

Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS
FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

VOL. XXVII, NUMBER 31 • AUGUST 28, 2026

Bordes back
at Firehouse

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LIFETIMES OF FAITH

From humble beginnings
to thriving parish,
CCOP honors rich history
and hopeful future upon
125th anniversary

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Reading the obits

Many in Pleasanton community service circles heard the sad news earlier this month that longtime volunteer and former Mayor's Award winner Tanya Ludden died after a four-year battle with cancer. She was 66.

A beloved wife, mother and grandmother, Ludden was known in the Tri-Valley for active roles in non-profits like the Northern California Alzheimer's Association, the old Valley Care Health Foundation, multiple schools' parent-teacher associations and Sunflower Hill.

"Tanya was a vibrant and devoted part of our community for many years - lending her energy to the garden, supporting our galas and fundraising efforts, and strengthening our organization as a whole," Sunflower Hill reps said in a post on Facebook on Aug. 11, four days after her death.

"Her leadership, dedication, and generous spirit helped shape Sunflower Hill in truly meaningful ways. As a volunteer, she gave her time wholeheartedly, nurturing our mission much like a sunflower that brings light and strength to all around it," they added.

I'll always remember the image of her embracing Jerry Thorne — Ludden with a huge smile, equal parts surprise and joy — onstage after he revealed her as the recipient of his Mayor's Award in 2016 that accompanied the article written by my predecessor Jeb Bing. Less than 10 years later and all three of them are gone.

Ludden's family wrote a heartfelt obituary that appears in this week's paper and on our website.

"For many, there will be a hole in their hearts from the unending pain of her passing, however, if we embrace one another as she did, we can fill those holes while honoring the exceptional person she was," the obit read, in part. "Thank you for gracing us with your beautiful, authentic self; we are all better because of you."

Also this print edition is the obituary memorializing Bob Tagg, a longtime Pleasanton resident who died in May at age 71.

"He was an avid Giants baseball and Husker football fan, loved going to games, spending time with his kids and grandchildren, and vacationing in Kona. Bob spent 30+ years leading support operations for tech companies throughout the Bay Area like Remedy, Dell & Splunk," Tagg's family wrote.

A third obit honors the life and legacy of Kate Barker, a former Pleasanton resident who passed away

peacefully at the family's summer home at Henrys Lake, Idaho on Aug. 12 at age 68. She battled Alzheimer's disease for over 14 years.

Reading of someone facing Alzheimer's since their mid-50s, seemingly so young for such a cruel condition, caught me aback.

Same when I went through our sportswriter Dennis Miller's column this week about the Amador Valley High School Hall of Fame class of 2026 that includes the late Monica Van Wegen, a former Dons track and cross country star who fought brain cancer for five years in her 20s and early 30s. Her family published a beautiful obituary with us after her death on Christmas Day 2011.

Another Pleasanton resident who competed for years athletically passed away this summer in Julie Chandler, 55, a dedicated Special Olympics participant.

Brad O'Connor spent countless summer days golfing and swimming at Castlewood, according to his obit. The husband, father, grandfather and retired tax professional died July 20 at 71.

Shirley Ann Behanna worked for some time at ClubSport in Pleasanton — in their childcare facility — but Bingo was more her competitive cup of tea. The 84-year-old passed Aug. 1.

And then there was former Granada High School football player Jerrod Chapman-Marshall, who died days away from his 20th birthday in a terrible car crash in Monterey on Aug. 16 for which the driver is facing felony charges.

I had the privilege of speaking with Jerrod's mother on Tuesday afternoon, not long after she made a somber trip to the funeral home. Bonnie Marshall was kind enough to open up about her only child and help me write the news story sharing the life and legacy of the Livermore teen.

Sadly, he wasn't the only Tri-Valley teenager to die in a car crash during the past two weeks. Ashwin Nagaraja Punaroor, 18, from San Ramon was killed in a solo wreck at an Interstate 580 underpass early Monday morning in Livermore.

Marshall, still in the early throes of her grief, expressed empathy for Punaroor's family.

"I've lost a parent before but, like, losing a child is a whole 'nother ball game, I'll tell you that," she said through tears. "I'm sorry, I'm so sad. And it made me cry more just hearing that and thinking about that family — just knowing how much pain I feel." ■

About the Cover

Father Mark Wiesner, the head pastor for the Catholic Community of Pleasanton, poses in front of a statue of the Virgin Mary, located in the St. Augustine Church grotto. Photo by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Mary Watanabe.

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How do you feel about being back in school / having your kids back in school?



Adam Karel
Middle school student

I feel both good and bad about being back in school. The good thing is I can hang out with my friends again, but the bad things are that sometimes school can be a little bit boring and homework can take a long time. I'd say it's a mix for me.



Daniel Karel
Elementary school student

I don't really mind being back in school, but I'd really just like more weeks of summer break so that we can play more. Summer break is too short and the school year is too long. It's just that simple.



Keira Nakashima
Elementary school student

Being back in school is great. I get to see and spend time with my friends and I get to learn new things. I love learning and I feel very ready to have a really good new school year.



Julianna Duran
Commercial analyst

I feel great about my son, my precious only child, being back in school. This is our second year in Pleasanton and we find the school district here to be excellent. It's full of great, highly competent teachers and administrators who really care about their students.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis



Caleb Duran-Nieva
Middle school student

I'm happy to be back in school because I enjoy seeing my friends, I like my teachers, and I love to learn. And I'm especially looking forward to trying out for the volleyball team.

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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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



DIGEST

Ballet Roots shows

Pleasanton's Ballet Roots Dance Company is kicking off its sixth season this weekend with two performances in the Tri-Valley that the troupe said will mix contemporary music and original choreography.

"Entering our sixth season is a significant milestone for our dancers and artistic staff," Talia Fallis, the company's artistic director, said in a press release. "This program captures the core of our mission — bringing high-caliber, innovative professional dance to our local stage."

The performances will take place on Saturday (Aug. 29) at 5 p.m. at Livermore High School's theater and on Sunday (Aug. 30) at 5 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Go to balletroots.org/events.

Grand jury report

The Alameda County Civil Grand Jury recently published its 2025-26 report, which reviewed four items: illegal dumping Oakland, unresolved and new problems in Newark's school district, the city of Alameda's emergency preparedness and holding cells across several jails in the county.

The annual report reviews, investigates and offers recommendations regarding citizens' complaints about issues happening at county and municipal levels.

"The Civil Grand Jury's central purpose is to offer ideas and recommendations for improving the functions of government, with the goal of making it more effective," the report states.

So far the city of Oakland and the Newark Unified School District have responded to the report's recommendations. View the report at grandjury.acgov.org.

E-bike rebates

Ava Community Energy has extended its e-bike rebate initiative, Ava Bike Electric, until the end of 2027.

The program offers point-of-sale rebates to Alameda County residents and Ava customers in San Joaquin County for the purchase of new e-bikes from select bicycle shops in the provider's service area.

"The success of our e-bike program has been overwhelming," Ava CEO Howard Chang said in a statement. "This program has met all of its goals, including reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, increasing equitable access to clean transportation, and supporting the local economy."

Program participants must be at least 18 years old. Ava selects applicants at random and at least 40% of all rebate funding is slated for income-qualified participants enrolled in select programs, according to Ava officials. Learn more at avaenergy.org. ■

City Council rejects multi-story residential project downtown

Members recommend applicant go back to drawing board, work with staff on better project

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council unanimously voted to nix a Pleasanton family's housing application earlier this month that would have turned an unused commercial office building near Main Street into a three-story residential building.

However, the council majority noted that while the project did not meet or satisfy many of the city's General Plan, Downtown Specific Plan or Objective Design Standards, they hope the applicant returns with a reimagined plan that

would have a better chance of being approved.

"I'm very sympathetic to this applicant," Councilmember Jeff Nibert said during the Aug. 11 council meeting. "But there's so many findings where standards are not being met, General Plan requirements are not being met, Downtown Specific Plan goals are not being met."

Last year, Gautam Patel — a Pleasanton resident who owns a real estate business with members of his family — submitted his proposal to convert the 21,384-square-foot

project site at 231 Old Bernal Ave. into a multi-story home for his family.

The proposal included the demolition of a roughly 6,000-square-foot commercial office building at the property, located between Augustine Street and Peters Avenue just over a block from Main Street.

In its place, the applicant sought to construct a four-unit, three-story residential building. The building would have been about 34 feet high and would have included three studio units — each would have been about 430 square feet — and a

fourth unit that would have been over 13,600 square feet.

The proposal went to the city's Planning Commission a couple of times, with the last one on May 27 ending with the commission's majority agreeing to recommend that the City Council reject the project altogether.

This decision was based on staff's analysis that the project conflicted with many city design standards and policies.

According to city associate

See **HOUSING PROJECT** on Page 6



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The Livermore medical campus of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

Veterans continue fight to keep Livermore VA campus open

With timeline of closure uncertain, feds say operations will remain intact until another clinic is established in valley

By JUDE STRZEMP

Military veterans in the Tri-Valley are growing increasingly worried about the future of their federal healthcare close to home.

Livermore Valley's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7265 has taken to social media in recent weeks in a campaign pushing to keep the veterans medical campus in Livermore open and to

demand answers from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which has long contemplated relocating operations from its property in wine country.

"Here's what's concerning: there is no published plan, proposal, or timeline for the future of the Livermore VA campus," the local VFW said in a call-to-action post on Facebook last week.

"That silence is the problem,"

the VFW post added. "Veterans and their families deserve to know what's being considered before decisions are made, not after. Uncertainty with nothing concrete to respond to leaves our community unable to advocate for itself."

Closure of the Livermore campus remains "many years away," as its final day depends on

See **VA CAMPUS** on Page 10

Wahab wins seat in Congress

Hernandez says 'game on' for rematch

By JEREMY WALSH

State Sen. Aisha Wahab is poised to become the first Afghan-American to serve in Congress and reclaim a Democratic vote in the U.S. House of Representatives after winning the special runoff election this week to fill the Tri-Valley seat in D.C. vacated by Eric Swalwell in April.

Wahab, whose political career started on the Hayward City Council nearly a decade ago, held a slim advantage over fellow Democrat Melissa Hernandez after initial returns reported Election Night — but that margin widened to an insurmountable lead, albeit still single-digit, in the follow-up results drop two days later.

"This victory belongs to the voters who made it clear that our district cannot be bought," Wahab said in a statement Aug. 20.

"Through one of the ugliest, most expensive elections we've ever seen, we never took the bait or went negative. We stayed focused on the people, and I will fight for this district that raised me," she added. "From foster care to Congress, this journey shows the possibility of the American Dream."

It remains unclear when Wahab will begin serving the unexpired, five-month term for Congressional District 14, which includes part of the Tri-Valley and extends west into

See **WAHAB** on Page 7

Castlewood association not anticipating legal challenge

Annexation or independent services district on table as divorce with county appears near

By TIM HUNT

Directors of the Castlewood Property Owners Association shared with members last week that it will concurrently pursue two efforts to leave the current Alameda County service area and not pursue further legal action at this time.

In a general update meeting attended by about 35 people Aug. 18, directors continued the discussion of either an independent community services district or annexation to the city of Pleasanton. The county Board of Supervisors voted at the request of the public works department to move forward with a plan to get the county out of operating the existing service area. At the board's direction, it reached out to Pleasanton to operate water and sewer services and was told no.

Pleasanton currently has an interim city manager in place until a new permanent hire starts on the job. Castlewood directors continue to communicate with city officials to encourage moving ahead. The city, with its structural deficit, will not

be interested in any annexation that isn't cash-positive to Pleasanton.

The Local Agency Formation Commission, which must approve any plan, laid out requirements for consideration of a separate district and the association is pursuing those, particularly ones such as a survey that will be required regardless of the ultimate direction.

"We hope to avoid any further legal action and instead concentrate on the two paths forward, but we are still waiting to see how the county manages our outstanding claims and infrastructure needs in the coming months," association vice president Mike Mitchell wrote in an email.

The association is continuing to work with the county on the program to repair and resurface the roads and establish a regular maintenance routine. It is nearing the point where the county will put the project out to bid and then homeowners will vote whether to take on the additional expense of the roads. The association team also said it is weighing the timing, the expense and how it would fit with the

potential of new governance within a couple of years.

Doug Ricketts, the director working on water and sewer issues, reported the trends in water operating expenses are positive, but there are still questions about charges that they are awaiting receipts to verify.

The association sued the county over \$1.4 million in charges that it believed were the result of mismanagement, but the supervisors' action last month moved that charge into the water account with the plan to repay the "loan" with surplus revenues at no interest charge. The association disputes this finding and still is awaiting clarity from the county on exactly what is going to happen.

Progress is being made toward installing a new variable pump that should limit hammering that stresses water pipes when the pumps start and stop. There's also planning for the mid-station pumping, but no immediate plans to replace the rented temporary generators. In the event of an emergency, the contract operator in Morgan Hill must be notified, dispatch personnel who

then must plug in generators and start them.

Ricketts' presentation slide described progress as "glacial".

Supervisor David Haubert, whose District 1 includes Castlewood, opposed both resolutions at the supervisors' meeting. He wrote in a text, "I am deeply concerned about Alameda County's liability if a catastrophic fire were to occur in the Castlewood area. I am calling on our Public Works team and the rest of the Alameda County staff to make the necessary repairs to aging infrastructure to keep our residents safe."

The directors, as part of their research into independent districts, have reached out to a few that are as small or smaller than Castlewood. They plan to interview those groups as well as management companies in the dual path process.

Association president Rick Hammel shared that members could expect a survey to help the association know if homeowners had residents who may need help to evacuate in an emergency. There is only one road in and out of the hillside

development with the alternative escape route behind a locked gate.

Andrew Schneider from the county also discussed the new garbage service coming to the area as required by state law. Each residence that subscribes to garbage service will receive two additional carts (blue-lidded recycling and green waste) in addition to the trash cart. Rates will be adjusted accordingly based on the agreement with Pleasanton Garbage Service. Residents must subscribe to the service or certify they are sorting and dumping their waste themselves.

The committee working on updating the bylaws and codes, covenants and restrictions has completed its first draft and will be seeking homeowner comments in focus groups with the goal of finishing its work by the end of the year. Changes will require a vote of association members. ■

Editor's note: Pleasanton Weekly freelance journalist Tim Hunt's family home is within the district boundaries and receives water and sewer services.

HOUSING PROJECT

Continued from Page 5

planner Diego Mora, the project did not provide street-fronting commercial space, flexible ground-floor commercial space or commercial frontage. It did not retain any existing commercial square footage either.

"The proposal results in a 100% net loss of commercial space, contrary to (Downtown Specific Plan) objectives supporting downtown economic vitality," Mora said.

Mora also said the project did not preserve downtown's commercial viability, maintain small-town scale and character or encourage context-sensitive infill development compatible with downtown standards.

He said staff also found inconsistencies with the project's architecture and design compatibility as related to the Downtown Specific Plan, and found that the project did not meet several of the city's objective design standards and municipal codes related to the site layout, accessibility, open space, landscaping and utilities.

"I really support reinvestment in the downtown," Mayor Jack Balch said. "I think that this (project) presents elements I actually do like ... however my decision isn't based on the personal architectural preferences I have; it's based on our General Plan, our Downtown Specific Plan and our Objective Design Standards."

Balch was specifically concerned about conformance with city standards for clean water, sanitary sewer connections, utility enclosures and

potential ponding on the city's streets.

When Councilmember Julie Testa asked if the city had tried to work with the applicant to address some of these issues, community development director Ellen Clark said staff had several conversations with the applicant in an effort to "produce a project that balanced what they were seeking to do, which was sort of a large, multigenerational single-family home".

"We just ultimately couldn't get there and couldn't get to a place where staff could support a project that was close enough to what the applicant wanted to propose," Clark said, adding that staff did try to work with the applicant to come to some consensus on the project's design that would have satisfied the city's design standards and guidelines.

But now that the project has been sent back to the drawing board, some councilmembers pointed out the risk of higher-density housing projects being developed at the site, due to the site's proximity to the Altamont Corridor Express train.

"Considering that this property is so close to the ACE station, and thus qualifies to become a transit-oriented development, which means largely ministerial approval for the city, for all such projects that are within half a mile of the ACE station, I'd like not for this property to end up there," Nibert said.

In the end, the consensus from the council was that they would like to see the applicant come back and work with staff to come up with a project that meets the city's design standards and guidelines.

Vice Mayor Matt Gaidos also talked about how some of the standards in the Downtown Specific Plan are subjective, which he said could leave people feeling hesitant to propose future developments.

"My first thought when I looked at (the proposed project) was, 'That's a

beautifully designed piece of property that I wish I could build for my family,'" he said.

He also said he mostly did not want to signal that he's unwilling to be creative and work with someone to put a residential development downtown.

"This is the kind of housing people are going to want to build to be able to afford to stay in our community with their family," Gaidos added. "We need to be careful about signaling opposition to it based on subjective standards of a specific plan." ■

Concert with the Weekly

The Pleasanton Weekly celebrated its 2025 CNPA General Excellence Award with the community last Friday, co-sponsoring that evening's Concert in the Park in downtown Pleasanton. Scores of readers stopped by the Weekly's booth in Lions Wayside Park, spinning the prize wheel, chatting up reporters, grabbing that day's print edition and learning more about how to support nonprofit local news in the Tri-Valley.



PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

PUSD breaks ground on Amador renovation project

Ceremony celebrates construction of new performing arts, athletic facilities funded by Measure I

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District leaders and administrators from Amador Valley High celebrated the ceremonial groundbreaking of the school's campus renovation project Monday, which aims to build new athletic and performing arts facilities.

The \$102.8 million project, which is mostly being funded through the \$395 million Measure I bond, is expected to be complete toward the end of 2028.

"This project will create exceptional new spaces for Amador students to perform, compete, learn, and come together," Amador principal Malcolm Norrington said in a press release. "We know construction of this scale requires flexibility, and I'm incredibly grateful to our students, staff, and site leaders and for continuing to keep teaching, learning and the student experience at the center throughout this transformation."

Four years ago, the Pleasanton school board approved the district's Facility Master Plan, which identified key facilities across the district



RENDERING COURTESY PUSD

A rendering shows what the new Amador Valley High School gym will look like once finished.

that needed to be renovated or replaced. The list included the athletic and performing arts facilities at both Amador Valley and Foothill high schools.

In order to fund these and other similar improvements, the district placed Measure I on the 2022 general election, which voters ultimately

approved. Since then, the district began planning and designing the Amador project — the board approved the final design back in January 2025.

According to the district, the facility renovation aims to provide "modern, high-quality performing arts, athletic and instructional

facilities that expand opportunities for students and create a welcoming new presence for Amador Valley High School and the broader Pleasanton community."

"This is a flagship project for Pleasanton Unified and a major transformation of Amador Valley High School," assistant

superintendent of business services Ahmad Sheikholeslami said in a press release. "Having seen the project develop from its earliest planning stages, it is especially exciting to reach this milestone and see years of thoughtful planning begin to take shape for students."

The Amador renovation includes a new performing arts theater, a new competition gym, a new pool deck and plaster, and a newly modernized kitchen. The project will also modernize the locker rooms, repair the roof and dry rot, refinish the floor and upgrade the air conditioning and heating systems for the existing gym — the locker rooms have already been finished, according to the district.

"This is a significant investment in the future of Amador Valley High School and in generations of Dons to come," said PUSD Board of Trustees President Kelly Baehr, who recently changed her last name from Mokashi back to her maiden name.

"We are deeply grateful to Pleasanton voters and our broader

See **AMADOR** on Page 8

WAHAB

Continued from Page 5

communities like Castro Valley, Hayward, Union City, Fremont and San Leandro. The results need to be certified by county and state officials and her swearing-in scheduled in Washington, D.C.

Hernandez, the current BART Board of Directors president and former Dublin mayor who finished a distant second place to Wahab in a special primary election in June, conceded the temporary term Aug. 20 but said it was "game on" for the rematch between the two in November for a full term.

"I've been a fighter my whole life, and when I promised the residents of CA-14 I would fight for them, I never gave up," Hernandez said in a statement.

"In just 63 days, we closed a gap from 26,000 votes to 6,000 votes by sharing our message of lowering housing costs, creating jobs, and supporting strong public safety," she added. "Voters finally got the chance to see what I have been doing as a mom, Dublin's Mayor, and a director of healthcare services."

Noting the runoff in the general election will be based on slightly adjusted District 14 boundaries in the wake of Proposition 50 re-districting, Hernandez said, "The election for CA-14 in November will be in the new district lines, adding 26,000 Dublin voters who didn't have the chance to vote for me in August. We're

looking forward to winning this on November 3rd with a more favorable district and a much larger electorate. Game on!"

Wahab and Hernandez were already part of a crowded regular primary election to help decide who would serve the next two-year term for District 14 starting in January 2027 — succeeding Swalwell, who was running for governor of California — when Swalwell abruptly resigned from Congress amid a sexual misconduct scandal in April. Swalwell denied allegations of criminal wrongdoing but acknowledged unspecified errors in judgment.

Swalwell's resignation set the stage for a special election to complete the term he vacated under the pre-Prop 50 boundaries.

Wahab and Hernandez were among 11 candidates to file for the special primary election, which took place June 16, two weeks after the regular primary election that featured nine candidates — some of whom overlapped between both ballots.

In each election, Wahab finished comfortably in first place but below a majority while Hernandez edged a Republican opponent to earn second place and a spot in the runoff. In the special primary, Wahab had 42.82% to Hernandez's 16.76%. The margin was 38.28% to 17.18% in the regular primary.

The difference became anything but comfortable for Wahab in the special runoff election.

The stage for a tight race was likely set by a contentious campaign in

the closing weeks and days that featured an influx of financial support for Hernandez from outside groups including the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. Wahab also traded barbs with members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in recent weeks — including District 1 Supervisor David Haubert, for whose office Hernandez works — over her Senate Bill 1193 that

targets discretionary spending by Alameda County.

Soon after polls closed Aug. 18, the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office reported the vote count at the end of Election Night as 51.04% Wahab to 48.96% Hernandez — too close to call the contest.

The numbers dropped by the registrar on Aug. 20 showed a wider margin in favor of Wahab,

53.09% (51,610 votes) to 46.91% (45,598 votes), and sealed the victory for her. Turnout for the special election between the two Democrats sits at 22.60% of registered voters participating.

The county cited 252 ballots left to cure and two unprocessed ballots on Aug. 20. The results are expected to be finalized this week, with the county and state certification schedules unclear. ■

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Fire Station No. 6 overhaul to begin next year

\$24.3M renovation project includes temporarily relocating Centennial Light Bulb

By JUDE STRZEMP

The oldest fire station in Livermore is poised for complete demolition and reconstruction beginning next August as part of a project to modernize the public safety post.

Located at 4550 East Ave., the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department's Fire Station No. 6 is a single-story building initially constructed in 1976 and later expanded to its current-day footprint of about 10,700 square feet.

This 50-year-old facility is home to the world-renowned Centennial Light Bulb, which will be temporarily relocated as part of the renovations.

Estimated to cost nearly \$24.3 million, the project will construct an approximately 13,000-square-foot, single-story fire station and a reserve apparatus building spanning about 2,600 square feet. Fire services will continue throughout the phased project, which is expected to last about two years.

A new facility is needed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and safety standards

as well as to reduce potential exposure to hazardous contaminants, according to Livermore senior planner Ashley Vera.

During a regular meeting Aug. 18, the Livermore Planning Commission voted 4-0 in support of a conditional use permit and site plan design review to allow the project. Commissioner Yolanda Fintschenko was absent.

"I'm excited for the firefighters that'll get to use this station," Commissioner Jacob Anderson said during the meeting. "We'll have to suffer through a couple of years of dealing with a temporary station, but afterwards it'll be quite awesome for them."

LPFD Fire Chief Aaron Lacey expressed the department's support for the project.

"It is going to add value to not only the community, but our firefighters, and provide some much-needed enhancements," Lacey told the commission.

It will feature decontamination areas, office space, living and sleeping quarters, a fitness room, a multipurpose room and a dedicated



COURTESY CITY OF LIVERMORE

Livermore is slated to replace a 50-year-old fire station in the city with a modern facility. Seen here is a rendering of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department's future Fire Station No. 6.

display area for the 125-year-old Centennial Light Bulb, Vera said.

Elsewhere on the site, the reserve apparatus building is set to store one truck and one engine.

Associated site improvements include new landscape, fences and walls, public and private parking, space for public art and new public bike spaces.

The project also adds one

personnel to the station for a total of five on-site staff and one new, specialized SUV or truck to serve as a mobile command post.

Prior to issuing a permit for demolition, city staff are set to approve a plan to relocate the light bulb from its position inside the station.

"I appreciate the safety plan for the bulb. I'm sure that staff and

everybody will take great care because nobody wants to be the person to knock the bulb out," Anderson said.

The light bulb will not be available for public viewing while stored for about 15 to 16 months in the reserve apparatus building. Staff intend to set up a live camera stream for remote viewing, according to Vera.

A specific design for the bulb's new home has not yet been finalized, but staff intend to include information on digital displays, wall plaques and/or a display case.

"It's a great thing to see separated from the actual station, because then you don't have civilians such as myself, just sort of wandering in right next to the trucks," Commission Chairperson Tracy Kronzak said.

There were no public comments at the hearing last week.

During the project, a 1,500-square-foot temporary modular building will be placed on site for living and sleeping quarters, restrooms, office space and storage to allow fire service operations to continue. ■

All newcomers in race for Sunol school board

Four candidates compete for two at-large seats leading small-town district

By JEREMY WALSH

The stage is set for a competitive race to usher in new blood for the Sunol Glen Unified School District Governing Board.

Four newcomers are running for two at-large seats on the school board that oversees the small-town district

serving students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade on a single school campus on Main Street in Sunol. Incumbents Peter "Ted" Romo and Chris Bobertz did not seek reelection.

The candidates competing for the seats — and hoping to become part of a new majority on the three-member

board — are parent and cybersecurity professional Gagan Bassi; businesswoman and grandmother Jennifer Kavouniaris, who previously ran for the Fremont school board with the backing of Moms for Liberty; retired investment strategist Karen Ruth Newcomb; and retired Contra Costa College STEM dean René Turnbull.

Former Sunol trustee Linda Hurley, who was removed from office midterm in 2024, also filed for the election but was not listed among the final candidates on the ballot by the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office after the Aug. 12 deadline. Hurley did not respond to the Pleasanton Weekly's request

for comment on why she wasn't on the list.

The district made headlines across the Bay Area two years ago when voters recalled Hurley and fellow trustee Ryan Jergensen in the aftermath of their stance against flying the LGBTQ+ Pride flag on the flagpole in front of Sunol Glen School. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Pleasanton Family Friday: Pleasanton families joined together to celebrate the first full week of school being back in session and August birthdays at the Concert in the Park downtown last Friday.

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

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AMADOR

Continued from Page 7

community for making this transformation possible through Measure I, and we take seriously our responsibility to ensure that investment is carefully overseen and delivers exceptional facilities for Amador students and the broader community," Baehr added.

During summer break, PUSD officially began razing several structures, including the small gym and the historic Amador Theater. The demolition of the theater, which was originally a point of contention after residents voiced concerns about getting rid of its historic facade, quickly gained attention online as construction crews were seen tearing the building down on July 31.

But as PUSD Superintendent Maurice Ghysels pointed out, tearing down the 94-year-old structure was important because it now makes way for future students who will greatly benefit from the new performing arts facility.

"The Amador Theater was built

nearly a century ago because this community believed in investing in young people," Ghysels said. "That same belief guides us today. As we begin this next chapter, we are carrying its spirit forward by creating new spaces where students can discover their voices, talents and dreams for generations to come."

Nimarta Grewal, assistant superintendent of human resources and former Amador principal, also said she knows how much that space meant for the community.

"The Amador Theater holds generations of memories for students, staff, families and the broader community," she said. "As a former Amador principal and a parent of two Amador graduates, I know firsthand how deeply that space was woven into the life of the school."

However, she said she is excited to see what the new facility will bring for the future.

"I am so pleased that its story will continue to be honored as we create new opportunities for future generations," Grewal said. ■

Fletcher launches bid for Pleasanton school board

LHS teacher cites fiscal transparency, retaining and attracting employees among top priorities

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Livermore High School teacher and Pleasanton resident Karen Fletcher said she is running for the Pleasanton Unified School District Trustee Area 5 board seat this November for one main reason: to keep Pleasanton an “excellent place to send children to public school.”

“As a teacher myself, I understand the importance of preparing all students for any career path they choose to follow,” Fletcher told the Pleasanton Weekly via email. “I plan to put the students and teachers first in our district. I will speak up to ask the hard questions in order to keep our school district in strong fiscal shape for our families and educators.”

She will be facing off against two other newcomers, Thomas Choi and Brett Martinez, for the Area 5 seat, which represents Vintage Hills



Karen Fletcher

and Hearst elementary schools, Pleasanton Middle School, and part of Foothill High's attendance area. Current Trustee Justin Brown opted not to seek reelection this fall.

Fletcher, along with her husband and four kids, have called Pleasanton their home for the past 18 years. All of her children attended school at PUSD, with her youngest having graduated high school this past May.

She said through her volunteer work at their schools, she saw first-hand the “many excellent programs, teachers and administrators that support our students.”

Prior to teaching engineering and robotics at Livermore High School, Fletcher was an aerospace engineer who worked at the NASA Ames Research Center for nine years where she conducted research and project management for vertical lift aircraft which, according to NASA's website, is vertical lift technology that aims to “improve safety and efficiency of future air transportation.”

She also said she co-coordinates and manages the budgets for Livermore

High School's Green Engineering Academy. According to its website, this is a “California Partnership Academy, which incorporates integrated academic and career technical education, business partnerships, mentoring, and internships.”

‘As a teacher myself, I understand the importance of preparing all students for any career path they choose to follow.’

Karen Fletcher,

Pleasanton Unified School District Trustee Area 5 candidate

“With these experiences in our district and as a teacher in a neighboring district, I feel that I have a solid background to serve on the PUSD Board to represent the students, families and teachers in our district,” Fletcher said.

Fletcher said her budget experience at NASA and Livermore High School will help her balance PUSD's

budgets while protecting student learning and programs from cuts.

“I am prepared to work with our educators, families, district staff and board to support our students, earning me the endorsement of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers and the majority of the current School Board,” Fletcher said.

One of her top campaign issues include maintaining the district's overall excellence so that more families will want to move to Pleasanton, and so that teachers will want to continue working in the district. To do that, she said she wants to focus on strengthening the contract between the teacher's union and the district in order to retain and attract talented employees.

Her second priority, if elected, would be to increase fiscal transparency in order to “improve trust and morale.”

“It's important that Pleasanton Unified School District has a transparent and rigorous budget to pay the teachers appropriately and support programs each year,” Fletcher said. “I will hold the Superintendent and Executive Cabinet accountable

in order to bring financial stability to our school district.”

If elected, Fletcher also said increasing “educational equity” across the district would be among her primary goals. She noted that this effort involves fostering greater inclusivity and ensuring a safe environment for every student and staff member.

Fletcher pointed to recent challenges within the district, stating, “There were a number of publicized incidents of racism and intolerance last year.”

Among these events were recurring instances of hateful graffiti discovered in bathrooms at Amador Valley High School.

“This negatively affects our students, families and staff,” Fletcher explained. “All students and staff deserve to feel safe at school. This is necessary for students to receive a good education and realize their full potential in life.”

Voters with questions can email Fletcher at karenfletcherforpusdboard@gmail.com. She said her website, karenfletcher.org, is still under construction but will be published soon. ■

Rotary barbecue to bring food, culture and service

Event at Carnegie Park raising money for scholarships, youth programs, community projects

BY EMILY WANG

A community barbecue held in Livermore will bring food, family activities and cultural performances together while raising money for local service programs next month.

The Livermore Valley Rotary Club will host its second annual Community BBQ & Fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 12 at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St. The event is free and open to the public, with food and beverages available for purchase.

The event serves as a fundraiser

designed to bring Tri-Valley residents together while supporting the Rotary Club's charitable work. Proceeds will benefit youth programs, scholarships, community service projects, humanitarian efforts and other programs serving individuals and families in the region.

The fundraiser will include a barbeque, Maker's Market with local vendors, children's jump houses in the Kid Zone and live cultural performances. Mony Nop, president of the Livermore Valley Rotary Club, said this year's event has expanded to give

local vendors the opportunity to showcase and sell their products directly to the public while featuring cultural performances from local groups.

“Our goal is to bring the community together for a fun and welcoming event, one that celebrates local businesses, culture and community spirit,” Nop said.

Nop said the club is continuing its fundraising efforts to support local nonprofit organizations that help children, seniors and residents in need. One future goal is to provide more opportunities for students to attend Camp RYLA,

a Rotary youth leadership camp.

Beth McCormick, the club's fundraising chair, said the event supports Rotary's broader mission of service.

“Every meal purchased, every donation made, and every sponsor who supports this event helps

us continue Rotary's mission of Service Above Self by investing in projects that strengthen our community and improve lives,” McCormick said.

More information about the event is available at livermorevalleyrotary.org. ■

High-end clothing boutiques close in City Center

M by Maggie Rizer and men's shop Trader out after nearly eight years

BY JEANITA LYMAN

A page in Bishop Ranch history turned this summer when two high-end boutiques that have been at City Center since its inception shut their doors, marking the end of a fashion era that was bolstered by a major name in the modeling world.

Sunset Development officials confirmed this week that M by Maggie Rizer — a model who is married to the development company's CEO, Alex Mehran Jr. — and its counterpart men's store Trader

have exited the adjacent spaces downstairs that they had occupied since the San Ramon shopping center's debut in 2018.

“We are incredibly grateful to the many brand partners, buyers, vendors, customers, and friends who supported us throughout the years,” M and Trader staff said in an automated email following the closures.

Jeff Dodd, senior vice president of retail for Sunset Development, acknowledged the stores' departures as a shift that is “continuing the evolution of the retail lineup at

City Center Bishop Ranch.”

“Since opening alongside the launch of City Center, the boutiques — founded by Alex Mehran Jr. and Maggie Rizer — have played an important role in shaping the retail experience and helping establish the center's distinctive mix of shops and brands,” Dodd said.

The space is now set to serve as an expansion for the contemporary women's fashion shop Aly's Grace, which is poised to move into the former storefronts, according to Dodd. ■



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Livermore nixes elections for unchallenged incumbents

Marchand and Branning appointed to new terms, saving city at least \$250,000

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore City Council last week agreed to cancel two uncontested elections following a clash with a local community leader regarding voter participation.

In lieu of the election, the council appointed Mayor John Marchand to serve at the helm for another two-year term and Councilmember Evan Branning to represent District 1 of northwest Livermore for a second four-year term.

Estimated to save the city at least \$250,000, the decision was permitted under the California Elections Code because there was only one candidate qualified in each race, according to Livermore city clerk Olivia Nashed.

The election for District 2 of northeast Livermore, featuring

incumbent Ben Barrientos and longtime physician Narayan Tadimeti, remains on the ballot for the Nov. 3 general election.

Despite the council's 4-0 consensus at the Aug. 20 special meeting, tension bubbled over between the mayor and Livermore Valley Arts board director Jean King who warned the council against what she saw as stripping residents of the right to vote.

"Everyone has a right not to vote, but the right to vote should not be taken away ... The voters of Livermore want to cast their own votes," King said as the sole speaker during public comment.

"Wow," Marchand replied. "We are not taking the right to vote away from anyone."

As the unchallenged incumbent who is expected to win, placing the mayoral race on the ballot with his



John Marchand



Evan Branning

name solely would be a meaningless gesture, he reasoned.

"It's a far better reason to wisely use the public funds and not have an election that's just an exercise in egotism," Marchand added.

Prior to the council's vote, city staff recommended the appointment of Marchand and Branning for the sake of "significant" cost savings, efficiency and reduced staff time within the city and Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office.

Without the election, there is no process for potential write-in candidates to compete, Nashed explained.

Vice Mayor Kristie Wang extended her support for directly appointing Marchand and Branning. They were previously elected by voters and no one challenged them this time around, she explained.

"There's no way for the outcome to be any different than us appointing them today, in which case I think we should save the \$250,000," Wang said.

The cost of the uncontested election would be better spent elsewhere, the council concluded.

Following the comments by the council, Marchand took aim at King and Livermore Independent publisher Joan Seppala.

"I am shocked at the cynicism here," Marchand said.

"What's cynical about it is the people that wanted to control the city wanted to have a lower voter turnout. They didn't want people to vote because they could better manipulate the vote," Marchand said, referring to when the city used to hold elections in odd-numbered years. "On the other hand, I wanted more people to vote because I wanted to hear from more people and that's what we've successfully done."

Upon switching to even-year municipal elections, voter turnout increased by 30%, according to Marchand.

As for the upcoming terms, Marchand and Branning are slated to take office and serve as if they had been elected in the Nov. 3 general election.

Branning was absent from the special meeting last week. ■

VA CAMPUS

Continued from Page 5

factors such as the establishment of a new outpatient clinic in the Pleasanton area, the Department of Veterans Affairs confirmed to the Pleasanton Weekly last week.

Built in 1949, the VA Palo Alto Health Care System — Livermore Division is a 112-acre federally operated medical complex offering primary care and specialty health services to veterans.

The VA was initially recommended over 20 years ago to close the facility, followed by an internal report in 2022 reaffirming the suggestion due to facility aging

and its location in a purportedly inconvenient site for veterans.

Meanwhile, select services have been cut in recent years from the campus, according to Michael Gilmore, adjutant of VFW Post 7265.

He is among the decades-long line of veterans who have opposed the closure of the Livermore site. Gilmore also expressed concern to the Weekly regarding the future use of the VA land.

"It affects people that don't even realize it affects them yet because you get a whole 'nother generation of veterans that are in the up-and-coming ranks that are gonna be looking for help and we need

to make sure that that help is there for them," Gilmore said of the situation.

The VA denies the cutting of any services at the Livermore Division in recent years, except for the closure earlier this year of the site's community living center, whose residents were relocated this year to the VA community living center in Menlo Park.

The VA has not made any decisions regarding the "disposition" of the campus, VA officials told Pleasanton Weekly.

"Full closure of the campus is still many years away," according to the VA website. "VA Palo Alto health care will continue to maintain current clinical operations at Livermore until the full realignment of services to the new outpatient clinic."

Leading up to this moment, the independent Capital Asset Realignment for Enhancement Services Commission in 2004 recommended the closure of the Livermore campus, according to the VA website.

A 2022 report from the VA dubbed Asset and Infrastructure Review Commission Report supported the closure and the shifting of services to other VA facilities or community facilities, the website states.

According to the report, the Livermore facility does not meet current design standards. Deficiencies are valued at about \$63.9 million with annual operations and maintenance costing about \$6.2 million, the report states.

The campus is "not easily accessible from nearby population centers where Veterans live", the report states.

Additionally, the campus has one road for entrance and exit,

parking limitations, outdated buildings unsuitable for modern healthcare and an aging sewage treatment plant, according to the report.

"A new (multi-specialty community-based outpatient clinic) in the vicinity of Pleasanton, California, will improve access to primary care, mental health and outpatient specialty services at a location close to where Veterans live and eliminate the need for those services at the Livermore (VA medical center)," according to the report.

In recent years, no services have changed at the facility other than the community living center, VA officials told the Weekly.

But Gilmore said he has seen some services cut in recent years.

The pharmacy is closed and dental services have stopped within the last few years, he said. A tooth cleaning, he added, takes up the majority of a day because the appointment is at the VA center in Menlo Park.

"It's definitely an inconvenience and I know there are veterans out there that choose not to take care of their health because of the inconvenience of travel," Gilmore said.

Among its most recent calls to action, the Livermore Valley VFW asked members, supporters and others on social media to request help from federal and state legislators to keep the facility open, including both U.S. senators from California and State Sen. Jerry McNerney.

"It's calling on our elected officials from the bottom up to stand up to these other politicians in the hierarchy and letting them know that we want this in our community," Gilmore explained. "We need to keep something in our community."

In an email interview with the Weekly, McNerney confirmed his support for keeping veterans services at the Livermore site.

"I have long advocated for maintaining the Livermore veterans' health care property as a facility serving veterans," McNerney said. "Our local veterans served and sacrificed for our country and deserve a facility right here in the Tri-Valley."

Although the veteran community in the Tri-Valley wants to keep the hospital open, Gilmore said he would settle for the land's reuse if it was maintained for supporting veterans.

"If we can't keep the VA hospital open in Livermore because of age and infrastructure, we definitely want to keep the land in veterans use of some sort, some way," he said.

Surrounded by nature, the site could be used for a rehabilitation center for veterans recovering from drug, alcohol and post-traumatic stress disorder, he said.

Meanwhile, three campuses within the Palo Alto VA Health Care System are poised for upgrades, given the VA's commitment of \$4.8 billion in one-time funding nationwide during fiscal year 2026 to modernize, repair and improve health care facilities.

The Livermore Division is set for an X-ray machine replacement, according to VA spokesperson Michael Hill-Jackson.

For updates regarding the Livermore Division, visit www.va.gov. ■

Editor's note: Pleasanton Weekly associate publisher Jeremy Walsh and Embarcadero Media Foundation Peninsula staff writer B. Sakura Cannestra contributed to this story.



Kate Barker

May 4, 1958 - August 12, 2026

In loving memory of Kate Barker, age 68, born May 4, 1958, in Portland, Oregon. Kate passed away peacefully on Wednesday August 12th at her summer home at Henrys Lake, Idaho while surrounded by family. Her love of nature, the outdoors, hiking and fishing made Henrys Lake the perfect place for her and her husband Phil to build their dream cabin. Her smile, laughter and love of music brought joy to everyone who knew her. Kate's courageous battle against Alzheimer's lasted over 14 years with her husband alongside her every step of the way. Kate and Phil lived in Pleasanton for over 30 years where they raised their children. Kate is survived by her husband Phil, daughter Kristina and son Greg.

PAID OBITUARY

Small businesses form beverage club in Livermore

Downtown Pour Collective created to back independently owned bars and restaurants

By JUDE STRZEMP

A new beverage membership program launched this month with a focus on supporting local businesses downtown Livermore.

Dubbed Downtown Pour Collective, the club offers paid members five drinks monthly during select times at bars and restaurants including Demitri's Taverna, Swirl on the Square, The Cheese Parlor, Calamari Bistro & Bar, Stampede Bar & Grill, Bruno's Italian Cuisine, L Campo and Wingen Bakery & Restaurant.

More than a way to grab a drink, collective founder and Livermore resident Nick Martinez said the collective is about showing up for independently owned businesses and giving members an experiential pour.

The collective comes at a time of rising operational costs and what Martinez described as repeated wonderings from local business owners on how to attract more customers during off-peak hours.

"Downtown Livermore already has the venues and the people. What it didn't have was a reason to make showing up a habit," Martinez said in a statement announcing the launch of the collective. "DPC gives members a standing invitation to the places

that make this downtown worth keeping."

Prior to creating the collective, Martinez worked for about 20 years in restaurant operations for national brands, he said.

Martinez decided to apply his industry knowledge to a new endeavor in consulting and coaching local businesses in Livermore after moving to the city about two years ago, he explained.

The venture evolved into his founding of Downtown Pour Collective.

Featuring three registration groups, the program is tailored to consumers of beer, wine or spirits and cocktails, according to Martinez.

"You oftentimes hear of drinking less, which I definitely get that," Martinez said. "Maybe not everybody wants a glass of wine or a beer or a cocktail, but they want the different experience that makes them feel special, that they can post about that everyone else isn't also experiencing as well."

Pours can be redeemed any time during business hours Sundays through Thursdays or before 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Among the initial eight collective partners, The Cheese Parlor co-owner Brandon Wood said he joined the program as a way

to prop up local businesses as a whole.

"We all rise together, so the more and more we support each other in Livermore, the more and more we all can grow together as a unit and as a town, instead of just as individual businesses," Wood explained.

Swirl on the Square owner Michelle Braatz said she joined the collective as a way to attract attention to businesses downtown. "Especially for me being on the outskirts of the downtown, this should get eyeballs on my restaurant," she explained.

In addition to the beverages, an item from a local artisan will be available every month at a partner venue, according to the collective website. Members can also collect a total of 36 coasters at partner venues throughout a one-year period to construct a piece of artwork depicting the city.

Downtown Pour Collective plans to host a monthly Social Pour event for networking and socializing, beginning in September.

Although Martinez's initial focus is boosting bar sales, where profit margins are highest, he plans to expand offerings to dining.

Martinez said he also intends in the future to expand the collective to the wider Tri-Valley, beginning with Pleasanton. ■

Agents seize Swalwell's devices, search home

Former congressman back in national news for second time in a week

By JEREMY WALSH

Negative national headlines continue to hound former Tri-Valley congressman Eric Swalwell.

News broke Aug. 20 from the Daily Mail, CNN and other outlets that the one-time Democratic star was hit with search warrants at San Francisco International Airport for his personal devices and then at his home in Washington, D.C., over the previous weekend in a federal investigation into sexual assault allegations.

Swalwell, who could not be reached for comment and did not speak publicly last week, denied allegations of sexual crimes but acknowledged unspecified mistakes in judgment in statements in April when the misconduct scandal first broke. Reporting from the San Francisco Chronicle and CNN revealed four women accused Swalwell of sexual abuse, including one former staffer who alleged he raped her.

Within days, the seven-term



JUDE STRZEMP

Eric Swalwell at Dublin Teachers Association rally on March 9.

congressman ended his ascending campaign for governor of California and resigned from the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served parts of the East Bay after first winning election in 2012 to jump from the Dublin City Council to the District of Columbia.

A former media darling while in Congress, Swalwell found himself back in the headlines earlier last

week too when the White House declassified documents from the FBI's decade-old probe into his relationship with a former campaign supporter later accused of being a spy for China. The investigation concluded Swalwell had a sexual relationship with Christine Fang — also known as Fang Fang — but found no evidence of quid pro quo or crimes by the politician. ■

Bob Tagg

October 15, 1954 – May 26, 2026

Bob Tagg of Pleasanton, CA, passed away in May of 2026. Bob was born to Robert and Marie Tagg in 1954 in Camden, AR, and spent most of his childhood in New Jersey. He graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln where he met his wife of 40 years, Cara (Kerr), and later earned his MBA. He was an avid Giants baseball and Husker football fan, loved going to games, spending time with his kids and grandchildren, and vacationing in Kona. Bob spent 30+ years leading support operations for tech companies throughout the Bay Area like Remedy, Dell & Splunk. He was preceded in death by his wife Cara, and is survived by son Will, daughter-in-law Tenny and granddaughter Stella; and daughter Molly, son-in-law Stephen Schulz and granddaughter Hallie. There are also many extended family members and friends who will miss Bob. In lieu of services at this time, donations in his memory can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.



PAID OBITUARY

Tanya Lisa Ludden

January 11, 1960 - August 7, 2026

Tanya Lisa Ludden, nee Getschmann, of Bremerton, Washington, passed away while surrounded by family, at the age of 66, after her four-year battle against cancer, which she faced with strength, grace, bravery, and an unparalleled level of optimism.

Tanya is survived by her husband of 47-years, Thomas Ludden, her daughter Lisa (Ron), her son John (Nicole), her son Michael (Sean), her sister Dr. Rebecca Padua-Getschmann, her step-father Richard Binder, and her step-mother Teri Getschmann.

She is predeceased by her mother, Jean Binder, her father Bernhardt Getschmann, her mother-in-law Marilyn Ludden, her father-in-law John Ludden, her aunt Patricia Neild, her aunt Karen Segal, her brother-in-law Robert Ludden, her brother-in-law Steve Ludden, as well as many dogs who instantly knew that Tanya was their pack alpha, ready to lead them to a life lived with love and luxury.

She leaves her grandchildren, Jewel Ludden, Loewen Perry, and Nina Perry, whose kind hearted natures are a tribute to Tanya's gentle and caring self.

During her 31-years in Alameda County, Tanya volunteered her time and fundraised for various organizations. Her work stemmed from the belief that communities who band together are the best way to strengthen the future. Tanya had a knack for connecting with people from all walks of life. She loved and lived for human connection, spreading kindness and enlisting volunteers for her next charitable journey. This brought her immense joy. Tanya had a passion for animals, gardening, live music, and her family & friends, who she would do anything for.

For many, there will be a hole in their hearts from the unending pain of her passing, however, if we embrace one another as she did, we can fill those holes while honoring the exceptional person she was. Tanya, you are missed and forever loved! You will live rent free in our hearts and minds! Thank you for gracing us with your beautiful, authentic self; we are all better because of you.

Tanya believed in the inherent goodness of people and imbued that same spirit into her philanthropic work. In lieu of flowers, Tanya's family asks that you honor her with a donation of your time or other resources that give back to your community.

PAID OBITUARY

Lifetimes of faith

From humble beginnings to thriving parish,
CCOP honors rich history and hopeful future

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

It's been 125 years since the Catholic Community of Pleasanton was first established in the city, a milestone that for parish leaders and members not only represents a dedicated community of believers, but a commitment to keeping the faith alive as demographics change and skepticism grows nationally.

As the Catholic church gets ready to celebrate the anniversary through multiple events starting this week and continuing throughout the year, CCOP Rev. Mark Wiesner said he looks forward to celebrating all of God's work in Pleasanton since the church was established.

"125 years of celebrating what God has done here and looking forward to 125 more years of knowing Christ and making Christ better known," Wiesner told the Pleasanton Weekly during a sitdown interview last week.

The original St. Augustine Catholic Church was built on Rose Avenue in 1882. That church, Wiesner said, relied on traveling priests from Mission San Jose to conduct services.

But as Pleasanton grew, it became harder for those missionaries to make the long trips out to the Tri-Valley.

So, in 1901, St. Augustine was officially declared a parish with its own priest. Over the years the city continued to expand, as did St. Augustine's congregation, until it outgrew that original church on Rose Avenue.

That's when, in 1968, the current St. Augustine church was built on Bernal Avenue. More than three

decades later, St. Elizabeth Seton Church — which also operates under the CCOP — opened its doors on Stoneridge Drive in 2000.

Since it opened, St. Augustine has been an integral part of the Vintage Hills neighborhood and greater Catholic community.

For Deacon Michael Gallagher, the church has been a part of his life since he was 5 years old after his family moved to Pleasanton in 1970, just a couple of years after St. Augustine was built.

Gallagher said he remembers going to mass, serving as an altar boy and now, as a deacon.

"To be ordained a deacon last October was just like an amazing icing on the cake that I'm now serving as a deacon in the parish in which I grew up in," he said.

But he couldn't do it without the help of his community parishioners and leaders like Father Wiesner.

Wiesner was born in Buffalo, N.Y. and moved to Concord with his family just a couple years later. He said he was raised as a Catholic but that his faith didn't become a big part of his life until his early 20s when he joined the National Evangelization Teams to conduct retreats with high school students.

That experience, he said, helped further develop his relationship with his faith and cemented his future with the Catholic church.

After being ordained in 1995, Wiesner said his second assignment as an associate priest was coincidentally at St. Augustine from 1998

to 2000. He then left to serve three other parishes before returning to the Pleasanton church seven years ago as the main pastor.

Wiesner said the Catholic church has seen a lot of challenges over the past couple of decades.

One particular challenge that stood out, he said, was when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the church's parishioners to shelter in place at home. But that did not stop Wiesner, who was fairly new to the role at the time, from finding creative ways to continue the church's services.

From drive-thru confessions, which made regional news, to hosting services on webcasts and livestreams, Wiesner said CCOP really took advantage of those times to reimagine a lot of the ways it was, and is currently, able to spread their gospel and hold services for its parishioners.

Still, nothing compared to that first mass back from the lockdowns, Wiesner said.

"We started the gathering song ... and suddenly after a year and a half of having nobody singing, there were 200 voices singing and I started to cry walking down the aisle because it was so beautiful," Wiesner said.

On a larger scale, Wiesner said the church has also dealt with other challenges over the course of its history — a main one being people's connection to Jesus Christ.

According to the Pew Research Center, 78% of adults in the U.S. in 2007 identified with some form of Christianity. However, according to a 2023-24 Religious Landscape Study,



Father Mark Wiesner stands behind the St. Augustine Catholic Church pulpit where

that number decreased to 62%, a 16-point drop in 16 years.

Within that larger group of believers, Catholics make up 19% of the subgroups of Christian denominations. According to the study, the largest subgroup of Christians in the U.S. now are Protestants, who make up about 40% of the population.

Wiesner acknowledged the future outlook is important, especially when a lot of the congregation in Pleasanton is older adults.

One of those longtime parishioners is Pleasanton resident Jim Pease who moved to Pleasanton right before the St. Augustine church was built.

He said he remembers seeing the construction at the time with his dad. He has since been heavily involved with the church having worked as an altar boy, in the sports programs and in other programs with the ministry, like grief counseling.

For Pease, the Catholic church has meant so much to him and his family throughout his life and sees the value it brings for people of all ages.

"At this point in my life, I don't know how you would make it throughout life without having a belief in something," he said.

That's why he said it's been nice to see so many younger people joining the church over these past couple of years, a sentiment echoed by others like Wiesner, who said the church's attendance, on average, has grown by about 200 people each year since COVID.

"There are more and more babies at mass," Wiesner said. "I know that because when one starts to cry, they start to talk to each other back and forth in the church, which is fine because like I say, 'If your church isn't crying, it's dying.'"

The renewed interest in the church, according to CCOP leadership, represents a lot of changes within the community.

Deacon Gallagher said Pleasanton's demographics have shifted a lot over the years, which has brought in a lot of diverse parishioners.

"We just want to create a place that is welcoming, that is there for others, that is there to support them," he said. "All are welcome."

One of those newer parishioners who sought that sense of belonging was Yolanda Padillia, a Pleasanton parent who moved to the city in 2021 with her family.

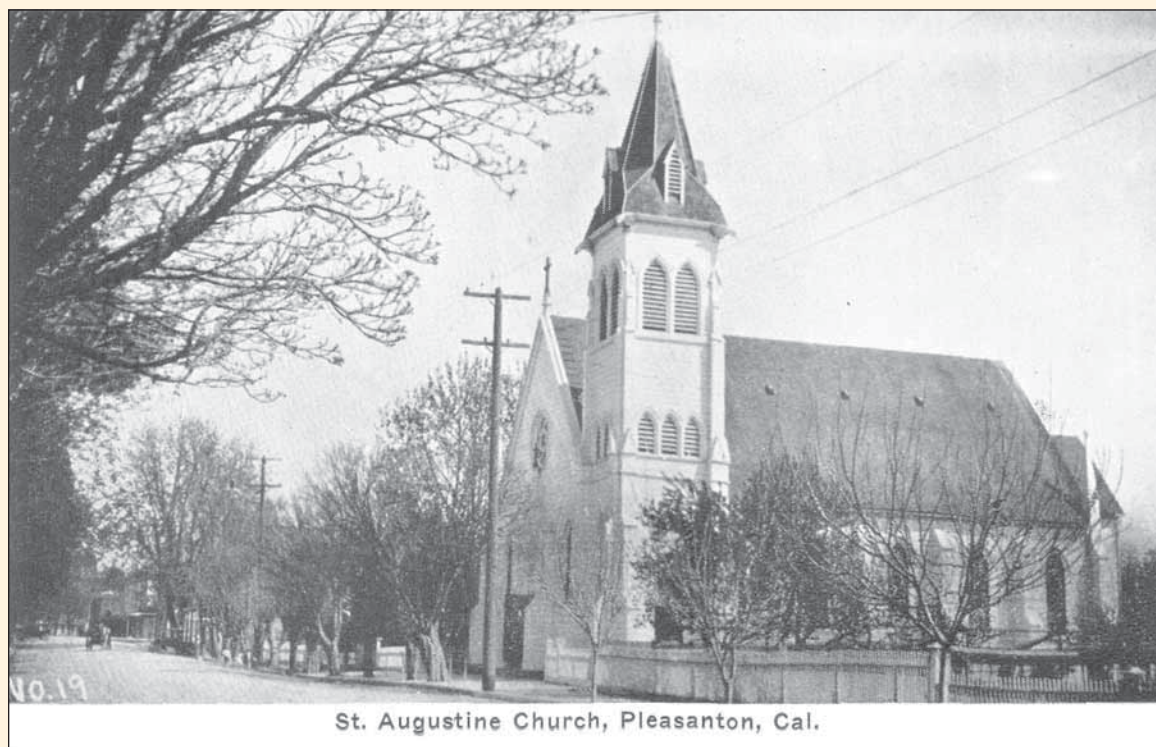
She said as a born and raised Catholic, it was really important for them to find a church community once they moved — and it just so happened that she heard about St. Augustine during the pandemic when it was doing things like the drive-thru confessions and communions.

Now, she said because the church is so close by, she is able to drop her kids off at school and walk over to St. Augustine whenever she needs to pray.

"When I walk on to the church, it immediately feels like home," Padillia said.

She said it's where her kids go to study the faith, where she used to attend the nursery group and where she just hangs out with other parishioners after mass. And even though she said she wouldn't mind seeing more younger families take initiatives to put together events, she appreciates everything the CCOP has to offer her and her family.

As far as what's in store for the church's next 125 years, Wiesner said one of the things the church is focused on is renovating the building itself. The structure has largely



COURTESY MUSEUM ON MAIN

Historical image shows the St. Augustine Church's original location on Rose Avenue. Parishioners attended this church for decades but as the city grew so did the congregation, which led the church to open its current location on Bernal Avenue.



CHUCK DECKERT

he typically delivers his sermons.

remained the same since 1968.

He said his predecessor began a capital improvement campaign years ago to help address those renovation needs, which include new accessible-friendly restrooms, carpet, lighting, sound systems and cushions for the church kneelers.

“There’s all this work that I want to do in the church to renovate it and just sort of freshen it up and make it more beautiful than it is,” Wiesner said.

The issue, however, is even though they have money to do most of that work — thanks to the capital campaign and ongoing collections — the money is not currently available due to the Diocese of Oakland’s ongoing

bankruptcy case connected to litigation involving survivors of sexual abuse within the Catholic church.

According to the Oakland diocese’s website, multiple priests were credibly accused of sexual abuse of children. Since the accusations and legal proceedings, the Diocese of Oakland has been working on settling its bankruptcy case and has expressed willingness to pay “\$200 million over a five-year period to a trust we plan to set up for survivors”.

“This represents the highest per-capita payment, over \$560,000, to survivors in any diocese bankruptcy with more than 200 survivors,” the diocese website stated in a Dec. 13, 2025 bankruptcy agreement letter. “In addition to the Diocese offer, three of our insurers also committed to contribute more than \$42.5 million to the trust.”

As the diocese works to resolve its financial woes, Wiesner said there are possibilities to piecemeal some of the essential facility repairs in Pleasanton, but he added that they will have to wait to really see any major improvements until the church’s money is freed up.

There’s also the question of developing housing on the plot of land right next to the St. Augustine — which, according to Wiesner, is also tied into the bankruptcy case. During the Pleasanton’s Housing Element cycle in 2023, the city identified and zoned the plot of land for future housing.

But as Wiesner explained, the church hasn’t really committed to building any housing — mostly because it can’t afford to — and that the church could likely sell that land to help cover some of the costs incurred through the bankruptcy case.

As far as social and reputational cloud from the bankruptcy and child sex abuse scandals, Wiesner said he can see how they would reinforce the beliefs for people who already have a



COURTESY MUSEUM ON MAIN

Historical image shows what the St. Augustine Church looked like shortly after it was built on Bernal Avenue in 1968.

negative opinion of the church and Catholicism.

“It’s very easy for them to take those tragic and evil incidents from decades ago and say, ‘See, I’m not going to associate with the church,’” Wiesner said. “I think for those who are Catholic and who know the church and are involved in it, they recognize that one or two guys can do a lot of damage.”

“In the meantime, you have thousands of guys who are working so hard and doing good and doing wonderful,” he added. “But, of course, it’s always the horrific that makes the news.”

He hopes that by beginning to address the wrongs, the church and

those involved can begin the healing process.

For Padilla, she said it’s going to take the work of the people to also make those changes.

“We have a responsibility to do things too,” she said. “If you’re worried about something, say something. Be involved.”

Wiesner added that he wants people to just come visit the church to see all of the good it does for its parishioners and the larger community.

Father Wiesner concluded by saying that the church is very much alive and doing important work across the region — and it’s all thanks to the people who will continue to move the congregation forward in the best

possible way, no matter the building or location.

“It’s always the heart of God’s people, and the way that they bring God’s love to the world, that helps make the world what it should be,” Wiesner said.

The CCOP 125th anniversary celebration will kick off on Saturday (Aug. 29) with a 5 p.m. vigil mass at the church’s grotto. Worship there will continue until midnight.

The next day, Sunday, the church will have a special celebratory mass with the Bishop of the Diocese at 10 a.m., which will be followed by a reception in St. Augustine Hall.

For more information, visit www.catholicofpleasanton.org. ■



CHUCK DECKERT

Wiesner said he hopes in the coming years to renovate much of the St. Augustine Church, which has remained largely unchanged since it opened.



CHUCK DECKERT

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, which also operates under the Catholic Community of Pleasanton, first opened in 2000, right before the parish celebrated its centennial.



Pleasanton Weekly wins 1st place for **GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

The annual **California Journalism Awards**—celebrating excellence in reporting, design, photography, and multimedia—recognized our team for the first time winning **General Excellence**! The Pleasantly Weekly team has won **22 awards**, including **10 first-place honors**. Winning categories are listed to the right.

Our award winners demonstrate our commitment to coverage of your community that would not have seen the light of day without us. They also represent what can be accomplished when a community backs local journalism – and what would be lost in the Tri-Valley without that support.

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Bordes back at Firehouse

PLEASANTON NATIVE'S LOUIS ARMSTRONG TRIBUTE HELPS KICK OFF FALL SEASON AT HOMETOWN THEATER

By JEREMY WALSH

The music of an American icon will fill the air inside the Firehouse Arts Center this Friday as the downtown Pleasanton theater ushers in its fall season of programming.

"A Tribute to Louis Armstrong" gives Pleasanton native Jeff Bordes, whose band is performing the concert in his hometown venue, the chance to celebrate the late bandleader who continues to inspire his approach to music and live entertainment.

"Louis Armstrong is really where so much of what I love about music begins," Bordes told the Pleasanton Weekly in an interview last week.

"As a trumpet player, obviously his influence is enormous, but for me it goes way beyond the trumpet. Louis had this incredible ability to connect with people," the Amador Valley High School alumnus said. "There was joy in his playing, humor, soul, vulnerability, and this unmistakable sense of who he was every time he played or sang a note."

"That's what has always resonated with me. He could be an incredible virtuoso, but the music never felt like it was about showing you how good he was. It was about making you feel something," Bordes added. "That's really the spirit of this show."

Jeff Bordes & Friends will be joined by special guest vocalist Jackie Gage for the concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday (Aug. 28) — the second show in the city of Pleasanton's 2026-27 Presenting Series at the Firehouse.

"She has a beautiful voice, but what I love most is the way she tells a story," Bordes said of Gage. "She can be elegant and intimate one moment and then absolutely light up the room the next."

With bandleader Bordes on trumpet, the group features Bay Area musicians Casey

Jones on clarinet and saxophone; Luke Kirley on trombone; Grammy Award-winning pianist Glen Pearson, who records and plays with the Count Basie Orchestra; Ken Cefalo on guitar; Matt Finders, formerly of "The Tonight Show," on bass; and

Wally Schnalle on drums.

"One of the things I love about this lineup is the instrumentation. Having trumpet, clarinet/sax and trombone gives us that classic New Orleans front-line sound, but these are musicians with backgrounds that go far beyond traditional jazz," Bordes told the Weekly. "Everyone brings something different to the music. That allows us to honor Louis Armstrong and the tradition while still making the show sound like us."

Bordes, who lives in Tracy, is

in the middle of "a really creative period right now" — just back from tour stops in Idaho and Utah, continuing to develop two groups (Jeff Bordes & The Big Easy and Bayou Soul) and recording two new albums he plans to release next year.

He'll be back in concert in the Tri-Valley later in the fall too, with "Jeff Bordes: A New Orleans Christmas" on Nov. 28 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, before a slate of shows on the road through Idaho, Oregon and Utah in December and dates in Minnesota and the Midwest in February.

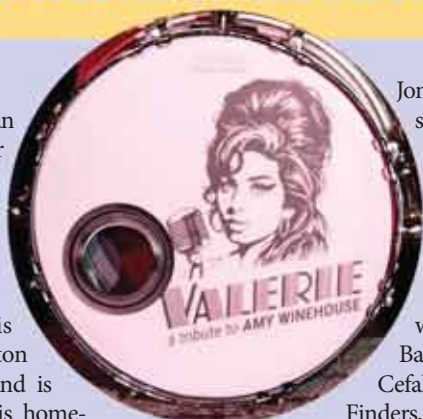
But there's always something special about performing on that black-box theater stage a block from Main Street.

'It's intimate enough that you really feel connected to the audience.'

Jeff Bordes, Bandleader

Fall Presenting Series at Firehouse features (clockwise from top of page) Jeff Bordes & Friends, Mads Tolling, Summer Night City and "Valerie: A Tribute to Amy Winehouse".

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



meaningful to me because Pleasanton is home. I grew up there, went to Amador, and started playing music there. So every time I perform at the Firehouse, there's a little bit of a homecoming feeling," Bordes said.

"It's also just a wonderful room for live music," he added. "It's intimate enough that you really feel connected to the audience. You can see people's faces and feel their reactions, and for the kind of music we play, that interaction is everything."

Building out a lineup of shows that attracts creative entertainers looking to take advantage of the smaller theater space and that appeals to audiences looking for that closeup feel is the motivation behind the autumn Presenting Series unveiled by Firehouse officials earlier this month.

"This fall's performances reflect the diversity and vibrancy of the Firehouse Arts Center community," city recreation supervisor Julian Mireles said in a news release. "Whether you're a longtime fan of classic rock, jazz, or Broadway, or you're coming out to cheer on our incredible youth performers, there is a show for you this season."

The season kicked off last Sunday with a sold-out performance by The Golden Follies. The senior performers in their Las Vegas-style revue will return for "A Very Follies Holiday" on Dec. 12.

Six more tribute concerts are on the docket: Midnight Flyer (Eagles cover band) on Sept. 11, "Valerie: A Tribute to Amy Winehouse"

Mozart, Brahms and ‘Lion King’: PCO sets 2026-27 lineup

Six-concert season mixes familiar music, name composers and newcomers

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pacific Chamber Orchestra plans a robust performance season for the year ahead, with six concerts in the Tri-Valley connected by its theme for 2026-27: “Intimate. Stirring. Satisfying.”

The lineup includes historic composers like Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Johannes Brahms, an evening of Disney movie music including “The Little Mermaid” and “The Lion King” and a gala dinner concert with five emerging writers’ pieces.

“What excites me about this season is that every program has its own reason you simply have to hear it,” PCO music director Lawrence Kohl told the Pleasanton Weekly.

The centerpiece of the 2026-27 season is the three-part “Classics” series, each installment featuring a weekend

of shows at the Del Valle Theater in Walnut Creek on the Saturday and the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on the Sunday.

“Classics I - Songs of the Heart” arrives next month and includes Samuel Barber’s “Adagio for Strings”, 2026 Pulitzer Prize composer Gabriela Frank’s “An Andean Walkabout” and works by Edward Elgar and Benjamin Britten. The concerts are Sept. 19 and 20.

“Classics II - Mozart Unleashed” follows in the new year, April 3 and 4, with famed composer’s “Symphony No. 40 in G minor” and bass arias from “The Magic Flute”, “Don Giovanni” and “Per questa bella mano”.

“Classics III - Melodies from Deep Within” on May 22 and 23 will center on Brahms’ “Symphony No. 4”, along



COURTESY PCO

Lawrence Kohl is music director for Pacific Chamber Orchestra.

with IVX Tchaikovsky International Competition Prize winner Eric Silberger premiering Craig Madden Morris’ “Violin Concerto No. 2” and a new original work.

Silberger is joining the orchestra

as a creative partner. Eileen Moon, former associate principal cello of the New York Philharmonic, is another addition to the group as principal cello.

Three other special showcases are

sprinkled in between the “Classics” concert slate.

PCO is presenting its “Winning Scores”, a gala patron dinner with a live performance and audience Q&A with five competitively emerging composers. The event is set for Oct. 25 in the Garré Vineyard and Winery Ballroom in Livermore.

The orchestra’s annual concerts of George Frideric Handel’s “Messiah” for the winter holiday season is set for Nov. 28 and 29 featuring soprano Oriana Geis-Falla, alto Sara Couden and tenor Arnold Livingston Geis — along with the audience sing-along of the “Hallelujah Chorus” at the end.

Closing out the calendar year for PCO will be the new program “Disney Dreams and Magic” with selections from “The Lion King”, “The Little Mermaid” and other Disney productions on Dec. 27 at the Bankhead.

To learn more about PCO’s 2026-27 concert season, visit PacificChamberOrchestra.org. ■



COURTESY FIREHOUSE ARTS

Garratt Wilkin and the Parrotheads will play the Firehouse on Oct. 9.

FIREHOUSE

Continued from Page 15

on Sept. 18, Garratt Wilkin and the Parrotheads (Jimmy Buffet music) on Oct. 9, Carnival! (Santana covers) on Oct. 16, Summer Night City (ABBA songs) on Dec. 18 and “Phil of Genesis: A Musical Tribute to Phil Collins & Genesis” on Dec. 19.

Grammy Award winning violinist Mads Tolling will perform “Cool Yule: A Nordic Holiday Celebration” on Dec. 11 and the Tri-Valley’s Chorus Eclectic will present their “Tomorrow’s Yesterday” concert Nov. 21.

Pleasanton Youth Theater Company is bringing an adaptation of the “School of Rock” musical to the Firehouse stage Nov. 6-15. The troupe’s “Singer’s Choice” cabaret follows Nov. 20.

Creatures of Impulse, the city’s youth improv group, will present their “Face-Off” series Oct. 22-24.

And Tri-Valley Theatre Company is producing “Spooktacular Broadway 2” one night only, Oct. 2.

Visit firehousearts.org for tickets and more information about the Firehouse’s fall season. The rest of the 2026-27 Presenting Series is expected to be announced in the months ahead. ■

Explore Pleasanton’s ‘haunted history’ on Ghost Walks

Annual Museum on Main program returns for Halloween season

By JEREMY WALSH

The Museum on Main is again offering people the opportunity to engage with downtown Pleasanton’s spooky past with its Ghost Walk program over two weekends in October.

Tickets went on sale this month and often sell out well before the Halloween season arrives for the popular tours that take small groups down and around Main Street to places where costume-clad volunteers portray figures from Pleasanton history and share their characters’ stories.

“The Ghost Walk at Museum on Main is an annual Halloween staple in the Pleasanton community. Every year, we bring the town’s haunted history to its residents through family-friendly performances by our ghost-actors,” Rachel Brickell, the museum’s membership and visitor services manager, told the Pleasanton Weekly.

“It’s also an important fundraiser for the museum’s educational programs,” Brickell said. “We

encourage everyone in the Tri-Valley and beyond to lean into the Halloween spirit by joining MoM for a spooky walking tour during Ghost Walk!”

The 2026 Ghost Walks are scheduled for Oct. 9-10 and Oct. 16-17. The live tours depart the museum at 603 Main St. every half-hour from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., with a “ghost host” giving a short introduction on local paranormal activity and guiding the downtown strolls.

“You never know what spirits you might encounter along the way!” museum officials said. “Most of the tour’s stops are outside, but in a few locations groups go inside the haunted buildings. There may be one stop that requires the use of stairs to access the ghosts.”

The Ghost Walks will take place rain or shine, so weather-appropriate clothing — and costumes — are encouraged, according to museum reps.

For tickets and more information, go to www.museumonmain.org/ghost-walk. ■



FILE PHOTO BY CHUCK DECKERT

A snapshot of Ghost Walk in downtown Pleasanton in 2022

‘The Glass Menagerie’ going on the road

Livermore’s SPARC presenting play at Hayward theater

By JEREMY WALSH

Livermore-based SPARC Theater has scheduled its production of Tennessee Williams’ “The Glass Menagerie” — which debuted in the nonprofit company’s hometown this spring — for a late-summer run in Hayward.

Three performances, featuring the same director and cast as May, are now on the calendar for Sept. 18-20 at the Douglas Morrisson Theatre in collaboration with the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District.

“There’s something profoundly powerful about sharing space with this story,” director Gary Armagnac said in a recent press release.

“The play invites audiences to lean in — to listen closely, to recognize themselves in these characters, and to experience the emotional honesty that has made ‘The Glass Menagerie’ one of America’s enduring theatrical



LAURA BATTI / SPARC

Isadora Zucker and James Crutcher in SPARC Theater’s production of “The Glass Menagerie”.

masterpieces,” he added.

The SPARC production stars Emilie Talbot as matriarch Amanda Wingfield, Eliot Hall as Tom

Wingfield, Isadora Zucker as Laura Wingfield and James Crutcher as Jim, the gentleman caller.

“Set in 1930s St. Louis, ‘The Glass Menagerie’ follows aspiring poet Tom Wingfield as he recalls his family’s fragile world — his overbearing mother, Amanda; his painfully shy sister, Laura; and the quiet heartbreak that defines their lives. Through memory and longing, Tennessee Williams explores timeless themes of hope, regret, responsibility, and the longing for a different life,” SPARC reps said.

The theater company debuted “The Glass Menagerie” with a weekend run May 1-3 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore — in the venue’s intimate Stage Door Lounge setup.

The new partnership with the Hayward park district reflects SPARC’s “commitment to extending the life of exceptional productions and making professional theater accessible to audiences throughout the East Bay,” according to SPARC.

For tickets and more information, go to douglasmorrissontheatre.thundertext.com. ■

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Granada alum ID'd as passenger killed in Monterey crash

Family and friends are mourning the loss of a Livermore teenager who died earlier this month in a wreck while visiting the coast for Monterey Car Week — an apparent drunk-driving crash that sees his friend now facing felony manslaughter and other serious charges.

Granada High School alumnus Jerrod Chapman-Marshall, who would have celebrated his 20th birthday this Wednesday, was remembered as a caring son and boyfriend who was settling into a new job in the distribution industry and preparing to take the next steps in adulthood.

“He was such a good kid. I just want everybody to know this,” his mother Bonnie Marshall told the Pleasanton Weekly on Tuesday. “He was extremely funny ... He was just so nice and just cared about everybody.”

“He had it all planned out. Like, we were just talking about it. I helped him pick out his health insurance,” Marshall said. “He wanted to have kids with her, and his whole goal was to make it so she didn’t have to work, and she could just stay home and raise the kids, because I’m a single mom and he watched me work, go to school full-time for years and work two, three jobs at a time, and miss out on so much.”

“The only thing that makes me feel any comfort is I know that the kids were just having a really great day and my son ... he was just happy and, like, just in a really good place in his life,” she added.

Mother and son moved to Livermore in 2016, and Chapman-Marshall attended Marilyn Avenue and Junction Avenue schools before going onto Granada, where he played football for the Matadors and graduated as part of the class of 2024.

A Pedrozzi Scholar who went on to study at Las Positas College in his hometown, Chapman-Marshall worked during his school years, including at McDonald’s on the corner North P Street and Olivina Avenue and at Granada Bowl, according to his mom.

“As soon as he could start working, he started work because he wanted to buy a car. He loves cars,” Marshall said. “He was such a great kid. I’m saying, like, he even started paying more money in bills because he just didn’t want me to work two jobs anymore.”

He got hired as a junior estimator at PACE Supply several months ago and saw the role with the plumbing supply distributor as a potential



MARSHALL FAMILY

Livermore’s Jerrod Chapman-Marshall died in a car crash Aug. 16.

career path. “The job that would get him out of his mom’s house, and help him take care of his girlfriend and his mom,” said Marshall, who teaches math at Las Positas College and California State University, East Bay.

“He was kind of a homebody. He had a lot of friends, but he was always kind of like the old soul of the group — because I was 18 when I had him, so he kind of grew up fast a little bit,” Marshall remembered.

“Video games were like his No. 1 thing that he loved. And he liked cars, and I’m learning now after he’s gone, how much he loved making music,” his mom said. “I guess he’s got like a whole SoundCloud and was in the middle of making an album ... and like, I had no idea.”

His girlfriend Lorrie Jacobsen added, “He was just a great, kind-hearted man — a very hard-working man, especially for his future or our future. And ... he was, he was the type of friend that would literally go beyond to make sure his friends were OK. He’s very adamant about driving, always taking his friend’s keys, making sure they don’t leave drunk.”

Family and friends still have questions about what exactly transpired on that fateful afternoon Aug. 16 — although Marshall acknowledges she isn’t really ready to hear all of the answers right now.

“All I know is that the kids were out at Car Week, and they were just kind of out having fun and a little too much fun,” Marshall said. “I know that they had been drinking a little bit and the driver, I guess, was a little bit more impaired than the rest of them. And just, from what I know, they hit this turn really fast and it just happened really fast and went into a tree.”

She added, “If I’m being honest, I’ve been very hesitant in how deeply I’ve been involved in the information. I just, like, can visualize his face and like the more I know, the more I can see and it’s just ... Like, I did everything in my life for my son. Like, everything was for him. I went to college for him. I built this whole life out here. I just can’t deal with this.”

Chapman-Marshall was among four occupants in the 2009 silver BMW coupe convertible that crashed in the area of Barnett Segal Lane and Iris Canyon Road just after 5 p.m. Aug. 16, apparently traveling from Carmel-by-the-Sea to Monterey, according to authorities.

The driver — 20-year-old Dublin resident Sebastian Feliciano, who had been at Marshall’s house the day before helping fix her car — is accused of driving recklessly with a blood-alcohol content over 0.13%. It is illegal to drive with a BAC over 0.01% under 21 years old in California.

The three passengers and the driver were transported with injuries to Natividad Medical Center, where Chapman-Marshall was pronounced dead at 19 years old. The other three young adults were treated and later released, according to Monterey police Lt. Ethan Andrews.

The Monterey County District Attorney’s Office charged Feliciano on Friday with gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, two felony counts of DUI with injury, misdemeanor driving on a suspended license and special allegations of causing great bodily injury and death during the crash.

It was not immediately clear whether Feliciano is represented by an attorney yet nor when his first court appearance is scheduled for.

Back at home, Marshall and a small group of family and friends were getting ready to go forward with her son’s birthday party as scheduled at Granada Bowl on Wednesday, a celebration of his life and legacy. A memorial and time for mourning, she said, will follow down the line.

“He was just so positive,” she said. “Any time I was sad, he would just make me tea ... He was just that kid, like, the friend’s parents would always say, ‘Why can’t you be more like Jerrod?’”



CHP-DUBLIN

The aftermath of the big-rig fire on southbound Interstate 680 in Sunol on Monday morning.

Those friends have turned out for Chapman-Marshall’s mom in her time of need.

“I’ve had the whole D-line, the whole football team in my house, bringing me flowers and just doing things for us. Been really sweet. I didn’t even know he had that many friends,” Marshall said, adding that they’ve been remembering her son with one of their favorite shared mottos — “forever in that mode”.

A GoFundMe campaign, “Support Bonnie After Jerrod’s Loss”, has raised more than \$20,000 to date to support Marshall in the wake of her son’s death.

—Jeremy Walsh

Teen dies in crash under freeway in Livermore

An 18-year-old driver from San Ramon was killed in a solo car crash in Livermore early Monday morning, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The crash was first reported at 2:38 a.m. along North Livermore Avenue at the Interstate 580 underpass, according to Officer Tyler Hahn of CHP’s Dublin office.

The initial investigation indicates the teen was driving a 2017 Nissan Leaf southbound on North Livermore Avenue when the car left the roadway and hit a concrete pillar, according to Hahn.

The driver — identified as Ashwin Nagaraja Punaroor — was pronounced dead at the scene.

The circumstances remain under CHP investigation, and officers hope to locate witnesses, according to Hahn. Anyone with information about what transpired can contact CHP-Dublin at 925-828-0466.

—Jeremy Walsh

Big-rig fire snarls traffic

A big-rig caught fire on southbound Interstate 680 in the Sunol area on Monday morning, causing traffic impacts that extended into

the afternoon.

The fire — which was first reported at around 4:30 a.m. — was out by 6 a.m. but the two right lanes remained closed on the freeway near Sheridan Road throughout the morning commute as authorities worked to clear the scene, according to the California Highway Patrol.

It proved a complicated clean-up effort with the Target-branded truck. “Because the trailer is compromised from the fire, crews have to offload before the truck/trailer can be moved,” CHP officials said.

The work was done and lanes reopened at around 2:15 p.m., according to the CHP.

—Jeremy Walsh

Police probe altercation at Tesla charging station

Three masked men reportedly broke into a Tesla at a charging station located outside a shuttered restaurant in Pleasanton and began fighting with the driver inside the vehicle last week.

According to Pleasanton police Lt. Brandon Stocking, all of the involved parties left the scene before officers arrived and no victim has reached out to police.

“While this certainly appears to have been a robbery, we have not had a victim come forward claiming a crime,” Stocking told the Weekly.

The lieutenant said the altercation took place just before 5 p.m. Aug. 18.

Police responded to a report of a possible robbery in progress at the Shell Gas Station located at 6750 Santa Rita Road. However, according to Stocking, the incident actually occurred at the Tesla charging stations located in front of the AK Lounge — a restaurant that is closed — just to the east of the Shell Gas Station.

Witnesses reported three masked men approached a man seated in his Tesla and broke one of his windows before they began fighting with the man, according to Stocking.

Upon arriving, police learned that in addition to the culprits fleeing the scene — police believe they fled in a dark-colored Tesla — the victim left as well. Stocking said the victim has not contacted the police department regarding the incident.

“We conducted a thorough area check and located security footage which showed the altercation happened as described by witnesses,” he said.

As of press time, police still do not have any further descriptions of the suspects. Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact the department at 925-931-5100, Stocking said. ■

—Christian Trujano

LETTERS

Unreasonable plan

The “Welcome back” cover story on Aug. 14, which mentioned the modernization of Alisal Elementary School, implies that the Jensen/Amador Estates community was notified regarding the Alisal modernization plan. This is incorrect.

The planning has been ongoing for over 18 months. The neighborhood was notified for the first time this June via a mailed postcard. Pleasanton Unified School District claimed there was a meeting in May; however, no one at the June meeting received any notification.

In the last few minutes of the meeting, we were informed that the future students, from the East Pleasanton Strategic Plan, which calls for 800-plus residential units, would be sent to Alisal. As the development is over 1-1/2 miles away from Alisal, the children would be driven to school. Why isn't there a school being built there?

Jensen/Amador Estates is impacted already by heavy traffic along Kolln Street by parents avoiding traffic lights on Santa Rita Road to drop off/pick up their students at both Alisal and Amador Valley High School. In the future, we will be expected to absorb potentially 800-plus students being transported to Alisal. A driveway drop-off/pickup area, plus 60 parking spaces, is planned with the ingress and egress on Kolln Street. Not being considered or involved in this plan is not respectful, reasonable or acceptable for the residents of Jensen/Amador Estates. Key code entrance to lot for employees only.

— Emelie Rogers

Plan El Charro extension before development limits our choices

Before Pleasanton continues to develop more of East Pleasanton, the city should plan the extension of El Charro Road.

Even though the City Council has decided to fund a study to determine the precise alignment, it may take years before the road is fully built.

The concern about spending nearly \$1 million on a study for a road that could cost much more, without a complete construction funding plan, is understandable. However, waiting until the surrounding properties are fully developed could leave the city with fewer choices, higher land costs and a route that does not serve residents well.

This study will provide information about drainage, utilities, environmental and water concerns, right-of-way needs, and construction cost. The city should also require developers who benefit from the road to contribute a fair share.

Planning for El Charro Road does

not mean it must be constructed right away. It gives the City Council better information for future decisions. The city should publish the results of the study and provide another opportunity for Pleasanton residents to comment before approving the final alignment.

— Aarav Shah

LHS class reunion

The Livermore High School Class of 1971 will hold its 55-year reunion on Saturday, Sept. 19 at the Interbitzen Ranch located at 6030 Dagnino Road, Livermore from 5-10:30 p.m.

Tickets, which include dinner, are \$75 per person if purchased by Friday, Aug 28 — after which the cost goes up to \$85 per person. The dinner will include barbecue tri-tip and chicken, roasted red potatoes and rice, green and pasta salads, dessert, and coffee, tea, water or soft drinks. A bar for alcoholic drinks will be available.

Go to LHS71.org or email LivermoreHighClassOf1971@gmail.com to purchase tickets or for more information.

— Russell Bargmann

Reservoirs are drying out

What's causing this drying out reservoirs is our excessive air and ground traffic. These vehicles blow tremendous amounts of heat and it's taking our water, our food, our forests and our economy away.

Added to this air conditioners running nonstop and blows heat out — plus forest fires — just too much heat and these making everything unsustainable.

We need to control or lock down any forms of transportation to cool down the earth for the rain to come for our water.

— Erlinda Jandeleit

Awareness of 'biggest ever' El Nino

This month's news tells us to expect the “biggest ever” El Nino, and with it maybe “more rainstorms”. Be aware of this.

While we needn't expect rainstorm runoff into Arroyo de la Laguna to be as much as it was during the millions of years when it couldn't escape fast enough, and so backed up, with sediment settling out and forming the Livermore Valley; we do need to expect it may back up and flood Pleasanton like it did in the “biggest ever recorded” flood of 1955, when it flooded 6,000 acres with 2-3 feet of floodwater over Hopyard Road.

Del Valle Reservoir was built to protect us from rainstorm runoff flooding from a greater-than-1955 size rainstorm (about 12 inches over 3 days above DVRes).

Unfortunately, news this month, as it has for the past few years, tells us (example in Indiana) to expect big floods more often (maybe 2-3 times more), and even more intense. More often, for Pleasanton, it means to expect Hopyard Road flooding more often than the about 1-in-300-year 1955 event.

So “heads-up”, be aware that we have lost the protection from infrequent (to more frequent) very large floods that Del Valle Reservoir was designed to provide. We could have a big one this winter.

Del Valle Reservoir does and will continue to significantly help reduce damage from medium-size flood floods.

A retired water engineer and Pleasanton resident, with state flood training and experience, and addressing many flooding issues over 50 years, I worry about Pleasanton flooding. My wife also lived through the 1955 flood.

— Ken Henneman

From an idea to PET Lab

Plastic waste is one of the world's most persistent environmental challenges, and one statistic made it impossible for us to ignore: 91% of all plastic waste ever produced has never been recycled. Realizing that our everyday choices were part of the problem, we wanted to use something we loved, biology and computation, to help solve it.

Two years ago, we began using artificial intelligence to redesign enzymes that break plastic apart and make them stable enough to survive real-world conditions. That idea became an AI model, then a research project, and eventually PET Lab.

Our platform analyzes how mutations may affect enzyme stability and helps prioritize candidates for laboratory testing. In benchmark testing, our system achieved up to 93% precision when identifying enzymes capable of operating at higher temperatures and up to 81% precision when identifying potentially stabilizing mutations.

This work has grown into a team of 15 researchers across more than four countries. Our work has been presented at NYU, UCLA, UC Santa Cruz and Santa Clara University, and two of our abstracts have been accepted at scientific conferences. This year, we also signed a formal agreement with the municipal government of Babolsar, Iran, to test our filtration work in a real water system.

We started because learning that only 9% of plastic waste had been recycled, while 91% had not, felt like a reality two teenagers should not have to accept as the future we will inherit.

You can learn more about our work at <https://petlab.bio/>.

— Abhinav and Ayush Iyer

Vote Democrat

The control of both the executive and legislative branches by the current Republican administration and Congress has accelerated a deeply concerning decline in our nation's foundational systems and global standing.

The relentless focus on deregulating major industries has dismantled decades of critical environmental protections, accelerating habitat destruction and leaving public health vulnerable to industrial pollution.

Economic policies favoring tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy have worsened wealth inequality, putting an unsustainable financial strain on the middle and working classes while ballooning our national debt.

The administration's isolationist foreign policy and erratic approach to international diplomacy have severely damaged our relationships with our global allies.

By retreating from international agreements this administration has created a dangerous leadership vacuum on the world stage.

We urgently need a return to balanced governance that prioritizes long-term economic equity, environmental stewardship, and responsible global leadership.

This year, let's choose leaders who will defend our democracy and build a country that works for all of us, not just a few. I encourage everyone to vote Democratic in this year's elections.

Let's move our country forward with hope, with unity, and with a commitment to justice and opportunity for all.

— Becky Green

Cruelty to animals

Recent letters in response to the crimes at Miranda Dog Rescue (Fortuna, CA) bring to mind a quote from a 1990 letter to me at Action for Animals from the late United Farm Workers' Cesar Chavez (himself a vegetarian for ethical reasons):

“Kindness and compassion towards all living things is a mark of a civilized society. Conversely, cruelty, whether it is directed against human beings or against animals, is not the exclusive province of any one culture or community of people. Racism, economic deprivation, dog fighting and cock fighting, bullfighting and rodeos are cut from the same fabric: violence. Only when we have become nonviolent towards all life will we have learned to live well ourselves.”

Words to live by.

— Eric Mills, coordinator,
Action for Animals

The fate of our country

As we approach this year's crucial election, we face an important choice about the future of our nation. Voting

for Democratic candidates is the most effective way to ensure a future built on shared prosperity, equality, and progress for all Americans.

Democrats consistently advocate for policies that invest in everyday citizens rather than concentrating benefits for corporations and the ultra-rich as Republicans policies do.

From lowering prescription drug and health care costs to supporting infrastructure improvements and clean energy, Democratic leadership has focused on building a stronger, more equitable future.

Conversely, the current Republican platform has shifted away from consensus-building. It favors an agenda that threatens civil liberties and economic fairness, placing an unfair burden on the working class. Their national economic proposals consistently favor large corporations and the wealthy who spend billions of dollars per year lobbying Republican elected leaders.

No political party is perfect, and healthy debate is essential to a healthy democracy. However, at this pivotal moment, Democratic candidates offer the clearest commitment to protecting democratic institutions, personal freedoms, and economic opportunity for everyone.

Democracy works best when every voice is heard. I urge every eligible citizen to register, research the issues, and vote for Democratic leaders. The fate of our country is in our hands. ■

— Ron Sadler

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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Humbled by my Amador Hall of Fame selection

Joining sportswriter Miller in 2026 class are Cesario, Kenitzer, Van Wegen, Shelley, 1971-73 wrestling team

There aren't a lot of times when something can render me speechless.

Those who have known me for years are nodding in agreement when reading this.

But when I got the notice that I was part of the group being inducted into the Amador Valley High School Hall of Fame, speechless is exactly what I was.

This honor means the world to me.

I grew up at Valley View and Pleasanton School dreaming of the day where I could wear purple and gold. I saw a lot of great athletes go through Amador in all sports.

When I got to Amador, I played basketball and baseball for a couple of years before going full time with soccer for my junior and senior years.

In that two-year span, we were nearly invincible. My junior year we started the 55-game non-losing streak, and my senior year I was a starter on a team that went undefeated and ended as the top ranked team in the nation.

After graduating from Chico State in 1985, I got a job as a sportswriter for the Tri-Valley Herald where I ended up working my way to local sports editor.

It was during my early years as a writer that I learned how words and stories mean a lot to the athletes and their families. It's a lesson I still carry with me. When I retired from the Herald, I went to work for the Pleasanton Weekly in order to keep promoting local athletes.

I have also had the honor of announcing Foothill football and basketball for many years.

I have announced the Pleasanton Hometown Holiday Parade and announce the Pleasanton Veterans' Day Parade.

I loved my time as one of the hosts for the "Tri-Valley Sports Final" television show.

My goal was to try to help one student a year — to make a difference — something I have carried with me as the campus supervisor at Harvest Park Middle School.

I think I have accomplished that, which is the greatest feeling.

I would not be the person I am today without my wife Coni. She unconditionally supports me and is invaluable as a sounding board and a voice of reason.

Here are the other inductees for the Amador Valley Hall of Fame this year.

Lou Cesario: Cesario is the longest-tenured baseball coach in Amador Valley history as he guided the Dons for 23 years.



Lou Cesario

Along the way the Dons won two East Bay Athletic League titles and a pair of North Coast Section titles. Cesario also was the athletic director at Amador for 19 years, overseeing many championship teams.

One of the things I carry with me is the close relationships formed with coaches over the years. Lou is right at the top of the list — a coach I have always held in the highest regard, not just as a coach but as a person.



FILE PHOTO BY CHUCK DECKERT

Pleasanton Weekly sportswriter Dennis Miller, shown taking notes at a 2025 football practice, has been selected for the Amador Valley High School Hall of Fame.

Ken Kenitzer: A class of 1988 graduate, Kenitzer was a standout multi-sport athlete, including football as well as swimming and diving. In football he was a two-way starter at linebacker and the offensive line.

It was in diving where he became one of the most accomplished athletes in Amador history. He was a four-time EBAL champion and two-time NCS champ. As a senior, he competed in Junior National Championships and finished in the top 20 against the best in the country.

Monica Van Wegen: She was a class of 1997 graduate that excelled on both cross country and track. In cross country she was a three-time EBAL champ, and in 1996 she led the Dons to the NCS title. In track she won the 1987 NCS title in the 800, and the year before she was part of the NCS championship 4x400 relay team that finished the year as the No. 8-ranked team in the nation.



Monica Van Wegen

Her energy, humor, hard work and love of running inspired teammates and coaches, and her can-do attitude was evident through her five-year battle with brain cancer that finally took her life at the age of 32.

1971-1973 Wrestling: The wrestling program at Amador was founded in 1965 by coach Jay Risso. The 1972 team won the first EBAL title and featured several league championships.

In 1973, the team was known as Murderers Row with wrestlers such as captain Steve Ventimiglio and a loaded middleweight and heavyweight lineup that featured Tommy Wipfli, Gary Bonde, Rich Volonte and Steve Goforth. The team set the tone for the decades of Amador wrestlers to come.

Trudy Shelley: For 22 years from the 1990s and into the 2000s Shelley was a vital part of Amador Valley athletics.

As the athletic department's bookkeeper, she managed the financial and administrative operations that kept the program running. She handled accounts, cash, ticketing, athletic clearances and other day-to-day responsibilities. ■

Football back in action

Local contenders all have tough games outside of league this Friday night

By DENNIS MILLER

Friday Night Lights begins this week, and we have nearly a full slate of games on the calendar.

It looks like business as usual for the local teams, as the teams who are strong every year appear to be among the elite in the North Coast Section once again.

San Ramon Valley faces a brutally tough opener, traveling to El Cerrito to face a program that has attained top level status. The game is set for Friday (Aug. 28) at 7 p.m.

California faces an equally tough opener, playing host to Liberty on Friday night in another 7 p.m. game.

Monte Vista is at home, playing host to a talented Marin Catholic team in a 7 p.m. match.

Amador Valley, a team that will have some talented young players this year, opens with a very athletic Vanden team in a 7 p.m. showdown at Amador.

Livermore, the defending East Bay Athletic League Valley Division champs, go on the road for a 7:30 p.m. game on Friday night at Ripon.

Granada is at Campolindo in a 7 p.m. game on Friday night. Foothill is also on the road, playing a 7 p.m. at Newark Memorial on Friday.

Dublin is at Antioch at 7 p.m. while Dougherty Valley welcomes football back into the fold with a 7 p.m. game at Mt. Eden.

Finally, in arguably the best game of week one in Northern California, De La Salle will travel across the Bay to take on Serra-San Mateo at 7 p.m. in what could be an instant classic.

Emerald High will play their first game on Sept. 5, when they go to Fremont to play American.

Flag football underway

Most EBAL teams have a game under their belts, and although it's

early, there are four teams leading the way.

San Ramon Valley and all-world junior quarterback Gia Ryanm opened with a 47-6 win over Dougherty Valley.

California is a perennial powerhouse but slid by Monte Vista 13-12 in overtime, stamping MV as a team to watch around

Amador and senior quarterback Riley Harrington, who along with Ryan were highly ranked in pre-season polls, have come out of the gate on fire.

The Dons opened with a 33-0 win over Emerald, then followed with a 20-0 over a historically strong Granada program.

What to watch for this year!

The Playbook is back in full on Sept. 1, with the same popular stories our readers have grown to love.

The Power Rankings for football, flag football and girls' volleyball



COURTESY BK PROVIDED

The Amador Valley Dons and freshman running back Michael Harrington (No. 6) open the season this week at home against Vanden.

will return next week as our teams battle for the top spot in the Valley.

The Fast Five will be back as well with some new questions for this season.

Our What to Watch section returns with the schedule for the top games for the upcoming week.

Finally, a new addition for the Big Picture will be the "game of

the week" — talking about the one game across all sports that is the most enticing for the next week and why that game matters so much. ■

Editor's note: This column originally appeared in Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a weekly sports e-newsletter published by Embarcadero Media Foundation. Sign up at pleasantonweekly.com.

Entertainment

CONCERTS IN THE PARK Join for the final Concerts in the Park of 2026, 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 28. East Bay Grooveline, Dance Covers. Lions Wayside Park.

A TRIBUTE TO LOUIS ARMSTRONG Join Jeff Bordes & Friends for a joyful celebration of Louis Armstrong, featuring the soulful vocals of Jackie Gage, celebrating Armstrong's timeless legacy through classic songs. 7:30 p.m., Aug. 28. Tickets 31-41. Visit firehousearts.org.

BALLET ROOTS SEASON 6 Join for an unforgettable evening of dance for a breathtaking celebration of movement and music. 5 p.m., Aug. 30. Tickets \$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

INTERFAITH CONCERT Interfaith Interconnect of the Tri-Valley is holding a special concert where participants from local congregations present a variety of sacred and cultural offerings. Fellowship and refreshments to follow. 4-5 p.m., Aug. 30. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore.

SINATRA SALOON: A TALE & A TUNE A musical and storytelling tribute to the music of Frank Sinatra with a little bit of Dean Martin, showcasing the songs that make him undeniable for any generation. 8 p.m., Sept. 4. Tickets 40-50. Visit livermorearts.org.

PAULA POUNDSTONE Known for razor-sharp observational humor and legendary quick wit, Paula Poundstone returns to The Bankhead for an evening of nonstop, laugh-out-loud comedy. 8 p.m., Sept. 5. Tickets \$45-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org.

MIDNIGHT FLYER Relive the music of one of America's greatest rock bands with Midnight Flyer, the Bay Area's premier Eagles tribute. A high-energy concert that will have Eagles fans singing along from beginning to end. 7:30 p.m., Sept. 11. Tickets \$31-\$41. Visit firehousearts.org.

BIG BAD VOO DOO DADDY Get ready to swing as the kings of contemporary swing return to The Bankhead. 8 p.m., Sept. 11. Tickets \$70-\$100. Visit livermorearts.org.

NEON NOSTALGIC PRESENTS 80s MUSIC TELEVISION HOSTED BY ORIGINAL MTV VJs This is a one-of-a-kind, visually immersive and entertaining '80s experience by performing a soundtrack with original, iconic music videos. 8 p.m., Sept. 12. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

ABBA CONCERT EXPERIENCE Join for a very special afternoon delight of clap-along, sing-along laughter and showmanship as The ABBA Concert Experience goes back to the disco dance floor. 3 p.m., Sept. 13. Tickets \$69-\$89. Visit livermorearts.org.

Exhibits

LOBBY EXHIBITION The Firehouse Arts Center presents HJ Chae's solo exhibition, Topography of the Reminiscence, 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. Aug. 1-31. Artists' Reception 2-4 p.m., Aug. 29.

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.

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.

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.

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. Through Oct. 10.

Outdoor Rec

NIGHT HIKE WITH A RANGER An LARPD ranger will lead a 1-mile relaxed pace walk and discuss nocturnal animals and their adaptations. 7:45-9 p.m., Aug. 29. \$5R/\$6/NR. Register at larpd.org.

RANGER PROGRAM: COYOTES An LARPD Ranger Ranger will offer a fun and informative seminar on one of Sycamore Grove's most intelligent animals, the Coyote. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sept. 12. Free registration at larpd.org.

Talks

CHARLES HUFF FREE WALKING TOUR SERIES If These Walls Could Talk: Exploring Downtown's Historic Second Street Neighborhood. 9 a.m., Aug. 29. Register at museumonmain.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. The Democracy We Must Keep: Why the Ideas That Built America Still Matter with David O. Stewart 11 a.m., Sept. 1. Visit library.org/livermoreca.

LIVE WELL, BE WELL (50+) Join this discussion group focused on Healthy Aging where topics include body systems, disease prevention and vitality. 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesdays. Robert Livermore Community Center. Free registration at larpd.org.

Festivities

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GATHERING & GAMES A Bay Area tradition since 1866, be thrilled by world-class competitions and celebrate Scotland's rich culture with traditional music, delicious food and breathtaking performances. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sept. 5-6. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

TRI-VALLEY CULTURAL JEWS ROSH HASHANAH CELEBRATION Welcome the Jewish New Year with warmth, community and meaningful tradition as Tri-Valley Cultural Jews hosts its annual Rosh Hashanah Celebration in Livermore. 4:30 p.m., Sept. 12. Reservations required and a suggested donation of \$25 per non-member adult. Email CulturalJews@gmail.com or call 925-399-8029.

APPLEFEST AT RAVENSWOOD Join at the Ravenswood Historic Site to explore the heirloom apple orchard and taste boutique apple varieties not found in stores. Help press fresh apple cider for tasting, play old-fashioned games and take a docent-led tour of the historic estate. 12-4 p.m., Sept. 13. \$5-\$7. Visit larpd.org.

Fundraisers

AN EVENING WITH LYLE LOVETT Opening Night at the Bankhead

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

An audience with Queenie

Queenie is an incredibly sweet 1-year-old dog who loves nothing more than being lavished with attention. She loves leaning in close for cuddles and pets and is happy to oblige you with a face lick or two! Queenie makes new friends wherever she goes and is a staff and volunteer favorite for a reason. This playful gal would love to be your one and only! Come meet her at the East Bay SPCA Dublin Adoption Center. Visit eastbayspca.org/adopt.

celebrates the Arts with their biggest fundraiser of the year. Featuring an intimate performance by four time Grammy Award winning artist Lyle Lovett, tickets include a welcome bubbly and appetizers to kick off the evening. 5 p.m., Aug. 29. Visit livermorearts.org.

PAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER WITH AJA VU Support the Pleasanton Art League's Scholarship Program while enjoying an unforgettable evening of live music with Aja Vu and get ready to sing along to the timeless hits of Steely Dan and Chicago. 7 p.m., Sept. 4. Tickets \$75. Visit firehousearts.org.

CRUISIN' FOR A CAUSE This Tri-Valley REACH annual fundraiser is a special evening of giving to make the dream of independence come true for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities featuring gourmet food, fine wines, and inspirational stories. 6 p.m., Sept. 9, McGrail Vineyards. Visit trivalleyreach.org.

OPEN HEART KITCHEN'S TRI-VALLEY GALA Open Heart Kitchen's Tri-Valley Gala is a celebration of community and philanthropy, featuring a 70s-inspired theme and includes a seated dinner, live music and dancing, raffle games and live auction. 5-10 p.m., Sept. 11. Casa Real. Visit OpenHeartKitchen.org.

SUNFLOWER HILL RED CARPET GALA Walk the red carpet, pose for paparazzi photos and stop for exclusive interviews hosted by NBC Bay Area Meteorologist Kari Hall. Celebrate and create lasting impact in support of Sunflower Hill's programs and residential communities. 5:30-10 p.m., Oct. 3. The Club at Castlewood. Visit sunflowerhill.org.

BOUNTY OF HOPE FUNDRAISER Culinary Angels is celebrating 10 years of nourishing cancer patients and their caregivers in the community. Join this fundraiser with farm to table dinner and a silent and live auction. 5-8:30 p.m., Oct. 11. Concannon Vineyard. Visit culinaryangels.org.

Volunteer

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD Join to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Help needed with sewing, ironing and cutting. Bring a sewing machine

or serger, iron, ironing board and scissors. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept. 5. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore.

VOLUNTEER WITH SPECTRUM COMMUNITY SERVICES Spectrum Community Services is looking for new volunteers to join the team in a variety of capacities. For more information, visit spectrumcs.org/volunteers.

Support

SOUPER TUESDAY FREE LUNCH Souper Tuesday Free Lunch through CityServe. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesdays. CityServe of the Tri-Valley, 3311 Pacific Ave., Livermore.

OPEN HEART REFUGE Open Heart Refuge offers overnight shelter using an assigned bed model. Check-in is 6-7 p.m., seven days a week where beds are assigned in advance; there is no nightly lottery. Clients may request to be added to the shelter waitlist by visiting the Vineyard Resource Center. Visit openheartkitchen.org/refuge.

FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM The city of Pleasanton Recreation Department provides a Fee Assistance Program for residents who would like to participate in recreation programs, but may not have the financial means. For more information, contact Recreation Services at 925-931-5340.

LARPD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM The LARPD Foundation funds the Community Support Scholarship Program to provide Livermore residents access to LARPD's recreation programs. For more information, visit larpd.org/scholarship.

Farmers Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET The Pleasanton Farmers Market is year-round, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays. 46 W. Angela St.

LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS MARKET Featuring over 50 vendors, join to explore, taste and shop fresh produce. 4-8 p.m., Thursdays. Carnegie Park.

LIVERMORE FARMERS MARKET The Livermore Farmers Market is Sunday, year-round. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 206 South J St.

Employment

Medallia, Inc. has the following position available in Pleasanton, CA: **Sr. Product Manager, Integration & APIs (MED-SS)**: Initiate, plan & execute multiple concurrent Strategic Initiatives & programs varying in size/ scope/ complexity, spanning across several different teams & organizations. 100% Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. This position has an annual salary range of \$274,456 - \$294,456. **Send resume to:** hiring@medallia.com. Must reference job title and job code. Background checks required.

Blackhawk Network, Inc. in Pleasanton, CA seeks Software Engineer. Design, develop, & maintain backend services & distributed systems. Telecommuting permitted: may reside anywhere in U.S. & reports to Pleasanton, CA office. \$188,316 - \$210,000 / yr. Email resume to: humanresources@bhn.com specifying job code 93054. EOE.

To advertise here please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 619767

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):
BERKELEY DENTAL CENTER
2999 Regent St. #714
Berkeley, CA 94705
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 12/31/2025
UNDER FILE NO. 619767
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
BAY AREA DENTAL INC.
2383 California Street, Suite 5
San Francisco, CA 94115
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Corporation.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 17 2026.

(PLW Aug 28, Sep 4, 11 and 18, 2026)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 601707

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):
NOWORRIESBIOLOGY
40321 Strawflower Way
Fremont, CA 94538
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 10/30/2023
UNDER FILE NO. 601707
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
ANJA DOYLE
40321 Strawflower Way
Fremont, CA 94538
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY An Individual.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on July 31 2026.

(PLW Aug 28, Sep 4, 11 and 18, 2026)

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)

MINRODRIGUEZ CONSULTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624958

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) MNRodriguez Consulting , located at 5111 Telegraph Ave, Ste 206 Oakland, CA 94609, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 847 52nd Street Oakland, CA 94608

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

MICHELLE NATIVIDAD RODRIGUEZ
5111 Telegraph Ave, Ste 206
Oakland, CA 94609

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 27 2026.
(PLW Aug 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4, 2026)

THE DARLING BUDS EVENTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625346

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

1.) The Darling Buds Events , located at 4012 SCOTTFIELD ST DUBLIN, CA 94568, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

XIAOWEN ZHANG
4012 SCOTTFIELD ST
DUBLIN, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/12/2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 13 2026.

(PLW Aug 21, 28, Sep 4 and 11, 2026)

EXPERT TRANSACTION COORDINATION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625109

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

1.) EXPERT TRANSACTION COORDINATION , located at 4695 CHABOT DR STE 200, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

JUNG SUK PAK
4695 CHABOT DR STE 200
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 August 04 2026.

(PLW Aug 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4, 2026)

MIRABELLE STUDIOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625195

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

1.) Mirabelle Studios , located at 2741 Webster Street, Berkeley, CA 94705, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

ERIK HOPE
2741 Webster Street
Berkeley, CA 94705

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 06 2026.

(PLW Aug 28, Sep 4, 11 and 18, 2026)

DILLON BAKERY CO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625239

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

1.) Dillon Bakery Co , located at 4529 Lakewood St, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

BRYAN DILLON
4529 Lakewood Street
Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 07 2026.

(PLW Aug 28, Sep 4, 11 and 18, 2026)

OASIS NAILS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625255

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

1.) OASIS NAILS , located at 4427 FIRST STREET LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 60 Wilson Way, SPC 44 Milpitas, CA 95035

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

MERCY GROVE LLC
4427 FIRST STREET
LIVERMORE, CA 94551

State of Incorporation/Organization:

CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/07/2026

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 10 2026.

(PLW Aug 21, 28, Sep 4 and 11, 2026)

ROOM TO BLOOM

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 625188

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

1.) Room To Bloom , located at 6154 Corte Trancas Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

KATHLEEN WHITWORTH
6154 Corte Trancas
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 August 06 2026.

(PLW Aug 28, Sep 4, 11 and 18, 2026)

JODI NISHIMURA GROUP

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 624964

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

1.) Jodi Nishimura Group , located at 2991 College Ave, Berkeley, CA 94705, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

ROMURA ENTERPRISES, INC
2991 College Ave
Berkeley, CA 94705

State of Incorporation/Organization:

California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/14/26

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 28 2026.

(PLW Aug 21, 28, Sep 4 and 11, 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)

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

Case No.: 26CV202629

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Sean Vondich Kraig filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SEAN VONDICH KRAIG to SEAN FRANCISCO LEE

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: October 2 2026, 9:00am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: August 3 2026

Michael Markman

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Aug 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4, 2026)

Public Notice: Medical Office Closure:

Effective **August 31, 2026, Refresh Sleep Medical Clinic**, located at **5720 Stoneridge**

Mal 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)

SUMMONS Case No. 25CV136008

(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (A VISO AL DEMANDADO): **The Testate and Intestate Successors of Steven Baker, Beloved to be Deceased, and all Persons Claiming, through, or under such person**

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

Plaza Home Mortgage, Inc.

THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY, OR PLAINTIFF WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY, IS (EL NOMBRE, LA DIRECCIÓN Y EL NÚMERO DE TELÉFONO DEL ABOGADO DEL DEMANDANTE, O DEL DEMANDANTE QUE NO TIENE ABOGADO, ES):

The Mortgage Law Firm, PLC 27368 Via Industria, Temecula, CA 92590, (619) 465-8200

DATE (Fecha): **08/07/2025**

Clerk,

by /s/ D. Drew, Deputy Clerk

(Secretario) (Adjunto)

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

(PLW Aug 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4, 2026)

free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these

nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any

settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

Hayward Hall of Justice Superior Court of the State of California from the County of Alameda 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el numero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

The Mortgage Law Firm, PLC 27368 Via Industria, Temecula, CA 92590, (619) 465-8200

DATE (Fecha): **08/07/2025**

Clerk,

by /s/ D. Drew, Deputy Clerk

(Secretario) (Adjunto)

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

(PLW Aug 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4, 2026)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

• Fictitious Business Name

• Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name

• Name Change

• Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution

• Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing

• Notice of Bulk Sale

• Legal Summons

• Trustee Sale

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

SRVUSD moves toward selling Danville office site

District HQ on Old Orchard Drive now up for grabs for local agencies and nonprofits during 60-day priority notice period

By JEANITA LYMAN

The town of Danville, East Bay Regional Park District, and other public agencies and nonprofits were notified this summer of their eligibility to express interest in acquiring the longtime San Ramon Valley school district office site during a priority notice period required by the state.

The move comes following a Board of Education vote last month to declare the site at 699 Old Orchard Drive in Danville as surplus property, marking the next steps for the district’s pending move into new offices at Crow Canyon Place in San Ramon.

Notices went out to eligible agencies and organizations July 31, following the board vote July 28. If no such entity makes a play, the district aims to get clearance from the state to put the property on the market for developers and other interested parties.

“Following California statutory guidelines, we are now executing the multi-step process required for public school district property disposition,” San Ramon Valley Unified School District Superintendent CJ Cammack told the Pleasanton Weekly on Aug. 14.

Cammack and his cabinet have sought to

move swiftly in shifting the district’s offices from Danville to San Ramon — a financial move aimed at generating sale proceeds and additional revenue from leasing portions of the new site to tenants, part of a series of broad efforts at addressing the district’s budget deficit. But the Old Orchard property isn’t set to be in new hands any time soon.

Cammack estimated it would be approximately 12 months between the surplus property declaration last month and the final sale of the property.

Following the 60-day statutory priority notice period currently underway — and if no eligible agency or organization expresses interest during that time — Cammack said that staff would seek the board’s authorization in late September to submit waiver applications to the state, with that review process estimated to be approximately six months.

“Obtaining this waiver allows the District the flexibility to seek proposals through a request for proposals process rather than standard public bidding,” Cammack said.

That process would kick off following the approval of the waiver, after which the board would evaluate and select the best proposal and move forward with negotiations. ■



JEREMY WALSH

San Ramon Valley Unified School District is setting up to sell its headquarters property at 699 Old Orchard Drive in Danville.

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during June 15-26 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and July 20-31 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 4181 Georgis Place S. & M. Chan to Z. & J. Zhou for \$715,000
- 1421 Calle Enrique Rosen Family Trust to G. Ju for \$930,000
- 4131 Pleasanton Avenue X. Xiao to A. & V. Chaphekar for \$1,825,000
- 726 Sylvaner Drive Zhan Family Trust to Y. & C. Zha for \$1,800,000

Livermore

- 1635 Embassy Circle Macdonell Trust to T. & S. Davis for \$1,925,000
- 3938 Harvard Court R. & R. Morton to A. Benguerel for \$1,115,000
- 679 Jeannie Way Ansari Living Trust to H. & J. Dhalla for \$1,175,000
- 1349 Saybrook Road Bay Area Renovations LLC to Lao Family Trust for \$1,649,000
- 484 Selby Lane K. Kincaid to E. & A. Nalus for \$1,110,000
- 198 Teasel Common Sabado Trust to C. Conflenti for \$1,100,000
- 5557 Berwind Avenue Ledesma Trust to N. & Y. Duan for \$933,000
- 5451 Delia Way Truitt Living Trust to B. & M. Mac Laren for \$1,174,000
- 6235 Forget Me Not Li Xi Trust to J. & N. Noorani for \$740,000
- 614 James Street L. & K. Johnson to D. & L. Vo for \$805,000
- 6430 Magnolia Common Koos Trust to S. & J. Silva for \$600,000
- 774 Mariposa Avenue Zolfarelli Family Trust to B. & J. Mast for \$875,000
- 446 Pismo Court Gotelli Trust to Y. & B. Wirth for \$1,200,000
- 3900 Princeton Way Manha Family Trust to Maya Holdings LLC for \$1,000,000
- 2942 San Minete Drive M. Delaluz-Arana to N. & S. Kandathil for \$1,975,000
- 66 Sparrow Street Y. & D. Shon to A. & S. Pargaonkar for \$1,560,000

- 635 Teal Court J. & T. Strobel to L. & J. Alcantar for \$1,100,000

Dublin

- 4132 Clarinbridge Circle Franconia R/E Svcs Inc to K. & I. Santos for \$760,000
- 5501 De Marcus Boulevard #319 H. Kim to A. Cornejo for \$680,000
- 4166 Forest Springs Road Kamdar Trust to K. & A. Ramasubramanian for \$1,005,000
- 3514 Capoterra Way J. Lee to J. & R. Spinelli for \$1,400,000
- 6955 Portage Road S. & D. Calano to E. & D. Fisher for \$1,180,000
- 10636 Roys Hill Lane A. Sohn to N. Stotz for \$895,000
- 11776 Shadow Drive Jain Family Trust to Y. Chen for \$1,530,000
- 6986 Stagecoach Road #B N. Federov to K. Lopez for \$610,000
- 11458 Winding Trail Lane Harnal Living Trust to J. & D. Mcgrouter for \$935,000

San Ramon

- 7488 Blue Fox Way Kollo Family Trust to Zachman Family Trust for \$1,395,000
- 504 Hyacinthus Court R. Gutierrez to K. & S. Prakash for \$1,965,000
- 6180 Lakeview Circle C. Dasgupta to Shirazian Family Trust for \$1,150,000
- 7591 Northland Place Marshall Family Trust to S. & S. Sesshagiri for \$1,341,000
- 2539 Aranda Drive Ryan Family Trust to T. & D. Marks for \$1,605,000
- 1556 Banbury Drive Dhariwal Family Trust to R. & V. Ciganehalli for \$1,975,000
- 9804 Belladonna Drive S. Marri to A. & H. Krishna for \$1,400,000
- 2639 Celaya Circle Gearhart-Utchen Living Trust to P. & C. Ordonez for \$1,380,000
- 2 Craydon Court Gardner-Bodell Family Trust to M. & D. Cueto for \$1,035,000
- 5109 Mauve Terrace Summerhill City Village LLC to Gilbert Trust for \$1,172,500

TAKE US ALONG



At Blarney Castle: Tom and Diane Medina traveled to Ireland this spring, including this stop at the nearly 600-year-old Blarney Castle in County Cork. “The gardens in the village are beautiful, but Blarney Castle is certainly the star of the show!” Diane told the Pleasanton Weekly.

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

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (June 15-26)

Total sales reported: 4
Lowest sale reported: \$715,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,825,000
Average sales reported: \$1,317,499

Livermore (June 15-26)

Total sales reported: 17
Lowest sale reported: \$600,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,975,000
Average sales reported: \$1,178,587

Dublin (June 15-26)

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$610,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,530,000
Average sales reported: \$976,666

San Ramon (July 20-31)

Total sales reported: 10
Lowest sale reported: \$1,035,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,975,000
Average sales reported: \$1,381,200

VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

COMING SOON!

TWO EXCEPTIONAL RUBY HILL RESIDENCES



**3019 EAST RUBY HILL DR,
PLEASANTON, RUBY HILL**
5 BED | 4.5 BATH | 5,300 SQFT



**1512 GERMANO WAY
PLEASANTON, RUBY HILL**
6 BED | 6 BATH | 8,710 SQFT

***PRIVATE PREVIEW
OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE***

THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES



ACTIVE

**1515 GERMANO WAY,
PLEASANTON**

6 BED | 8 BATH | 12,570 SQFT



SOLD

**4150 REMILLARD COURT
PLEASANTON**

\$127K OVER LIST PRICE!



REPRESENTED BUYER | SOLD

**1220 PIEMONTE DRIVE
PLEASANTON, RUBY HILL**

MULTIPLE OFFERS, OUR BUYER CHOSEN!

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Liz Venema

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- Pleasanton Seller

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Contact our team for a
no-obligation home valuation:

DeAnna Armario | Brianna Armario
(925) 694-0802 | info@Armariohomes.com
459 Main St, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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