

Pleasanton Weekly

NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

**An olive oil
renaissance**

Page 15



VOL. XXVII, NUMBER 37 • OCTOBER 9, 2026

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM



Page 12

PLEASANTON CANDIDATES DEBATE

Housing, public safety, hotel tax, utilities, local economy among hot topics at mayoral and council forums

- 5 | **NEWS** County, fair board reach agreement in principle
- 17 | **PULSE** Pleasanton man takes plea deal for fatal crash
- 20 | **SPORTS** 30 years and still strong for coach Collins



Thank You

TO THOSE WHO JOINED US
IN CELEBRATING
SUNFLOWER HILL AT OUR
ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET GALA!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT.

WWW.SUNFLOWERHILL.ORG

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

















































*Opening Soon
in Livermore!*



Thoughtfully composed senior living residences.[™]
Designed for the way you want to live.

NOW LEASING! Call (925) 337-9074!

(925) 337-9074 • 1400 Holmes St. • Livermore, CA 94550
lindenseniorliving.com • info@lindenseniorliving.com
 Lic# Pending

WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

Meet the authors

Tri-Valley authors continue to produce creative, engaging and inspiring work — at an amazing rate that's admittedly tough for us to keep up with.

With apologies for our delay, I wanted to highlight three writers who reached out in recent weeks (and months) to let us know about their new books in 2026: "Murders in the Marquee" by San Ramon's Dana Mentink, "The Evolution of My Smile" by Dublin's Monique Rardin Richardson and "Iran, the Little Kitten Who Became a Lion" by Dublin's Farzaneh Yassini.

One a return to mystery roots, one a personal poetry collection and one a children's book with a powerful message — each making an impact in their genre niche, and beyond.

Mentink is a seasoned author — with 60-odd published books to her credit — known more for suspense and lighthearted contemporary works but itched for an opportunity to find her way back to mystery.

Thus she checked into the fictional Grand Mallard Marquee, which she set in San Francisco to deliver "murder, merriment ... and mallards" for her readers.

"The protagonist, a hapless down on his luck bellhop, gets assigned the job of tending the Marquee's resident flock of ducks, but when he sees a woman plummet from the fifth floor balcony, he teams up with an elevator man and a well heeled guest to solve the crime," Mentink's press release describes the plot.

"Mystery has always been my first love," she said ahead of "Murders in the Marquee" being released by Harlequin Publishers last month.

A San Ramon native, Mentink's literary journey has been heavily influenced by growing up in the Valley, going through local schools and remaining in the area with her family. "Books are a connection point between people," she said. "The teachers in this district fostered that creative ability to reach others using words as a conduit."

Richardson, a respected poet in the region also known for her publicity support for the California Writer's Club Tri-Valley Branch, explores emotional healing in "The Evolution of My Smile" — her latest poetry collection, published by Kelsay Books in August.

"I wanted to explore the relationship between shadow and light ... the idea that healing isn't a linear checklist to complete, but a continuous circle to embrace," Richardson told me by email. "This collection came from recognizing that one's

true emotional growth isn't about leaving sadness behind, but about learning how all our feelings can live together."

She described the process of preparing the book, a compilation of personal poems from over the years, as "an exercise in vulnerability."

"In learning from heartbreaks and in casting out the idealizations we want to believe, we reach a point of healing, and our job is done. There will never be a time in life when things won't get to us. We are human, created to feel," she said.

"It was an introspective process of learning to sit with the darker moments until the light caught up," Richardson continued. "The great thing about feelings is how they can pass in moments if we ride out the difficult sensations. The sun will always shine again. Or as a good friend said to me once, 'It can't always rain.'"

Similar messages of resilience and hope echo through Yassini's debut work, "Iran, the Little Kitten Who Became a Lion", a bilingual children's book published in English and Farsi.

She said feelings of helplessness and heartbreak while watching footage from Iran at the beginning of the year compelled her words to flow.

"I wrote this book out of pain, but also out of hope," Yassini told me. "I was terrified that after so many lives were lost, the world would move on and forget them. I couldn't stop what was happening from thousands of miles away, but I could write. I could preserve a piece of their story."

"The little kitten becoming a lion represents what I saw happening among young Iranians — a generation that was expected to remain quiet finding its courage, its voice and its strength," she added.

The medium served as a way to speak to Iranian children growing up outside of the country to understand more about what their ancestral homeland was experiencing, and the bilingual approach allowed a bridge between generations as well as other audiences, according to Yassini.

"For me, this became more than a children's book," she told me. "It became a form of remembrance — a way of honoring those who paid an unimaginable price for asking for freedom, and a way of telling the next generation that their story matters."

Yassini is getting ready to release a follow-up bilingual children's book, "Iran in Search of Truth", on Oct. 29. ■

About the Cover

The candidates for Pleasanton Mayor and City Council debated key issues during an election forum moderated by the Pleasanton Weekly on Sept. 29.

Photo by Chuck Deckert.

Cover design by Doug Young.

Vol. XXVII, Number 37

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WE TRUST SUPPORT RE-ELECTING MAYOR JACK BALCH



Pleasanton Police Officers Association

Jerry McNerney
California State Senator

John Marchand
Livermore Mayor

Phong La
Alameda County Assessor

David Haubert
Alameda County Supervisor

Justin Brown
Pleasanton USD Trustee

Mary Jo Carreon
Pleasanton USD Trustee

Cheryl Cook-Kallio
Alameda County Board of Education Trustee

Craig Eicher
Pleasanton Council Member

Matthew Gaidos
Pleasanton Vice-Mayor

Charlie Jones
Pleasanton USD Trustee

Laurie Walker
Pleasanton USD Trustee

Kathy Narum
Zone 7 Water Agency Director

Titles for identification purposes only



JACK BALCH
FOR MAYOR

AND, HUNDREDS OF
ADDITIONAL RESIDENTS
AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS
BACK JACK FOR MAYOR. ➔



PAID FOR BY JACK BALCH FOR MAYOR 2026
P.O. BOX 612, PLEASANTON, CA 94566 • FPPC #1483535

Elect KATHY NARUM for Pleasanton CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1



Community Focused & Proven Leadership

Longtime Community Volunteer

Seahawks Swim Team

Rage Soccer

Pleasanton Downtown Association
Boardmember

Supporting a Vibrant Downtown

Champion of 115 pension trust
Smoothing pension payments

Strong Support Public Safety
Parks & Open Space
Collaborate with school district

PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS
PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

Paid for by Kathy Narum
for City Council 2026 FPPC # 1494592

www.kathynarum.com



YOUR DISTRICT 1 BALLOT IS HERE

VIN KRUTTIVENTI

FOR PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL

✓

Grow revenue. No new taxes on families

✓

Stop yearly water-rate jumps

✓

Fill Hacienda and rebuild Stoneridge Mall

VOTE4VIN.COM

Paid for by Vin Kruttiventi for Pleasanton City Council 2026 • FPPC #1494596



6TH ANNUAL

THE POWER OF GIVING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2026
BANKHEAD THEATER, LIVERMORE

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



Community Health & Education Foundation

LINGAGOULD

MEMULA



AMAEAB



HACIENDA



Jean KING

LIVERMORE VALLEY

arts



Impact100

East Bay



CalNonprofits



Stanford MEDICINE

Health Care Tri-Valley



Souza Balazs

Supervisor

NATE MILEY

Delivering Service to You

Pleasanton Weekly

Livermore VINE



Danville San Ramon



Tri-Valley Conservancy



THE Independent

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TVNPA.ORG

Streetwise

ASKED IN DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON

Do you have any fall traditions (like apple-picking, for example) that you look forward to engaging in every year at this time?



Noah Fant
Landscaping

Yes! Every fall, I look forward to gathering my family together in order to rejoice in the season, and to make plans for the holidays. These autumn get-togethers really strengthen our family bonds.



Taylor Cullen, with Harper
Veterinarian

We love to go pumpkin-picking in Livermore. And now that our daughter is becoming a real toddler, we're looking forward to carving pumpkins with her every year while she is growing up and to walking through and figuring out all of the local corn mazes.



Moriah Scott
Software

My fall traditions mainly are centered around food because my family is originally from New Orleans, which is the home of great Southern cooking. So every fall, I look forward to using my grandmother's recipe to make gumbo for my family. I also use my grandma's recipe to make the greatest sweet potato pie ever.



Thilak Thankappan
Engineer

I drink more beer than usual, in anticipation of "Dry January", and because my workload is slightly less and slower during the fall months, I try to take this time for myself to enjoy doing things I feel very passionate about, like hiking and fishing all over the Bay Area.



Kalyani Thilak
Realtor

I love to gather with friends and family every fall in order to check in with and catch up with everyone. It is also a time where we plan and gear up for the holiday season, which starts with Thanksgiving. Autumn is just such a beautiful time of year for reflection and connection.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media Foundation, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2026 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

Page 4 • October 9, 2026 • Pleasanton Weekly

DIGEST

Haven vigil

Tri-Valley Haven, a nonprofit that supports survivors of domestic abuse, is hosting its annual candlelight vigil and march for Domestic Violence Awareness Month next Thursday (Oct. 15) in downtown Livermore.

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Lizzy Fountain, located at the corner of First Street and Livermore Avenue.

"For nearly 50 years, Tri-Valley Haven has been a safe place for survivors seeking support, safety, and hope," Carolina Alaniz, director of domestic violence services at Tri-Valley Haven, said in a press release. "Events like the Candlelight March remind our community that domestic violence is not something anyone should face alone. By coming together, we raise awareness, honor the strength of survivors, and reaffirm our commitment to ending violence in our community."

Women's HOF

The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame has begun accepting nominations for its 2027 class inductees and applications for its Mary V. King/Wilma Chan Youth Scholarship Program.

Community members have from now until Nov. 6 to nominate women in the following categories: Business & Professions, Culture & Art, Community Service, Education, Emerging Leaders, Environmental, Health, Justice, Non-Traditional, Philanthropy, Science/Technology/Engineering, and Sports & Athletics. Up to 12 women will be selected.

For more information, visit www.acgov.org/whof.

Big Bounce America

The Contra Costa Fair and Event Park in Antioch will feature 50,000 square feet of inflatable attractions, live music and the world's largest bounce house next week as part of the Big Bounce America event.

The experience was supposed to come to the Alameda County Fairgrounds but Greg Wiley, public relations manager for Big Bounce America, said that "due to circumstances outside our control, we had to change our location to Contra Costa Fair and Event Park."

"We are excited to play at the Contra Costa Fair and Event Park," Wiley added.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.thebigbounceamerica.com. ■

Corrections

Last week's "What A Week" column misidentified incoming Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent Ed Diolazo's alma mater. Diolazo graduated from San Leandro High School. The Pleasanton Weekly regrets the error.

County, fair board reach agreement in principle

Contract auto-renewed last week; new clauses on track to be added soon as talks continue

By TIM HUNT

Negotiators for Alameda County and the nonprofit fair association have agreed to three significant changes in their long-term contract for the fairgrounds in Pleasanton, according to a public text message by Supervisor David Haubert sent early Friday morning.

The two entities have been negotiating changes to their agreement for a few months and discussed it publicly at the supervisors' meeting Sept. 22. The contract automatically renewed Sept. 30 and has 21 years to run.

Haubert named three areas that would be changed once the

language is finalized and approved by both entities. Changes such as those being negotiated are allowed at any time by mutual agreement.

Fair association CEO Jerome Hoban wrote in an email, "The ongoing negotiations are generally a private matter until an agreement is made public and approved by both Boards."

"I am surprised the Supervisor would speak publicly about it," Hoban added. "I will not comment on the open negotiations other than to say we are past Sept. 30 and we are still negotiating in good faith as we earlier espoused."

Haubert's message cited three areas of agreement with final

language pending:

1. The fair has used its own construction team for decades and has not obtained building permits and routine inspections. Haubert said the new agreement would require permits, inspections and adherence to state and local building codes. Any facilities that are not up to code will be updated. The 267 acres and the facilities are owned by the county.

2. An informal ad-hoc committee will be formalized and meet quarterly. Haubert wrote that it would include budget approvals and revisions, updates on projects and a long-term vision for the property. The county approves the annual

budget and approval is required for any long-term lease of real property.

3. Association board meetings will be open to the public with the agenda posted 72 hours in advance including topics to be discussed in any closed session. Agenda, minutes and audio recordings of the meetings will be posted to the fair association website. This is similar to what public agencies are required to do by state open meeting laws.

"I would like to thank county staff, Association staff, members of the community, my colleagues

See **FAIR** on Page 11



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Oasis Restaurant & Wine Lounge will be moving down the road from its current location at 780 Main St. to the Pleasanton Hotel.

Oasis to temporarily close ahead of move to Pleasanton Hotel

Afghani Mediterranean spot will reopen with refreshed look next to sister restaurant, Rubys & Roses

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Oasis Restaurant & Wine Lounge will close for about three weeks starting Oct. 15 as it relocates to a new space down the street at the Pleasanton Hotel.

Married owners Omar Etemadi and Sadaf Shaghasi said they hope to reopen in the new location, 855 Main St., by Nov. 5. Oasis will be next door to the couple's other restaurant, Rubys & Roses.

"Same menu, same food, just a new look," Etemadi said regarding the move. "To me, I think this building is (much) cozier, and it's going to be more upscale."

The Afghan Mediterranean restaurant, currently located at 780 Main St., opened in 2005. Etemadi said he has seen the business grow and become one of downtown's core restaurants over the last two decades.

But after more than 20 years in the same building and their

lease coming to an end, Etemadi said, he and his wife felt like they needed to change things up a bit.

"Having 22 years of the same style, same look ... just gets a little played out," he said.

"I want to elevate Oasis," he added. "By looks, by decor, by everything."

The couple opened Rubys & Roses in the Pleasanton Hotel building three years ago and

See **OASIS** on Page 9

Tri-Valley employers implement layoffs

Workday, Chevron, Kaiser, Safeway and more cut local jobs

By JEANITA LYMAN

Hundreds of workers at major employers throughout the Tri-Valley have received termination notices in recent months, with big names such as Workday, Chevron and Kaiser Permanente continuing their trend of mass layoffs in their local offices.

Tri-Valley employers have cut more than 400 jobs since July, according to WARN notices reported by the state, the highest number of layoffs at large companies in any community across Contra Costa or Alameda counties during the same timeframe.

Pleasanton-based Workday notified 142 workers on Sept. 29 that they would lose their jobs effective Nov. 1.

Also last month, Safeway announced 50 layoffs across its Pleasanton headquarters at 5918 Stoneridge Mall Road and its corporate office at 11155 Dublin Canyon Road.

While not headquartered locally, Kaiser and Oracle were among the other companies with sizable local presences that recently reduced their workforce.

Oracle last month laid off 68 employees from its Pleasanton office at

See **LAYOFFS** on Page 6

Lam Research opens logistics facility in Livermore

470,000-square-foot warehouse aims to help meet growing demand for semiconductors

By JUDE STRZEMP

Fremont-based Lam Research, a provider of semiconductor fabrication equipment and services, recently opened its largest U.S. warehouse in Livermore to serve as the company's statewide logistics hub.

Spanning about 470,000 square feet, the facility, located in the Oaks Business Park, will be used to manage inventory, retrieval and distribution for customers, the company's manufacturing operations in Livermore and its research and development operations at the Fremont headquarters. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Sept. 28.

Lam equipment is used to make nearly all advanced chips in the world, and the new hub is meant to improve the company's operations and efficiency at a time of growing demand for semiconductors, company officials said in a statement. They said the growth is driven by artificial intelligence, which, as it is scaled, requires more computing power, memory capacity and energy efficiency.

"With all operations under a single roof, we can create a more agile and efficient operation,"



COURTESY LAM

A ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 28 for Lam Research's new warehouse in Livermore featured (from left) Innovation Tri-Valley CEO Katie Marcel, Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Lam Senior Vice President Karthik Rammohan and State Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton).

Lam's U.S. Warehouse Operations Director Troy Rainey said in a statement.

Centralizing the supply-chain hub means Lam can shift resources to meet demand while avoiding the costs associated with moving people and materials between multiple facilities, he added.

The warehouse can store up to 500,000 unique parts, company officials said. Thanks to its 40,000-square-foot automated

storage and retrieval system and more than a dozen robots, Lam employees can locate and retrieve items in less than 30 seconds. The system is 12 times faster than Lam's previous warehouse systems, company officials said.

By 2027, the warehouse is expected to be responsible for more than 240 jobs.

Initial operations at the hub have begun, Lam officials confirmed Monday. ■

LAYOFFS

Continued from Page 5

5815 Owens Drive, effective Nov. 13, and 22 employees at Kaiser's IT office at 4460 Hacienda Drive are set to lose their jobs effective Nov. 20. The moves follow previous mass layoffs at both companies in recent years, all of which have been among waves of cuts at other locations regionally and throughout the state.

Of the 400-plus recent Tri-Valley layoffs, the highest number of cuts at a single employer was from Chevron, which reduced its San Ramon workforce by 178 positions, according to the WARN notice filed by the company, which moved its headquarters out of the city and downsized its local presence in recent years.

One employee at the John Muir Physician Network location at 5860 Owens Drive in Pleasanton was among more than 70 layoffs across the Concord-based healthcare system's locations throughout the East Bay.

Many of the positions that were eliminated across companies were engineering, management and director roles.

The Workday cuts included more than 40 software development managers, 19 of whom held

senior titles, and 21 automation engineers, 15 of whom were senior. The chief technology officer for North America was also among the cuts, as well as a number of vice presidents, including for software development engineering, marketing and product management.

Among the positions on the list of layoffs at Oracle's Pleasanton campus are senior and vice president software engineering roles, one senior site reliability engineer and five engineering directors, along with engineers across numerous departments.

Engineering and technology roles ranging from senior to entry level are also on the chopping block at Safeway and Kaiser. One digital product manager position and one director of engineering position are set for layoffs at the grocery giant's Stoneridge Mall Road headquarters, along with senior managers for multiple departments at its Dublin Canyon Road offices and directors of engineering and product management.

The one local position included in the John Muir layoffs was a director of adult and pediatric medicine practice operation.

At Chevron, the 178 employees laid off held many job titles

across departments, including more than 20 legal counsel and analysis roles and more than a dozen cybersecurity roles.

While employees at the roles and companies listed in WARN documentation make up hundreds who are set to lose their jobs, the total is not necessarily a net loss in regional job numbers.

Chevron officials said in a statement this summer that the positions cut effective last month would be shifted to its new headquarters in Texas, where it moved in 2024. It has been transitioning operations to that headquarters ever since.

Workday's recent layoffs are part of a reorganization process "designed to better align team structures with Workday's strategic growth priorities," according to the company's Sept. 29 filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"These actions include a reduction of approximately 2.5% of Workday's current workforce, primarily within Workday's Product and Technology team, and select leased office space reductions," company officials wrote. "Workday plans to continue to hire in key strategic areas and locations throughout its fiscal 2027." ■

Julie Testa

FOR PLEASANTON

MAYOR

PLEASANTON

Protecting Pleasanton's Quality Of Life

- 8 years on the Pleasanton City Council
- Longtime supporter of local schools, parks and open space.
- Committed to solving problems and putting residents first.

Visit JULIATESTA.COM

Paid for by Julie Testa for Mayor 2026 FPCC #1496841

YES ON MEASURE HH

for a RESILIENT Pleasanton

JOIN WITH US IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE HH

Jack Balch, Mayor of Pleasanton
Matthew Gaidos, Vice Mayor Pleasanton
Craig Eicher, Councilmember Pleasanton
Jeff Nibert, Councilmember Pleasanton
Julie Testa, Councilmember Pleasanton

TITLES FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES ONLY

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF PLEASANTON - YES ON MEASURE HH 2026 ~ FPCC #1496169

Employment

People Strategy & Hiring Advisor (Pleasanton, CA). Support our clients' people strategy & recruiting strategies. Master's deg in human resources, psychology, or another closely rtd field; 6 mos' work exp performing onboarding & training for new employees at a Co.; Proficiency in Microsoft PowerPoint, Google Analytics & Adobe Acrobat; Telecommute is permitted. Wage from \$91,291 to \$92,000. Send Resume to adkins@clearpathba.com or Bay Area Business Solutions, Inc. DBA ClearPath Business Advisors c/o Kristianna Adkins, 6701 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 250, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Blackhawk Network, Inc. in Pleasanton, CA seeks **Staff Software Engineer**. Architect, design, & dvlp scalable enterprise software systems across full sw dvlpmnt lifecycle. Telecommuting permitted: may reside anywhere in U.S. & reports to Pleasanton, CA office. \$153,356 to \$172,807/yr. Email resume to humanresources@bhn.com specifying job code 92954. EOE.

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



JEREMY WALSH)

A Daxbot robot is seen assessing the accessibility and safety of streets in downtown Pleasanton in September.

Residents seek stronger privacy restrictions for robot fleet

Petition calls for guardrails to ensure personal information, other data is not released to companies

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A growing number of Pleasanton residents are calling for the city to implement stronger data privacy guardrails for the fleet of robots that are currently assessing hundreds of streets and roads — after one resident found there were basically none at all.

The Daxbots were introduced last month to collect information about sidewalk accessibility and conditions as part of the city's "Public Right-of-Way Survey" for its ADA Transition Plan.

But whether they are only tracking data on the roads and streets, or if they are also retaining data on residents and other public data is the main question Brent Werder, a lifelong Pleasantonian and mechanical design engineer who works in automation and control of robots, had before launching his petition on Change.org. As of Wednesday, the petition has 80 signatures after launching four days earlier.

"There's no guardrail to keep someone, a bad actor, from accessing that data," Werder told the Pleasanton Weekly.

When asked about Werder's concerns, the city of Pleasanton provided the following statement from Miriam Sullivan, communications director for Daxbot.

"Daxbot is (a) privacy first company that is actively working to set a 'Good Robots' standard for how robots interact in public spaces," Sullivan stated. "In keeping with this, we do not collect any data in public spaces except what is needed

to support specific tasks, such as slopes, uplifts, and path widths, and even this is not publicly shared."

Werder said he first began looking into the robots after noticing one remained parked in front of his house for roughly seven hours. Concerned by recent controversies around public surveillance technology like automated license plate readers, he was wary of the robots.

"I saw two of these robots, personally, sitting on a street corner for over seven hours ... turning their heads to look at passerbys and cars, people's children, kind of looking into people's windows," Werder said. "None of that to me seemed like something that's necessary for ADA sidewalk compliance."

He reached out to neighbors and looked into the contract the city approved for the robots and what he found was that most residents he spoke with were uncomfortable with the program. He was also surprised by what he considers a lack of data privacy guardrails in the city's agreement.

According to Werder, the city's contract with Bureau Veritas Technical Assessments contains no explicit restrictions preventing the company from using or retaining data collected by the Daxbots.

Werder said he was also upset at the lack of public outreach from the city before it approved this program. According to the March 17 City Council agenda report, the council approved the roughly \$435,000 contract with Bureau

See **ROBOTS** on Page 10



FLASHBERGER
REAL ESTATE GROUP
DRE# 01243871 | 01001584 Realtor®, CRS, GRI, SRES
925.463.0436
Sue @SoldInAFlash.com
SoldInAFlash.com



COMING SOON ~ AN EXCEPTIONAL HOME WITH ROOM FOR EVERYTHING!



PLEASANTON
7 Bedrooms | 4 Baths | 4,467 Sq Ft | 21,031 Sq Ft Parcel
3608 Sq Ft + 865 Sq Ft In-Law Unit | 6 Car Garage

PERFECT MATCH FOUND ~ MULTIPLE OFFERS!



2798 VISTA DIABLO COURT, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | 2,918 Sq Ft | 0.27 Acre Parcel
Offered at \$1,999,999

BEAUTIFUL SINGLE STORY IN VINTAGE HILLS!



824 SYLVANER DRIVE, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | 1,549 Sq Ft | 7,448 Sq Ft Parcel
Offered at \$1,488,000

AN UNBEATABLE OPPORTUNITY, STEPS AWAY FROM THE BEST OF PLEASANTON!



3861 VINE STREET, PLEASANTON
2 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 1,221 Sq Ft
Offered at \$685,000

NOW REVIEWING OFFERS!



282 DEL VALLE COURT, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | 1,948 Sq Ft | 0.31 Acre Parcel
Offered at \$1,399,000

LISTED AND LOVED ~ SOLD IN A FLASH!



4023 PAGE COURT, PLEASANTON
3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,372 Sq Ft | 6,185 Sq Ft Parcel
Sold for \$1,195,000

SOLD IN A FLASH!



5223 CRANE AVE, CASTRO VALLEY
3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,604 Sq Ft | 4,965 Sq Ft Parcel
Sold for \$1,288,000

ANOTHER HOME SOLD IN A FLASH!



1124 FINCH PLACE, PLEASANTON
5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Baths | 3,790 Sq Ft | 0.31 Acres Parcel
Sold for \$2,975,000

YOUR HOME DESERVES AN EXPERT
We can help you sell your home for the best price possible.
Contact us to review our comprehensive home - selling services and complete marketing plan.



PHOTO CREDITPHOTOS COURTESY PUSD

An aerial view shows the newly renovated field at Harvest Park Middle School, left, and the newly renovated field and hard courts at Hart Middle School.

Harvest Park, Hart middle schools unveil \$20.7M upgrades

New synthetic sports turfs, tracks and outdoor spaces at both campuses funded by Measure I bond

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Harvest Park and Hart middle schools have new tracks and synthetic turf fields, part of a \$20.7 million facilities upgrade aimed at expanding opportunities for physical education and sports.

The improvements were funded by Measure I, the \$395 million general bond passed by voters in 2022. Pleasanton Middle School's athletic facilities received similar improvements last year.

Pleasanton Unified School District leaders, staff and students celebrated the upgrades at a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony at Harvest Park on Sept. 28.

"With the completion of the Harvest Park and Hart projects, all three PUSD middle schools now have exceptional athletic facilities that support physical education, athletics, wellness and year-round activity," Superintendent Maurice Ghysels said in a statement. "It is exciting to see this districtwide vision become a reality — creating high-quality spaces for our students while also serving as valuable resources for the broader Pleasanton community."

District officials said the upgrades will also allow for year-round usability and significantly reduce water use.



COURTESY PUSD

Pleasanton Unified School District administrators, officials and students take part in a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 28 celebrating the completion of two middle-school field renovation projects.

At Harvest Park, the district spent about \$9.7 million to build a new synthetic turf field; a 400-meter all-weather running track; a natural grass area to support certain sports; and an area for track and field events. Improvements were also made to walkways, gates and overall site circulation, and new asphalt was poured. There are also new shade trees, landscape improvements and additional fencing, backstops and service-access infrastructure, according to the district.

"Having these new facilities available to our students changes what is possible throughout the school day," Harvest Park principal Russell Campisi said in a statement. "Our Patriots now have more opportunities to move, compete, play, connect and build school pride in spaces designed for year-round use."

The upgrades at Hart Middle School cost about \$11 million and included the same track and field improvements made at Harvest

Park. The district also built a new hardscape designed to support activities including pickleball, gaga ball and basketball.

"The most rewarding part of completing a project like this is seeing students make the space their own," Hart principal Gwendolyn DeWees said in a statement. "Our new field, track and activity areas give Hart students wonderful new opportunities for physical education, athletics, recreation and connection, and we are grateful to everyone who helped

bring this project to life."

The projects at both schools took about two years to complete. The district began planning and designing the renovations in 2024, and construction began in January.

Caroline Fields, who retired as Hart Middle School principal last spring and was involved in the design and planning of the upgrades, said she was glad to see the new facilities completed.

"I'm so proud of what these spaces will mean for generations of Huskies — creating new opportunities to be active, connect with one another and build school pride," she said.

Ella Blevins, the Associated Student Body president at Hart Middle School, said she and her peers were enthusiastic about the upgrades.

"Many of my peers that I have spoken to have said the track has made them feel a newfound sense of excitement and interest in these activities," Blevins said in a statement.

Brielle Bantugan, the Associated Student Body president at Harvest Park Middle School, also said the facilities have been encouraging her peers to be more physically active.

"Personally, I know kids who have come with their friends in their free time to play soccer in this field," Bantugan said in a statement. ■

Lavin joins Pleasanton Weekly as editor

East Bay native leading day-to-day for three Tri-Valley news websites

BY PLEASANTON WEEKLY STAFF

Embarcadero Media Foundation has welcomed Emily Lavin, an experienced journalist and East Bay native, as the new division editor for its three Tri-Valley publications.

Lavin, who started on the job in Pleasanton on Sept. 28, leads the day-to-day for the editorial team of reporters, interns and freelancers and manages the journalism content on PleasantonWeekly.

com, LivermoreVine.com and DanvilleSanRamon.com.

"I'm excited to get to know the Tri-Valley community and learn more about the issues that matter most to residents," Lavin said. "My goal is to help the East Bay team produce journalism that informs,



Emily Lavin

sparks conversations and facilitates change. I look forward to meeting readers, listening to their perspectives and helping to tell their stories."

Lavin worked the past 10 years as the assistant editor and education reporter at The Ark, a weekly newspaper covering the Southern Marin communities of Belvedere, Tiburon and Strawberry. Before that, she covered education and business at The Union newspaper in Grass Valley in Nevada County.

She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Davis, and a master's degree from the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at the City University of New York.

"Over the years, I've especially enjoyed the opportunity to tell stories that give readers a better understanding of their communities and the people who live in them," Lavin said.

"In my free time," she added,

"I can usually be found enjoying the outdoors, cheering on the San Francisco Giants and the Golden State Warriors or spending time with my friends, family and pets."

Lavin succeeds Cierra Bailey, who stepped down during the summer after 6-1/2 years. As division editor, Lavin is also part of the division's management team alongside publisher Gina Channell Wilcox and Jeremy Walsh, associate publisher and editorial director. ■



PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Left: The inside of the Pleasanton Hotel space that will soon be the new location for Oasis. Right: Oasis will be sharing the Pleasanton Hotel building with Rubys & Roses restaurant, which is owned by the same couple who owns Oasis.

OASIS

Continued from Page 5

jumped at the opportunity to have both of their restaurants under one roof.

“Oasis has been a part of our lives and our community for two decades, and while our location is changing, the heart of Oasis remains the same — authentic,” Shaghasi said in a statement to the Weekly. “Afghani Mediterranean flavors, warm hospitality and the

memories we’ve created with all of you over the years.”

Etemadi said he’s not worried about losing any customers, as the restaurant is only moving a few hundred feet down the road. He also said the hotel building’s historical significance — it was one of the first few buildings constructed on Main Street — will only draw more people.

“If this was any other building, I would have been worried,” Etemadi said. “But Pleasanton Hotel itself

‘This building itself has more history than any building in Pleasanton.’

Omar Etemadi, Oasis owner

carries so much name in it, so much weight in it ... This building itself has more history than any building in Pleasanton.”

He said the new space will have more parking and a bigger bar. Each restaurant will have its own

entrance, dining spaces and kitchens. Certain parts of Rubys & Roses, Etemadi said, can serve as extensions of Oasis during special events.

The new location will have less patio space than the 780 Main St.

location, so Etemadi said Oasis will be able to use the patio space on the Rubys & Roses side for special parties and events.

Etemadi said he can serve certain events and parties under the Oasis menu at Rubys & Roses during the temporary closure.

He said the 780 Main St. storefront has already been leased to an Indian restaurant. An ownership application notice posted on the window of Oasis lists Lunchbox US as the incoming owner. ■

For Supporting Business, a Strong Local Economy, and Great Schools Vote...

MAYOR



RE-ELECT

Jack
Balch

CITY COUNCIL



DISTRICT 1

Kathy
Narum



DISTRICT 3

Jamie
Yee

PUSD BOARD



AREA 5

Thomas
Choi



**VOTE by mail
or on Election
Day Tuesday,
November 3**

Pleasanton is widely recognized as a premier community in which to live, work and do business.

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce believes that local businesses and residents share core values and community goals and that business has a critical role to play in the efforts to maintain and sustain those things that bring value to the community. Pleasanton businesses contribute over 60% of the local tax base and collectively act as the economic engine that produces the jobs, incomes, investments and contributions that support our extraordinary quality of life.

Paid for by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce BACPAC (FPPC #1270786) and was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate

Museum names Duggan as next executive director

‘This is a place that resonates with families, businesses and visitors, young and old’

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton’s Museum on Main has hired communications professional and community volunteer Kate Duggan to serve as its next executive director.

Duggan, who has lived in Pleasanton with her family for more than 20 years and previously served on the city’s Housing Commission among her local volunteer roles, succeeds Tony Cruz and becomes the downtown museum’s fourth leader since 2022.

“I’m personally excited about leading a place that I have a lot of affection for; with our central downtown location and outreach to schools and community groups, this is a place that resonates with families, businesses and visitors, young and old. Everyone knows the Museum on Main and has a positive association with it,” Duggan told the Pleasanton Weekly on Tuesday.

Linda Garbarino, president of the Museum on Main Board of Directors, praised Duggan as “a clear communicator and has a respect for the importance of our uniquely centralized museum as a cornerstone of the city. She has a positive attitude with solid ideas that will serve the full community.”

Duggan will oversee the museum’s day-to-day operations, staff development, fundraising and growing its education programming. She’ll be working closely this fall and winter with longtime museum curator Ken MacLennan

to become more familiar with upcoming exhibitions and collections inside the museum in the heart of Main Street, according to Garbarino.

“Short term goals would be shoring up our staff and Board members for a smooth continuation of programs,” Duggan told the Weekly. “We are hiring for a new Membership & Visitors Service Manager — very sad that Rachel (Brickell) has resigned — and a few members of our Board are terming out in December. We’re a tiny place and everyone has an important role; my first priority is to get more hands on deck.”

As for longer-term goals, Duggan cited fundraising and expanding programs.

“We do have wonderful connections to businesses, since we’ve hosted and educated many employees during walking tours and internal presentations,” she said. “I’ll be focused on growing corporate sponsors with our value-add of that special connection to the community and our members.”

“The Ed Kinney Speaker Series at the Firehouse is one of the best I’ve seen with engagement and results. Our Ghost Walk, however, is struggling this year with ticket sales,” Duggan added. “Revising and rejuvenating select programs will be my other focus.”

Duggan worked most recently in volunteer services for Jewish Family & Community Services (JFCS) East Bay in Concord, and before that held marketing leadership roles at Shaklee Corporation, Albertsons Companies and other

companies, according to museum officials.

A Massachusetts native who earned a bachelor’s degree in communications from Syracuse University, Duggan moved to Pleasanton in 2004 with her husband Kevin and two children. In addition to serving on the Pleasanton Housing Commission from 2019 to 2021, Duggan has volunteered with the National Charity League’s Pleasanton chapter, Meals on Wheels as a driver, Open Heart Kitchen and the Amador Valley High School Athletic Boosters.

‘A clear communicator and has a respect for the importance of our uniquely centralized museum as a cornerstone of the city.’

Linda Garbarino,
Museum board president

She is taking the reins from Cruz, who resigned this summer after two years as Museum on Main’s executive director for a new job in real estate. He followed Sarah Schaefer, who held the role for the two years prior in the wake of the retirement of longtime leader Jim DeMersman in the fall of 2022.

“We are more than a museum,” Duggan said in a news release from the museum Tuesday. “We



Kate Duggan stands inside the Museum on Main. She is now leading the nonprofit as executive director.

are a schoolhouse, a Visitor’s Center, and a community hub. I look forward to working with our dedicated Board, committed

volunteers and talented staff on programs and exhibits that educate and enrich our local communities on the Tri-Valley.” ■

ROBOTS

Continued from Page 7

Veritas as part of that meeting’s consent calendar, which are items considered routine in nature and which are typically approved by a single motion with little to no discussion.

He emphasized that data is extremely valuable to artificial intelligence companies for model training, making it essential for the city to prevent robots from retaining private information unrelated to road infrastructure.

“I definitely understand that there are huge productivity gains and cost production that can be gotten from these kinds of robotic

ventures,” Werder said. “But when you see a contract like that, with this kind of foreign company ... it doesn’t actually name the Dax robot as being the primary data acquisition tool. And even if it did, it doesn’t limit the scope of what data this robot is able to take.”

However, Sullivan refuted the idea that the robot company is up to anything nefarious.

“We do not identify or track individuals, or sell or distribute imagery of identifiable people, and our assessment robots don’t record or store video except in the rare case of safety incidents,” Sullivan said. “We put QR codes on the front of every robot explaining

what that robot is doing and what tooling it is equipped with and will continue to pursue policies that support public trust and a future that includes good robots.”

She highlighted the company’s Good Robots policy work, which lists several principals the company tried to uphold, including safety and privacy.

Still, Werder pointed out how these Daxbots that have been assessing the city’s roads and streets are similar to the Daxbots being sold in the private sector as security and surveillance robots. He said that there’s nothing in the city’s contract with Bureau Veritas that explicitly limits the company from turning on that surveillance functionality.

If the city does not remove the Daxbots, Werder proposes three guardrails: clear data handling restrictions, third-party deletion of unnecessary raw sensor data, and a public report detailing what data is collected, where and how long it is stored, and who can access it. ■

Reena GUPTA

FOR PLEASANTON
CITY COUNCIL 2026, DISTRICT 3

**DON'T LET
YOUR VOICE
GET
THROWN AWAY**

✂ Please cut and keep your Civic Access Card below



REENA FOR PLEASANTON

Candidate for
Pleasanton City Council, District 3
Your voice belongs in City Hall. I'll carry it there.

- New Revenue Base
- Thoughtful Housing
- Affordable & Clean Water
- Career Growth Opportunities
- Stronger Community Connections



HERE TO LISTEN
HERE TO SERVE

Paid for by Reena Gupta for Pleasanton City Council 2026. FPPC ID 1492406

THE IMPACT OF YOUR VOICE IN JUST 3 MONTHS

- 100+ Resident Voices Carried to City Hall
- Working On: Wheels Bus Routes • Fawn Hills Park Shade
- Creating Civic Opportunities & Fellowships for Youth
- Resolved: Historic District Clustered Mailbox Issue
- Pledge: Donate Council Stipend to Library Until Hours Are Restored

REENAFORPLEASANTON.COM

STRONG ECONOMY
VIBRANT COMMUNITY

YOUR IN-DEPTH LOOK AT PREP SPORTS!

**TRI-VALLEY PREPS
PLAYBOOK**

- Season previews
- Post-game analysis
- Sports features

SCAN TO
SIGN UP





PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

Livermore school board forum

All seven candidates for Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education debated key issues at a public forum moderated by Livermore Vine and Pleasanton Weekly on Sept. 28. Participating were (from left) Deborah Gibson, Stephen Orgain, Tara Boyce, Sam Phelps, Christiaan VandenHeuvel, Deena Kaplanis and Angela Brady. Read our coverage of the Areas 2, 3 and 5 campaigns and watch the full forum video at LivermoreVine.com.

FAIR

Continued from Page 5

on the Board of Supervisors and everyone who have participated so far in this process. And I look forward to many more enjoyable years at the Alameda County Fair,” Haubert wrote.

The fair has undergone a profound change since horse racing ended on March 25, 2025, ending a more than 100-year tradition at the track. That closure followed the end of racing at Golden Gate Fields in Albany so there is no horse racing left in Northern California. The fairgrounds has daily racing through its

off-track facility off Valley Avenue.

Haubert’s text opened, “I consider the Alameda County Fair to be one of the best fair experiences in the state and one of Alameda County’s most valuable assets. This is thanks to the hard work of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association and its volunteer board.”

The association board consists of 21 members, 10 of which are appointed by the supervisors (two each). The other 11 are elected by the board similar to the operation of most non-profit boards. They serve four-year terms.

Hoban wrote in his email, “The current practice of the Association

is to post agendas publicly and to the website, distribute minutes of the meeting to the County Clerk, provide for public comment at its meetings and host a website for the public with activities on the property ... The licensing of event space and operations does not require County approval.” ■



Located at
Stoneridge Mall
Shop. Dine. Meet. Plan.
All in one place

BANKERSLIFE
A history dating back to 1879

Your Retirement What's Missing?

- * RETIREMENT INCOME
- * MEDICARE
- * LONG TERM CARE
- * LIFE INSURANCE



RETIREMENT SPECIALIST

Alan D. Mitchell III
INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE
FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL

Don't Gamble!
Your Loved Ones are
Counting on You

Retirement Specialist began in 2013
CA Insurance License #0H97153

Free Guidance

510.877.6010

Alan.Mitchell@bankerslife.com

Stop by my Bankers Life kiosk at Stoneridge Mall anytime to pick up straightforward information and resources — even when I’m not there.

REAL QUESTIONS. REAL ANSWERS. A MORE CONFIDENT TOMORROW.

Pleasanton candidates debate

Housing, public safety, hotel tax, utilities, local economy
among hot topics at mayoral and council forums

STORIES BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO | PHOTOS BY CHUCK DECKERT

Pleasanton Mayor: Jack Balch vs. Julie Testa

Pleasanton mayoral candidates Jack Balch and Julie Testa weighed in on budget challenges, water rates, economic vitality and other top issues facing the city at Tuesday's public forum.

Balch, the incumbent who is seeking a second two-year term, said he's incredibly proud of the work the city has done over the last two years and that he hopes to continue that work, which includes protecting Pleasanton's quality of life, for years to come.

"At a time of national growing division, I work to listen, invite people into the conversation and move us forward together," Balch said. "I'm running for another term because I want to build on the progress we've made and see that through."

Testa, the District 3 City Council member who will be termed out this year after having served on the dais for the past eight years, also said she is running because Pleasanton "needs experience, independent leadership that is accessible to residents."

"I'll keep pressing for strong public safety, safe drinking water, responsible housing and careful stewardship of taxpayer dollars," she said. "I will listen to you, be direct about our challenges and work every day for the people of Pleasanton."

The Sept. 29 forum, hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly, drew a standing-room-only audience to the City Council Chambers at the Pleasanton Civic Center; it was also livestreamed.

Candidates talk public safety

The candidates each said public safety was a priority. While Pleasanton experienced a string of commercial burglaries that affected nearly two dozen businesses Sept. 10 and has seen four high-profile murder cases in the last two years, Balch reminded residents that the Pleasanton Police Department's latest numbers show crime is down overall in the city.

However, he said he recognized that public safety is also a "sense of feeling safe." If elected, he said, he would continue to make sure the city provides officers and all first responders with the tools they need to do their job. He also said he would aim to prioritize response times.

"(PPD's) response time, we've learned, is not consistent with how we measure response time in fire,



Facing off on the Pleasanton mayoral ballot are current Mayor Jack Balch and City Councilmember Julie Testa.

and so we're working to make sure that we are communicating a consistent time so we have consistent expectations," Balch said.

Testa thanked the police department for making a quick arrest in connection to the commercial burglaries.

She said eliminating crime is unrealistic, as "every community will have incidents," but added that in Pleasanton, it's "not so many." She also pledged her continued support for the police department if elected as mayor.

"I think they've done a really great job," Testa said. "I've seen significant evolution in our department over the eight years I've been on council, and I'm very proud of them."

Differing views to revitalize downtown

Both candidates said boosting the city's economic vitality is a top

priority, but they offered different ideas on how to address it.

Testa called downtown Pleasanton the heart of the city and pointed out that as a council member, she has continuously tried to agendize discussions for different strategies the city could use to address the vacant storefronts scattered throughout Main Street.

She said in looking at other cities that have transformed their downtowns to vibrant hubs with occupied storefronts, Pleasanton needs to have conversations with local property owners to fill the empty storefronts along Main Street, some of which she said have been vacant for nearly 10 years.

"I think that some of our long-time property owners just aren't motivated," Testa said. "It's their property, but it's our downtown. We should have that conversation and look at what our options are."

Balch touted all of the things the city has done under his leadership to make downtown Pleasanton more attractive for incoming businesses, including cleaning streets, planting trees and straightening sidewalks. He also highlighted the city's new "Pleasanton Playbook", which lays out what it takes to open a business and is intended to help streamline the permitting process for business owners.

He said while he thinks that the community understands the ongoing challenges of persistent vacancies, the conversation shouldn't be focused on comparing Pleasanton to other cities but on ways to embrace and support existing local businesses.

He proposed reevaluating the city's Downtown Specific Plan to see where improvements can be made.

"That plan was adopted in 2018,

and I don't believe it's getting us the results to the business and economic vitality that we expected," Balch said. "So I think we need to crack that open and see what we can do to further enhance it."

Balch addressed Testa's comments regarding strategies to address vacancies, saying one of the strategies she favors is a vacancy tax.

During her time on the council, Testa has brought up the idea of discussing a vacancy tax, along with other strategies to address vacancies, but has not committed to the idea and has not been successful in convincing her colleagues on the council to agendize a conversation.

Testa refuted Balch's claim that a vacancy tax was among her proposed strategies.

"The comment was that the vacancy strategy that I had mentioned was a vacancy tax. I certainly did not say that, and that's not the case," Testa said. "The strategy would be a variety of different strategies ... having a discussion would determine what it is and what it isn't."

Candidates support hotel tax increase, disagree on financial impact

The candidates also discussed Pleasanton's financial outlook, including whether they supported Measure HH, a proposed hotel tax increase that supporters say would help the city address a structural budget deficit that has forced cuts and service reductions over the past few years.

Measure HH would raise the city's hotel tax rate from 8% to 10% beginning next July. The rate would increase again to 12% the following year. City officials have said the tax rate has remained stable since 1983, and the full 12% increase would generate up to \$2.8 million annually.

Both mayoral candidates previously voted with the rest of the council to place the measure on the November ballot, and both signaled their unequivocal support for the measure.

However, Testa noted she was opposed to the phased increase, simply because she would have wanted the city to get the full \$2.8 million in projected annual revenue quicker.

Testa also reiterated — as she has during council discussions regarding the ballot measure — that even if it's approved, Measure HH won't

Council District 1: Vin Kruttiventi vs. Kathy Narum

The race for the District 1 seat on the Pleasanton City Council pits a former council member with decades of public-service experience against a longtime business executive and former congressional candidate who says he's looking to shake things up.

Former City Council member Kathy Narum and local entrepreneur Vin Kruttiventi faced off in a Sept. 29 forum hosted by the Weekly that drew a standing-room-only audience to the City Council Chambers at the Pleasanton Civic Center; it was also livestreamed. Narum and Kruttiventi are seeking to replace Jeff Nibert on the dais, representing northwest Pleasanton.

Kruttiventi is a local entrepreneur who founded the Vinay Kruttiventi Foundation, an organization that supports businesses and companies.

He cited the stalled housing development plans at Stoneridge Shopping Center, and the mall's overall vitality, as a key issue for the city.

"Stoneridge is our biggest opportunity," Kruttiventi said.

The City Council in January 2023 approved a policy framework for redeveloping the shopping center and surrounding area into a mixed-use property. The city policy document initially allocated just over 1,100 housing units across the site and included proposals to reimagine the area to be more integrated,

well-connected and vibrant, with new amenities.

However, very little progress has been made since, apart from the council approving an extension of the development agreement between the city and mall property owners in 2024, and a Danville-based real-estate company purchasing the former Nordstrom building and a large surface parking lot earlier this year.

Kruttiventi said the City Council needs to do more to get the mall owners together and present an update on the redevelopment plans because, if the site is developed, it could result in more housing for younger people, new entertainment and restaurants that will all generate revenue for the city.

More importantly, he said, it would give a reason for people — not just Pleasanton residents — to go to the mall, which he said has lost its appeal over the years.

"Stoneridge, unfortunately, has turned into a flea market," Kruttiventi said, referring to the departure of a lot of major stores. "I really want to see that ... succeed because that used to be an economic engine."

Kruttiventi also said it was important to address the vacancies at the Hacienda Business Park and in downtown Pleasanton by working with business leaders in the community to bring regional offices to

the area, as well as by working to promote existing businesses.

Kruttiventi said those are all tied to his larger goal for Pleasanton, which is boosting its existing economic drivers in the business sector to address the city's ongoing structural budget deficit. He cited that as his No. 1 priority.

He said he is a reluctant supporter of Measure HH, the city's proposed hotel tax rate increase measure on the ballot this November, noting that bringing in more businesses and major companies and building more housing for various income levels should be the city's main focus as it seeks to solve its ongoing economic woes. Pleasanton continues to project an approximate \$10 million deficit annually over the next several years and previously estimated about \$63 million in general fund needs to maintain its assets.

"We should be looking at the big picture," Kruttiventi said. "We should be focused on the only thing that matters to us: increase our revenue base."

He said if the city does not make that a top priority, it will end up like other cities that have gone bankrupt.

He said his fresh perspective would be an asset to the council.

"Experience got us here. It's the qualifications that's going to take us from this point to where we want to be," Kruttiventi said. "Term limits are there for a reason and I am that fresh



Vin Kruttiventi and Kathy Narum are competing for City Council District 1.

ideas candidate who's going to stand up and deliver for you."

However, Narum said it's her extensive experience in civic affairs that makes her the best candidate for the seat. She previously sat on the council from 2013 to 2022; city law prevents council members from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms. She was appointed to fill an interim vacancy on the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors in 2023 and then won a full four-year term in the November 2024 election.

Narum said she knows what the job entails and what it will take to address the city's many challenges.

"Throughout my service, I've brought my engineering background and family business know-how to the conversation to better drive results for all of us," Narum said. "I understand what it takes to balance budgets, negotiate contracts and manage employees while dealing with all the ways that government can be both helpful and burdensome."

See **DISTRICT 1** on Page 14

Council District 3: Reena Gupta vs. Jamie Yee

Emergency preparedness, the stalled redevelopment plans for Stoneridge Shopping Center and the city's core economic challenges were among the wide range of topics addressed last week by the two candidates vying to represent District 3 on the Pleasanton City Council.

Reena Gupta and Jamie Yee shared their visions for the city at a Sept. 29 forum, which was hosted by the Weekly and also featured District 1 candidates. The event drew a standing-room-only audience to the City Council Chambers at the Pleasanton Civic Center; it was also livestreamed.

Gupta, a small-business owner and business advocate, and Yee, a former Pleasanton school board trustee who works at the Alameda County Public Health Department, are running to succeed council member Julie Testa in representing District 3 on the city's southwest side; Testa is running for mayor in the Nov. 3 election, seeking to unseat incumbent Jack Balch.

Both of the District 3 candidates said the city must continue educating residents about emergency preparedness in the wake of the Little Fire, which burned around 1,000 acres just southeast of the district on July 21.

Gupta applauded firefighters for their quick response but noted that fire season continues to pose a threat. She said she wants to ensure every household signs up for emergency alerts, that every neighborhood has

mapped evacuation routes and that fire mitigation efforts continue.

Yee, who also ran for City Council District 3 four years ago, said there needs to be a larger discussion about the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, which she said is stretched thin due to low staffing. One solution she suggested was partnering with the East Bay Regional Park District to work on fire mitigation.

Pleasanton's economy was another key issue for both candidates.

Yee said that as a longtime resident, she finds it frustrating to travel to Livermore or Dublin to shop, something that ultimately takes local tax revenue away from the city. She said the city needs a long-term strategic plan to attract businesses both big and small while also supporting existing local business owners and ensuring they don't get priced out.

"I know that rents are going up for a lot of them," Yee said. "There's hair salons and auto shops that are moving out of the area because they can't afford the rents here, and most people I know don't want to have to drive far away to get all their cars worked on or their hair done."

Gupta agreed that the city needs bold economic reform in order to address its budget issues, and she proposed the city promote itself as a destination city for businesses.

"Let's think big and think globally," she said. "Let's position Pleasanton as a bridge to the Bay Area

for companies around the globe and make it easier to do business here."

She also said the city should promote itself as a destination for weddings, conferences and other events.

Both candidates expressed support for Measure HH, a hotel tax increase on the November ballot. If approved, the tax rate will go from 8% to 12% gradually over the next two years.

Gupta said she supports the increase because "every penny counts." However, she said, there are still three key things the city should do.

The first is spread awareness about who will be paying the tax; only people who purchase hotel rooms would be affected by the increase.

The second, she said, is to ensure transparency on how the money will be spent. She said the city's top priority should be restoring services, such as reversing reductions in library hours. During her closing remarks, Gupta pledged to use her council stipend of about \$1,321 per month to support the Friends of the Pleasanton Library, a nonprofit that raises money for the library.

Lastly, Gupta said, the city needs to find ways to increase the occupancy rate because if people aren't staying at local hotels, the tax won't really mean anything.

"A tax on an empty hotel room generates nothing," Gupta said. "Measure HH can generate revenue, (but) our bigger opportunity is growing the economic activity around it."



From left: Jamie Yee and Reena Gupta are on the ballot for City Council District 3.

Yee said she supports Measure HH because it's "good money that we should take in." But, like Gupta, she said the tax increase is not going to solve all of the city's economic woes.

If elected, Yee said she wants to take a deeper look into what caused the city's budget deficit, noting the city's property- and sales-tax revenues have either slightly increased or remained mostly stable for the past several years.

"Something doesn't add up," Yee said. "I'm hoping that once I'm on (the) council, we can really start to unpack that."

Both candidates largely saw eye-to-eye on the stalled redevelopment

plans for Stoneridge Shopping Center.

The City Council in 2023 approved a policy framework for redeveloping the shopping center and surrounding area into a mixed-use property.

However, very little has happened since then, apart from the council approving an extension of the development agreement between the city and mall property owners in 2024 and a Danville-based real estate company purchasing the former Nordstrom building and a large surface parking lot earlier this year.

Gupta said she was a part of the city's economic vitality committee

See **DISTRICT 3** on Page 14

MAYOR

Continued from Page 12

do much to address a deficit projected to be in the millions for the next several years.

She said Measure PP, a sales tax increase measure that failed at the polls in 2024, would have been the best way to begin addressing the city's budget deficit. She added that Balch voted against placing the sales tax measure on that year's ballot, and she called Measure HH a Band-Aid solution to a bigger fiscal problem.

"The (hotel tax) is very small in comparison," Testa said, noting that Measure PP was projected to bring in about \$10 million in revenue annually. "It's going to be good to have, but it's not going to

make a dent, really, in our budget situation."

Balch defended his take on Measure PP, reiterating his stance that the city needed to look more closely at its finances before asking taxpayers to bear the burden of a half-cent sales tax increase.

"Before I ask for another ... taxpayer dollar, I want to make sure we need it, and I stand by that budget philosophy," Balch said.

He also defended the phased approach the city took with Measure HH, saying it is what hotel industry leaders preferred, especially as the industry continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. He said that while the revenue from Measure HH may not be significant, those additional dollars will help the city "maintain that high quality of life."

How to address housing mandates

Both candidates agreed that retaining local control over current and future housing development proposals was important, but they disagreed on how the city should address state mandates.

Balch said he is for responsible growth over time so services and infrastructure can adapt. However, he said, it's also important to choose viable housing sites that will comply with state laws so that the city avoids being sued, as it has been in the past. He added that he supports multigenerational housing that is affordable by design.

"Not growing too fast is important, but not growing too slowly as well," Balch said.

He criticized the past council majority for not adding portions of

East Pleasanton as potential housing sites in the city's sixth Housing Element, a document that lays out areas within the city to be zoned for future housing. The state requires Pleasanton to plan for 5,965 new units — 2,758 of which are targeted toward lower-income households — over the eight-year cycle, which runs through 2031. Though the city must rezone to allow for the units, it is not required to actually build them.

Testa countered Balch's comments, saying her vote with the council majority to exclude East Pleasanton from the Housing Element came after city staff recommended doing so. New housing has been proposed in East Pleasanton on land the city has annexed, but Testa said she would have preferred to see those sites used for industrial purposes.

She said East Pleasanton is not appropriate for high-density housing, mainly due to the lack of transit options, and that industrial businesses would have generated more money in property taxes for the city compared to residential units.

She said she supports housing but wants it to be realistic for the city and called the state's mandates unachievable. She said Pleasanton should be joining forces with other cities to fight back.

Other topics covered at the forum included the search for the next city manager, the newly proposed sewer rates that the council will vote on later this year, decorum on the dais and street safety and road maintenance.

A video of the forum can be found on the Pleasanton Weekly's YouTube page. ■

DISTRICT 1

Continued from Page 13

Narum mostly concurred on building more entry-level and affordable housing; addressing the Stoneridge redevelopment delays; and making it easier for businesses to open in Pleasanton.

For Stoneridge, Narum said apart from pushing mall owners to mobilize on redevelopment efforts, she wanted to see more studies about what kind of shops people would really like at the mall.

On economic development, Narum said the Hacienda Business Park vacancy rate is going down as park and business leaders continue cold calling prospective tenants. She also credited the city for beefing up its Community and Economic Development Department with a new assistant director.

She expressed a more positive outlook on Measure HH, saying that while the revenue won't be a lot, the \$2.8 million annually that the tax would generate by the end of 2028 is a good start toward addressing the city's budget challenges. She also said that the hotel tax, if approved, is just one of many new revenue streams that have not been included in the budget deficit projections.

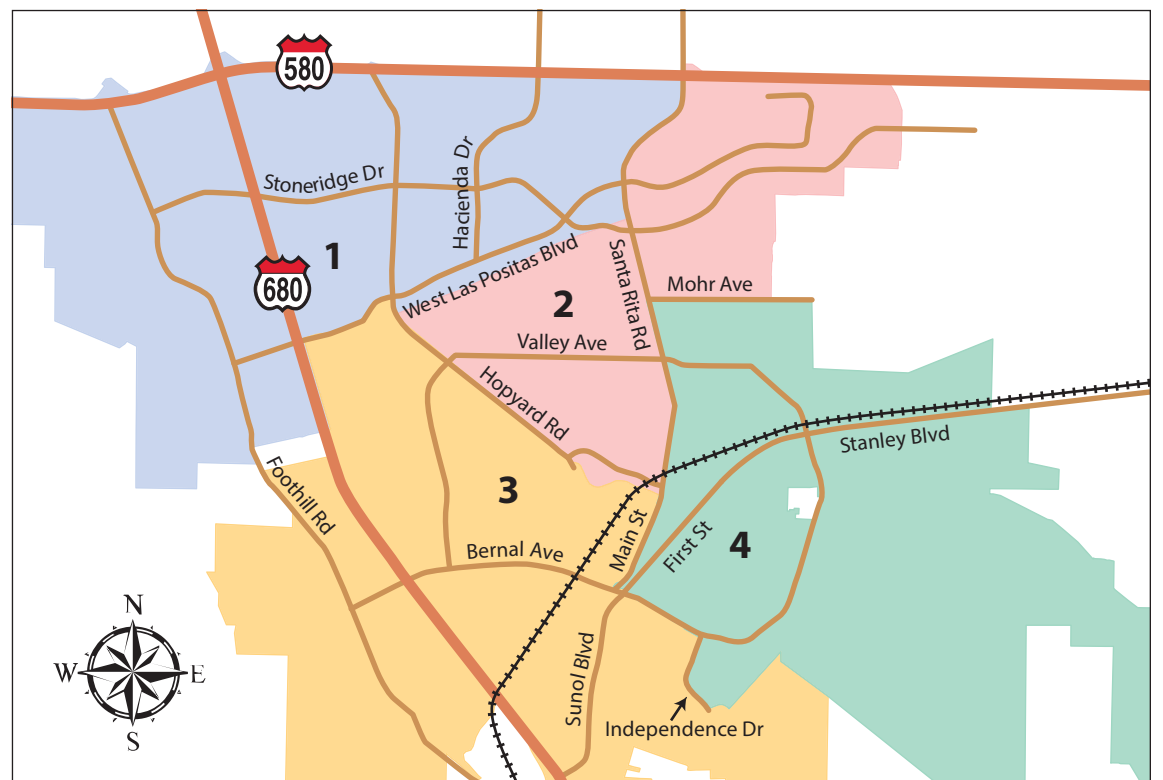
Both Kruttiventi and Narum

agreed that, when it comes to public safety, the city needs to take a look at the number of first responders available as Pleasanton continues to grow.

Regarding water safety and reliability, Kruttiventi said he understands Pleasanton's ongoing struggles with addressing the discovery of PFAS, otherwise known as forever chemicals, in several of the city's groundwater wells, and recent water rate increases intended to stabilize the city's water enterprise fund, which pays for the city's water supply and distribution system. However, he said residents deserve predictability and stable rates.

He said he hopes the two new groundwater wells that Zone 7 and the city are working on will alleviate some of this stress that he said residents who are on fixed incomes are experiencing.

Narum said as someone who is currently serving on the Zone 7 board, water safety and reliability is very important to her and her campaign. She spent most of her allotted response time to this question going over the entire timeline of the city's groundwater wells being closed as well as all of the actions the city and the water agency took to get them to where they are now in the design and construction phases of the two new groundwater wells.



CITY OF PLEASANTON; MAP BY PAUL LLEWELLYN

During her closing remarks, Narum listed a slew of local first responder unions, city leaders and state politicians, like Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton), who have endorsed her because of what they know she will bring to the dais.

"They endorsed me for District 1

because they trust me to be an accessible, serious and focused leader," Narum said during the forum. "One who will help bring our community together to solve these problems, not play the blame game."

She added that she has no aspirations for higher political office.

Kruttiventi in 2024 ran unsuccessfully for the Tri-Valley's Congressional District 14 and finished third in the June primary for Congressional District 13 in the San Joaquin Valley.

A video of the forum can be found on the Pleasanton Weekly's YouTube page. ■

DISTRICT 3

Continued from Page 13

when the redevelopment plan was being discussed, and she has been waiting since then to see something happen.

She said the site is one of the best locations in the city to develop, which is why she would like to see all of the mall property owners get together and decide on a concrete plan to move the project forward.

"Give them all the incentives that they need, brainstorm with them, tell them what we are missing and just make it happen," Gupta said.

Yee said she's lived in the city long

enough to remember when the mall opened, adding that it's sad to see the current state of the center. She said while she understands there are ownership challenges, the city has an opportunity to do something amazing with the redevelopment plans and should "get out of the way of the developers."

"Let them come in and drive the project," Yee said. "I feel like we need to let the people who know how to do these projects do their projects. I think sometimes too much government involvement is too much."

Yee also said the city needs to rethink its inclusionary zoning policies and focus on producing attainable

housing for younger people, adding that it's sad that young adults who grew up in Pleasanton can't afford to buy their own homes there. She noted she would like to take a look at the city's deed-restricted, senior and affordable housing data before the city can continue planning for the future.

Gupta also acknowledged that the city is changing and said officials need to focus on shaping that change thoughtfully. She said that means making sure future housing projects are located in the right place, are scaled appropriately and benefit their surrounding communities.

She said the city needs to seriously consider how housing projects will

affect traffic, water supply and the surrounding schools.

Regarding the city's water supply, Gupta said safe drinking water was one of the top concerns she heard from residents. She said there are three things that matter when it comes to water: quality, cost and reliability.

Gupta acknowledged the two new groundwater wells that the city and Zone 7 are looking to build in order to address the PFAS chemicals, also known as forever chemicals, found in the city's groundwater system. She also said that shouldn't stop the city from looking into other technology to address PFAS that could be used to restore the city's existing but contaminated wells.

Yee, on the other hand, said the city has made great strides in addressing the PFAS problem. However, she echoed Gupta in highlighting water-rate increases as a priority issue.

Yee said the city should look more into affordable ways to continue funding its Water Enterprise Fund and make sure it is not overcharging its residents with the new rates.

Among the other topics the District 3 candidates discussed at last week's forum were annexing Castlewood into the city of Pleasanton, ensuring safe drinking water and where they stand on being endorsed by special interest groups.

A video of the forum can be found on the Weekly's YouTube page. ■



COURTESY OLIVINA

The Olivina arch is a hallmark of the Livermore Valley that dates back to the turn of the 20th century.

A local leader in the olive oil renaissance

Historic, family-owned Olivina in Livermore crafts coveted extra virgins and vinegars

By DEBORAH GROSSMAN

The tall Olivina arch at the intersection of Arroyo and Wetmore roads is hard to miss.

Sara Smith installed the arch in 1906 to honor her late husband's contributions to their South Livermore property and his internationally award-winning wines. Co-founder of cleaning agent Twenty Mule Team Borax and a pioneer viticulturist, Julius Paul Smith bought 2,000 acres in 1881. The estate name, Olivina, reflected the vines he acquired from France and the cuttings brought from old olive trees at the Fremont Mission San José.

To mark the heritage of Olivina as one of the Livermore Valley's early, wine-growing and olive-producing properties, the Olivina arch was designated a California

Historical Landmark in 1958.

Located on the southeastern section of the original Smith estate, Olivina is currently the largest olive orchard in the East Bay with 10,000 trees.

"We are fortunate to have a quality product so local. Olivina Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) is pristine. We use their Mission oil as a finishing sauce and even over ice cream," said Francis X. Hogan, founding chef and culinary director of Sabio and Crush'd.

Bernard Crohare purchased 800 acres of the Smith estate in 1939. Third-generation Charles F. Crohare led Olivina for 70 years until his death in 2023. During his tenure, Crohare sold part of the Olivia property for the establishment of Sycamore Grove Park.

Olivina's EVOO quality ramped



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Olivina owner Charles T. Crohare and guests at the Women's Wine Collective event in August.

up in 2007 when the Crohars purchased an Italian-made olive mill. The new mill brought more efficient, modern processes to ensure freshness and timely processing of the olives, critical factors in handling the delicate fruit that deteriorates quickly.

"With estate grown olives, we can harvest and mill them immediately at optimum ripeness," said fourth-generation Charles T. Crohare, who is the Olivina master miller. "We honor the legacy of Olivina to Livermore agriculture with displays and artifacts in our barn."

Tastings and sales of Olivina EVOO and Olivina vinegars, both fig and blackberry, are held twice monthly at the Olivina barn on Arroyo Road near Wente Vineyards and at the Pleasanton Farmers Market. The EVOO is sold at select local markets, served at a half-dozen local restaurants and two nurseries.

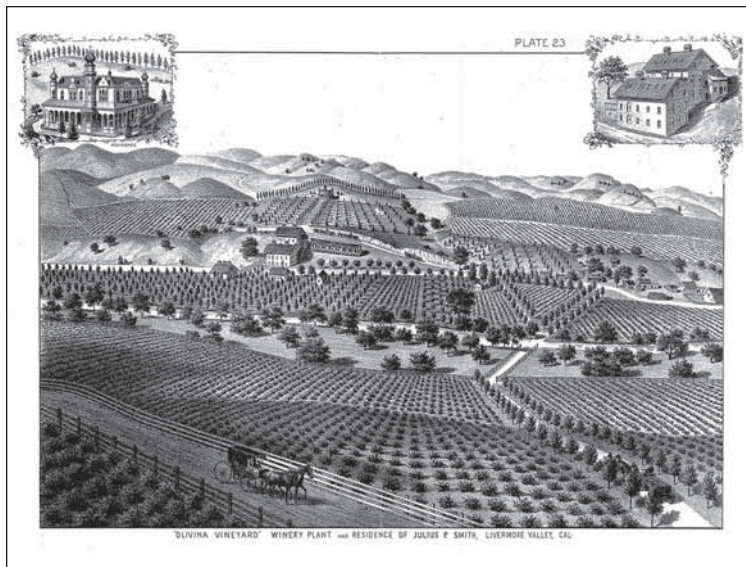
The 70-acre orchard produces six olive varieties (cultivars), from delicate Arbequina to mildly peppery Mission and robust Frantoio.

Olivina EVOO is certified by the California Olive Oil Commission, which means the oils undergo mandatory chemical analysis to pinpoint impurities and a sensory evaluation to check for other defects.

Crohare is quick to explain that

not all bottles labeled "EVOO" are equal. "The '60 Minutes' Agromafia segment in 2016 exposed the fraud committed by Italian producers with knockoffs that relabeled

See **OLIVINA** on Page 16



COURTESY OLIVINA

Historic image of Olivina vineyard and olive trees late 1890s.



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Olivina Olive trees from original 145-year-old cuttings and old grader.



JOE'S MOBILE AUTO DETAILING

We have over 18 years experience in the auto body industry!

Check Out Our Spotless Full-Service Wash!

Using filtered water
and a 3 month protection applied.
Starting at \$90.00

FULL DETAIL STARTING AT \$399.00

We also offer:

- Interior Steam Cleaning
- Ceramic Coating
- Paint Correction

"Joe's mobile auto detailing is so impressive. He did an amazing job restoring my BMW. He is very professional and dependable. You do not need a new car; you need to have Joe transform the car you have. Well worth the cost for sure!" — Sue J., Yelp review

925-580-0006 Call today for a quote.



COURTESY LVA

ArtWalk is back in downtown Livermore on Saturday.



COURTESY LVA

Artist Nutan Singh working on "Fair Fever V".

ArtWalk returns to downtown Livermore this weekend

Annual free festival will feature more than 200 vendors, chalk art, live music — and elephants

By JUDE STRZEMP

More than 200 craftspeople will display and sell their art, pottery, jewelry, garden decor and more this Saturday at the 35th annual Livermore ArtWalk.

The free event, organized by Livermore Valley Arts, runs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. downtown. Artist booths will be set up on sidewalks and in plazas, parks and galleries, including the Bankhead Plaza; First Street between Maple Street and South Livermore Avenue; Livermorium Plaza; and McLeod Street between First and Second streets.

New this year will be Chalk the Walk, a chalk-art festival where professional and community chalk artists will showcase their skills in front of the Bankhead Theater.

There will also be live music and a "portrait paint-off" conducted by local artists.

"ArtWalk is one of those events that really captures the spirit of Livermore," said Anne Giancola, visual arts and education manager at Livermore Valley Arts. "Chalk the Walk gives people another reason to stop, look and engage with art."

This year's ArtWalk coincides with the opening of "The Great Elephant Migration: A Family Gathering," a temporary installation of 30 life-sized elephant sculptures created by Indigenous artisans from Southern India. The sculptures will be located at the Bankhead Plaza and Stockmen's Park through Dec. 6. ■

OLIVINA

Continued from Page 15

lower-quality oils from other countries as their EVOO. Some producers continue to adulterate EVOO with safflower oil," he said.

The mill takes up an entire room and looks like an AI-generated movie creature.

Before milling, according to Crohare, the olives get a Jacuzzi-style water bath. The olives are then crushed into an oatmeal-like paste. The centrifuge separates out the skin, pits and water. The separator then spins to yield the pure EVOO.

With California EVOO experiencing a renaissance and the wine industry, a downturn, additional olive trees are popping up in lieu of vineyard planting. Crohare oversees custom milling for others.

In 2016, Rancho Milagro began harvesting olives from their young trees on Mines Road in Livermore. Early on, "An EVOO expert told us, 'The olive miller can make or

break your EVOO.' We are incredibly pleased with the quality of the EVOO Charles Crohare makes for us. He prepares the equipment carefully for our award-winning oils," owner Nancy Frishberg said.

In the tradition of old village milling, Crohare holds an annual Community Milling Day. On Nov. 8 this year, residential olive tree owners and small olive growers can bring their fruit from one or more trees and receive a percentage of the extracted oil based on the amount of their contribution.

For those who dislike wine or are underage for alcohol tasting, Olivina offers an opportunity for people of all ages to taste a quality Livermore Valley agricultural product.

At Olivina's private functions and community events such as the recent "Hint of Harvest" sponsored by the Livermore Valley Women's Wine Collective, most hosts request an EVOO tasting. Attendee Emily Watts of Livermore said, "I came for the wine, but the Olivina oils were a bonus." ■

33RD ANNUAL HALLOWEEN SPIRIT RUN

8:30 AM ON SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25

HELD AT: WORKBENCH HARDWARE

8:30 a.m. Timed Races:

- 5K & 10K Run or Walk

MAIN ST., DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON

10:00 a.m. Kids Challenge:

- 1/4 Mile (12 & Under)
- 100 yard dash (5 & Under)

spiritrn.pleasantonrotary.org

Proceeds to support scholarships for Pleasanton students plus community & international projects of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton

Over \$1 MILLION raised since 1993

Long Sleeved T-shirts • Finisher Medals for All • Raffle Prizes
Costumes Welcome • Age Group Awards • Flat, Loop Courses

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton man takes plea deal in fatal Crow Canyon crash

A Pleasanton man accused of driving drunk at more than 150 mph in a fatal San Ramon crash last November has accepted a plea deal and will avoid going to trial.

Badal Dholaria, 28, agreed to plead no contest to charges of manslaughter, driving under the influence and assault in connection with the collision that killed Alix Sparks, a 41-year-old nurse and Castro Valley resident. He entered the plea Sept. 24 at the Wakefield Taylor Courthouse in Martinez.

Police said Dholaria was driving a Tesla westbound on Crow Canyon Road about 3:30 p.m. Nov. 29 when his car collided with a Ford Bronco near the intersection with Bollinger Canyon Road. Sparks, a passenger in the Bronco, died from her injuries. The driver of the Bronco, also a Castro Valley resident, was treated for injuries.

Dholaria, who has been in custody on \$1.2 million bail since his arrest, initially pleaded not guilty to a slew of charges, including murder. He had been set to go to trial Nov. 9.

Sentencing is scheduled for next Thursday (Oct. 15) at the courthouse in downtown Martinez.

—Jeanita Lyman

Former Delta pilot, ex-girlfriend convicted of child sex abuse

A former airline pilot and his one-time girlfriend were convicted of child sexual abuse, the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office said last week.

Florida resident Ruston Bhagwagar, 35, a former pilot for Delta Airlines who used to live in San Ramon, was arrested at the San Francisco International Airport in July 2025 by the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office and was held on \$15 million bail. He was charged with 24 felonies related to the repeated sex abuse of a young girl.

The criminal case against Bhagwagar and co-defendant Jennifer Spitz Powell, 46, was handled by two separate juries, prosecutors said. Powell, a current Walnut Creek resident, grew up in the San Ramon Valley and was listed as an Alamo resident at the time of her arrest.

A jury found Powell guilty on Sept. 28, and another jury found Bhagwagar guilty on Sept. 29. Both were convicted of eight counts of sex abuse on a child under 10 years of age and 12 counts of forcible lewd acts upon a child under the age of 14.

Evidence presented to both juries showed that the sexual abuse of the victim began when she was 7 years old and occurred from 2017 to 2022.

Powell, who was in a relationship with Bhagwagar, participated with him in numerous acts of abuse against the victim, according to prosecutors.

Bhagwagar and Powell each face a maximum sentence of 230 years to life in state prison and will be sentenced at a future date, the District Attorney's Office said.

"This young survivor showed extraordinary courage by testifying in court and facing the people who used duress to harm her," District Attorney Diana Becton said in a statement released by her office. "These verdicts hold both defendants accountable."

—Story by Katy St. Clair,
Bay City News Story.

Pleasanton Weekly associate publisher
Jeremy Walsh contributed
localized information.

Murder defendants appear in court

The married couple accused of gunning down their son-in-law in front of several bystanders last month at the Dublin Sports Grounds made their first court appearance at the East County Hall of Justice last week.

Dublin residents Shili Chen and Shouyong Zhang, both 77, were charged with murder, with Alameda County District Attorney Ursula Jones Dickson alleging the couple lay in wait to kill Jonathan McKinsey, a New York Times employee who had reportedly been in the midst of contentious divorce proceedings with their daughter.

If convicted of first-degree murder with the special enhancement, Chen and Zhang could face life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The two also face gun charges, with a probable cause declaration stating the two killed their son-in-law "in concert."

Witnesses pointed Dublin Police Services officers to a black Honda Civic leaving the sports grounds on Sept. 26, according to the DA's office. Officers stopped the vehicle and detained Chen, who was driving, and Zhang, who was in the passenger seat.

Police said that they found one gun in Chen's possession and a second in the vehicle that was identified by Zhang as the one used in the attack. They also said surveillance video corroborated witness accounts.

"Chen and the passenger carried out this shooting in a crowded park parking lot with blatant disregard for public safety where several children were present," police wrote

in the probable cause declaration made public by the DA's office last week.

The charges filed differ in some ways from those recommended by police, which had included child abuse/endangerment and conspiracy to commit fraud.

The killing has drawn national attention, and dozens of local and national reporters attended the arraignment Sept. 30 at the East County Hall of Justice, located about 2 miles from the site of the shooting. The suspects' court appearance was brief; Zhang was flanked by his appointed attorney but did not speak.

Chen, who had invoked her Miranda Rights at the police station following her arrest, said through a Mandarin language interpreter that she did not have the means to afford an attorney. She was appointed a public defender and returned to court Thursday morning.

While police allege that Zhang confessed to shooting McKinsey, neither suspect had entered a plea on the charges as of last week. Both Zhang and Chen were ordered to be held without bail at Santa Rita Jail. Their next court date is scheduled for Oct. 19.

McKinsey, 40, was embroiled in a bitter divorce with Zhang and Chen's daughter, Candice Jang, which included competing allegations of abuse. Jang accused McKinsey of abusing their children, while McKinsey, who was transgender, alleged that Jang and her parents had abused him and used anti-LGBTQ+ slurs.

McKinsey and Jang had each obtained restraining orders against

the other, with McKinsey having said in court filings months before his death that he believed his wife was "capable of great harm."

While he did not seek restraining orders against Chen and Zhang, McKinsey alleged that the pair frequently kicked him out of the Dublin home he owned with Jang; that Zhang had punched him in the chest as he was recovering from a double mastectomy; and that Chen had verbally abused him.

McKinsey filed for divorce shortly after Jang went to police last year with allegations that he had hit one of their children and left another unattended to go shopping. McKinsey was charged with

two misdemeanors and pleaded not guilty. He had completed parenting classes and was seeking diversion in the case at the time of his death, according to court records.

Finances had been one source of strife for the couple, according to local family court records, with both requesting in their dual restraining orders that the other refrain from locking them out of their financial accounts. McKinsey also requested access to their joint savings account. Jang said that she was a homemaker who hadn't worked since 2010 and that she was financially dependent on McKinsey in order to raise their three children. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

TAKE US ALONG



Retreat at Timepiece Ranch: Thais Carlucci and Maria Bower enjoyed a reader's retreat at Timepiece Ranch in Utah — which is owned by author Richard Paul Evans, author of "The Christmas Box". They were looking forward to reading his next book, "Mercy's Child".

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.

Your Neighborhood Estate Planning Solution

Conveniently Located in Downtown Pleasanton

We Create and Update Living Trusts

Accomplish Your Family's Needs and Priorities:

- ✓ New Trusts
- ✓ Update Existing Trusts
- ✓ All Trusts Include:
 - Power of Attorney
 - Financial
 - Health Care



Creating Peace of Mind for You
~Security for Your Family~

DECARLI LAW
WILLS • TRUSTS • ESTATE PLANNING

New Address!

349 Main St., Suite 202
Downtown Pleasanton
At the corner of Main and Angela streets
Entrance on Angela St.

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
(925)568-2350

LETTERS

Candidate forums 2026

I am so grateful for all the candidate forums that you provided this year. What a great service!

It is sometimes so difficult to find reliable information about local candidates and especially difficult, if not impossible, to gain that greater understanding of their positions via in-person interviews. Plus, I loved being able to watch the videos later if I wasn't available to watch the in-person or live stream event.

I can't fully appreciate how complicated pulling all these forums together must have been but I'm sure glad you were able to do it. I definitely will be donating.

Thank you!!!

— Patti Cole

I back Jack. You should too.

When I ran for City Council in 2024, I didn't know Jack Balch and Jack didn't know me. I supported his opponent, the incumbent mayor. I ran because I knew I was the best option for Pleasanton. Once Election Day passed, whatever differences we had, or didn't have, were left behind and we both looked towards the future.

Since that time, I have come to know Jack very well. He is everywhere, all the time. He cares deeply about Pleasanton and its residents. He works harder for the city than I can express in words and presides with measured reason and forethought, making decisions based on evidence and pragmatism.

When the Little Fire broke out months ago, it was he who spent the night at City Hall and the Senior Center making sure the displaced residents were cared for.

It is he who reaches across all perspectives to gain consensus, constantly bearing the difficult duty to lead the council meetings and respectfully bring back the council's attention to the task at hand. It is he who doesn't pander to a certain group and who doesn't promise undeliverables.

Sometimes being the mayor or a councilperson comes with the duty to make unpopular decisions. To be able to do that with class, dignity and integrity makes Jack the right person to continue to lead the city and see through the ideas he has brought forth.

I back Jack, and you should too.

— Matt Gaidos, Pleasanton vice mayor

Vote Testa for mayor

Pleasanton needs leadership who can bring respectful discussion to the dais. Julie has more than eight years of City Council experience, including two terms as vice mayor.

She has been active on regional

transportation and legislative issues and advocated for maintaining local decision-making authority on housing and development.

She championed Pleasanton's Alternative Response Unit, an approach that brings specially trained mental-health resources to appropriate calls rather than relying solely on armed police officers. The program received a Helen Putnam Award for Excellence.

With the city's pressing financial and infrastructure challenges, she supports growing revenue and controlling costs without placing unnecessary costs on existing residents. Julie will be an intelligent experienced leader who will guide Pleasanton into the future.

— Sandra Yamaoda

Brady for LVJUSD Area 3

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Angela Brady for the Livermore school board in Area 3.

As a local parent, Angela brings a deeply personal commitment to the educational success and well-being of our students. She understands firsthand the challenges and opportunities facing our schools today.

Equally important is her professional background as a data analyst. In a role that demands accountability and strategic oversight, Angela's expertise in evidence-based decision-making will ensure that school resources are utilized effectively to drive real results for all children.

Angela combines a mother's dedicated heart with an analyst's rigorous mind. She will be a powerful, thoughtful advocate for our students, teachers and community.

Please join me in voting for Angela Brady for School Board, Area 3.

— Kate Runyon, former Livermore school board member (2002 to 2018)

Sewer rate increase

The city of Pleasanton has mailed a Proposition 218 notice proposing large, multi-year increases in the city's sewer collection charge for single-family homes:

- Current rate: \$31.53 bimonthly
- Jan. 1, 2027: \$57.03
- Then further increases on each July 1 through FY 2030, to \$62.74, \$69.02, and \$75.93

That more than doubles the city's collection charge in a few years, with no cap after 2030. Treatment charges from DSRSD or Livermore are on top of this. Households already facing high housing, insurance, water and other utility costs cannot absorb this path.

I support a working sewer system. I do not support placing almost all of the capital burden on ratepayers in this short window. I ask you to:

1. Contact Mayor Jack Balch and

the Pleasanton City Council before the Nov. 17, 2026 public hearing and urge a slower phase-in, greater use of reserves and debt, and a smaller first-year jump.

2. Help the city pursue Clean Water State Revolving Fund financing and other state infrastructure funding so less of the program is dumped onto sewer bills.

This is an urgent Pleasanton citizen issue.

— Andrew Blidy

Choi for PUSD Area 5

I support Thomas Choi for Pleasanton school board because:

1. With Trustee Brown leaving, every remaining Trustee works (or worked) in schools: teacher, secretary, coordinator and teacher. That experience matters, but no one has a background in law, finance or business.

2. He is endorsed by CSEA, representing classified staff, and by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. He is not endorsed by a majority of the current board. This is a positive — we need diversity of perspective.

3. Thomas is a lawyer. Our district spends heavily on outside counsel and consultants. A trustee who reads contracts and the Brown Act fluently will ask sharper questions of both.

4. A negative budget certification is embarrassing for a district that prides itself on excellence. Academically, we perform well in aggregate. But this is also a business, and reserves were drained until the county stepped in. Students and staff paid for the recovery through budget cuts. Thomas has built his career on analysis and problem-solving.

5. Thomas spent the past year at board meetings advocating against classroom cuts and for transparency and logic-guided decisions.

6. He has a bias for action, and I believe he can get things done. He organized more than 160 neighbors to protect the Hearst/PMS playfields. His platform is at savepusd.com.

I don't live in Area 5, but this trustee votes on the whole district's budget. Please vote for Thomas Choi.

— Christina Nystrom

Can Pleasanton be bought?

Following extensive discussion and public input about the role of money in local elections, in May of 2021, Pleasanton City Council members unanimously agreed to set a voluntary \$1,000 per individual contribution maximum for city office candidates and with a 3-2 vote, set spending limits of \$25,000 council members and \$30,000 for mayoral candidates.

While these limits are voluntary, it's worth paying attention to who chooses to adhere to this decision in

this election and the last one.

Pleasanton can't be bought ... or can it?

— Karen Scott

An advocate for us

Please join me in voting for Julie Testa for mayor. Few people are more qualified to lead our lovely city.

For 40 years, Julie has been a tireless advocate for local residents. She thoroughly understands the operational mechanics of our city and grasps our financial landscape better than some paid staff. Many community benefits we enjoy today were inspired by her diligence, close observation and tenacity.

Preserving the unique charm and character of our town is an issue close to my heart. Julie actively fought to keep tall high-rises out of our downtown and prevent massive, underregulated housing projects at our borders, prioritizing the long-term impacts on traffic and infrastructure. She does her homework and asks the tough questions.

Equally important is her advocacy for all citizens, including the unhoused and those facing mental illness. Her work establishing the Police Department's Alternative Response Unit has been a godsend to individuals and families in crisis. Her compassion and proactive concern have undoubtedly saved lives.

If you enjoy living in this city Julie has been a part of that.

Join me in electing Julie Testa for Pleasanton mayor this November.

— Laura Danielson

Balch for Pleasanton mayor

As a resident of Pleasanton for over 30 years, I know that right now, Pleasanton needs an engaged and involved mayor for the 21st century:

- Someone who has developed and maintains strong working relationships within our community and neighboring communities, so we can continue to collaborate successfully on regional issues.
- Someone who is not only intelligent but possesses the superior critical-thinking skills needed to understand and assimilate the broad impacts and nuances of complex issues facing Pleasanton — and who can clearly articulate that information to our community, and does so regularly through his personally-written newsletter.
- Someone in continuous conversation with residents, spending meaningful time in every corner of Pleasanton — each district, neighborhood, school and park — listening first to understand resident needs and priorities, and then formulating recommendations on how best to serve them.

- Someone with a proven track record of getting things done and making progress on projects and priorities one thoughtful step at a time to ensure Pleasanton remains a great place to live and work.

Fortunately, Mayor Jack Balch has been doing all this and more on our behalf for the past two years. That's why #IBackJack for reelection as Pleasanton mayor.

— Susan Hayes

Jamie Yee for Pleasanton City Council

I had the opportunity to serve alongside Jamie when we were both elected school board trustees, she in Pleasanton and I in Dublin. We met through our appointments to the Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program board during a significant leadership transition. We were both new trustees, trying to navigate a difficult period for an organization we cared about deeply.

You learn a lot about someone when you work through hard things together.

Jamie was never afraid to ask difficult questions, but she also

See **LETTERS** on Page 19

Pleasanton Weekly

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox,
(925) 621-1171

EDITORIAL

**Associate Publisher /
Editorial Director**
Jeremy Walsh, (925) 621-1172

Editor

Emily Lavin, (925) 621-1174

Staff Reporters

Jeanita Lyman, Ext. 1179
Jude Strzemp, Ext. 1175
Christian Trujano, Ext. 1176

Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Deborah Grossman,
Tim Hunt, Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager
Kristin Brown

ADVERTISING

Account Executive
Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

BUSINESS

Business Associate
Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate
Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Editorial emails:
editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:
sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email: circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

LETTERS

Continued from Page 18

listened carefully to the answers. She did her homework, sought out different perspectives and took seriously the responsibility of representing her community. We did not always agree, and I think that made the respect I developed for her even more meaningful.

Over time, I came to know Jamie as thoughtful, hardworking, empathetic and deeply committed to public service. She understood that her decisions could have very real consequences for people and families. In my experience, Jamie approached that responsibility with care, preparation and integrity.

Somewhere along the way, our work together also became a friendship, one born from long meetings, many conversations, shared responsibility and a mutual desire to serve our communities well.

What I remember most is that Jamie never took the public's trust lightly. She showed up prepared, listened, asked questions and never lost sight of the people affected by her decisions. She understands what it takes to represent others and I believe would be an excellent city councilmember.

— Amy Miller,
former Dublin school board trustee

On District 1

A city is not a profit-and-loss enterprise and pretending it oversimplifies the real work of governing.

Businesses exist to maximize profit. Cities exist to serve people — all people — whether they generate revenue or not. A business can choose its customers; Pleasanton cannot choose its residents. We must maintain parks that don't pay for themselves, repair roads that generate no profit, and support seniors, youth, and families because that's what a community does.

Efficiency matters, but equity matters more.

Running a city requires transparency, public process, environmental review, long-term planning and accountability. A CEO can make decisions behind closed doors. A council member cannot.

Government isn't slow because it's incompetent; it's slow because it must be fair.

In District 1, we have candidates with very different histories. One candidate, Kathy Narum, has served Pleasanton for more than a decade and consistently earned voter support without excessive spending. Those facts speak for themselves, but the deeper issue is the philosophy of governance.

Pleasanton isn't a corporation. It's a community. We don't need profit-driven thinking; we

need public-minded leadership. Government shouldn't be run like a business — it should be run like a responsibility.

— Michael Austin

What makes Christiaan run

Christiaan VandenHeuvel is running for election as District 5 LVJUSD trustee.

To understand the values that inform Christiaan's tenure as trustee, it's helpful to understand the faith that guides him.

Christiaan is pastor of care and support at Cornerstone Fellowship in Livermore, where he has served for 25 years.

Cornerstone's values focus explicitly on inclusion:

- We include everyone, especially those not like us.
- All people have equal worth and value.
- God's love is radically inclusive and excludes no one.
- We seek to share any advantages we have with those who are less advantaged.

Cornerstone's philosophy emphasizes human dignity, welcoming people who are different, crossing barriers to build relationships, tolerance, compassion, social justice and service to disadvantaged people.

"My faith is where my values come from, but how that plays out in board work isn't about religion,"

Christiaan says. "It's about how I treat people and how I make decisions. I believe you can disagree with someone strongly and still treat them with respect..."

"It's why I pay attention to the students who are furthest behind. And it's why, when things get tense in the room, I try to stay calm and keep us focused on what's good for kids, not on who's winning the argument."

Christiaan embodies the values that are foundational to Cornerstone Fellowship. He is also brainy, deep-thinking, kind, always upbeat, a bit goofy (in a really endearing way) and an amazing human. District 5 voters please consider Christiaan in November.

— David Jonas

Larry Bird for LARPD board

I am proud to support Larry Bird for the LARPD board. Larry is an outstanding man whose integrity, character and commitment to our community make him an exceptional candidate for this important role.

With nearly three decades of service in law enforcement, Larry has spent his career serving others, working with people from all walks of life, and demonstrating strong leadership, sound judgment and accountability. Those qualities are exactly what we need in

someone helping guide the future of Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

Larry's dedication to our community extends far beyond his professional career. Through his many years of coaching, he has had a positive impact on countless young people and families. He understands firsthand how important parks, recreation programs, sports, and community spaces are in bringing people together and creating opportunities for children and adults alike.

What stands out most about Larry is that he genuinely cares about Livermore and the people who live here. He is involved, approachable, dependable and committed to making our community an even better place. His experience in public service, combined with his passion for youth, recreation, and community involvement, gives him a valuable perspective that would serve LARPD well.

The LARPD Board needs leaders who will listen, make thoughtful decisions, work collaboratively and always keep the best interests of the community in mind.

I wholeheartedly support Larry Bird for the LARPD board and encourage our community to learn more about him and consider supporting him in the upcoming election.

— Jeannine Rinetti

GET THE LATEST ELECTION NEWS

Get informed with our **2026 Election Center** — your one-stop shop for all things election. Find information about and attend local candidate forums, dive deep into local election news, learn more about the candidates and ballot propositions, and on race night see up-to-the-minute race results.

★ ★ ★
2026
ELECTION
CENTER

CANDIDATE FORUMS

☑ Dublin Mayor and City Council

Mon., Oct. 12 • 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Dublin Chamber of Commerce Office — 6300 Village Pkwy., #100, Dublin

☑ Sunol Glen School Board

Wed., Oct. 14 • 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Sunol Glen School Cafeteria — 11601 Main St., Sunol

➔ MISSED A CANDIDATE FORUM?

Watch the forum videos at PleasantonWeekly.com/election/forums-events-2026/



Learn more or submit candidate questions at
PleasantonWeekly.com/election



NONPROFIT LOCAL NEWS FOR THE TRI-VALLEY

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



PARK46
REAL ESTATE
Park46.com

Stephany Jenkins
925.989.3318 DRE# 01311486

Ashley Kenitzer
925.895.1603 DRE# 01739482

Local Knowledge, Trusted Results



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

30 years and still strong for coach Collins

Flat out the best I've seen in any sport locally – and this year is no different

There are very few givens in the local prep sports scene, but one that certainly seems to ring true every year — the Foothill High girls' volleyball team will be the thick of things at the end of the season.

The Falcons started the season 1-2, although the losses came to James Logan and Branson, two programs that are always strong. On Sept. 5, the Falcons went 3-1 in a tournament, falling only to Marin Academy in the last match.

The die was set at that point.

Now with four games left in the regular season, the Falcons are all alone in second place and are on course for another postseason berth.

The Falcons are coached by Dusty Collins who is in his 30th year coaching at the school where he has guided both the girls' and boys' teams.

Collins is flat out the best coach in any sport that I have seen locally. And that's saying a lot, as there have been many great coaches in the East Bay Athletic League over the years.

It's a blessing to the athletes who have grown up in the area that there have been so many outstanding coaches — coaches that care more about wins and losses, coaches that genuinely want to make the kids better people.

And to me, Collins stands above all of them.

I have had multiple conversations with former Foothill football coach Matt Sweeney, an iconic coach in his own right. It was several years ago when Sweeney told me he held the same view of Collins.

What is it that makes Collins such an incredible coach? I have been around and covered Collins' teams for all 30 years. To me, there are two main things.

One, he gets the most of his players. There have been many times when I know that the opposing teams have had more talent, yet come the end of the match, it's the Falcons that get the win.

If I had a dollar for every time he has told me before a season started, "If I can get a setter this year, we'll be decent."

At the end of the season, after a

great year and an All-EBAL award for the setter in question, you just had to shake your head and smile.

Second, he reads his audience as well as any coach I have seen.

I can remember a lengthy conversation we had about the differences between coaching boys and girls.

I have coached both boys' and girls' teams and never really gave much thought to different methods of coaching. Collins laid it out in a way that made it clear and made me reflect on my coaching days.

I don't remember the exact verbiage, but it went along these lines: "With the boys, you come in for practice and get right to it. With the girls, you have to ask about their day and what's going on, then you can get to practice."

And that's the key — communication. Collins has always understood his teams and players. He knows when you push and when it's time to back off.

It has been a privilege to cover all those Foothill teams and it was an honor to announce so many Senior Nights and playoff games for Foothill.



COURTESY FOOTHILL VOLLEYBALL

Foothill girls' volleyball coach Dusty Collins (holding the plaque) and his championship-winning team in 2023.

Congrats on 30 years of excellence Dusty!

Foothill on the court

The Falcons had another good week and currently sit all alone in second place in the EBAL with four games to play.

The big game of the week was a 27-25, 25-23, 25-20 win at San Ramon Valley that gave the Falcons solo possession of second place.

Highlights came from Ilayda Caglar (20 kills, 15 digs), Kait Vogel (12 kills, 11 digs, 11 service points), Olivia So (23 digs, 6 service points)

and Sewa Adesuyi-fasuyi (9 kills, 4 digs).

The second game of the week was a 25-10, 25-12, 25-18 win over Dublin. The highlights were from: Makenzie Bulaon (17 assists, 8 service points), Sherya Patel (11 assists, 4 aces), Addie Boeschenstein (4 kills, 1 block) and Ale Sioco (7 digs, 4 aces). ■

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

TAKE US ALONG



999 steps to Heaven's Gate: Pleasanton residents Nancy Lee and Ken Foulke traveled to Zhangjiajie in Hunan Province, China in April and saw the 999 steps of the "Stairway to Heaven" leading to "Heaven's Gate" at Tianmen Mountain. They also went to the nearby "Avatar Mountains" that were the inspiration for the floating mountains in the movie, and they enjoyed taking the high-speed rail to Zhangjiajie, which is part of China's extensive modern railway network.

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.

MEAT & SEAFOOD SALE!

OCT 17 & 18

10AM-4PM | BOTH DAYS!
@ SPORTS PARK, FIELD 8 - SNACK BAR

- Comparable to warehouse prices without the lines or membership fees
- Premium quality USDA inspected choice or better BULK cuts of beef
- Professional butcher onsite
- Debit/Credit/Apple Pay accepted

CHOOSE FROM:

FILET MIGNON | NEW YORK STRIP | RIB EYE | BRISKET
TRI-TIP | BALL TIP | GROUND BEEF | CHICKEN BREAST | BACON
HOT & MILD LINKS | LEG OF LAMB | PRAWNS | SCALLOPS | SALMON




Supporting Financial Aid for recreational & competitive players!

Calendar

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Entertainment

SUOR ANGELICA Puccini’s luminous one-act unfolds inside a cloistered convent, where a young nun carries a heartbreaking secret from her past. When truth arrives, so does one of opera’s most transcendent finales. Experience this intimate masterwork of love, loss and grace. Oct. 10-11. Visit livermorearts.org.

GARRATT WILKIN & THE PARROTHEADS Escape to a tropical paradise with Garratt Wilkin & The Parrotheads, the nation’s premier celebration of the music of Jimmy Buffett. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 9. Tickets \$35-\$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

CARNAVAL AT THE FIREHOUSE Experience the electrifying music of Santana with Carnaval, a powerhouse tribute celebrating the legendary guitarist’s iconic fusion of Latin rock, blues and soul. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 16. Tickets \$33-\$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

COMEDIAN GABRIEL RUTLEDGE Gabriel Rutledge brings his signature rapid-fire wit and fearless, no-holds-barred storytelling to the Bankhead for a night of sharp punchlines and big laughs. 8 p.m., Oct. 17. Tickets \$30-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org.

ILYA YAKUSHEV, PIANO Returning by popular demand, Ilya Yakushev will be performing a dramatic program including brilliant classics and high-romantic virtuosic showpieces. 3 p.m., Oct. 17. Tickets \$35-\$57. Visit livermorearts.org.

KENNY METCALF - ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE Accomplished musician and vocalist, Kenny Metcalf recreates the multiple Grammy-winning legend with dazzling outfits, stunning vocals and a spectacular backing band. 6 p.m., Oct. 17. Tickets \$55. Visit wentvineyards.com/events.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND The Pleasanton Community Concert Band, a volunteer ensemble of Tri-Valley musicians, performs a free event, Latin Rhythms, 5 p.m., Oct. 18 at the Firehouse Arts Center.

CREATURES OF IMPULSE - FACE-OFF 2026 Local Bay Area improv teams compete against Creatures of Impulse in this pro wrestling-themed run of shows. 7 p.m., Oct. 23. Tickets \$8. Visit firehousearts.org.

VIOLINS OF HOPE WITH TAKE3 Join for an unforgettable musical experience as Lindsay Deutsch and her trio Take3 bring enchanting sounds of Violins of Hope featuring captivating pieces by contemporary composers. 2 p.m., Oct. 18; 7:30 p.m., Oct. 19. Tickets \$40-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

AL JARDINE AND THE PET SOUNDS BAND Rock & Roll Hall of Famer and Beach Boys co-founder Al Jardine performs iconic hits and rarities with The Pet Sounds Band in a tribute to Brian Wilson. 8 p.m., Oct. 24. Tickets \$90-\$110. Visit livermorearts.org.

BALLET FOLKLORICO MEXICANO DE CARLOS MORENO This world-renowned dance company brings the energy and passion of traditional Mexican folk dance to life, honoring

ancestors in a vibrant and uplifting celebration. 3 p.m., Oct. 25. Tickets \$30-\$50. Visit livermorearts.org.

CELEBRATE TRADITIONAL FILIPINO MUSIC Livermore Civic Center Library invites the community to experience the vibrant sounds of traditional Filipino music with a performance by Kulintang Dialect, a traditional five-instrument kulintang ensemble. 2 p.m., Oct. 25.

GOLDEN AGE OF BROADWAY Join East Bay Musical Society or their Fall 2026 concert bringing back the original essence of Broadway theatre musicals. Listen to the Sound of Music, Oklahoma, My Fair Lady and more at this performance. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 29. Visit firehousearts.org.

LAURA ANGLADE Laura Anglade is an internationally acclaimed jazz artist captivating audiences with her masterful storytelling and intimate, conversational style. 8 p.m., Oct. 30. Tickets \$40-\$50. Visit livermorearts.org.

Talks

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS Guest Speaker Yvonne Phenicie presents, This is Me and My Quilts, at the next Amador Valley Quilter meeting. Yvonne is a quilt maker, teacher and designer and will discuss her 35 years of quilting, sharing 25 to 30 quilts. 1:30-4 p.m., Oct. 10. Pleasanton Middle School.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Witches Among Us is the Zoom presentation by Madeline Yanov, who examines the 1692 Salem Witch Trials, one of the most infamous episodes of mass hysteria and injustice in colonial American history. 7-8:30 p.m., Oct. 12. Visit l-ags.org.

READ IT & EAT WITH HELENE WECKER Join for Read It & Eat with Helene Wecker at Towne Center Books as she shares her new novel, The Gates of Midnight. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 13. For ticket options visit townecenterbooks.com.

MENTAL HEALTH WEBINAR In this webinar, Changing the Game: Integrating Mental Health into Youth Sport Ecosystems, Meredith Whitley, PhD breaks down how sports culture has changed and introduces a clear, seven-part blueprint to create a healthier ecosystem for young athletes. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Oct. 13. Register by Oct 12 at alanhufoundation.org.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT All are welcome to attend Interfaith Interconnect’s Religion Chat on the topic: “What does your religion teach about the presence of evil in the world?” 7-8 p.m., Oct. 14. Cornerstone Fellowship, 348 N. Canyons Pkwy., Livermore.

VIOLINS OF HOPE AT THE LIBRARY Meet Avshi Weinstein, co-founder of the Violins of Hope program, for an evening exploring the history of remarkable instruments that survived the Holocaust and the stories of their original owners. 7-8 p.m., Oct. 15. Livermore Civic Center Library.

AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM WORKSHOP Learn about the City of Livermore’s Affordable Homeownership Program at the Livermore Civic Center Library. 10-11:30 a.m., Oct. 24. Community Rooms A & B.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH LINDA DRATTELL This event at Towne Center Books is joined by sign language interpreter Becky Kasyanova. 2-3 p.m., Oct. 25. Free event with RSVP’s appreciated at 925-846-8826.

Forums

DUBLIN MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM Join us for this in-person forum to learn more about the candidates for Dublin mayor and city council. Mayoral candidates will speak first, followed by city council candidates (both districts together). A video of the event will be available afterward. 6-8:30 p.m., Oct. 12. Visit forms.gle/eDhhfUFMrq91dhGo8.

SUNOL GLEN SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM Join us for this in-person forum and hear from candidates for SGUSD board (2 seats open, at-large). A video of the event will be available afterward. 6-7:30 p.m., Oct. 14. Sunol Glen School Cafeteria; 11601 Main St. Visit forms.gle/eAiasL5qebmyPouM6.

Fairgrounds

PIRATES OF EMERSON Pirates of Emerson is an extremely frightening, walk-thru Haunted House with a virtual reality ride, games, bands and a gift shop. This highly detailed haunt immerses guests in their deepest fears and is not geared for children. Through Nov. 1. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

PUMPKINS AFTER DARK Pumpkins After Dark is making its debut at Alameda County Fairgrounds with an unforgettable Halloween experience featuring over 10,000 hand-carved pumpkins that light up the night. Enjoy treats, live pumpkin carving demonstrations and more. Through Oct. 31. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

626 NIGHT MARKET Experience 626 Night Market, the original Asian night market in the U.S., with iconic street food, handcrafted merchandise and live performances. A celebration of Asian-inspired culture and a rich tapestry. 3-11 p.m., Oct. 9-11. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS & FIREWORKS Join this unforgettable celebration where vibrant traditions meet dazzling festivities and experience the grandeur of North America’s Largest Diwali Festival. 12-11 p.m., Oct. 17. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Exhibits

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

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Relax with Aloha

Aloha is the sweetest senior gal with the most endearing smile. This 10-year-old pittie loves spending time outside, lounging in the sunshine, rolling in the grass and enjoying leisurely walks. She’ll still happily play a game of fetch, too! Aloha knows what she wants, which is usually treats, and loves pets and ear scratches. This laid-back, affectionate girl is ready for someone to spend her days with. Aloha is currently in a foster home. Learn more about her at eastbayspca.org.

into the curated echoes of what once was. Through Oct. 10.

VIOLINS OF HOPE This exhibit showcases the remarkable journey of restored violins, each with its own unique story and highlights the founders dedication to preserving this important legacy. Uncle Credit Union Art Gallery, Bankhead Theater. Through Nov. 5.

THE INDEPENDENT GALLERY EXHIBIT George Kanakis, a well-known local artist, has a body of work including Greek themes as well as landscapes of California such as Yosemite, Monterey, the Presidio and Lake Del Valle. Through Nov. 14. 2250 First St., Livermore.

THE GREAT ELEPHANT MIGRATION The Great Elephant Migration comes to Downtown Livermore. Thirty life-sized elephant sculptures each handcrafted by Indigenous artisans in southern India from an invasive weed and modeled on a real elephant they live alongside. Now through Dec. 6. Learn more at visitrivalley.com.

Festivities

MUSEUM ON MAIN’S GHOST WALK Join this family-friendly Ghost Walk to learn more about the history behind the ghost stories in Pleasanton on this two-hour guided tour of the most haunted sites along Main Street. Tours begin at the museum and leave every thirty minutes from 6-8 p.m., Oct. 9-10; 16-17. Visit museumonmain.org.

ALDEN LANE FALL FESTIVAL The Alden Lane Fall Festival has pumpkins for sale, crafts for kids, farm animals, music and more. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 10-11. Visit aldenlane.com.

ARTWALK LIVERMORE Join ArtWalk, the Tri Valley’s premiere one day art festival with over 200 artists displaying work on sidewalks and plazas, parks and galleries. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 10. Visit livermorearts.org.

SUNOL HERITAGE FESTIVAL Guests can enjoy an acorn processing demonstration, taste culturally important foods and enjoy music that offers connection to the land’s first peoples. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 17. Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve.

HALLOWEEN BREW CRAWL Get ready for a spooktacular event in Downtown Pleasanton for a night

of chilling fun to explore a variety of bewitching brews from local breweries. Wear a costume and enjoy an evening filled with drinks, live music and eerie vibes. 5-8 p.m., Oct. 24. Visit eventbrite.com.

Outdoor Rec

NATIVE GARDEN WORK DAY Sycamore Grove Park gardens highlight plants native to the area and volunteers can help out regardless of experience. Tasks may include weeding, leaf removal, mulching, planting and more. 9-11 a.m., Oct. 10. Sycamore Grove Park. Register at larpd.org.

EXPLORE HOLDENER PARK WITH A RANGER This open space 2-mile hike is full of open grasslands, secluded ravines and views of the Tri Valley. 1-2 p.m., Oct. 10. Free registration at larpd.org.

Seniors

MUSIC MENDS MINDS Join for a morning of rhythm, connection and fun at this new program bringing seniors together through the power of music. 1-2 p.m., Oct.15. Pleasanton Senior Center.

DIWALI CELEBRATION AT SENIOR CENTER Celebrate Diwali with Storytime and live performances by Srilaya School of Dance and Sthalam School of Dance with fun activities for the whole family. 1-3 p.m., Oct. 17. Pleasanton Senior Center.

TREASURES OF THE PHARAOHS EXHIBIT Join Pleasanton Senior Center to the De Young Museum in San Francisco for this exhibit. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 3. \$95-\$105. Sign-up at the VIP Travel Desk.

PLEASANTON RIDES Pleasanton Rides is a door-to-door, shared-ride transportation service for Pleasanton Seniors (70+). For reservations and information, call 925-398-1045.

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., Oct. 11. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore.

Public Notices

ASTERON8 MOBILITY GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626224
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Asteron8 Mobility Group , located at 2588 Stanton Hill Rd, Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 585 Jasmine Way San Leandro, CA 94578
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JKC CONSULTING, LLC
585 Jasmine Way
San Leandro, CA 94578
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 September 22 2026.
(PLW Oct 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2026)

PAUSE TO UNWIND
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626430
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Pause To Unwind , located at 335 Del Sol Avenue. Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SARAH BOORMAN
335 Del Sol Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/29/2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 30 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

SAMHAR CRM
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626290
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SAMHAR CRM , located at 1260 Harvest Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SAMHAR LLC
1260 Harvest Road
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 24 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

NATURE'S HOMEOPATHIC HEALING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626375
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Nature's Homeopathic Healing , located at 3181 Tonopah CT, Pleasanton, CA-94588, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ANITHA ARUMUGHAM LAKSHMI
3181 Tonopah CT
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 September 28 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

SEOUL AESTHETIC CLINIC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626179
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Seoul Aesthetic Clinic , located at 3951 Finnian Way, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SEOUL AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT LLC
3951 Finnian Way
Dublin, CA 94568

State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/18/2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2026.
(PLW Sep 25, Oct 2, 9 and 16, 2026)

MAD HATTER PARTY BOX
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626433
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Mad Hatter Party Box , located at 335 Del Sol Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a General Partnership.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SARAH BOORMAN
335 Del Sol Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566
MELISSA SENDER
335 Del Sol Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/22/2014
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 30 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

LARIS TECHNOLOGIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626508
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) LARIS TECHNOLOGIES , located at 39146 Yosemite Way Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LOUIS REISCH
39146 Yosemite Way
Fremont, CA 94538
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2026
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 02 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

STUDIO LUNA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626341
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Studio Luna , located at 2143 Ward St, Berkeley, CA 94705, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
VALERIO ITALIANO
2143 Ward St
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 September 25 2026.
(PLW Oct 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2026)

TRI VALLEY AIRPORT SHUTTLE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626206
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Tri Valley Airport Shuttle , located at 5015 Haven Pl Apt 107 Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LAKHVIR SANDHU
5015 Haven Pl Apt 107
Dublin, CA 94568
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 September 21 2026.
(PLW Oct 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026)

COMMON SKY HOUSE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 625532
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) COMMON SKY HOUSE , located at 3689

Branding Iron Place Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
AFSHEEN AFZAL
3689 Branding Iron Place
Dublin, CA 94568
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 21 2026.
(PLW Sep 18, 25, Oct 2 and 9, 2026)

LAM VENTURES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 625633
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Lam Ventures , located at 6706 Corte Santa Maria, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
KEITH LAM
6706 Corte Santa Maria
Pleasanton, CA 94566
MICHELLE LAM
6706 Corte Santa Maria
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 27 2026.
(PLW Sep 25, Oct 2, 9 and 16, 2026)

INDY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 625599
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) INDY Restaurant & Lounge , located at 780 Main St, Pleasanton, CA 94566 , ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 6601 Dublin Blvd, Apt 311 Dublin, CA 94568
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LUNCH BOX US
6601 Dublin Blvd, Apt 311
Dublin, CA 94568
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 25 2026.
(PLW Sep 25, Oct 2, 9 and 16, 2026)

JEN ALLAN FITNESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626180
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Jen Allan Fitness , located at 4738 McHenry Gate Way Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JENNIFER M. ALLAN
4738 McHenry Gate Way
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/09/2009
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2026.
(PLW Oct 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2026)

BOSPHORA SWEET & SAVORY BAKEHOUSE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626212
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) BOSPHORA SWEET & SAVORY BAKEHOUSE , located at 5106 MONACO DR APT C, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA County. This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
BUSRA BAKSI BASOL
5106 MONACO DR APT C
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 September 21 2026.
(PLW Oct 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2026)

DUFFY WILLIAMS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 625840
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DUFFY WILLIAMS , located at 6590 HANSEN DR, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 2108 N ST, STE N SACRAMENTO, CA 95816
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TURTLES & DOLPHINS LLC
2108 N ST, STE N
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816
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 September 08 2026.
(PLW Sep 25, Oct 2, 9 and 16, 2026)

ALLAN VIDEO PRODUCTIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 626181
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Allan Video Productions , located at 4738 McHenry Gate Way Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ALLAN MEDIA GROUP, LLC
4738 McHenry Gate Way
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/31/1996
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2026.
(PLW Oct 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 26CV209130
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Tung Lee Fu filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
TUNG LEE FU to TONY FU
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: 10/30/2026, 9:00am, 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador St, Hayward, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 9/8/2026
Michael Markman
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 18, 25, Oct 2 and 9, 2026)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 26CV208257
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: HYUNG IL NA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
HYUNG IL NA to HENRY HYUNGIL NA
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: 10/23/2026, 09:00 AM, Alameda Superior Court Hayward Hall of Justice Department 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 09/02/2026
Michael Markman
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 18, 25, Oct 2 and 9, 2026)

NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE
The following property will be sold by written bid by 9:00 a.m. MST on 10/16/2026 **2017 Peterbilt 389 - 1XPXD49X4HD391053**
To inquire about this item please call Kerry Hendrickson at 801-624-5193.
Transportation Alliance Bank 4185 Harrison Blvd Ogden, UT 84403
(PLW Oct 9 and 16, 2026)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
GEORGE Y. (YUNG-CHANG) YEH
Case No.: 26PR210395
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of GEORGE Y. (YUNG-CHANG) YEH. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Albert A. Yeh in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.
The Petition for Probate requests that: Albert A. Yeh be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on October 16 2026 at 9:45 am in Dept. 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Thomas DiPaolo, Attorney at Law
DiPaolo Law
9820 Willow Creek Road, Ste 200
San Diego, CA 92131
858-408-0621
(PLW Sep 25, Oct 2 and 9, 2026)

Place a legal notice at
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

Real Estate

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 3-7 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin

Pleasanton

4563 Gatetree Circle F. Ngan to S. & M. Delzer for \$1,975,000

2375 Goldcrest Circle Everson Trust to T. & B. Gatten for \$1,055,000

4609 Ithaca Way Ramineni Family Trust to D. Patel for \$535,000

4861 Saginaw Circle R. Jiang to M. & M. Nawaz for \$580,000

Livermore

1421 Columbus Avenue Powles Living Trust to S. & B. Figueira for \$1,100,000

4329 Guilford Avenue Benedetti Trust to Tirona Family Trust for \$1,350,000

1972 South Livermore Avenue Shearer Trust to K. & D. Irving for \$2,050,000

4114 Pinon Way Kurtzer Living Trust to M. & A. Porter for \$880,000

101 Sedona Avenue #7 Shea Homes Inc to C. & R. Youngquist for \$1,218,500

Dublin

7642 Arbor Creek Circle X. Chen to M. & S. Sarkar for \$860,000

8633 Briarwood Lane T. & P. Nguyen to G. & S. Nagar for \$1,125,000

7579 Burnham Way Jrj Property Group LLC to J. Guo for \$1,100,000

8254 Creekside Drive S. & D. Masuda to Shetty Family Trust for \$1,960,000

2830 Delamar Drive El-Rahman Living Trust to J. & C. Guo for \$2,900,000

8373 Locust Place Y. Wong to H. & X. Li for \$880,000

3360 Maguire Way #140 I. & M. Shim to A. Kasturi for \$760,000

4673 Rimini Court #46 J. Koh to P. & G. Ponnuraju for \$1,024,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Aug. 3-7)

Total sales reported: 4
Lowest sale reported: \$535,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,975,000
Average sales reported: \$1,036,250

Livermore (Aug. 3-7)

Total sales reported: 5
Lowest sale reported: \$880,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,050,000
Average sales reported: \$1,319,700

Dublin (Aug. 3-7)

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$760,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,900,000
Average sales reported: \$1,326,125

San Ramon (Sept. 8-11)

Total sales reported: 6
Lowest sale reported: \$350,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,000,000
Average sales reported: \$919,000

Source: California REsource

OPEN - SAT. & SUN. OCT 10TH & 11TH 1-4 PM

JUST LISTED!!!

DUBLIN HILLS VIEWS!!
5 Beds | 5.5 Baths | Approx 4605 sq ft.



2799 LAHONTAN WAY, DUBLIN

Entertainer's delight, this amazing executive home is located in the bluffs of Tassajara Hills. The resort style living yard includes, gorgeous views, putting green, outdoor kitchen, water feature, fire pit, spa and more. The home is updated and ready to move in. Must See!

Price \$3,288,000

SOLD - GOLDEN EAGLE



7905 SAWGRASS CT.
PLEASANTON

Price \$2,725,000

SOLD - LAGUNA OAKS



8303 REGENCY DR.
PLEASANTON

Price \$3,650,000

CINDY GEE
925.963.1984

kwLuxury
HOMES INTERNATIONAL
Each office is independently owned and operated.
cindygeesold@gmail.com



Dref 01307919



Dref 02099816

ELIZABETH
SERPA-HILL
510.725.0566

KELLERWILLIAMS
Luxury
INTERNATIONAL
esherpahill@kw.com



OPEN HOUSE
Friday 10:30-1
Saturday & Sunday 1-4

5887 BLACK AVENUE, PLEASANTON

- 1950 square feet in the desirable Del Prado neighborhood
- No HOA
- Meticulously maintained inside and out
- Fully remodeled kitchen
- Relaxing pool
- Close to top-rated schools



TOM E. CHANCE
REALTOR® DRE # 00824220
925-487-6360
Tom@TomChance.com



FALL 2026

LUXURY HOMES PREVIEW



Coming inside your Pleasanton Weekly on
October 23, 2026

Introduce your team as Tri-Valley luxury property specialists and showcase your luxury listings to tens of thousands of affluent potential buyers and sellers in our Luxury Homes section.

Buyers and sellers of luxury homes need real estate specialists with a deep understanding of high-end clients' needs, market dynamics and sophisticated marketing and sales techniques.

For more information email Carol Cano
at ccano@PleasantonWeekly.com.

**Pleasanton
Weekly**



Strategic.
Collaborative.
Experienced.

WITH **46 YEARS** OF EXPERIENCE,
LET ME GUIDE YOU HOME!
925.519.9080
MOXLEYREALESTATE.COM
DRE 00790463

551 SAINT JOHN STREET
PLEASANTON | DOWNTOWN
PRESENTED AT \$820,000



2 BED | 2.5 BATH | 1,287 SQ FT
Beautiful Downtown Pleasanton Townhome offering
an ideal blend of style, comfort, and convenience

5016 BLACK AVENUE
PLEASANTON | PLEASANTON VALLEY
PRESENTED AT \$1,575,000



4 BED | 2 BATH | 1,675 SQ FT
Attention to detail updates is shown in this home's
open floor plan. A spacious backyard offers a possible
ADU buildable site with side yard access.

40361 LORO PLACE
FREMONT | KIMBER PARK
PRESENTED AT \$2,400,000



3 BED | 2 BATH | 1,881 SQ FT
Pending in 4 days with Multiple Offers

2680 TURNSTONE DRIVE
PLEASANTON | BIRDLAND
PRESENTED AT \$2,050,000



4 BED | 3 BATH | 2,371 SQ FT
Offering 2 primary suites, one on the main level,
one upstairs. Owned solar.

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



4 BED | 3 BATH | 2,296 SQ FT
Stunning contemporary single story home offering
modern comfort and style on a corner lot.

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. Rules & Exclusions apply. Compass offers no guarantee or warranty of results. Subject to additional terms and conditions.

