

Housing Bond Issue Draws Fire

Housing Authority Deciding Ballot Measure's Fate

By Larry Altman

TRI-VALLEY — Thirteen Bay Area residents opposed to a \$20 billion regional housing bond measure filed a lawsuit last week that alleges the question to be placed on November ballots as Regional Measure 4 (RM4) is slanted to prejudice voters to approve it.

The group contends the official name of the measure, “Bay Area Affordable Plan,” is deceptive and the ballot question voters will consider contains a series of phrases that are not found in the language of the measure. The residents’ group is asking the court to rename the measure to “Bay Area Affordable Housing Bond,” because they contend it will cost residents more in property taxes.

(See BOND, page 6)

BOS OKs Greenville Road Grant

Livermore Gets \$2.3 Million for Purchase

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — The Alameda County Board of Supervisors last week formally approved approximately \$2.3 million in Altamont Land-fill Open Space Committee (ALOSC) grant funding to help the city of Livermore buy 207 vacant acres for open space preservation in unin-corporated parcels outside its boundaries.

The board’s 3-0 vote Aug. 8 provided \$1.3 million toward the purchase of 125 acres at 18 Greenville Road, and about \$1 million toward the acquisition of 82 acres known as the Hartford Hills property, north of I-580, near Livermore’s Springtown neighborhood. Both properties are located outside the city and county Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

The total purchase price for both properties is approximately \$4.1 million.

“The City will use these funds to complete the real estate transactions and close escrow, which is anticipated

(See GRANT, page 7)



Kashvi Gupta (left) and Aarya Chawathe were among students welcomed to the first day of school on Aug. 13 at the newly built Emerald High School. The school has been under construction since 2020. The final elements are expected to be completed by the spring of 2025. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

A High-Tech Jewel Opens in Dublin

Newly Built Emerald High School Welcomes 900 Students

By Ruth Roberts

The new Emerald High School welcomed its inaugural class to campus this week, marking the opening of Alameda County’s first comprehensive high school in 50 years.

Approximately 900 freshmen and sophomores descended on the \$374 million, 23-acre site for the first day of school on Aug. 13 — mixing and mingling with friends and

staff who welcomed them to the new facility.

Emerald High Principal Francis Rojas stood at the entrance to the sprawling site, shouting hellos to arriving students and faculty.

“It’s the first day of school and I am so excited,” said Rojas. “I was here until 8 o’clock last night soaking in those last few quiet moments, and I am just so very grateful to the Dublin community and the taxpayers that have funded

this school.”

Dublin Unified School District Superintendent Chris Funk was also talking to students and media on campus before the first bell.

“It’s a big day,” said Funk. “This (Emerald High) has been a promise to the Dublin community for about a decade and I think we have delivered a state-of-the-art, very beautiful campus and we’re so excited.”

Last year, incoming

(See EMERALD, page 6)

Pleasanton

City Threatened Over Housing Plan

Housing Advocacy Group Says City’s Goals Are Unrealistic

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — A pro-housing advocacy group is threatening litigation against the City of Pleasanton, saying the city’s housing element plan is unrealistic and unlikely to result in the number of affordable homes claimed in its plan.

In a letter to the city council dated November 27, 2023, the group says it plans to “bring an action to attack, review, set aside, void or annul the adoption of the Housing Element for 2023-2031.”

The letter from the Housing Action Coalition (HAC) recently came to light in the City Council’s meeting agenda and was discussed in a closed session meeting

with the council on Aug. 6. The council took no public action following the closed session.

Attorney Thomas B. Mayhew with Farella Braun + Martell, who is representing HAC pro bono, said the purpose of the letter is to encourage compliance.

“We sent the letter in order to preserve the right to file suit, but we have not filed,” said Mayhew. “We are looking for compliance ... to make sure that all cities are making plans to accommodate their fair share. We want to make sure that all cities follow the rules about having realistic and available sites for the much-needed housing in the Bay Area.”

Mayor Karla Brown, in an email to The Inde-

pendent, said the state has approved the city’s Certified Housing Element plan and that the council is working to meet the state-mandated goal of building 5,965 new affordable housing units over the next eight years. To date, the city has either built or approved 911 units.

“I think it was a thorough process and we were careful to only select sites where owners were motivated to move forward,” said Brown. “As a council, we were sincere in our goal of providing housing for future and current residents of Pleasanton.”

But Ali Sapirman, an organizer with HAC, says the allocation of 548 homes near the BART station on Owens Drive and Stoneridge Mall is improbable for

(See HOUSING, page 8)

Dublin Sued Over Crosby Property Ballot Measure

Activists Try To Block Future Development To Protect City’s Urban Limit Line

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — Two residents groups filed a lawsuit last Friday to stop Dublin officials from placing a measure on the November ballot. The ballot measure seeks voter support to begin a process that could lead to development of a portion of a 180-acre vacant parcel outside the city’s urban limit line.

Alameda County Superior Court records show a hearing scheduled for Nov. 7 on this case — two days after the general election — but the litigation filed Aug. 9 asks a judge for a permanent injunction that would prevent the measure from appearing on the ballot.

The lawsuit demands that Dublin’s City Council set aside and void its July vote to put the

issue to voters and suspend all actions related to the measure until the city complies with state environmental laws the groups believe were ignored.

On Tuesday, Rebecca Davis, attorney for plaintiffs Friends of Livermore (FOL) and Save Mount Diablo (SMD), also asked the court for a temporary restraining order to prevent the city from placing the issue on the ballot before the Nov. 7 court hearing. The judge may give the city an opportunity to respond before issuing a ruling.

“We are seeking to stop this measure from being put on the ballot because it hasn’t undergone any environmental review under CEQA,” the California Environmental Quality Act, Davis said regarding the lawsuit. “The case law is really clear

(See CROSBY, page 8)



Zone 7 is exploring various options to secure its fresh water supply in the Los Vaqueros Reservoir against threats posed by drought, earthquakes and other hazards. (File Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

Zone 7 Water Agency

Los Vaqueros Reservoir May Expand Storage

By David Jen

REGIONAL — Earthquake and drought risks to the Tri-Valley’s water supply may be mitigated in coming years by increased water storage at the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. The expansion project would also include obtaining access to a second source of San Francisco Bay Delta water through the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD).

On Aug. 7, the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors, which manages the area’s water supply, discussed options for participating in the Los Vaqueros Expansion project ahead of agreement negotiations later this month. The board said more data was needed before deciding what form Zone 7’s participation would take.

“The bottom line is we’re missing the bottom line,” said Director Kathy Narum.

(See RESERVOIR, page 7)



The play “Kyoto,” about the global climate protocol, includes former Livermore lab scientist Ben Santer as one of the supporting characters. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

New Play on Climate Change Features Retired LLNL Scientist

By Jeff Garberson

LIVERMORE — For the second time in as many years, the U.K. has produced a play featuring an eminent climate scientist from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).

The play, titled “Kyoto” after the Japanese city where international climate accords were negotiated in 1997, was staged this summer by the Royal Shakespeare Company in its famous Stratford-on-Avon theater complex.

The play’s plot springs in part from the real-life story of Ben Santer, then a young climate scientist at LLNL whose 1990s research helped prove that human activities influence the climate.

That undercut the fossil fuel lobby’s contention that humans have no responsibility for climate change, so angry industrial representatives immediately attacked the young scientist publicly and privately, trying to get him fired or even prosecuted.

Two years ago, the dynamic of a scientist being attacked for his research motivated a different British play, “Smoking Guns.” That was broadcast on the U.K. radio network BBC-4, focusing on how the industry attacks affected Santer’s personal life and career.

As playwright David Morley explained in a 2022 interview, “Smoking Guns” used the drama of Santer’s life as a springboard to present his vital research to the public.

(See CLIMATE page 8)

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Dublin Council Approves Pay Bump For Next Session

By Ruth Roberts

The Dublin City Council has given itself a raise. In a 4-1 vote at its regular meeting on July 16, the five-member board agreed to a salary increase for the council and mayor to \$1,600 and \$2,400 per month, respectively. That's a raise of approximately \$185 a month for councilmembers, and approximately \$275 for the mayor. The bump-up will be

effective following the certification of the November 2024 election. Vice Mayor Sherry Hu voted against the increase. Hu has announced she is running for mayor in the upcoming election. "My decision was driven by my responsibility to the taxpayers," Hu said in an email to The Independent. "While the overall pay for a council member is relatively modest, I believe it is crucial that we always

seek to provide government services in the most responsible and cost-effective manner. Ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used efficiently is a top priority for me." Hu did not say whether she would accept or deny the stipend increase, adding, "I will need to carefully consider the implications and how it aligns with my commitment to fiscal responsibility before making a decision."

The council last received raises in 2022 with councilmembers receiving \$1,416.82 per month and the mayor, \$2,124.23 per month. The year-old state law, SB 329, allows for increases in salaries based on a city's population. For cities with populations of 50,000-75,000, which include Dublin and Pleasanton, the salaries are capped at \$1,600 per month for councilmembers, and \$2,400 for the mayor.

Dublin had an estimated population of just under 70,000 in 2023, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. According to a staff report, Dublin's budgets through 2026 contain sufficient funds to cover the increases. In Pleasanton, councilmember's monthly stipends are \$1,321.92, with the mayor receiving \$1,421.92, according to city staff. The last increase for the city council was

passed in November 2022, when they voted for a 10% increase. The Livermore City Council and mayor have not received an increase since 2010. The mayor currently receives \$1,490 per month, and the council receives \$1,070 per month. Livermore has a population of 84,701, putting it in the next higher salary category of up to \$1,900 per month for councilmembers.

New Open Heart Food Bank Will Serve As Regional Hub

By Ruth Roberts

Open Heart Kitchen (OHK) is preparing to roll out its new food bank program in a matter of weeks, but for Executive Director John Bost, the grand opening can't come soon enough. "It's been a very exciting time, and we are looking forward to getting things moving," said Bost,

that moves large quantities of food out to people and local organizations faster and more efficiently. The food bank will serve as a local distribution hub for other area food banks and nonprofit organizations to better serve their existing clientele by allowing these groups to pick up boxes of fresh vegetables, produce and staples and deliver them

provide in the next three to five years over 3 million pounds of food to area agencies. OHK currently serves just under a million pounds of food annually. Tri-Valley Haven, an organization that helps victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness in the area, will be one of the groups that benefits from the food bank.

more than just making sure people have food, especially in a multicultural area like the Tri-Valley Area. "Food is housing and food is health," said Bost. "But we are also trying to be culturally sensitive to people who want food that is not only good for them but is something they want and that is familiar and comforting to them. If someone is asking for tomatoes, for example, we want to be able to provide that for them."

a family so that they don't have to choose between paying for childcare or utilities, that's justice, that's good. Every investment we make in a family and individual can somehow help break that cycle of poverty."



John Bost, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen, surveys the organization's new food bank facility in Livermore. The 19,000-square-foot warehouse will serve as a conduit for other nonprofit organizations throughout the Tri-Valley area. The facility is expected to be up and running in the fall. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

whose group serves free nutritious meals to those in need. "It's been a long time coming." The 19,000-square-foot warehouse facility in Livermore is a collaboration between the Alameda County Food Bank (ACFB) and Open Heart; a partnership that began in 2022 when OHK was selected to become an arm of the ACFB in Eastern Alameda County. The idea behind the program is to create a redistribution organization

to those in need. The new Open Heart facility will not be open to the public. "There are organizations out there that already have relationships with the ACFB and Open Heart Kitchen will simply expand that relationship," said Bost. "We are a closer cog in the wheel as far as serving people out here so that they don't have to wait as long to get what they need." Paid for by support from the ACFB and other donors, the \$3.2 million project will

"The Open Heart Kitchen Food Hub will enable Tri-Valley Haven's Food Pantry to receive food locally, and more efficiently," said Christine Dillman, executive director of Tri-Valley Haven. "The new food hub will help Tri-Valley Haven continue to support these families by offering healthy food, but also providing food choices that are culturally appropriate." Bost agreed that running a food bank is about



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Drivers Urged to Take Extra Safety Precautions for Returning Students

The Dublin police are reminding drivers to observe the speed limit and "take extra precautions" in school zones as children head back to classes following the summer vacation. "During Back-to-School Month, let's prioritize safety behind the wheel to protect our children," said Dublin Police Services Chief Nate Schmidt. "We urge every driver to slow down, remain alert, and take extra precautions when navigating through

school zones. By doing so, we can create a safer environment for everyone and foster a community where safety is a shared responsibility." Dublin police are also urging drivers to be aware of school policies and procedures for dropping off and picking up students and avoid blocking crosswalks while waiting to make a right-hand turn. Parents whose children walk or ride bikes to school also need to teach them basic safety precautions,

according to the police, such as staying on sidewalks whenever possible, crossing streets only at marked crosswalks, and always looking both ways before crossing. Dublin also partners with Wheels, the Livermore-Amador Valley Transit Authority bus service, to provide students with rides to and from school, and is reminding drivers to use caution around bus stops and watch for students who may be rushing to exit or catch the bus.



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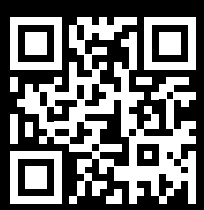
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Dr. Chirag Pandya, board certified in Pulmonology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, has moved to a new location.

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Florida Man Gets 2 Years in Prison for Threatening Swalwell

By Larry Altman

A Florida man was sentenced last week to 24 months in prison for threatening to kill Tri-Valley Congressman Eric Swalwell and his children in voicemail messages left at the representative’s Washington D.C. office. Michael Shapiro, 73, of Greenacres was immediately taken into custody following his Aug. 7 sentencing in U.S. District Court in Fort Lauderdale, prosecutors said. Shapiro’s sentence, imposed by Judge David S. Leibowitz, followed his May 17 guilty plea to a charge of transmitting threatening communications. Prosecutors said that on Dec. 19, 2023, Shapiro repeatedly called Swalwell’s office and left five voicemail messages. In three of

them, Shapiro threatened to kill Swalwell and his children. According to prosecutors, his messages included the statements, “I’m gonna come after you and kill you (expletive)” and “I’m gonna come and kill your children, you mother(expletive.) I’m gonna kill your children.” According to the indictment, Shapiro’s threats included references to Christine Fang, a suspected Chinese spy who infiltrated the offices of American politicians, including volunteering for Swalwell’s 2014 campaign. When FBI officials notified Swalwell she was a spy, Swalwell broke off ties with her and cooperated with the investigation. Although no wrongdoing was found and a later investigation by the Republican-led House Eth-

ics Committee closed the matter without any findings against Swalwell, the situation became fodder for right-wing media and



U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell

television hosts to accuse him of being a security risk. At the beginning of 2023, when new House Speaker Kevin McCarthy

took his position, McCarthy removed Swalwell from his position on the House Intelligence Committee. In his messages, Shapiro called Swalwell “greaseball” and a “moron,” and accused him of a sexual affair with Fang. In his plea agreement in May and in documents filed in court before his sentencing, Shapiro admitted to drinking heavily before calling Swalwell. Prosecutors sought a sentence of 24 to 30 months behind bars, citing a previous conviction for making threats against two U.S. Capitol police agents in 2019. In attempting to reduce the term, Shapiro’s attorney, Assistant Federal Public Defender Kristy Militello, wrote that his calls were a “spontaneous reaction to reports about

a politician’s suspected impropriety.” “Mr. Shapiro remembers reacting to the news by calling the Congressman to confront him about the alleged impropriety,” the attorneys wrote. “Mr. Shapiro does not, however, remember making any threats.” Militello said Shapiro was drunk and had no intention of carrying out his threats. Prosecutors, however, said Shapiro’s threats to kill put Swalwell in fear for his family’s safety. “The Congressmen knew nothing about the identity of the person who threatened to kill him,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Dispoto wrote in a sentencing document. “Thus, he had no idea if Shapiro knew where he lived or had any plans to carry out his threat. By

making an anonymous threat to kill, Shapiro accomplished his intended goal – to instill fear in the Congressperson. The pain and anguish that accompanied that fear is real, regardless of whether Shapiro actually intended to carry out his threat.” Swalwell has served in Congress since 2012. His 14th District includes Livermore, Pleasanton, parts of Dublin, and Sunol.

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LVO Will Stage Classic Comedic Opera

Livermore Valley Opera (LVO) will present “Daughter of the Regiment,” a classic comedic opera written by Gaetano Donizetti, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore the last weekend of September and the first weekend in October. The opera, first performed in 1840, is the tale of a young girl found on a battlefield and raised by a French rifle regiment. As she grows up, Marie falls in love with a peasant boy, Tonio,

and defies the wishes of her stepfather, Supine. Marie will be played by French American soprano Véronique Filloux. Supine will be played by Romanian baritone Eugene Brancoveanu, who won a Tony Award for his portrayal of Marcello in Baz Luhrmann’s production of Puccini’s “La Bohème” on Broadway. The opera will be sung in French with English sur-

titles. “Daughter of the Regiment” will open with an evening performance at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28, followed by matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29, Saturday, Oct. 5, and Sunday, Oct. 6. There will also be a pre-opera talk in the lobby of the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., one hour before each performance. Tickets start at \$25 and are available at livermorevalleyopera.com.

Dublin to Sponsor Second Trail Challenge

Dublin will sponsor the second annual Dublin Trail Challenge from Monday, Sept. 9, to Friday, Oct. 11. During the challenge, runners, or walkers, will be encouraged to complete 26 miles anywhere within Dub-

lin city limits. Those who complete the challenge will receive a commemorative tee shirt. In addition, the city is introducing a new Trail Challenge Passport. Participants who follow

recommended routes, and enter the dates they visited, can submit their passports online to be entered in a prize drawing. To register, go to tinyurl.com/26dd5yvv. Registration closes Oct. 8.

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EDITORIAL

We Need to Secure Our Region’s Water Supply

Water is the source of life on this planet. In the Tri-Valley area, our supply of fresh water for drinking, agriculture and sanitation faces increasing threats from aging infrastructure and climate change.

Zone 7 Water Agency is considering its options for the future, which include improvements to Los Vaqueros Reservoir, an important source of clean water in the region (See story on p. 1). There are two options which should be seriously considered: expanding the pipeline system that delivers

water to us and expanding the storage capacity of Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

The Harvey O. Banks pumping station near Mountain House has been identified as a possible choke point in our water distribution system. Problems at the station could disrupt water supplies in the Tri-Valley area. A new pipeline under consideration would allow an alternate route for water in case the pumping station were to be taken offline during a disaster, either natural or human-made. Increasing the storage capac-

ity of the reservoir is just as important.

The investment in upgrades will not be cheap — if both the pipeline is upgraded and the level of the reservoir is raised, Zone 7 may have to pay up to \$3.1 million per year to ensure we have access to more water. That likely will mean higher water bills in the future. But our communities will need to ensure they will have access to that extra supply, especially if our region continues to grow.

The challenges facing us from climate change are myriad, and

in many respects, we are playing catch-up as droughts and wildfires become more frequent and our equipment deteriorates.

Fighting climate change will take an unprecedented amount of collective action around the world. At the same time, we need to work to mitigate the effects of a warming planet here in the Tri-Valley. Protecting our water supply should be near the top of the list.

We support Zone 7 taking a broad look at new water and funding sources to secure our supply of water into the future.

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. 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 10 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 (editor@independentnews.com) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 10 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.*

Invest at the Root Level
Abdul Awwal, Pleasanton

We read a story in "Folktales from Bangladesh" by a giant in Bengali literature, poet Jasimuddin. In one of the stories there are two brothers. After the death of their parents, they inherit a tree and a cow. One of the clever brothers chooses the top of the tree, and gives his brother the bottom half. This poor brother keeps watering the tree, while the other brother enjoys the fruit. So when time came to divide

the cow, the younger brother chose the head of the cow and the other brother the back. The poor brother kept feeding the cow grass while the older brother happily milked the cow. One of the approaches of solving economic inequality of the government sometimes implements policy at the fruit level. For example, instead of caring for the tree at the root level, they care by choosing the fruit. In an uncomfortable conversation with a black man, Emmanuel Acho gives a nice example: you are competing in a race, but the black man was held for 200 meters and then released and said compete? Is that a fair race? If we see the life cycle of a kid in a predominantly African-American neighborhood, they are held back in every level of their life. There is far less investment in their neighborhood and school that will grow a child. Slavery in this country built the economy, but in return they are not given the benefit of the country they built. I heard a lecture by Nazeer Ahmed in MCC. He mentioned that the Vikings used to invade various British Isles countries and acquire slaves, and sold those to the Ottoman empire (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swedish_slave_trade). The Ottomans trained these slaves and made Kings (see Mamluks) out of them. Looking at the Western countries that traded slaves, after hundreds of years, the misery of their next generation has not ended.

I think countries including our own United States must invest in people affected by years of slavery to give them a fair chance of success. Instead of caring at the fruit level, we must invest in the root level in these communities, in people, in schools, in the related economy, and create an environment of success.

Is America Good?
Owen Brovont, Livermore

Of unproven provenance is the quotation, often attributed to Alexis de Tocqueville, "America is great because America is good. And if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great." Regardless of its original source, the judgment was, and remains, a thoughtful and perceptive insight.

It is up to the citizens of our contemporary society, if their integrity is intact and functional, to answer the question proposed in the quotation, is America good? When I was young, some sixty odd years ago, I would have argued that of course America was good; retrospectively however, I must admit that time has proven that I was fairly ignorant and naïve. The first serious doubt arose in my mind when President Kennedy was assassinated, and was shortly followed by the presidencies of Johnson, Nixon, and Carter. Today, however, I would not draw the same pre-Kennedy conclusion despite the breather provided by Ronald Reagan. Given the events of the last two or three decades, especially our political and social turmoil, America is increasingly suffering from a sickness, growing in intensity, that is quite likely to be fatal. Dishonesty and subversion are rife in this once wonderful nation, much of which is supported by ignorance and disinterest, and much of it is home grown, though external sources are contributing both significantly and increasingly in instigating and driving its uncivilized and unlawful behaviors. A significant consequence is the losing of prestige this country has had in the world for the previous century.

Serious objective analyses must be leveled on the subversion of our educational system and its resulting failures — at all levels — to inculcate the ideals that motivated the founders to create the United States of America in 1787 — 237 years ago. That America should parish, owing to the failure of its citizens to properly protect their freedoms and fulfill their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, would be a unique and appalling travesty.

The Inspiration and Counter for the Predation
Greg Scott, Livermore

We in America have incredible freedom and we choose to be like sheep. We could select a number of presidential candidates, yet the insistence is on the candidates from two major political parties who present a facade and lie incessantly.

The Democrats say they are the rampart of "democracy." What a joke. No one voted in the Democratic Presidential Primaries for Kamala Harris. Her candidacy is another Democratic Party sham for the denial of the fact that the president is, and has been, less than capable for years. Power is everything — country be damned. The Republicans held a convention where the delegates had no say in the Re-

publican platform, for it was dictated by the authoritarian Trump campaign. There are a considerable number of right-wing Republicans wanting language in the platform to address the Federal deficit. The Trump campaign put in brief, nebulous language in the Republican platform, including on the Federal deficit. As president, "Dangerous Demagogue" Donald Trump expanded the Federal deficit by around \$8 trillion. President "Genocide Joe" Biden has grown the deficit by less than \$5 trillion.

Both major political parties agree that the killing by genocide and ethnic cleansing in Palestine is increasing the safety of the United States and Israel. Nothing is further from the truth. The U.S. is spending enormous sums of money to protect, arm, and finance Israel. This is done by debt, as America's vulnerable — the sick, elderly, poor, disabled, minorities — are exploited. It is the history of empires, as they borrowed to pursue military excursions. Great Britain in the twentieth century is a prime example. And like Great Britain, when we no longer are the world's reserve currency, this game of delusion is over.

Therefore, America's addressing of the world's and its own vulnerable is a facade. The vulnerable are being fundamentally preyed upon. The Palestinian issue is not solved until all the Palestinians are exterminated; the homeless are to be vanquished to some unknown location; along with subterfuge on other societal inequities and inequalities, like affordable housing and cost-of-living.

America, like sheep, will vote for either Trump or Harris for the most part, and whomever wins will only increase the power of the powerful and the riches of the wealthy oligarchs.

"There's a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious—makes you so sick at heart—that you can't take part." (Mario Savio)

Vote Dunbar for City Council
David Jonas, Livermore

I enthusiastically support Steven Dunbar for Livermore City Council, District 3.

Steven has proven his readiness for City Council, commitment to the community, and strong analytical and leadership skills through his service on the city's Planning Commission.

He has served as a Planning Commissioner since 2020, including one year as chair and one year as vice chair. As a commissioner,

he has demonstrated a capacity for quickly grasping complex issues and guiding fraught issues to closure. His positions on planning matters always reflect his commitment to comply with applicable codes and regulations, regardless of his personal views towards a project.

He has also served four years on Livermore's Asset Management Outreach Committee.

Steven is passionate about mass transit, as reflected in his work for Livermore-based bus manufacturer Gillig, where he has worked since 2016. He currently supervises a team of engineers working on Gillig's diesel, natural gas, hybrid, electric, and hydrogen platforms.

Steven is earnest, articulate, disarming, gentle, energetic and extremely upbeat. He will bring a brainy and balanced perspective to City Council. He will fight aggressively for the qualities that make Livermore amazing: open space, equity, smart growth. He possesses the experience, temperament, and qualifications to make a superb city leader.

I urge District 3 voters to consider Steven Dunbar for Council. For more information, visit dunbarforlivermore.com.

The Foist
Anthony Beckett, Pleasanton

Foist (v): to force upon or impose fraudulently or unjustifiably.

Democrats have seamlessly resolved the crisis of an unwell incumbent by replacing Joe with a truly unqualified candidate, without even the pretense of a selection process. None. It was like "Here you go. We've picked some random clowns for you. Now vote for us".

And they all thought Donald Trump was a danger to democracy.

What I see unfolding is similar to Joe Biden's basement campaign: incredible (and puzzling) reversals of previous positions, canned speeches, pandering, and the usual expectation of the fealty of the voters they presumably own. What we need to remember is that to approve of this is to approve of the usurpation of the democratic process, a vote for four more years of what we have already suffered: inflation, economic and geopolitical instability, and a complete disregard for our borders. And a tacit approval to being foisted upon.

Jeff's the Best for District 3
Cathie Brown, Livermore (former mayor)

I served on Livermore City Council for almost 20

years — eight years as a council member and twelve years as mayor. I've known many elected officials over the years and can say, without a doubt, that voters have a chance to elect an outstanding candidate for city council this November: my friend Jeff Kaskey.

Jeff believes in the importance of preserving our open space; and if you're worried about maintaining the character of Livermore as it moves into the future, Jeff is your guy. He appreciates Livermore's past as well as its future. He's been curator and president of the Livermore Heritage Guild and manages the Hagemann Ranch for the City. He manages the downtown Carnegie Building, Duarte Garage and traveling HistoryMobile. Jeff is the one I've turned to whenever I've needed an historical perspective.

Despite being busy with additional commitments to our city, like being a board member of the Bankhead Theater or a member of the Cultural Arts Council or sitting on the downtown steering committee or volunteering with 4-H, Eagle Scouts or homeless services, he's always available to find time to add more. Last year I made a presentation at the library about my trips to our sister city in Russia during my tenure as mayor. I couldn't have done it without Jeff's no-drama competence and technical expertise.

You'll get the best person for the job for District 3 if you vote for Jeff Kaskey. He's smart; he's professional; he's respectful of everyone's opinion; he has a great sense of humor, but mostly — he's trustworthy.

August 6, 1945
Richard Andrews, Livermore

I know I will get a lot of push-back on this, but I have personally done a lot of reading on the subject: Hiroshima and Nagasaki; the only two atomic bombs ever dropped in war. The results were horrifying and hard to grasp. As were the reasons. But I feel President Truman did the right thing.

They were on Aug. 6 and 9 respectively. The verifiable carnage was 78,000 and 64,000. And probably many unaccounted for. A horrible price for civilians to pay. But it stopped a war, and probably saved 500,000+ lives if the invasion, Operation Olympic, had taken place.

That 200,000 were lost combined in the taking of Okinawa clearly shows that the Japanese people were following the demonic Hirohito to the grave. And that to conquer without his capitulation would be a blood bath.

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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The Hurricane Band plays classic rock, R&B, dance tunes and a touch of country from the past 50 years – Santana to Tom Petty. The Hurricane Band has five happy musicians who love playing together; singer Joanie Davis, Dave Gamble on vocals and guitar, Greg Johnston on lead guitar, bassist Corey Norton, and drummer Patrick Alvarez. The final “Tuesday Tunes” concert of this season, 6:45 pm August 20th, produced by the Livermore Cultural Arts Council, will be on the Shea Home Stage near the Bankhead Theater. Shea Homes is the major sponsor with additional funding from Fremont Bank, Uncle Credit Union, Uncle Yu’s at the Vineyard and The Independent. (Photo courtesy of The Hurricane Band)

MAILBOX
(Continued from page 4)

If further evidence is needed, just look at the kamikaze pilots. And don't forget they had 31,617 POWs that would have been executed as soon as we invaded. This is in addition to the projected losses!

That the German people were still fighting after the devastation of Cologne plainly shows that the Axis powers had warped their people into a cult following that only the absolute leader could stop. And when the firebombing of Tokyo on March 5, 1945, killed 86,000 people (note, MORE than Hiroshima) and still they fought, President Truman had no choice. To save probably more than 200,000 Allies and over a million Japanese, it was worth the strike. As horrible a decision as it was...our President did what was needed.

As to the people who (jus-

tifiably) want to stop nuclear war, please note the horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are the only nuclear bombs ever dropped in war.

Kristie Wang for City Council District 4!
Valerie Jonas, Livermore

I am eager to see Kristie Wang join our City Council. We have seen her in action fighting for our children and community, starting with taking on big tobacco on the vaping issue in Livermore.

Her track record in our community is stellar, from serving as a volunteer advocate at Tri-Valley Haven for 13 years to service on the LVJUSD school board. Kristie's efforts with Asian Pacific Islander APA and with the Juneteenth Festival demonstrate the effective and positive ways she works to magnify less-heard voices in our community. She is

thorough at examining issues, is a keen listener, and has compelling leadership ability honed during her professional and public service careers.

As I've gotten to know Kristie at meetings and other gatherings, it is her ability to care about people that has moved me most. She cares about family, community, the underserved, and the unheard. She has a clear focus on putting into action ways to better people's lives. Please join me in supporting Kristie Wang.

Vote for Policy
Jan Brovont, Livermore

Have you heard how some people are choosing who to vote for, for President??

Some people are saying things like, "We need a woman in the White House." (Why/what does a person's gender have to do with

how they can run our country, and keep us safe with a good economy?)

Or, I can't stand his orange hair. (How/what does the color of the president's hair have to do with how well they keep our country safe, and with a good economy?)

If you don't like someone's hair color, and it bothers you, then do not look at him or her.

If he or she is what you think is the wrong sex for the office, then look at their accomplishments, safety, economy and what they have said in the past several years.

Why are people not focused on the candidate's past accomplishments, what they have said & done in the past and not how they look??? It's not a beauty pageant folks. We need a strong intelligent President, regardless of the gender, hair color or how they look.

Bottom line and most important is to vote for their policy not how they look.

The USA needs someone who will keep our country safe, update our military, and close the borders. Bottom line and most important is to vote for their policy not how they look.

Before you vote for anything, take some time and do some good research.

Remember whether it is City Council, or the President of the United States, this is going to have an effect on you. Don't worry about what they wear or how they look. Like I said before, it is not a beauty pageant. Look at what they have done, what they have tried to do, and what they say they are going to do.

Steven Dunbar for Council District 3
Laning Thompson, Livermore

I live in Council District 3 — the southeast corner of Livermore — and I'm looking forward to voting for Steven Dunbar in November. He's an obvious choice because his experience serv-

ing on the Asset Management outreach committee, and currently the Planning Commission, means he thoroughly understands how the City's staff and advisory bodies work in conjunction with the City Council. The Planning Commission considers many aspects of new development proposals in order to present recommendations to the Council, so Steven is well-prepared to study and evaluate items that come before the legislative body. He cares deeply about

the environment, transportation, traffic, housing, equity

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

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Newly installed multi-sport use turf expected to hold up for at least a decade. (Photo courtesy of LARPD)

Artificial Turf Sports Field Installed at Cayetano Park

The sports fields at Cayetano Park in Livermore have a new artificial turf surface that the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) says should last for at least the next decade.

“This upgrade represents our commitment to providing top-notch facilities for our communi-

ty,” said LARPD Facilities Manager Fred Haldeman. “The advanced features of this turf, particularly the pad underneath, ensure a safer and more durable playing surface for all. We look forward to seeing our local athletes enjoy this field for many years to come.”

The turf field was installed in June and will be used for soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, rugby, and ultimate frisbee, according to the LARPD.

The 10-acre park at 698 Portola Ave. also includes a playground, baseball and softball fields, basketball courts, and a dog park.

BOND

(Continued from front page)

“This lawsuit is all about the 75 words maximum that will be in the Regional Measure 4 ballot question,” said Jason Bezis, an attorney for the residents, a list of electors for the Nov. 5 election, members of county taxpayers’ associations, and a former San Jose City Council member.

Bezis’ office filed a petition in Santa Clara Superior Court on Aug. 8, demanding it be rewritten. The filing came six days after sending a “pre-litigation” letter to the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA), which placed the measure on the ballot. The lawsuit targets BAHFA and election officials in Alameda, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Solano, and Sonoma counties, along with the city and county of San Francisco.

The question may well become moot. On Tuesday evening as The Independent went to press, BAHFA called a last-minute meeting for Wednesday morning, the last day under which ballots may be changed, to discuss whether or not to pull Regional Measure 4 from the ballot.

If the measure remains on the ballot, residents in the nine counties will decide whether to approve a \$20 billion general obligation bond issue that is estimated to result in property tax increases of about \$19 per \$100,000 of assessed value of businesses and homes. The owner of a home assessed at \$600,000, approximately the median valuation in Alameda County, would pay an additional \$114 a year.

Under the proposal, \$4 billion will be placed into a regional housing fund, with the rest dispersed to the counties. Alameda County would receive \$2.8 billion; San Francisco County, \$2.4 billion; San Mateo County, \$2.1 billion; Santa Clara County, \$4.5 billion; Contra Costa County, \$1.9 billion; Sonoma County, e

\$795 million; Napa County, \$364 million; Solano County, \$489 million; and Marin County, \$699 million. The cities of San Jose, Oakland, Santa Rosa and Napa also will receive a share.

Before last week, the ballot measure’s language indicated the bond would generate \$670,000,000 annually, and that it would provide funds to address housing affordability and reducing homelessness; creating homes near transit, jobs and stores; converting vacant lots or blighted properties into housing; and providing first-time homebuyer assistance.

Already, Bezis’ letter achieved an admission from BAHFA that its estimate was wrong. At BAHFA’s Aug. 8 meeting, BAHFA’s attorney Kathleen Kane called that figure a “mathematical error” that was brought to BAHFA’s attention. The committee approved adopting the higher figure; about \$911 million would be produced annually.

The board made no other changes.

In its petition, the residents’ group also wants to strike the word “reduce” before homelessness; amend “70,000” units to “90,000” units, which is the number written in the three-page ballot measure explanation; change the word “homes” to “housing units” because “homes” evokes the image of a “cozy abode”; and eliminate references to transit, jobs and stores, deeming them argumentative and undefined words.

“One motivation for this lawsuit is the unreasonably high costs of so-called ‘affordable housing’ by Eden, Mid-Pen and other contractors,” Bezis said via email. “There is no maximum per-unit cost required by RM4. RM4 will provide many fewer housing units than claimed. Note that the three-page ‘Ballot Measure’ says ‘up to 90,000’ units, which means one unit or 90,000 units or anywhere

within that range. But the ballot question claims ‘estimated 70,000’ units. You will see that ‘estimated 70,000’ number nowhere in the three-page ‘Ballot Measure.’”

The lawsuit also asks that references to “converting vacant lots/blighted properties” into houses, and “providing first-time homebuyer assistance” be stricken. The petition suggests phrases like vacant lots and blighted properties are prejudicial and contends counties would not be required under the measure to fund first-time homebuyer plans.

The case was filed in Santa Clara County because that county’s registrar’s office is coordinating the measure.

It was not immediately clear when a hearing would be held. Alameda County’s website says all arguments on issues for its voter information guides are to be received by Aug. 19. The county plans to mail those to residents on Sept. 26. Ballots will be mailed to residents on Oct. 7, the same day early voting begins.

During the BAHFA meeting, Bezis told committee members his clients were “appreciative of the fact that the BAHFA board has corrected the mathematical error, which was rather sizable, about \$240 million a year.”

“At any rate, that’s a good direction, and there will be an open communication channel, one hopes, in the coming days, as this matter advances through the process,” Bezis said.

The plaintiffs in the case were identified as Johnny Khamis, John Low, Thomas Rubin, Terry Floyd, Marc Joffe, Sandra Kallander, Susan Kirsch, Michael Edelstein, Jack Gray, Gina Tse Louie, Christopher Robell, Jason Quintero and Ourania Riddle.

This story contains breaking news. Go to <https://IndependentNews.com> for updates.

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

and many other vital issues.

Steven is an engineer at Gillig, a Livermore-based company that designs and manufactures buses, where he supervises a team that works on alternative power sources such as hydrogen fuel cells. A quiet, thoughtful and modest young man, he is a highest-honors graduate of UC Davis and can quickly understand and solve complex problems.

Take a Dive into the City of Livermore

Patricia Munro, Livermore

How does city government work? In a council-manager form of government — which Livermore and most cities follow — the City Council, elected by and responsible to the whole community (whether voters or not), hires the City Manager. The City Manager is, in effect, the chief administrative officer of the city, hiring all other employees, with the exception of the City Attorney and staff.

In Livermore, City Manager Marianna Marisheva issues a weekly update to city council, informing them of the work the city staff has accomplished. That report is available to everyone. Here are three examples of what you will find:

1. Under “A Safe Community That Thrives”

Goodness Village: On August 8, City staff signed off and issued a demolition permit to the Goodness Village team to demolish the old dairy building. A new community center building will occupy the old dairy building’s former location.

2. Under “Environmental Stewardship”

Livermore was the first EECBG Program voucher grantee to receive their funds from DOE. Representatives from DOE are co-hosting an event with the City on August 30 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Civic Center Library to celebrate the milestone. August is also DOE’s “Resilience Month,” and their team will highlight EECBG Program investments that promote community resilience. The event will be open to the public and promoted through social media, the City e-newsletter and website.

3. Under “Inclusive and Inviting Spaces and Places”

a. Downtown Utility and Street Work Railroad Avenue is being micro-surfaced this week between I Street and K Street. Expect some traffic control and lane reductions. The brick band on the southern sidewalk should also be completed this week between Livermore Avenue and the Bankhead Theater. Restriping is scheduled for next week.

b. PG&E is completing restoration of the gas main trench on College between J and G streets. PG&E is continuing gas main replacement work on College between Riesling Court and G Street. The trench section will then be restored. Once all this work is complete, the entire road will be slurry sealed between L Street and Riesling Court.

Three examples of what our city does: caring for the vulnerable, caring for the environment, and improving

transportation routes. Want to see more? Go to the City Manager’s page of the City of Livermore website (www.livermoreca.gov/departments/city-manager), then click “this week’s update.”

Comparing the Platforms Philip La Scola, Livermore

It’s very interesting to read the mailbox every week and read about what readers think of Donald Trump and the 2024 election.

The general complaint is, if elected: Trump will become a dictator, rob us of our constitutional rights and only enrich the wealthy. Of course, they never provide any evidence of this. It is said he is only interested in himself, being the narcissist that he is; wealth and power being his only goal. The people who believe this may have a bias or are just uninformed.

The issue of January 6 is always brought up. Trump believes the 2020 election was stolen. According to the first amendment, he is entitled to his opinion even if it’s wrong. As for the rally on January 6, he encouraged those who believed his opinion was correct to raise their voices in protest. He said protest, but be “peaceful and patriotic.”

It’s on video.

With the Democratic convention due to come up later in August, it will be interesting to read the Democrat platform and to compare it with the Republican platform. After all, reading and comparing the platforms should give us some insight into how we might be governed in the next four years.

For example, the Republican platform says Republicans will work to “seal the border and stop the migrant invasion.” What will the Democrat platform say about immigration? Is immigration a major issue? Will voters vote on policy issues or personalities?

VP candidate Walz has stated that if Trump built a 20-foot wall, he would build a 30-foot ladder. Is that a policy you or I would support?

Harris and Walz believe themselves to be progressives. Progressives believe in DEI as opposed to meritocracy. Alan Dershowitz is a celebrated lawyer who was a full professor in Harvard Law School and taught law at Harvard for more than 20 years. Dershowitz is a constitutional scholar. He believes progressives are the real threat to democracy. Call him a liberal but never call him a progressive; his words. Dershowitz is the liberal who voted for Clinton, Gore, Obama twice, Hillary and for Biden. He has some real issues with progressives such as Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and the squad. If he could, he would vote them out of

office because of their socialist, almost communist leanings. He would vote for a Republican if it meant getting them out of office.

Misguided and False Statements

David Ott, Pleasanton

Over the last few weeks, I have read countless misguided and false statements in this newspaper from the Biden/Harris supporters. Remember this claim? Biden was a hero for stepping down and handing the baton to Harris. In reality, Biden was forced out by his party because they knew he had no chance of winning the election.

Another, the Republicans are a threat to democracy, when in reality the Republicans expect laws to be enforced. Conversely, the Dems break the law and attempt to overthrow the constitution with their open border policy, weaponization of the DOJ against their political foes, Christians and parents, and with their newest one, an attempt to pack the Supreme Court.

The Dems also claim that Make America Great Again is fascist and un-American, when in reality it is pro-America. Biden/Harris have weakened our country at home and abroad with their pro- Iran, pro-Hamas, pro-China philosophy and their anti-Semitic stance against Israel.

The Dems claim that voter ID is unfair, but in reality it has caused the American citizens to doubt all elections. Other countries require citizens to show ID before they cast a vote to ensure the elections are fair and trusted. Why in the world would anyone be against voter ID, unless you wanted to cheat?

Dems claim their policies are good for America, when in reality we have seen what their high taxes, overspending and high inflation has done to wreck the economy. Their open borders have allowed hundreds of thousands of Americans to die from Fentanyl, Americans to be murdered by illegal aliens that should have never been allowed to enter, and worse, once they entered were never deported like the law requires.

The Dems foreign policy is a disaster as evidenced by the wars in Ukraine and Israel, and they continue to allow Iran to fund terrorism through their proxies.

I realize that that no candidate is perfect and every candidate has flaws, so the key to America’s success is to look at the candidate’s policies. Who in their right mind would support the failed policies of the Dems? Do not be fooled by the Dems rhetoric and false statements. A sane person would want to support the policies that provided prosperity for all, just as they did before in 2017-2020 and will do again in 2024!

EMERALD

(Continued from front page)

freshmen spent the year on the campus of Dublin High School because of delays in opening Emerald High.

Emerald High Sophomore Abigail Compton was one of those students.

“I’m excited about today because we are the first graduating class and we get to show the younger kids their way around,” she said. “It’s a beautiful campus and very much a college-type campus. I feel very lucky to be here.”

Sophomore Tay Stunna was milling around the student union building with friends, familiarizing himself with the campus layout.

“This campus is so nice and the energy is great,” he said. “I’m looking forward today to meeting new people, seeing old friends and finding my classes. Everyone seems very excited, and I am too.”

Despite all the shiny new classrooms and state-of-the-art accoutrements, first-day missteps happen, as Maly Pra, the school’s director of child nutrition can attest.

“Technology failed me this morning,” laughed Pra. “My printer broke, so here I am writing everything out — everything that’s on the menu.”

A menu that included bagels, cream cheese, fresh fruit,

crumb cake and cereal.

“Something for everyone we hope,” Pra added.

Emerald High’s layout centers around two, three-story academic towers that will be developed in three phases. The recently completed Phase 1 includes the administration building, student union, visual and performing arts center, library, gym and locker rooms. Classroom Tower 1, a 137-seat lecture hall, eight tennis courts, and a sports field and track were also all in place to welcome students on the first day of school.

Phase 2 will feature a second academic tower and a

visual and performing arts extension. This phase is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

The final Phase 3 addition will include the 600-seat Catherine Kuo Performing Arts Center, named after a school district trustee who died in 2021. The center is anticipated to be completed in August 2026.

Each year, a new incoming class will be added to the campus, ending the 2026-2027 school year when all four full classes will be attending school on site. The campus is designed to eventually accommodate up to 2,500 students.



On Aug. 6, Livermore Police, city leaders and staff, along with representatives from Livermore Pleasanton-Fire Department, LARPD, State Parks Police, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, visited more than 50 registered block parties. A gallery of photos can be found at police.livermoreca.gov/NN0. (Photo courtesy of the Livermore Police Department)



Fall Back, and Look Forward With Yearning and Future Nostalgia

By Christina Cavallaro

It’s at the beginning of August that you start to hear people refer to summer as “almost over.” The reality, of course, is that summer isn’t officially over until late September — this year the equinox falls on the 22nd, to be exact.

So even though we technically have almost two months left of summer, we start living the days with an anticipatory nostalgia for something that’s still here. We experience a mopey longing for a season we know we’re going to miss, before it’s even gone.

It would be easy to get bummed out by all the “last calls” of summer life outdoors around the valley: The last of Tuesday Tunes concerts at the Bankhead, the last Livermore Valley Opera in the Vineyards, the last in the Pleasanton Concert Series, last of the Dublin Night Farmers markets... last, last, last.

When I lived in Japan for a time, I remember trying to explain this odd feeling of end-of-summer blues to a friend. He said, matter-of-factly, the Japanese have a word for it: “Mono-no-aware,” which means something mildly dramatic like, “I will give myself up to grief,” and which points to the sweet-sad moments of transition.

The great thing about living in the Tri-Valley, honestly, is that the doldrums transition period is a blip. There’s literally no time to dwell. “There’s always stuff going on,” said Rhonda Wood of Wood Family Winery. I was talking with her recently and telling her how much richer my social life has become in many ways since moving back to my hometown after years of living in San Francisco. She added, “One thing about Livermore, we’re very unpretentious.” Events of all kinds are accessible to everyone. “And we have a TON (of them). We’re drawing from the Bay Area where people are used to a lot of things going on.”

Livermore’s Pinot’s Palette certainly doesn’t appear to be letting any grass grow under their summer feet. I saw a video posted last week on Instagram of an employee of the wine bar/art studio in the

middle of her happy dance. The caption read: “When there’s only 50 days until pumpkin season.”

Summer who?

And Dublin has managed to effectively and joyfully blur the lines between summer and fall with the annual Floating Pumpkin Patch at The Wave in Emerald Glen Park. Kids swim around and pick out their pumpkins from the selection bobbing about in the waterpark’s Olympic-size pool.

The annual Foothill Band Review will celebrate its 50th year in October featuring the top marching bands in northern California who gather to compete. There’s no shortage of brass — from instruments to uniform buttons — or teen talent in the parade that runs through Pleasanton’s charming downtown. The whole event could easily be a scene from a Hallmark movie.

The point is, the list of unique and quirky things to check out around here as we head into fall is endless.

In Japan, fall brings the annual Harvest Moon Festival. Here, the Livermore Valley Wine Community has the Blessing of the Grapes.

The summer-into-fall change happens in many parts of the world, but how it changes, and in what ways, is a distinct reflection of the community that surrounds it. The nature of the change is specific to time and place — and in the Tri-Valley, that means our time and place and the things we value and reasons we love living here.

And maybe it’s nature’s way of protecting us from seasonal sadness, but around these parts, once we’re into “sweater weather,” we seem to only see visions of pumpkins dancing in our heads. Did someone say Witches Night Out? And do I smell a Story Coffee pumpkin spice latte?

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

Asbury Players Company Brings Shakespearean Farce to Stage

Local community theater group, Asbury Players, will present “I Hate Shakespeare,” a mashup of vignettes from the Bard’s classic plays from a modern and often silly point of view, at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore, over two weekends this month.

Written by Steph DeFerie, the play features zombies, talking cows, and a pie in the face.

“I chose this play because

I felt we all need more laughter in our lives,” said director Martie Muldoon.

“We have a top-notch Shakespeare company in Livermore with SPARC, so we don’t dare do an actual Shakespearean play,” Muldoon added. “But Asbury Players is known for farces and comedies, so a Shakespearean farce seemed to be a perfect choice.”

The theater group has scheduled 7:30 p.m. perfor-

mances on Saturday, Aug. 17, Sunday, Aug. 18, Friday, Aug. 23, and Saturday, Aug. 24. Matinee performances are set for 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18, and Sunday, Aug. 25.

Tickets are \$15 and are available at the door or by calling 925-447-1950.

The church will also hold a bake sale during the intermissions to benefit the music and youth programs at Asbury United Methodist.

GRANT

(Continued from front page)

to be completed this fall,” the city said in a statement. “Once escrow closes and the city owns the properties, the community should not notice any substantial changes to the properties. The intent of the City’s Open Space Conservation program is to protect open space for recreational opportunities, scenic values, and biodiversity in perpetuity.”

Supervisor David Haubert, whose district includes both parcels, voted in favor of the grants, as did Elisa Marquez and Lena Tam. Supervisors Nate Miley and Keith Carson were not in attendance at the meeting.

Livermore had been in negotiations with the landowners for months, and agreed to deals to buy the Greenville address for \$2.14 million, and Hartford Hills for \$1.96 million. Livermore City Council members approved those deals in July and August, after the city successfully obtained the ALOSC grants toward the purchases.

ALOSC allocates funding collected from a 75-cents-per-ton fee at the Altamont Landfill. The grants are used for open space preservation in the eastern portion of Alameda County. Livermore applied to the ALOSC committee, which includes City Councilmember Bob Carling and Pleasanton

City Councilmember Jeff Nibert, for the funding.

According to a county staff report to the supervisors, the Hartford Hills site has “significant value for preservation of native biological diversity and/or wildlife habitat.” The site’s grassland and cottonwood trees provide nesting grounds for birds including red-tailed hawks, white-tailed kits, northern harriers, American kestrels, short-eared owls, and Cooper’s hawks.

The Greenville property is also home to birds and other species, including the California tiger salamander. Its grasses support species including amphibians, burrowing owls, American badgers, and San Joaquin kit foxes.

Once the county transfers the funds to the city, officials

will complete the real estate transaction.

“The city has indicated that it intends to preserve the (properties) as open spaces in perpetuity to reinforce the UGB, permanently preclude suburban expansion, and preserve natural lands in these areas,” the county report said.

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RESERVOIR

(Continued from front page)

Los Vaqueros, located about seven miles north of Livermore’s Springtown neighborhood, can currently store about 160,000 acre-feet of water for Contra Costa customers. The \$1.6 billion expansion project plans to raise the Los Vaqueros Dam and increase the reservoir’s capacity by an additional 115,000 acre-feet. A joint powers authority composed of Bay Area water utility and agency partners, which may include Zone 7, would share rights to the reservoir’s new capacity.

As the Tri-Valley’s water wholesaler and manager, Zone 7 currently relies on the State Water Project (SWP) for about 70% of its water supplies. Rain and snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains collect and flow south in the Sacramento River to the San Francisco Bay Delta, from which the SWP’s Harvey O. Banks pumping plant near Mountain House pumps delta water into the Bethany Reservoir. From Bethany, another pump sends water through the South Bay Aqueduct into Zone 7’s distribution system.

But Zone 7 staff have described Harvey O. Banks as a possible single point of failure, because it is vulnerable to earthquake risks. Damage to the delta’s aging levee system would cause flooding and draw in saltwater from San Francisco Bay, which would render delta water unusable following an earthquake. Other scenarios, such as low river flows during drought years or regulatory restrictions around spawn-

ing fish can — and have in the past — temporarily shut down Harvey O. Banks.

“Just because there haven’t been major outages, it doesn’t mean there won’t be,” said Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor. “As the system gets older — not just the Banks pumping plant, but the levees and as we have climate change — there are certainly opportunities for outages.”

Zone 7 engineer Lillian Xie added that extended outages at Harvey O. Banks could lead to Tri-Valley water-supply disruptions.

“We currently do not have another way to get water across the delta,” said Xie.

Because CCWD operates its own set of delta pumps independent from the SWP’s, participation in the Los Vaqueros expansion offers a degree of diversification for Zone 7’s infrastructure. Regulatory restrictions that apply to Harvey O. Banks do not necessarily apply to CCWD’s pumps. Los Vaqueros also sits downstream of the San Francisco Bay Delta, meaning water stored there could remain accessible even if all the delta pumps failed.

The Zone 7 board is considering two options, both of which involve use of a new transfer pipeline between the Los Vaqueros and Bethany reservoirs. That would provide access to the CCWD pumps in case Harvey O. Banks goes offline.

One option to rely on the new pipeline only would come at a cost of \$300,000 per year. A more robust — and expensive — option

would earmark 10,000 acre-feet of Los Vaqueros’ new storage capacity for Zone 7. That option would cost Zone 7 approximately \$3.1 million per year. Any added Zone 7 capacity would not affect its existing water rights.

In past years, Zone 7 has contributed capital to the reservoir to explore how the Tri-Valley might leverage CCWD facilities. Zone 7 spent \$408,000 in 2014 on a Los Vaqueros pilot storage project and \$400,000 in 2016 as part of the reservoir expansion’s environmental analysis.

“If we invest 10,000 (acre-feet) of storage capacity, that’s kind of like just the space to fill,” said Xie. “It’s not 10,000 acre-feet of water. It’s sort of like an empty bucket, and then we can wheel water in and fill it and that would count against our capacity.”

Negotiations later this month will set terms for how local agency partners can use CCWD facilities and how selling water between partners might work, said Pryor. She expected CCWD to retain priority for use of Los Vaqueros water.

Other agency boards that Zone 7 would partner with are expected to consider the agreement through May 2025.

Board President Dennis Gambs said, “Los Vaqueros is in a unique storage position. It’s after the delta, but it’s before our system. ... We need at least some quantitative understanding before we make a final decision on the contract.”

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CLIMATE

(Continued from front page)

In contrast to the radio drama, “Kyoto,” written by Joe Murphy and Joe Robertson, was performed live and in the round to emphasize an immersive process affecting people around the world: international climate negotiations.

Grindingly detailed negotiations seem an unlikely basis for a successful play, but reviews from the New York Times and others were highly positive.

The British science journal Nature called it “a fabulously engaging evening of theater.”

“Kyoto” is set mostly in the 1990s. In it, wealthy nations, especially the U.S., benefit from burning the fossil fuels that warm the planet, and they have every intention of continuing to do so to maintain their rich lifestyle.

The poor, represented by island nations like Kiribati in the Pacific Ocean, beg for action and help as rising oceans threaten their very existence.

Negotiators situated in the audience give viewers a sense that they are part of the process.

The Ben Santer part is brief but powerful. In the chaos of conflicting negotiating demands, Santer’s character appears suddenly to reveal the simple but profound truth that science can now prove that human activities contribute to global warming.

When fossil fuel representatives understand his testimony, they are shocked into the sudden realization that they can no longer claim uncertainty as a defense.

Remarkably, the most perceptive observer is the play’s narrator, a cynical American attorney named Don Pearlman who represents Big Oil.

When he learns of Santer’s testimony, he responds with angry profanity.

He is the enemy of Santer and all those who want science to inform the climate discussions, and he has the clearest view of the power of Santer’s devastating message: It destroys the fossil fuel lobby’s claim that humans have no responsibility for a warming planet.

‘No clue’ at the time

In real life, Santer himself did not realize how far-reaching his testimony would become.

“I had no clue at the time,” he said recently in an interview with The Independent.

He was a young husband and father, and preparations for the climate conference had consumed 18 months of his life. “I was just glad it was all over. I could get back to being a husband and being a father and not traveling... I could

get back to my day job at Livermore.”

However, in the months that followed, he would be attacked in the pages of the Wall Street Journal, denounced in climate skeptic blogs and find his career threatened by powerful politicians.

After receiving death threats, he was forced to check under his car for bombs before leaving for work in the morning.

In the play, he complains to Pearlman about the death threats. “Take it as a compliment,” the attorney replies cynically.

Santer then describes other attacks: Hostile groups in Germany published falsified interviews making him out to be a monster, and publicly revealed his home address. Climate skeptic critics have called for him to be fired, to be investigated by Congress, and to be prosecuted at the Hague.

“All I’ve ever wanted is to see this crazy, beautiful world that little bit clearer,” he tells Pearlman. “You just want to fill it with smoke.”

Right side of history

If that time was extremely difficult for Santer in real life, the years since then have been more rewarding. He has had the satisfaction of seeing his research validated and extended, both at LLNL and at laboratories around the world.

He has received numerous scientific awards and was elected by his peers to the National Academy of Sciences, a singular honor.

He is clearly on the right side of history, as evidence for human-caused warming is overwhelming today.

He retired from LLNL in 2021 and now lives in Oregon, where he enjoys outdoor activities like hiking, climbing and kayaking.

He continues climate research, mainly through association with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts.

In a recent opinion piece for Scientific American, Santer expressed what he sees as the central theme of “Kyoto”: that in the face of industrial and political opposition, thoughtful people of goodwill can come together to protect the planet.

He is also grateful that “Kyoto” has the potential to reach much wider audiences than his technical publications alone.

Kyoto” ran through mid-July at the Royal Shakespeare’s Swan Theater at Stratford-on-Avon and is not currently playing anywhere else. But discussions are underway about possible staging next year in London and on the U.S. east coast.

LVJUSD Welcomes New Administrators To the 2024-2025 Upcoming School Year

Jennifer Burkholder, former vice principal at Christensen Middle School, has been appointed principal at Croce Elementary School for the new school year.

Janine Mains, former director of the Advancement Via Individual Determination program for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), was named to succeed Burkholder as vice principal at Christensen Middle School.

“Leadership changes provide opportunities for new perspectives and energy that are important for the growth and continuous improvement of an organization,” said newly hired LVJUSD Superintendent Torie Gibson in a news release announcing the administrative changes. “We are excited for our new administrators to join us in our efforts to serve Livermore students best.”

Gibson, former Amador County Unified School District superintendent,

was selected by the LVJUSD Board of Education in June to succeed Chris Van Schaack, who retired after 30 years with the school district as a teacher, principal, and administrator, including the last two years as superintendent.

Burkholder is no stranger to Croce Elementary, having started her career with LVJUSD as the school’s lead behavior analyst in 2014.

“I am thrilled to return to Croce and apply my diverse experience as a special education teacher, behaviorist, and vice principal to the strong foundation of student success that exists,” Burkholder said. “My teaching experience has taught me the importance of individualized learning, inclusive practices, and working as a team to meet the unique needs of our students.”

The school district also announced two new members of the LVJUSD administrative staff.

Ashley Sprader, former behavior analyst and student services coordinator for the Pleasanton Unified School District, has been named STEAM Magnet Program coordinator for the Marilyn Avenue STEAM Academy. Spader is also a graduate of Livermore’s Granada High School.



Pictured above from left to right; Jennifer Burkholder, principal of Croce Elementary School; Janine Mains, vice principal of Christensen Middle School; Ashley Sprader, STEAM magnet program coordinator, Marilyn Avenue STEAM Academy and Kayla Wasley, assistant superintendent of business services, District Office. (Photo courtesy of LVJUSD)

Dublin Launches Climate Challenge Webpage

Dublin has launched a Climate Challenge webpage designed to help residents reduce their environmental footprints.

To join the challenge, residents are asked to create a

profile that will calculate their current environmental impact in the community, including greenhouse gas emissions. The webpage will then present a list of actions that could reduce

emissions and save money.

The webpage will also show the cumulative impact that participants joining the challenge are making.

In 2020, Dublin adopted a

climate action plan establishing a roadmap for the city to reach carbon neutrality by 2045.

To join the Climate Challenge, go to dublinclimatechallenge.org.

CROSBY

(Continued from front page)

that when a council-approved measure is put on the ballot, that requires CEQA review,” Davis added. “Both the city council members who approved it and the voters should have had access to it. ‘What are the implications of doing this? What are the harms that are going to occur to turn 80 acres of open space into likely warehouses?’”

A staff report presented to the Dublin City Council on July 16 states the opposite of one of the assertions in last week’s lawsuit: “The City Council’s approval of the resolution is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act.”

The measure, the report read, merely authorizes the city to designate certain open space lands for future development. “As such, it will not cause a direct physical change in the environment or cause a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment,” the report said.

Pushing The Limit

Seth Adams, conservation director of Save Mount Diablo, explained that the Open Space act approved in 2014 said only that the city could study development and make a proposal.

“They’re trying to break the urban limit line we created 10 years ago,” Adams said. “We agreed to allow Dublin Boulevard to be extended, but not to allow commercial development along it.”

The controversy is related to undeveloped parcels in unincorporated Alameda County called the Crosby properties. The land also lies outside the urban growth boundary of Livermore, serving as an open space buffer between the two cities.

Dublin’s leadership has proposed building industrial projects on 80 of those acres to help pay for the proposed \$110 million Dublin Boulevard extension to North Canyons Parkway.

Advocates for the project have stated the project will improve traffic along I-580, reduce carbon emissions, provide better access to Las Positas College, and provide a faster route for 911 emergency vehicles.

However, Livermore officials have suggested annexing the land and keeping it undeveloped, and a survey of that city’s residents strongly supports that action.

Ballot Measure A First Step

The measure on the November ballot is a step in the process that asks Dublin voters to allow the city council to extend the city’s urban limit line to encompass the Crosby properties. If voters give the council that authority, and the council approves expanding the urban limit line, then the city would have to apply to the Alameda County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to approve the annexation of the Crosby property. Under California law, only LAFCO has jurisdiction to approve local government annexation plans.

Dublin spokeswoman Shari Jackman said via email that the city council can designate areas outside of its boundaries for development in its general plan. “So, what the ballot measure does is give it the authority to do that. If the City Council did that, the City or the property owner could apply to LAFCO for annexation.” Jackman said that the property would have to be physically developed. She added that the annexation could go before the voters as a future ballot measure.

She said the city would not comment on the substance of the suit.

LAFCO Executive Director Rachel Jones said via email that it was not necessarily the case

that an annexation would have to go to a vote. If all the property owners in the annexation area provided a written agreement agreeing to the annexation, then a public vote would not be required.

A spokesman for Crosby property owner Livbor-Manning LLC, who was identified as a member of the Crosby family, testified in favor of Dublin’s development plans at the July 16 City Council meeting.

Both cities have talked of annexing the unincorporated land in the future, while in the meantime attempting to negotiate a compromise.

If approved, the November measure would begin a process that could take years to complete. Last month, Dublin City Council members approved a resolution to place the issue before voters, but only with a 3-2 vote. Vice Mayor Sherry Hu and Councilmembers Jean Josey and Janine Thalblum voted in favor; Mayor Michael McCorriston and City Councilmember Kashef Qaadri opposed the idea.

Amending the Open Space Initiative

The measure would amend the city’s General Plan and Open Space Initiative of 2014, which has prevented development of more than 3,800 acres of unincorporated land in Doolan and Collier canyons north of I-580. The initiative, which was supported by SMD at the time, allows the city to revisit the parcels along Dublin Boulevard for possible development.

According to the provision, in 2024, the City Council “shall study commercial development along the extension of Dublin Boulevard to North Canyons Parkway (within) up to 1,200 feet of I-580.” The provisions specifically states that the commercial development is needed

to fund the roadway extension and that the council “may put a measure on the ballot to authorize development in the designated area.”

Under Dublin’s plan, the city would focus on 80 of the 180 acres, leaving 100 acres vacant.

In their petition to the court, SMD and FOL contend the City Council’s resolution violates CEQA. CEQA, the groups say, requires Dublin to prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) to “characterize and mitigate the resolution’s potentially significant environmental impacts, including air pollution, wildlife impacts, cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, or land use impacts” before placing anything on a ballot.

“Without CEQA review, petitioners and the public were deprived of their rights to informed decision-making, and the voters are being kept in the dark about the environmental implications of their votes,” the lawsuit states.

Unless a judge steps in, the lawsuit said, the groups will “suffer irreparable harm due to the city’s failure to take steps required by CEQA to protect the environment.” The lawsuit contends that if voters approve the November measure, commercial development will occur in the “near future.”

Among its legal arguments, the groups’ attorneys — Oakland-based Lozeau Drury LLP — cite other legal decisions that state “a decision by a public agency to submit an agency-sponsored ballot measure to the voters is a discretionary action that is not exempt from CEQA.”

The attorneys sent a letter to McCorriston on Aug. 9, informing the city of SMD and FOL’s intent to file court action. The letter also was sent to Tim Dupuis, Alameda County’s Registrar of Voters.

HOUSING

(Continued from front page)

the current housing cycle. Pleasanton’s plan for housing estimates likely projects and locations eight years into the future.

“BART has said we have lots and lots of parking lots and cities shouldn’t plan on building on them all,” said Sapirman. “BART is interested, and we (HAC) support it, but BART has said they won’t go out for an RFP before 2029 or later.”

Vice Mayor Julie Testa said that she understood that BART did release a work plan outline after the state certified Pleasanton’s pro-

posed housing element, with an estimated timeline for BART’s various locations. Pleasanton has also recently received a state planning grant that provides a source of funds for the city’s project, a point that Testa believes demonstrates progress on the BART site. She added that there will be some plans that fall off the housing list and others that will come on as the cycle plays out.

“Every city across the state needs to understand that as hard as we all have worked to establish a housing element, we are still not protect-

ed,” said Testa. “Pleasanton achieved that very hard-won certification from the state, but it’s not enough, we are still under attack.”

According to the HAC’s website, the San Francisco Housing Action Coalition is a nonprofit organization that advocates for building more affordable housing in cities across the Bay Area to provide relief for the state’s housing shortage, displacement and affordability crisis.

California’s Housing Element law states that local governments must adopt

plans to address the housing needs of all residents at all income levels, and must include those elements in their general plans. State law also mandates that cities can only list those sites in their plans that are realistic for development.

To date, Pleasanton is the only Tri-Valley city that has been approached by HAC. However, the city of San Mateo was recently sued by the HAC for its housing element plan by a group that said that the city’s plans for affordable housing are inadequate.



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Weekend Wine Festival Coming in October

Livermore Valley Wine Community will host its annual weekend food-and-wine festival from Thursday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 20.

“We are thrilled to announce this year’s ‘TASTE: The Livermore Valley Wine Experience’ following such a fantastic weekend last year filled with educational, celebratory, and sold-out events,” said Heather McGrail, festival chair and president of McGrail Vineyards and Winery. “We are

looking forward to welcoming guests from the Bay Area and beyond to this unforgettable weekend in Livermore Valley.”

The festival will lead off with the annual “Taste Our Terroir” food and wine competition pairing Livermore Valley wineries and restaurants.

The 15 winery/restaurant teams will compete for Best Classic Pairing, Most Innovative Pairing, Overall Best Pairing, and People’s Choice Awards for best

white and red wine pairings.

Judging this year’s entries will be Tonya Pitts, a writer with Wine Enthusiast Magazine, Jonathan Cristaldi, Napa Valley correspondent for Decanter and editor of The SOMM Journal, and Reem Assil, chef and founder of Reem’s California.

The weekend festivities will also include sommelier-led tasting experiences, vertical tastings with multiple wineries, gourmet pairings and cooking classes,

and outdoor activities among the vines.

For tickets and a complete list of activities, go to lvwine.org.

Livermore Valley Wine Community, previously known as the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, is a nonprofit organization that supports wineries, growers, and related businesses in the Livermore Valley American Viticultural Area through educational and marketing programs.

Deadline Nears for LLNS Community Gifts

The deadline for nonprofit organizations applying for a Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS) Community Gift for 2024 is Monday, Aug. 19.

Established in 2008, the LLNS Community Gift program awards grants to nonprofits involved in community service, philanthropy, or science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) education.

This year, LLNS said it has allocated \$220,000 for nonprofit educational institutions in Alameda, Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties.

Grants will range from \$500 to \$5,000.

LLNS is the consortium contracted by the Department of Energy to manage Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

For more information, or to apply for a grant, go to llnslc.com and click on “community giving.”

OBITUARIES

Martha "Marty" Jeanne (Strickland) DuBoce

April 17, 1947 – July 8, 2024
Resident of Livermore

Marty was born in Tucumcari, New Mexico, on April 17, 1947. She moved to Livermore in 1957 and graduated from Livermore High in 1965. She later attended Chabot College.

Marty worked as a teacher's aide from 1977 to 1980 at Jackson Ave. School. In 1984, she went to work at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in Z Division. She retired from the Lab in 2004.

She was a long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church and was a Sunday school teacher there for 27 years. She also served as a Deacon.

Marty felt she lived a blessed life. She said God gave her so much, especially a wonderful husband. She worked with children, and she found and traveled to her father's ancestral village in Italy with her husband, realizing both her childhood dreams.



Marty was passionate about genealogy. She loved sharing information. She was a member of the Mayflower Society and DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution). Her other interests included: traveling, history, gardening, bird watching, nature, star gazing, hiking and reading.

With her husband Bill, she

traveled to many countries, including Switzerland, Spain, Monaco, Greece, Turkey, Japan, China and Hong Kong, to name a few.

She was preceded in death by her father, Donald E. Strickland, in 1955, and her mother, Mary E. Strickland Crowley, in 2002.

Survivors include her husband of 59 years (since 1965) Bill R. DuBoce of Livermore, her daughter April S. DuBoce of Tucson, Arizona, her sister Donna S. VanArkel of Livermore, and many uncles, aunts, nephews and cousins.

Marty will be laid to rest at Memory Gardens Cemetery on East Ave. in Livermore, California.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, CA 94550 or The American Cancer Society.

Matthew Leo Kusske

May 24, 1952 – Aug. 1, 2024



Matthew Kusske, 72, of Livermore, California, passed away Thursday, Aug. 1, surrounded by loved ones.

Matthew was born in Renton, Washington, to Francis Dale and Catherine Elizabeth Kusske. He was a loving, generous, hardworking, passionate, and caring husband, father, brother, grandfather, and uncle. He enjoyed a successful career as a machinist and held a strong interest and curiosity in all things science, history, cars, culture, and the arts. He also loved his dogs throughout his life and cherished their com-

panionship. Matt was known as a world traveler and enjoyed many wonderful and unforget-

table vacation adventures with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Roxanne Kusske; children, Andrew Kusske, Joseph Miner, Hannah Kusske, and daughter-in-law Nelly Kusske; three grandchildren, Nathaniel Kusske, Nolan Kusske, and Ava Kusske; three sisters, Theresa Kusske Scharlemann, Elizabeth Kusske, and Margaret Kusske; and two brothers, Victor Kusske and Pat Kusske.

Matt was preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Catherine, and brother Christopher Kusske.

Nicholas Corege

April 1936 – July 26, 2024



A long-time resident of Pleasanton, Nicholas Corege passed away on July 26, 2024. His father, Joseph, and mother Angeline Corege, settled in Sunol, California. Their family of eight with six children; Joseph, Nicholas, Theresa, Maryann, Kathrine and Michael, soon grew to ten after becoming established in Sunol, and they welcomed children seven and eight, Joann and Antionette (Nettie).

After graduating from Amador, Nicholas joined the US Navy in 1955 and completed his enlistment in 1957. He served on the USS Salisbury Sound in Seattle, Washington.

Nicholas started his career working for GE Nuclear Energy in 1957 and was the seventh person to be badged at Vallecitos Nuclear Center. He was one of the original instructors in San Jose at the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Training Center to teach the servicing of the newly constructed BWR fleet across the world. With GE, he did an extensive amount of traveling across the globe, servicing nuclear reactors while shut down

for refueling. Nicholas was also involved in many specialized modification projects at the sites and retired after 37 years with GE Nuclear Energy.

He is survived by his daughter Joni Marie Armstrong and her husband Michael, three grandchildren; Mason Reichmuth and daughter-in-law Brittany, Yamhill, Oregon (father, Fred Reichmuth, Pleasanton), Jacqueline Marie, Nashville, Tennessee, and Nicholas James, Rocklin, California. He is also survived by six great grandchildren; Tatem Jackson, Lucy Jane, Daisy Lousie, Mabel Rose, Millie MacKenzie and Annie Joy Evangline Reichmuth.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of Placer County.

Mary Ann (Bullis) Dante

June 24, 1936 – Aug. 4, 2024



Mary Ann Bullis Dante was born on June 24, 1936, in Salem, Oregon, along with her twin sister, Clara Jane, to Ann and William Bullis. The two girls dressed alike through middle school, and each would say they always had a special playmate nearby. The family moved to Salinas, California, where both parents found teaching positions.

Mary Ann graduated from Salinas High in 1954, and attended Hartnell Junior College in Salinas, where she met a handsome young man named Edward who had been one of her father's engineering students. They dated for a year, became engaged on Easter Sunday 1956, and married that June on Mary Ann's 20th birthday.

They moved to Livermore, where Ed held a job at Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. During the next six years, they welcomed Sheri Ann, Edward III, and Diana into the family.

With her children all in school, Mary Ann started volunteering at East Avenue Junior High School library and was subsequently offered a job at the Granada High School library in

1973. She worked at Granada High for many years and was popular with the students.

Mary Ann started taking evening classes at Cal State Hayward, earning a BA degree in Human Development in 1983. This was quite an accomplishment with a full-time job and kids in high school! She was then hired by the Lawrence Livermore National Lab to work in the Technical Information library. She enjoyed working at the Lab and the friends she made there until her retirement in 1993.

After retirement, Ed and Mary Ann cruised through the Panama Canal twice, went on

cruises to Hawaii and Alaska, and took their children on a cruise to Mexico in 2017. They enjoyed visiting their vacation house on Clear Lake, and spending time with family, including a special vacation in Hawaii with their son and family. Mary Ann also traveled with her daughters to China, Egypt, Jordan, France and the British Isles.

In 2000, Mary Ann and Edward moved to a large ranch in Placerville, surrounded by oak trees and rolling hills, where they lived until her passing on Aug. 4, 2024. Her final moments were spent in the arms of her husband of 68 years.

Mary Ann will be remembered lovingly and mourned deeply by her husband Edward, sister Clara Jane Huckleberry, brother Richard Bullis, her children Sheri Ann, Ed (April) Dante, and Diana Lavezzo, and her grandchildren Bryant (Darien) Dante, Scarlett (Chris) Hernandez, Jayson Dante Miller, Jordan (Nicole) Lavezzo, and Lucas (Sarai) Lavezzo.

The family held a private memorial service for Mary Ann on Aug. 8, 2024.

Christine Hearn

July 4, 1958 – July 18, 2024



Christine left this world and went back on July 18 after a year-and-a-half brave battle with cancer. She never gave up. Christine has the kindest heart of anyone I have ever met. Always putting others first and being the ever-positive, optimistic and smiling person that she is. She lived life to the fullest and was a friend to so many. Professionally, she was

an interpreter to the hearing impaired, helping so many along the way. To those of you who knew her, she asked me to convey the thought of always keeping her in your heart and to remember her ever-present smile. We lost a shining light. She was my love and my best friend. To her...baby, this is not good-bye, this is...I'll see you later.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Dorothy Marie Santucci

Nov. 1, 1929 – Aug. 3, 2024



Dorothy Marie Santucci, a loving friend, sister, wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully on Aug. 3, 2024, in Livermore. The daughter of the late William and Marie Ralph, Dorothy, Dottie or Dot as many called her, was born on Nov. 1, 1929, in Livermore. She graduated from Livermore High School in 1947 and was married to Louis Santucci in 1948. Together they built a life filled with love and happiness in Livermore.

As a little girl, Dorothy loved nothing more than spending time outside with her father on their ranch helping him and riding horses. Her cheerful and adventurous spirit made a lasting impression on those who knew her. She found joy in many hobbies as an avid reader, golfer, swimmer, and passionate gardener of geraniums. She and Lou loved exploring new destinations throughout the United States, abroad, and on cruises. In addition, she treasured the company of her monthly “ladies luncheon” which included time spent with her best friends Nancy Sachau, Jean Beyer, and Dorothy Tarte. Together, they created countless memories together.

She was dedicated to daily leisurely walks and had a penchant for all things vanilla. She was known for her creative talents as a seamstress and knitter and found great satisfaction in creating beau-



tiful garments for her loved ones. Her craftsmanship was admired by all who knew her. Professionally, Dorothy served as a bookkeeper for DePaoli and Ralph Properties. Alongside her career, she found fulfillment in her role as a beloved wife and mother of three boys – Brad, Greg and Paul.

Dorothy leaves behind a beautiful legacy through her children: Brad (Shelley), Greg (Susan), and Paul (Susan). She was blessed with six grandchildren: Doug, Carly, Jill, Lindsey, Levi, and Sean, thirteen great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews who will forever cherish her memory as “Aunt Dottie”.

Dorothy Santucci will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her kind heart, gentle nature, unwavering love, and welcoming home to all will forever remain in the hearts of her family and friends. May she rest in eternal peace alongside Lou.

The Santucci family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to Emy, Karen, Maria, Diana, Olivia, Aiyleen, and Phoebe for the loving and compassionate care they provided for many years.

A Celebration of Life will be held in honor of Dottie at the Clubhouse at Las Positas “Beebs” (915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore, CA 94551) on Sunday, Aug. 25 at 1:30 pm. Please text or call 925-337-0613 if you plan to attend.

Frederick Norman Fritsch

March 12, 1939 – May 22, 2024

Fred was born in Portland, Oregon on March 12, 1939, to Robert and Dorothy Fritsch. He grew up in Portland, attending grade school and high school before moving on to Oregon State University.

At Oregon State he majored in forestry until he decided he didn't care how many board feet of lumber were in a tree. He changed his major to chemistry and added a second major, mathematics, graduating in 1961 with two B.S. degrees.

Fred married his wife, Nancy, and they moved to Berkeley, California, where he graduated from the University of California with a PhD in mathematics in 1969. As a numerical analyst,

he specialized in computer science. He went to work at LLNL where he remained until his official retirement in 2001. After his retirement, he stayed on at “the lab” as a visiting scientist for several years.

Fred and Nancy traveled extensively in their retirement years, visiting most of Europe and South America.

Fred was happiest when he was working in his yard; digging, planting and enjoying the fruits of his labor. His organic garden provided family and friends with many years of delicious fruits, vegetables and herbs.

Fred was diagnosed with dementia in 2020 and moved

to memory care in 2023. He will be remembered as a quiet man with a great smile. His dry, witty sense of humor has been passed down to his children, so the groans and moans will live on.

At his request, a small family gathering was held where his ashes were scattered over San Francisco Bay. Anyone wishing to make a donation in Fred's memory may contribute to the Southern Poverty Law Center or the Yosemite Conservancy.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, three children, Michael, Eric and Lisa Grigg (Paul), two granddaughters and several nieces and nephews.

Leadership Livermore Offers Insider Look at What Makes the City Run

By Christina Cavallaro

Leadership Livermore is set to begin its 2024-'25 program on Oct. 15. The long-running program, hosted by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, helps current and future leaders learn about community resources and issues and build connections throughout the valley.

Leadership Livermore has been around for so long even its organizer for the past 27 years, Martha Espinoza, vice president of the chamber, isn't exactly sure when it started.

"It's a program that has been going on for many, many years, prior to me even getting here," Espinoza said of the program that is set to begin its 2024-2025 session on October 15. "It was revamped ten years ago and some of the sessions were updated to be more relevant to the times," she added.

The nine-month long program is also a good way for new or returning residents who simply want to know what's going on in their city, Espinoza said. The group meets once a month.

"It's really thorough," she said. "It's kind of a behind-the-scenes ticket to your city."

The program is structured into different modules that cover varying aspects of Livermore.

Day one of the program includes a personal welcome from the mayor as a jumping off point into a

follow up session on local government. Students visit Livermore City Hall and see the council chambers, where they participate in a role-playing exercise.

"It's interesting because then you see what they [city council] must deal with; how is the city

local state Assembly members and senators.

The group are also introduced to more of the city's inner workings through a social services day, in which they learn about local nonprofit agencies, such as Open Heart Kitchen and the

cludes a viticulture/agriculture day where the group visits a local winery, a public safety awareness day, an education day, a big business day and a module that includes a visit to the two national laboratories in Livermore. "You go, wow, we re-

ent aspects of living and working in the city, has a little feel of the influential 1968 children's book by Richard Scarry, "What Do People Do All Day?"

The parallels between Livermore and Scarry's "Busytown" were apparent in the students learning about people's jobs. Recent program graduate Sheila Fagliano, outreach manager for Livermore Sanitation, said that aspect was highly impactful.

Fagliano, whose job includes educating people about the company's recycling program and explaining how residents can make a difference, was born and raised in Livermore. She'd known about Leadership Livermore for many years, but a new boss who wasn't from the area thought it sounded interesting and encouraged her to enroll.

Fagliano thought the in-person visits to first-responder agencies and to Lawrence Livermore and Sandia national laboratories were particularly profound.

"To see what these people have devoted their lives to for years ... to try and find, a cure or a way to improve quality of life—it's impressive," she said of her lab visits.

Fagliano found that making the community a better place was a common thread among all of the participants with whom she developed a different kind of friendship, despite

having known some from around town for years.

"It was just a whole different level," she said. "These individuals truly love their community. And it's nice to be around other like-minded people that want to see the good in all and learn about how we're trying to be the best we can be."

Leadership Livermore has drawn participants from all aspects of civic life, Espinoza said. That includes employees of the parks and recreation district, the laboratories, Cal Water, Parkwest Casinos, hotels and wineries. Real estate agents also like the program, she said, "because when someone is looking into the community, they can talk about all aspects; everything from education to government and how it's run."

For Fagliano, participation has meant gaining a new perspective on her hometown, which she has found invaluable.

"There are so many people out there, and I've probably been one of them from time to time, who just take things for granted, and don't realize what goes into all the work. This (program) kind of opens your eyes."

The last day to enroll in the 2024-2025 session is Monday, Sept. 16. The price for chamber members is \$1,199, and for non-members \$1,299. For more information visit livermorechamber.org.



The 2023/2024 Leadership Livermore class gathered at Concannon Vineyard with organizer and Livermore chamber vice president, Martha Espinoza (front, far right). (Photo courtesy of Ron Essex Photography)

budget put together? How do they come up with decisions as to what to fund?" Espinoza said.

The course's government module comes full-circle in the final class when participants head to Sacramento for a full-day visit that includes an in-person meeting with

newly opened Vineyard Resource Center, referred to as "Vineyard 2.0".

"Every year everyone comes out saying, 'oh my gosh, I had no clue that these agencies were here or that these services were available,'" Espinoza shared.

The program also in-

ally need them," Espinoza said. "It's not all about nuclear bombs. It's education. It's research. Because that's what they are. They're two research labs and we are so fortunate to have both here."

Leadership Livermore, with its focus on learning about all the differ-

Tri-Valley Teachers of the Year To Be Honored at Fall Awards Ceremony

By Ruth Roberts

Five Tri-Valley educators will be recognized at the 35th annual Teacher of the Year awards ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 3 at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts.

The honorees were selected by 17 school districts and regional occupational programs (ROP) across the county and chosen for their dedication and excellence in the classroom. Two winners will be announced as County Teacher of the Year recipients during the October ceremony and will go on to compete in the California Teacher of the Year program presented by the California Department of Education.

"Congratulations to all of the teachers who were selected for this award," said Alysse Castro, Alameda County superintendent of schools. "I am excited to recognize and uplift these teachers' hard work and dedication to their school communities and their commitment to cultivating classroom environments that allow students to thrive."

Dayana Alborno, Lawrence Elementary School, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD):

Alborno, a fifth-grade teacher at Lawrence Elementary School in Livermore, is described as an exceptional and trusted educator and leader within the LVJUSD. Her accomplishments include mentoring district colleagues through her involvement in committees such as Lawrence's Instructional Leadership Team and the Leader in Me, a stu-

dent-led team.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to represent the beautiful community of Livermore as their Teacher of the Year," wrote Alborno in a statement to The Independent. "Just as it takes a village to raise a child, this achievement reflects the collaborative

for excellence in education."

Lauren Apodaca, Murray Elementary School, Dublin Unified School District (DUSD):

For the past 11 years, Apodaca has been a special day class teacher at Murray Elementary. Her

what I do for kids, and are inspired by my dedication to students through innovative teaching strategies that support all students," said Apodaca in a previous interview with The Independent.

Murray Principal Bethanee Witczak said Apodaca was an obvious pick for

in supporting their needs is truly commendable ... Lauren's work is truly invaluable, and she is an asset to our school community."

Sergio Verbis, Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program, Middle College High School at Las Positas College (LPC) Livermore:

Verbis taught history at Middle College on the campus of Las Positas for eight years. Middle College is an early college-entry program at LPC that offers students the opportunity to earn high school and college credits. He said being chosen from such a pool of qualified educators was a dream come true.

"When I won Teacher of the Year I was really emotional when I learned I had won the honor," said Verbis. "When I calmed down, I realized what had happened and I was super excited. This award is definitely one of the proudest accomplishments in my career. ... I was very surprised."

Amy Brown, a Middle College administrator who works with Verbis, said his honors are no surprise at all.

"Students share year after year that Sergio was often the first teacher in their lives to get them excited about history or show interest in them personally," said Brown. "In the classroom, Sergio's teaching style is engaging. He is known for effortlessly facilitating high-level discussions. He creates powerful project-based learning opportunities while explicitly teaching skills our students must immediately apply in college courses."

Paige Saunders, Hearst Elementary School, Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD)

Saunders has taught fifth grade at Hearst Elementary School for the past 10 years.

"Paige is an amazing teacher who develops hands-on, engaging lessons that get students excited about learning," Hearst Principal Carla Henderson said in a district announcement. "She has created a classroom that is welcoming and safe for students who can sometimes feel alienated and misunderstood in the school system."

Huong Giang, Sunol Glen Elementary School, Sunol Glen Unified School District (SGUSD)

Giang has over 20 years of experience as an educator, with 10 years teaching at Sunol Glen. Teaching kindergarten and first grade, colleagues describe Giang as focused, tenacious and tireless: thinking always of her students and their individual and collective needs.

"Huong is constantly seeking out new ideas and instructional strategies and she engages in a continuous quest to seek out information," said former Superintendent Molly Barnes. "For example, when we adopt a new curriculum, she will reach out to colleagues in other districts and glean best practices and ideas for implementation from them — which then furthers our teachers' abilities to drill down into the curriculum for the betterment of our students' learning experience."



Sergio Verbis, history teacher at Middle College High School at Las Positas College, was one of five Tri-Valley teachers named Teacher of the Year. Verbis, pictured above with 2023 graduating seniors, will be honored along with all of the teachers at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts in October. (Photo courtesy of Las Positas College)

efforts and support I have received from my colleagues to be honored at this level. I did not reach this milestone alone and would like to acknowledge my principal, fellow educators, and the exceptional teachers with whom I work daily. Together, we strive

peers describe her as a compassionate teacher with impeccable leadership abilities and a gift for making and maintaining positive relationships with parents and students.

"I feel very valued that my colleagues have such high respect for me, for

Teacher of the Year.

"Lauren is an invaluable educator who has made a significant impact on the students at Murray Elementary," said Witczak. "Her unwavering dedication to her students and her commitment to going above and beyond

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607937

The following person(s) doing business as: Home + Space 3033 Teagarden ST, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): HSKB Group, Inc. 3033 Teagarden Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. This busi-

ness is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/18/2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Brandon Williams, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2024. Expires July 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6038. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607934

The following person(s) doing business as: Carpet one of Livermore, 1917 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Living Floors, Inc., 281 Via Lucero, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. 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: 6/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Isal Batista, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2024. Expires July 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6039. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607899

The following person(s) doing business as: Sands Motel Livermore, 3787 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bala Tripura Sundari LLC, 3787 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551. 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/: Bharat Patel, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 11, 2024. Expires July 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6040. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607943

The following person(s) doing business as: Warm Springs Pet

Hospital, 45962 Warm Springs Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Warm Springs Pet Corporation, 45962 Warm Springs Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539. 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: 8/9/2016. Signature of Regis-

trant/s/: Mark Doty, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2024. Expires July 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6041. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607472

The following person(s) doing business as: CMIT Solutions 1189, 2101 Marina Blvd, Suite

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2, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): UltraEdge Solutions LLC, 2101 Marina Blvd, Suite 2, San Leandro, CA 94577. 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: 4/10/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sameer Pandya, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 25, 2024. Expires June 24, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6042. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607964

The following person(s) doing business as: Salazar's Tax Services, 980 W Jackson, Suite 206, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joaquin Salazar, 24237 Soto Rd. Apt 6, Hayward, CA 94544. 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: 12/28/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Joaquin Salazar. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 15, 2024. Expires July 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6043. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607953

The following person(s) doing business as: CloudScale Robotics, 2426 Second ST #1, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CloudScale Robotics, 2426 Second ST #1, 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: 5/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sri Thodupunoori, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 15, 2024. Expires July 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6044. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607996

The following person(s) doing business as: People's Cannabis Company, 2590 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): 200 MPH Consulting Inc., 2872 Ygnacio Valley Rd # 137, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. 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/: Erik Miller, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 16 2024. Expires July 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6045. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608009

The following person(s) doing business as: Mission Paradise, 28000 Mission Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mission Paradise, L. P., 28000 Mission Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership. 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/: Welson Jordan, VP. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 16, 2024. Expires July 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6046. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607335

The following person(s) doing business as: Fluidity Post OP and Massage, 3101 Telegraph, Berkeley, CA 94705 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lise Ramaley, 782 20th Street, Oakland, CA 94612. 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/: Lise Ramaley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 17, 2024. Expires June 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6048. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608022

The following person(s) doing business as: Aunties Drawer, 38416 Mission Blvd, Apt C, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christopher Larson, 38416 Mission Blvd, Apt C, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. 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/: Christopher Larson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 17, 2024. Expires July 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6049. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607467

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Rubic; 2. Rubic Arts, 1220 Kilcare Rd, Sunol, CA 94586 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Adam Ball, 1220 Kilcare Rd, Sunol, CA 94586. This business is conducted by an Individual. The

date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Adam Ball, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 25, 2024. Expires June 24, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6050. Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607969

The following person(s) doing business as: Esencia Gemela Tequila, 2841 Hoya Common, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Andrew Urista, 2841 Hoya Common, Livermore, CA 94551; Ana Reynoso, 2841 Hoya Common, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Joint Venture. 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/: Andrew Urista, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 15, 2024. Expires July 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6052. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607787

The following person(s) doing business as: Family BBQ Hickory Pit, 3064 Pacific Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Isabela Mia LLC, 3064 Pacific Ave, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Innocencio Hernandez, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 9, 2024. Expires July 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6053. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608061

The following person(s) doing business as: Jess Wynn-Grant Psychotherapy, 5738 Kingsley Circle, Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jessica Wynn-Grant, 5738 Kingsley Circle, CA 94605. 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: 6/14/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jessica Wynn-Grant, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 18, 2024. Expires July 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6054. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608095

The following person(s) doing business as: Waxing The City, 6770 Bernal Ave, Ste 440 Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Baywax LLC, 6770 Bernal Ave, Ste 440, 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: 7/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pradyot Kar, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2024. Expires July 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6055. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607558

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Functional Nutrition Answers; 2. Nutritionist Library; 3. Nutritionist Recipes, 3020 Bernal Ave Ste 110 #1004, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nutritionist Answers, LLC, 2131 W Republic Rd #548, Springfield, MO 65807. 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/: Erica Julson, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 27, 2024. Ex-

pires June 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6057. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608125

The following person(s) doing business as: McG's Photography, 6770 Tory Way, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michelle McGowan, 6770 Tory Way, Dublin, CA 94568. 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: 7/20/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Michelle McGowan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2024. Expires July 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6058. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608130

The following person(s) doing business as: City Greens Maintenance, LLC, 40550 Chapel Way #21, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): City Greens Maintenance, LLC, 40550 Chapel Way #21, 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/: Guillermo Inguanzo Gurrola, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2024. Expires July 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6059. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608137

The following person(s) doing business as: Clarity Journals, 3295 Bridle Drive, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alexis Green, 3295 Bridle Drive, Hayward, CA 94541. 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: 5/23/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alexis Green, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2024. Expires July 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6060. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607528

The following person(s) doing business as: C&C Davis Consulting, 898 42nd Street, Oakland, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Penelope Davis, 898 42nd Street, Oakland, CA 94608. 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: 5/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Penelope Davis, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 27, 2024. Expires July 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6061. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607798

The following person(s) doing business as: Russell City Distillery, 22549 Foothill Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Russell City Distillery, Inc., 5929 Highway Rd., Castro Valley, CA 94552. 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: 12/22/2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoff Harries, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 9, 2024. Expires July 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6064. Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CV074016

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:

Peris Kimani Morrison
4362 Panorama Drive
Dublin, CA 94568
925-226-6937
pariskimani2@gmail.com

filed a petition with this court

for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Names:

Peris Kimani Morrison

Cara Daurice Morrison

Proposed Name:

Paris Kimani Neal

Cara Amani Kimani

THE COURT ORDERS

that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 11/22/2024

Time: 9:30 AM

Dept: 1B

The address of the court is: **Alameda County Administration Building 1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612**

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: 4/8/2024 /s/: Thomas Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court.

The Independent, Legal No. 6065. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608296

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunol Aggregates, 11555 Dublin Blvd, Dublin, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): De Silva Gates Construction LLC, 11555 Dublin Blvd, 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: 7/29/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christopher Hallum, VicePresident/CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 29, 2024. Expires July 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6066. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608280

The following person(s) doing business as: This Little Life, 5436 Ruth Ave, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): This Little Life LLC, 5436 Ruth Ave, Oakland, CA 94601. 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: 12/6/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sanjeev Dhevar, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2024. Expires July 9, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6072. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608212

The following person(s) doing business as: Otter Construction, 1228 Quarry Lane, suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Manito Construction, Inc., 1228 Quarry Lane, Suite C, 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/: Victorora Morris, Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2024. Expires July 24, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6068. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608027

The following person(s) doing business as: 3D Remodeling Inc., Lindgergh Ave, Suite D, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): James Alexander, PO Box 2812, Livermore, CA 94551. 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: 4/1/1984. Signature of Registrant/s/: James Alexander, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 17, 2024. Expires July 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6069. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607862

The following person(s) doing business as: SKNWITHKAIT, 4685 Canary Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kaitlyn White, 4685 Canary Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. 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: 4/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kaitlyn White, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 11, 2024. Expires July 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6070. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608341

The following person(s) doing business as: Eduardo Lin, MD & Associates, 6155 Stoneridge Dr., STE 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eduardo Lin, 6155 Stoneridge Dr., STE 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588; Minh Dang, 6155 Stoneridge Dr., STE 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588; Oasis Pain and Wellness Center, Inc, 6155 Stoneridge Dr, Ste 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/10/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Eduardo Lin, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 31, 2024. Expires July 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6071. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607852

The following person(s) doing business as: Baba Landscaping, 6700 Goodfellow Ave, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): 5 Smar Movers, Inc., 6700 Goodfellow Ave, 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: 12/6/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sanjeev Dhevar, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2024. Expires July 9, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6072. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607834

The following person(s) doing business as: GJ Plumbing, 996 Via Honda, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gilmer Rojas, 996 Via Honda San Lorenzo, CA 94580. 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/: Gilmer Rojas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2024. Expires July 9, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6073. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607834

The following person(s) doing business as: GJ Plumbing, 996 Via Honda, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gilmer Rojas, 996 Via Honda San Lorenzo, CA 94580. 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/: Gilmer Rojas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2024. Expires July 9, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6073. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608404

The following person(s) doing business as: JALC Enterprises, 3670 Whitworth Drive, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): JALC Enterprises, LLC, 3670 Whitworth 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: 9/23/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jeffery Hall, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 2, 2024. Expires August 1, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6074. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608134

The following person(s) doing business as: Seoul Gom Tang II, 3801 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): KWM Invetment Inc., 3801 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609. 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: 0/0/2004. Signature of Registrant/s/: Won Young Kim, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2024. Expires July 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6075. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608238

The following person(s) doing business as: Original Insta Lube, 15526 Hesperian BLVD, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ECO Lube Center, 15526 Hesperian BLVD, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. 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: 6/1/2016. Signature of Registrant/s/: Quang Phan, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 26, 2024. Expires July 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6076. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 607597

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Amausan Uji Matcha; 2. LAC Coffee, 39658 Cedar Blvd, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CaffeineH0 LLC, 2050 Lewelling Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94579. 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/: Quoc Nguyen, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 1, 2024. Expires June 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6077. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608090

The following person(s) doing business as: Behtesda Home, 22427 Montgomery St., Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christian Retirement Center of Northern California, 22427 Montgomery St., Hayward, CA 94541. 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: 5/24/1971. Signature of Registrant/s/: Robin Harvey, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2024. Expires July 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6078. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 590828

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Original Inst Lube, 15526 Hesperian BLVD, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. Registered by the following owner(s): Huong Truong, 251 Perkins ST, Oakland, CA 94610. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 07/29/2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Huong Truong. Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 26, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 6079. Published August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024.

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