

A Quarterly Newsletter brought to you by the collaborative efforts of:

- Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company
- Pauma Valley Roadway Association
- Pauma Valley Community Services District
- **With special thanks to our guest author, Rhonda Curtis**

Pauma Valley Community Newsletter

February 20th, 2025

Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company

By Chuck Bandy, Board President

As you know, the greater Pauma Valley area experienced multiple high wind events and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) from November to January. Our system and staff performed extremely well during these significant events.

We received several notifications from SDG&E warning that potential high winds could create hazardous fire conditions that could necessitate the power being shut off in 24-48 hours. As a result of the warnings RPMWC staff met to review our response plan:

- Confirmed that all operators understand their individual roles.
- Confirmed that all auxiliary generators were working and fuel tanks were topped off. Extra fuel was brought in.
- Ensured that all the large potable reservoirs located up on Pauma Heights Road were full in advance of the shut down and could be refilled if needed during the shutdown.
- Ensured that operations staff could remotely monitor and control the system.
- Contacted our largest agricultural/recreational users in advance of the shutdown to review their pumping schedules and possible irrigation needs during an extended shut down.
- We conducted a post event



This Issue

Goats, Groves, and Generations-----P 1-2

Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company-----P 1-2

Pauma Valley Roadway Association-----P 2-3

Pauma Valley Community Services District-----P 3

Goats, Groves, and Generations: The Borden Family's Legacy in Pauma Valley

By Rhonda Curtis

**Knock, knock.....Who's there?
Goat.....Goat who?
You've goat to be kidding me!**

While goats are often associated with their playful antics in yoga classes or their reputation for eating just about anything, they hold a surprising secret—when added to anything that touches your skin, goat milk is a powerhouse ingredient for skincare. Known for its anti-inflammatory and anti-aging properties, goat milk is packed with naturally occurring alpha-hydroxy acids (specifically, lactic acid), which gently exfoliate the skin, removing dead cells to reveal a radiant, healthy glow. It's also rich in vitamins A, B, C, D, and E, which nourish and rejuvenate skin while soothing irritating conditions like acne, eczema, or rosacea.

I recently had the pleasure of sitting down with Matt and Danielle Borden, owners of Borden Acres here in Pauma Valley, to hear their story firsthand. For longtime residents, the Borden name may sound familiar. For newcomers, here's a bit of history: Marvin Borden and his family settled in the Valley in the early 1970s, starting with a small citrus grove before transitioning to avocados.

Over the years, their son, Steve expanded the farm, incorporating innovative solar and water resources to sustain the family business. Now, the third generation—Steve's son, Matt and his wife Danielle—are carrying on the family legacy, but with a twist that has brought goats and skincare into the mix.

One day Matt brought home a pair of goats—Delores and Boris—to help manage weeds on their property. At the time, their one-year-old son, Milo, had been struggling with eczema and sensitive skin since birth. Danielle had been searching for solutions to help her son. Committed to a simple, natural approach, she soon discovered the unique benefits of goat milk.



What began as a practical solution for weed abatement unexpectedly became the key to soothing Milo's skin issues—and the foundation of a new family business. "When I graduated

assessment of performance of staff and equipment in order to identify possible needs for correction, such as an issue of a false alarm that has since been corrected.

- Fire hydrants are routinely inspected and tested to ensure function.

We think that the system operated almost seamlessly throughout the events of November through January.

Rancho Pauma field operators will be collecting water samples from 20 homes within our service area in our efforts to comply with a continuing State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water mandate to test for lead and copper levels. Testing is scheduled for February and property owners have been notified.

Rancho Pauma has scheduled its annual meeting of Shareholders on March 3rd at 2:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the PVCC's Robert Trent Jones Room and can be attended remotely via zoom. That meeting will be followed by an Organizational & Regular Meeting of the board immediately after the Annual Meeting. We would like to invite all shareholders to attend as we review the year's operations and financials, as well as the capital projects that will be undertaken in FY 24-25.

Chuck Bandy, Board President

Pauma Valley Roadway Association

By Larry Taylor, Board President

"Go West, Young Man!"

As Horace Greely once urged, Roadway 2025 is all about continuing our 10-year plan to repave our roads. This year we will be continuing a westward direction from the clubhouse stop sign all the way to Womsi Drive. We will be grinding the previous 1" cap to a 2 1/2 inch cap, on



"We believe farm life teaches our children to care for something other than themselves"

Danielle Borden

from San Diego State in 2008 with a degree in Public Administration and a minor in Economics, I never imagined I'd end up making soap," Danielle said with a laugh.

As she delved into research, Danielle learned that goat milk's pH level is remarkably close to that of human skin, making it less likely to cause irritation. Its creamy texture and high-fat content deeply moisturize and repair the skin's natural barrier—exactly what Milo needed. For those battling eczema, psoriasis, or dry skin, goat milk can be transformative. This personal connection to its benefits became the foundation for Borden Acres' skincare products.

During the interview, Danielle explained that she personally oversees every step of the production process. She sources organic ingredients sustainably—or grows them herself—and is meticulous about quality. "I don't sell any product I wouldn't use on my own children," she shared, underscoring her dedication to both safety and integrity.

As our conversation continued, I got a glimpse of the challenges they face as small business owners in farming. Matt spoke about the recent Santa Ana winds that he estimates destroyed 80–90% of their avocado crop for the year—a heartbreaking loss. Danielle added, "I think people picture me as some Disney character with a bird on my shoulder, frolicking with baby animals through a field of wildflowers. That couldn't be farther from the truth. It can be mentally and physically unforgiving and sometimes seems endless. But the work is worth it. We believe farm life teaches our children to care for something other than themselves. They learn compassion, empathy, responsibility, communication, patience, biology, and time management—just to name a few."

"I don't sell any product I wouldn't use on my own children"

Danielle Borden

The Borden family's story is one of resilience, passion, and pride. Through their hard work

and deep connection to the Valley, Matt and Danielle honor the legacy of those who came before them while building something uniquely their own. As Danielle put it, "We're just trying to make our ancestors proud of what we accomplish every day."

In many ways, their story mirrors the beauty and richness of Pauma Valley itself. From the lush avocado groves and citrus orchards to the rolling hills and abundant natural resources, the Valley offers a harmony that inspires those who call it home. Matt and Danielle embody this spirit, preserving tradition while innovating for the future,

ensuring that Pauma Valley remains a place where nature, community, and heritage thrive together.





Pauma Valley Community Services District

By Eric Steinlicht, General Manager

The Pauma Valley Community Services District (CSD) is implementing a comprehensive Strategic Plan to ensure a sustainable path forward while maintaining reliable services for our community. As part of this plan, the District partnered with Casino Pauma and contract operators Water Quality Specialists (WQS) to reduce waste disposal expenses by over \$40,000! These savings directly benefit ratepayers by cutting operational costs.

In addition, the CSD secured a \$244,000 Cybersecurity Grant—the largest in District history—to fortify critical systems, protect customer data, and safeguard

essential services from cyber threats. Once applied, robust cybersecurity measures should prevent hackers from infiltrating our software and potentially shutting down our operations. This unfortunate reality has only increased in frequency for local governments across the nation.

While these achievements mark significant progress, the District is also preparing to replace aging infrastructure. This includes wastewater and storm drainage systems, as well as security assets. To address these challenges proactively, a Cost-of-Service Analysis is underway alongside the Strategic Plan, guiding prudent

choices for future improvements and ongoing resilience.

I encourage all residents to attend the upcoming Board Meetings on:

- February 24th, 2025, at 10 AM
- March 31st, at 10 AM

These meetings will take place at the District office and are an excellent opportunity to stay informed. For more information, please also visit www.paumavalleycsd.ca.gov or contact the General Manager at: Eric.Steinlicht@PaumaValleyCSD.ca.gov.

Please also ask about our new ACH payment method!

Best Regards,

Eric Steinlicht, General Manager

Upcoming Board Meetings

- **Rancho Pauma Mutual Water Company**
MONDAY, MARCH 3rd, 2025, AT 2:00 PM
<https://www.ranchopaumamw.com/>
- **Pauma Valley Roadway Association**
TUESDAY, APRIL 8th, 2025, AT 10:00 AM
<https://www.roadwayassn.org/>
- **Pauma Valley Community Services District**
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 2025, AT 10:00 AM
<https://www.paumavalleycsd.ca.gov/>



Roadway Association Continued...

Pauma Valley Drive ensuring a smooth and even ride for many years to come. The following two years will finish the drive all the way to the back gate. We will then circle back and pave Luiseno and El Tae roads. The work is scheduled to be performed in October of this year while the club is closed.

Board Meeting

Our next scheduled board meeting and Annual Meeting will be held on April 8th at 10:00 AM at the RTJ Room at the country club. If anyone is interested in assisting the organization, we have two board seats open. Please notify Mauzy Management of your interest by February 28, 2025, at:

audrey@mauzymanagement.com

Special thanks to the club for hosting the meetings as well as our various office needs at no charge to the Association.

Larry Taylor, Board President

A Message from the District Board of Directors

By Eric Steinlicht, General Manager

As of December 2024, your new District Board of Directors are:

- **Mr. Fred Nelson,**
President of the Board
- **Mr. Rich Collins,**
Vice President of the Board
- **Mrs. Lois (Lolo) Levy,**
Treasurer of the Board
- **Mr. Michael Esparza,**
Secretary of the Board
- **Mr. Zan Villanueva,**
Director of the Board

We look forward to the new year and working with our diligent staff to ultimately enhance the services that are provided. Please reach out to our District staff should you have any questions or comments!

All the best,
District Board of Directors