



Attorneys, including a number from the Tri-Valley, gathered outside the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Oakland last week to stand up for constitutional rights they say have been jeopardized since President Donald Trump took office in January. (Photo by Danielle Gonzalez)

Congressman Eric Swalwell Scheduled to Host Town Hall Tonight at Livermore Gym

Free Event Set to Give Constituents Opportunities to Ask Questions

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — Tri-Valley Congressman Eric Swalwell, an outspoken critic of the Trump administration, has scheduled a Town Hall meeting in Livermore on Thursday, May 8.

The event is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the gym at Livermore High School, which is located at 600 Maple St. People interested in attending can register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/town-hall-meeting-livermore-tickets-1348950891429?aff=oddtcreator>. The Town Hall is free and is also scheduled to be livestreamed on Facebook.

Swalwell, a Democrat, is serving in his seventh term in Congress. His 14th District represents Livermore, Pleasanton, Union City, Ashland, San Lorenzo, Cherryland, Fairview, Castro Valley and portions of Hayward.

He is expected to provide constituents with an update on the latest developments in Congress and outline his priorities for the year ahead. Attendees will be invited to ask questions and share concerns about issues affecting our communities.

Swalwell serves on the House Judiciary and Homeland Security committees. Prior to his election to Congress, he worked as a prosecu-

tor with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office and served as a Dublin City Councilmember. He now resides in Livermore.

Throughout President Donald Trump's first term, from 2017 to 2021, Swalwell spoke out against the president's policies and has continued to do so since Trump returned to office in January. Swalwell sued Trump following the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection at the Capitol building to hold him accountable. Swalwell was among those in the chamber at the time of the invasion and feared for his life.

On May 1, during a House committee hearing, Swalwell accused Trump of deporting a child

(See SWALWELL, page 5)

Ava Looks to Lower Overall Energy Costs, Carbon by Creating Virtual Power Plants

Home-Appliance Networks Could Significantly Save Money, Lessen Pollution

TRI-VALLEY — A new strategy from Ava Community Energy will attempt to lower the costs and carbon content of electricity by bringing consumer devices such as home batteries and electric vehicles together into one ecosystem.

The strategy, announced on April 24, centers on the management of virtual power plants (VPPs), which are networks of electrical devices, such as home appliances, that can either reschedule when they run or feed stored energy back to the grid as needed. Ava has partnered with Mountain View-based Lunar Energy and its Gridshare software

to orchestrate the flow of energy within its VPPs.

Ava Community Energy is a nonprofit government agency that aggregates the demand of more than 2 million residents to buy electricity from various sources. Residents of Alameda County, plus the cities of Tracy, Stockton and Lathrop, are automatically enrolled in Ava. Pacific Gas & Electric still bills the customers for transmission and distribution, but the rates and the mix of generating sources, including how much renewable energy is included, are set by Ava and are included as a line item on the bill.

In general, Ava can provide

a "regular" mix of power that includes fossil fuels for a lower price than if a customer bought straight from PG&E, but Ava can also obtain all of its electricity from carbon-free sources, for which it charges a slightly higher rate. Ava aims to provide 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030, ahead of California's 2045 net-zero goal.

Renewable energy sources such as solar and wind provide power without carbon emissions, but do so intermittently and at times that often do not align with peak power usage, causing Ava to buy power that might not be carbon free at inopportune times. For example,

(See AVA, page 6)

East Bay Attorneys Gather, Swear to Uphold Constitution

Concerned Lawyers Express Feelings About Threats to Nation Under Current Administration

TRI-VALLEY — About 500 to 600 Alameda County attorneys filled an Oakland plaza on May 1 to protest Trump administration attacks on their profession, reciting their oaths to support the rule of law, judicial independence and due process.

The National Law Day of Action demonstration outside the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was part of a countrywide event held in 50 cities big and small, including San Francisco and San Jose. Attorneys from several legal organizations

scheduled the protests to stand up for constitutional rights they say have come under threat since President Donald Trump took office.

Jean Hyams, an Oakland civil rights attorney who has represented clients in the Tri-Valley, told The Independent, "We delivered a civics refresher to remind everyone of what we all learned in fifth-grade civics, which is that there are three branches of government. They're co-equal branches of government, and we must respect the role of the courts."

Hyams was one of the orga-

(See LAW DAY, page 5)



Congressman Eric Swalwell, whose 14th District includes Livermore, Pleasanton and other portions of the East Bay, is in his seventh term representing the Tri-Valley in Washington. (Photo illustration courtesy of Rep. Swalwell's office)

Former Laboratory Director Johnny Foster Dies at 102

Nuclear-Weapons Contributions Prevented War

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — Former Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) Director John Stuart Foster Jr. passed away on April 25 at the age of 102. He left behind a legacy of physics mastery that helped fortify the nation's nuclear-weapons strategy and secure the lab's early footing in the 1950s.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1922, "Johnny" Foster grew up in the Montreal area where he developed interests in everything from radios to glass blowing to ski jumping. Following studies at Montreal's McGill University and time as a U.S. Army technical adviser during World War II, Foster received his Ph.D. in physics in 1952 from the University of California, Berkeley based on work at the UC Radiation Laboratory — or Rad Lab — under experimental physicist Luis Alvarez.

At the time, the work of Alvarez and Foster centered on a program known as the Materials Testing Accelerator, which sought to produce a stream of neutrons that could then be used to produce thermonuclear fuels, such as tritium, uranium or plutonium. Foster implemented an ion-pump vacuum system, developed by Ernest Lawrence, that could evacuate the large chamber required by the accelerator.

Also in 1952, a branch of the UC Berkeley-based Rad Lab, what would eventually become LLNL, opened near the then-"dusty cowboy town" of Livermore. The objective was to augment the nuclear-weapons research of the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, according to the Foster biography "Call Me Johnny" by Tom Ramos. At Lawrence's

(See FOSTER, page 6)



Jeremy Nelson, left, and Bobby Bolero of the Dustbowl Travelers kick off Two-Day Town festivities on May 2 at Rancho Los Mochos outside Livermore with their brand of "part Americana, part bluegrass, part folk, and part everything else." (Photo — Christina Cavallaro)

Livermore's Two-Day Town Festival Endures Decades-Long Event Changes Location, but the Music Hasn't Skipped a Beat

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — If one of the Tri-Valley's best-kept music secrets has been off your radar for the past couple of decades, you're not alone. The organizers of Two-Day Town, an annual family and camping music festival, say it has grown largely through word-of-mouth since its inception 27 years ago. And that is by design.

"People would always say, 'Why don't you advertise?' Well, obviously budget is one reason.

The other reason is because we don't want to invite people who may have other motives in being there," said Michael Ferrucci, a Two-Day Town founding member.

"We invite everyone. There is a welcome mat. And it would be nice to advertise, nice to promote, but the drawback would be you might get people that are just looking for a good time."

Though Ferrucci was quick to point out, "I can't say we don't party. It's fun to have kids dancing and mandolins and banjos and foot

stomping, and you know it's why we are there. The music is why we're there, and the families, and the sharing of different artistic talents."

But opening the invite list too broadly has long-created concern that others might not share the same values in terms of the environment, "and that's critical because we want to be invited back. Our motto is 'leave no trace,'" said Ferrucci, who is a career biologist.

Until last year, the music festival that promotes original local

(See TOWN FESTIVAL, page 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds	11
Editorial	4
Mailbox	4
Obituaries	9
Sports	10

Sunflower Hill Garden Celebrates Anniversary	2
Dublin Singer Impresses on American Idol	2
Former Dublin Knife-Shop Owner Sues Police	3
Christina Cavallaro's Heart of the Valley Column	8
Foothill Closes in on Baseball Playoff Berth	10

PET OF THE WEEK



GRAYSON

Grayson is a gorgeous gray guy, seeking a calm casa for confident cuddles and constant companionship. This chatty catty yearns for your loving lap and a harmonious home where he'll be your faithful friend. Call Valley Humane at (925) 426-8656 or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process. (Photo courtesy of Valley Humane)

Sunflower Hill Garden Celebrates ‘Feel-Good’ Anniversary

By Ruth Roberts

LIVERMORE – It’s a clear, cool morning at the Sunflower Hill Garden on Hagemann Ranch. Surrounded by historic buildings and remnants of a 19th-century farm, the garden, filled with wildflowers and rows of vegetable beds, sits on a portion of the five-acre parcel replete with chicken coops, compost areas and a hothouse for herbs and seedlings. Overseen by the dedicated staff from Sunflower Hill, along with Shadow, the resident black cat, the garden is a serene and welcoming place for all who visit.

“There is so much life here and so much connection and community to the land and each other,” farm manager Victoria Chavez said. “I love it here.”

Developed in 2015 by Lynn Monica and Christina Bogert, the garden was designed as an educational, therapeutic and life-skills medium for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). This year, the Sunflower Hill Garden is marking its 10th anniversary.

“Ten years ago, this was just dirt and weeds and dust,” Sunflower Hill

founder Susan Houghton said. “Lynn created the garden and transformed it into what you see today.”

And what is seen today is a garden that harvests

Dream Makers. Last year, the organization donated 4,700 pounds of food to those entities. In addition, the group provides weekly flower bouquets to Hope

residence for I/DD adults in Pleasanton.

The garden is tended by Sunflower Hill staff with the help of I/DD individuals. On this day, a con-

vegetables.

New this season, the garden will harvest culturally relevant foods for the nonprofit groups they help supply because, as Houghton said, smiling, “There is a big difference between tomatillos and tomatoes.”

Aly Macino, with the transition program from Dublin High, said she loves coming to the garden for the work and the staff.

“I like planting the tomatoes and I like the nice people here,” she said.

Chavez, who has been with the garden group for just a few months, said the work is about planting the seeds while encouraging the growth and confidence of those who come through the garden.

“We’re just here to help foster the groups and help them have a great experience as they watch things grow,” Chavez said. “Each person has different abilities, skills and interests. Some like to compost, some like to garden and others like to feed the chickens or collect the eggs.”

As with everything at the garden site, each aspect is designed with the visitors/clients in mind. The garden and flower beds are skinnier than normal so gardeners

can reach across the beds more comfortably, and the rows are wider than the standard to allow easier access for those with walkers or wheelchairs.

Garden assistant Crystal Flores said the end of COVID-19 brought her to the job at Sunflower Hill’s garden as a way to get outside and enjoy the sunshine, but the people and the programs have kept her coming back.

“All of the participants and the programs they have here are what make this place so special,” Flores said. “Every day when I get here, it makes me feel really good to be at the garden. It’s a beautiful place.”

For more information on hours of operation and summer programs, visit www.bit.ly/4d3wljt



Olivia Christensen, programs manager for Sunflower Hill, works in the garden at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore with Kathir, a student from Dublin High School’s transition class. The Sunflower Hill Garden is celebrating its 10th anniversary as an educational outdoor space for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. (Photo – Leah Silveira)

150 varieties of fruits and vegetables annually, free of charge to Sunflower Hill’s nonprofit counterparts, including Open Heart Kitchen, Culinary Angels, Tri-Valley Haven, Shepherd’s Gate and One Nation

Hospice patients and the residents of Heritage Estates, a senior-living facility in Livermore. Any remaining produce is shared through Sunflower Hill’s farmers market program for Irby Ranch, its flagship

tingent from Dublin High School’s transition program is working in the garden, flipping the old vegetable beds and getting rid of the cold-season crops to make way for the summer harvest of tomatoes and other

Dublin Resident Falls Short on American Idol Despite Wowing Celebrity Judges Underwood, Richie, Bryan

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN — Filo Ebid might not have made it to the grand finale on Season 23 of “American Idol,” but the Dublin resident and University of the Pacific (UOP) alumnus has plenty of reason to be proud.

Ebid, 23, first landed on the stage of “American

Idol” in March, after being awarded a platinum ticket by Idol legend Carrie Underwood and former longtime host Ryan Seacrest on New Year’s Eve in New York’s Times Square. Ebid was one of three contestants who wowed the judges in their first auditions.

Recipients of platinum tickets get to bypass the

first round of tryouts known as “Hollywood Week” and head straight to the next level ahead of the rest of the final cast.

Ebid’s whirlwind five performances on the show earned him a dedicated fan base, and it is fans who vote each week to keep their favorites on the show. Ebid sang such iconic hits as “Who’s Lovin’ You,” “Bridge Over Troubled Water,” “Skyfall,” “With a Little Help from My Friends” and “Anything Worth Holding On To.”

All that wasn’t enough, however, to gain him a spot in the top 10.

Ebid was eliminated on April 28 despite praise from the three judges – recording megastars Underwood, Lionel Richie and Luke Bryan. Ebid performed “And I Am Telling You I Am Not Going” from “Dreamgirls,” which starred another Idol alumnus, Jennifer Hudson.

“Just keep doing that and you are not going to be going nowhere,” Underwood told Ebid following his performance.

“That was my favorite performance I have seen you do this year,” Bryan added.

Ebid and his family immigrated from his na-

tive Egypt to Dublin when he was 13. Ebid attended Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon and earned a master’s in contemporary performance from Berklee College of Music in Valencia, Spain, and a bachelor’s in vocal performance from UOP in Stockton.

“I had just started eighth grade as an immigrant in a new American society, and I didn’t know if I’d ever fit in,” Ebid said in a UOP online interview. “Then I walked past a flyer for auditions for the school musical. I didn’t even know what a musical was at the time, but I happened to be a huge fan of Shrek, which was the show that they were putting on.”

Ebid auditioned for the title role and won. It marked the first of many successes for him and an affirmation he was on the right path. Now, with the recent Idol

loss, Ebid says he is grateful for the love and support he has received over the past few months.

“As bittersweet as this moment is, the bitterness is from how much I’m going to miss my Idol family,” Ebid wrote on his Facebook page on May 1. “I have met some of the most wonderful and loving people I’ve ever known ... most importantly, I need to acknowledge my rock in this world. I would not be here without my brother and my mom.

“You have been my biggest cheerleaders and supporters in everything that I do, and I can’t tell you enough how much I love you. And to all my friends who never waver to show their encouragement, I love you all so much. Real growth comes from the journey, not the result, and man, was it one heck of a journey.”



Dublin resident Filo Ebid was an “American Idol” fan favorite this season, but was eliminated from the competition during the April 28 episode. (Photo courtesy of ABC Entertainment)

Credit Union Honors Bothwell for 15 Years of Service as Board Chair

Chung Bothwell was honored at the UNCLE



UNCLE Credit Union President Harold Roundtree last month recognized Chairman of the Board Chung Bothwell for 15 years of service. (Photo courtesy of Ron Essex Photography)

Credit Union annual meeting last month for serving as chairman of the board for 15 years.

“Chung’s enduring commitment to our mission, our members and cooperative values has helped shape the foundation of UNCLE,” said credit union President Harold Roundtree. “Her vision has guided strategic decisions, strengthened governance practices and reinforced the trust our members place in us every day.”

Bothwell has an MBA from the University of Miami, a law degree from John F. Kennedy University and

a master of law degree in intellectual property from Golden Gate University.

She has been employed by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for more than 40 years and currently works in financial and contract management. Bothwell is also a former volunteer judge for the Tri-Valley Youth Court.

Founded in 1957, the UNCLE (University of California Livermore Employees) Credit Union now serves more than 38,000 members in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties.

Pleasanton Adopts FlashVote for Surveys

Pleasanton is now using FlashVote, a software-based survey service, to gather feedback from residents on community priorities.

Residents who register with FlashVote will periodically receive surveys from the city by e-mail, text or phone. After each survey, they will receive a

summary of the results and can see how their responses compare to others in the community.

“We’re excited to use the feedback collected through FlashVote to inform our work and ensure we’re understanding the needs of Pleasanton residents,” said Heather

Tiernan, the city’s communications manager.

Each survey is expected to take about one minute to complete and will remain open for 48 hours.

To sign up to receive surveys via e-mail, go to flashvote.com/pleasanton-ca or call 775-235-2240 to participate by phone or text.



Pending with multiple offers!

8362 Regency Drive \$3,197,000
4 bed 3.5 bath plus bonus, 3886 sq ft
Spacious lot sq ft 19,954
As predicted, it did not last!
Call today to see how Luxicor can help sell your home!

Linda Diaz Futral
Broker/Realtor
925.980.3561
linda@lindafutral.com
www.lindafutral.com
License #01257605

LUXICOR
REAL ESTATE



Fully Upgraded Single Story Home for Sale
7903 Riviera Ct., Pleasanton
Golden Eagle Estates Gated Community
3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2,493 sq. ft.
Listed for \$1,799,800

Call Ronnette Pueliu for a private tour
925-922-1143 | ronnette.pueliu@kw.com
HomesbyRonnettePueliu.com

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



Your life. Your money. Your terms.

Whether it's investing some extra income, preparing a future for your family with your retirement secured, or saving for a home or education costs, we're here to coach you through it.

We're ready when you are. Contact us today.



Erin Trayner
Financial Advisor
2156 W Grant Line Rd
Suite 225
Tracy, CA 95377
209-835-1005

WMO-46028-A-AECSPAD (04/2024)



Reed Plumbing Company
Livermore, CA
(925) 371-5671
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com
LIC #601931



Since 1976

- Decorative Plumbing
- Cedar Siding
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Appointments for Assistance
- Patio Furniture
- Moldings
- Trex Decking
- Entry Doors
- Fiber-Cement Siding
- Granite Slabs
- Replacement Kitchen Cabinet Doors
- Big Green Egg BBQ
- Composite Sidings
- Gazebos
- Cabinet Knobs & Pulls
- Benjamin Moore Paint
- Cobblestone
- Natural Stone
- Specialty Hardware
- Weber BBQ
- Hardscaping Patios
- Ceramic Tile
- TimberTech Decking
- Polished Pebbles
- Stihl Outdoor Power Tools
- Husqvarna Chainsaws
- Flooring Tiles
- Quartz Countertops
- Grohe Fixtures
- Hardwoods
- Pressure Treated Lumber
- Fountains
- Kitchen Backsplash Tile
- Toto Bath Products
- Redwood Fencing
- Timbers (Selected for Exposed)
- Hardwood Plywood
- Timbers
- Plumbing Repair
- Shop Online
- Kitchen Sinks
- T 1-11 Plywood Sidings
- Porcelain Tile Floors
- Belgard Pavers
- Stone Sidings
- Corrugated Metal
- Hardie Sidings
- Paint Grade Cedar Sidings
- Ace Hardware Store
- Doug Fir
- Flagstones
- Bagged & Bulk Landscape Products
- Viking Outdoor Kitchens
- Delivery Services
- Complimentary Private Meeting Rooms
- Black Mini Bark
- Drain Rock
- Kitchen Faucets
- Key Services
- Support Local Contractors
- Irrigation Supplies
- Framing Lumber
- Landscape Bark
- Landscape Lighting
- Interior Doors
- Pizza Ovens

RICHERT LUMBER



Scan QR Code

Former Dublin Knife-Shop Owner Sues over Arrest

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A former Dublin knife-store owner has sued the city’s police force, alleging officers illegally seized his \$2 million worth of weapons, violated his civil rights and terrified his autistic son during his arrest.

Deepak Chopra claims in his lawsuit filed last month in U.S. District Court in San Francisco that members of Dublin Police Services committed “egregious constitutional violations” against him, his wife and child during a 2023 raid at Dublin Knives, 6500 Dublin Blvd. The lawsuit contends they were subjected to unlawful searches, seizures, false accusations, racial discrimination and defamation.

“Not one of the countless charges alleged against (the Chopra family) has resulted in a conviction, for the simple reason that none of the crimes charged occurred,” the lawsuit states in its opening paragraph. “The vast majority of them were dropped, and it’s a matter of time before the remaining ones are dismissed.”

Although the lawsuit targets the “Dublin Police Department,” Dublin is policed by the Alameda County

Sheriff’s Office. The lawsuit also identifies Chief Victor Fox and deputies William Cowens and Christopher Shepard as defendants.

Dublin Police Services Capt. Miguel Campos said the agency does not comment on pending litigation.

The lawsuit stems from Aug. 11, 2023, when Dublin deputies served search warrants at Chopra’s business, Livermore home and a Livermore storage unit. At the time, police issued a statement saying they had seized more than 2,000 switchblade knives, 40 rifles and handguns, body armor, four cane swords, 245 sets of brass knuckles and other weapons at the business. At his home, police said, they confiscated 19 rifles, 25 lower receivers for assault-style rifles, more than 50 high-capacity magazines, parts for a .30 caliber machine gun and a jig for making “personally manufactured firearms.”

The search at the storage unit found an additional 50 rifles, 30 handguns and a fully automatic .30-caliber machine gun, police said.

Prosecutors charged Chopra with three felony counts, including possession of an assault weapon, and a single felony count of pos-

session of a short-barreled rifle or shotgun. He also faces five misdemeanor counts of manufacture of a firearm without a serial number, and one misdemeanor count each of furnishing a switchblade knife and third-degree criminal firearm storage. Chopra pleaded not guilty, records show. A pretrial hearing was scheduled for May 8 at the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin.

Chopra’s lawsuit alleges Cowens and Shepard initially conducted a warrantless search of the business on April 13, 2023, while investigating a robbery. The lawsuit says they arrested Chopra, seized most of his inventory and put him out of business. The District Attorney’s Office, however, declined to file charges against him.

The lawsuit charges that Shepard then “submitted materially false affidavits to a judge” to obtain a search warrant and returned to Dublin Knives in August. This time, he arrested Chopra and seized his personal collection of 300 guns worth \$1 million. The lawsuit contends the weapons were legal to possess.

Additionally, Chopra contends Dublin officers returned multiple times to the business to try to induce

Chopra to illegally sell restricted items, and contacted media outlets domestically and internationally to claim Chopra operated an illegal gun business to try to destroy his livelihood.

In another claim, Chopra alleges that his autistic son was present during the Aug. 11, 2023, search and deputies refused to allow the boy to go home for five hours, “causing the child to bang his head on the ground in distress and requiring emergency medical attention. Chopra’s wife, Deepika, suffered emotional distress, and was hospitalized for colitis resulting from stress, the claim states.

Although police initially arrested Chopra on suspicion of child endangerment, prosecutors did not file that charge against him.

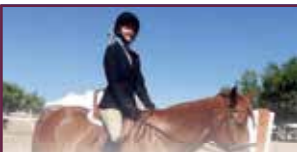
The lawsuit was assigned to Judge William Orrick at the federal courthouse in San Francisco. Orrick scheduled a hearing for Aug. 5.

Chopra’s attorney, Joseph Salama, said in a statement that the case concerns basic constitutional rights and responsible law enforcement.

“There are established procedures to investigate allegations, and they must be followed, and constitutional rights must be respected —

especially when vulnerable individuals are involved,” Salama said.

Chopra’s lawsuit contends he suffered \$14 million in lost inventory and suffered economic harm. It alleges law enforcement has disregarded a court order to return \$2 million in inventory.



Creek Hill Farm
Horseback Riding Lessons,
Training, Boarding,
Breeding, Sales
925.337.5375
creekhillfarms.com

A FAMILY LEGACY CONTINUES

Debbie Plato proudly assumes full stewardship of **Callaghan Mortuary & Livermore Crematory**, carrying forward 119 years of compassionate, family-owned service to the Livermore community.

For generations, the Bailey–Plato family has been honored to guide local families of every faith with dignity, respect, and heartfelt care. Today, Debbie renews that commitment—blending time-tested tradition with modern expertise to create meaningful tributes that truly reflect each life remembered.

When loss feels overwhelming, trust the funeral home that has stood beside Livermore since 1906. We listen. We guide. We honor your wishes—just as we always have.

Call (925) 447-2942 or visit CallaghanMortuary.com
3833 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550
Family-owned. Community-trusted.

DUSD Board of Trustees Approves Flying Pride Flag For More Than Half the Year at Secondary Schools

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN – The Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Board of Trustees has approved a resolution allowing the flying of the Pride flag and other symbolic banners at secondary schools to align with awareness months.

Awareness months include LGBTQ+ History Month, Transgender Awareness Month and Pride Month.

The 3-1 vote was held during the board’s regular meeting on April 29. Vice President Gabi Blackman voted against the resolution and Trustee Dan Cherrier was not present but said he supported it.

school campuses. The other version had it flying only at the district office in June. The current policy, enacted in 2007, stated that commemorative flags, such as the Pride flag, could fly no longer than 30 continuous days and at the district office only.

Dozens of speakers addressed the board about the proposed resolutions at the April 15 meeting, saying one month a year in June, when the campus is mostly empty, was not sufficient. Instead, they asked for the year-round flying of the flag along with a more inclusive student-orchestrated resolution.

Between the April 15 meeting and the board’s

existing guidelines.

“So, we were flying blindly,” Funk said.

In the end, the students, Funk and staff were able to cull a policy that extends exhibiting the Pride flag for the rest of the school year, as well as a few additional days going forward, for a total of 97 days, which is more than half of the academic calendar.

In addition, Funk said that beginning in August, he and staff will be meeting with Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) groups on campus every other month. He added that they will also be looking at ensuring there are enough non-gender restrooms on campus as

she said she was subject to frequent aggression from students and staff.

“I saw that this district (DUSD) values diversity and I saw that I could be in an environment where I felt safe,” Faggiano said. “I strongly urge the superintendent and board to stand up for what is right, not what is easy.”

Pleasanton school board member Charlie Jones appreciated the DUSD’s efforts and action.

“I am a proud educator, a queer educator of almost 10 years and I am on the county steering community for Alameda County,” Jones said. “Tonight, it feels good to be able to say thank you for the fact that you have moved forward on this project ... there are items in this that I would like to bring back to Pleasanton to consider and those are the kinds of things we like to see, so thank you.”

Blackman, who believed the laws and protocols were not properly followed in the changing of board policy, said the revision of the policy will now become public fodder to fly all manner of flags on campus.

“I know I am in the minority,” Blackman said. “But when someone asks to fly something that you find abhorrent, please think back to this moment and remember how we got here ... I do support the LGBTQ+ community. I know you don’t think I do, but I do ... I just want to create a safe place where we don’t have to defend ourselves.”



The Pride Flag will fly at secondary schools in Dublin for more than half the academic calendar now that the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees passed a resolution last week. (Photo courtesy of Wikipedia)

“This is a great, proud day for Dublin Unified School District,” Board President Kristin Speck said.

The revised resolution came on the heels of a fractious board meeting on April 15, when trustees were set to choose between two updated versions of the original resolution acknowledging June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month and the designated locations where the flag would be flown.

In one version, the flag was to be displayed during June at the district office and the district’s secondary

meeting on the 29th, DUSD Superintendent Chris Funk met with students, legal counsel and staff to develop a new resolution based heavily on student input.

“We felt that deep emotion that (students) would like to see in the new resolution,” Funk said at the April 29 meeting. “Students took the original and enhanced it.”

Funk added that he spoke with legal counsel to ensure the new policy would be consistent in terms of protecting the district and he conducted research on other districts, many of which he discovered do not have

well as making sure there are non-gender changing rooms, especially for physical education classes and athletics.

“It’s a start,” Funk said. “We still have a ways to go to continue to improve.”

Public comment during the meeting was supportive of the changes.

Nicole Faggiano, a teacher at Emerald High School, said she came to DUSD a few years ago from another district due to homophobia, harassment and a lack of administrative support. As an openly LGBTQ staff member at her previous school,

Security, which manages the laboratory.

LLNL said the prescribed burn would be conducted along the site fence line and some interior areas under controlled conditions and is weather dependent.

LLNL to Conduct Prescribed Burn at Site 300

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) has scheduled an annual prescribed burn at Site 300, south of Tracy, the week of Monday, May 12, through Friday, May 16.

The 7,000-acre Site 300

is home to LLNL’s experimental testing facility for high explosives.

The prescribed burn will be conducted by the Alameda County Fire Department under contract to Lawrence Livermore National

MOTHER'S DAY @ THE BANKHEAD

THE PERONDI'S
STUNT DOG
EXPERIENCE

SUN MAY 11 | 3 PM



TREAT MOM TO A SHOW THAT'S PAWSITIVELY UNFORGETTABLE!

GET TICKETS NOW!
LivermoreArts.org | 925.373.6800

Happy Mother's Day!



To all mothers whether you are past, present, soon to be moms, mother figures and moms in heaven. May your Mother's Day be filled with joy and laughter.

It is on honor for me to give a tribute to my mom and grandma every year on Mother's Day. I fondly remember our annual mother daughter daughter trips together. Grandma Rae is no longer with us as she passed away at the age of 102. I wear grandma's necklace (pictured) on Mother's Day in her memory.



Leslie FAUGHT
REALTOR® CRS, SRES®
COMPASS

Service. Experience. Results.
925.784.7979
LeslieFaught.com
SellingEastBayHomes.com
DRE01027778

"I'll find a buyer for your home and a home for you to buy"

COMING SOON

Livermore Citywide Garage Sale

SATURDAY JUNE 21, 2025
8:00 AM TO NOON

PRESENTED BY:
LIVERMORE RECYCLES

Starring... unwanted stuff in new roles!

WANT TO BE A SELLER?
Register your sale online at LivermoreSanitation.com, scan the QR code, or call 925-449-7300. Register by June 11th to receive free advertising.

RATHER BE A SHOPPER?
Get your reusable shopping bags ready! Check the June 19th edition of **The Independent** or visit LivermoreSanitation.com on June 14th for a complete list of participating addresses.

Don't miss this blockbuster event!

EDITORIAL

There Are Still Ways to Protect the Constitution

Bar associations across the U.S. held a National Law Day of Action on May 1 at a time when the legal profession is under assault by an unconstrained federal administration.

Lawyers, judges and other members of the profession gathered in Oakland and 49 other locations across the country to highlight the threat to the rule of law and to re-take their oath as legal professionals, swearing to uphold the Constitution.

Jean Hyams, an Oakland civil rights attorney who represents clients in the Tri-Valley, sounded the alarm succinctly by stating that the court system doesn't enforce its decisions by force of arms. The system works because people respect the system.

So, what happens when the president of the United States decides he's not going to follow court orders?

The words "constitutional crisis" have been tossed around numerous times since Trump began his second term. But in a constitutional system with three coequal branches of government, if the executive branch decided to ignore the judicial branch, that would indeed constitute a crisis.

Robert Boyle, a criminal defense

attorney in Pleasanton, says the Trump administration is certainly skirting court orders, especially when it comes to deporting immigrants without due process.

Boyle said the recent order by U.S. District Court Judge James Boasberg blocking deportation flights, of which at least two went ahead anyway, suggested a course of action. "He issued an order where he essentially said that he was about to look into criminal contempt proceedings for people who were impeding his order," Boyle told The Independent.

That decision implies there are ways of holding this administration to account. Contempt of Court rulings can bring hefty fines or even jail time, and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure specifically state that a judge may appoint an independent attorney to prosecute criminal contempt if the U.S. government refuses to do so.

That's an important distinction, because the federal courts usually rely on the U.S. Marshals Service. When working for the judiciary, the marshals are actually organized under the executive branch. These days, the rules used in the past might not be reliable.

Even the Supreme Court's pres-

idential immunity ruling isn't as clear-cut as it would seem. It specifically says no president is above the law for unofficial actions taken during their presidency. Chief Justice John Roberts didn't define what an "unofficial action" is, however. Boyle said that perhaps, if a president's action were found to be outside what the constitution allows, that action could be considered to be unofficial.

Boasberg's deportation flight case hasn't concluded yet; it was remanded back to a lower court for fact-finding. Also still in limbo is the case of Kilmar Ábrego García, the Maryland man deported mistakenly and without due process to a maximum-security prison in El Salvador. Trump has refused to take action to have him returned, despite a separate federal court order to do so. He simply states that El Salvador President Nayib Bukele refuses to return Garcia, so there is nothing he can do, even when he's paying the country millions of dollars per year to hold people in its prisons.

What would prove to be the test of the constitutional order would be if not only Trump openly defies a direct court order, but also orders the U.S. Marshals not to enforce it. "That would be a real consti-

tutional crisis," Boyle said. "That would be a blatantly illegal act under the Constitution."

Both cases (and many more) might ultimately end up before the Supreme Court. How the administration responds to a ruling against it will be the key test of the constitutional order.

Some attorneys such as Boyle don't think the line has been crossed yet. The Supreme Court has previously upheld the use of independent attorneys to prosecute criminal contempt. They might do so again, and even Trump might not be immune this time.

We are in uncharted territory in 2025. The legal processes that have sustained the country for its entire history are under attack. But we haven't lost yet. There still exist avenues through which the constitutional order may be defended.

The attorneys and judges who took a stand this past week are on the front lines of that defense of a system that has supported both parties over the years. Their work is supplemented by the citizens who march in the streets and the legislators standing up in Congress. Now is not the time to write the obituary for U.S. democracy. So long as we have the will to fight back, we have hope.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Letters may not contain advertising. Abusive letters and letters containing ad hominem attacks may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed or not run at all. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com or submitted using the form below. The letters to the editor deadline is Monday at 8 a.m. If you wish to submit a letter pertaining to a special event or meeting taking place on a Monday before any given Thursday print edition — and you would like your letter to run that week — please contact the editor (newsroom@independentnews.com) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 8 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.

Life's Too Short Dean Dean, Livermore

I used to see comments on here regarding our town, like parades, shows, etc. All I read now is about people's political beliefs. Make yourself heard at the ballot box; until then, enjoy family and friends. Life is too short to stress daily about politics, plus it'll make you sick. I've been married 30 years and still don't know my wife's political beliefs, nor do I care. There are more important things to discuss with her.

I moved up here 40 years ago from LA when I was 25 and recalled how green the hills were, less traffic and little crime, but now it's starting to look like LA. I drive through Dublin and the once beautiful green hills are full of housing; isn't anyone concerned about the growth of Livermore which will bring more traffic, crime

and homelessness?

I live in Springtown and when I look out my window, I see nice green hills and I'm afraid it will turn into the Dublin hills. They're building homes on little lots where the houses are so close you can hand a cup of sugar to your neighbor through your window. Right now, Livermore is still a great place to raise your family, but the future concerns me; I have grandkids that are going to be growing up here.

Let's get back to the basics. Life's too short.

Just my opinion.

Why I Don't Like AI and Its ilk Eloise Hamann, Dublin

AI is great at handling and sorting huge amounts of data, as well as computation. However, it is being used to attempt to answer questions online about a problem one is

having with a company or software. To be fair, it's humans who try to anticipate issues and provide the canned solutions. Unfortunately, they fail. I've come to type in the blank about my issue "Get me to a real person." It has worked. At grocery stores, there may only be one checkout clerk. They want you to use self-checkout. This is even becoming popular at some department stores.

What is missing is human interaction. I realized recently standing in line how much I enjoyed talking with a woman behind me. We chatted and I laughed when she said she's not getting a discount for doing the grocery store's work. In one long line at a discount store, I had a good conversation with someone with a MAGA hat. That was a day when Trump had been found guilty of one of his crimes. During the long wait, I asked if he had heard. He had, and we began a discussion. I told him my biggest issue is environment, so I find Trump unacceptable. He said he also had concerns about the environment, so I told him about how many laws put forward by the Environmental Protection Agency had been canceled by Trump. We had a good conversation, and when the man left for an open station, the woman being checked out gave me a thumbs up.

I fear that the automation is stealing from our human interactions that in small ways make our lives better.

Eliminating "DEI" Policies Billie Otis, Pleasanton

Under cover of eliminating "DEI" policies, the Trump administration is moving to reshape the government into one of hyper (white) masculinity. He and his Cabinet gleefully tout their efforts as they fire women, persons of color and those of the LGBTQ community

who are in military and/or leadership roles — with no reason other than they do not fit Trump's vision. Programs, books and online history celebrating the achievements and contributions of women, persons of color and those in the LGBTQ community have been ended, banned and wiped out.

But women, people of color and those in the LGBTQ community are not the only ones considered undesirable by those in the Trump administration. HHS Secretary RFK Jr. recently gave a speech on autism, declaring most of those on the spectrum would never be fully functional, and that autism is a "preventable disease." In light of his skewed "diagnosis", he has directed that an autism registry be established by collecting private medical records, including medication records from pharmacies, lab testing and genomics data from the Department of Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Service, claims from private insurers, data from smartwatches and fitness trackers, Medicare and Medicaid Services, all to track Americans with autism. Now a registry of those with autism. Who's next?

The Trump administration has found an acceptable role for women: wife and child-bearer. To boost the birthrate, the Trump administration is considering menstrual cycle education for women so we can chart our "natural fertility", awarding \$5,000 at childbirth, and reserving 30% of prestigious Fulbright fellowships for those who are married or have children. Of course, with women relegated to the kitchen, those few fellowships would undoubtedly go to white, male fathers only, and \$5,000 does very little to offset a lifetime of childcare and education costs.

With the elimination and cutbacks to chil-

dren's services, even our most vulnerable are not worthy of care under this administration. For example, Trump's "big, beautiful budget" eliminates funding for Head Start preschools, which provide childcare, education and meals for those in need. The administration has laid off thousands of workers who supervised education, childcare, child support and child protective services, and it has blocked or delayed billions of dollars in funding for school meals and school safety. Funding for investigating child sexual abuse and internet crimes against children, responding to reports of missing children and preventing youth violence has been withdrawn indefinitely.

Hands Off Revisited David Ott, Pleasanton

I'm calling to the Hands Off protestors that oppose President Trump's common sense policies of securing the border, deporting illegal criminals, and saving tax payer's money by getting rid of the waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government to protest against something worthwhile by speaking up against governor Newsom and his democratic regime's plans to further increase taxes in California. We already pay the most taxes than any state and now with their new plans, they want to increase our taxes even more.

Here is a brief summary of their plans:

They have introduced nine separate bills that would increase your property taxes — with the worst being a 5% charge of the value of your home when sold. This unheard of tax is on top of the capital gains tax!

They are working with labor union bosses to put a repeal of Prop 13 tax reduction on the ballot in 2026. The vast majority of California voters

already voted in favor of Prop 13 in a previous election.

Newsom has included a job-killing hike in businesses payroll tax — costing struggling small businesses \$1 billion more per year in payroll costs. That will mean fewer jobs in our state.

They plan to add a tax on the social media platforms that you currently get to use for free (AB796).

They plan to increase state income tax to a whopping 13.8%, the highest in the U.S. (AB1428).

They plan to track every driver's mileage and charge them 6-9 cents per mile they drive (AB1421). The typical California driver will be forced to pay \$900-\$1200 a year in higher taxes to drive on poorly maintained freeways that we already paid for with the excessive gas and sales taxes!

Newsom and his regime have already mis-managed \$25B on their scheme to resolve the homeless problem in the state and now the homeless problem is worse than ever before.

Newsom and his regime of Dems have spent \$9.5B of taxpayer's money on health care for non-citizens, AKA illegal aliens, and because of this, the budget for healthcare was busted and they had to ask for another \$3.5B this year.

Let's all come together and protest Newsom and his regime of Dems to keep their Hands Off our money.

Contact your assemblyman and tell them to vote no on the tax increases and then in 2026 vote for Steve Hilton for governor.

Disc Golf and Park Space in Springtown Patricia Munro, Livermore

In early 2019, I was taken on a tour of the area that will make up

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala
EDITOR: Dan Wood

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: David T. Lowell (In Memoriam)
EDITOR: Janet Armantrout (In Memoriam)

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925)243-8000. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. For more information or to sign up visit www.independentnews.com. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925)243-8000 during regular business hours or by emailing info@independentnews.com. Editorial information may be submitted by emailing editor@independentnews.com

www.independentnews.com



Hundreds of people turned out May 1 at the corner of Hopyard Road and Valley Avenue in Pleasanton for a “May Day Strong: We are the Many” rally and community food drive hosted by Indivisible Tri-Valley. Part of a nationwide series of similar events, participants collected food for the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry while honoring the legacy of past labor struggles and protesting federal policy imposed by the Trump administration. A similar gathering took place May 3 in Livermore. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

the Springtown Community Park and Disc Golf Course — a strip of land running northwest beginning at the Springtown Library and ending at Marlin Pound Park and the Livermore Wetlands Preserve. The almost 60 acres was first a public golf course, then open space slated to become a multi-use park. The potential for public use was obvious; the money to bring that potential to fruition — not so much. Since then, the necessary money has been found (about 9.5 million dollars from both City and LARPD). That time has come: the necessary money has been found and plans (developed with input from the community) are being finalized.

About 50 acres will become a disc golf course, maintained by the City of Livermore. About 6.8 acres, to be maintained by LARPD, will become a public park with amenities that include: shade structures to fight heat; playground equipment for

children and a fitness area for adults; a picnic area, a community garden, and walking and biking paths for everyone; and ever-popular public bathrooms for everyone!

Project construction is expected to begin as early as August.

More information — including a map of the disc golf course — can be found here: <https://www.livermoreca.gov/departments/community-development/engineering/capital-improvement-plan-projects/springtown-disc-golf-course>.

Kudos to both City staff and LARPD for working together to make this project happen.

Welcome to Trump World
Rosario Milelli, Pleasanton

Maura Zurich, Newsweek, contributed an article on Feb. 18, 2024, which reported on the outcome of a survey conducted by the co-directors of the Presidential Greatness Project. Ac-

cording to her, the group surveyed 154 scholars, members of the American Political Science Association whose work engages presidential politics. Ratings were based on a zero to 100 rating. As you might expect, top ratings were received by Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Roosevelt, and George Washington, all over a 90 rating. Trump 45 placed last with a 10.9 rating. Updates in November and December by 525 historians and scholars again placed Trump last among all U.S. presidents.

Comments from a similar survey by 142 historians and professors rated Trump as 41st worst president; from 24/7 Wall St. staff (Feb. 27, 2023): “Donald Trump is the lowest-ranked post-19th-century president, according to the historians and other authorities surveyed by C-SPAN. The businessman turned nation’s chief executive graded lowest in the categories of moral authority, administrative skills,

international relations, relationship with Congress, performance within the context of time, and crisis leadership. Trump was known for alienating allies by such actions as pulling the U.S. out of the Paris climate agreement, hectoring NATO allies to boost military spending, and openly disparaging other countries. He created a chaotic administrative climate by constantly replacing officials. Though Trump is credited with fast-tracking the development of vaccines to combat the Covid-19 pandemic, his management of the crisis was seen as lacking”.

No surprise, nothing changed, Trump 47 is proving that it is possible to ultimately rate below Trump 45, striving for zero or total failure. Talk about American carnage, Trump’s tariffs will turn a robust economy into a recession. He inherited an economy where economic growth exceeded expectations, stronger productivity growth, strongest labor market in generations, and substantial wealth gains across a wide spectrum of households. He has trashed the rule of law, unbelievably “unsure whether people in the U.S. are entitled to due process rights guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution”. He constantly makes statements that are simply untrue, whether through gross incompetence or masterful lying, it doesn’t matter. Retribution is the number one focus. He could have “turned the other cheek”, avoided the literal attacks on individuals, universities, legal firms, the press.

The pity is, he could be a good president. He has a MAGA subservient congress, a sympathetic Supreme Court, and a slight majority of MAGA supporters.

The Obvious
Richard Hofer, Livermore

The 2020 election was not stolen. There is no evidence to support the accusation.

Trump perpetuated the lie and tried illegally to overturn it. The corrupt Justices he appointed granted him immunity.

Trump’s 2024 election was achieved through gerrymandering of voting districts; massive donations by the wealthiest along with intimidation at the polls via bomb threats and attempts to remove or destroy ballot drop boxes and by controlling social media to spread the MAGA propaganda with his biggest donor Elon Musk’s purchase of Twitter. Trump did not place his hand on the Bible when being sworn to uphold the Constitution. He is running his administration like a Mafioso, appointing only those that pledge loyalty to carry out his actions without question as to legality or the consequences and threatening anyone who will not comply.

He wants to control the media and our educational institutions. Project 2025 is backed by the wealthiest supremacist religious zealots with the intent of making America exclusive to their ideology and benefit. Trump wants to dismantle the Constitution, our democracy and rule of law. He refuses to divest himself of his personal business interests and instead is using the presidential office to promote his businesses and enrich himself selling paraphernalia and crypto currency; publicly promoting Elon Musk’s Teslas at the White House

with the Secretary of Commerce advising the public to purchase Tesla stock.

His appointment of Elon Musk under the guise of DOGE to dismantle valuable government agencies that provide essential services is only in the interest of creating funds to reward his wealthy donors with massive tax cuts. His other appointments are comprised of inexperienced, unqualified loyalists that exhibit paranoia and belief in crazy unfounded conspiracy theories. He wants to go back to the “golden age” of 100 years ago when only the wealthiest prospered, while the general public was subject to oppressive working conditions and human rights and disease, erasing all of the progress that has made America the leader of the free world. His trade wars, extortion of our allies, and threats to conquer Canada and Greenland while siding with Russia on its invasion of the Ukraine are alienating us from the rest of the free world. There is no “peace” plan for the Ukraine, only surrender of what was taken from them along with the dismantling of their military defense, while Putin rebuilds his military for future attacks.

**A R R O Y O
C E L L A R S**
Tasting Room Open:
Saturday: 12 - 5pm,
Sunday: 12 - 5pm,
or by appointment
2270 Research Drive,
Livermore
(925) 292-9157

LAW DAY

(Continued from front page)

nizers of the event. She conveyed that since Trump assumed office in January, he has triggered concern with reports he has ignored judicial rulings and deported people without hearings.

Pleasanton criminal defense attorney Robert Boyle, who attended the Oakland event, explained to The Independent that the “concept is that everybody gets a fair shake” and an opportunity to be heard in court.

“For almost 250 years, that’s been the basic understanding of American constitutional democracy,” Boyle explained. “And I think what’s been going on recently is we’re seeing a movement in this country to sort of abandon those principles, and that comes in the form of denying people that due process, the right to be in court, to appear in front of a neutral judge and make their case.

“As it has been recently reaffirmed by judges, if a party has an issue with a court’s ruling, the remedy is to file an appeal, not attack the integrity of the court,” he said.

The administration disputes this and maintains the judges are blocking their policies.

According to Sonya Mehta, a member of the Board

of the Alameda County Bar Association who spoke at Oakland’s Law Day of Action, threats and harassment are attacks on our democracy, on our system of government.

Boyle noted, “One of the speakers was retired Alameda County Presiding Judge Winifred Smith, and she was clear to point out judges are afraid right now. Judges see their independence is being threatened, and that’s a scary thing. That’s an unusual occurrence, and judges are supposed to have some level of autonomy, so that they can make independent, fair decisions.”

The lead speaker at the event, Smith stated, “We are living at a time when the courts and judges are facing undue pressure, criticism and direct attacks, not only verbally, but sometimes physically.”

In talking with The Independent, Hyams emphasized that the focus of the event was not partisan. The speakers wanted to bring citizens on all sides together to support the constitution. For example, none disparaged the president in a personal way.

Hyams did say that orders are being flagrantly disregarded, which is anath-

ema to the concept of the rule of law.

“The judiciary doesn’t have an army to enforce their orders,” Hyams explained. “They rely on respect for the institution, and all of us rely on that respect for the institution in order for democracy to work.”

She continued by saying that the idea that respect for the judiciary is being “disregarded, disrespected and denigrated” is an affront to the Constitution that lawyers were sworn to uphold.

Boyle stated, “I do agree on some level that respect for the courts is what keeps things running. I don’t think it’s the only thing.”

There is an enforcement mechanism in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure by which a judge can appoint an independent attorney to prosecute contempt cases, Boyle explained. That mechanism has been previously upheld by the Supreme Court. Right now, cases are still working their way through the court system, and a direct confrontation between the executive and judicial branches has not reached the Supreme Court yet.

Boyle said lawyers across the nation chose not to keep silent. He affirmed that the protest was not “some big

left-wing rally situation.” He called the participants a group of professionals “dedicated to upholding the principles of justice in America.”

During the program, the attorneys recited the same oath they took to uphold the constitution when they became lawyers.

“It’s a powerful statement. I wanted to be part of that because I’m in court every day fighting for people’s rights,” Boyle said. “We’re on the precipice of potentially a complete shift in the legal system in this country, and it’s coming at a rapid pace. I look at this as a bipartisan issue, a nonpartisan issue. It really doesn’t have anything to do with your political background. It has to do with the fact that we’ve collectively agreed on what the rules are, and that we should all continue to follow those rules.”

MILLER'S
AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING
WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRANDS!
Residential & Commercial
WINNER
EAST BAY TIMES
BEST
IN EAST BAY
2024
READERS'
CHOICE
AWARDS
Serving
The Tri-Valley
Since 1960
925.447.3000
www.CallMillers.com Lic. #253756

**Would you, your team or club
like to be a part of the
107th Annual Livermore Rodeo Parade
June 14th 10am**

Rotary
Club of Livermore
Parade Applications are available at
www.livermore-rotary.org
or email Livermoreparade@yahoo.com

**Specializing in Fireplaces that
beautify your home for over 40 years!**
**Gas & Wood Fireplaces
Gas, Wood & Pellet Inserts
Free-Standing Stoves**
Sales & Installation of our Products Only

**UPTO
\$1,000
OFF***
*On select units. Must present this ad. Call for details. Limited Time Offer.

**JERRY'S
FIREPLACES**
*Tired of no burn days?
Call Us 1-877-666-6666*
23585 Connecticut Street, Unit 15, Hayward M-F 9-5, Sat 10-4 510 471-5601 jerrysfireplaces.com

SWALWELL

(Continued from front page)

suffering from cancer.

“The President deported a 4-year-old American citizen with cancer, stage-four cancer. Took him away from his American citizen father and his American cancer treatment,” Swalwell said. “People just wanted cheap

eggs, and now you’re deporting kids with cancer. We are so far off course from where the American people wanted this administration to go.”

A day earlier, Swalwell criticized Trump for his tariffs policies.

“Have prices come down

since Day 1?” he wrote on X. “Trump is 0 for 100. And now with these tariffs, he’s raising prices on us even more. And now people are taking out loans to shop at the grocery store? Who voted for this? Let me answer: No one.”

Dublin Unified School District Fills Key Leadership Positions

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN – Several new leadership roles in the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) have been announced for the 2025-26 school year. The incoming administrators were presented at the DUSD’s regular board meeting on April 29.

The positions include Erin Magill as inaugural principal for the new Shamrock Hills TK-8 school, Whitney Dwyer as director of equity, inclusion and student services, and Catherine Cunningham and Meghan Rossi as new assistant principals for Dublin High School. Shamrock Hills is projected to open in the fall of 2026, and the director and assistant principal positions will fill existing vacancies.

“These appointments signify the strength of our district from within, as we see Erin and Whitney step into new leadership roles, bringing their established expertise and dedication to new positions in the district,” Chris D. Funk, DUSD superintendent, said in a statement. “It’s equally important to infuse our district with fresh perspectives, and we are fortunate to welcome Katie (Cunningham) and Meghan, whose diverse experiences will undoubtedly add to the Dublin High experience and contribute to the continued success of its students.”

Erin Magill, Principal, Shamrock Hills

Since joining DUSD in 2021, Magill has led at Murray Elementary, overseeing intervention programs, managing student support services and advancing equity initiatives. She has worked closely with families, staff and community partners to improve inclusive practices and support systems. Magill has previous leadership experience in the San Ra-

mon Valley Unified School District and holds a master’s degree in education from Saint Mary’s College. She expressed her excitement and gratitude for the new opportunity during the board meeting.

“I am honored and incredibly excited to accept the position of founding principal at Shamrock Hills TK-8,” Magill said. “The opportunity to build a school both literally and figuratively from the ground up is a rare and meaningful one. I am committed to laying a strong, reliable foundation for a thriving learning community.”

Whitney Dwyer, DUSD Director of Equity, Inclusion and Student Services

Dwyer, currently an assistant principal at Dublin High, has been with the district since 2021. She has played key roles in overseeing departments, managing student activities and facilitating professional development. She holds a master’s degree in urban education and an administrative services credential.

“Thank you all for trusting me with this critical position,” Dwyer said in addressing the board during the April 29 meeting. “There is a core value that I have held since I entered education, and it is that until the most marginalized people in our community are free, none of us are free. I am really excited to bring this value to my work in this role.”

Meghan Rossi, Dublin High Assistant Principal

Rossi brings more than 16 years of educational experience, including more than a decade as a high school English teacher at San Ramon Valley High in Danville and Mt. Eden High in Hayward. She has taught a range of courses

from Advanced Placement language and composition to women’s literature. Rossi has also served as a department chair and instructional coach.

Most recently, she has served as an administrative teacher on special assignment and a multi-tiered system of support district liaison, supporting teacher development and student success initiatives. She holds a master’s degree in educational administration from San Francisco State University and said she is committed to fostering strong, inclusive school communities where all students can thrive.

“I am delighted and thrilled to meet the staff, get to know the students and to continue the good work,” Rossi said

Catherine Cunningham, Dublin High Assistant Principal

Cunningham is currently an assistant principal at a high school in Oregon. She brings 25 years of educational experience, having led initiatives in academic support, student equity and restorative practices in diverse school communities similar to Dublin High. Her leadership as an assistant principal and district administrator in Oregon emphasized building inclusive systems that meet the needs of all learners.

Cunningham holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of the Pacific, a master’s degree in American history from Cal State East Bay and a principal license from Portland State University. A Bay Area native, Cunningham said she is looking forward to returning home to support Dublin’s vibrant community and help all students thrive. Cunningham was not present at the board meeting and unavailable for comment.

FOSTER (Continued from front page)

invitation, Foster joined the new facility working on the Sherwood Project, an early nuclear-fusion program.

But the fledgling Livermore lab began with two warhead-test failures in 1953, throwing its existence into question. Then at the head of LLNL’s Hectoton Group, Foster was charged with delivering weapons designs that not only set Livermore apart from Los Alamos, but also worked.

According to Ramos, Foster adopted the philosophy to “take a big enough step so that things get a little radical. Don’t look so far ahead that you really don’t know what you are talking about, but don’t look so close in the future that you are just putting existing pieces together.”

The Hectoton Group pursued designs more compact than its Los Alamos predecessors; they were small enough to be carried by aircraft or missiles. Beginning in 1955, a string of successful tests cemented LLNL’s expertise in nuclear devices sufficiently compact for artillery shells.

In 1960, U.S. submarines began carrying the LLNL-developed Polaris missile, which ensured U.S. retaliatory strike capabilities even if the Soviet Union launched a surprise nuclear attack. The development augmented the country’s negotiating leverage during

events such as the Berlin Crisis of 1961. Then-President John F. Kennedy later thanked members of the Polaris team personally for their contributions to national defense, according to Ramos.

Prior to Polaris, studies had concluded that U.S. re-



John Stuart Foster Jr.
(Photo courtesy of LLNL)

taliation was doubtful. LLNL’s more compact, more rugged warheads eventually became the basis for most of the nuclear weapons in the nation’s stockpile.

After LLNL Director Harold Brown left the lab to become the Department of Defense’s first director for defense research and engineering in 1961, the UC Regents selected Foster as the lab’s fourth director. Foster served in the role until 1965, when he, too, went on to assume the role of director of defense research.

“Johnny Foster was a tremendous technical in-

novator, creative thinker on defense issues and tireless advocate for the power of science and technology to advance national security,” current LLNL Director Kim Budil said. “He was also an incredible person, a true gentleman and scholar who always had time to listen, mentor and inspire. He never lost his passion for the Lab and our important missions, and always pushed us to be better, think bigger and make a meaningful difference.”

During his time at the lab, Foster lived in both Livermore and Pleasanton. In addition to his work at LLNL, he was elected in 1958 to the first board of directors of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, then known as the Livermore Area Park, Recreation and Parkway District. After his time at the Department of Defense, he served as consultant and advisor for aerospace and intelligence agencies.

“Foster’s passing marks the end of an era for colleagues and protégés who knew him as a mentor, innovator and tireless advocate for scientific rigor,” according to an LLNL statement.

Budil remembered Foster as “a visionary leader whose innovations have left an indelible imprint on national defense and Laboratory culture.”

TOWN FESTIVAL (Continued from front page)

music of all kinds had been held at Del Valle Regional Park.

“We left that park cleaner than we found it every single time,” Ferrucci said, but despite their best efforts, they reached an impasse with the East Bay Regional Park District.

“There were regulations that were quite frankly, appropriate, you know, fire preparations — having first aid and qualified EMTs to be there. And we tried to check all the boxes and be as compliant and cooperative in communicating with everyone that we needed to, but as time went on, it became increasingly more difficult to feel that everyone was on board.”

Visitors were eventually prohibited from having campfires at night.

“Understandable and appropriate, but it did take a lot of the magic out of playing music at night,” which is a core part of the Two-Day Town experience, Ferrucci explained. “And a lot of the really intimate stuff was happening at campsites,” where campers would wander freely from site to site with their instruments to jam with new and old friends alike.

“What brought us together was, of course, James Benney, our godfather here,” Ferrucci said.

Benney founded the

Livermore event in 1998 and modeled it after the Strawberry Music Festival held in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains that began in 1982.

“Many of us that initially started going to Two-Day Town had kind of come out of the Strawberry music scene,” Ferrucci said. “That was really where a lot of us knew each other in terms of being friends socially and, of course, the music brought us together. And that’s the lifeblood of Two-Day Town.”

In the lead-up to this year’s festival, organizers said the event would “carry on” regardless of the weather, “rain and shine, freeze-ass cold (or) blistering heat.”

Last year provided the blistering heat in the first year in a new location since the event began. This year was the freeze-ass cold mixed with parts rain and shine for much of the weekend-long festival that was held May 2-4 at Rancho Los Mochos on Mines Road southwest of Livermore.

The nationally accredited former Boy Scouts of America camp feels like a fitting new home for this band of Two-Day Town founders. Ferrucci speaks of them as if they’re brothers. A lot of their kids grew up together attending Two-Day Town.

The whole organization is made up of volunteers, including the participating bands, who don’t get paid. The stage and sound crews don’t, either.

“It’s truly a community effort to do this,” Ferrucci said. “I have to bow to James Benney. This is a labor of love. He’s never made a penny doing it. And I mean, we’ve all contributed, you know, if it’s \$100 or \$500 or \$1,000. We’ve had lots of people contribute money because they’re able to. And it’s for the family. It’s for us.”

The new location on Mines Road is about 40 minutes from downtown Livermore. And there is no cell-phone reception.

Ferrucci, who’s referred to as “The Mayor” around Two-Day Town and known for wearing a big floppy hat, said one of his self-imposed mayoral duties had been to drive to the Donut Wheel in Livermore every morning during the festival.

“I’d grab a couple dozen donuts, head back to the camp and do like the drive-by-donut around the campground. I’d be wearing the hat and go, ‘You wanna donut?’ And then the kids would come running after the car. It’s fun to do.”

Now, though, the drive is almost 40 minutes each way.

“But you know, these are my people,” he said.

Museum Offers Tours of Public Art at Firehouse Arts Center

In partnership with the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, the Museum on Main is offering free educational tours of public art pieces at the Firehouse Arts Center led by docent Jan Coleman-Knight.

The hour-long Saturday tours at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton, will cover 12 works of art donated by Gary and Nancy Harrington and will be offered on May 17, June 7 and June 21.

Tours will begin at 10 a.m. Each tour is limited to 25 people and registration is required.

To sign up for a tour, call the museum at 925-462-2766 or go to museumon-main.org.

Ava (Continued from front page)

solar energy is generated in the daytime, but peak power consumption for residential customers is in the evening hours, after they come home from work.

Even in the daytime, rain clouds can cut back on solar energy. Wind-power generation is likewise dependent on weather conditions, which might or might not correspond to when people need it. To compensate for those supply and demand mismatches, utilities trade energy between regions to make sure those who need it can receive it, and that unneeded power isn’t wasted. That can lead to higher prices during peak usage, such as during heat waves when demand for electricity outstrips the utilities’ ability to produce it locally.

“We need to understand how to harness that energy and use it not just when it’s being produced,” Ava Senior Program Manager Feliz Ventura said. By storing more energy and reducing the amount of power needed during expensive, high-demand periods, Ava can pass cost savings onto its customers, she continued.

Participants in Ava’s SmartHome Charging program, for example, can already earn financial rewards by shifting their electric-vehicle charging times to off-peak periods.

But beyond the incentives for electric-vehicle

and home-battery owners with flexible schedules, “what it can do for all Ava customers is reduce the amount of power that we need to buy at those really expensive times (and) reduce costs overall,” Ventura said. “The strategy that we have is to help our customers — not only those who can invest directly in distributed energy resources, but actually everyone.”

Ava CEO Howard Chang said in a statement, “As a crucial part of our plan to get to 100% carbon-free power by 2030, we are excited to roll out our customer-centric VPP approach. There’s a lot of discussion out there about the value of VPPs in energy markets, but there isn’t much talk about the value to the customer. As a public agency with ‘community’ literally in our name, we’re leaning into the work of determining how to share the value derived from VPPs with the customers we serve.”

Ava’s combined existing utility-scale battery projects have about 700 megawatts of power capacity, enough to power 700,000 homes for an hour, or about two-thirds the capacity of the Moss Landing gas-fired power plant. Ava Chief Customer Officer Annie Henderson estimated that the home-battery systems of Ava’s customers represent another 52 mega-

watts of potential power. Electric vehicles in Ava’s service area could, in theory, contribute more than 10,000 megawatts, although only a few models are currently designed to discharge power back to the grid.

“We need every tool in our portfolio of power resources to contribute to us getting to that goal of carbon-free energy,” Ventura said. “So, if you can have abundant and cheap solar energy during the day and save it for nighttime, that’s a great solution for this problem.”

Ventura added that the strategy’s first programs aim to learn the behaviors and needs of customers.

“At the end of the day, what we actually really need to figure out in order to get people to adopt VPPs and to kind of push us toward that best use of renewables at all times is a really good understanding of how this works for people,” she said. “And that’s going to vary by person, by household, by season, by time of day. That’s the reason I’m really excited about our VPP strategy, because it’s going to help us learn and figure out how to do that.”

In addition to its SmartHome program, Ava also plans later this year to launch a solar and storage incentive program that will form another pillar in its VPP strategy.

Your local news source is delivered free to readers in the Tri-Valley.



We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary contribution of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.

You can sign up online at www.independentnews.com/contribute/ or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550

THE Independent
independentnews.com | 925.243.8000

Follow us on

Dublin Registered Dietitian Offers ‘Mindful’ Eating Advice

By Hannah Ferguson

DUBLIN — Registered dietitian Jill Daniels is bringing more than 25 years of experience in the Tri-Valley to her new role as the in-house

Daniels’ approach moves away from diet culture and instead encourages listening to the body’s natural hunger cues. Daniels’ biggest piece of nutritional advice is to eat intuitively.

One example is an apple and peanut butter. The apple provides the carbs that boost blood sugar and provide energy. The protein and fat from the peanut butter help satisfy hunger. Other simple

tain size or a certain weight, or have a certain look,” Daniels said. “We’ve been created with diversity, and we want to celebrate that.”

Daniels emphasized that honoring and taking care of one’s body should be a priority, rather than obsessing over appearance.

Living in the Tri-Valley, where the cost of living is significantly higher than the national average, can make it difficult to buy and prepare nutritious food. Daniels’ advice for healthy eating on a budget is to buy long-lasting whole foods such as frozen fruits and vegetables, oatmeal and beans in bulk. Daniels also suggests buying produce in season, such as purchasing corn in the summer and sweet potatoes in the fall.

Among the many nutrition myths Daniels encounters while working with clients are that carbs are bad, sugar brings about weight gain, eating at night is never a good idea, protein has a halo around it and all processed food is bad. Although widespread, those beliefs are inaccurate, she said.

Speaking about Tri-Valley residents in general, Daniels said, “I want them all to know that they have worth and value. They don’t need to fit their bodies into some culturally designed box. They’re unique, there’s nobody else like them and they bring gifts and wonderful things in the world that nobody else can bring.”

The Well Studio, an all-women’s fitness facility on Regional Street, combined with the Dragonfly Yoga Studio during the COVID-19 pandemic to re-brand and create a space that “feels like home,” co-founder Stacy McGinty said.

The 8,000-square-foot studio offers traditional gym equipment, including strength and cardio machines, as well as a variety of wellness amenities. Among them are personal trainers and an on-site masseuse, an infrared sauna, a Pilates Reformer room, a yoga and barre studio and a wellness meditation space.

Open seven days a week, the Well Studio hosts 45 classes weekly, along with a variety of workshops, trainings and retreats, including an upcoming island retreat in Paros, Greece in June.



Registered dietitian Jill Daniels offers nutritional advice during an “Ask a Nutritionist” event at the Well Studio in Dublin last week. (Photo courtesy of Well Studio)

nutritionist at the Well Studio. As a certified intuitive eating counselor and specialist in sports nutrition, Daniels emphasizes a mindful and balanced approach to food and wellness.

The studio emphasizes holistic health, addressing mental, emotional, social and spiritual well-being, in addition to the physical.

“There are so many things that affect the body, which overlap each other,” said Daniels, who hosted an “Ask A Nutritionist” event last week.

“Listen to your body because our bodies have been designed to signal us when to eat and when to stop,” Daniels said.

“The first step to have a better relationship with food is awareness of what your current habits are,” Daniels said. “You probably already have good habits that you could make more consistent.”

When feeling low energy or focus, Daniels recommends “a combination of some carbohydrate plus protein, and fat usually works its way in there.”

options are eggs and toast, or Greek yogurt with fruit and granola.

“It doesn’t have to be complicated. You don’t need to know how to cook,” Daniels said. “I tell my clients to look for a win-win. Find something you like to eat, which also makes you feel good and energized, comfortable and satisfied.”

There are many struggles that can get in the way of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

“In our nation in general, there’s diet culture. There’s pressure on people to be a cer-

Tuesday Tunes Returns to Kick Off Summer

The Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC) is hosting once again “Tuesday Tunes” on the Shea Homes stage in front of the Bankhead Theater from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., June 3 through August 26. LCAC opens its free family-friendly 13-concert series with the rock/pop and

dance/funk band, Retroactive, in its first Tuesday Tunes appearance.

Popular returning bands are LunaFish, 60’s and 70’s rock; local jazz favorite Matt Finders and Friends / Element 116; Frankie Bones Project, folk, rock and reggae; the Chris Bradley Band, New

Orleans jazz; Audio Illusion, classical rock, pop and blues; Evan Thomas & the Brotherhood, funky soulful blues and classic rock; and East Bay Grooveline will bring funk, groove, Motown and R&B.

Other new bands include Matt Axton and Badmoon, mountain soul, rock & roll;

Michelle Lambert’s pop/country with a Celtic influence; the CoolTones Big Band jazz, R&B, blues and rock; Electric Sandbox, rock & roll, Latin and jazz; and Ruff Stock country cover band.

A detailed schedule can be found on the LCAC Facebook page.



BOB'S PROFESSIONAL PAINTING

Free Color Consultation!

\$500 Off!

925-577-6864
bobspropainting.com

License # 880325



WINE TASTING AND PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS
FRIDAY - MONDAY 12-4:30

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR EASTER AND MOTHER'S DAY WINE TASTING AND PICNIC RESERVATIONS

LIVE MUSIC & CATERER ON SITE MOST WEEKENDS

Make your online reservation at
RetzlaffVineyards.com



gayninetiespizza.com

HAPPY Mother's DAY



2288 Main Street, Pleasanton | (925) 846-2520
Hours: Sun-Thu 11am-9pm, Fri & Sat 11am-10pm





25-26 SEASON OPENING GALA AND CONCERT
SAT AUG 23
STARRING
LEANN RIMES
WITH THE LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY

EXPERIENCE AN EVENING OF UNPARALLELED BRILLIANCE AT THE BANKHEAD. A GALA FUNDRAISER FOR LIVERMORE VALLEY ARTS.

Secure your tickets now and be part of this extraordinary celebration. Let's make a difference together, one sensational performance at a time!

GET TICKETS NOW
LivermoreArts.org
925.373.6800



Thank you to the generous support of our sponsors:
Jean King | Denise Watkins | Lynn and Joan Seppala
Jean Shuler | Muriel and Phillip Dean | Dona Crawford





Most Improved

By Christina Cavallaro

I played girls softball as a kid. Here in the Tri-Valley, it was called “Bobby Sox,” and I’m not gonna lie (because it was no secret) — I wasn’t very good. But I did keep at it, and at the end of what was my first and last year of that sport, I won a little gold trophy for “Most Improved.”

I pretty much knew at age 9 that the award was given by kind-hearted coaches to kids who sucked athletically but had good spirit. But that honor has stuck with me over the years. It imprinted on me, of course, its lesson about the importance of perseverance, tenacity and all that stuff, but mostly it stayed with me because I remember that my mom had been proud of me even for an award that all but said I wasn’t the best, or even remotely close.

I was at the dentist recently and my hygienist, Lindsey, was sharing a story about her 10-year-old daughter, Amber, who is decidedly not saddled with the Most Improved athlete moniker. She is more like a bonafide Best Athlete. In fact, her mom shared that Amber until recently had been heavily involved in competitive gymnastics, a sport everyone knows takes extreme dedication and talent, both of which Amber has.

After years of practicing a sport she had loved and was really good at, “She just came home one day and said she didn’t think she wanted to do it anymore,” her mom said. Lindsey admitted that she and her husband weren’t sure if they should push their daughter and encourage a lesson in follow-through.

Thanks to athletes such as Olympic gymnast Simone Biles, there is now more attention being placed on the importance of mental health among competitive athletes. Amber’s coaches encouraged her to journal about her feelings to help her reach a decision about whether to leave the sport.

In the pages of her daughter’s journal, Lindsey saw that Amber was experiencing pain during her workouts. Lindsey went with Amber to the next gymnastics practice and was able to see for herself that despite modifications, her child was not feeling well, emotionally or physically.

“I told her in the car on the way home, ‘Okay, time to move on.’ She said, ‘Mom, I just want to play a sport outside and with a ball.’”

Flash forward. Amber’s natural

athleticism has found its way into flag football. She is now a star player in the first-ever season of Next Level Girls Spring Flag Football held at Livermore High School.

Amber joins the ranks of other young women as an early participant in the sport that only recently, in 2023, made its competitive debut here in the Tri-Valley. Amber’s natural ability on the football field even caught the attention of some soccer coaches, and she was approached about trying out for a league.

A lot of things have changed since my Bobby Sox days, including thankfully the ditching of that outdated term. And the “girls” in front of “softball” has gone the way of “hero” versus “heroine.” It’s just not necessary anymore to draw gender distinctions, as the Livermore High softball team proved in its stellar performance at last month’s elite Livermore Stampede Tournament. The players were all just superheroes on the field.

But one thing that hasn’t changed is my mom’s pride in me, seemingly no matter what. And while I don’t share Amber’s sports story (or a modicum of her athleticism) I do share having a supportive, aware mom.

In my case, having a mom in my corner who was proud of me for what I could *not* do has given me the confidence, leeway and grace over the years to figure out the things I can do. Sure, you have to keep working and refining sometimes to find your stride, but you can also change course — you can pivot, I was taught.

And I guess my mom is proud of me for writing this column because since we have different last names, she has been threatening for a while to wear a sign around her neck that says, “I’m Christina Cavallaro’s mother.” I’ve got one better for you, Mom — “I’m Elaine Perry’s kid,” and couldn’t be prouder. Thanks for instilling in me that it’s okay to be Most Improved — you can still get across home plate.

Happy Mother’s Day to all the proud moms and mom-like figures among us helping to raise and support healthy women — and men. You make us proud.

Do you have tidbits about the Tri-Valley or know of interesting people, places, events or unique perspectives that should be featured in the Heart of the Valley monthly column? If so, we want to hear from you. Please email me at christina@independentnews.com.

Well-Known Authors Set to Appear At Las Positas Literary Arts Festival

By Vivien Wenneker

LIVERMORE — Las Positas College is set to host its fifth annual Literary Arts Festival on Saturday, May 10.

The event is scheduled to include speeches and writing workshops hosted by best-selling authors Daniel Handler (Lemony Snicket), Julissa Arce and Thrity Umrigar.

The program also includes the 22nd LPC Poetry Slam competition, award-winning plays, poetry reading, publishing and writing workshops, chocolate and wine tasting, and writing, storytelling and crafts for kids. A publication ceremony for Havik, LPC’s Literary Arts Magazine, is also on tap.

The LPC Literary Arts Festival, unlike other literary festivals and writing workshops in the Bay Area, does not charge an entrance fee.

The festival began in 2020 when three of the college’s English professors — Marty Nash, Toby Bielawski and Richard Dry — came up with the idea of starting the event.

“Not only did we want to offer a chance for our community and students to hear from and even meet famous and critically acclaimed authors, we also wanted students to get to know our creative writing program,” Nash said.

The professors believed the event would be a great way to promote the certificate program, which offers courses in story writing, poetry writing, and literary magazine editing and production.

Nash pointed to critical support received from the Las Positas College Foundation, the school’s English department and dean, the Livermore Commission for the Arts and the Livermore City Council, as well as others.

After a local festival organized by Las Positas emeritus professor David Wright ended, there weren’t any major literary festivals in the Tri-Valley. That’s when Nash, Bielawski and Dry decided to pick up where Wright had left off.

The professors reach out to contacts and consider student interests and availability. They also think about books they’d like to teach in their classes, and contact authors of those books, so that students will get a chance to meet them.

In addition to encouraging their students and fostering a growing literary program, they also see a prime opportunity to connect with the Tri-Valley community at large by bringing together people of different age groups and backgrounds to bond over

a shared appreciation of storytelling.

Through various activities and workshops, festival organizers seek to provide a range of resources and tools to help writers and those with an interest in writing develop their abilities. All three of the event’s main organizers, though particularly excited about this year’s lineup, are looking forward to something specific.

“I’m excited about the food and wine writing workshop, which includes tastings, and the poetry slam, which will be the 22nd year of the LPC slam,” Bielawski said.

“I’m looking forward to the one-act plays and conspiracy-theory talk. We also have great kids’ activities,” Dry said.

“I can’t wait for the publication ceremony for this year’s edition of Havik, the Las Positas College Journal of Arts & Literature,” Nash said. “Havik has won a national award for literary magazines four years running, and this year’s edition looks beautiful”.

The festival is scheduled for the Mertes Center for the Arts, Building 4000, at Las Positas, from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Seating is limited.

To register for tickets and view the full schedule go to: <https://www.laspositascollege.edu/literary-festival/>



Members of the Livermore Filipino-American Organization performed three traditional Filipino dances May 2 during the Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Celebration at the Bankhead Plaza in Livermore. (Photo – Leah Silveira)

Livermore Library Sponsoring Summer Program that Encourage Kids to Read

The Livermore Public Library will sponsor a Summer Learning Program designed to encourage students of all ages to read.

The goal, according to the library, is to avoid the loss of reading skills that students typically experience during summer vacation.

According to the Rand Corporation, students at all levels return to school in the fall a month behind where they left off in the spring.

Starting Tuesday, May 27, students enrolled in the Summer Learning Program will log their reading and take part in related activities.

Reading can be logged online or on paper gameboards available at any Livermore Public Library location. Listening to audiobooks also counts.

Children in grades K-6 will receive a free book for registering, along with their choice of a Papa Murphy’s Mini Murph Pizza, dessert from Chick-fil-A, a Livermore Area Recreation & Park District swim pass, or Panda Express Cub Meal.

Prizes for older students include a deck of cards, PopSockets, Rubik’s Cubes and mini journals.

Students who complete the reading program will also receive a medal and

an invitation to meet Livermore Mayor John Marchand and members of the city council in the fall.

Babies and adults can also participate.

Adults will receive a free book from the Friends of the Livermore Library bookstore, while babies and toddlers will receive a free book, along with a beach ball and bubbles for counting the number of books their parents or siblings read to them.

Participants of all ages can also earn raffle tickets.

The program runs through August 6.

For more information, go to library.livermoreca.gov or call 925-373-5500.



Glass artist Emelie Rogers performed a demonstration on May 3 during the Tri-Valley Artist Studio Tour at Rogers’ home studio in Pleasanton. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Amador Valley Quilters Hold Fabric Sale

The Amador Valley Quilters will hold a fabric sale at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave., from 1:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Saturday, May 10.

Most fabric and other

items will be sold for \$5 per pound. In addition to fabric, the sale will include yarn, notions, batting, quilt kits, patterns and unfinished projects.

Proceeds from the sale

will support the nonprofit organization’s outreach programs, including the donation of quilts to hospitals, family shelters and youth homes.

For more information, go to amadorvalleyquilters.org.

Dublin to Operate DUI Checkpoint on May 9

Dublin police last week said they would be operating a DUI checkpoint from 7 p.m. on Friday, May 9, to 3 a.m. the next day at an undisclosed location within the city.

Police will also increase regular patrols to spot drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Both the checkpoint and increased patrols will be in locations associated with a history of DUI-related collisions and

arrests, according to police.

“Impaired drivers put others on the road at significant risk,” said Capt. Miguel Campos. “Any prevention measures that reduce the number of impaired drivers on our roads significantly improves traffic safety.”

Police also reminded motorists that some prescription medicines can also cause impaired driving, and while medicinal and recreational

marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana remains illegal.

Drivers charged with DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license and jail time, according to Dublin police.

The California Highway Patrol Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program is paying for the checkpoint and increased patrols.

Animal Welfare Advocates Support Series Of Bills Making Way Through Legislature

Representatives from the Valley Humane Society (VHS) in Pleasanton and other animal welfare activists met with lawmakers in Sacramento last week for the third annual Animal Advocacy Day and to support a series of bills making their way through the state Legislature.

VHS said two of the bills, Assembly Bill 516 and Senate Bill 602 would expand the role of registered veterinarian technicians, including allowing them to provide vaccinations and parasite control at designated facilities without a supervising veterinarian on the premises.

Three of the bills, according to VHS, are aimed at reducing the sale of puppies in Californians from so-called “puppy mills,” including AB 519, which would make it harder for “pet brokers” to hide the source and health of puppies from the public.

SB 312 and AB 506 would also require greater transparency in pet sales and access to records about dogs brought in from other states for sale in California.

The last two bills would encourage animal adoptions from shelters and increase the ability of law enforcement to prosecute animal cruelty, according to VHS.

AB 631 would require shelters to report animal intake and outcome data to promote transparency and help lawmakers and regulators make informed decisions on animal welfare policies.

AB 928 would address the trafficking of fighting birds by making it a misdemeanor for anyone to keep more than three roosters per acre or more than 25 roosters in total.

According to a LegiScan summary, the bill would not apply to farms or individuals raising poultry for food, if they are subject to local, state, or federal inspection laws.

OBITUARIES

Eugene LeRoy Alaux “Geno” May 13, 1931 – April 26, 2025

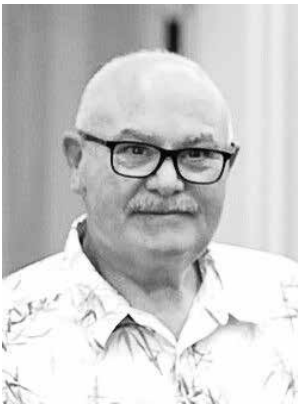


Gene passed away peacefully on April 26, 2025, with his wife Beverly, daughter Debbie and granddaughter Stacey by his bedside. Gene was born in Denver, Colorado, and completed high school at Glen Rock Wyoming. After high school he enlisted in the air force in the administration office for four years. He met the love of his life during that time at the USO dance, and they married in the year 1955. Gene was a bread driver for Kilpatrick’s, Toscana and Parisian for over 33 years. He is preceded in death by his son Bruce Alaux. Gene leaves behind his wife Beverly of 70 years mar-

riage; his daughter Debbie Migliore (Steve); son Larry Alaux (MaryAnn); son Scott Kemp (Joan), granddaughters Stacey Broth-

ers (Allen), Miya Kemp and Kayla Kemp; nephew Wade Kemp (Lisa). Gene will be missed very much. Gene was a great loving husband and father. May you rest in peace. All services are Saturday, May, 10: Visitation 10 a.m.— 12 p.m. Funeral 12 p.m. Both will be at Callaghan Mortuary 3833 East Ave. Livermore, Burial 1p.m. at Memory Gardens Cemetery 3873 East Ave. Livermore. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Alaux family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Harold (Hal) Francis Brown May 19, 1954 – April 17, 2025



It is with great sadness that we share the news of the death of Hal Brown, beloved husband, father and brother. Hal was born in Carmel, California and spent many happy years growing up in Livermore, California, with his parents Harold (Harry) and Dora and brother and sisters Pat, Jenny, Joyce and Nina. Hal married Martha Cowden in October 1992 and together they raised two sons and built a family of love with Michael and Thomas. Hal enjoyed his youth in Livermore, full of family gatherings, great friends and sports! He excelled in football, baseball and wrestling during his years at Livermore High School, graduating in 1972. He continued his football career playing at Chabot College and San Francisco State and coached football at Livermore High. Hal was very honored at being invited to participate in the Christian Youth Football state tournament. He enjoyed bowling, participating in the Men’s Slowpitch Softball league and most of all, playing golf. He was a member of the Alameda County Sheriff’s Golf Club and spent many years playing and traveling with the club. One of his favorites was the annual

“Dry Heat” tournament they played every year in Arizona. Martha soon found out that if she ever wanted to see her new husband, she had better learn to play golf! Our sons grew up with a dad that coached them in every sport they played, Little League Baseball, youth football and golf. The boys quickly adopted their dad’s taste for playing baseball team catcher, expensive sports equipment and watches! We all enjoyed playing golf together as a family and the boys loved playing with their dad. Notre Dame football, Raiders and Giants were special teams to him, but he loved all sports! The family enjoyed traveling and camping in their trailer. We shared many wonderful adventures and memories of time spent in Maui snorkeling, hiking, playing golf and eating Hula Pie. Hal often remarked how he enjoyed his trip to Italy with his family and visiting his mother’s Santucci relatives. He regretted not being able to make that trip again. Hal’s career led him to Valley Memorial Hospital and Valley Surgical Center for forty years. He was most proud of his position as the Anesthesia Technician in surgery and formed many special and lasting friendships with all he worked with and continued the friendships until his death. He was known for his willingness to lend a hand in any situation, hard work and dedication, and as a “Gentle Giant”. His greatest love was his family. He leaves behind his wife Martha and sons Michael and Thomas, siblings Pat Brown (Rita), Jenny Masquelier (Don), Joyce Tufts (Bruce) and Nina Kenny (Jeff), loving aunt Dorothy Tarte, cousins, nieces, nephews and many, many friends. Contributions in Hal’s memory can be made to Livermore High School Alumni Association. PO Box 126, Livermore, CA. 94551, earmarked for the Boys Athletics Department (football, wrestling, golf).

Frances Helen Nicolosi June 16, 1934 – April 3, 2025



Mrs. Frances Helen Nicolosi (Bega), age 90, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2025, in Livermore, California. Born on June 16, 1934, in Prado, California, Helen lived a full and generous life marked by devotion to her family, her work, and her faith. Helen’s early years were rooted in the values of hard work and perseverance. As a farm worker, she was required to drop out of school and work in the fields. During that time, she learned the value and meaning of hard work. One of the proudest moments of her life came when she returned to school later in life to complete her high school diploma — a milestone that brought immense pride to her family and stood as a testament to her determination and lifelong commitment to personal growth. Her professional life was spent in retail, where she built a career defined by dedication and consistency. She began working at Lerner’s in Chula Vista, California during the 1950s. On April 26, 1959, she married Augustine S. Nicolosi., “Nick” In 1969, after relocating with her family to Livermore, she joined JC Penney at the 3rd Street store. There she worked for an impressive 22 years before retiring in the early 1990s. Her time at

JC Penney was more than just a job — it was a place where she formed lasting friendships and became a familiar face to many in the community. Helen’s heart was always open to others. A thoughtful and spirited woman, she had a deep compassion for those in need and never hesitated to lend a helping hand. Many within her extended family were touched by her generosity over the years — whether through acts of kindness or simply being there when needed most. A devoted parishioner of Saint Michael’s Church in Livermore, Helen found great joy and spiritual fulfillment in attending Sunday Mass. Her faith was an integral part of her life and guided much of how she treated others—with kindness, humility, and grace. One of Helen’s most cherished traditions was creating handmade Christmas stockings

for her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and any family member she could bring joy to during the holidays. These lovingly crafted gifts became treasured symbols of her warmth and giving spirit. In her later years, she and Cindy were constant companions. A cherished memory for Cindy is of the concerts that she and mom attended over the years. Helen is survived by her son Ron Nicolosi “Ronnie”; daughter Cynthia Nicolosi “Cindy”; niece Lillian Jejoni whom Helen considered a daughter; daughter-in-law April Nicolosi; grandchildren Andrea Cottan and Robbie Nicolosi; sisters Irene Garcia, Edna “Lani” Luna; brother-in-law Alfonso Silva — her beloved “Compa”; seven great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews who held a special place in her heart. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years Augustine “Nick” Nicolosi; mother Sally Russell; father Raymond Bega; sister Alicia Silva “Babe”; nephews Evaristo “Ed” Garcia III and Robert Reyes “Bobby”; her grandparents; and other family members. Services will be under the direction of Greenwood Memorial Park in San Diego, California.

Julius Howard Favilla Jan. 21, 1938 – April 23, 2025



Julius Howard Favilla passed away peacefully on April 23, 2025, at his home in Livermore at the age of 87. A lifelong Livermore resident, Julius attended Fifth Street Elementary and along with his family was a member of St. Michael’s Church. He graduated from Livermore High School before attending the University of Wisconsin, becoming a lifelong Badger Alumni. He then went on to attend Idaho State University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science from their school of pharmacy. He then completed his post graduate degree at the University of California Berkeley. Julius returned to his family’s home in Livermore where he would live the rest of his life, caring for his mother after his father’s death until her passing in 1991. Julius enjoyed gardening, traveling and spending time with

his family. A kind, gentle and selfless man, he never married or had children of his own but was a mentor and father figure to many. He followed his love of science, and particularly pharmacy, into a career as a pharmacist that lasted over 50 years. Through continuing education credits, he remained a licensed pharmacist until the age of 85. He loved his time

working at the Haller’s Pharmacy in Fremont and the many friends he made there. He was preceded in death by his father Julius Sr. and mother Edith Favilla as well as his sister Juleda Bettencourt. Julius is survived by his nephew John Bettencourt and many cousins. A viewing will be held for Julius on Wednesday, May 21 from 5-7 p.m., with a rosary at 7 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, California. A funeral Mass for Julius will be held Thursday, May 22, at 10 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore, California. Julius had an amazingly kind and patient way about him that endeared him to everyone who met him. He was loved by many and will be truly missed by all who knew him.

Rosalyn Dorothy Gamble May 19, 1938 – April 10, 2025



Long-time Pleasanton resident Rosalyn Gamble, a woman dedicated to volunteering in her community and a committed Christian, went home to be with the Lord and in the arms of her husband on April 10, 2025. She was 86. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held at 2 p.m. on May 24, 2025, at GraceWay Church at 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton, California.

Roz was known for her giving nature and concern for family, friends and strangers alike. She was a member of GraceWay Church (formerly Pleasanton Presbyterian) for more than 50 years and loved serving there. She was an elder and loved to lead church projects to upgrade the facility and the grounds. She also volunteered at Open Heart Kitchen, the Pleasanton Library and Valley Care Hospital for many years. She graduated from Tenafly High School in New Jersey where she excelled at academics and music. She then attended design school in New York and graduated from Junior College with an associate’s degree in fashion design. After attending college, she was employed as a fashion buyer with Sears Roebuck and Co. at their corporate office in Chicago. While living in Chicago, she met David Gamble and they married in 1969. They transferred to North-

ern California and made their home in Pleasanton. Dave managed the Sears store in San Mateo, and Roz raised two young sons. In 1977, Roz and Dave followed their life-long entrepreneurial dream by opening their own store, Gamble’s Home Accents, a beautiful domestics store in Pleasanton. They operated it together, buying all the merchandise and running it all with love. After closing their family business venture because of a recession, she returned to the workforce as an executive assistant and worked for Castle Sybron and Proctor and Gamble. She was renowned for her executive acumen as well as her knowledge of clothing, design and fashion. After retiring from Proctor and Gamble, she went on to stage homes for numerous clients in the Bay Area. Like many women of the “Silent Generation” who were born during the

Depression and World War II, she enjoyed working around her home with Dave, whether caring for their wonderful roses or doing other garden tasks. She was an industrious and adventurous “do it yourself” type of woman, whether she was mastering calligraphy, playing her flute or piano, or baking and decorating birthday cakes for the neighborhood families. When raising her two young sons, she routinely had them at her side while doing everything. After retiring, she and Dave drove across the country a few times, took 11 cruises and traveled widely abroad. She is survived by her sons Rian and John Gamble (Cara), grandchildren Brady, Cooper (Lindsay), Therin and Parker, Holly and Kaylan, and great-grandson Malakai Gamble. The family appreciates the care provided by Carefield Memory Care and LifeCare Solutions Palliative and Hospice. She will be interred at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, California. The family prefers donations in her memory to GraceWay Church, 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton, 94566, www.graceway-life.org or LifeCare Solutions Palliative and Hospice, LLC, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 101, Dublin, CA 94568, www.lifecaresolutionshospice.com.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Michael Casper Lewis Oct. 1, 1972 – March 26, 2025

Born in Maryland and raised in Livermore, Michael found his adult home in Woodland, California. He graduated from Livermore High in 1991. As a member of Boy Scout Troop 900, Michael spent summers as a counselor at Wente Scout Camp, hiked 100 miles of backcountry at the Philmont Scout Ranch with his dad, attained Eagle Scout, and continued his involvement as a scout leader here in Livermore and later for his son’s Troop in Woodland. Michael attended Los Positas Community College then UC Davis, studying computer science. After a stint at a startup in San Francisco, he returned to

UC Davis, finding a calling in research computing, spending over two decades as the lead systems administrator and architect at the Genome Center. He served as the lead architect at the campus-wide High-Performance Computing Core. He was often heard saying he enjoyed “helping scientists do science.” Among his many talents and interests, he loved the outdoors, fascinated many with his unicycle riding, enjoyed photography, and was a gifted musician who wrote, recorded, and performed music with friends. He cherished being with family, especially serving up backyard barbecues. He also loved his cats.

Michael died tragically while commuting to work on his bicycle. He is survived by his children, Albert and Eleanor, of Woodland; his brothers John and Curtis and their wives; a niece and nephew, many aunts, uncles and cousins and his beloved parents, John and Mary Lou Lewis of Livermore. We will miss him deeply and forever. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, a contribution to the Philmont Scout Ranch will be a fitting legacy of one who loved the outdoors.

Two Big Victories Over Livermore Draw Foothill Near Playoffs

By Phil Jensen

PLEASANTON – The Foothill High School baseball team entered this week in excellent position to earn one of the Valley Division’s two spots in the East Bay Athletic League playoffs.

Granada had clinched first place in the Valley Division with a 10-1 league record at the start of this week. Foothill was second in the division at 7-4, and Amador Valley and Livermore were tied for third with 5-6 league marks.

Foothill and Amador Valley were set for a pivotal series this week before the league playoffs start next week. The first game was scheduled for May 7, and the final game of the two-game series is set for 4 p.m. Friday, May 9 at Foothill.

“Amador’s a great team. They’re playing good baseball. They’re peaking at the right time. We’re peaking at the right time, so I expect a really good battle,” Foot-

hill coach Zeke Palma said. “You’ve got to stay mentally prepared, especially against your rival.”

Foothill was locked in against Livermore last week, which showed with a 22-1 drubbing on April 30 and a 10-2 victory on May 2. In both games, Foothill scored at least five runs in its last at-bat.

The Falcons also received very good pitching in both games. Jack Fowler, Cameron Javier and Cole Edgerton combined for a four-hitter in the April 30 game, and Take Sato-Kreis and Jackson Hoban scattered five hits in the May 2 rematch.

“I’m really proud of our pitching and our defense,” Palma said. “Our pitching, especially, because we give up two runs (on May 2) and our team ERA goes up. That’s how great of a job our pitching staff is doing.”

On May 2, the host Falcons were facing Livermore ace pitcher Braden Ford. He allowed no earned runs

against Foothill in five innings, but the Falcons scored five unearned runs in the second inning. They sent 10 batters to the plate, took advantage of two Livermore errors and pushed Ford’s pitch count up. Hudson Flora led off the inning with a stand-up double and later, Fowler slammed a two-run double followed by RBI singles by Tanner Tarpley and Landon Comerford.

“With pitchers like Braydon, we’ve got to be patient,” Palma said. “We knew that if we run his pitch count up, we can get into their bullpen.”

Livermore, which entered this week with a 13-9 overall record, took a 1-0 lead in the first inning on a Ford sacrifice fly. The Cowboys cut Foothill’s lead to 5-2 in the top of the sixth on a sacrifice fly by Dylan Wherry.

But Foothill, which entered this week with a 17-5 overall record, sent nine batters to the plate in the bottom of the sixth, scoring five runs. Flora had a two-

run single to center field and Tarpley added an RBI single. Fowler and George Schmitt walked with the bases loaded to drive in runs.

Sato-Kreiss scattered four hits and struck out seven batters while walking two in six innings. At the plate, Flora, Tarpley and Schmitt

had multiple hits.

For Livermore, Ford allowed seven hits, struck out seven and walked three in five innings. At the plate, AJ Cook was 2 for 4.

In Foothill’s win on Aug. 30, RJ Manicki hit a grand slam in the top of the seventh inning. Schmitt

also drove in four runs, and Austin Rost was 3 for 3, including a double, with two runs scored and an RBI for the Falcons.

Livermore was set to face Granada in the first game of the rivals’ series on May 7 and play a rematch at 4 p.m. today at Granada.



Foothill High School’s Tanner Tarpley takes a big cut in East Bay Athletic League baseball action against Livermore last week. (Photo – Leah Silveira)



Livermore’s Rebel Kitchen and Libations brought island energy with a “Tropical Tide Me Up” to attendees of the second annual Pacific Chamber Orchestra Tri-Valley Craft Cocktail Competition on the Bankhead green last weekend. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

The Tri-Valley Craft Cocktail Competition for a Cause Sells Out for the Second Year in a Row

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — The repeat mega turnout for the second annual Pacific Chamber Orchestra (PCO) Tri-Valley Craft Cocktail Competition outside the Bankhead Theater on May 3 would seem to indicate that wine country also has a soft spot for cocktails. And attendees were not afraid to brave the cool and windy conditions to get to them.

Proceeds from the outdoor fundraiser will support the orchestra’s public concerts and in-school educational programs.

PCO’s programs introduce classical music to more than 4,000 Tri-Valley elementary school children each year and provide clinics for middle and high school music ensembles.

The vibes were high on the Bankhead Plaza this past weekend as people swarmed the grassy perimeter sampling the creative libations from 17 participating Tri-Valley restaurants and bars.

One restaurant group represented with multiple establishments. Ranier Reglos, the beverage director for Sabio Hospitality group, was there with his bartender, Casey Schafer, from Crush’d Wine Bar & Kitchen. With their featured cocktail, “The Steep Oath,” the two helped promote a new 12,000-square-foot sports-bar concept in Pleasanton called Pivot, set to open this year.

“It looks like a beer, tastes like a cocktail,” Reglos said of the tea-infused St. George, Redwood Empire “Pipe Dream” bourbon-based drink topped with beer foam.

Sabio on Main was also present and took home third prize and \$200 for its “Tri-Valley Sour” that leaned into some unique collaborations with a cabernet franc floater from Stephen Kent Winery. The creative twist on the whiskey sour had Sabio on Main neck-and-neck with Sons of Liberty and its “Butterfly Effect,” which ultimately won second place and a \$400 cash prize.

As a sponsor, PCO music director Lawrence Kohl said, “It was most gratifying to see the numbers of people there

leaping well over the 300 from last year to at least 360 this year. And to see all of the participating establishments gain increased visibility and contact with so many people who are new to them. I hope it supports their success as much as they are supporting PCO’s success in concerts and especially in our music in school educational programs.”

The participating bartenders helped create a buzz with their concoctions, but one establishment took it to a whole new level.

Nightcaps at Espresso Rosetta’s bartender Skye McMullen, with her crew dressed in black suit vests and rose-colored ties, were the fan favorites, winning the People’s Choice Award and \$300 with their “Yuzu Fuzz” that featured a prickly ash flower garnish on a swizzle stick. Guests were invited to take a nibble of the flower, also referred to as “the buzz button,” before sipping. The flower created a literal buzzing sensation in the mouth that was accentuated by each subsequent sip of the Japanese Oka gin-based drink.

A Dante’s Inferno inspired drink by Pete’s Brass Rail and Car Wash’s Nick Valdez warmed up chilly imbibers. Valdez, whose arms were visibly covered in tattoos from the 14th-century narrative poem said, “I love Dante’s Inferno. I read it in college. I mean, the whole take on Dante was going through the different layers of Hell in terms of the different layers of the cocktail itself.

“The wild card was the feta tincture. I took feta (cheese) and soaked it with Everclear.”

Valdez spoke over a remixed version of the Talking Heads’ “This Must Be the Place,” that filled the plaza with its up-tempo beat.

In fact, the playlist was a standout and had people commenting with appreciation. It appealed to the diverse crowd and was a far cry from what you would imagine at a symphony fundraiser. Perhaps that was not surprising as Kohl has long been described as unique among classical

music directors, known for his creative programming and daring interpretations.

Hundreds of patrons filled the Bankhead Plaza, each with their own mini shot glass, moving from one pop-up bar to the next while sampling the specially crafted cocktails. A panel of judges determined first-, second- and third-place prizes of \$600, \$400 and \$200, respectively, and a first- (\$200) and second-place award (\$100) for the best table decoration that reflected the theme of each establishment’s crafted cocktails.

First place prize for Mixologist of the Year went to a Livermore newbie, The Black Cat, for bartender Kana Clarke’s riff, “The Siamese Sake Sour.” Judges first fell in love with the clean, refreshing cucumber-infused notes of the gin and nigori sake-based sipper, but were then completely taken by the winning team’s victory dance that had the whole crowd cheering.

“We are so appreciative of all the participating establishments in supporting PCO’s mission,” Kohl said. “Kudos to all the winners and to Kana Clarke of The Black Cat whose unbridled joy of winning this year’s top title of Mixologist of the Year went viral.

“We raised \$24k for the orchestra’s Music in Schools educational programs, concerts and our organization. For schools, the orchestra’s programs teach children how to listen deeply and with discernment; skills essential to understanding all points of views and to improve critical thinking. Our concerts aim to bind us all together in joy and hopefulness through the communal emotive experience of artistry passionately shared.”

Azotea bartender Stephanie Elizabeth’s “Blueberry Lavender Margarita,” offered a personal message with her drink. Fittingly, she said, “You taste not just the ingredients, but the story and the heart behind it.”

There was no shortage throughout the afternoon of generous giving through joyful sipping.

Pleasanton Budget Challenges Could Impact Pacific Chamber Orchestra

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — As the City of Pleasanton continues to grapple with its financial challenges and budget cuts, one non-profit organization is worried its city-sponsored grant funding might be on the chopping block.

The Pacific Chamber Orchestra (PCO) is a nonprofit, regional professional ensemble in its 35th season. The group of 42 musicians strives to maintain and grow its heritage of classical, chamber orchestra music through performances and educational programs. PCO is a resident company of Livermore’s Bankhead Theater.

One of the company’s educational programs involves collaboration with the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) via several annual events, including two educational music assemblies for elementary students, two full orchestra matinees and clinics for middle and high school string students.

According to Lawrence Kohl, founding PCO music director, much of the funding for the PUSD projects is supplemented annually through Pleasanton’s Community Grant Program (CGP). Kohl said that in the past, the grant, which supports youth, culture and arts programs, has provided \$10,000-\$14,000 toward the PUSD projects. The total allocation to various groups from the CGP each year is about \$80,000, according to Kohl.

But now, the CGP is at

risk following a recent announcement from the city that the popular grant program is being ‘paused’ while the city council examines all potential budgetary reductions. Kohl said he is concerned that funding for the PCO might ultimately be withdrawn, which would impact its ability to bring music to PUSD students for the coming school year and possibly beyond.

“We have had funding for these programs for a very long time, more than 10 years,” Kohl said. “It shocked me when I heard it was under consideration (for elimination) ... I was initially thinking, ‘OK, maybe there are some people or organizations we can approach for a year to cover the ‘pause.’ But when I saw this could very well be more than that, I thought, ‘Oh, boy, I have to take an expanded approach and look for other support that can go beyond (this year).’”

As a PTA volunteer, Pleasanton resident Susanne Frey helped organize one of the PCO’s school assemblies and collaborated with PUSD and PCO to expand its reach to include more Pleasanton schools. She said that while she understands the city has some serious budget deficits to address, she is hopeful Pleasanton will see a way for these programs to remain.

“The grant not only made the program more affordable (with schools covering the balance through PTA or Prop. 28 funds), but also demonstrated the city’s commitment

to enriching arts education,” Frey said. “The city faces tough decisions in dealing with its budget shortage but will hopefully find a way to preserve access to programs like these.”

Heather Tiernan, communications manager for the City of Pleasanton, said a full budget proposal will be presented at the May 20 city council meeting.

“I do want to clarify that, at this point, no decisions have been made, so any discussion about reductions are still potential reductions,” Tiernan said. “As for the amount of time reductions will be in place, that’s harder to answer. The city is making reductions in an effort to balance the upcoming two-year budget. The city’s future financial stability will dictate how long reductions are necessary. But, at this point, the city is proposing a budget for the next two-year budget.”

Kohl said he understands the city’s predicament and appreciates all the support Pleasanton has shown PCO over the years but added that the city’s backing is an important selling point to attracting additional funding.

“City funding is the Good Housekeeping seal of approval,” Kohl added. “It helps more when (sponsors and donors) see the city has invested in the culture in their city. ... Nothing is set in stone, but it would seem very hard to make a change at this time, but you never know. Things happen.”



Los Angeles-based band Las Cafeteras performed May 2 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore as part of Cinco de Mayo festivities. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Dublin Sponsoring Three Rides for Bike Month

Dublin is sponsoring three community bike-riding events this month in conjunction with National Bike Month and the annual Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days challenge.

On Thursday, May 15, those who ride their bikes to “energizer stations” at either the West Dublin/Pleasanton or Dublin/Pleasanton BART station between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. will receive a free Bike to Wherever Day t-shirt and a goodies bag, while supplies

last. Refreshments will also be available.

Then on Thursday, May 22, those who ride their bikes to the Dublin Farmers’ Market at Emerald Glen Park between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. will receive \$5 in “market money.” REI Dublin will also be at the market to provide free bike safety checks.

Dublin will also sponsor a Community Bike Ride to the farmers market that evening, leaving from the Dublin Civic

Center, 100 Civic Plaza, at 5:30 p.m.

The nonprofit Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days is also sponsoring a “challenge” for bike riders to log their miles during may using the Ride with GPS app for a chance to win gift cards worth up to \$500.

Gift cards will be awarded for most miles, most trips, and most creative routes, along with several raffles.

For more information, go to bayareabiketowork.com.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com

AMERICAN EXPRESS

DISCOVER

MasterCard

VISA

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613682

The following person(s) doing business as: Photoessence Photography, 221 Isleton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Trevor Gerstenberg, 221 Isleton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/10/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Trevor Gerstenberg, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 4, 2025. Expires April 3, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6390. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613724

The following person(s) doing business as: Little Learners, 1482 Rhododendron Dr, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nupura Gaidhani, 1482 Rhododendron Dr, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Nupura Gaidhani, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 6, 2025. Expires April 6, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6391. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613619

The following person(s) doing business as: Bennie's Bakery, 2250 Kilowatt Way, Unit 410, Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Congyi Wang, 2250 Kilowatt Way, Unit 410, Fremont, CA 94539. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/3/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Congyi Wang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 2, 2025. Expires April 1, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6392. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613753

The following person(s) doing business as: Stavert Legacy, 1550 Elm St, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ryan Stavert, 1550 Elm St, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ryan Stavert, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 8, 2025. Expires April 7, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6393. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613766

The following person(s) doing business as: Stitch & Revel, 474 Lindbergh Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sanjani Ramkissoon, 474 Lindbergh Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sanjani Ramkissoon, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 9, 2025. Expires April 8, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6394. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613390

The following person(s) doing business as: Supreme Glass Company, 1661 20th Street #5, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ba Glazing Inc., 1661 20th Street #5, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gregory Scharlemann, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2025. Expires March 23, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6395. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613759

The following person(s) doing business as: Aperture Design, 37317 Gosling TER, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tsai Ling Teng, 37317 Gosling Ter, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tai Ling Teng, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 9, 2025. Expires April 8, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6396. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613720

The following person(s) doing

business as: Sabre Partners, 5327 College Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sabre Foods International Inc., 5327 College Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: John M. Marccone, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2025. Expires April 6, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6397. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613875

The following person(s) doing business as: Myeongdong Ja Jang, 2725 Stoneridge Dr #104, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Denim Jijiang, Inc., 2106 Harvest Moon LN, San Ramon, CA 94582. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/31/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Young Do Park, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2025. Expires March 23, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6398. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613292

The following person(s) doing business as: Pilja Paradise, 922 Larkspur Dr. Ste A1, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Delicious Eatery LLC, 5675 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pavesh Kumar Bansal, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2025. Expires March 19, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6399. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613927

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Horse Real Estate, 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Starkey Holdings Inc., 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/15/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erica Starkey, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2025. Expires March 15, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6400. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613310

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. GU Energy Labs; 2. Sports Street Marketing, 1609 4th ST, Berkeley, CA 94710 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Advanced Food Concepts Incorporated, 1609 4th St, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1. 3/24/1994; 2. 11/24/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Strayer, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2025. Expires March 19, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 66401. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613850

The following person(s) doing business as: A1 Home Health Services, 4049 First Street, Suite# 229, Livermore, CA 94551-5363 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A1 Home Health Services, 4049 First Street, Suite# 229, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to trans-

act business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Josekutty Jose, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6402. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613843

The following person(s) doing business as: Olive Oil Pantry #2, 2053 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aok Investments Corp, 1040 Lona Way, Tracy, CA 95376. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/15/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Arnold O. Kaufman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6403. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613541

The following person(s) doing business as: Leo "The Lion" Music & Entertainment, 2150 Portia Ave Suite D-138, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leo Brown, 2150 Portia Ave, Suite D-138, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/28/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Leo Brown, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 31, 2025. Expires March 30, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6404. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613534

The following person(s) doing business as: Tero's Remodelation's, 2032 96th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alejandro Barretero, 2032 96th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alejandro Barretero, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 31, 2025. Expires March 30, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6405. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613975

The following person(s) doing business as: Livormore Live Scan, 4047 First Street, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Akal Vision LLC, 3055 Bernard Avenue, San Ramon, CA 94583. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maninder Singh, Managin Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 17, 2025. Expires April 16, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6406. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 584985

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Livermore Live Scan, 4047 First Street, Suite 708, Livermore, CA 94551. Registered by the following owner(s): Readymade Services LLC, 4047 First Street, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 94551. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/13/2021 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Signature of Registrants: /s/: John Dan McDowell, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 17, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 6407. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614099

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Car Spa, 3930 Kaiser Rd, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Happy Car Spa Inc., 4200 John Monago CT, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Inder Dosanjh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2025. Expires April 22, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6408. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614062

The following person(s) doing business as: GoGo Refresh, 74 W Neal Street #203, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): VendCentral Inc., PO Box 1916, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Neil Swindale, CEO/President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2025. Expires April 21, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6409. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613434

The following person(s) doing business as: The Beacon Apartments, 3510 Beacon Ave, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oak Beacon 2022, LLC, 2398 E. Camelback Road, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85016. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/26/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Todd Darling, Chief Operating Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 25, 2025. Expires Mmarch 24, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6410. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614044

The following person(s) doing business as: La Fantacia Catering, 4322 Valley Ave, Apt A, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): La Fantacia LLC, 4322 Valley Ave, Apt A, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/17/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gustavo Estrada, 3947 Princeton Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gustavo Estrada, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 18, 2025. Expires April 17, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6412. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614017

The following person(s) doing business as: EST Pools, 3947 Princeton Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gustavo Estrada, 3947 Princeton Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gustavo Estrada, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 18, 2025. Expires April 17, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6412. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613841

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Fox Chiropractic; 2. Terisa T. Fox, DC, 2815 East Ave, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): T. Fox Chiropractic, Inc., 2815 East Ave, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant

first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 11/14/2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Terisa T. Fox, DC, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6413. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614015

The following person(s) doing business as: Octane Autohaus, 3695 Stevenson Blvd, C125, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Salsabil LLC, 3695 Stevenson Blvd, C125, Fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kamran Chaudhry, Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 18, 2025. Expires April 17, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6414. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613996

The following person(s) doing business as: Elite Armory, 3636 Castro Valley Blvd #1, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Best Net Sale, Inc., 3636 Castro Valley Blvd #1, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gabriel Casillas, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 18, 2025. Expires April 17, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6415. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614001

The following person(s) doing business as: Alera Infotech, 3147 Greenwood Dr, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Buydeepsdiscount.com LLC, 3147 Greenwood Dr, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/17/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mahesh Palan, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 18, 2025. Expires April 17, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6416. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614033

The following person(s) doing business as: Sasean Workshop, 2518 Etna Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alexandra Sauve Cole, 2705 Webster Street, #5413, Berkeley, CA 94705. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 01/01/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alexandra Sauve Cole, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 21, 2025. Expires April 20, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6417. Published May 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025.

dent, Legal No. 6417. Published May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614186

The following person(s) doing business as: Bear Refrigeration, 420 Division ST, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): MBC Traders & Services, Inc., 420 Division ST, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Micheal Cunningham, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2025. Expires April 28, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6418. Published May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614204

The following person(s) doing business as: Basa Seafood Express, 2637 Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lai Win Enterprises Inc., 2637 Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hung Dai Lai, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2025. Expires April 28, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6419. Published May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613845

The following person(s) doing business as: Alpha Furnishings, 2534 Brandini DR, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amruta Ventures, LLC, 2534 Brandini DR, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amruta Sarda, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent,

Legal No. 6420. Published May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 614121

The following person(s) doing business as: Union City Dental Office, 31873 Alvarado Blvd, Union City, CA 94587, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeanette C. Guerrero, DMD, Inc., 4487 Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA 94531. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/24/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Perry Lawrence C. Guerrero, Corporate Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 24, 2025. Expires April 23, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6421. Published May 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

CATS/DOGS



Adopt a New Best Friend

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:
Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at: Dublin Petsmart
6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.
Visit our website: WWW.TV.AR.ORG. to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.
Follow:
TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, and Instagram

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

SERVICES

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS

go to
bit.ly/Indy-Classifieds
or call
(925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE

ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

FREE SECTION

LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES /ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR RENT

OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

HOUSE SHARE

Charming Cottage walk to downtown Pleasanton. Relax in separate LR with TV or enjoy firepit in backyard. Private bedroom and semi private bath, includes utilities. \$1,200 mo. (925)918-7766 OR (240) 483-2954

BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

Inland Valley Publishing Co. Client Code:04126-00001
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads
The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law. 2144 Kalá Bagai Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

HomeAid Seeking Bids from Contractors for Construction Project in Livermore

HomeAid is seeking bids for new construction of three (3) buildings containing fourteen (14) sleeping units, two (2) Multi Family residential dwelling units, one (1) office building, one (1) trash enclosure, all sitework and all appurtenances. The work consists of providing and performing all work per plan and project manual including specifications.

There will be a **mandatory Pre-Bid Job Walk**, including a bid package review submittal, held on **Monday, May 12th 2025 at 9:00AM** or **Wednesday May 14th 2025 at 9:00AM**. The job walk will begin at 3663 Pacific Avenue, Livermore CA. All interested bidders must attend a scheduled pre-bid job walk.

The Agency will receive sealed bids at Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Avenue, Livermore CA until **Monday, June 5th, 2025, at 11:00, P.S.T.** Bids will be opened and read aloud.

For the complete bid package and details please email Crisand Giles at cgiles@homeaidnc.org.

Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

Local guide to the Valley's Leading Real Estate Professionals & Services

MIKE FRACISCO
925.998.8131
FRACISCO REALTY
Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt
www.MikeFracisco.com
DRE #01378428 Broker

Sande Utterback
(925) 487-0524
CalBRE#00855150
www.SandeUtterback.com
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | Drysdale Properties
Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes

Cindy Greci

Over 23,000 people in California are waiting for organ transplants.¹

You can make a difference.

Did you know that living donors, including those who donate a kidney or a portion of their liver, are likely to continue living a vibrant and full life with likely no effect on their overall health? Or that within California, 80% of those waiting for transplants are people of color?² Stanford Health Care helps educate people about living organ donation because saving lives starts with understanding what is at stake.

Learn more about living organ donation at:
stanfordhealthcare.org/livingdonor



Stanford
MEDICINE
Health Care

1. "The Organ Transplant Waiting List," Donate Life California, accessed April 3, 2023, <https://donatelifecalifornia.org/education/how-donation-works/the-organ-transplant-waiting-list/>.
2. "State data," Organ Procurement & Transplantation Network, accessed May 22, 2024, <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/data/view-data-reports/state-data/>

