

Dublin

Strategic City Plan Approved

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — The city council last week unanimously passed a plan outlining what the panel wants to focus on during the next two years, emphasizing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in its vision for the community.

The strategic plan, approved at the council's April 2 meeting, will provide direction to the city's staff on the council's priorities and objectives through 2026.

"I really do believe that Dublin is a great community and a great place to be able to raise your children and work," Mayor Melissa Hernandez said. "It's always great to be able to work with staff to make sure that we accomplish our goals and our strategic plans for the next couple of years. We always like to say we're a really well-run city."

The strategic plan calls for the city to "continue to use a diversity, equity and inclusion lens in organizational development and programming" in each of its objectives.

Five Key Areas

It breaks the council's goals into five areas: Economic development, small business support and improving Downtown Dublin; public safety; housing inclusivity and affordability; maintaining an inclusive and effective government; and making long-term investments in infrastructure and sustainability.

"I'm particularly excited about the sustainability pieces and the economic development," Councilmember Kashef Qadri said. "I think it's also important that we have the DEI piece very explicit. That is something that all of us stand behind quite firmly."

Issues outlined in the strategic plan include continuing to work with developers Hines and American Realty Advisors on a project to redevelop the old Dublin Place shopping center into a mixed retail center with homes, shops and restaurants, a life sciences office campus, and events space. It also calls

(See PLAN, page 6)



Las Positas College physics and astronomy classes took advantage of the partial solar eclipse on Monday, setting up telescopes and experiments in front of the college's library. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Dublin Unified School District

School District Considers Split Bond Measure for Facility Improvements

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN — The Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) board is considering placing a split bond measure on the November ballot to pay for an extensive list of master facility improvements.

A split bond measure limits a tax increase to a specific boundary, and only benefits the schools within. The bond only applies to properties within the boundary and to the voters within that boundary.

Bond measures can only be placed on the

ballot during a general election in even numbered years and require a 55% majority vote to pass.

Superintendent Chris Funk outlined some of the details during the board's regular meeting on March 26, including a proposed punch list of projects. He explained that the board was being asked to define the school projects that would be included in a district-wide poll.

"Tonight is to give the board a more focused conversation to identify the projects," said Funk. "The advisors suggested we do (this to help) them with

polling and establishing the proper language."

Broken down by school sites, the 'wish list' of improvements brought before the board offered options based on current 2024 costs. The board can accept or modify any of the proposed projects.

The boundaries have not been finalized for the two bond precincts, which are generally sorted to encompass schools on the west side of the district and those on the east side of the district.

West Side Facility Maintenance Projects
With an overall price

(See BOND, page 5)

Retired Newark Police Chief Will Temporarily Head Pleasanton Police

By Larry Altman

PLEASANTON — Pleasanton City Manager Gerry Beaudin has appointed Newark Police Chief Gina Anderson to serve as the city's interim police chief, while he works to find a permanent replacement for departing Chief David Swing. Swing leaves May 2 this year.

Anderson, who announced plans in November to retire from her Newark Police Department post this month, will take the helm in Pleasanton on May 3. Anderson said she will not be a

candidate for the permanent position.

Pleasanton has a larger police force than Newark, with 83 sworn officers and 35 support positions. Newark has 51 officers and 26 support positions.

"I am honored to assume the interim Chief of Police position in Pleasanton and appreciate the confidence City Manager Beaudin has placed in me," Anderson said. "My time in Newark has been invaluable, and I look forward to working collaboratively with Pleasanton's officers, community members, and local leaders

as they continue to foster safety and trust throughout the city."

Beaudin said that Anderson's 30 years in law enforcement "brings a depth of experience to the interim post."

"I have tremendous confidence in her ability to lead our police department as we continue to deliver the first-rate protection and services our community is accustomed to," Beaudin said.

Swing announced in March that he will leave his job in Pleasanton on May 2 to become executive director of the East Bay

(See CHIEF, page 5)

Las Positas College

New Fire Training Yard to Benefit Area Firefighters

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — New fire-training facilities at Las Positas College (LPC) have begun to benefit not only LPC students, but also neighboring fire agencies.

The college's new Advance Manufacturing, Public Safety and Transportation building, set to officially open next week, has been used by the college's fire academy since last June, graduating one class during the fall semes-

ter last year.

The accredited fire academy lasts 18 weeks, training students four days a week for a total of about 750 hours. Graduates leave with their Firefighter 1 certification, along with other certifications helpful in landing jobs fighting both structure and wildland fires.

George Freelen, LPC fire academy coordinator, said the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has also worked closely with

(See FIRE, page 6)



David Jen, The Independent's new editor, stands in the newspaper's office in downtown Livermore. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

The Independent Names David Jen as New Editor

REGIONAL — The Independent has announced that David Jen has been promoted to become its managing editor.

"I am very pleased that we have engaged Pleasanton resident David Jen as our managing editor," said Publisher Joan Seppala. "He began writing for us as a freelancer in 2021, covering water, airport and science issues, as well as county, city and community meetings."

In addition to his background in science journalism, Jen brings to the paper his experiences working as a software engineer in Silicon Valley.

"I was drawn to journalism after becoming frustrated by misinforma-

tion in areas like climate change. It was frightening to see the consequences of inaccuracies take effect in real time," he said. "Separately, I've continued to watch local journalism struggle nationally. When smaller communities lose their local publications, people become isolated from their neighbors. I would like to set an example of what a local newspaper can do to make a positive long, lasting difference in a community."

In addition to The Independent, Jen's work has appeared in Civil Engineering Magazine, Hakai Magazine and Tahoe Magazine.

Seppala said, "When Janet Armantrout died a

(See EDITOR, page 7)



Dublin's baseball team, the Leprechauns, hopes to expand its reach with the help of two former Dublin mayors and the support of the community. (See story on page 12). (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Sierra Snowpack Update Spreads Optimism Among Water Managers

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — The snowpack at a key spot in California's Sierra Nevada measured at 113% of average, a figure that has state water managers — including the Tri-Valley's Zone 7 Water Agency — excited for the spring melt off that will fill rivers, lakes and reservoirs.

The state's April 1 survey at Phillips Station at the 6,800-foot elevation level near South Lake Tahoe found 64 inches of snow depth with a "snow water" equivalent of 27.5 inches. A snow wa-

ter equivalent studies the amount of water contained in the snowpack and is a focus for state Department of Water Resources (DWR) officials.

The April measurement proves critical for water managers because it is considered the peak for the season, and marks the beginning of the Sierra's spring melt off that supplies some 27 million Californians with water.

"This is good news for Zone 7," said Valerie Pryor, general manager of the agency that provides treated drinking water to more than

250,000 people in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and untreated water for irrigation in the South Livermore Valley vineyards. "At the current State Water Project (SWP) allocation, with the incoming water and the supplies we have in storage from last year, we will easily be able to meet demands."

According to the DWR, California's reservoirs appear to be in good shape, thanks to the capture and storage of water from prolific storms in the last two years. The SWP increased storage by 700,000 acre-feet at Lake Oroville and

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PETS OF THE WEEK



CELINE DION

"A New Day Has Come" for sweet senior Celine Dion. Just like her namesake, she's a star who understands "The Power of Love" and can't wait "To Love You More" when you adopt her. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. (Photo – Valley Humane Society)

Rare Chagall Lithographs Grace the Walls of the Bankhead Until May 19

By Christina Cavallaro

The current Chagall exhibit at the Bankhead Theater, on display until May 19, is inspired by the artist's iconic "Jerusalem Windows".

The exhibit entitled "Illuminating Symbols in Art: From Chagall to Contemporary Symbolism" explores the power and expression of symbolism to convey deep meaning through visual interpretation alone. It transcends language and, for Chagall,

original Chagall lithographs to a Tri-Valley audience. Some patrons of the gallery are very familiar with the Chagall images of the Jerusalem Windows and some patrons don't know so much about the famous artist. But everyone responds to the colorful, crazy and dreamlike artwork. They are so appealing and intriguing to examine, and the colors can't help but make you feel uplifted."

Marc Chagall was a celebrated Jewish artist born

as a symbol of hope, healing and peace among all people. Each lithograph represents one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel, telling a story woven with Jewish folklore, personal memory and universal themes of love and friendship that feel timeless.

The original stained-glass Jerusalem Windows were first displayed in 1961 at the Louvre in Paris and then at the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan, before their permanent installation on the

been very good, because I haven't sold anything," he joked. "That's one of the problems with being a collector. The difference between a dealer and a collector is they both acquire many things, but dealers buy and sell, and collectors only buy."

Weiner has since run out of wall space in his home for more art. But when he was buying, he had the good fortune of working with a friend of his father's, an art wholesaler in New York by the name of Irving Yamet, who became Weiner's personal guide assisting him in the purchasing of well-priced, unique artworks.

While Weiner does have other artworks, he has always been drawn to Chagall. Weiner's first artwork was a Chagall piece entitled "Woman and Goat."

"It's actually probably the centerpiece of my entire collection," he said. Weiner, who is Jewish, said what pulls him to Chagall is less about his Judaism. "It's the symbolism that drew me in. As a retired ob/gyn, I've always been an advocate for women. I'm drawn to the symbol of womanhood."

As extraordinary as the Chagall collection is, also not to be missed is a unique painting by Alexander Calder, known more for his abstract works, specifically his large-scale mobiles, some as much as 300-feet long. The original Calder artwork at the Bankhead is the depiction of a bumblebee in broad, textured strokes of primary blue, black and red paint.

"The critical thing," Weiner said, about art collecting, "is that it's a way of enjoying what I have been able to acquire. I could have a much larger stock portfolio. But who puts stock certificates on their walls? You don't do that. So, this is much more fun."



Marc Chagall lithographs are on display at the Bankhead Theater through May 19. Above, Joni Schuld (front) and Linda Croce (back) view the exhibit in the theater's lobby. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

religious boundaries. The culmination is a world of the artist's imagination, where vibrantly colored fish and cattle, and flowers and trees float and live among multicolored lions and a blue goat — all interspersed with Hebrew lettering celebrating cultural diversity and Chagall's vision of spirituality and unity.

This free exhibit, at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, is open 1-5 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays.

Anne Giancola, Visual Arts and Education Manager at Livermore Valley Arts theater, said, "It has been such a pleasure to bring these

Moishe Shagal in Vitebsk, Belarus, in 1887, the eldest of nine children in a poor family. An early Modernist, he was associated with the École de Paris as well as several major artistic styles and created works in a wide range of artistic formats, including painting, drawings, book illustrations, stained glass, stage sets, ceramics, tapestries and prints.

The collection of vibrant lithographs on display brings viewers one step closer to what inspired them, the original stained-glass windows, created by Chagall in 1959, that adorn to this day the Hadassah Medical Center synagogue in Jerusalem. The windows then, as now, serve

campus of Hadassah's new medical center in Jerusalem. They captivated public imagination on the heels of the post-World War II era, as John F. Kennedy became the 35th president and the civil rights movement and anti-war protests were gaining momentum.

Michael Weiner, a retired obstetrician/gynecologist, and resident of the Tri-Valley since 2000, acquired them in the mid 1980s after completing medical school at Yale. Once he started making a healthy income in his profession, he chose to invest in art with the money he didn't need to live on.

"The rate of return hasn't

DSRSD Adopts New Energy Policy, Longterm Goals

The Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) has adopted a new energy policy that outlines three long-term environmental goals, including using 100% of the biogas generated at its regional wastewater treatment plant in Pleasanton by 2030.

By 2045, the district also intends to reduce its purchases of electricity by 25%, compared to 2021, and cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 50%.

"For decades, DSRSD has been an industry leader in using biogas to power our wastewater treatment facilities, which keeps energy costs down for our ratepayers," said Steve Delight, engineering and technical services director, adding that the new policy would "take that leadership a step further."

Created in 1953, the

DSRSD provides potable and recycled water for Dublin and the Dougherty Valley area of San Ramon, wastewater collection and treatment for Dublin and south San Ramon, and wastewater treatment for Pleasanton.

The district updated its policy after completing a new Energy Facilities Master Plan, which includes a comprehensive assessment of DSRSD's facilities, its use of energy and overall environmental impact, and a recommended portfolio of energy projects.

DSRSD said the policy is designed to provide a framework for enhancing its "energy system resilience and reliability, optimizing efficiency, increasing renewable energy production, and ensuring compliance with energy and greenhouse gas mandates."

"It's nice to see the en-

ergy policy come to fruition," said DSRSD Board President Marie Johnson. "Not only is adoption of this policy a major goal of the district's strategic plan, but it also demonstrates DSRSD's dedication to energy resiliency, conservation, and environmental stewardship."

The board adopted the new policy unanimously at its February meeting.

DSRSD said it would immediately begin work on three projects identified in the Energy Facilities Master Plan, including the installation of solar panels with battery storage and electric vehicle charging capabilities at district sites and enhancements to the wastewater treatment plant for improved energy reliability and resiliency.

The policy can be viewed in full at dsrsd.com.




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Livermore Cancels Fourth of July Fireworks Show

By Ruth Roberts

The skies over Livermore will stay dark this Fourth of July, according to city officials who announced last month there will be no fireworks display this year.

Concerns over public safety, traffic control and crowd-size were the primary reasons cited for pulling the plug on the annual event hosted by the City of Livermore and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park

District (LARPD).

Instead, there will be a new family-friendly daytime celebration planned for the Fourth.

“The city’s first and foremost obligation is to ensure the safety of the Livermore community,” City Manager Marianna Marysheva said. “Consequently, after a lot of thought and consideration for this year’s Fourth of July event, the city and LARPD will partner to host a daytime celebration for the Liver-

more community at the Livermore Municipal Airport, potentially with additional opportunities in various city neighborhoods.”

In the past, the city has hosted fireworks shows at various locations including Las Positas College and two years ago, atop the parking garage on Railroad Avenue. But last year, the city moved the display to the larger, more spacious Robertson Park, to offer better crowd control and safety. However, with

the increased space, came growing crowds. According to officials, the event drew over 12,000 people. About 60% came from out-of-town.

Azenith Smith, spokesperson for the Livermore Police Department, said that there were no major incidents at last year’s Fourth of July celebration at Robertson Park. Primary problems centered around traffic, illegal parking and congestion in nearby neighborhoods.

“Over the years in Livermore, the Independence Day celebration has grown significantly into a regional event,” Marysheva said. “Due to the crowd size, neighborhoods have been greatly impacted with traffic and parking issues. More streets are blocked, making it difficult for emergency response vehicles to move around.”

Last year’s event, Marysheva added, cost the city over \$135,000 in staffing and cleanup services.

Although all fireworks are illegal in the City of Livermore, including “Safe and Sane” fireworks that may be legal to purchase in other cities, such as neighboring Dublin, the city council did approve an amendment to the city’s fireworks ordinance last year.

Understanding that the city can’t control all firework activity, the provision includes a social hosting amendment, which holds a person or property owner in charge of a social gathering responsible for fireworks discharged on their property.

For additional updates on Livermore’s Fourth of July event, visit www.livermore-reca.gov.

Residents looking for fireworks shows in the Tri-Valley this year will only find them at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, but not on the Fourth of July. The Fireworks Spectacular and Drone Show will be held on two Friday nights; June 14 and June 28. For additional information, visit bit.ly/3J41mpB.



Livermore officials canceled this year’s Fourth of July fireworks show, citing traffic and congestion issues. Above, spectators watch last year’s display. (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

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YMSL Members Receive Awards for Volunteerism

Three members of the Livermore Chapter of the Young Men’s Service League (YMSL) have received President’s Volunteer Service Awards (PVSA) for 2023.

Brandon Do, a junior at Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon, received a PVSA Gold award after volunteering more than 300 hours during 2023. This was Do’s third Gold award and his fourth PVSA award in total, according to the YMSL.

Cole Gable, a sophomore

at Livermore High School, received a PVSA Silver award for volunteering more than 80 hours. Cathy Wong, Do’s mother, received a Bronze award after volunteering more than 200 hours in 2023.

The YMSL is a national program that encourages mothers to volunteer with their teenage sons during their high school years. There are more than 135 chapters in 18 states.

The PVSA was created in 2001 to acknowledge the

importance of volunteerism and allow organizations like the YMSL to recognize their most outstanding volunteers.

According to the YMSL, its Livermore Chapter members have put in nearly 12,000 hours of volunteer community service since it was founded in 2021.

Heather Druba, President of YMSL Livermore said, “Volunteerism lies at the heart of our organization,” said YMSL-Livermore President

Heather Druba. “We are immensely proud of Brandon, Cole, and Cathy for their outstanding dedication to serving our community. Their selfless contributions embody the spirit of service and inspire us all to make a difference.”

The PVSA has award programs, based on hours of volunteerism, for children from 5 to 10, teens from 11 to 15, young adults from 16 to 25, and adults. For more information, go to presidentialserviceawards.gov.



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EDITORIAL

Let's Improve Water Conservation Despite Ample Snowpack

For the second year in a row, snowpack in the Sierra Nevada has come in above average for the April snow survey. This measurement is considered the peak snowpack for the season and marks the annual transition from snow accumulation to spring runoff, according to the California Department of Water Resources. It suggests above-average runoff

in the coming months.

While two wet winters pose little danger of a drought, they do risk sidestepping water conservation and management.

Human-induced climate change has upset weather patterns. In this new normal, above-average snowpack will likely be countered by above-average droughts in coming years.

This year's runoff water from the State Water Project will buy the Tri-Valley time to address its forever-chemical issues, as we will likely rely less on our groundwater this summer. But some forever-chemical solutions, such as Pleasanton's plans for two new wells, will take years to implement, and we may not be so lucky next year with the snowfall.

The Tri-Valley worked hard to conserve water during the past drought, and we should work to retain that ability despite recent storms. Native-plant landscaping, recycled water, efficient irrigation, pool covers and low-flow showerheads all helped us weather those dry years.

Let us expand our preparation for the next drought now.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

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No Cause

Barry Balanda, Livermore

P Street Safeway, CVS entrance from First Street has a display of Wisteria in bloom. It is my wish that all people from everywhere could stand together and inhale that fragrance.

Some of us would sneeze. The blooms won't last two weeks.

The Time is Now for Unleaded Fuel for Aircraft

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

It is time for Livermore Airport (LVK) to act responsibly and to offer unleaded aviation fuel for piston engine aircraft. The negative effects of leaded av fuel exposure on health and development have long been established and proven repeatedly.

Dr. Anthopolos, Division of Biostatistics, New York University School of Medicine states, "We identified that children living nearer to airports with piston aircraft exhibited from 2.1 to 4.4 percent higher lead blood levels than children living at greater distances". Dr. Marion Hoyer, a scientist for over 30 years at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also confirms, "three new studies now report, that children who live near airports where piston-engine aircraft operate, have higher blood levels than children who live farther away."

According to Dr. Hoyer, a disturbing new study also found "higher mortality rates in adults living near single runway airports with more aircraft operating on leaded

fuel. There are serious negative health impacts of lead in adults, including cardiovascular effects". Ms. Kathleen Domingo, Director of the California Catholic Conference, reports a recent California study "showed children who lived less than a mile away from an airport with piston aircraft had higher lead levels in their blood." How do these studies apply to the Tri-Valley? Residents of Sommer-set, Sage, Montage and Isabel Specific Plan Neighborhoods all live within a 1.5 mile radius of LVK.

The evidence proving leaded av fuel leads to serious health issues is clear and indisputable. Why then is the Livermore City Council delaying the sale of unleaded av fuel at LVK? The City Council says it is waiting for the BAAQMD to issue a 30 day comment period, but Ms. Becky Yu at BAAQMD states that is not necessary. UL 94 is safe, certified and an empty tank exists at LVK. Concerned about the delay? Concerned about increasing the size of the airport? Concerned about increasing airport traffic and hangar sizes? Now is the time to stand up for the children of our community.

Livermore could and should lead the way in protecting our community against lead exposure from aviation fuel. Waiting is NOT the solution to an URGENT health and safety issue.

Please contact all city council members: mayormarchand@livermoreca.gov
rwearling@livermoreca.gov
bbarrios@livermoreca.gov
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A Park and Progress For All

Julie Wild, Livermore

One of the best ways to connect a community is through a large park, in which neighbors can meet and children can play and make friends.

A creative, and inspiring park, located in the center of our downtown on the old Lucky site would be an exceptional way to connect the community with the Eden Housing development, which could be located just across Railroad Avenue to the north.

Hopefully, the lawsuit that community members recently won will pave the way for mutual collaboration to envision a downtown plan that will enable us all to flourish. If we look at Seattle, for instance, its park, Artists at Play, is a focus of their downtown. It offers musical equipment for youth to experience while they play. Livermore could reimagine this concept and include both arts and science.

The power of a dynamic park that everyone can enjoy is something that I think we all can agree on.

Remembering Gus Nystrom

Abdul Awwal, Pleasanton

When I moved to Pleasanton in 2002, there were no Muslim places to pray in the area. I found a group of Muslims who were meeting to find a place to pray. Someone from this group informed me that a member of the local Catholic Church was interested in developing a connection with the Muslim community. That is how I got acquainted with Gus Nystrom. We met in a coffee shop near the Safeway on Santa Rita Road.

When we first established a Muslim community center on Quarry Lane, Gus and I regularly started to meet. He would bring high school kids to our center just so that they could talk to Muslims. After 3 years we found that we had no place to pray. Gus offered us a space in St. Augustine Church. Before this, Lynnwood United Methodist Church offered us their sacred place to pray on Fridays. We are grateful to both these Churches for sharing their sacred spaces.

When Gus passed away recently, I was very shocked. I remember Gus invited me to a talk by Karen Armstrong, a British former nun. In her talk she mentioned a book that was about to come out entitled, "Who Speaks for Islam: What a Billion Muslims Really Think." It was as if to counter then President Bush's statement, "They do not like our freedom." The statement implies that that is why 9/11 happened.

Karen Armstrong pointed out they took polls in both the West and the Muslim world about the hopes and concerns of the people. Notably, the top three priorities were identical in both groups. These priorities were (a) Family values, (b) Opposing the breakdown of the traditional family, (c) Dreams and hopes, which included (i) Better economic conditions, (ii) Better employment, and (iii) Better living standards. Then, on the question, "What can the West do to improve its relationship with the Muslim world," they responded (a) Demonstrate more respect (b) Do not underestimate the status of Arab/Muslim countries (c) Demonstrate more understanding of Islam as a religion and do not downgrade it. If a Muslim from a Muslim country was asked in private, what can the USA do to help, they responded (a) Help reduce unemployment, improve economic infrastructure (b) Stop interfering in internal affairs (c) Stop imposing your beliefs and policies.

This talk was one of the many ways Gus enriched my life. Thank you, Gus!

America Has No Real Intent to Solve Homelessness
Greg Scott, Livermore

"In all affairs it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted." (Bertrand Russell)

America has no real intent to solve homelessness -- domestically or internationally. Internationally, witness the horridness we've done to Gaza by President "Genocide

Joe" Biden's administration arming Israel to displace more than 1.7 million Gazans since last October 7th, with most of their homes destroyed to the point where these Gazans have no home to return to.

Domestically, we have around 651,000 homeless per the notorious undercount, the Continuum-of-Care Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. The U.S. Department of Education lists 1.35 million students as homeless.

We're on no path to fix homelessness. One reason is there is no great initiative to understand what cost-effective shelter is; another is we really do not want to get our "hands dirty" on a sufficient scale and make the sacrifices necessary to remedy homelessness. If you want to understand homelessness and are housed, simply give up your roof, private bathroom, and bed and go live outside or in your car for a while. How many on the City of Livermore's Human Services Commission have experienced homelessness?

We're playing "The Homeless Games" -- we throw gobs of money at the problem, whip up a homeless-industrial-complex, and generally create ludicrous machinations, like CARE Court and Proposition 1, which are not structural solutions. The structural solutions lie mainly in the definitions and implementations of adequate shelter and care at scale. Homelessness is more a systemic structural problem than a problem of individuals; however, that is not the way government and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) go about addressing the quagmire of homelessness.

If you want, or care, to know in part what I am saying, then read the book "Homelessness Is a Housing Problem," by Gregg Colburn and Clayton Page Aldern. I disagree with a lot in this book, including the title; however, what is to be noted is their logical, analytical methodology. The theme that homelessness is a structural problem is carried throughout the book and is well-founded by their premises, which are based on data and statistics.

You're not going to solve the homeless problem with a solutions pathway of a \$20-million Vineyard 2.0, a million-dollar grant to Goodness Village, or the State of California spending billions of dollars on homelessness and housing.

"You just don't get it." (William Somerset Maugham, "The Razor's Edge")

Why Religions Disparage One Another

Glenn White, Dublin

Richard Ernst's comment on Paul Stone's "Hope for Harrowing Times" (Paul's letter wasn't printed but viewable only online, I think) expressed sadness, because he doesn't understand why religions disparage each other. It's because religions teach that faith in their religion means disparaging the others' religion. Osama bin Laden,

Hamas, Islamofascism and Islamic Jihadists are examples of this. Also, the current war launched by Orthodox Russia against Catholic western Ukraine and especially Catholic Slavic Poland is an example of religious hatred by failing to heed their gods of forgiveness and love, one that is merciful and beneficial, and one whose name they can't speak for some reason known only to Jews. So, we can address this common Abrahamic god with a common prayer, not the Anglican one, but the so-called "Lord's Prayer":

"After this manner therefore pray ye: [Our Father which art in heaven*], Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive our trespasses. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. (Matthew 9:9-13)

*The first half of Matthew 9:9 ("Our Father which art in heaven") can be replaced with whatever your faith demands that you address your god by. For example, Abdul Awwal's prayer might begin with "There is no god but Allah! The Beneficent, The Merciful and Mohammed (Peace be Upon Him) is His Prophet" or whatever the right way for Muslims to pray. You're simply replacing the way you address your god. You also replace the closer "Amen" with whatever your faith uses to close off the prayer. You list the names of your gods, if you're polytheistic, like Hindus, or simply say "the gods" or whatever your faith requires.

"In whom the god of this world [Satan the Devil] hath blinded the minds of them [brainwashed those] which believe not, lest 'the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God', should shine unto them." (II Corinthians 4:4).

Jesus isn't God; He's the spittin' Image of His Father: YHWH. And that's why Lord's Prayer doesn't work for those who believe in the Satanic false Trinity, because it's a Satanic cult, not an Abrahamic faith.

It's how Satanic fascism works.

Grass Roots Efforts Needed to Stop Genocide in Gaza

Stephanie Ericson, Dublin

If our national leaders won't take the necessary steps to stop genocide in Gaza, as well as stepped-up Israeli violence, home demolitions and administrative detentions in the West Bank, then it is time for local communities to organize to put pressure on them from the grass roots.

As part of this effort, many towns, cities, churches and community organizations across the nation have taken the Apartheid-Free Pledge. This pledge addresses the need to support Palestinians, not only by calling for ending

the indiscriminate killing by bombs, starvation and disease, but also by opposing Israel's ethnically discriminatory policies which dehumanize Palestinians and have been used to justify the steady and relentless Israeli confiscation of Palestinian land and access to water, and the widespread use of administrative detention and torture under military occupation, among other things.

What is the Apartheid Free Pledge? Actively promoted by the American Friends Service Committee, a group that has worked for reconciliation, peace and justice in the region for decades, it states:

We affirm

Our commitment to freedom, justice, and equality for the Palestinian people and all people;

We oppose

All forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, and oppression; and

We declare

Ourselves an apartheid-free community and to that end,

We pledge

To join others in working to end all support to Israel's apartheid regime, settler colonialism and military occupation.

I invite anyone interested in promoting the Apartheid Free Pledge in the Tri-Valley to contact me. I can be reached at antiapart.tv@yahoo.com

Curb Your Dogma

Paul Stone, Dublin

Once upon a time I saw a tee shirt that said, "Curb your dogma." Clever. However, dogmatism can often be quite useful. You want the plane you're flying in to dogmatically obey the laws of lift and thrust, right? I hope so!

In my pre-Easter Letter to the Editor, "Hope for Harrowing Times" (3-28-24), I wrote of how the bodies of Abraham, Buddha, Confucius, Moses, Muhammad and Zoroaster yet lie in their graves. The only One to have bodily broken the power of death is Jesus Christ.

A writer responded this past week saying that I was disparaging other faiths ("Hope for Harrowing Times' Revisited" 4-4-24). But is not my statement regarding the above yet dead individuals true? Is my statement regarding the living Jesus Christ false? (We need to be careful how we answer that last one). Of course, we need to be respectful of other people and their faith. But the core issue is truth. Truth matters.

Jesus said of Himself, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me." (John 14:6) "If you believe not that I am He (the Messiah) you shall die in your sins." (John 8:24) "I am the door. By Me if anyone shall enter in he shall be saved..." (John 10:9)

Rather dogmatic statements, aren't they?

We are free to believe whatever we want (though not without consequence). With respect to where we spend eternity, it behooves

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

BOND

(Continued from front page)

tag of \$63,039,537, the west side project improvements could include a new TK/K play yard at Dublin Elementary for \$771,000, and renovation of existing play fields and track as well as an expanded TK play area at Frederiksen Elementary for \$1,500,000.

At Wells Middle School, proposed upgrades including a new science building, a new multipurpose room and renovation of all playing fields are estimated to cost \$25,992,214. The most improvements are shown for Dublin High School — an aquatics center, new athletic fields, the reconfiguration of several classrooms and additional fencing throughout campus for nearly \$35 million.

Should the West Side bond go before the public, the board must first choose one of three possible bond amounts: \$95 million, \$125 million or \$190 million. Taxation would be based on \$100,000 of assessed value per property owner and could range from \$30 to \$60 per year, depending on which

bond — if any — were approved.

East Side Facility Maintenance Projects

The total project costs for the proposed east side upgrades comes to \$133,739,370.

Improvements at Amador Elementary are estimated to total about \$5.5 million. They include a new learning center, reconfiguration of several classrooms to accommodate more programs, widening of walkways and adding new restrooms.

At Dougherty Elementary, projects involve the renovation of existing playing fields, a new track, the relocation of the school garden and the replacement of 15 portables with five new permanent classrooms. Estimated cost is about \$9 million.

Green Elementary School could spend as much as \$14 million on several new classrooms, play fields, a new track and restrooms. Kolb Elementary is earmarked for more than \$19 million for myriad projects including new classrooms, fields, locker rooms and more.

Cottonwood TK-8 projects could need as much as \$2.7 million for new music classrooms, shade structures and the reconfiguration of locker rooms and a bike storage facility.

The big money, though, would go to Fallon Middle School — \$43.6 million for new classrooms, electrical upgrades and an outdoor amphitheater.

Emerald High would receive \$39 million to build a new aquatic center and parking structure.

Should the East Side bond go before the public, the board must first choose one of three bond proposals — \$127.5 million, \$169 million or \$255 million. As with the west side, taxation would be based on \$100,000 of assessed value per property owner and could range from \$30 to \$60 per year, depending on whether a bond is approved, and if so which one.

The last time DUSD went out for a bond, in 2020, the \$290 million bond helped pay for the construction of Emerald High School.

According to some

speakers, a split bond measure might be a tough sell for a school community already at odds over a perceived east/west divide between the city's wealthy residents and their less-affluent counterparts.

"We can't afford to deepen the division in our community," said resident Catherin Brown during public comment. "We are a unified school district, and we need to take the unified approach. Every student, regardless of which side of the street they live on, deserves access to the same quality education ... a two-bond approach will perpetuate and possibly exacerbate the situation and will fragment our city along an arbitrary line."

Dublin resident Christine Murdaugh also spoke out against the two-bond approach.

"I appreciate the information here, but I urge you to think about how adjustments get made for campuses with decreasing enrollment down the road ... and what happens if one of the bonds passes, but the other doesn't?" Murdaugh asked.

According to the DUSD bond counsel, the overall cost of two bonds to taxpayers is roughly the same as what a districtwide bond would cost to address the same needs. However, the two-bond approach ensures that each area is only paying for the improvements benefiting its neighborhood schools. So, if one bond passes and the other does not, DUSD would only have funds to spend on school upgrades within the area where the bond was approved.

"By law, money generated in one bond district cannot be spent to benefit schools outside of that area, and once the boundaries are created and bonds are issued, the boundaries cannot be changed," counsel wrote in an email to The Independent.

Following several questions from trustees

regarding additions to the facility updates, Funk reminded the board that the bonds discussion was still in its preliminary stages.

"These are big picture concepts we are talking about, not details," he said. "We are just trying to move the conversation along so that if the board decides to move forward with this, we can meet the timeline advisors have given us to get the bonds on the ballot."

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CHIEF

(Continued from front page)

Regional Communications System Authority (EBRC-SA), which operates the public safety radio systems in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Swing, a 30-year veteran police officer, has served as top police official in Pleasanton since 2020.

Anderson began her law enforcement career in 1992, as a community service officer in Davis. She was sworn in as a police officer in 1993 and in 2002 was promoted to sergeant. While in Davis, Anderson held a variety of assignments, including

detective, SWAT team operator, hostage negotiations team leader, and community policing team



Pleasanton Interim Police Chief Gina Anderson

supervisor.

The Citrus Heights Police Department hired her as a lieutenant in 2006. She was promoted to the rank of police commander in 2013, and assistant chief in 2018, before being named chief in Newark in 2020.

As Newark's chief, Anderson was credited with creating two strategic plans for the department. The plans included implementing technology to better serve the city, including a community camera program, and computer analytics for improved crime analysis. Anderson also

established an employee wellness program that focused on officers' physical and mental health.

Anderson holds a bachelor's degree from the University of the Pacific and a Juris Doctor degree from McGeorge School of Law. She is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police Executives.

Newark recently promoted its own Capt. Jonathan Arguello to succeed Anderson.

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

us to be dogmatic. The resurrected Christ was crucified out of love for you, that your sins might be forgiven. Has any other religious leader or any other person, period, ever done that for you?

There is no other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12) That name would be Jesus.

State of the Union Letter To the Editor Rebuttal

Patricia Thorstad, Livermore

"Biggest threat? I sometimes think but I never worry."

I like this quote from George Arliss' Oscar-winning performance ("Disraeli," 1929, adapted screenplay by Julien Josephson, from the 1911 play "Disraeli," Louis N. Parker), the first British actor to win for Best Actor; the earliest born actor to ever win (1868).

So I am not worried about rebutting David Ott's letter, "State of the Union Address", which WAS NOT a disaster, as declared.

To critique it, I developed this colophon of the letter,

March 14, 2024:

Arial Black, 180 pt.: The economic/ border security issues and the wars throughout the world "have been caused" by Biden and his inept administration.

Arial Black, 120 pt.: Biden should support Israel in their effort to eliminate Hamas.

Arial Black, 72 pt.: Biden continues to waste more U.S. tax dollars "to Ukraine."

Arial Black, 48 pt.: Biden used fear mongering in his speech when he compared the current state in America to World War II and the Civil War, "when nothing is further from the truth."

Arial Bold, 18 pt.: "Bidenomics" has led to "Shrinkflation."

Arial Bold, 16 pt.: (2020) Biden promised to create unity for the American people, but ever since he made that promise "he has caused more division than any other President in history."

Arial Bold, 16 pt.: (2021) Biden inherited a good economy, low inflation, "a secure border and peace in the world"... AND...

"Biden funded Russia's in-

vasion of Ukraine" when he restricted the U.S. oil production and supply to the world, which allowed Russia to sell the most oil in their history. And then Russia has kept the war going, because Biden is too weak/inept to force an end to the war through sanctions/"negotiations."

Arial Regular, 14 pt.: "Don't be fooled by the lies; Biden and his regime are the biggest threat to our democracy."

Summary: These topics are debatable, to be sure. Biden, Tony Blinken, et al. are on the T.V. speaking about the works that they are performing in real time. We see reasonable men trying to defuse many fuses at one time.

Huh, why is the temperature up throughout the world? The fear and concern of the American Presidential Election of 2024... gonna be un-presidential because a convicted abuser of a woman (Trump) is going all out to ruin the times for us.

Anyone: here's advice from Mark Twain: "When angry, count to four; when very angry, swear."

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PLAN

(Continued from front page)

for implementing programs that provide financial assistance and support for small businesses, and for working toward developing 285 acres off Fallon Road.

Public safety issues include establishing a Business Watch program to address commercial theft, working with the county to upgrade fire stations, and improving security at city facilities. Support technology would also be modernized.

In addition, the city plans to work with Alameda County officials on Santa Rita Jail's release procedures to maintain safety in surrounding neighborhoods. The effort will follow a January meeting Hernandez held with 100 residents who had concerns about living close to the jail. As a result, the city and police deployed a security camera on the southwest corner of Horizon Parkway and Arnold Road, the entrance to The

Boulevard community, city spokesperson Shari Jackman said.

Dublin police have ordered three more cameras to be posted on Arnold Road, along with a license plate reading camera. The city also is looking at installing signs to notify pedestrians about the cameras in the area, and to provide directions on how to get to the BART station.

"These additional proactive steps are being done to enhance the safety in the communities bordering a common path used by individuals being released from Santa Rita Jail," Jackman said.

Housing issues include implementing the city's state-mandated Housing Element plan, which requires the city to issue permits to build more than 3,700 homes by 2031. The city would support efforts to make housing affordable at all income levels and establish first-time home

buyer loan programs. And plans call for more housing development for essential workers, younger buyers and seniors. The city also intends to address housing issues faced by people with special needs.

Long-term infrastructure plans include improving major roads, such as Village Parkway, Tassajara Road and the Dublin Boulevard extension, and making progress on implementing programs to combat climate change.

The council also em-

phasized increasing transparency in its work and projects, and improving the city's cybersecurity. The plan calls for improving the city's outreach to encourage more community feedback.

Approving the plan established a new mission statement for the city, which now reads: "The City of Dublin promotes and supports a high quality of life, ensures a safe, secure and sustainable environment, fosters new opportunities, and champions a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion."



Grocery Outlet opened their Dublin store on Amador Valley Boulevard last week. Above, brother-sister owners Sukhi Bhatti and Harjinder Bhatti along with Sukhi's daughter Ajna participate in the grand opening. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

FIRE

(Continued from front page)

the college to take advantage of the new facilities.

"Livermore-Pleasanton hires them, and they send them to us for their state training," said Freelen. "And then we'll return them back to them. ... Probably three weeks after they graduate, they'll actually be riding a (firetruck)."

In addition to the opportunity for students to work alongside working firefighters, the mix of trainees helps the fire department save costs and it "shows that they trust what we're doing," said Freelen.

While the academy previously trained at a smaller on-campus facility, it often relied on off-site visits to neighboring-agency facilities to train its students.

The new, larger fire yard now allows for more fire training "props" on campus. The props simulate realistic challenges that a firefighter might encounter with live, controlled fires. The challenges include the need to extricate someone from a car, breach a door, extinguish a propane fire and extinguish a car fire. The new yard also includes a fire behavior trainer, an enclosed room where firefighters can experience a structure fire from the inside, and the school's own fire training tower.

"Now other departments can come here — Livermore-Pleasanton, ALCO (Alameda County), even Tracy if they wanted to, and train their firefighters on that," said Freelen. "We're hoping that other departments will send their recruits to us and we'll continue to have them mixed together, because the college students are benefiting tremendously."

LPC's fire program also helps support California's growing need for wildland firefighters.

California's top four largest recorded wildfires — the August Complex, the Dixie Fire, the Mendocino Complex and the SCU Lightning Complex — all occurred in 2018 or after. Out of the state's 20 biggest fires in history, 18 burned within the past two decades.

As a result, CAL FIRE has looked to expand and keep ahead of the curve, said CAL FIRE Fire Captain Christophe Campmas. While the state firefighting agency numbered around 6,000 people 10 years ago, it has now more than doubled in size.

The LPC academy has included a CAL FIRE certified summer wildland class that consistently allowed five to nine students per class to be hired by CAL FIRE, said Freelen.

Campmas added that college programs that include CAL FIRE training are "a huge help for those that are wanting to work for CAL FIRE because, that way, they have their CAL FIRE Basic, but they also have their Firefighter 1, all those kinds of things."

"A lot more work gets done in a community when everyone's working together," continued Campmas. "I think that's probably one of the great things about having a fire program at your community colleges — it opens those doors (and) opens those opportunities to get people involved."

Located near the college's existing sports fields in the northeastern portion of campus, the new building also includes a new automotive tech facility, welding lab, and spaces for advanced manufacturing training.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on April 16 for the building.

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510-773-6356
pftv.org

Paws In Need
Info@Paws-In-Need.org
925-551-1877
Paws-In-Need.org

Pedrozzi Foundation
1141 Catalina Drive, #170
Livermore, CA 94550
925-456-3700
Pedrozzi.org

Pleasanton Art League
P.O. Box 23
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Pal-art.com

Pleasanton Community Concert Band
P.O. Box 135
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@pleasantonband.org
PleasantonBand.org

Pleasanton Military Families
3111 Half Dome Dr.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
PleasantonMilitaryFamilies.org

Quest Science Center
P.O. Box 2129
Livermore, CA 94551
925-292-8099
Quest-Science.org

Reins In Motion
Therapeutic Riding Program
P.O. Box 1001
Livermore, CA 94551
reinsinmotionca.com

Robot Garden Makerspace
700 Terminal Circle
Livermore, CA 94551
RobotGarden.org

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore
P.O. Box 2181
Livermore, CA 94551-2181
rotarianfoundationlivermore.org

School Of Imagination & Happy Talkers
9801 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568
925-829-9555
Schoolofimagination.org

Shakespeare's Associates, dba Livermore Shakespeare Festival
P.O. Box 2616
Livermore, CA 94551
925-443-2273
LivermoreShakes.org

Shepherds Gate
1660 Portola Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-443-4283
ShepherdsGate.org

Sleep In Heavenly Peace Alameda Co.
Daniel.curtis@shpbeds.org
510-827-7033
Shpbeds.org

SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc/Meals on Wheels
2621 Barrington Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545
510-881-0300
SpectrumCS.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
c/o St. Michael Church
458 Maple St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-758-0126

Sunflower Hill
info@sunflowerhill.org
925-800-1042
SunFlowerhill.org

The Blankenship Program - AEMTAC
1863 Altair Ave.
Livermore, CA.
925-895-7059
mtac-alamedaast.org/blankenship-project

The Taylor Family Foundation
P.O. Box 2450
Livermore CA, 94551
925-455-5118
TTF.org

Three Valleys Community Foundation
5960 Inglewood Drive, Suite 201
Pleasanton, CA 94588
info@3vcf.org
www.3vcf.org

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue
P.O. Box 11143
Pleasanton, CA 94588
TVAR.org

Tri-Valley Community Television Foundation
4663 Bernal Ave., Suite B
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-462-3030
TV30foundation.org

Tri-Valley Conservancy
1457 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-449-8706
TriValleyconservancy.org

Tri-Valley Haven
3663 Pacific Ave.
Livermore, CA 94551
925-449-5842
TriValleyHaven.org

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance
P.O. Box 2467
Livermore, CA 94550
TVNPA.org

Tri Valley Reach
P.O. Box 5564
Pleasanton, CA 94566
TriVallyReach.Org

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre
P.O. Box 1445
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@trivalleyrep.com
Trivalleyrep.org

Tri-Valley Seek and Save
P.O. Box 701
Livermore, CA 94551-0701
(925) 895-1041
TriValleySeekandSave.org

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare
1111 E. Stanley Blvd.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-4560
GiveValleyCare.org

Valley Concert Chorale
P.O. Box 286
Livermore, CA 94551
Valleyconcertchorale.org

Valley Dance Theatre
2247-B Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-243-0925
Valleydancetheatre.com

Valley Humane Society
3670 Nevada St.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-426-8656
ValleyHumane.org

Wiesner Memorial Senior Fund
4444 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550
925-989-1765
info@wiesnerfund.org
wiesnerfund.org



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Las Positas College President Outlines Successes

By Ruth Roberts

Dr. Dyrell Foster, president of Las Positas College (LPC) in Livermore, spoke at the Rotary Club of Livermore last week where he highlighted the accomplishments and goals of the fourth best community college in the country.

"I am very proud to be the president of Las Positas College," said Foster. "I love the community and the quality of life here."

Foster moved to Livermore with his wife and two young children four years ago to take the helm at LPC. Since that time, the community college has been named

the best in California in 2023.

"There are 116 community colleges in California, so it is very validating to our faculty and to our students and to our community," said Foster of the prestigious ranking. "What that means is that we are a great resource right in our own backyard."

Calling the Tri-Valley a "highly educated" community, Foster said that over 55% of residents living in the Tri-Valley hold a bachelor's degree or higher. Of the 80% of students who graduate from area high schools, approximately 30% decide to attend LPC.

"So, we're a young cam-

pus here, with an average age of 24 years old," he said, adding that the student population is a very diverse one.

Since coming to LPC, Foster has guided the campus through a pandemic and come out on the other side with innovative projects, such as the Free Tuition Promise program where first-time, full-time students taking 12 units or more can receive free tuition.

Another initiative, the LPC President's Scholar Program, identifies 20 incoming high school graduates each semester, and through a series of rigorous screenings, offers a full two-year ride to recipients,

including books.

Another benefit, the campus food market, is a popular on-site resource that allows all enrolled students access to free food and hygiene products.

"This has been a huge effort," said Foster, who added that the food program is delivered in partnership with the Alameda County Food Bank. "Students can just come in and grab what they need every single day."

In addition to those programs, said Foster, Measure A funding has allowed the college to build several new facilities in recent years. They include a new horticulture facility, an academic

support building with new computer rooms, and a Public Safety Advanced Manufacturing and Transportation building which will be christened with a ribbon cutting ceremony next week.

"We are (also) in the process of building our viticulture and winery technology facility and working to create our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) facility," said Foster. "Enrollment has grown since COVID, so we are working on expanding."

Foster added that the college "has been highly engaged" in bringing student housing to LPC for all

students, including veterans, international students and the unhoused. While LPC has the acreage for building dormitories, the college is still working to secure the funding.

"We applied for a grant last year from the state, but the state doesn't have the money to fund any new programs ... That has created an opportunity for us to explore options on our own," he said. "Can we pull together and create some opportunities in the community? We have a number of great community supporters and talks are ongoing ... I am very excited about the future and the possibilities here."



Pleasanton RADD (Recreational Activities for the Developmentally Disabled) won six gold medals, two silver medals and a bronze in the annual Special Olympics Northern California East Bay Regional Basketball Tournament. (Photo - Kay King)

Pleasanton Hosts Special Olympics Regional Basketball Tournament

Pleasanton hosted Special Olympics Northern California's annual East Bay Regional Basketball Tournament last month with teams from Alameda, Solano, and Contra Costa counties. Pleasanton RADD (Recreational Activities for the Developmentally Disabled) teams captured six gold medals, two silver medals, and one bronze medal in the tournament's

six divisions. Games were played at Amador Valley High School, Harvest Park Middle School, and Hart Middle School. More than 300 volunteers officiated the games and skills competitions, helped keep the players fed, and served as team escorts.

In conjunction with Special Olympics, the city will also host the annual Pleasanton Spring Games

on Saturday, May 18. In addition to the usual track and field events, this year's Spring Games will include swimming and tennis competitions, with Special Olympians invited from as far away as Humboldt and Mendocino counties. The Amador Valley Athletic Boosters have been helping sponsor Special Olympic events for the past 20 years.

EDITOR

(Continued from front page)

few years ago, the community lost a local editor who had been living in the Tri-Valley and working for The Independent for 55 years. We appreciate that several editors outside our area stepped up to help after Janet left us. Now, we again welcome a Tri-Valley journalist. He brings a broad range of talents to the paper.

"David is known for his investigative stories, which dig deeply into the facts underlying complex community issues. He brings journalistic integrity, which results in all sides being covered fairly. While a persistent follow-

er of the truth, he is also sensitive to the feelings of others, and respectful of differing points of view.

"Importantly, David resonates with the values and vision of local residents. He has shown a deep appreciation of our arts and science culture, a concern for the disadvantaged and support of parks and natural open space," Seppala concluded.

Founded in 1963, The Independent has a history of spotlighting community issues and shaping the area into what it is today, said Jen.

"The locally owned Independent carries a lot of

weight on its shoulders," he continued. "Its 60-year history is inextricably woven into the Tri-Valley, and there's history to be made yet. As a reporter, I've learned so much from everyone who's given their time to speak with me about a story. I'm honored to now serve as The Independent's editor, and to continue fostering community discussions on area development related to open space, science, arts and culture, along with solutions for the homeless."

Jen invites the community to reach out to him by emailing editor@independentnews.com.

WATER

(Continued from front page)

by 154,000 acre-feet at San Luis Reservoir since January 1. Statewide, reservoir levels currently stand at 116% of average.

"It's great news that the snowpack was able to catch up in March from a dry start this year," DWR Director Karla Nemeth said in a statement.

Pryor said that based on the latest information from DWR, the possibility exists for an increased water allocation to Zone 7.

"If this were to occur, we could place more water into storage for next year," Pryor said. "So even if next year is a dry year, we should be in good shape."

Pryor cautioned, however, that despite the good news, residents should continue to use water efficiently.

"The less water we use now, the more we store to use in dry years," she said.

Michael Anderson, the state's climatologist for

DWR, agreed. Despite a strong series of storms in 2023 and this year, no one should let his or her guard down, especially with three record-setting multi-year droughts and warmer temperatures in the past 15 years.

"The wild swings from dry to wet that make up today's water years make it important to maintain conservation, while managing the runoff we do receive," Anderson said. "Our water years moving forward will see more extreme dry times interrupted by very wet periods, like we saw this winter."

This year's thick snowpack follows an even larger snow measurement in 2023, when the April depth was 237% of average.

"These extremes are becoming the new reality, and that new reality requires a new approach and a new sophistication in terms of the way we address and manage our

water," California Gov. Gavin Newsom said Monday during a news conference to announce the April measurement.

Newsom used the snowpack measurement as a backdrop to release the state's updated water plan, a 336-page document that focuses on addressing climate change with urgency, strengthening watershed resilience, and achieving equity in how water is distributed.

"In the past few years alone, we've gone from extreme drought to some of the most intense rain and snow seasons on record, showcasing the need for us to constantly adapt to how we manage our water supplies," Newsom said. "The water plans and strategies we're implementing are each targeted components of our overall effort to deliver clean water to Californians by capturing, storing, and conserving more water throughout the state."

Historical Reenactor to Bring Clara Barton to Firehouse Arts Center

Storyteller Karen Vuranch will portray Clara Barton, Civil War nurse and founder of the American Red Cross, in two Ed Kinney Series presentations at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Tuesday, April 16.

Born in 1821, Barton was working as a recording clerk at the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C., when the Civil War began.

After quitting her job, she volunteered to deliver supplies to Union forces in the field. Although she had no medical training, she also volunteered to tend to the wounded soldiers, becoming known as the "angel of the battlefield."

Following the war, Barton helped locate missing soldiers and identify thousands of unmarked graves. She also helped to prepare former slaves for living in freedom.

After traveling in Europe and learning about the International Red Cross, she returned to the U.S. and began campaigning for an American chapter of the Red Cross.

The American Association of the Red Cross was created in 1881, and Barton was elected president the following year. She would lead the American Red Cross for the next 22 years.

Vuranch will portray Barton in character, with her presentation set in 1881, and will cover her life as a teacher, patent office employee, battlefield nurse, lecturer, and founder of the American Red Cross.

Vuranch is director of the theater program at Concord University in West Virginia and co-owner with her husband, Gene, of WV Enterprises, which

offers historical character plays and portrayals, and murder mystery stage shows.

The Ed Kinney Speaker Series, presented by the Museum on Main and sponsored by the City of Pleasanton, is a monthly program of historical character portrayals and speakers.

Tickets to either the 2 p.m. "An Afternoon with ..." performance or the 7 p.m. "An Evening with ..." Clara Barton portrayals are \$25, with discounts for Museum on Main members, senior citizens, and students.

Tickets are available at the museum, 603 Main St., Pleasanton, online at museumonmain.org, or by calling 925-462-2766.

The museum also offers a "virtual viewing" online option one week after each in-person presentation.

Culinary Angels Virtual Fun Run Now Underway

The Culinary Angels 20-mile fun run is already underway, but there is still time to join the virtual, online event for a good cause.

Culinary Angels is a non-profit organization that provides nutrient-rich meals to Tri-Valley residents battling cancer.

Participants in the fun run can sign up online, run or walk whenever and wherever they want, then log their progress online through Saturday, April 13.

A runner's position in the fun run is automatically updated on an online leaderboard and map of the route from Livermore to Danville after every post.

The cost is \$22, with \$15 of the registration fee, and any additional donations, going to Culinary Angels.

To join the fun run, go to tinyurl.com/yc52hda2.

Livermore-based Culinary Angels, with a kitch-

en in Pleasanton, delivers meals at no cost to people diagnosed with cancer and their caregivers in Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and Danville.

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RetzlaffVineyards.com

HIKE for HOPE
Saturday, May 4
Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Self-paced hike • Barbecue lunch • Lawn games
Raffle prizes • Silent auction • Fundraising

Your participation helps **Hope Hospice** care for more than 2,000 East Bay neighbors each year and helps keep grief support, dementia education, and caregiver resources available at no charge.

TheHikeForHope.com

99 Cents Only Stores' Closure Another Hit to the Livermore Retail Landscape

By David Scholz

Those who most need it will feel the greatest pinch from the pending closure of the 99 Cents Only Stores on Railroad Avenue, explained Sherri Souza, president and CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Souza shared those thoughts one day after word came from the chain's corporate office to its store operators that the retail discounter, based in the City of Commerce, would be shuttering all of its 371 locations by June 3.

This closure announcement comes three months after the drug store chain Rite Aid announced it was closing the second of its two Livermore stores as part of

its bankruptcy filing.

The 99 Cents Only Stores' decision came because the chain could no longer withstand the financial pressures that mounted post-pandemic. They included inflation and shrinkage, which refers to inventory losses resulting from shoplifting, employee error and product damage.

Company officials said they huddled with financial and legal advisers in hopes of finding a way forward to sustain operations, but were unsuccessful.

"Following months of actively pursuing these alternatives, the company ultimately determined that an orderly wind-down was necessary and the best way to maximize

the value of 99 Cents Only Stores' assets," according to a company statement.

Souza particularly voiced sadness for seniors who look to the 99 Cents stores for their shopping choices.

"There's a portion (of the community) that depends on those stores," she said. When one considers the groceries and fresh produce that are on offer, "It makes things affordable for people."

"It is going to reduce the resources for people at that income level who depend on them to make their dollars stretch," Souza added.

The employees of 99 Cents Only Stores reportedly will not receive any compensation from the company after the stores close.



Dublin nonprofit Girls4Sports conducted a week-long sports camp last week at Dublin's Sean Diamond Park. The student-founded organization promotes gender equality in sports. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

'Bringing Back the Natives' Garden Tour to Include Livermore

Five gardens in Livermore will be on this year's Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5.

The showcase gardens belong to Laura Cornet and Brad Buehler, Maria and David Dawson, Carol and Jeff Garberson, Carol and Don Hardesty, and Jennifer Hurley and Dan Gaff.

The 20th annual tour of native plant gardens will get underway with online tours and talks on Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7, with in-person tours May 4 and 5. The tours will also showcase green-home features, according to tour organizers.

More than 50 gardens and green-homes in Alameda and Contra Costa counties are participating in this year's virtual

and in-person tours, which are free and open to the public.

Conservationist and author Douglas Tallamy, a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, will give the keynote speech on April 6, followed by two days of online tours featuring native plant gardens that attract birds, bees, and butterflies, and talks by gardening experts.

Green-home features will include such technology as solar panels and backup batteries, heat pumps for heating water and both heating and cooling the house, and induction ranges.

The in-person tours will be May 4 and 5 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

To register for the event, or for more information, go to bringingbackthenatives.net.

Pleasanton Rotary Awards First 'Say Yes to Music' Grants

Three young Pleasanton musicians – Minna Fu, Yufei Shen, and Niko Macario – have received the first "Say Yes to Music" grants established by the Rotary Club of Pleasanton to honor Don Lewis, the club's song master, who died in 2022.

During his career, Lewis, a vocalist and electronics engineer, also worked with such celebrities as Quincy Jones, Sergio Mendez, and Michael Jackson, and started two programs for students in the Tri-Valley area, a mentorship program and "Say Yes to Music" school assemblies. Macario, an Amador Valley High School senior, received a \$1,000 grant as a guitarist and music composer; Shen, a Pleasanton High School (PHS) student who plays the viola, and Fu, already a concert pianist at 16, each received \$500 grants.

The Rotary Club presented its grants in conjunction with the annual Youth Excellence in the Arts (YEA!) awards program, sponsored

by the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) to recognize PHS students for achievements in music and the literary and visual arts.

PCAC also recognized Shen, awarding her first place in the music category. Rachel Zhou was first in literary arts, and Elliot Lim was first in the visual arts category. They each received \$500 from the PCAC.

Second place went to Claire Lee (music), Zhou (visual arts), and Alyssa Wu (literary arts). Second-place finishers each received \$300.

Third place went to Leyuan Zhang (music), Eleanor Chen (visual arts), and Jessica Jiang (literary arts). Third-place finishers received \$100.

Honorable mentions went to Katherine Yoo and Meghan Thumri in music; Doyun Lee, Jenny Fu, and Abrianna Zhang in visual arts; and Elizabeth Hong and Eunoo Cho in literary arts.

The awards program was held at Valley Community Church in Pleasanton.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FREE SMOKE ALARMS AND INSTALLATION

In the event of a structure fire, a smoke alarm can make the difference between life and death. The American Red Cross offers free smoke alarms and installation to all residences. The Red Cross can also provide educational resources to prevent and prepare for a home fire. To learn more, visit SoundTheAlarm.org/NCCR or call 510-595-4573.

CALL TO ARTISTS – OPEN STUDIO TOUR

Exhibit your work at the 3rd Annual Tri-Valley Artist Studio Tour on May 4 and 5. The tour is within five different cities – Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Danville and San Ramon. If you are outside of these cities or your studio isn't appropriate for a tour, there are several group sites available (which fill up quickly). Learn more and sign up at TVASTart.com.

Monday, April 15 LIVERMORE JAZZ SOCIETY JAM SESSION

LJS is hosting a jam session on April 15 from 6-9 p.m. There will be a house piano, bass amp, and drum kit, as well as mics and sound gear. Attendance is open to all. If interested in attending, please send us an email at: info@livermorejazzsociety.org, and we will reply with the address.

Tuesday, April 16 PUBLIC HEARING ON FEE ADJUSTMENTS

The Dublin San Ramon Services District Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on April 16 to consider amendment of miscellaneous fees, industrial waste charges, and laboratory analysis fees. For additional information about this matter or to submit written comments, contact Senior Engineer Jaclyn Yee at 925-875-2258 or yee@dsrdsd.com. Comments received by 3 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be provided to the Board before the meeting.

Wednesday, April 17 SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOPS WEBINAR

Join the East Bay Small Business Development Center for this free educational small business workshop. The goal of the class is to increase attendees' knowledge of QuickBooks and improve company productivity. The class will also focus on issues such as using QuickBooks to receive and make payments, integrating the program with bank accounts and tracking sales information. April 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info and to register, go to nc.eccenterdirect.com/events/51776.

Wednesday, April 17 AI'S NEW ROLE IN PATENTS, INVESTMENT & CLINICAL TRIALS

Learn the latest about AI's new role in developing patents, attracting investment, and conducting clinical trials. On April 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Serendipity Labs Private Offices & Coworking, 6200 Village Pkwy. in Dublin. See www.eventbrite.com/e/ais-new-role-in-patents-investment-clinical-trials-tickets-865923800397 for more info and to register.

Wednesday, April 17 THE CHRIS BRADLEY BAND AT OLD MEXICO RESTAURANT

Old Mexico regularly hosts traditional jazz music at their bar and restaurant located at 1848 Portola Ave. in Livermore. The Chris Bradley Band will play from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17. There's a dance floor, patio and plenty of parking.

Saturday, April 20 QUILTS OF VALOR FABRIC SALE FUNDRAISER

Non-patriotic cotton fabrics will be sold at \$3 per yard donation to benefit our AVQ QOV group. Also available will be cotton fabric scrap bags great for applique, baby quilt kits and darling panels. There will be a Big Shot Fabric Cutter with dies, overhead light fixture, notions and thread, beautiful books and other craft items. AVQ QOV is affiliated with Amador Valley Quilters Guild and VFW Post 7265. April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 5822 So. L St. at 5th St. In Livermore. Enter at the 5th St. Ramp.

Saturday, April 20 PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK EVENT

Dublin Police will be participating in this year's national prescription drug "Take-Back Initiative," on April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the parking lot at the Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza). Only prescription pills, tablets, capsules, and other solid forms of prescription drugs will be accepted, no questions asked. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted. Residents may also recycle e-waste at the event.

Saturday, April 20 BAUBLES & BEADING JEWELRY WORKSHOP

Learn how to make great earrings, necklaces and bracelets for yourself or gifts at 'Baubles & Beading,' an instructive jewelry workshop on April 20 from 1 to 5 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. A wide variety of beads and jewelry findings (such as ear wires and necklace clasps) will be provided for a \$25 donation to the church. To reserve your place, email sbcbaubles@icloud.com.

Saturday, April 20 GUITAR DUO "THE QUITTERS" IN TRINITY CONCERT SERIES

The Trinity Concert Series in Pleasanton is thrilled to welcome virtuoso guitar duo The Quitters to the stage on April 20 at 7 p.m. The Quitters feature Stevie Coyle and Glenn "Houston" Pomianek, two phenomenal musicians with a wealth of experience and accolades. Together, The Quitters create a captivating blend of musical styles, featuring both acoustic and electric guitar work with dazzling virtuosity. The concert will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, located at 1225 Hopyard Rd. in Pleasanton. Suggested donations are \$20 for adults, and free for students and children. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more information, contact 925-846-6363 or visit <https://trinitypleasanton.org>.

Saturday and Sunday, April 20-21 SPRING ART SHOW

The Livermore Art Association, now in its 67th year, announces the Spring Art Show to be held April 20-21 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore. This is LAA biggest show of the year. Includes live saxophone music by Eric Prosch both days, and a reception followed by the awards ceremony on Sunday between 2-4 p.m. The Spring Art Show supports Veteran artists. The show is supported in part by a grant from the City of Livermore Commission for the Arts.

April 20-27 DUBLIN PRIDE WEEK

Dublin Pride Week, the City of Dublin's annual week-long series of events promoting volunteerism and environmental awareness, will be held Saturday, April 20, through Saturday, April 27, 2024. The theme of this year's Dublin Pride Week is, "Green City, Bright Future." Along with beautification projects around the city, several other planned events and activities will take place to promote environmental stewardship. Residents and groups interested in volunteering can visit www.dublinprideweek.com or call 925-556-4500. Volunteers who help on Volunteer Day will receive a complimentary day pass to The Wave Waterpark, valid for the 2024 season.

Sunday, April 21 SPRUCE RITUAL WITH LUCIAN KANO BALMER

Experience Spruce Ritual, a musical exploration of two great traditions: eastern Hindustani music and western classical music. Through sublime melodies, intricate compositions, and occasional improvisation, they take the listener on a heartfelt musical journey. Hosted by Livermore Jazz Society, April 21, 2-4 p.m. Details at <https://livermorejazzsociety.org>. To request a seat, email info@livermorejazzsociety.org, or use the web form at www.livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats. If seats are available, you will receive an email with information. Livestream available. \$20 suggested donation per person.

Sunday, April 21 PLEASANTON K-12 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Emerald Hills Chess and the Valley View Elementary PTA invite you to the First Annual Pleasanton Scholastic Chess Open on April 21 at Valley View Elementary in Pleasanton. The tournament is open to all local K-12 players from unrated novices, after-school chess club members, online players trying their first in-person tournament, and of course experienced US Chess Federation-rated competitors. Economical to enter, with trophies for top finishers by section, grade and rating. Register at www.EmeraldHillsChess.com/Tournaments. Contact Admin@EmeraldHillsChess.com for more info.

ONGOING EVENTS FARMERS MARKETS

Saturday Pleasanton Farmers Market

Open Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Main Street and West Angela Street. Seniors 60 and over are welcome for specialized shopping from 9 to 10 a.m.

Sunday Livermore Downtown Farmers Market

Open year-round on Sundays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in downtown Livermore, on Second St. between J St. and L St.

Thursday Night Livermore Farmers Market

Now through to Oct. 10 at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St., downtown Livermore, from 4 to 8 p.m. See www.livermorefarmersmarket.org.

Thursday Evening Dublin Farmer's Market

The City of Dublin partners with Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association to operate the weekly market on Thursdays, 4-8 p.m., through September 26. Opening night on April 4 will kick-off with Multi-Cultural Night, featuring performances from Riar Academy of Performing Arts, WeDance, Pallen's Martial Arts, and Hana Makana Lani. Themed nights will continue the first Thursday of each month. Arts and crafts for kids will be available at the City of Dublin booth.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

The Unitarian Universalist Church is welcoming to all. Join in on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for music, singing, and conversation. The church is located at 1893 North Vasco Road, in Livermore. For more information, visit uucil.org.

GRIEF WORKSHOPS

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Although there is no right or wrong path, these are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey, and we will explore them in this eight-week series workshop. This will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 9 and 16 at 7 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited. A one-time \$20 donation is requested. For more information and to register you can call Barbara at 925-846-3904, or see catholicsofpleasanton.org and scroll down to Grief Ministry and tap on the box. This workshop is open to all, regardless of religious affiliations.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING

The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from Sept. to May, with a short business meeting and a program. The DAR was founded in 1890 and is headquartered in Washington, DC. DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. Its members are descended from the Patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. For more information, visit jhl.californiadar.org or email jane.everett@sbcglobal.net.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. There, discover a church that believes that all people are children of God and are of sacred worth. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and nursery care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time with bagels, beverages, and great conversation. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit asburylive.org.

WINGS-WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

WINGS-Women in God's Spirit is a faith enhancement group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet Oct. through May on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. The organization now includes the Catholic women of both Livermore and Pleasanton at St. Charles Borromeo, St. Michael, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Augustine. Attendees can enjoy a variety of engaging speaker presentations and topics, small group sharing, fellowship and more. All are welcome. For more information, visit st-charleslivermore.org/wings.

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Rotary Club Creates Scholarship To Honor Educator Kevin Drake

The Rotary Club of Livermore Valley has donated \$10,000 to the Pedrozzi Foundation to create a scholarship in honor of former Livermore teacher, coach, and principal Kevin Drake, who died of lung cancer earlier this year at age 78.

Drake was also a founding member and former president of the Rotary Club, which is urging community members to add to the newly established scholarship fund by contributing directly to the Pedrozzi Foundation.

"Our hope is to fully endow this scholarship by raising \$100,000, so that students will benefit from this gift in perpetuity," said Dave Bedford, a founding member of the Rotary Club.

The Pedrozzi Foundation provides college and vocational scholarships to Livermore students and administers scholarships for other organizations.

Carolyn Siegfried, Pedrozzi executive director, noted that Drake was also a founding board member of the scholarship organization, "working with other community leaders to shape the foundation into an organization that has awarded over 1,600 scholarships to Livermore students since 2008."

"We are proud to now be able to award

scholarships in honor of Kevin's contributions to so many local students," Siegfried added.

A graduate of the University of the Pacific, Drake taught history and government at Livermore High School (LHS) and coached football and baseball for 10 years. In 1978, he transferred to Granada High School (GHS), where he continued his teaching and coaching career and was later named athletic director.



Kevin Drake

He returned to LHS as vice principal in 1986. After earning a master's degree in administrative leadership from St. Mary's College of California, he was appointed principal at GHS in 1994. Drake retired in 2004.

In announcing the scholarship fund, the Rotary Club said "Drake inspired students to love history and to challenge themselves as student athletes. He taught teenagers to be good citizens, and he showed them what it meant to be a coach and a mentor. He modeled dedication, patience, and leadership, supporting students, families, and staff. Long after they graduated, students referred to Coach Drake as the man who cared about them and inspired them."

To support the scholarship, go to pedrozzifoundation.org.

Las Positas to Host Expo at Public Safety, Manufacturing and Automotive Buildings

Las Positas College (LPC) will host a Public Safety, Advanced Manufacturing, and Auto Tech Expo from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17.

The expo will be held in the community college's new Public Safety Complex (PSC) and Advanced Manufacturing and Transportation Building (AMT) on the Livermore campus and will highlight LPC's Fire Technology, Administration of Justice, Advanced Manufacturing, Welding, Auto Technology, and Emergency Medical Services programs.

Those attending the free

expo and open house will also have an opportunity to tour the new facilities, co-located in Building 3400 and Building 3500 to allow for shared programs, classrooms, and training spaces.

The PSC includes a three-story fire training tower, emergency medical services simulation lab, and situation rooms.

The AMT houses a modern automotive tech facility, welding and advanced manufacturing labs, classrooms, and workspaces.

"We are thrilled to open our doors to the community and

showcase the incredible career technical education (CTE) opportunities available at Las Positas College," said President Dyrell Foster. "This new complex and event exemplify LPC's dedication to providing innovative educational opportunities that meet the evolving needs of our community."

The tours will include several demonstrations and conversations with LPC faculty and students about the various CTE programs.

To register for the expo, go to the events calendar at laspositascollege.edu or tinyurl.com/36ka3zx8.

Tri-Valley Haven to Hold Gala Fundraiser

Tri-Valley Haven, a nonprofit that offers shelter and counseling services for victims of sexual and domestic abuse, will hold its annual fundraising gala at the Robert Livermore Community Center from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on

Saturday, April 13.

The gala will include dinner, entertainment, wine provided by the Page Mill Winery, and both live and silent auctions.

Tickets for the "Building Together" gala are \$100 and are available online at

trivalleyhaven.org.

The Livermore-based nonprofit said proceeds from the gala would go toward renovating its domestic-violence "safety center" for children and adults, including an expansion from 30 to 45 beds.

OBITUARIES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Thomas (Tom) Wayne Pearson
Aug. 26, 1938 - March 14, 2024

Thomas Wayne Pearson, known affectionately as Tom, passed away peacefully on March 14, 2024, in Concord, California, at the age of 85. He was born on August 26, 1938, in Hoopston, Illinois to his parents Thomas Carrol Pearson and Inez Barker. He served in the United States Navy and married his beloved Yolanda Theresa Matamoros in 1960, marking the beginning of a 64-year marriage. Tom held various jobs and started entrepreneurial ventures in his lifetime.



prioritized family, supporting their education and well-being. A life-long athlete and fan of sports, Tom passionately supported the San Francisco 49ers, his children and grandchildren's sport endeavors and many outdoor activities.

Tom's true happiness stemmed from gatherings with loved ones, showcasing his culinary skills and storytelling prowess. He also had a passion for gardening. His memory will forever remain a beacon of strength, love, and laughter, reminding us to embrace life's moments. The Pearson family extends gratitude to all who supported them during this time.

A chapel memorial and cemetery committal service are scheduled for Friday, April 19 from 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery at 2200 E 18th St., Antioch, California.

A reception immediately following services will be held at the Pittsburg Yacht Club located at 3 Marina Blvd., Pittsburg, CA 94565 at approximately 1 p.m.

He is survived by his devoted wife Yolanda, children Dan Pearson and wife Michele, Tom Pearson Jr. and wife Carrie, and Karen Pearson Steele, and grandchildren Bella Pearson, Alex Dailey, Sophia Pearson Kossak, Cristian Pearson and Lucas Dailey. Tom is also survived by his sister Judy Wilcox and cousins in his hometown of Hoopston, IL. Tom's legacy of love and laughter touched many lives, evident through his volunteering efforts and larger-than-life personality. He

Martha Barrientos
April 26, 1923 - April 2, 2024

Martha Barrientos was born in San Salvador, El Salvador. She traveled to San Francisco, CA and landed a job as a welder in Sausalito, worked for Pan Am as a clerk and translator, then got a

job at the US Post Office and became a clerk. She leaves behind two daughters, Rosa and Zoila, and a son Ben. Her funeral in Millbrae will be at Chapel of the Highlands at 9 a.m. on April 15.

Joseph E. Godwin
Jan. 9, 1935 - March 27, 2024

Joseph Godwin, 89, was born in Depew, New York, the third son to Partrick Francis Godwin and Mary Berenice Sweeney.

Joseph graduated with honors from Elmira Catholic High School, in Elmira, New York in 1953. In his yearbook, it says that he was known for his individuality and outspokenness, for being a human encyclopedia—a genius—with a great capacity for work and for being a cheerful helper. This was true throughout his life.

Joe served in the U. S. Army from July 1954 through July 1957 and became a U.S. Army Microwave Radio Specialist.

Joe believed in constant learning and attended many colleges throughout his life including Compton College (1959), El Camino College (1960), University of Southern California (1963), Physics of Failure Seminars (1963–1982) and Ohlone College Supervisory Management (1991-1992).

Joe moved to Northern California in the mid-60's and experienced the building of Silicon Valley. His career experience included being a Senior Quality Assurance & Reliability Engineer for Watkins-Johnson Company in Palo Alto (1966-1978), a Senior Reliability Engineer for Tandem Computers in Cupertino (1978-1986), a Staff Reliability Engineer for



Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. in Sunnyvale (1986-1993), a Quality Engineer for Telcom Systems (1994-1996), and a Senior Component Engineer for Digital Microwave Corporation in San Jose (1996-1998). After many years in Southern California and several years in the Santa Clara area, Joe settled in Fremont in 1988 where he stayed.

Joe never married or had children; however, he loved his extended family of brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, cousins and great-nieces and great-nephews. He was a very generous person who liked to travel back to visit family on the East Coast and attend high school reunions. He enjoyed hosting his family members when they would visit the Bay Area. Joe loved cooking and enjoyed creating different flavorful dishes. Joe was the connection between the various family groups and was a conduit of information that kept

the various parts of the family connected. Joe adored animals and had many cats throughout the years, often adopting strays. Joe was also an active member of his condominium Homeowners Association for many years and enjoyed helping manage the day-to-day needs of his community.

Joe is survived by his sister, Loretta Godwin Weryly of Easton, PA, his brother, Dennis Godwin of Elmira, NY and his sisters-in-law, Kathryn Godwin of Costa Mesa, CA, Sharon Godwin of Elmira, NY and Chris Godwin of San Francisco, CA.

Joe was a longtime member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Fremont and was a regular presence at the Sunday morning masses. Joe also was a longtime supporter of many groups including Notre Dame High School, St. Vincent DePaul and KQED Public Television.

There will be a Mass at Holy Spirit in Fremont on April 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. and his interment will be at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, California at a later date. Services are being coordinated by Chapel of the Roses in Fremont, California.

Donations can be made on Joe's behalf to Tri-Valley Animal Shelter, Fremont. www.tricityanimalshelter.org

Joe was loved and will be missed.

Donald Earl Gregson
Oct. 19, 1927 - April 4, 2024



On April 4, 2024, Donald Earl Gregson passed away peacefully at age 96, surrounded by his family. Don was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and in January had become a great-great-grandfather. He is survived by his wife of nearly 75 years, Jacqueline (Jackie), two daughters, Susan and Cheryl, and two sons, David and Robert. He had 11 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. Don was a resident of Livermore since 1957.

Don, also known by his nickname Greg to close family and friends, was born Oct. 19, 1927 in Kossuth County, Iowa, to Leo and Eva Gregson. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering at Iowa State University and his career as an engineer at Sandia Laboratories spanned 32 years until his early retirement at age 56. When interviewed by Money Magazine for a special retirement issue about the time needed for his adjustment to early retirement, Don quipped that it took him "about a nanosecond". He also served in the US Coast Guard from 1945-1947.

Don was an avid golfer for much of his life, and he and Jackie enjoyed many years of playing the links together at Las Positas in Livermore as well as numerous courses

a standout basketball player in Grinnell, Iowa, where he grew up, and loved playing baseball. Upon his return to Iowa after his military service, it was on the local ballfield that Jackie spotted Don looking so handsome in his red uniform. Clearly, he became smitten as well, and thus began their love story and life together that lasted close to eight decades.

Don had a sharp, mathematical mind, quick wit, and an enduring curiosity about the world. He had many good friends, some of whom he knew from grade school and remained close with until their own passings. He was gentle and compassionate, and loved introducing his grandchildren to the joys of solving crossword puzzles, later also enjoying Words with Friends online with family members, all from the comfort of his favorite leather chair. He had a penchant for Jackie's cooking, and having a substantial sweet tooth, loved her homemade pies, cakes, and in more recent times, starting his mornings with a cup of hot cocoa.

Don will be greatly missed by all who knew him, and especially by his family. He leaves a legacy of what it means to live a full life with purpose, humor, grace and humility. Services will be private.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Steven DeWayne Black
July 17, 1975 - Feb. 29, 2024

Steven DeWayne Black, known affectionately by his friends as Steve, was a beloved member of the Bay Area community for almost twenty-six years. Steve was originally from Clarkston, Michigan but called Livermore his home. Steve played on the defensive line at Central Michigan University, but his warm demeanor and generosity made him a "teddy bear" to all who knew him. It is with heavy hearts that we announce his passing, surrounded by loved ones.

Twenty-three years ago, Steve exchanged vows with his high school sweetheart, Laura, and together, they embarked on the journey of raising four remarkable daughters: Kylee, Sierra, Madden and Parker.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Linda Black, and his brother, Thomas Jr. He leaves behind treasured memories as a devoted brother to Kim and a beloved uncle to sixteen nieces and nephews. He is also remembered fondly as the son-in-law of Mike and Karen Maloney and as a cherished brother-in-law to seven siblings.

For almost twenty-four years, Steve dedicated his career to Generations Health-



care, where he made a lasting impact on both colleagues and patients alike. Beyond his professional pursuits, Steve found a great deal of joy in his role as a "girl" Dad to his four daughters, sharing in their love for sports, outdoor adventures and family bonding moments. His generous spirit, unwavering care for others and vibrant laugh will forever be etched in our hearts. Once you knew Steve, you'd never forget his larger-than-life personality.

Steve's spirit will continue to resonate deeply within the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be deeply missed.

A celebration of Steve's life will be held on Saturday, April 20th at 1:00pm in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, which is located at the corner of Fourth & L St in Livermore.

Following the service, a reception will be held at the church, offering an opportunity for friends and loved ones to gather and share fond memories of Steve's life.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Black family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Teams Scramble to Find Games After Stampede Cancellation

By Phil Jensen

At approximately 5 a.m. on Friday April 5, Livermore Stampede director Toff Garcia took his flashlight and went out to look at the Ernie Rodrigues softball fields.

The previous day's tournament games had all been rained out, and he wanted to get an early look at those fields.

"I looked at Field 2 ... and it kind of looked odd to me," said Garcia. Then he got a closer look. "It was a lake. The whole infield was completely covered with water."

Because of standing water on six fields, including two at Ernie Rodrigues and two at Junction Avenue School, the 30th annual Livermore Stampede was not left standing. It was canceled because of weather conditions for the first time in its history. It was not played in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

Livermore coach Andy Paulazzo said the Livermore Stampede is probably the second-best high school softball tournament in California behind the Michelle Carew Classic in Anaheim "We're a close second," said Paulazzo, whose school is the host.

This year, the 16-team field included five squads that were ranked in the top 10 in the Bay Area News Group rankings on April 2: St. Francis-Mountain View (No. 1),

Archbishop Mitty-San Jose (No. 2), Livermore (No. 4), San Ramon Valley (No. 7) and Amador Valley (No. 9). At this article's deadline, St. Francis was also ranked first in California by MaxPreps.com.

The two fields at Junction Avenue School in Livermore were being prepared since April 3 as a contingency plan. Garcia said. "But when we got up this morning, no field was playable," said Garcia on April 5.

Coaches were scrambling on April 5 to find games to play. Paulazzo said that each team is guaranteed five games in the tournament.

"We only have three weeks left in the (regular) season," he said on April 5. "You put people really in a hot spot when you don't complete the tournament and they've got to go find five games in three weeks."

Livermore, Amador Valley, St. Francis and Archbishop Mitty set up a four-game schedule at Junction School for Saturday April 6. The two East Bay Athletic League schools played the two West Catholic Athletic League schools.

"I think every team in the tournament was pretty eager to play, so it was just a matter of hey, are you free this day," said Amador Valley coach Courtney Hennings. "We're fortunate that Livermore invited us."

But first, there was a matter of getting the two Junction School fields playable. Garcia said before the first games on April 6 that a crew of approximately 14 people "were here in the dark, 5 in the morning and they haven't stopped." The work included pumping water off the fields, and Garcia joked, "We bought every bag of turf dry between here and Fresno."

The afternoon before, Livermore and Carondelet played a nonleague game at Carondelet's athletic complex in Walnut Creek. The game started late, partly due to lightning and thunder which drove all players, coaches and spectators indoors for approximately 25 minutes.

But once the game started, it was the Cowboys who were supercharged. Livermore sent 15 batters to the plate in the top of the first inning and scored 11 runs on its way to a 15-0 five-inning victory.

Laine Macosky, Livermore's cleanup hitter, was 3 for 3 with five RBI and three runs scored. The sophomore shortstop slammed a two-run home run in the third inning, had a single and double in the first inning to drive in runs, and also walked in the fifth.

Jae Cosgriff, who has signed with Minnesota, was 3 for 3 with three runs scored. That included a lead-off double in the third inning.



Above, Livermore's Laine Macosky slides into home plate during an April 5 game against Carondelet. The teams had to find their own games to play after weather canceled the Livermore Stampede tournament for the first time in history. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Other Livermore players with two hits included a pair of freshmen, Payten Williams (2 for 3, a walk and three runs scored) and Gianna Willes (2 for 3, double, walk, 3 RBI, one run scored). Pitchers Kaci Norton and Savanna Froke combined for a one-hitter; Norton pitched the first three innings, allowing only a third-inning single and striking out four while walking none, and Froke finished up with two perfect innings and one strikeout. They faced only one batter

over the minimum. On April 6, Livermore fell to St. Francis 5-0 and Archbishop Mitty 9-5. Against St. Francis, Cosgriff produced the team's only hit, a single. But the Cowboys' offense was more successful against Mitty, producing one run in the top of the third inning to tie the score and four runs in the sixth to narrow the Monarchs' lead to 6-5. Cosgriff was 3 for 4, including a double, with one run scored and one RBI. Teammate Sophia Gerochi was 2 for

4, including a double, with a run scored and three RBI. Macosky added the team's other RBI.

Livermore entered this week with an 11-3 overall record and a 4-1 EBAL mark. It hosted San Ramon Valley on April 9 after this article's deadline, and travels to face Dougherty Valley on April 11 at 4 p.m. Livermore also set up nonleague games on April 20 at Sheldon-Sacramento against Sheldon and Casa Grande-Petaluma, Paulazzo said.

Amador Valley Softball Team Pushes Mitty to Brink in Nonleague Game

By Phil Jensen

The Amador Valley High School softball team forced extra innings against one of the top teams in the Bay Area, Archbishop Mitty-San Jose, on April 6.

But the Monarchs produced five runs in the eighth inning for a 7-2 victory.

"I thought they fought through the whole game," said Dons coach Courtney Hennings about her squad. "That one inning when we came back, I was pretty excited. ... When hits fall, it changes the game and when hits don't fall, they have to keep fighting."

Hennings was referring to the sixth inning at Junction Avenue School in Livermore. The nonleague game was quickly put together after the Livermore Stampede was canceled the

day before due to standing water and weather conditions.

In that sixth inning, Dons leadoff hitter Lauren Tran walked on five pitches. With two outs, Taylor Oxe produced her team's second hit of the game with a single down the right field line, and Tran didn't hesitate in advancing from first to third base. The ensuing throw went past third base, allowing Tran to score and cut Mitty's lead in half, 2-1.

McKenna Charbonneau then sent an RBI single to left field to tie the score and Mai Falcone hit a single into the outfield before the final out of the inning was recorded. Falcone ended up 2 for 3 in the game.

Amador Valley starting pitcher Kaylee Davis set down the Monarchs in order in the top of the seventh. Tran

walked for the third time in the game in the bottom of the inning, but was left stranded. Then five straight Mitty batters reached base in the

top of the eighth, including a three-run home run by Lindsey Miller, her second home run of the game.

In the Bay Area News

Group rankings on April 2, Archbishop Mitty was No. 2 and Amador Valley was No. 9. The Dons also played the No. 1 team in those rankings,

St. Francis-Mountain View, on April 6. At this article's deadline, St. Francis was also ranked first in California and third in the nation by MaxPreps.com.

In the game against St. Francis, Amador Valley scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings in an 8-2 loss.

Entering this week, Amador Valley had a 6-5 overall record and 3-2 East Bay Athletic League mark with a very difficult schedule.

"I'm really happy with our season so far," Hennings said. "We've had some mishaps, but I think we're peaking at the right time."

Amador Valley hosted California High on April 9 before traveling to face San Ramon Valley on April 11 and Monte Vista on April 16. The games are scheduled to start at 4 p.m.



Amador's Mia Falcone attempts to tag Mitty's Brianna Gomez at second base. The Monarchs won 7-2. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604344
The following person(s) doing business as: Harps and Rain Studios, 554 Sonoma Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amin Assadi, 554 Sonoma Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amin Assadi, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2024. Expires February 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5852. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604710
The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Phase; 2. Phase Products, 1791 Sabre St., Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): WM Group Products LLC, 1791 Sabre Street, Hayward, CA 94545. 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/: Michael Wiellert, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 11, 2024. Expires March 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5853. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604307
The following person(s) doing business as: My House Your

House, 6399 Christie Avenue, APT 135, Emeryville, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christina Ryan, 6399 Christie Avenue, APT 135, Emeryville, CA 94608; Keri Mae Burnor, 6399 Christie Avenue, APT 135, Emeryville, CA 94608. This business is conducted by an Unincorporated Association – other than a Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christina Ryan, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 28, 2024. Expires February 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5854. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604476
The following person(s) doing business as: Golden Pacific Realty, 6500 Dublin Blvd, Suite 212, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BG Realty, 6500 Dublin Blvd, Suite 212, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Bernard Laffer, Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5855. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604442
The following person(s) doing business as: Charity Works, 7087 Commerce Circle Unit D, Pleasanton, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CharityWorks Auction Supplier, Inc., 1888 W Cavendish Dr., 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: 11/13/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lauren Klein, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5856. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604358
The following person(s) doing business as: NTA General Insurance Agency, 6602 Owens Drive, Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): National Transportation Associates, Inc., 6602 Owens Drive, Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: 5/1/2016. Signature of Registrant/s/: Puneet Khurana, COO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 29, 2024. Expires February 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5857. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604166
The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Kinfolx Therapy; 2. Kinfolx Therapy, 3007 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cameo Johnson, 3007 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609. 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/: Matthew Weingart, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal

No. 5860. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604289
The following person(s) doing business as: Precision Auto Stereo, 21181 Mission Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hassin, Inc., 406 W. Harder Rd., Hayward, CA 94544. 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: 7/1/2013. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hassina Zereh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2024. Expires February 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5861. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604828
The following person(s) doing business as: Dancing Threads Collection, 1807 H. Santa Rita Road #143, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Indus Organics, Inc., 1807 H Santa Rita Road, #143, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/14/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pama Chowdhury, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 14, 2024. Expires March 13, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5862. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604218
The following person(s) doing

business as: Tri Valley Pest Control, 1242 Hillview Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tri-Valley Services, 1242 Hillview Dr., 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Darren Jerdonek, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 23, 2024. Expires February 22, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5863. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604834
The following person(s) doing business as: Linizpro, 22281 Center St., APT 25, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jason Perez, 2221 Center St., APT 25 Castro Valley, CA 94546. 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: 3/11/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jason Perez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 15, 2024. Expires March 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5864. Published March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2024.

SUMMONS CASE NUMBER 24CV000842 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
Plaintiff: UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN CREDIT UNION
8033 Excelsior Dr. Madison, WI 53717
Defendants: TONY FATJON PANDOVSKI 5200 Iron Horse Parkway, Apt. 252 Dublin, CA 94568, and MIRELA PANDOVSKI

The STATE OF WISCONSIN To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The amended complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 days after March 28, 2024, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the amended complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, and to the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 735 N. Water Street, Suite 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the amended complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the amended complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

We are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Dated this 21st day of March, 2024.

DARNIEDER & SOSNAY
Electronically signed by Michael

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605004
The following person(s) doing business as: Quality Construction Supply II, 602 8th Street, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Luxury Building Materials Supply Inc., 2801 Bayview Dr., Alameda CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jimmy Ng, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5866. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604866
The following person(s) doing business as: Tri-Valley Adventure Travel, 3176 Rodeo Lane, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cameron Miller, 3176 Rodeo Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Cameron Miller, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 15, 2024.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



Expires March 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5867. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604945

The following person(s) doing business as: Clear Green Sky, 6591 Altamont Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): James Green, 1452 North Vasco Road, #177, 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: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jimmy Ng, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5868. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 566812

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Kiwin, 1066 Trojan Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/23/2019. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrant/s/: Xudong Li, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5869. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 566813

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Sha Star, 1066 Trojan Ave, San Leandro, CA 94579. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/23/2019. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrant/s/: Chi Pang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5870. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604468

The following person(s) doing business as: My dad's Trading Cards, 4140 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609-2603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Seamus Nelson, 4140 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609-2603; Joshua Nelson, 4140 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609-2603. 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: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Seamus Nelson, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5871. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604898

The following person(s) doing business as: Gina Crystal Gypsy, 33170 Alvarado Niles Rd, #1629, Union City CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Melinda Dinh, 33170 Alvarado Niles Rd, #1629 Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Melinda Dinh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2024. Expires March 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5872. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604844

The following person(s) doing business as: Wonderlind Soul, 4313 Daffodil Way, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Priscilla Keaton, 4313 Daffodil Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Priscilla Keaton, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2024. Expires March 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5873. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604535

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Shadow Studio, 12061 Pleasant way, Sunol, CA 94586 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chris Sehenuk, 12061 Pleasant Way, Sunol, CA 94586. 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/: Chris Sehenuk, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2024. Expires March 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5874. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604325

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxry Flow, 2027 Harrington Ave, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Trek Trading International Inc., 2027 Harrington Ave, Oakland, CA 94601. 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: 2/28/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kevin Truong, Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 28, 2024. Expires February 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5877. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605033

The following person(s) doing business as: Animata Scientific, 1272 Rincon Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jay Salmonson, 1272 Rincon Ave, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jay Salmonson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 22, 2024. Expires March 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5878. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604422

The following person(s) doing business as: Well-Being Life Force Systems, 1553 Alice Street Apt 217, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Diana Romo, 1553 Alice Street Apt 217, 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/: Diana Romo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2024. Expires March 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5879. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604767

The following person(s) doing business as: Qunral Technology, 1225 Riesling Circle, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Farley, 1225 Riesling Circle, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 02/12/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Farley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 13, 2024. Expires March 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5880. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604654

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Capital Mortgage Group; 2. DNR Capital Real Estate; 3. Sheeno General Construction, 6690 Amador Plaza Rd Suite 250, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Diane Riise, 3533 Ashbourne Cir, San Ramon, CA 94583. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/7/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Diane Riise, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 8, 2024. Expires March 7, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5881. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605106

The following person(s) doing business as: A's Duct Systems Cleaning, 344 20th St #N8, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AAA Enterprises, LLC, 344 20th St #N8, Oakland, CA 94612. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Priscilla Keaton, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2024. Expires March 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5873. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

ness under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Angel Altamirano Vasquez, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 582. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605099

The following person(s) doing business as: Sparkling Clean Mobile, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Loring Huerta, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550; Joel Huerta, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550. 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/: Loring Huerta, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5883. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605102

The following person(s) doing business as: All Bay Limousine, 33476 Alvarado Niles Road Suite 7, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): All Bay Limo In., 3556 Smith St., Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Babar Mohammad, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5884. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605131

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxoral, 25369 Ironwood Ct, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Luxoral Dental Hygiene Practice at Edris Kareemzadeh, RDHAP, 25369 Ironwood Ct, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/26/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Edris Kareemzadeh, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2024. Expires March 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5885. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604714

The following person(s) doing business as: Choice Tint, 4202 Stanley Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Paulo Maldonado 468 Amador Circle, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Paulo Maldonado, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 11, 2024. Expires March 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5886. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604994

The following person(s) doing business as: J Mason Home Service, 11501 Dublin Blvd, Ste 200, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J Mason Home Renovation LLC, 11501 Dublin Blvd, Ste 200, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: James R. Abernathy Jr., Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires

March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5887. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Raul Fernando Castro Case No. 24PR069188

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of **Raul Fernando Castro**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **Richard David Castro**, in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The petition for probate requests that **Richard David Castro** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. **THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME.** A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **May 6, 2024, 9:45 A.M. in Dept. 202 Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704**

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. **Attorney for Petitioner: Kelsey L. Kern Ogden Law Firm, PC 1535 J Street, Suite A Modesto, CA 95354 Telephone: (209) 524-4466** The Independent, Legal No. 5888. Published April 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605192

The following person(s) doing business as: Par 5 Golfing, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Par 5 Golfing LLC, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2024. Expires March 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5892. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604721

The following person(s) doing business as: Jump Around Party Rentals, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2024. Expires March 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5893. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605192

The following person(s) doing business as: Par 5 Golfing, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Par 5 Golfing LLC, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2024. Expires March 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5892. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605330

The following person(s) doing business as: Prachie Studio, 31297 Santa Rita Way, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Prachi Shah, 31297 Santa Rita Way, Union City, CA 94587. 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/: Prachi Shah, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 4, 2024. Expires

April 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5889. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605203

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Fred N SayDee; 2. Fred and SayDee, 4078 Standord Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Roxanne Portillo, 4078 Standord Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/29/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Roxanne Portillo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5890. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604504

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri-Valley Tracy Jobs, 1368 Capri Court, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kinnect Consulting, LLC, 1368 Capri Court, 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/: Shirley Louis, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2024. Expires March 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5891. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604721

The following person(s) doing business as: Jump Around Party Rentals, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2024. Expires March 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5893. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

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/: Ishrat N. Zahid, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5893. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605201

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Premier Beer And Sake; 2. Premier Signs, 25509 Industrial Blvd, Unit G8, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Premier Pos LLC, 25509 Industrial Blvd, Unit G8, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/29/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Richard Huo, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5894. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604670

The following person(s) doing business as: Globocoatings, 2484 Regal Dr., Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Frank Zepeda IV, 2484 Regal Dr., Union City, CA 94587. 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/: Frank Zepeda IV, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 11, 2024. Expires March 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5895. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS



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Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at: Dublin PetSmart
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EMPLOYMENT

Staff Thermal Engineer (Livermore, CA)
Drive thermal methodologies, dvp strategies for thermal & mechanical components. Reqs a Master's in Mechanical or Thermal Eng, 2 yrs in the job or as a Mfg or Thermal Engineer, exp in thermal mgmt technology, thermal airflow testing/analysis, data collection, 1D modeling, GT-Suite & Simscape. Employer will also accept a Bachelor's w/ 4 yrs exp. Salary \$137,301-\$146K/yr. Mail resume: HR, Monarch Tractor, 151 Lawrence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551.

Senior Technical Program Manager (Livermore, CA)
Lead multidisciplinary prgrms thru PLM, coord w/ teams, vendors, suppliers to provide deliverables. Reqs master's in Mechani'l or Industrial Eng, 2 yrs in the job or as a Product or Mechani'l Engr w/ EV, PLM, project planning, scope definition, timeline mgmt, budget allocation, resource planning, & cross-team collaboration. Sal ary: \$111,072 - \$154,000/yr. Mail resume: HR, Monarch Tractor, 151 Lawrence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551.

Staff Product Validation Engineer (Livermore, CA)
Execute vehicle & component tests & support field testing. Dvp dsgn validation plans. Reqs Master's in Mechani'l, Industrial, Motorsports Engg. 1 yr as a Test, Validation Eng, or rtd w/ automotive exp, ve hicle performance testing, data acquisition/analysis, DAQ tools, thermal testing, & 3D CAD. Sal ary: \$111,072 - \$130K/yr. Mail resumes: HR, Job#SR424, Monarch Tractor, 151 Lawrence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551.

Staff Controls Engineer (Livermore, CA)
Manage control code dvlpmnt/ algorithms, test performance of electrical/mechan'l integrated systems. Reqs Master's in Mechani'l or Automotive Eng, 2 yrs as a Controls Integration or System Engr w/ electric vehicle system exp, high voltage batteries, hydraulic control codes, interface systems, debugging, testing, troubleshooting. Matlab, Simulink, CANbus req'd. Salary: \$114,546 - \$150K/yr. Mail resumes: HR, Job#KK424, Monarch Tractor, 151 Lawrence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551.

Staff Mechanical Engineer (Livermore, CA)
Dvp mechani'l dsgns for structures, electronic components & thermal systems, dsgn reviews, system integrations. Test & debug components, subsystems for agricultural eqpmnt mfr. Reqs bachelor's in mechani'l engg,

6 mths as a Mechani'l Engr w/ dsgn, mfg, new product dvlpmnt, Solidworks, FEA, Thermal, structural & stress analysis. In lieu of a deg., em employer will accept 2 yrs rtd work exp w/ same skillset. Sal ary: \$91,770 - \$120K/yr. Mail resumes: HR, Job#TJ424, Monarch Tractor, 151 Lawrence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551.

HELP WANTED

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NOTICES /ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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Legendary Bassist, “Guitar Poet” to Play at Bankhead Theater

By Christina Cavallaro

Brian Gore, known as the “Guitar Poet” and founder of the celebrated International Guitar Night (IGN), will showcase at the Bankhead Theater his latest album, “Seek the Love You’re Yearning.”

He captivated the Bankhead audience this past February as one of a quartet of virtuosos. Now, Livermore Valley Arts will present Gore’s own performance, “Guitar at the Stage Door Lounge,” at the Bankhead on May 18. Gore began his career as a guitarist, and has evolved into a singer-songwriter, a seven-year journey.

Joining him will be the globally acclaimed American bassist Michael Manning, whom Gore praises highly.

“Michael is probably one of the best living musicians of all time,” Gore said.

The performance will be showcased in a unique and rare concert setting. The audience will be seated on the stage, cabaret-style, right next to these two legendary musicians for a wholly intimate performance.

Gore, known for his emo-

tive, expressive style that combines influences from folk, jazz and classical music, credits 20 years of playing in IGN for shaping his unique heartfelt guitar-playing style. He describes his level of fingerstyle, combined with his songwriting, as “kind of Joni Mitchell and kind of Nick Drake.”

Manning, who will accompany Gore, was a protégé of Jaco Pastorius, a famous American bassist who collaborated with many singer songwriters, including Joni Mitchell, before his death in 1987. Pastorius is known for having revolutionized what could be done on fretless bass. Throughout his career, Manning has continued to shatter tradition on bass guitar, breaking new ground often in collaboration with another historically significant musician, guitarist Michael Hedges, who upended the potential of steel string guitar and changed the way people saw it.

“I’ve always been one of those really obnoxious people who’s always having an existential crisis,” Manning said. “You know, ‘What does it all mean? And why are we

here and what’s going on?’ And bass has been a way to process that.”

Gore said that the source of inspiration for the album and songs he’ll perform comes from a desire to encourage others to harness their own power and become



Michael Manning (Photo Courtesy: Philippe Lissart)

the authors of their own experience.

“We have all experienced pain and sadness and abandonment and longing. You can’t run from that. What you can do is be more aware of it, and its impact on you,” he said. “And you begin to shape your reality, so that it’s more in harmony with your heart — when you’re on your own path, whatever

that is. Naturally you would want to plant the seed of that for others. And I think that’s what this album is doing.”

And for Gore, the addition of Manning on his songs is very special to him, artistically and personally.

“There’s something about



Brian Gore (Photo Courtesy: Willy Carter)

him. He’s got a glow, this guy,” he said.

Bass was an instrument that spoke deeply to Manning from a very young age, when most kids were drawn to guitar and bass was the second choice if you weren’t skilled enough on guitar. He was born in 1960. “That was Paul McCartney’s story,” he shared with a laugh. “Bass is a much newer instrument

than other instruments.”

The release of the Rick-enbacker 4001 bass model in 1961, which gained iconic status through Paul McCartney’s use of it with The Beatles, coincided with Manning’s early life. He found the instrument’s freshness and straightforward design to be an open invitation for creative exploration.

Gore noted, “There’s a saying in music theory, ‘Limitation is the basis of style.’” This concept struck him as a teen when he first encountered Mark Rothko’s paintings. “I thought, this guy’s painted the same painting over and over like 12 times; that’s weird. But as I sat there, I started to really feel something. Rothko kept the theme of the paintings so simple that it just brought out the color and texture all the more,” Manning said.

That turned out to be a big lesson for him.

“If there are too many options, there’s almost nothing to do.”

Gore shared his thoughts on the myriad gifts a night of music can bring to listeners. “I think people are drawn to music because it helps them feel their feelings,” he said. “It’s a socially acceptable way for people to share their emotions.”

He also believes that music has transformative potential. “You can kind of weasel your way into people’s hearts with music. And who knows, you might just blow something up. It can change people’s lives. So we must go transform.”

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Charm of the Dublin Leprechauns Baseball Team Suggests a Throwback to Simpler Time

By David Scholz

With the help of two former Dublin mayors, the city’s burgeoning professional baseball team, the Leprechauns, seems to be evoking a simpler, by-gone era when town baseball teams barn-

guy who started his career in Dublin and went all the way up to the majors.

Character counts too in his book, so those on his roster are also mentors for the youngsters. “Is this a guy I would want my kids to look up to?” he asked.

been further bolstered by assistance from the Martinez Sturgeon baseball club that was in a similar fledgling state five years ago and now is a model for success.

His past public service included a friendship with former Martinez City councilmember Lara Delaney, and that made it easy and comfortable to make contact with Eric Halverson, who is the Sturgeon General Manager.

“Eric has been a wealth of knowledge, because the Sturgeon were in the same situation as we in 2019,” said Houston. “We are already leveraging off their organization’s success off the field, and it will translate into success on the field for us this summer.”

The Dublin home opener for the 2024 season is 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 28, against the San Rafael Pacifics at Leprechaun Field, 2605 Central Parkway in the Fallon Sports Park. Visit www.dublinleprechauns.com for the full schedule.

Underscoring the success on the field is the support needed off the field from the community. Using the Sturgeon model, the club is establishing partnerships with local groups, including signing a deal with the Dublin Little League. The hope is to expand that reach to others. The 2024 schedule also will feature special “Days”, an example being again “Little League Day,” which Houston noted was the club’s largest gate last season.

New this year will be the presentation of six youth camps, all on Tuesdays, in which the players will assist in baseball instruction. Camp fees, like 50/50 drawings at the games, are among the revenue streams the Leprechauns use to financially support the players during the season.

Essential as well in the world of independent baseball is the role area host families play in providing a safe and comfortable home base for their players, who are coming from all over the country, including Hawaii, and even overseas from Japan, to play for the Leprechauns. And, Houston noted, more host families are needed this season.

“For the right people, it is a lot like having a foreign exchange student living in their home,” he said. “It is a lot of fun. If you like baseball, this can be nothing but good.”

If providing a room and access to the kitchen and laundry facilities is not workable, Houston noted there is no shortage of other ways people can contribute their

time and talents. A booster program is among the goals for this year to help with building the future of the club.

“There’s always something to do, like getting someone to perform the National Anthem,” he said. “We will take all the help we can get.”

For more information about serving as a player host family and lending a hand to the Dublin Leprechauns, contact Houston at guyhouston@sbcglobal.net. Online registration for the youth camps can be done at www.dublinleprechauns.com.



Above, players share a moment last summer. The Dublin home opener this year is on May 28. (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

stormed from one community to another to take on rival clubs.

Baseball movie aficionados might recall Kevin Costner’s reference to them in “Field of Dreams” in the scene where his character pulled the van over along a country road and in hopped a young man who was carrying little more than his glove and knapsack.

Archie, aka Archibald “Moonlight” Graham, had heard of small towns with baseball teams and was looking to find a team to play on. Smiling, Costner shares he knows of just such a place, to which Archie showed a huge satisfying grin.

Similar optimism for this season is on the mind of first-year manager Dave Aconer after the Leprechauns endured a challenging inaugural campaign in the Pecos League of Independent Baseball that saw the team post a 4-45 record for last place in the Pacific Division standings.

Aconer, currently the head coach for San Diego State’s club baseball team, which stands at 14-3, comes with a reputation for taking programs from worst to first, and that’s the goal in Dublin this season.

“Take it all and put Dublin on the map,” he said. “A lot of the guys who I have handpicked have a chip on their shoulders, so we are excited to represent Dublin.”

Win or lose this season, Aconer hopes to hear “I saw great baseball” from fans departing the stands. And, with a goal of moving his guys up through the baseball ranks, hopefully locals can follow a

“We are representing the city, and when you are wearing the uniform around town, you have to remember that,” Aconer added.

Guy Houston, the club’s director of baseball operations and former Dublin mayor, is hard at work pulling the strings behind the scenes to generate community support for the team and finalize preparations for the season ahead. He’s joined by General Manager Tim Sbranti, another former Dublin mayor, who also serves as Dublin High School’s athletic director.

Tryouts on May 12 will fill the final remaining roster spots and then a week of “spring training” takes place ahead of the season’s opener.

This is a far cry from one year ago when baseball literally dropped in the laps of local officials. Andrew Dunn, Commissioner of the Pecos League, had been traveling through the East Bay in search of another location for a team when he ran into car trouble — he learned later that his car’s gas tank had been ice-picked to drain the gas from it. Long story short, he ended up in Dublin.

One call led to another, including contacting Houston’s wife, Inge, who heads up the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, and a baseball team was born.

“This all came together very quickly last April,” said Guy Houston. “It was very happenstance.”

“The chamber got involved and we made it happen,” he continued.

Baseball being all about community, a year later Houston’s efforts have

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