prior to knowing about the rabies, Ahlgren said the family had believed the cat had a urinary tract infection and had been bringing it to the vet as its symptoms worsened.

Eventually, the cat's health deteriorated so much, due to the rabies symptoms, that Ahlgren said the humane thing to do was to put it down once the family and veterinarians saw the cat tested positive for rabies on June 29.

"This cat was already dying," she said. "It would have died anyway."

After the cat tested positive, the family were given rabies prophylaxis, a vaccine that helps prevent the deadly disease from developing.

According to the county, vector control staff inspected the area in Pleasanton where the cat's family lives for "signs of roosting bats, and none were found."

"The risk of rabies to the public is low, and no additional exposures or rabies cases have been identified," according to the county.

But Ahlgren said even though most indoor cats are not vaccinated, she and other agencies highly recommend doing so — this goes for all pets — because cats can always get outside and bats can sometimes make their way inside homes.

The growing bat population in the county, and the recent euthanasia, has also prompted the Valley Humane Society in Pleasanton to recommend all cats and dogs be

vaccinated against rabies. The nonprofit has already committed to making sure adoptable cats over three months receive the rabies vaccine in order to "help protect pets and people in our community."

"While rare, rabies does exist in wildlife throughout California," VHS said in a press release last week. "Cats are more likely to encounter bats because of their hunting skills, and since it is not uncommon for bats to enter a home, even indoor cats can be affected. Bat bites are often very tiny and difficult to identify, so if you think you or your pet have come in contact with a bat, seek treatment immediately."

VHS also said if local pets need a vaccine or booster, residents can visit its Phil Scholz Veterinary Surgery Center, located at 120 Spring St. in Pleasanton. For more information, visit [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org). ■

## RESTAURANT

Continued from Page 7

the restaurant was losing money.

That's why, even though she said she was OK with the news of the new tenant, she feels anxious about the fact that she is now being asked to vacate in a couple of weeks with hundreds of dollars worth of debt and a sick husband.

She is asking the landlord for some grace and is trying to see if the new tenant wants to buy any of her equipment, even if the likelihood of that happening is low.

As Chinese Szechuan's run comes to an end, Wang recognized the amazing time she and her family had served the Pleasanton community over the past four decades and wanted to make sure that all of their loyal customers know how much the restaurant appreciates their patronage.

She noted how, over the past several days since announcing their upcoming closure, she has seen customers give generous tips after their meals.

"We really appreciate our customers," Wang said.

She also wanted to make sure

that people use up any of their gift certificates before they close their doors for good.

As for their financial situation, Wang said her family will try to figure it out but if they do need

any sort of help, she will look into either starting up a GoFundMe page or taking on another job around town. However, she hopes she can work something out with their landlord in the meantime.

But one thing is for sure, she said she will not be looking at opening up another restaurant any time soon.

"It is the right time," she said regarding the closure. ■

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# Walker announces bid for reelection to PUSD Area 2

Former Amador Valley admin assistant says her job on school board is not done

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District Area 2 Trustee Laurie Walker announced Tuesday that she will be running for a second term on the school board during the upcoming November election.

Walker said her decision to run for reelection for the Area 2 seat — represents the surrounding neighborhoods of Hart Middle School and Fairlands Elementary — was made after careful consideration and a desire to continue the work she started when she first joined the board almost four years ago.

“The decision to seek another term was driven by a simple but enduring purpose: making a difference for students,” Walker told the Pleasanton Weekly. “I believe every student deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential.”

Before she was first elected to

the board in 2022, Walker had worked as an administrative secretary for Amador Valley High School for about three years.

Prior to that, she had worked in a similar role at Harvest Park Middle School from 2016 to 2019.

Walker also has a long history of serving on school site councils, districtwide and budget advisory committees and athletic booster groups. In addition, Walker has served on different parent-teacher association positions, including the Pleasanton PTA Council, which earned her the Pleasanton PTA Council Honorary Service Award.

Over the past four years, Walker said she has faced several challenges as a trustee. Most of those challenges,



Laurie Walker

she said, had to do with the district’s ongoing budget troubles.

During her time on the dais, the school board has had to approve nearly \$25 million in net budget reductions in order to balance the district’s budget and to address an ongoing structural deficit. Through all of that, Walker said she has maintained her mission to keep those cuts as far away from the students as possible.

“My journey on the Board thus far has not always been an easy one, but it has always been about what’s best for the students of PUSD,” Walker said.

But the environment hasn’t been all doom and gloom for Walker during her time as a trustee.

She pointed to all of the construction projects the district has been able to complete or start on throughout her time on the board thanks to the voter-approved, \$395

million Measure I bond. She said these renovated facilities are a testament to the district and the board’s commitment to improving the school sites for future generations of students.

Walker added that as a parent of three PUSD graduates, she has spent more than 20 years supporting the district both as a volunteer and a community leader. She said that lifelong tie and commitment to public education “continues to fuel a passion for serving students, families, and educators.”

However, she said PUSD continues to be at a “critical juncture,” which is why she said she decided to run for a second term.

“The decisions we make over the next four years will shape the future of public education in Pleasanton, and continuity on the Board is essential to maintaining the momentum we’ve built while thoughtfully

addressing the challenges that remain,” Walker said.

She said some of her priorities, if reelected, will be attracting, supporting and retaining teachers and staff; supporting the well-being of students and employees; ensuring fiscal stewardship of the district’s finances through “transparent and fiscally sound decision-making”; and strengthening community partnerships that are essential to the district’s future.

“My story isn’t done yet,” Walker said. “There is more to accomplish, more opportunities to create, and more students whose futures we can positively impact. I am ready to continue serving our community with integrity, experience, and an unwavering commitment to every student.”

More information on Walker’s platform will be available soon on her campaign website, [votelaureforschoolboard.org](http://votelaureforschoolboard.org). ■

## Livermore council approves General Plan 2045

Emphasis newly placed on climate resilience, environmental justice, healthy communities

BY JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore City Council has adopted the plan intended to guide the city’s decision-making for about the next two decades regarding its growth, development and resources conservation.

The approved Livermore General Plan 2045 maintains city priorities such as protecting open space as well as supporting downtown and South Livermore vitality and multimodal transportation. It also places a

new emphasis on climate resilience, environmental justice and healthy communities, the staff report states.

Developed from 2021 to 2026, creating the plan cost about \$3 million via consulting contract. Input was taken from the public, General Plan Advisory Committee, Livermore Planning Commission, city staff as well as the previous and current council.

Councilmembers unanimously approved the General Plan at its July 27 regular meeting following a

public hearing. In the same motion, the council certified the General Plan 2045 final environmental impact report and introduced an ordinance to amend the Livermore zoning map for consistency.

“In 2045, Livermore will be a community with a big heart where families and individuals flourish, and people with diverse experiences and perspectives work together for the common good,” the General Plan vision states. “Insightful land use policies and wise resource management

will ensure services and infrastructure for a high quality of life and enable Livermore to be safe and welcoming for all.”

The vision as well as guiding principles such as excellent city services and infrastructure are meant to inform the rest of the General Plan.

The plan includes 10 elements with over 45 goals as well as associated policies to implement the goals. The elements cover land use, community identity, mobility, housing, infrastructure, community services,

open space and conservation, noise, safety and economic development.

“Topics such as environmental justice and climate adaptation and sustainability have been woven in to all the elements,” the General Plan states.

Under the land-use element, the city aims to create neighborhoods that feature mixed use development and a range of housing types. It also intends to locate new developments in places that maximize the use of

See **GENERAL PLAN** on Page 11



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## CONGRESS

Continued from Page 5

representing us,” Hernandez said.

“I’m not a Sacramento politician. I don’t believe in ideological fights. I’m a mom from this community and I want to get things done, just as I did as Mayor, the last couple years as BART Director, and in my day job as a healthcare advocate,” Hernandez added.

In her email interview, Wahab said, “My first priority for the remainder of the District 14 term would be to make sure residents once again have an accessible, responsive and trusted voice in Congress.”

“Even though the remaining term is brief, families cannot afford a pause in representation,” Wahab added.

Overall, she intends to focus on lowering the cost of housing, healthcare, groceries and childcare; protecting Social Security, Medicare and reproductive freedom; supporting good-paying jobs and small businesses as well as advancing public safety solutions.

Of immediate focus is helping

residents with services while also protecting funding committed by the federal government, she said.

“I would also defend the civil and constitutional rights of every community, regardless of race, religion, gender, immigration status or political affiliation,” Wahab said.

In the Tri-Valley specifically, she expressed priority for securing transportation and infrastructure investments to reduce congestion on interstates 580 and 680, improving regional transit and ensuring growth is accompanied by infrastructure, school and affordable housing.

“Should I be elected in August, my responsibility as a member of Congress would come first,” Wahab said. “I would not treat the remainder of the term as an extended campaign.”

As for campaign finances, Melissa Hernandez for Congress has received a total of \$720,065.11 through Aug. 1 of the election cycle, according to financial reports filed with the Federal Election Commission. The campaign’s most recent filings include a July quarterly report and a 48 hour notice of contributions/loans received.

Through June 30 of the election cycle, her campaign expenditures total \$525,772.04, the July quarterly report states.

Wahab’s campaign dubbed Dr. Aisha Wahab For Congress has received a total of \$575,281.58 through June 30 of the election cycle, according to the July quarterly report filed with the FEC.

During the same period, her campaign expenditures totaled \$342,888.73.

The campaign receipts and expenditures represent total dollar values for both the special general and general election.

Voters within the pre-Proposition 50 boundaries are able to select a District 14 candidate in the special general election. The area includes Livermore, Pleasanton, Castro Valley, Hayward, Union City and Fairview and parts of Dublin, Fremont, San Lorenzo, San Leandro and Mountain House.

The regular general election features slightly different boundaries, so the full-term winner is set to represent the southern Tri-Valley and areas west such as Fremont and Hayward. ■

## ICE CENTER

Continued from Page 5

Pleasanton city staff published a memorandum on July 7 regarding the status of the FCI Dublin facility and any potential plans to convert it into a detention center.

The memo details how neighboring agencies has responded to the idea of the detention center being built in Dublin and how the city received a “letter from the Department of Homeland Security stating that ICE is not planning to use FCI Dublin as a detention facility”.

“The letter states that the facility was not included in the February 6, 2025, inter-agency agreement with the Bureau of Prisons to allow ICE to house immigration detainees at various Bureau of Prisons institutions throughout the United States,” the memo reads.

Still, that hasn’t stopped members of the community from expressing their concerns — particularly after the recent deaths of Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, an immigrant and father who was shot and killed by ICE agents during a traffic stop in Houston, Texas, and Johan Sebastian Guerrero, who had a social security number and a work permit, before he was killed by ICE

agents in Biddeford, Maine.

According to news reports, Guerrero was not the target of that particular operation as they were looking for someone else.

Aurora Nicolas, a Pleasanton native who also spoke out about these issues back in June, pointed out during public comment July 27 how just one week prior the Alameda County Immigration Legal Education Partnership confirmed ICE’s presence in downtown Livermore.

According to a July 18 post, ACILEP said by the time members of the organization went to check in on the situation, ICE had left the location. No arrests were confirmed.

“The concern is no longer if ICE comes or even when ICE comes,” Nicolas said. “The concern is now that ICE is here, what will you, the mayor and City Council, do to protect us, the residents of Pleasanton and our beloved community?”

While there were a couple of people who said that having a detention center in Dublin would ensure detainees in the Bay Area stay closer to home or that the plans haven’t been confirmed, the overwhelming majority wanted to see Pleasanton take action.

That’s why, during matters initiated, Councilmember Jeff Nibert

introduced yet another motion to agendize a discussion on adopting such a resolution. He and Councilmember Julie Testa have been the only two members on the dais who have voiced support for getting the discussion on the books over the past couple months.

During his comments, Nibert pulled out his passport and noted how many people in the Tri-Valley, including two Livermore councilmembers, are now walking around with their own passports out of fear of ICE enforcement.

He said the staff time to look into such a resolution is minimal, which is why he once again urged the council to support his motion to agendize the discussion.

“We look out for each other in the city,” Nibert said. “We respond with empathy. We listen to and support one another. There are members of our community that are hurting, members of our community that are being targeted and feel a sense of fear ... those feelings are real.”

Testa supported Nibert’s motion after hearing the “passionate and heartfelt testimonies” from the public and given what she had seen in the community.

“I know, personally, people who are fearful, who are reluctant to leave their homes,” Testa said. “We

should send a message and unite the Tri-Valley in opposing any possibility of the ICE detention center in Dublin.”

Councilmember Craig Eicher, who was not at the last meeting the topic was brought up, chose to read a letter the council received which he said sums up his thoughts on the overall situation.

The person who wrote the letter said they were supportive of the council’s decision to monitor the possibility of an ICE facility coming to Dublin and remaining in contact with neighboring cities regarding the matter, in case things change.

However, the letter also noted how there is “currently no proposal to use the FCI facility in Dublin as an ICE detention facility and DHS has explicitly stated that it has no plans to use the facility for immigration detention”. That is a point that a handful of people reiterated to the council during public comment as a reason why Pleasanton shouldn’t spend time on a resolution.

The letter also states that the writer did not agree with the sentiment that if someone on the council or the public does not agree with having the city pursue a resolution, they must support ICE.

“That is an unfair and divisive false choice,” Eicher read from the

letter. “Pleasanton is being asked to spend public time and resources opposing a hypothetical action involving a facility the city neither owns, nor controls and recognizing those facts is not support for ICE.”

Balch ended the discussion by saying he is also concerned — and understands residents’ concerns — about the possibility of the former Dublin prison facility being converted into an ICE detention center.

“The safety of our community members is paramount to me,” Balch said. “I am also, as I’ve stated before, deeply troubled by the actions ICE are taking against our immigrant community. People who are family, neighbors and friends.”

He added how ICE tactics undermine the “hard-earned trust” local law enforcement have been trying to build with the public.

“It seems to me to be advancing cruelty just as much as anything else,” Balch said. “And it is not consistent with my values.”

Balch reiterated how important it is for the city to continue monitoring the FCI Dublin facility to see what will happen, but held his stance that the city should limit itself to just monitoring, at least until they see any actual credible threat of a detention center being proposed at that location. ■

## GENERAL PLAN

Continued from Page 10

existing public services and facilities.

More specifically, the city intends to develop the Isabel Neighborhood into a “complete neighborhood” and create a mixed-use neighborhood in the Midtown area, according to the plan.

It also intends to preserve and support the South Livermore Valley as an agricultural region and wine country economy.

The plan identified east of Greenville Road as an area for potential evaluation of land use changes under conditions such as a jobs and housing imbalance or service and infrastructure challenges.

During the meeting, the majority of eight public commenters requested maintenance of the urban growth boundary or removal of language in the General Plan for potential study of the area east of Greenville Road.

“It is very important to the citizens of Livermore not to change our urban growth boundary unless it is absolutely needed,” Livermore Valley Arts director Jean King said during the meeting.

“This council does not have the authority to break the urban growth boundary. The only entity that can do that are the voters of Livermore,” Mayor John Marchand later replied.

The General Plan focuses on growth within its borders, Councilmember Evan Branning explained.

“In the (committee) meetings, some of the comments people made, and even some made tonight, make

it seem more contentious than it really is,” Vice Mayor Kristie Wang said of the General Plan.

There was “great consensus” getting to the plan, Marchand added.

On the subject of land use, the council supported the conversion of 40 acres in the Midtown area from heavy industrial zoning to commercial service once a Midtown Specific Plan is adopted. The land is part of an approximately 130-acre property owned by McGrath RentCorp.

The council considered, as a separate item that night, an amendment to a development agreement with McGrath.

The council also supported the conversion of open space zoning for an approximately 122-acre site at 3658 Las Colinas Road in the process of allowing limited residential development, according to a zoning map of the proposed change areas and an errata regarding land use. A development agreement with property owner Adventus was up for council consideration during the meeting as a separate item.

Alongside the General Plan, the council certified the final EIR.

The General Plan has significant and unavoidable impacts that cannot be mitigated to a less-than-significant level, according to the staff report. Impacts are expected on elements of the environment such as agricultural resources, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, mineral resources and noise.

Due to the findings, the council approved a statement of overriding considerations finding that the benefits of the General Plan outweigh the

unavoidable environmental impacts.

Of note, the finding of impacts is at a plan-level. At a project specific level, impacts could be less significant and potentially mitigable, according to Livermore principal planner Andy Ross.

Benefits of the plan include support of infill development for future housing needs and economic growth, protection of resources while also maintaining infrastructure and

public services as well as promotion of fiscal sustainability.

The EIR study area accounts for a total population of 131,750 people during 2045 at maximum theoretical build-out.

The theoretical population was used to evaluate potential impacts, Ross explained.

“They are not forecasts and they are not projections,” he added.

Under a separate cover, the council

voted to retain existing general plan scenic corridor policies until new scenic resources standards are considered and adopted in the future, according to the staff report.

Following adoption of the General Plan, city staff intend to present work programs to the council to the document.

The General Plan and associated final EIR are available online at [ImagineLivermore2045.org](http://ImagineLivermore2045.org). ■

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COURTESY EONF

Eugene O'Neill and his third wife, Oakland native Carlotta Monterey.

By JEANITA LYMAN

When Eugene O'Neill came to Danville amid his rise to enduring fame as one of the country's most renowned playwrights, he was seeking a fresh start across the country in a tranquil, curated, tightly controlled environment that would come to be known as the Tao House.

But as O'Neill experts are well aware — and as visitors to the national historic site that bears his name quickly come to find out — the playwright's former home and his time in it during his later years came to be a plot point in the story of his life, rather than the start of a brand-new story.

Among those authorities is National Park Service ranger and Pleasanton resident Geraldine Finton, one of the two NPS employees who drive a shuttle van from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley to the secluded site and lead guided tours steeped in intimate knowledge about how O'Neill's time in Danville influenced his life story ... and vice versa.

"Writing plays is the only way he can make sense of the world around him, so he's constantly, constantly writing," Finton said during one of those tours on a July afternoon. "People like his plays — that's great — but even if they don't, he still has to write."

As O'Neill settled into his home in the Danville hills in 1937 at the peak of his career in search of the ideal setting in which he could write his ultimate masterpieces, his material turned all the more personal the more he sought to make sense of the person he was spending the most time with — himself, for 10 to 14 hours daily, in the highly personalized study that is preserved on the Tao House's upper floor more than 80 years later.

"In this room, he is forcing himself to dig up all of the memories of his past that he has spent his whole life trying to push down and forget, because he knows he's at the end when he's about to lose his ability to write," Finton said.

Those hours of writing over the course of six years in Danville led to the posthumously produced "Long Day's Journey Into Night,"

which came to be one of O'Neill's most defining works — despite his wishes — written as a day in his own family's life defined by opioid addiction, alcoholism, his own chronic health condition, the family's collective grief over the early death of its middle child, and its collective resentment of how its patriarch's tight pursestrings have impacted these events.

"Everyone in his family is in their own little prison blaming themselves, blaming each other, feeling guilty, feeling angry at everyone else," Finton said. "They're all suffering obviously from, you know, there's depression. There's addiction, there's alcoholism. There's all kinds of undiagnosed mental illness. There's no treatment for any of those factors."

While O'Neill's plan had always been to make his new home in Danville a place of refuge where he could fully dedicate himself to his work, the isolation from the outside world that defined his later career failed to isolate him from his ongoing family trauma and its impacts on his relationships with his own estranged children.

But that wasn't for lack of effort, particularly on the part of his third wife, who was "a whole story all by herself," according to Finton.

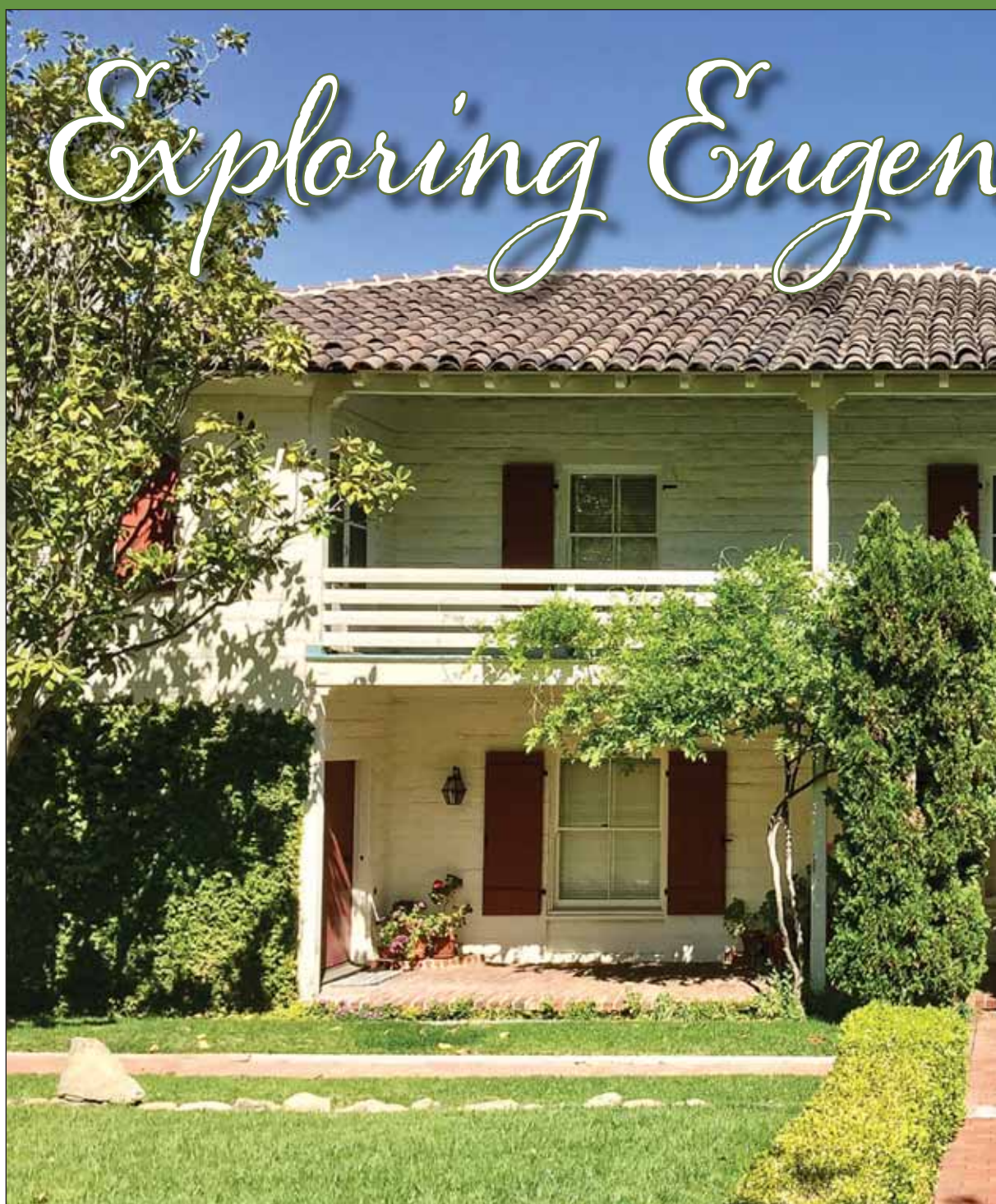
"Her real name is not Carlotta Monterey — if that sounds like it could be made up, it is," the ranger said.

Born in Oakland as Hazel Tharsing, Monterey nonetheless had "big plans for herself" that were encouraged by winning a beauty contest at 17.

"Hazel from Oakland' is not opening doors, but Carlotta Monterey is a name — very mysterious, very alluring," Finton said.

Monterey's Bay Area roots and the couple's love for Chinese decor would come to define the name of the Tao House as well as its aesthetic, adorning the gate of the house, its foyer, staircase and O'Neill's bedroom, anchored by a bed that had been designed as an opium couch.

The decorations that perhaps best symbolize the theme of the Tao House and the couple's relationship are two Chinese guardian lions at



## The complicated history of the T

the bottom of the staircase near the entrance, serving as a clear delineation between the house's common areas for visitors and O'Neill's private world on the second story.

"Carlotta, his wife, is the gatekeeper — you don't see him unless you go through her first," Finton said. "She answers all the mail, the phone calls, she manages who's visiting and who doesn't. And that would be totally fine, except she does not like his kids at all, and they don't like her."

That included his only daughter Oona, whose own show business career in Fremont's Niles neighborhood and marriage at 18 to Charlie Chaplin — born six months after O'Neill himself — would go on to make her an enduring part of his legacy. After his move to the Tao House, O'Neill repeatedly declined his daughter's efforts to reach out and build a relationship, or to allow her to visit.

The couple's time at the Tao

House wasn't Monterey's first time serving as a gatekeeper and guardian.

"She likes to give into this role where she devotes herself to a great man, a great artist, he then can create the greatest masterpieces because of her devotion," Finton said. "Her third husband was absolutely suffocated by her. But for Eugene O'Neill, this actually works out well, because he desperately needs somebody to take care of him."

While O'Neill's two other late-career plays written at the Tao House — "The Iceman Cometh" and "A Moon for the Misbegotten" — solidified his role as the "father of American theater" during his lifetime, it was Monterey's intervention that brought "Long Day's Journey Into Night" into the public eye and earned him continued accolades following his death in 1953.

"Carlotta said he wrote this play to try and forgive himself and to try and forgive his family — mostly

what he wants to do is understand his mother's pain, so that he can forgive her and let go and hopefully move on with his life," Finton said.

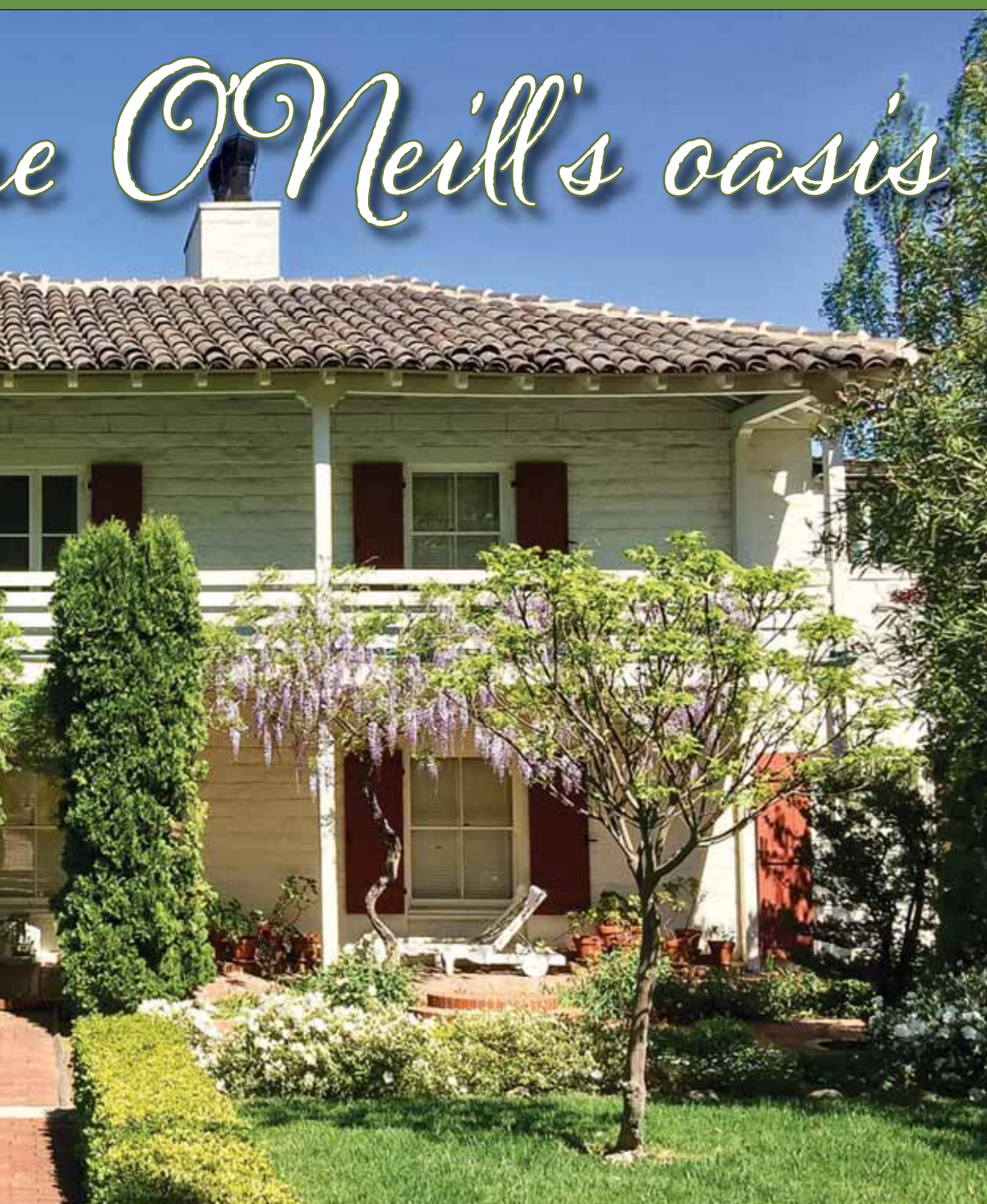
As O'Neill's health declined in his 50s and his physical ability to write deteriorated, Finton said that he "could no longer not face" the family trauma that had haunted him throughout his life — but nonetheless, did not want it publicized.

"He sent this manuscript to his publisher with a note that it was not to be published until 25 years after his death, and never performed, ever," Finton said.

Instead, Monterey saw to it that "Long Day's Journey" was published and produced in 1956, garnering a Pulitzer Prize in drama and further cementing O'Neill's role in theater history.

Solidifying the Tao House as a national historic site wouldn't come until years later.

The couple sold the home in 1944, moving back to the East



## Tri-Valley's only national park site

WEEKLY FILE PHOTO COURTESY EONF

The Tao House in Danville's western hills offers a glimpse into O'Neill's later life and career, which were marked by reflections on his family's turmoil that culminated in the acclaimed "Long Day's Journey Into Night".

Coast where O'Neill would later succumb to a misdiagnosed genetic disease in a hotel room — a full-circle ending for the playwright who was born in a hotel room and spent his childhood on the road touring during his father's acting career.

After spending his years in Danville reflecting on and deciphering his family's intergenerational trauma in his final works, O'Neill was hit with additional tragedies in his retirement as he cut off all contact with his youngest son, Shane O'Neill over drug charges in 1948, then lost his oldest son, Eugene O'Neill Jr., to suicide in 1950.

"He understands that he failed his children, and he feels this tremendous regret and guilt about it, but there's nothing he can do," Finton said. "It's too late. One of his sons is already dead. The other son is homeless, addicted to heroin. He

doesn't know how to even formulate the words to talk to his daughter. So he sees this pattern of his own torment that he's carried his entire life, and now has passed on."

While those issues plagued O'Neill in his final years, Finton noted that "his entire life has been that way."

"The Nobel Prize and all the accolades did not take away from his own depression, his own despair among the American playwrights," Finton said. "He is the first one to throw the raw emotion of the American dream on the stage, very unfiltered, very real. And ultimately, that's what makes him so influential."

Meanwhile, the Tao House changed hands multiple times after it was sold to the Carlson family upon the couple's departure, giving way to plans for a proposed housing development in 1968 in

which the site would have served as a community center, according to local historian and former mayor Beverly Lane in her book "Danville: Heart of the San Ramon Valley."

"Outraged by this proposal, a determined trio of Danville-area women, Thalia Brewer, Darlene Blair and Lois Sizoo spearheaded a community movement to save the house and the core property," Lane wrote.

That outrage gave way to the establishment of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation in 1974, the same year the East Bay Regional Park District purchased more than 1,000 acres of land that would become Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, and that included the Tao House site.

The foundation was given an 18-month purchase option on the site, with O'Neillian actor Jason Robards using funds from the performance of one the late playwright's works



JEANITA LYMAN

One of the two desks in O'Neill's study nestled in the upper floor of the Tao House.

to aid in the purchase and then-assemblymember Dan Boatwright ultimately enabling its purchase by the state. Legislation to establish a national historic site was introduced in 1975, then signed into law in 1976.

It wasn't until nearly a decade later that the Tao House was opened to the public in 1985, with litigation from neighboring residents delaying the full opening until 1994.

As part of the agreement between the NPS and neighboring residents, the O'Neill site is accessible to the public only by shuttle, and otherwise only by a small group of people with the code to the gate to the private, bumpy road that symbolizes both the NPS designation and O'Neill's personal life.

In spite of its seclusion and accessibility limits, the O'Neill site holds the distinction of being the Tri-Valley's only National Park System site, something that the foundation, NPS, and other local theater and history enthusiasts are trying to make a more well-known fact.

That includes efforts underway by EONF organizers to prepare for an exhibit at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley later in the year, as well as connecting with neighboring NPS sites including the John Muir National Historic site and the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Monument.

"It's kind of our way to get people to understand that there's a National Historic Site up here," EONF President Teresa Morley said.

The annual Eugene O'Neill Festival that showcases his works at the property where his career peaked is likely the most prominent event that draws attention to the Tao House and brings in additional visitors every September.

While the Tao House holds the distinction of being the site of O'Neill's final, dramatic works, the centerpiece of this year's festival is set to be his lighter fare — the 1933 Broadway comedy "Ah Wilderness," directed by Las Positas College dean and theater arts coordinator Titian Lish, one of the only O'Neill plays featuring a happy ending.

But as Morley noted, despite the lighthearted nature and popular appeal of "Ah Wilderness," those

who know O'Neill will be able to detect darker underpinnings.

Although NPS and EONF officials alike seek to encourage more visitors to the site, its seclusion also continues to make it ideal for its namesake's intended purpose — a place to focus solely on writing in a tranquil atmosphere, away from the rest of the world.

The site serves that purpose for writers in the present day with the foundation's artist-in-residence and day-use programs that draw playwrights and other creatives from near and far, such as actor and writer Lee Osario, who has returned to the San Ramon Valley repeatedly since his residency for productions of his play "Prisontown".

"To be given the dedicated time to write would have been enough, to be given that time in such a beautiful and historic location would have been enough, to be fed by the wonderful staff of San Damiano — that alone would have been enough," Osario said. "Or just to have gotten to know the incredible humans running the Foundation and the National Park, and to have made the friendships I have, any one of those things would have been a gift in and of itself."

Osario called the confluence of those factors "an abundance of riches" that continues to provide artistic and personal nourishment years later.

"It doesn't happen without a lot of hard work and a lot of money," Osario said, "So, I strongly encourage anyone reading this to learn how you can support the invaluable work the Foundation is doing either by volunteering, donating, going to see a show, or all of the above."

Tours for the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site depart from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in downtown Danville at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Reservations and more information are available at [nps.gov/euon](http://nps.gov/euon).

EONF is hosting a preview of its annual festival Tuesday (Aug. 11) at the Danville Library. More information on the event, the festival, and residency programs is available at [eugeneoneill.org](http://eugeneoneill.org). ■

New jazz series  
kicks off with  
Marty Isenberg's  
ode to the music  
of Wes Anderson  
movies

## Opening Club Bankhead

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Livermore's Bankhead Theater is debuting a new series this week designed for anyone with an itch to experience a raw, intimate jazz performance on a professional stage.

The eight-part Club Bankhead Jazz Series, hosted by Livermore Valley Arts, will feature nationally and locally recognized artists in a unique venue — members of the audience will be seated on stage alongside the performers in order to recreate a more authentic, small jazz club experience.

"Livermore Valley Arts is excited

to satisfy both jazz lovers and music lovers who just adore perfect vibes, in an unforgettable Tri-Valley setting this summer," LVA stated in a July 10 press release. "To foster that jazz club vibe, tickets will be very limited —interested patrons are encouraged to purchase early so they do not miss the chance to experience great jazz up close, the way it's meant to be."

Kicking off this new series at the Bankhead will be Marty Isenberg, a Brooklyn-based bass player who — along with his band — will be performing his "The Way I Feel Inside" set this Friday (Aug. 7).

The performance will explore themes of "wonder, loneliness, and nostalgia of life in the modern world" all while incorporating music from the cinematic world of Wes Anderson.

"I think that this is a really unique experience," Isenberg told the Pleasanton Weekly. "There's not a whole lot of other people that are using theatrical performances with such a high level musical jazz band."

Isenberg originally grew up in Portland, Oregon before moving to the East Coast.

According to Isenberg, he first got into playing instruments because of his father, who was constantly playing instruments around the house. He said after his dad died he took up bass, which ended up being a healing experience.

"Once I started doing it, it didn't take long for me to realize it was the thing that I wanted to do for the rest of my life," Isenberg said.

Isenberg got into playing jazz in high school. He said he appreciated how the improvisational aspect of jazz allowed him to really express himself without being too direct.

After moving to New York for school and spending some time in the jazz and theater world, Isenberg said he started thinking about

putting out his own album during the pandemic.

But as a non-lyricist, he said he wanted to create something that would not only resonate with a wider audience, but would also be easily recognizable.

As he thought about songs he wanted to cover, he realized a lot of the songs he was considering came from Anderson's movies that he saw back in high school.

He thought, "What is it about these songs that fit so well in Wes Anderson films and what is it about them that connected to me and connected to, potentially, Wes Anderson's audience?"

That's when he began rearranging some of those songs in his own voice, while also mixing in some of that whimsical aesthetic of Wes Anderson, to create "The Way I Feel Inside".

According to Isenberg, the album touches on themes of alienation and struggling to fit in and the performance itself reiterates those themes as he tells stories about his life as if it were a Wes Anderson movie.

He said apart from the show being funny, charming and musically charged, it also tells his life story and focuses a lot on emotional or transformative moments, such

as when he came out as bisexual. He said many people have reached out in the past to let him know how much his story resonated with them and he hopes to continue doing that for others.

"To have someone's personal perspective on their traumatic experiences is always interesting, I feel, and I think we do it in an interesting way," Isenberg said.

Isenberg and his five-piece band will be set to perform at 8 p.m. on Friday.

Following this show will be another Club Bankhead performance featuring Oakland-based vocalist Jefferson Bergey. His show, "Sinatra Saloon: A Tale & A Tune", will highlight "songs you know and stories you don't, in a musical and storytelling tribute to the music of Frank Sinatra with a little bit of Dean Martin", according to LVA.

Bergey will be set to perform Sept. 4.

The next performances include Laura Anglade, on Oct. 30; Gabrielle Cavassa on Nov. 20; Mads Tolling & John R. Burr Ramblin', and Matt Finders & Friends on Jan. 2; LP And The Vinyl on Feb. 6; Skylar Tang on April 2; and Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra on May 14.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org). ■



COURTESY LVA

Above: Marty Isenberg poses with his jazz band that will open the new series this Friday. Top of page: Season launch party included a preview of the Club Bankhead stage setup.

# Finale approaches for The Singing Winemaker

Property put up for sale as owners eye retirement – ‘an absolutely fabulous journey’

By JUDE STRZEMP

An iconic Livermore vintner and musician confirmed his upcoming retirement and intention to sell a property featuring The Singing Winemaker tasting room.

Known as “The Singing Winemaker” as well, Steve Powell has spent the last two decades performing at the tasting room along with guest musicians.

Steve and wife Karen Powell own The Singing Winemaker and community tasting room Tesla Vintners

on Tesla Road, where several other wineries previously held tasting rooms.

The business remains open as the couple plans to retire by the end of the year.

“We made many, many wonderful friends and acquaintances throughout the many years that we did this work ... and we won lots of awards for making nice wines, but we’re pretty much retiring The Singing Winemaker,” Steve Powell told Livermore Vine.

“It’s obviously a desirable thing

to sell a business, but The Singing Winemaker was pretty unique to me, being the person and personality associated with it,” the lifelong musician added.

Steve and Karen Powell kicked off their company in September 2004, upon hearing that Steve’s friends were looking for a tasting room space.

“I had a property that fit the need for that, so we opened up a little community tasting room and allowed these other small boutique wineries to have a presence on winery row in Livermore on Tesla Road,” Steve Powell told Livermore Vine.

The community tasting room initially featured Fenestra Winery, Thomas Coyne Winery, Big White House Winery and Little Valley Winery.

But to continue operations, Karen and Steve Powell were required to establish an official winery with licensing. At the same time, they sought out a name for their business.

Given Steve Powell’s musicality, the couple thought it was fitting to call the business The



FILE PHOTO BY RON ESSEX PHOTOGRAPHY

Steve and Karen Powell of The Singing Winemaker in the Livermore Valley.

Singing Winemaker.

From its official naming in May 2005 to 2021, Steve Powell said he produced wines.

“We’ve had an absolutely fabulous journey, creating new wines, and creating new blends and participating in music,” he said.

Looking ahead, Karen and Steve Powell plan to move closer to family and settle in Arizona for their retirement.

The property at 5143 Tesla Road is listed on the market for just under \$2.5 million. At about 4.75

acres, the property features a wine tasting room, a modular residence of about 2,128 square feet, a three-story tower, two additional buildings as well as infrastructure including a well and private sewage processing system.

“The property is very well set up to support multiple wineries today, and we’re hoping to transition the property to somebody who will benefit from having a great little wine property in the middle of the Livermore Valley Wine (Country),” Steve Powell said. ■



CONTRIBUTED IMAGES

From left: “Brighter than the Sun” by Tuan Karsevar, and “Blue Flowers and Peace” by Peggy Kervin.

## ‘Flora in Focus’ exhibition opens at Livermore Library

Annual flower art project ‘highlights the power of creativity, collaboration and friendship’

By JEREMY WALSH

Floral art has blossomed once again at Livermore’s Civic Center Library.

The fourth annual “Flora in Focus” exhibition opened in the main hallway’s gallery space last weekend and remains on display there through the end of this month — a showcase of local artists that “highlights the power of creativity, collaboration and friendship,” according to organizer Meghana Mitragotri.

“Flowers remind us that beauty comes in many forms, and our group is much the same,” Mitragotri said in a press release. “Over the years, our shared love for flowers and art has grown into a beautiful friendship. We celebrate each other’s creativity, encourage one another and continue to flourish together.”

In addition to watercolorist Mitragotri, the exhibition features artists Monique Makepeace, Wei-Ting Chuang, Charlotte Severin, Jenna Hobbs, Helene Roylance,

Tejal Shah, Lynda Briggs, Peggy Kervin, Usha Shukla, Tuan Karsevar, Rekha Joshi and Ranjini Venkatachari.

The diversity of creative mediums includes colored pencil, acrylic, watercolor, oil, gouache, glass, mixed media and East Asian brush painting.

“Like a garden where each flower contributes its own color and character, each artist brings a distinct artistic voice while supporting and inspiring one another,” Mitragotri said. “Each piece reflects the artist’s personal interpretation of nature’s elegance and the endless inspiration found in flowers.”

Residents will be able to meet with participating artists during a special reception from 2-4 p.m. Aug. 29 at the library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. — refreshments and raffle prizes will be offered too.

The “Flora in Focus” group typically holds two exhibitions each year, one at the Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton and the other at the Livermore Library. ■



COURTESY LVA

Performing in “Masters of Illusion” on Aug. 22 are (from left) Murray SawChuck, Dani Elizabeth and Joseph Gabriel.

## ‘Masters of Illusion’ making for a magical night

Touring acts bringing ‘fantasy, fervor and flair’ to Tri-Valley

By JEREMY WALSH

The Bankhead Theater is set to close out its summer season with an evening of magic expected to thrill, engage and entertain audiences — while also keeping them guessing.

“Masters of Illusion,” the touring stage show from the same production family that presents the television series of the same name on the CW, is coming to downtown Livermore for “two hours of stage illusions, dangerous stunts, mind-reading, sleight of hand, singing and comedy magic,” according to Livermore Valley Arts.

“Audiences will be held at the edge of their seats by the jaw-dropping grand illusions, and

will laugh out loud at the hysterical comedy magic as performers from around the world combine fantasy, fervor, and flair with magic created in front of their very eyes,” LVA reps said.

The lineup for the Bankhead show features seasoned magician Joseph Gabriel, up-and-coming illusionist Dani Elizabeth, comedian and magician Murray SawChuck and shock illusionist Dan Sperry.

“Watch closely as you experience things that just can’t be done ... or can they?” LVA reps said. The show is scheduled to start at 8 p.m. Aug. 22. For more information, go to [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org). ■



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# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Online community raises funds to honor man killed in Jeep accident

A GoFundMe that was created after a man died in a Jeep accident in a Pleasanton neighborhood nearly two months ago has raised over \$10,000 to help build a well near a school in Afghanistan in his memory.

According to the fundraiser, the victim — Elham Ahmad Waziri — will now be honored through the construction of this well thanks to the contributions of over 60 donors.

“Your support will help supply clean water and create a lasting legacy in Elham’s name,” the fundraiser’s description states.

Pleasanton Police Department Lt.

Nicholas Albert told the Weekly on Wednesday the incident that led to Waziri’s death took place just before 11 p.m. June 20 in the 5300 block of Owens Court. According to Albert, police responded to a report of an unresponsive person who was thrown from a vehicle.

The person, who was identified as Waziri, was found lying unresponsive in a roadway near a Jeep.

“The preliminary investigation indicated that Waziri was standing on the vehicle’s exterior running board while holding onto an interior grab handle as the vehicle reportedly performed a series of rapid, circular turns, causing Waziri to be ejected from the vehicle,” Albert said.

Upon arrival, Albert said officers immediately began taking life-saving measures to save Waziri’s life until paramedics arrived. He was then transported to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley, where he later succumbed to his injuries, Albert said.

Albert said the fatal crash is still under investigation but that the driver of the Jeep remained at the scene of the accident and spoke to police.

“Upon completion of the investigation, the case will be submitted to the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office for review and consideration of any appropriate criminal charges,” Albert said.

Pleasanton PD did not publicly report the fatality nor its investigation at the time. The East Bay Times reported the news for the first time last Friday.

Following his death, the “Build a Well in the name of Elham Ahmad Waziri” drive was created on GoFundMe in order to honor his life by raising enough money to build a well in Kabul, Afghanistan. The fundraising page said Waziri died on June 22.

According to the fundraiser, the well will be 250 meters deep and will be equipped with “pipes to supply clean water to a nearby school of nearly 13,000 students, a hospital, a masjid, and the townspeople.”

“Elham Ahmad Waziri was someone who made everyone around him feel important and loved,” according to the fundraiser.

“He was known for bringing people together, whether it was for gatherings, Thanksgiving celebrations, or spontaneous boba runs,” the fundraiser further stated. “He always encouraged others to do the right thing and was never afraid to call out actions that went against his values.”

—Christian Trujano

### State to oversee county’s child services department

After years of dysfunction, the Alameda County Department of Children and Family Services will now be under the oversight of the California Department of Social Services, State Sen. Aisha Wahab

announced at a press conference last week in Oakland.

This move represents the first step of state intervention, and if the problems continue, the state can completely take over the functioning of the agency.

Speaking outside the Alameda County Administrative Building, Wahab (D-Fremont) said that the state took this step after the California Department of Social Services conducted an on-site review of the County Department of Children and Family Services in March.

The resulting report found that the agency required technical assistance and support to ensure that state welfare laws and regulations are followed, according to a letter from the CDSS to the DCFS.

Wahab, who is running for Congress, took aim at the Board of Supervisors for what she said was their lack of accountability and for allegedly not prioritizing the issues highlighted in multiple audits and reports.

“If you cannot protect these children, the public may decide what to do about you,” Wahab said, addressing the board, none of whom were present at the July 29 press conference. “The failure is public, the deadlines are public, and from this day forward, the accountability will be public.”

Wahab, a former foster youth herself, has been at the forefront of criticizing the county’s mismanagement of the DCFS.

In 2025, she requested that the state audit the Alameda County DCFS through the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.

The audit, which was released in September 2025, found that DCFS failed to start about 50% of investigations within the time allowed, failed to ensure that foster youth received medical care and mental health services promptly, failed to report critical incidents at its Transitional Shelter Care Facility adequately, and often failed to ensure that foster children were able to keep in touch with family.

Also, the audit revealed that from fiscal years 2019-2020 through 2024-2025, the department’s vacancy rates doubled from 17% to 34% for child welfare workers, and more than doubled from 8% to about 18% for supervisors.

Following the audit, Wahab established the DCFS Audit Implementation Taskforce in December 2025, hosting regular meetings starting in January.

Now, the CDSS’s most recent review, which included 67 referrals and 52 foster care cases, has uncovered other sobering statistics, suggesting that the systemic issues at DCFS persist.

For instance, 72% of the referrals were deemed not to need an in-person response or investigation,

often with missing or incomplete information.

In multiple cases, there was a failure to meet the stipulated response times, including high-priority cases that warrant a response within 24 hours.

Understaffing, high caseloads, and a lack of resources greatly hampered service delivery; in the entire county, there is only one staff member dedicated to finding family members and relatives to place children with.

When testing out the child abuse and neglect hotline, the CDSS encountered longer-than-average wait times, sometimes more than an hour.

“These are children waiting while adults fail them at every step,” Wahab said at the press conference.

Wahab also mentioned the case of eight-year-old Sophia Mason, who was found dead in 2022 after allegedly suffering sexual and physical abuse at the hands of her mother — even after repeated reports to DCFS about signs of abuse from doctors, teachers, and relatives.

In an interview following the press conference, Wahab demanded more accountability from the Board of Supervisors.

“Kids are literally being killed, raped under their watch,” she said. “The entire Board of Supervisors are absolutely failing children.”

The CDSS will now assist the county DCFS in formulating a Corrective Action Plan to address the agency’s shortcomings and conduct site visits to ensure that the plan is being followed. The county must implement the plan by Oct. 1.

—Tanay Gokhale,  
Bay City News Service

### Business burglaries

The San Ramon Police Department is investigating a series of early morning break-ins at a prominent shopping center this week while seeking to assure the public that there is no ongoing threat to the community.

Police responded to a glass break alarm at Utopia Tanning Salon on Sunset Drive in The Shops at Bishop Ranch at approximately 4:10 a.m. Tuesday morning, with several other burglaries at neighboring businesses discovered at the scene.

Although no arrests had yet been announced as of Wednesday morning, SRPD officials were hoping that would change soon as the investigation continued.

“There is surveillance of the incident, which we are going through in hopes to develop leads,” an SRPD spokesperson said Wednesday. “Our patrol and investigations division are working diligently on this and there is no current danger to the community.”

Police are asking for witnesses to get in touch at 925-973-2779. ■

—Jeanita Lyman



## Lynell Marie Pratt

August 31, 1948 - May 17, 2026

Lynell Marie (Means) Pratt passed away May 17, 2026 at the age of 77.

Lynell was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother. She is survived by her husband of 55 years Robert (Bob) Pratt, children Alisa M Lahrs (Eric), Dan (Katie LaBoy) and Brian Pratt. Grandchildren Dylan (Audrey), Emily and Ryder Lahrs, Liv and Cruz LaBoy. Sister Connie DeBernardi and nephew Jeff (Tina) DeBernardi.

Lynell was born in Oakland and grew up in San Pablo. She graduated from Richmond High School and received her BA from UC Berkeley. She went on a 3 month World Campus Afloat college cruise of Europe and South America during her Junior year in 1968 and met Bob when she returned to the states. She and Bob married in 1970 and lived in Hayward while she obtained her teaching credential from Hayward State. She taught high school social studies until turning her attention to her growing family. Lynell lived in Pleasanton for 49 years and was a member of the Jr. Women’s Club and a Girl Scout Leader. She spent 35 years as a local Avon representative, gaining many awards and was a sales leader in her district.

Lynell loved to visit family in Southern California, Oregon, Washington and Western Canada. She and Bob started sea cruising in 1975 and by 2020 had been on many cruises throughout the world, including the Med, Panama Canal, Hawaii and Alaska.

Her favorite pastime was having the family over for meals and card games.

PAID OBITUARY

# What's really behind teen news apathy

Just 30 years ago, the majority of households in the U.S. paid for newspapers, and roughly a third of teens were reading them daily. Now, the majority of us get our news from social media platforms, and only about 12% of teens follow the news regularly.

It might seem like an unimportant difference. I suppose it makes sense that in the digital age we've moved away from print news forms and to digital platforms.

But it's not just that.

With this shift we've moved to short-form content — even



the biggest newsrooms now create Instagram reels and TikToks to cater to the younger audience's increasingly short attention spans.

Reliable publications utilize social media. But so do a lot of random parties. In my experience, news on social media is littered with misinformation, sensationalization and half-truths.

I'm part of the problem when it comes to consuming news on social media, unfortunately. I'm sorry to say I remember first hearing about cyclospora, the infamous "lettuce parasite", not through a Wall Street Journal article or by word of mouth, but an Instagram reel joking about how pizza had never given anyone a parasite.

I didn't think much of the reel, and it was many days later before I realized cyclospora was a serious matter and thought to look into it for myself. That got me thinking — I run my school paper, my school's writing club and have been writing pieces for the Pleasanton Weekly

since January ... if I'm not motivated to research important news occurrences as they happen, what are the chances any of my peers are?

Not only has the rise of social media shortened our attention spans, it's also enforced what I call the passive approach to news: We never seek it out; we just wait for it to find us as we're scrolling through our feeds.

In fact, even when given the explicit opportunity, I've found that many of my classmates prefer not to keep up with local news — it's extremely perplexing to me how many Amador students I see turning down a copy of the Amador newspaper when we're handing it out at lunch every month.

I'd like to believe that my generation's desire to stay connected and informed with our community hasn't changed since previous generations. Rather, I think social media has redefined what teens think being connected and informed means.

Our algorithmic feeds often create the illusion of connection — we're exposed to content that's designed to keep us on the platform, and that's accomplished by showing us the things we want to see.

This brings me to a psychology term I learned: confirmation bias. If people are already exposed to what they want to see, they're not particularly inclined to seek out ideas that don't match their existing views. That causes polarization, another big issue facing journalists today.

How can teens combat this? My theory is that it's best to push through the inertia and start shifting back to active news consumption. That means replacing social media with newspapers, even if only once in a while.

This is a small but incredibly important difference: Instead of just waiting for news to appear on our feeds between memes and vacation photos, we should be actively seeking it out.

Teens 30 years ago were probably reading more newspapers because it was just part of their routine, not because they cared more. We should make reading credible news part of our routines again.

Free, credible news is all around us, and we should take advantage of it. Democracy relies on us knowing the news beyond our algorithms, and that goes for both teens and adults.

So the next time you pass by one of the Pleasanton Weekly's free distribution boxes downtown, consider picking one up. It might just be the difference between being an active community participant versus just another passive scroller. ■

*Editor's note: Riya Upadhyaya is a 2026 summer intern for the Pleasanton Weekly, Livermore Vine and DanvilleSanRamon.com. A rising senior at Amador Valley High School, Upadhyaya is an incoming editor-in-chief for the Amador newspaper and serves as president of the Amador Writers Ensemble.*

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## LETTERS

### Witnessing civic action

Today while riding my bike, I saw another biker with a trailer and he was picking up all of the garbage along the Arroyo trail that is parallel to Stoneridge Drive. He is a resident of Pleasanton and has been doing this for over two years. His first name is Rob. I'm not offering his last name because he didn't really want publicity.

Two years ago, he saw some kids throwing garbage into the creek and he asked them to pick it up. He came back later and cleaned up the area himself and later expanded his efforts to include the trail that goes to the Livermore Airport. The whole trail looks significantly better than it did three years ago.

Needless to say, I was quite impressed.

— Ken Morgan

### Balancing housing growth and infrastructure needs

As a resident of Pleasanton, I have been closely following our recent City Council meetings regarding upcoming housing developments and the proposed changes to our local infrastructure.

While it is exciting to see our community grow with major housing plans like the Arroyo

Lago residential project, we must also face the reality of what this growth means for our city's resources. The council's recent 2026 Sewer Rate Study highlights a critical issue: our underground infrastructure is aging and requires immediate funding to keep up with both current demands and future expansion.

While nobody enjoys seeing their utility bills increase, maintaining a safe and reliable wastewater system is absolutely essential for our public health and environment. If we are going to approve hundreds of new single-family homes and backyard units, we must also be willing to invest in the invisible infrastructure that supports them.

I encourage my fellow neighbors to review the upcoming Proposition 218 notices this September and participate in the public hearing on Nov. 17. Growth is inevitable, but we must ensure we are building on a strong, well-maintained foundation.

— Sai Avyukth Chinni, Boy Scout and Pleasanton resident

### Activate America

At a time when civic participation feels more important than ever, we each have a role to play in strengthening our democracy. Voting is one of the most direct and powerful ways individuals can make their voices heard, yet many

eligible voters remain disengaged or unsure how to participate.

If you are wondering how to make a tangible difference in getting Democrats elected to office, I encourage you to look into Activate America.

Activate America ([www.activateamerica.vote](http://www.activateamerica.vote)) is an organization that empowers volunteers to reach out directly to voters in crucial swing states and districts, encouraging them to vote for Democratic candidates.

Activate America empowers volunteers to reach out to voters through postcards, texts and phone calls. These personal reminders can make a real difference in getting Democrats elected.

You do not need to be a seasoned political operative to participate. They provide the necessary training, scripts, and mailing lists right on their website.

By volunteering with Activate America, you can help elect leaders who will fight for healthcare, climate action, reproductive freedom and a fair economy.

Democracy works best when participation is broad and inclusive. Let's do our part to make that happen.

— Ron Sadler

### Memory Matters

My name is Arya Devanath. I'm 16, I go to California High School in San Ramon, and I run

a nonprofit between homework and class.

Memory Matters started a year ago because I kept noticing that dementia — a disease affecting one in three families — was either talked about in clinical terms no one understood, or not talked about at all. So I built something different: a community where people could actually learn, connect and do something.

I didn't expect it to grow the way it did. We now reach 155,000-plus students and volunteers across 35-plus countries, have donated over \$10,000 in resources to underserved communities, and have sent 1,500-plus handwritten letters to dementia patients who otherwise wouldn't receive mail.

We partner with the Stanford Alzheimer's Disease Research Center. We're pursuing official proclamations recognizing November as Dementia Awareness Month from cities across the Tri-Valley, and Contra Costa County is already in process.

I'm writing because I want East Bay residents to know this disease is closer than most people think. It's in our senior centers, our care facilities, our neighbors' homes. And a 16-year-old in San Ramon built a global community to fight it.

If you know someone affected by dementia (a parent, a grandparent, anyone), Memory Matters is free, it's here, and it's built for you.

— Arya Devanath, founder



## PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

### Tri-Valley native on doorstep of UFC

Also: Checking in with San Ramon Valley Little League ahead of Western Regionals

It might have been a given that Joseph Kropschot ended up fighting in the UFC, but earlier in his life he didn't realize it.

Kropschot, now 31 and living in Walnut Creek with his fiancée, was raised in San Ramon and went to San Ramon Valley High School ... well, for at least a while.

"I got in some trouble when I was in high school," Kropschot said. "I got suspended like 15 times for street fighting. I was sent to one of those wilderness programs in Utah."

When he was done with the program, he headed back to the Bay Area with a firm grasp on what he needed.

"When I got done, I knew I needed an outlet," Kropschot said.

He found a gym that offered jiu-jitsu and he took to it, like a fish to water.

"Pretty early on, I was good at it," Kropschot said of jiu-jitsu. "Then I started some fighting — you know, you need that weird belief in your ability."

After getting into mixed martial arts, Kropschot started climbing the ranks. With the UFC as the goal, Kropschot climbed the ladder. Recently he landed a spot in Dana White's Contender Series with a shot at a UFC contract.

Next Tuesday (Aug. 11), Kropschot (8-3) faces a middleweight fight with Jon Kunneman (10-0) on Paramount Plus as part of the Contender Series.

A win there and Kropschot feels like his goal of making the UFC will

become a reality.

"My jiu-jitsu is pretty top notch," Kropschot said. "I think with my style, a win on the 11th may get me a UFC contract. My style lends itself to TV."

Kropschot has embraced the sport and has learned along the way.

"I think 80% of fighting is mental," he said. "I have learned composure over my fights. I enjoy the fights and am super locked in."

His record certainly supports Kropschot as a fighter. He's won his last four fights, all with early stoppage.

His most-recent fight was Feb. 6, for the Legacy Fighting Alliance middleweight title. Kropschot ended up giving David Allavardiev

his first loss, finishing the fight in the second round when he got Allavardiev to submit to a rear-naked choke hold at the 3:24 mark of the fight.

Now that he has a title, it's full speed ahead.

"I feel like I am in my prime," said Kropschot. "I want to take this as far as I can."

#### SRV Little League

The three-year run the San Ramon Valley Little League All Stars have been on has now taken the team one tournament away from the Holy Grail of all stars — the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Penn.

By virtue of a 12-2 win over El Dorado in the Northern California



K&D PHOTOGRAPHY

SRVLL's Camden Kangas gets mobbed by his teammates after a 3-run homer against El Dorado Hills.



COURTESY LEGACY FIGHTING ALLIANCE

Joseph Kropschot after winning the Legacy Fighting Alliance middleweight title.

finals, SRV advanced to the Western Regionals in San Bernardino. They open play this Sunday (Aug. 9) against Southern California in a game that will be televised by ESPN+.

The team has won district and sectional titles in each of the last two years. As 10-year-olds, they also captured the NorCal title.

"The key for this team is — it's truly a full team," coach Greg Isom said. "There is not one kid that didn't contribute. Every single kid had a game-changing play at some point. There is no sniping — they all have a role and they have succeeded."

It has been a team effort. Most of the time when teams get to this level, they are riding one big arm or a couple of key hitters. That's not the case with SRV.

"We have four main pitchers," Isom explained. "Our bats are great and our defense has been incredible."

It is a full-circle moment for

Isom. In 1991, he was a member of the SRV team that lost to Chinese Taipei in the Little League World Series championship game in Williamsport.

Jake Anderson, the father of SRV player Blake Anderson, played for the Alaska team in the 1991 Western Regionals, losing to Isom's team that year.

Isom doesn't necessarily feel his experience makes a difference to this year's team.

"Now that we are there, the kids have asked me about it," he said. "What I bring to the table is keeping the kids loose."

The San Ramon Valley players are Blake Anderson, Jackson Audino, Brantley Brazil, Luke Guevara, Isaac Hairston, Mason Hall, Dane Isom, Milo Kaiser, Camden Kangas, Michael Panagotacos, Parker Petty and Camden Purkiss. The manager is John Audino, supported by assistant coaches Leonard Hall, Greg Isom and Matt Purkiss. ■

### Star swimmer Mijatovic wins national championship

Pleasanton teen sets age group record in 400 freestyle; youngest men's champion since Phelps

By DENNIS MILLER

Luka Mijatovic, the 17-year-old senior at Foothill High School, was one of the headlines from the recently completed Toyota National Swimming Championships held July 25 to Aug. 1 in Irvine.

Mijatovic, who will head to the University of Texas after graduating from Foothill, won the men's

400 freestyle on Friday.

He stalked Ryan Erisman throughout the race, then blew by in the final 25 yards, touching the wall in 3:43.5, a time that was a new 17-18 national age group record and made him the youngest national champion since Michael Phelps.

Next up for Mijatovic is the Junior Pan Pacific Swimming

Championships Aug. 17-20 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mijatovic opened the meet with a third-place finish in the men's 1,500 freestyle with 15:08.12. He came back with a win in the 18-and-under 200 free, clocking a 1:46.04.

In his final event of the meet, he was third in the 800 free with a time of 7:48.57. Erisman was the winner with a 7:43.53. ■



FILE PHOTO BY CHUCK DECKERT

Pleasanton swimmer Luka Mijatovic continues to make a name for himself in the pool at the national level.



## World Series action in Livermore

Tournament puts international eyes on Max Baer Park

By JEREMY WALSH | PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

**T**welve teams from across the world — including two from the Tri-Valley — have been competing in the Little League Intermediate 50/70 Baseball World Series in Livermore. As the tournament continues, the semi-finals are set for Saturday and the championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday (Aug. 9) at Max Baer Park and streaming live on ESPN+. Shown: Bollinger Canyon Little League in blue during their opening game victory; the San Ramon team lost its next game to Granada-Livermore Baseball, sending them to the elimination bracket — with results pending. ■



# Pleasanton Weekly wins **GENERAL EXCELLENCE** in California Journalism Awards

The annual **California Journalism Awards**—celebrating excellence in reporting, design, photography, and multimedia—recognized our team with **22 awards**, including **10 first-place honors**. Winning categories are listed on the right.

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NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

  
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- ▶ Food Writing/Reporting
- ▶ Immigration Reporting
- ▶ Investigative Reporting
- ▶ Labor Reporting
- ▶ Print Front Page Layout & Design
- ▶ Print Inside Page Layout & Design
- ▶ Sports Action Photo

# Calendar

## Entertainment

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK** Join for Concerts in the Park, 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 7. Ruff Start, Country. Lions Wayside Par in Pleasanton.

**MARTY ISENBERG’S WES ANDERSON PLAYLIST** Experience the magic of jazz meeting cinema as acclaimed bassist Marty Isenberg reimagines iconic tracks from David Bowie and The Kinks, transforming Wes Anderson’s eclectic soundtracks into a captivating sonic storyboard. 8 p.m., Aug. 7. Tickets \$40-\$50. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

**MEAN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL EDITION** Pleasanton Youth Theater Company presents this hilarious musical adaptation of Mean Girls where Cady must navigate friendships, rivalries and a revenge party that teaches her that you can’t cross a queen bee without getting stung. Aug. 7-8. Tickets \$23. Visit [firehousearts.org](#).

**THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL** Tri-Valley Theater Company presents this hilarious, high-energy musical adventure that will entertain and delight all ages. 7 p.m., Aug. 15; 1 p.m., Aug., 8-9, 15-16. Tickets \$45. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

**TUESDAY TUNES** The free event presented by Livermore Cultural Arts Council is 6:45-8:15 p.m. at the Bankhead Plaza. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Alcohol-free and family-friendly.

**TWILIGHT TUNES** Unwind on the Concannon Vineyard Main Lawn with live music and rotating local food trucks. 5:30-8 p.m., Thursdays. Visit [concannon.wine/winery-events](#).

**QUEST ON STAGE: THE AI REVOLUTION** Join Kevin Roose and Casey Newton, hosts of the acclaimed New York Times podcast Hard Fork, for an engaging conversation about

the technologies reshaping our world. 7:30 p.m., Aug. 14. Tickets \$25-\$90. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

**LONG TIME - BOSTON TRIBUTE** Long Time recaptures the celestial guitar sounds, heavenly harmony vocals and organ solos with space age accuracy. 6 p.m., Aug. 15. Tickets \$55. Visit [wentevineyards.com/events](#).

**OPERA IN THE VINEYARD** Experience the magic of live music in the heart of the wine country with Livermore Valley Opera performing favorites and timeless Broadway melodies. Bring a picnic basket, sip local wines and soak in a summer evening. 5 p.m., Aug. 16. Garrv© Vineyard & Winery. Visit [livermorevalleyopera.com](#)

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK** The Pleasanton Weekly is sponsoring Concerts in the Park, 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 21. Diablo Fugitives, rock ‘n’ roll covers. Join to meet members of our staff. Lions Wayside Park.

**12TH ANNUAL DESI COMEDY FEST** Comedians from across the globe featuring a sharp mix of voices, styles and stories, all rooted in the wit and cultural mashup that make South Asian comedy one of the most exciting corners of standup today. 7:30 p.m., Aug. 21. Tickets \$28-\$48. Visit [firehousearts.org](#).

**VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE AND VINE CINEMA PRESENT THE WIZARD OF OZ** Residents and film enthusiasts are invited to return to Oz for a special 87th-anniversary presentation celebrating one of cinema’s most cherished masterpieces. Attendees will receive complimentary coffee and donuts upon entry. 10 a.m., Aug. 22. \$5-\$15. Visit [valleyconcertchorale.org](#).

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**Exhibitions**

**BOTHWELL TO BANKHEAD** This exhibit offers a glimpse into the work of the

resident artists who call the Bothwell home, showcasing an inspiring collection of paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, photography and more at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery. Through Aug. 9. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

**YESTERDAY ONCE MORE EXHIBIT** A joint exhibition between UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery and the Harrington Gallery, Yesterday Once More, Scenes from the Past, is an exhibition that invites artists to step through the veil of the present and into the curated echoes of what once was. Opens Aug. 21.

**LOBBY EXHIBITION** The Firehouse Arts Center presents HJ Chae’s solo exhibition, Topography of the Reminiscape, in the foyer featuring 16 works of oil on canvas. Through Aug. 29.

**FLORA IN FOCUS EXHIBIT** Flora in Focus returns to the Livermore Civic Center Library celebrating not only the artistry of flowers, but the meaningful friendships that have blossomed among a small group of local floral artists. Through Aug. 31.

**HARRINGTON GALLERY EXHIBITION** The Firehouse Arts Center lobby exhibit features the work of Marina Omelianenko on the Nancy Thompson Memorial Wall with a collection of 15 serene watercolors. Through Sept. 5.

**THE INDEPENDENT GALLERY EXHIBIT** In Forming Figures, Thomas See explores both the how and the why of artistic expression creating works in both digital and traditional formats. Through Sept. 5. 2250 First St., Livermore.

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**MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT** Visit the Museum on Main exhibit, Wicket Crazy: Cricket and the Tri-Valley, which explores how the game is played, the history of cricket and the local influence that cricket has on the community. Through Sept. 25.

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**Talks**

**CHARLES HUFF FREE WALKING TOUR SERIES** If These Walls Could Talk: Exploring Downtown’s Historic Second Street Neighborhood. 9 a.m., Aug. 19 and 29. Register at [museumonmain.org](#).

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS** In this engaging combo slideshow and trunk show, Guest speaker Jane Haworth will explore the dynamic world of fabric collage. Discover this growing trend and gain insight into her own creative journey. 1:30-4 p.m., Aug. 8. Pleasanton Middle School. Visit [amadorvalleyquilters.org/Wordpress](#).

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** In this zoom meeting, Christine Cohen presents Alienation of Affection - Divorce in the USA. She will discuss how information can be found in divorce records including marriage date and place, children

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### PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

#### Meet Blue

This one-of-a-kind guy is sure to turn heads. With his unforgettable looks, calm and friendly personality and love of companionship, he’s sure to be your new best friend. Blue is happiest when he’s with his people — whether it’s going for a stroll in the neighborhood or hanging out at home, he just loves company. Come by to see him at East Bay SPCA’s Dublin Adoption Center or visit [eastbayspca.org/adopt](#).

and residences. 7 p.m., Aug. 10. Visit [l-ags.org](#).

**ONLINE AUTHOR TALK WITH LIVERMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY** Monthly virtual author talk series featuring bestselling, award-winning, and highly acclaimed authors from around the world. Bicentennial Summer: A True-Life Adventure Across America with G. Neri. 4 p.m., Aug. 20. Visit [libraryc.org/livermoreca](#).

## Fairgrounds

**BAMVILLE CARD SHOW** Guests can expect over 250 vendors all under one roof, featuring unique inventory and collections not normally seen around NorCal. Aug. 15-16. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](#).

**NORCAL BARBER EXPO** The NorCal Barber Expo is Northern California’s largest gathering of barbers, cosmetologists and beauty industry professionals offering guests live competitions, hands-on education classes, vendor exhibitions and brand activations. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Aug. 16. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](#).

**GOODGUYS 39TH WEST COAST NATIONALS** America’s Favorite Car Show returns to its roots for a celebration of “Cool Cars, Cool People and Good Times”. Aug. 21-23. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](#).

## Outdoor Rec

**SUNRISE SURPRISE** Beat the heat and join for a sunrise hike into Sunol Regional Park to catch the end of the night shift as nocturnal animals head home for the night and others begin their day. 6-9 a.m., Aug. 8. Visit [ebparks.org](#).

**FLIGHT OF THE DRAGONFLIES** Join at Sunol for a fascinating exploration of the dragonflies and damselflies that call the park home, then head out on a discovery walk to spot these incredible creatures in the wild. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Aug. 9. Visit [ebparks.org](#).

**BOTANICAL BONANZA** Magpie loop trail is a dirt trail that is mostly flat with some rocky areas. 8-9 a.m., Aug. 15. Arroyo Entrance, 5049 Arroyo Road. Free registration at [larpd.org](#).

**NATIONAL HONEY BEE DAY CELEBRATION** See what all the buzz is about and celebrate some of the world’s most important creatures with bee crafts, activities, honey-based food and drink and maybe even meeting some bees in person. 10:30-2:30 p.m., Aug. 15. Del Valle Visitor Center. Visit [ebparks.org](#).

**BEAT THE HEAT HIKES** Join a naturalist on a hike in Brushy Peak Regional Preserve in Livermore to see how animals and plants adapt to the hot August weather. Ages 8 and up. Meet at the Laughlin Staging Area. No registration required. 8-10 a.m., Aug. 16.

## Seniors

**MUSIC MENDS MINDS** Join for a morning of rhythm, connection and fun, bringing seniors together through the power of music in a welcoming and supportive environment. Instruments provided and no experience necessary. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Aug. 11. Pleasanton Senior Center.

**BOCCE BALL AT DA BOCCERY** Play bocce ball while enjoying happy hour food at Livermore’s Da Boccery. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Aug. 11. \$49R/\$54NR. Visit [larpd.org](#).

**VIP TRAVEL - HIGH TEA RAIL ADVENTURE** First stop is the Golden Corral in Tracy for a buffet breakfast then the Fox River Rail station in West Sacramento for high tea and small bites, continuing with a 1.50 hour train ride through the Yolo County Countryside. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Aug. 16. \$205/\$215. Visit Pleasanton Senior Center Travel Desk.

## Fundraiser

**COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER COLLABORATIVE FUNDRAISER** The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is hosting its seventh annual barbecue and auction fundraising event which raises money for the Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship fund. Food, drinks and live entertainment included. 5 p.m., Aug. 8. Visit [communityofcharacter.org](#).

## Support

**SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS** This is a free, hands-on educational forum for families concerned about adult loved ones who may be at risk for suicide. Held on zoom and in person, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Aug. 8. Refreshments and a catered lunch provided to in-person attendees. Reserve at: [namitrivalley.org](#).

**RIDECARE TRANSPORTATION** Free, caring rides for seniors and adults with disabilities residing in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol and San Leandro, offering door-through-door transportation, driven by dedicated and caring volunteers. Visit [cityservcares.org](#).

# Employment

IT Professionals:

Grid Dynamics Holdings Inc., d/b/a Grid Dynamics, located (HQ) in San Ramon, CA seeks multiple F/T positions: Staff Quality Assurance Engineer (\$140k - \$160k/yr, Job ID: 222.1); Staff Software Engineer (\$187,574/yr, Job ID: 247); Staff Software Engineer (\$161,637/yr, Job ID: 233); Senior Software Engineer (\$161,637/yr, Job ID: 244); Senior Staff Software Engineer (\$187,574 - \$195k/yr, Job ID: 249); Senior DevOps Engineer (\$187,574/yr, Job ID: 238); Senior Staff Software Engineer (\$187,574 - \$195k/yr, Job ID: 245); Senior Software Engineer (\$187,574/yr, Job ID: 258); Staff Data Scientist (\$164,403/yr, Job ID: 255); Software Engineer (\$135,699/yr, Job ID: 256); Technical Project Manager (\$156k - \$185k/yr, Job ID: 174); Senior Software Engineer (\$187,574/yr, Job ID: 253); Senior DevOps Engineer (\$161,637/yr, job ID: 259); Staff DevOps Engineer (\$150k - \$170k/yr, Job ID: 239); Senior Staff Software Engineer (\$187,574/yr, Job ID: 261). Various worksites - job may allow for remote work; job may involve relocation to anticipated or unanticipated locations across the U.S., including client sites and Grid Dynamics’ offices throughout U.S. and/or company HQ. Salary in paren. Apply at [recruiting@griddynamics.com](#); must specify title and Job ID in email. To apply to more than 1 position, include each title and Job ID.

Safeway Inc. hiring Sr. Engineer Quality in Pleasanton, CA. Debug software products through systematic tests to develop, apply & maintain quality standards for company products. Hybrid worksite. May telecommute part of week. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. \$163,613-180,950/yr. Email resume: [TA.Applications@albertsons.com](#), Attn: B. Verona. Ref# 0724AN.

Albertson’s LLC hiring Principal Product Manager/Workforce Management Systems in Pleasanton, CA. Define product strategy for Labor forecasting & labor management data. Hybrid worksite. May telecommute part of week. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. \$174,637-260,590/yr. Email resume: [TA.Applications@albertsons.com](#), Attn: B. Verona. Ref# 0724SS.

To advertise here please visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/employment\\_ads/](#).

# Public Notices

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 613066

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):  
MXM VIBES  
1155 5th Street #405  
Oakland, California, 94607  
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 03/11/2025  
UNDER FILE NO. 613066  
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
JEREMY ALLEN  
2200 41st Ave  
Oakland, California, 94601  
MY GROOVE DESIGN LLC  
1155 5th Street #405  
Oakland, California, 94607  
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A General Partnership.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on July 29 2026.  
(PLW Aug 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2026)

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 624001

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):  
GOAL LINE STUDIOS  
5959 Coronado Lane  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 06/11/2026  
UNDER FILE NO. 624001  
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
JUMBO WALL, LLC  
5959 Coronado Lane  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on July 15 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

## LUMAE AESTHETICS & WEIGHT LOSS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624797

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) LUMAE AESTHETICS & WEIGHT LOSS , located at 4450 Black Ave Suite 100 Pleasanton CA, 94588, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a General Partnership.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
NAJIBA SALEH  
271 N Palo Alto Ct  
Mountain House, CA 95391  
SEEMA KHADIM  
4450 Black Ave Suite 100  
Pleasanton CA, 94588  
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 20 2026.  
(PLW Jul 24, 31, Aug 7 and 14, 2026)

## ED'S AUTOMOTIVE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624721

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) ED'S AUTOMOTIVE , located at 1809 Santa Rita Rd Unit I 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):  
ERT AUTOMOTIVE LLC  
1809 Santa Rita Rd Unit I  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
State of Incorporation/Organization: California  
Registrant began transacting business under

the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/01/2026  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 15 2026.  
(PLW Jul 24, 31, Aug 7 and 14, 2026)

## LITTLEFIELD FARMS COFFEE ROASTING COMPANY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624260

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Littlefield Farms Coffee Roasting Company , located at 6233 Alisal Street Pleasanton, Ca. 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
PAUL MORTENSON  
6233 Alisal Street  
Pleasanton, Ca. 94566  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 24 2026.  
(PLW Aug 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2026)

## REVOLVE INTEGRATIVE HEALTH FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624471

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Revolve Integrative Health , located at 5720 Stoneridge Mall Rd #390 Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
ABELLERA CHIROPRACTIC, PC  
5720 Stoneridge Mall Rd #390  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/15/2026  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 02 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

## SOMA PILATES LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624419

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Soma Pilates LLC , located at 1060 Bartlett Place, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, California County.  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
SOMA PILATES LLC  
1060 BARTLETT PLACE  
PLEASANTON, CA 94566  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 30 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

## BHARTI'S COOKING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624776

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Bharti's Cooking , located at 22003 Hoffman Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
MANISH PARMAR  
22003 Hoffman Way  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/20/2025  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 17 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

## WALLIS ASSOCIATES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624591

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) WALLIS ASSOCIATES , located at 4900 HOPYARD RD, SUITE 100 PLEASANTON CA 94588, ALAMENDA County.  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
WALLIS LOGISTICS LLC  
4900 HOPYARD RD, SUITE 100  
PLEASANTON, CA 94588  
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 09 2026.  
(PLW Jul 24, 31, Aug 7 and 14, 2026)

## FIND YOUR WAY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624708

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Find Your Way , located at 245 Perkins #66 Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
JEFF POLLET  
245 Perkins St #66  
Oakland, CA 94610  
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 14 2026.  
(PLW Jul 24, 31, Aug 7 and 14, 2026)

## GOAL LINE STUDIOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624731

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Goal Line Studios , located at 5959 Coronado Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Partnership.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CRIMSON BEAR  
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 July 15 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 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)

## PRIMROSE BAKERY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624569

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) PRIMROSE BAKERY , located at 350 Main Street, ste D, 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):  
PRIMROSE BAKERY LLC  
350 Main Street, ste D  
Pleasanton CA 94566  
State of Incorporation/Organization: California  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/01/2014  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 08 2026.  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV184909

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Julie Allison Johnson and Benjamin Kyler Sims filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
BENJAMIN KODA SIMS TO BENJAMIN KODA JOHNSON-SIMS  
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: September 11,2026, 9:00AM, Hayward 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: August 4, 2026  
Honorable Julie Wilensky  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV199889

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Charry Noelle Chua Uy and

Joshua Paul Clark, on behalf of minor child, Cara Jayne Amada Uy Clark, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
CARA JAYNE AMADA UY CLARK to CARA JAYNE AMADA UY  
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: September 4, 2026, 9:00 a.m., Hayward 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: July 20, 2026  
Hon. Michael Markman  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW Jul 31, Aug 7, 14 and 21, 2026)

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

Case No.: 26CV195839

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Kamal Boparai filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
KAMALJIT S BOPARAI to KAMAL BOPARAI  
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 21, 2026, 9AM, 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: June 29, 2026  
Michael Markman  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW Jul 24, 31, Aug 7 and 14, 2026)

## Public Notice: Medical Office Closure: Effective August 31, 2026, Refresh Sleep

Medical Clinic, located at **5720 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Ste 310, Pleasanton, CA 94588**, will permanently close due to financial sustainability reasons.  
We thank our patients for trusting us with their medical care. To transfer care, please complete a **Release for Medical Records** form to send to your preferred facility.  
For assistance or records requests, contact us via:  
● **Patient Portal:** <https://www.charm-health.com/resources/phr-user-guide/patient-portal-login.html>  
● **Call/Text:** 925-255-1015  
● **Fax:** 925-887-6667  
(PLW Aug 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2026)

## The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

## The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal\_notices/

Livermore OKs 900-unit guardrail for Las Colinas site

Property near Springtown once eyed for Catholic high school that never materialized

**By JUDE STRZEMP**  
The Livermore City Council recently approved the framework for a potential residential project spanning about 50 acres of open space near the Springtown neighborhood. Located at 3658 Las Colinas Road, the overall site of about 122 acres is poised for permission to feature 605 to 900 residential units in the developable area at a density of eight to 30 units per acre. A future project would be obligated to feature associated improvements such as common open space, a neighborhood park, storm-water treatment facilities, private internal roadways, pedestrian and bicycle trails and on-and off-site infrastructure. The council unanimously endorsed an ordinance at its July 27 meeting authorizing the execution of a development agreement with landowner Adventus to instate the development framework as well as vesting rights. No specific project or physical development has been approved, so community concerns are slated for

future addressing at the time of a formal proposal. "This is giving Livermore an opportunity to get some really good community benefits," Councilmember Evan Branning said. "Any of the concerns that have been brought up should be mitigated as we get to a real project." More than 20 years ago, the Las Colinas property was slated to feature a Catholic high school under Adventus. The not-for-profit public benefit corporation received the Livermore Planning Commission's approval of a development agreement in 2005 for the high school project. But, according to the staff report prepared by Livermore senior planner Shannon Pagan, Adventus said a school is no longer viable on the property. Adventus President and Dioceses of Oakland CFO Attila Bardos did not respond for comment at the time of publication. Officials at the Diocese of Oakland did not respond to requests for comments either. Fast-forward to July 27 and the city agreed to alter the land-use

designation of the property from open space to allow limited residential development as part of the General Plan 2045 update. As part of the development agreement, Adventus agreed to contribute \$6 million toward the city's community benefit fund to support infrastructure and amenities in the Springtown area. Adventus plans to later sell the property to a developer. The land outside of the approximately 50-acres of developable areas would be preserved as open space or "improved consistent with the Agreement", the staff report states. During the public comment period, nine of the 13 speakers criticized the proposed development agreement. Siding with the minority opinion, Board Chair Kimbrey Gruidl of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce lent her support to the development agreement. "This is an important infill opportunity that allows our city to grow in a balanced and intentional way," Gruidl said. On the other side of the argument,

multiple Livermore residents express concern over traffic and safety issues potentially caused by the use of an unpaved access road. "Nobody's going to be building a development supplied by a 23-foot dirt path," Mayor John Marchand replied. "This sets up a process to develop a final plan," he said of the development agreement. Also critical of the proposed development agreement were two speakers from labor unions. Brian Werner, representative for a local chapter of the Sheet Metal Workers, suggested additional language in the development agreement to support standards such as the inclusion of state-approved apprentices in a future project and the provision of healthcare. "Nothing that's putting us in that language makes it more difficult for the Diocese to sell or move the property," Werner said. Bardos later expressed opposition to changing the proposed development agreement. "Trying to put a new, substantial condition on the development

agreement at this stage is just simply unacceptable and would fundamentally alter that balance — years of work, years of trust, years of compromise, years of good faith and I don't want to see that thrown out the window," Bardos said. Shy of altering the development agreement itself, Branning successfully proposed an amendment to the council's ordinance that detailed a pre-existing recommendation to a future developer for engaging with labor organizations for local hiring, the inclusion of state-approved apprenticeships, standard wages and employer-supported healthcare benefits. In addition to approving the ordinance July 27, the council adopted a resolution finding that the development agreement is covered by the certified General Plan 2045 environmental impact report. A future development requires separate approval of a neighborhood plan, planned development zoning, tentative map or maps, site plan review and project-level environmental review. It would also be subject to development impact fees. ■

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



HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during May 26 to June 5 for Pleasanton, Sunol and Livermore.

Pleasanton

- 4093 Alta Court** B. Manful to C. Yu for \$1,485,000
- 3074 Boardwalk Street** Javier Living Trust to H. & S. Rampally for \$1,485,000
- 3668 Chelsea Court** J. & J. Gadd to X. & M. Sur for \$2,050,000
- 3691 Chillingham Court** Girard Family Trust to N. & A. Harsh for \$1,550,000
- 2189 Corte Ricardo** Jagoe Trust to Bardsley Family Trust for \$2,399,000
- 5207 Crestline Way** Schmidt Trust to M. & M. Goldin for \$1,780,000
- 674 Crystal Court** Y. Tang to P. Patel for \$2,150,000
- 4451 Fairlands Drive** M. Kaur to X. & C. Geng for \$630,000
- 4173 Georgis Place** S. Son to Y. & J. Hyun for \$850,000
- 1144 Harvest Road** Kawashima-Walter Trust to A. & S. Malik for \$1,950,000
- 1139 Kottinger Drive #A** B. Warrender to R. & D. Peterson for \$660,000
- 1692 West Lagoon Road** C. Daw to J. & J. Wang for \$2,370,000
- 8509 Lupine Court** S. Luo to Sabhlok Living Trust for \$5,060,000
- 4247 School Street** Greer 1993 Trust to Cga Trust for \$1,250,000
- 2110 Arroyo Court #4** Lin Family Trust to K. & O. Houghtelling for \$485,000
- 1778 Beachwood Way** M. Mcmanus to M. & H. Gao for \$2,000,000
- 2057 Calle Ricardo** Malchar Trust to Wang & Zhang Family Trust for \$2,150,000
- 1131 Mataro Court** Kiang Trust to H. & J. Oh for \$2,000,000
- 215 Mavis Drive** Litz Living Trust to B. & B. Burentogtokh for \$900,000

- 1220 Piemonte Drive** Logan Family Trust to B. & P. Kumar for \$4,300,000
- 1585 Poppybank Court** N. & H. Rai to A. & D. Boinagrov for \$1,370,000
- 4246 Remillard Court** Wang Family Trust to Abreckov Family Trust for \$2,600,000
- 1434 Ridgewood Road** Mackin Family Trust to M. & V. Paripelly for \$2,095,000
- 7518 Rosedale Court** B. Lu to N. & C. Mofrad for \$1,050,000
- 5484 San Jose Drive** Carone Living Trust to L. & S. Badger for \$1,425,000
- 4073 Stanley Boulevard** Cliff Family Trust to A. & A. Ovaice for \$1,800,000
- 3511 Touriga Drive** Leuten Trust to B. Chi for \$1,340,000
- 646 Windmill Lane** C. & A. Hicks to J. & N. Mcanlis for \$2,305,000

Sunol

- 2349 Kilkare Road** V. & M. Cloutier to C. & C. Rochin for \$1,275,000

Livermore

- 4352 Davis Way** Medeiros Family Trust to R. & W. Molander for \$1,175,000
- 1441 Janis Court** M. Regacho to C. West for \$1,060,000
- 1135 Killarney Street** H. Kim to K. & B. Lee for \$1,370,000
- 1238 Lakeland Drive** Schiefelbein Family Trust to W. Long for \$1,205,000
- 3001 Lusitana Drive** Rourke Living Trust to N. & R. Sree for \$2,450,000
- 3610 Madeira Way** S. Sengupta to Donald-Holliman Trust for \$1,110,000
- 2886 Mission Lane** Filice Family Trust to R. & D. Kosin for \$2,920,000
- 1905 Monterey Drive** Herrick Trust to A. Dack for \$580,000
- 607 Morgan Common** Cain Trust to N. Calliger for \$638,000

- 608 Morgan Common** D. Arenas to D. & C. Clark for \$600,000
- 2011 Neptune Road** Oshea Family Trust to E. & A. Escalante for \$1,400,000
- 235 Northwood** Sheleg Trust to E. & M. Pinto for \$760,000
- 453 Old Oak Road** Waelde Trust to Bennett Family Trust for \$2,450,000
- 5454 Stockton Loop** D. Parker to Steinman Trust for \$2,070,000
- 844 Sunset Drive** G. Deane to A. Janakiraman for \$1,173,000
- 2659 3rd Street** L. Townsend to Z. Yu for \$1,000,000
- 6997 Blue Grass Court** P. & J. Peterson to M. & P. Polcar for \$1,415,000
- 1124 Brookdale Lane** Coberg Family Trust to S. Hall for \$1,250,000
- 1882 Carnation Circle** K. Ruhm to C. & A. Collard for \$1,175,000
- 1784 Creek Road** Esling Family Trust to Turner Trust for \$1,899,000

- 25 Heligan Lane #7** J. Hearn to C. & C. Boyer for \$775,000
- 1572 Hollyhock Street** Millaway Trust to L. & M. Mao for \$712,500
- 2964 Kennedy Street** Kbc 1 LLC to Adams Family Trust for \$999,000
- 385 Kensington Common** L. Brunettin to D. & J. Pastrone for \$800,000
- 4811 Kimberley Common** S. Ye to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$1,012,500
- 924 Lambaren Avenue** A. & R. Anderson to E. & P. Engstrom for \$1,010,000
- 1130 Meadow Drive** Zou & Qiao 2011 Family Trust to M. & J. Wilkinson for \$1,257,000
- 308 Mulqueeney Street** Sorkin Trust to G. & M. Froelich for \$1,085,000
- 1087 Murrieta Boulevard #245** Levinsky Family Trust to Mosca Family Trust for \$305,000
- 5873 Rainflower Drive** S. & K. Dillon to R. & A. Combes for \$1,275,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (May 26-June 5)

- Total sales reported:** 28
- Lowest sale reported:** \$485,000
- Highest sale reported:** \$5,060,000
- Average sales reported:** \$1,838,892

Livermore (May 26-June 5)

- Total sales reported:** 32
- Lowest sale reported:** \$305,000
- Highest sale reported:** \$2,920,000
- Average sales reported:** \$1,242,206

Dublin (May 26-June 5)

- Total sales reported:** 28
- Lowest sale reported:** \$425,000

- Highest sale reported:** \$2,550,000
- Average sales reported:** \$1,305,374

Sunol (May 26-June 5)

- Total sales reported:** 1
- Lowest sale reported:** \$1,275,000
- Highest sale reported:** \$1,275,000
- Average sales reported:** \$1,275,000

San Ramon (June 29-July 10)

- Total sales reported:** 31
- Lowest sale reported:** \$395,000
- Highest sale reported:** \$3,300,000
- Average sales reported:** \$1,485,677

Source: California REsource

OPEN AUG 8 & 9 - SAT. & SUN. 2-4 PM

JUST LISTED!!!

**7905 SAWGRASS CT.**  
GOLDEN EAGLE  
1-STORY BEAUTY IN GOLDEN EAGLE  
Must see this amazing home in the Westside Pleasanton, gated community of Golden Eagle. This 3,634 sqft home on approx. a 22,288 sqft lot is a must see!! 4 spacious beds and 3 1/2 baths!! Make this beauty your personal oasis!!  
Price \$2,768,000  
Call/text for details

JUST LISTED!!!

**4125 AMBERWOOD CIRCLE**  
Gorgeous!!!  
2 beds, 2.5 baths, 1,190 sqft., cute backyard, updated with granite tile flooring and ready to move in across from the community pool!!

PENDING LAGUNA OAKS

**3325 MEDALLION CT.**  
This Lovely 5 beds, 3 baths home had multiple offers!!  
Price \$3,168,000

**8303 REGENCY DR.**  
Amazing resort style living!! Lovely Pool/Spa with 1/2 acre Yard.  
Price \$3,788,000

**CINDY GEE**  
925.963.1984  
CINDY IS ALSO A NOTARY  
459 Main Street  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
DRE# 01307919

Each office is independently owned and operated.  
Call/text CINDY for details

cindygeesold@gmail.com

Valley Brokers On Main

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3PM

**1330 HILLCREST AVE., LIVERMORE**  
South Livermore

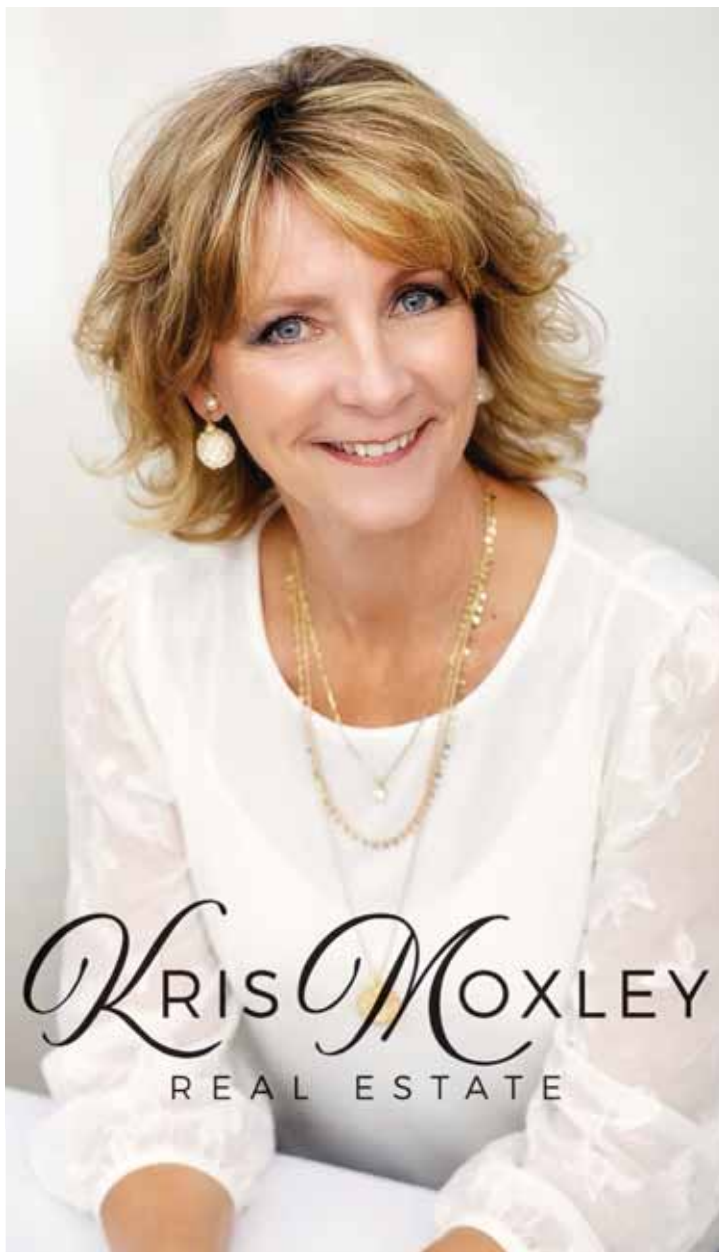
Need bedrooms? This beautifully updated 5 bedroom, 2 bath single story home has the space you’ve been looking for and the upgrades you’ll love.  
Located in the desirable southside of Livermore on the peaceful & quiet end of Hillcrest Ave., this move-in-ready home has been extensively updated with thoughtful improvements throughout.  
Enjoy a gourmet kitchen, solid oak hardwood floors, newer carpet, updated bathrooms, dual-pane windows, updated HVAC and ductwork, newer insulation, modern lighting, fresh interior texture and paint, and newer solid-core interior doors, baseboards, and front door.  
The improvements continue outside with coated exterior stucco, low-maintenance front and back yards with a drip system, newer fencing, an updated electrical panel, and a newer roll-up garage door with opener. Located just minutes from hiking trails, schools, restaurants, wineries, and so much more. Five bedrooms. Single-story living.  
This is the home you have been searching for! Offered at \$1,299,888

**BRIAN ALLEN WRIGHT**  
925-580-4524 DRE #00887067  
LOCAL REALTOR SINCE 1985 | LOCAL RESIDENT SINCE 1963

Call Brian Wright For a Complimentary Market Evaluation of Your Home.

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Realtor  DRE# 00790463

[www.moxleyrealestate.com](http://www.moxleyrealestate.com)

COMPASS 925-519-9080

3026 FERNDAL COURT, PLEASANTON  
SOLD \$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

408 CABONIA COURT, PLEASANTON  
PRESENTED AT \$2,190,000



4 BD • 2.5 BA • 2,296 SQ FT • 7,837 SQ FT LOT • Owned Solar  
WELCOME THIS STUNNING CONTEMPORARY HOME, offering modern comfort and style. Situated on a desirable corner lot, thoughtfully designed layout with impeccable finishes. Located in the desirable gated community of Ruby Hill, this home offers a perfect blend of style, function, and charm.



5016 BLACK AVENUE, PLEASANTON  
NEW PRICE \$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 offers a possible ADU buildable site.



4056 NEVIS STREET, PLEASANTON  
SOLD \$1,280,000



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!

[moxleyrealestate.com](http://moxleyrealestate.com) | 925.519.9080

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