



Neighbors and residents gather along Main Street last Saturday, June 6, for Pleasanton's inaugural "Longest Table" event. Hosted by Pleasanton Connects, the packed dinner brought over 1,000 community members together at a single, continuous table to foster new friendships and bridge local social divides. (Photo — Kathryn Stroud)

LLNL and LBNL Scientists Simulate Dangerous East Bay Earthquakes

Studies Show Hayward Quakes Hitting the Tri-Valley Harder Than Anticipated

By David Jen

TRI-VALLEY — The next big earthquake may affect the Tri-Valley more than previously expected. New research from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) recently used supercomputers to try to understand why.

The scientists simulated earthquake scenarios along the Hayward Fault to detail how the area's underground structure will affect ground motion. The new simulations allow scientists to study how sedimentary basins — large bowls of bedrock holding softer soils, such as the Livermore basin — capture and

amplify seismic waves, increasing the intensity of the ground motion.

"Using high-performance computing earthquake simulations, we are interested in learning what the ground motion for a typical magnitude-7 earthquake in the Bay Area could be, so that we can work with engineers to make sure that the infrastructure and buildings in the Bay Area can withstand this motion," said author and LLNL scientist Arben Pitarka. "With that information, we can also start preparations for retrofitting some of the vulnerable structures."

Part of the San Andreas fault system, the Hayward Fault runs 74 miles through East Bay cities including Fremont, Hayward, San

Leandro and Oakland. It bisects the University of California Berkeley football stadium.

At the surface, the fault creeps, meaning the two sides of the fault constantly move past each other even in the absence of earthquakes. It creeps at a rate of about an inch every five years. But only the top portion of the fault creeps, and deeper down, the land masses are locked and accumulating stress.

Based on the fault's history, its past five large earthquakes occurred about 140 years apart. The intervals range from 95 to 183 years. Most recently in 1868, the fault ruptured along a 20-mile stretch, with the land masses jolting an average of six feet relative to each other. The

(See HAYWARD, page 6)

Pleasanton to See Sewer Rate Hikes

Single-family Households Face 26% Jump in 2027, and Steady Increases

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — Pleasanton sewer customers will likely see significant rate increases beginning Jan. 1, 2027. Proposed rate changes would increase sewer bills for single-family customers by 26%, followed by 7.9% increases in 2028 and 2029, and then a 7.4% increase in 2030. Commercial and industrial users will see even higher hikes, which will vary by business type.

City staff plans to seek final rate approvals at the end of the year from the city council. The city owns and operates a sewer collection system managing about 21,000 service connections, according to a city report. Pleasanton

does not treat or dispose of the wastewater. Sewer bills include treatment and disposal costs paid to Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) on top of Pleasanton's collection fee. The system also sends Ruby Hill wastewater to the City of Livermore for treatment and disposal.

Looking at just the Pleasanton portion of sewer bills, the city will levy almost an 80% increase for single-family customers starting in 2027.

Mayor Jack Balch acknowledged the magnitude of the increases at the June 2 city council meeting, where the council unanimously approved the proposed rate structure and sewer rates. The council also raised the city's sewer

connection fees based on a new method that calculates the value of the existing sewer system and its remaining capacity.

"None of us enjoy increasing rates, but postponing it doesn't eliminate the cost, and it doesn't address the (needs of the system)" Balch said.

Councilmember Jeff Nibert cast the city as a steward of its infrastructure.

"The risk of not investing now, we determined, was too great," Nibert said. "One of the objectives of being stewards is (to) lower risk."

While the city previously tied sewer-rate changes to inflation, the coming hikes stem from a new rate-setting program used by the city.

(See SEWER, page 7)

Alameda County Set To Fund Polling on Open Space Changes

Measure D Supporters Question Survey Motives

By David Jen

TRI-VALLEY — Alameda County's District 1, which includes part of the Tri-Valley, will spend \$149,100 to explore possible changes to a 25-year-old policy that preserves open space by limiting development on rural land.

Some ranchers and District 1 Supervisor David Haubert have cast the limitations as an impediment to the county's agricultural economy. But other speakers across two meetings last week questioned the propriety of using public funds for what they see as campaign research. A move to sidestep the county's normal competitive bid process also drew concerns.

The county board of supervisors voted on June 4 — with Haubert, Supervisor Nate Miley and Supervisor Elisa Marquez in support, Supervisor Lena Tam against and Supervisor Nikki Fortunato Bas abstained — to contract with Team-CivX LLC for polling, analysis and strategy services.

In November 2000, 57% of Alameda County voters approved Measure D, also known as the Save Agriculture and Open Space Lands Initiative. The measure limits the amount and type of development allowed in the county's rural areas.

"While the measure has arguably been successful in its intended purpose of preserving open space and agriculture in the rural, un-

(See MEASURE D, page 6)



Pictured is a rendering of a single-story, cottage-style unit designed for Livermore's Wine Country Inn, an intended 24-building project. The Livermore Planning Commission recently approved modifications to the project despite some public concerns about design. (Photo courtesy of City of Livermore) See page 3 for story

Conservationists Stall Push for Trail at Tesla

Leaders Pause Endorsement Pending State Reviews

By David Jen

TRI-VALLEY — An effort to classify the Alameda-Tesla property as a state reserve has for now thwarted plans for a multi-use, east-west trail through the property.

Alameda County Supervisors David Haubert and Nate Miley, who comprise the board's transportation and planning committee, picked up on public concerns around e-bikes and the damages they might inflict on the sensitive ecosystem at Alameda-Tesla at the committee's June 1 meeting. Haubert and Miley decided not to forward a letter to the full board to show support for the trail.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, popularly known as State Parks, is currently classifying the 3,400-acre Alameda-Tesla property as it prepares to bring it into the state park system.

The multi-year process will decide if the property becomes either a state park, state natural reserve or a state cultural reserve. The two reserve classifications prioritize the preservation of natural or cultural resources over public recreation.

Last November, the county's Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) asked the board of supervisors to voice county support to State Parks for the cross-property trail. The request said that Livermore's South Livermore Valley Trail planned to provide multi-use access to Alameda-Tesla. AAC voted 7-3 to make the request with six members absent.

At last week's meeting, Miley said the AAC may have missed its mark, and that he saw no urgency in submitting recommendations on the park. He agreed with public speakers who suggested that the county wait until State Parks

(See TESLA, page 7)



National fire safety mascot Sparky the Fire Dog and Livermore Police Department support dog Tater greet community members at Fire Station #6 on Saturday. The event combined the city's 150th anniversary festivities with the 125th birthday celebration of Livermore's world-famous Centennial Light Bulb. (Photo — Jacob Clouser)

Don Lewis Legacy Lives On in New Sculpture

"The Maestro" Completes Pleasanton's Harmonic Symphony Public Art Project

By Kathryn Stroud

PLEASANTON — On June 4, the City of Pleasanton unveiled the Maestro, a handcrafted abstract sculpture of the late musical pioneer and longtime Pleasanton resident Don Lewis, completing the public art project known as the Don Lewis Harmonic Symphony. Nearly one hundred people gathered in Delucchi Park for the occasion, including Lewis's widow, Julie, who told the crowd about his

final day.

"He told me, 'I'm not done yet,'" she said. "Now he is here, inspiring the next generation."

The Maestro sits at the front of the installation, one foot on the ground and the other raised as if kicking. Artist Anton Standteiner, who created the piece from bronze, stainless steel and copper, spent time watching archival footage of Lewis to better understand the musician. "There was always a point in which Don couldn't stand still; he couldn't

sit in a chair," Standteiner said. The result is a figure caught mid-movement, one arm raised above his head, reaching towards the crowd, while the other "is one with the keyboard."

Lewis's love for music began at an early age. In Ned Augstenborg's documentary "Don Lewis & The Live Electronic Orchestra," released in 2023, Lewis said his path to music began with a dream in which he was playing the organ at church. He woke up and knew he had to play.

(See LEWIS, page 8)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds	11
Editorial	4
Mailbox	4
Obituaries	9
Sports	10

Livermore Indivisible Hosts International Law Scholar	2
Chabot-Las Positas Secures Bond Savings for Improvements	3
Poetry in a Test Tube Winners Announced	8
Mitch Stephens's 'MitchMash' Column	10
Students Create Anti-Trafficking Awareness Organization	12

PET OF THE WEEK



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Livermore Lecture Details U.S. and Israel War Violations

By Vivien Wenneker

LIVERMORE — During a talk hosted by Livermore Indivisible last month, Tom Dannenbaum, a professor of nuclear security at Stanford University Center for Security and Cooperation, spoke of the rising concern over nuclear security in the Middle East and outlined three sets of international law that the U.S. and Israel have breached in their war with Iran—thereby signaling to other world powers that it’s okay to flout international law.

The U.S., and Israel have not only violated international law in going to war with Iran but also could be made to account for war crimes in decades to come, Dannenbaum said.

“There is no principled basis to which the U.S. or Israel could point in order to support what would be an illegal violation of international law for some alternative moral imperative,” Dannenbaum said. “This is a war that was pursued on the basis of powerful states seeking to assert their power to achieve their interests without any regard for law at all.”

The first law Dannenbaum points to is that which governs the use of

force. First established in 1945, this law has been firmly rooted in the United Nations Charter and determines when a state can go to war, and under what conditions, of which there are only two: self-defense and UN Security Council authorization.

Since the U.S. was not acting out of self-defense, nor did it receive UN Security Council authorization, this leaves only one rare and controversial interpretation of the law: nuclear weapons. In this case, a state (like the United States) must prove that the aggressor (Iran, in this scenario) has nuclear weapons and intends to use them in aggression, which it hasn’t.

The second international law, also known as the law of war or humanitarian law, is a set of universal rules that seek to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects individuals who are not participating, such as civilians, and restricts the methods and means of warfare available to combatants.

“We can see multiple components, both of the context leading into this war and the way it’s being conducted that give rise to very serious concerns about international humanitarian law violation by the

U.S. and Israel, including potentially, war crimes,” Dannenbaum said.

Here he cites two striking examples, one involving the U.S. and the other Israel. The first occurred on February 28, the first day of the conflict, when a U.S. strike hit an elementary school in Minab, killing over 150 civilians, the overwhelming majority of them young children.

The primary justification seems to be, according to Dannenbaum, that the U.S. did not know it was a school and instead thought it was a military object based on its proximity to Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, or IRGC, buildings or compounds. However, that in itself would not be exonerating under international humanitarian law.

The second example occurred on March 7, when Israel struck four oil depots around Tehran. Again, there was no ambiguity that this was a mistake; all four depots were hit simultaneously, and Israeli officials have since admitted to targeting them.

Bearing in mind that Iran is an oil-rich nation, the military advantage of taking out the four depots is occurring in a context where that oil supply is unlikely to run out. Even

more alarming, however, with the depots being distributed across Tehran, a city of over 9 million civilians, is the consequence of black smoke, acidic rain and what health experts predict will be decades of chronic health conditions arising from the respiratory challenges and pollution effects of these attacks.

“In this context, it is very difficult to conceive of how the military advantage associated with attacking those oil supplies could possibly justify that level of civilian harm,” Dannenbaum said.

This leads to the third and final international law of his talk: criminal law. This is a specialized body of public international law designed to prohibit the world’s most serious atrocities—namely genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. It also establishes individual criminal responsibility, meaning perpetrators can be held accountable regardless of their political or military status.

The International Criminal Court (ICC), permanently based in The Hague, Netherlands, is responsible for prosecuting such individuals. As to whether it could prosecute Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or President Don-

ald Trump for their respective crimes against the Iranian people, the answer isn’t straightforward.

The ICC does not have jurisdiction in Iran, but it does in Palestine, which is the basis for its warrant on Netanyahu for Israel’s genocide in Gaza, so a state could arrest and transfer him to The Hague on that ground.

Trump would be more difficult to prosecute because the U.S. is not a member of the ICC and therefore does not recognize ICC jurisdiction over its citizens and military personnel. Also, while Trump is president, he is granted head of state immunity, which precludes other states from arresting him.

“The bigger problem is political, and so I think the more likely scenario is not another state arrest-

ing Trump or (Defense Secretary Pete) Hegseth, but U.S. officials arresting them subsequent to a significant political transformation in the U.S.,” Dannenbaum said.

“It’s a question of political imagination. Can that happen in the United States? Of course it can, if we have the leadership that (is) willing to engage in accountability mechanisms for clear violations, and that’s not inconceivable.”



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School Board Names New Livermore Superintendent, Anthony Limoges

LIVERMORE — Anthony Limoges, an associate superintendent for the Rocklin Unified School District in Placer County, has been named to head the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). The LVJUSD Board of Education announced its unanimous decision on Monday.

Limoges replaces former superintendent Torie Gibson, who resigned in February after 18 months with the district. Michelle Pechette, assistant superintendent of education services, served as acting superintendent the last four months of the school year.

The trustees are expected to approve Limoges’ contract at their regular June 16 school board meeting. He is expected to assume his new duties on July 1.

Limoges, who was with

the Rocklin TK-12 district for eight years, also spent four years as director of secondary education for Elk Grove Unified, the largest



Anthony Limoges

school district in Northern California.

He also has experience as a middle and high school administrator and spent eight years in the classroom

teaching science and social studies, according to LVJUSD. He has a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Southern California.

“In addition to his diverse personal experiences and professional background, Dr. Limoges believes that trust, collaboration, integrity and strong relationships are cornerstones of effective educational leadership,” said School Board President Steven Drouin. “The board shares these values and looks forward to partnering with him in service of our students, staff and the Livermore community.”

Limoges said his “first priority” as superintendent “will be listening and learning from our students, staff, families, and community members.”

“Livermore is a special

community with a proud tradition of educational excellence, exceptional employees, engaged families and students who inspire every day,” Limoges added. “I believe that the strongest schools and communities are created when people come together around a shared purpose.”

Blood Center Needs Type O Donors

DUBLIN — The Stanford Blood Center (SBC), which has a donation site in Dublin, said recently that its supply of O+ blood has fallen to critically low levels.

Type O blood is con-

sidered the universal blood type for surgery and hospital emergencies. The independent SBC provides blood to multiple hospitals in the Bay Area.

SBC is urging donors

to schedule an appointment online at stanford-bloodcenter.org, by calling 888-723-7831 or texting 999-777. Walk-ins are also welcome at the Dublin Tri-Valley Center, 3738 Fallon Rd.

St. Michael’s Announces New Principal

LIVERMORE — A St. Michael School alumna, Julie Schweickert Knight, has been selected as the school’s next principal, beginning with the 2026-2027 academic year.

Knight graduated from the K-8 school in 1993.

“It is a school’s greatest honor to see one of its graduates return to lead the school where they received their foundation,” said the Rev. Bich Nguyen, pastor of St. Michael Parish, which operates the school. “Julie Knight is coming home to the school that helped form her faith, values and commitment to service. Her homecoming reflects the strength of the St. Michael community and the lasting influence of the Catholic education our school provides.”

Knight has 14 years of experience in K-8 education and served as principal at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livermore. She has a bachelor’s de-

gree in civic and liberal studies from St. Mary’s College of California in Moraga.

“The opportunity to return to St. Michael is especially meaningful,” said

Knight. “I am committed to upholding and advancing the strong tradition of excellence that defines St. Michael Catholic School within the community and the diocese.”

More Buyers Are Choosing 5/1 ARMs

As affordability remains a challenge, many homebuyers are turning to 5/1 ARM financing to increase purchasing power and lower initial monthly payments.

The Federal Reserve is expected to keep rates unchanged at its June 16-17 meeting as the labor market remains strong.

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Chabot-Las Positas District Secures \$25M in Bond Savings

By Sanestina Hunter

LIVERMORE — The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

(CLPCCD) recently completed a \$533.3 million bond financing package that will fund voter-approved campus improvements and

generate more than \$25 million in taxpayer savings. The transaction, which closed May 19, includes \$338 million in Election of 2016 General Obligation Bonds, Series D, and \$195.3 million in 2026 General Obligation Refunding Bonds.

“We were able to secure lower borrowing costs than expected, save taxpayers millions of dollars over time, and continue making critical investments in facilities that support students, workforce training and our local communities,” CLPCCD Chancellor Ronald Gerhard said.

The Series D bonds represent the fourth and final issuance authorized under Measure A, the \$950 million bond measure approved by voters on June 7, 2016, to modernize and improve college facilities across the district.

Series D bond proceeds will support modernization, renovation and infrastructure projects at both colleges, including upgrades to classrooms, student support spaces and workforce training facilities.

With the issuance complete, the district has now fully utilized the \$950 million Measure A bond au-

thorization, according to Gerhard.

Since the approval of Measure A, the district has completed projects including the Library and Learning Connection Center at Chabot College, a horticulture facility, a viticulture building and science buildings.

The bond program also funded improvements to classrooms, laboratories, career education facilities, campus safety and security, and major infrastructure projects across the college district.

The district maintained independent audits and oversight through the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee throughout the bond program.

Measure A tax rates remained at or below projections presented to voters, while debt service, or the total amount required to pay back the principal and interest on the debt, associated with the bonds remained below original estimates, according to the district.

In addition to issuing the Series D bonds, the district sold \$195.3 million in 2026 General Obligation Refunding Bonds to refinance debt previously authorized under

Measure B.

Similar to refinancing a home mortgage, the transaction replaces bonds carrying higher interest rates with new bonds issued at lower rates, reducing future debt service costs and helping lower the Measure B tax rate for local taxpayers.

According to Gerhard, state law requires the savings generated through the refunding transaction to benefit property taxpayers rather than district operations.

Strong investor demand and favorable credit ratings contributed to lower borrowing costs.

The Series D bonds received more than \$1.5 billion in investor orders, representing more than four times the amount available for sale, while the refunding bonds received approximately \$424 million in investor orders, more than

double the amount offered.

Ahead of the sale, Moody’s Ratings and S&P Global reaffirmed the district’s strong financial standing, assigning ratings of Aa2 and AA, respectively, with stable outlooks. The agencies cited the region’s growing tax base, enrollment recovery, experienced district leadership and fiscal management practices.

As a result, borrowing costs came in below earlier

(See LASPO, page 7)



Livermore's newly appointed Poet Laureate, Faith Alpher, was officially sworn in at Monday's city council meeting. A reception in her honor was held afterward at Swirl on the Square. (Photo courtesy of Faith Alpher)

Livermore Council Advances Climate and Housing Goals; Commission Approves Wine Country Inn Modifications

By Vivien Wenneker

LIVERMORE — At a June 8 meeting, the Livermore City Council heard a progress report for the 2025 Climate Action Plan and separately moved to pass a resolution approving amendments for the Shea Aura housing project.

Progress on Climate Goals

The 2025 Climate Action Plan progress report

contains implementation highlights and an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. Major projects included a \$1.6 million electric vehicle (EV) charging grant from the California Energy Commission to expand EV charging infrastructure and a 25-year agreement with Ava Community Energy to install rooftop solar and battery storage at the Civic Center Meeting Hall and Maintenance Service Center.

The city also recently completed a Community Emissions Inventory for 2024, which shows that total community carbon emissions decreased by 13% from 2022 to 2024. This reduction reverses the increase observed between 2017 and 2022 and brings emissions back to just under 1% below the 2017 benchmark.

According to the report, reductions were primarily driven by cleaner electricity

from Ava Community Energy, reduced use of natural gas and fewer vehicle miles traveled. However, achieving Livermore’s 2030 target of 40% below 1990 levels will require continued and accelerated efforts, particularly in transportation and building electrification.

Other figures in the 2025 report include 530 permits approved for solar panels,

(See COUNCIL, page 6)

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EDITORIAL

Alameda County Supervisors Must Resist Attempts To Develop Tesla Park for Heavy Recreational Use

Last week, Alameda County Supervisors David Haubert and Nate Miley listened to their constituents and heard a resounding message: Tesla Park must be preserved as a reserve.

Public opposition to developing the 3,100-acre tract for recreational use has been running up against the plans of the county’s Agricultural Advisory Committee. The park’s ultimate designation rests in the hands of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, but the local committees and leaders have influence over the process.

The 3,100-acre tract was protected by Senate Bill 155 in 2021, which prevented an off-road vehicle recreation area being built there.

At issue is whether the environmentally sensitive area, home to dozens of special-status plant species, should be designated a state park, which would allow more intensive recreation, such as

camping and bicycling, or a nature or cultural reserve, which would prioritize conservation and only allow passive recreational uses. A State Cultural Reserve designation would also comport with preserving the land’s historic connections to Native American tribes. Cultural surveys have identified evidence of Indigenous settlements in and around the property, and the Al-tamont Landfill Open Space Committee has also asked State Parks to classify the area as a reserve to protect Native American history.

Last November, the Alameda County’s Agricultural Advisory Committee sent a note to the Board of Supervisors to advocate for specific trail connections and parking areas in the Tesla property, which seemed to reinforce the belief that State Parks has all but decided to classify the area as a park with active recreational opportunities. Draft concepts shared by State

Parks last year all included plans for camping, which would not be permitted in a natural or cultural reserve.

The committee’s letter was a premature attempt to affect the outcome of the state classification process, and Haubert and Miley, who comprise the board’s transportation and planning committee, took the right action last week to not forward the letter to the full Board of Supervisors.

Several groups including Tri-Valley Conservancy and the Native Plant Society have registered their opposition to a multi-use trail on the lane.

An attempt to create “facts on the ground” in and around the Tesla property — such as supporting the creation of trail connections before the classification process is complete — is an end-run around democratic processes. All our supervisors should take note that this

is happening in the open, where the public can see this.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District’s master plan also does not imply any trail connections to the Tesla parcel. Agricultural Advisory Committee chair Jack Norton said State Parks doesn’t build trails that harm wildlife.

State Parks may not intend to harm wildlife, but developing anything above the minimum level of recreational use on the land is undoubtedly going to do exactly that.

Those who support minimum-impact activities in the property need to keep up the pressure to ensure the state doesn’t ram through a plan that will negatively impact the land’s biodiversity and Native American history. Our local leadership also needs to resist the attempts to make an active-use park a foregone conclusion.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Letters may not contain advertising. Abusive letters and letters containing ad hominem attacks may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed or not run at all. Letters should be limited to 300 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com or submitted using the form below.

The letters to the editor deadline is Monday at 8 a.m. If you wish to submit a letter pertaining to a special event or meeting taking place on a Monday before any given Thursday print edition — and you would like your letter to run that week — please contact the editor (editor@independentnews.com) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 8 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.

Wildfire Preparedness and Climate Weirding

Laurene Green, Plaesanton

It’s that time of year again where conditions in California become increasingly favorable for wildfires. Are you prepared? Do you know how to prepare, or where to look for guidance? I started asking myself these questions in 2020, and now review my household status yearly. I found many public websites with preparedness help: public utilities, city, county, state, and federal. They have information on hardening your home/property/business, family evacuations, including pets, dealing with smoke, damage, and WUIs (wildland urban interfaces) — a problem highlighted by the 2025 LA fires. There are also websites to either view or sign up for emergency alerts, like PG&E, Alameda County Alert, or CAL FIRE.

A good place to find helpful links is TVAQCA.org. We are a non-profit that “protect[s] Tri-Valley air quality by helping the community build awareness and capacity to reduce

pollution, improve health, and adopt sustainable climate actions“. While at the site, check out the Global Weirding video links; they have great explanations for our weird and dramatic weather shifts, which increasingly exacerbate conditions for wildfires.

Mail-In Ballots

Philip La Scola, Livermore

There has been some talk in the media about the counting of ballots in California. This talk is centered around how much time it takes to complete the count of mail-in ballots.

In California, mail-in ballots are sent to everyone on the voter registration list. A mail-in ballot is considered valid as long as the postmark bears a date no later than the date of the election. That could mean it may take up to a week or more to receive that ballot and more time to complete the counting of those ballots.

I have heard, in the case of June 2, that the ballot count might stretch into July. This raises the question of voter fraud in the minds of many.

In the state of Oregon,

there is no in-person voting. It’s either mail-in or drop box. However, there is a big difference between what happens in Oregon versus California. The difference is that all mail-in ballots are only valid if they are received by the date of the election. So even if a ballot is postmarked as late as the day of the election, if it is not received by the date of the election, it is not a valid vote.

It is puzzling why California has not adopted the Oregon method of vote count. It would seem everyone would benefit. The candidates would know very quickly if they had won or lost, and the public as well as the candidates would be more confident there was no voter fraud.

Factory Farming Pollution

Lex Manwill, Livermore

Lawmakers are now investigating toxic gas emissions from animal farming, including ammonia pollution, that threatens nearby communities (The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, Feb. 17, 2026). For residents living near these facilities, this isn’t new—it’s daily life.

We often talk about factory farming in terms of animals or climate, but the human cost is just as real. Families are breathing contaminated air so the rest of us can consume cheap meat and dairy.

This raises an uncomfortable question: how cheap is “cheap” if others are paying with their health?

If we value clean air and public health, we must confront the true cost of industrial animal agriculture, and start supporting food systems that don’t harm communities in the process.

Dublin’s Mayor Hu and Council Member Morada Don’t Trust the Voters!

Mike Grant, Dublin

Like the title says, these two stopped an approval to put the transient occupancy tax on the November ballot for the citizens to approve. On Feb. 17 at the council meeting, the vote was 4-1 to bring it back at a later date for final approval. Mayor Hu was the one vote against this item then. Last night, 6/2/26, the

item came back with more clear data about the tax that is needed to help keep the city of Dublin from losing money. I should rephrase that to say, so the taxpayers don’t subsidize the hotels in town. The mayor voted again no, and John Morada, who basically has zero idea what this tax is for, voted no. Yes, he changes his vote from yes to no!

So last night again this was a political hack job arranged by the Dublin Chamber of Commerce. Now why do I say this? Well, the Mayor’s reelection campaign gets backing from some business in Dublin and out of towners who basically own her. Now for John, I can only assume he had no idea what TOT was until Feb 17. His comment last night saying we can’t keep taxing Dublin citizens was by far the most ridiculous thing I heard from a council member in years. It shows me that you may be good in the private sector, but you’re not very smart when it comes to city government. This also shows me that after 37 years in this town, that these two are being influenced by outside people and not helping the Dublin taxpayers. Remember, Dublin, that the mayor is up for reelection in November, so take a real hard look at who is running against her. We do have choices.

Who Profits from Progress?

Eloise Hamann, Dublin

Why has no one in any newspaper asked the following question: why are executives of companies the only ones to profit from progress that results in less need for human work? They lay off a number of workers. Why not shorten the workweek or the workday? People would have more time to spend with their families. Children would benefit. Why is that not important?

In the meantime, salaries of executives have increased much faster than the salaries of everyday workers. According to “CEO Today” magazine, CEOs earn 632 times the salary of a median employee. Other sources have the ratio at 268. Common Dreams sites the rise in pay for CEOs over 1,000

percent, while worker pay went up just 24%. Should not every American benefit from progress? Instead, under the current administration, some people with jobs are sleeping in their cars. Further, people are dying because they can’t afford healthcare.

The Pride Resolution

B.J. Reynolds-Koonce, Livermore

At their May 12 meeting, the LVJUSD Board voted 4-1 to adopt a resolution recognizing June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month.

The public comments opposing the resolution were deeply troubling. When constituents write things like “I do NOT want my grandson going to schools that will teach LGT plus Q trash! This has NO place in any schools; it’s evil, it goes against Christian values!”; it becomes painfully clear why LGBTQIA+ students don’t feel safe at school, at board meetings, and perhaps even in public.

Trustee Kaplanis’s “no” vote was a failure of leadership. Although she repeatedly claims that she “loves all students equally,” her consistent votes against LGBTQIA+ students belie those claims. Her actions single out those students for exclusion. Our community deserves better.

It bears repeating what the Pride Resolution actually is: a symbolic acknowledgment of Pride Month. No tax dollars are spent. No campus celebrations are held. In fact, despite the 4-1 affirmation of the Pride Resolution, LVJUSD remains the only district in the Tri-Valley that doesn’t fly the Pride Flag. That distinction should give us all pause.

I am grateful to the four trustees who voted in favor, as they do every year: Trustees Bueno, Prusso, and VandenHeuvel, and Board President Drouin. Their support for LGBTQIA+ students, teachers, and families is genuine. But this vote makes clear that the work is far from done.

Get the Money Out of Politics

Kyoko Takayama, Livermore

Money in politics is one of the top reasons voters feel that their votes don’t matter. Thanks to a Cit-

izens United decision in 2010, corporations are people, and they can make political donations. A Super PAC can donate to another PAC so that it is hard to find where donations are coming from. It is called a “pass through”, and trackaipac.com/candidates reported CA14 candidate Melissa Hernandez received \$200,000 of independent expenditure from AIPAC. You can’t control independent expenditure, which can’t coordinate individual campaigns, but AIPAC chose her as a pro-Israel candidate like Swalwell. How can we reduce the money influence? One way to do it is to finance campaigns publicly. Currently, only charter cities can create public financing for the candidates, and results are promising. This November we will have a ballot measure to repeal the ban. If passed, this measure will allow any jurisdiction in the state of California to explore if they want to have public financing. Also, a bill to limit corporation power to spend money in politics became a law in Hawaii last month, and our State Senator McNerney is promoting the same in California. It isn’t easy, but together we can reduce the influence of money. Let’s make it happen!

Vote NO on the BART Tax Increase

Marcus Libkind, Livermore

We have the power. We need to use it now to save BART in the Tri-Valley.

Tri-Valley residents have been paying BART taxes since 1957 — yes, for 69 years, yet Livermore never received its promised station, and our nearest two stations opened 15 and 29 years ago. Now BART and Governor Newsom are threatening to close both Tri-Valley stations, along with Castro Valley’s, unless voters approve a new sales tax increase. I urge you to vote NO.

Tri-Valley voters are being asked to fund a 14-year tax with NO CONTRACTUAL GUARANTEE that even one station in the Tri-Valley will remain open with reasonable hours. The tax could pass, and our stations could still close. That

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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A young cowboy gets up close with an alpaca at the petting zoo, one of the featured highlights along Main Street during Pleasanton's Country Fest this past Saturday as part of the Tri-Valley Twist three-day event. (Photo — Jacob Clouser)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

is not a hypothetical.

Under BART's current policy of closing its lowest-ridership stations first, West Dublin/Pleasanton (5th lowest) and Castro Valley (6th lowest) are both vulnerable. The Dublin/Pleasanton station, despite ridership more than double the others, could also close, because it sits at the end of a long stretch of track that must be maintained, serving just one stop.

Even if the tax passes, BART will still face a shortfall of at least \$45 million per year. Our stations are not safe.

What we do have is leverage; but only right now, before the November vote. The proposed tax measure cannot pass without Tri-Valley support. We should use that power to demand a written guarantee that at least one station in the Tri-Valley remains open before we agree to any new tax.

We need a community organization to step up and lead this effort. The time to act is now.

Great Quote

Richard Andrews, Livermore

Sir Edmund Burke, the 18th century Irish born British statesman has many wonderful observations. Most still ring true today. As I look at the quotes and false claims of our current head of state, I hear Burke crying out loudly and clearly: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel" No greater living example exists than when #47 calls traitors who attacked OUR Capitol "patriots".

Demented Donald is also living proof of what Burke meant with:

"Those that no nothing of history, are doomed to repeat it." which he demonstrates daily from his throne.

Unfortunately WE the People are having to pay for the "traveling Medicine show" that is being forced upon us.

Election Fraud

David Marco, Livermore

"Republicans Lost it by a Lot" with a late-night ballot drop. How convenient. Why did the California Assembly and Governor Newsom sign a bill that (illegally) prevented the feds from investigating election fraud in California? Do ya think they might be hiding something?

I'm so happy this finally has the light it deserves. I've watched this over the years, and California is horrible. Taking weeks to count ballots when we're supposed to be so high tech, while India can count 600M in a day, is absurd. There are many ways to prove the counting is rigged. Nonpartisan Elec-

tion Integrity Project® California (EIPCa) has been investigating and litigating this for decades. They have canvassed counties and proved that when they go door to door and ask how people voted, it doesn't match the voting records. Their cases have passed the test of the 9th Circuit and other courts.

A few years ago, EIPCa's canvassing showed we allow more than 400,000 ballots to be improperly counted. And the scrutiny of signature verification has gone to simply the poll worker guessing. IMHO that is why we have a Democrat super majority. They do NOT represent the will of the people. In the last election, they passed a law making it illegal for poll workers to ask voters if they were American citizens. Are they desperate to allow illegals to swing our elections?

A few years ago, there was a recall on Newsom. Everyone I spoke with said that he had to go. But he won with 70%. A whistleblower said that he actually lost by 70% and a few top officials decided the outcome.

I hope Trump prosecutes this fraud — time will tell. But it's certainly there, and we're getting closer and closer to exposure and prosecution.

Welcome to Trump World: Draining America's Emergency Oil Tank

Rosario Milelli, Pleasanton

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is supposed to be America's emergency fuel tank. It was created after the 1970s oil shocks so the country would have protection in a real crisis — war, embargo, natural disaster, or major supply disruption.

Now, after Trump's Iran "excursion," that emergency tank is being drained. American emergency reserves are being used to stabilize global markets, not just American consumers. The administration authorized the release of 172 million barrels from the reserve, to be delivered over about 120 days. The reserve, which has an authorized capacity of 714 million barrels, is now reported at about 357 million barrels — roughly half full.

That raises a simple question: half full for whom?

If this is America's emergency oil, why isn't every released barrel required to benefit American consumers first? Why should oil companies get access to public oil, sell into global markets, and then leave American drivers paying whatever the market will bear?

We are told this is only an "exchange," meaning

companies will return the oil later, with extra barrels added. But a barrel missing during a crisis is not the same as a barrel promised next year. If another emergency hits, the country has less cushion. If replacement costs rise, taxpayers carry the risk.

This is not complicated. Any emergency release should come with clear rules: disclose who gets the oil, require domestic use first, prohibit resale games, publish the repayment terms, and claw back windfall profits.

The public paid to create the reserve. The public carries the risk when it is drained. The public deserves to know who benefits.

Trump creates the crisis, drains the reserve, calls it energy leadership, and lets oil companies profit while ordinary Americans fill the tank and pay the bill.

Huang Relying on God Dale Reynolds, Livermore

While reviewing candidates during the primary, I remember seeing the name Wendy Huang for CD-14. She was a Republican, so I skipped right past her name for obvious reasons. But today I received an unsolicited text from her saying, "Don't split votes! Vote again by 6/16 for Wendy Huang, CD-14. Fighter for GODLY interests (emphasis mine) — not political interests." This statement alone should immediately disqualify her. The vote IS for political interests and has nothing to do with her god. They are truly trying to break the wall between separation of church and state. I read through her entire VoteForWendy page, and it's interesting that she did not bring up god even once. Is she trying to trick voters? And if she didn't get enough votes the first time, why is she now relying on god instead of her political prowess?

Swalwell's Gravy Train Wreck

Tom Murphy, Pleasanton

The best career decision Eric Swalwell ever made was to run for a seat in the House of Representatives, where once elected, he was almost certain to win every bid for reelection despite not actually producing any results. Look at his record; he did not. His district would vote for anyone with a "D" behind their name.

He was a Pelosi puppet who would perform in any direction and manner she directed, and she was his protector. A good example was his relationship with a Chinese spy who helped him win his first election. When under investigation, Pelosi defended him and even refused to remove him from the House Intelligence

Committee. He believed he was invincible with the cover he was getting from Pelosi and her cohorts.

He was successful in getting frequent press coverage fighting the Trump administration and making empty promises of how he would make life better for his constituents. He got reelected despite no actual results.

Thus, he was on the House of Representatives Gravy Train and could have easily ridden it to the end of a long career had he stayed on it. But he got too full of himself and decided to run for Governor of California. Although truly unqualified, he saw the opportunity to capitalize on name recognition and being a Democrat.

With early endorsements from Pelosi and many others, he was on his way to becoming your next Governor. But as soon as al-

legations of his sexual assaults and misconduct were made, they all ran from him like rats jumping off a sinking ship.

Swalwell's career truly ended up like a train wreck. He should have stayed on as Representative. But then lots of people would have been wasting their vote on a flawed Representative and one who didn't actually produce results.

'Meet the Press' Interview

Frank Cannella, Livermore

On Sunday, June 7th, NBC aired Meet the Press, their long-running news program. On the show, Kristen Welker had an exclusive interview with Donald Trump, conducted on a farm in Wisconsin during a rainstorm. While the storm was distracting, the interview was remarkable. She asked questions about the war in Iran, the economy, Trump's campaign promises, the January 6th insurrection, and the 1.776 billion slush fund, among other issues. Please make an effort to view that episode if you

did not view it on Sunday! At first, I was appalled, but then I became fearful, as the president of the United States convinced me he was so delusional about the 2020 election results, the economy, the war in Iran, his slush fund, the Jan. 6th rioters, that he actually believes the lies he continues to spout. He then attacked the integrity of Ms. Welker, her network, and every other network except Fox, after which he walked away from the interview.

If you watch the interview and are satisfied and respect the performance of the president, then you are a true MAGA cultist. I, on the other hand, continue to suffer from Trump derange-

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Park District Adopts Students’ Sports Equipment Idea

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) is launching a pilot program at Jack Willams Park that was suggested by several Foothill High School (FHS) students to encourage outdoor activities.

Visitors to the park at 2041 Neptune Rd. will have access to “Sports Stack,” a box with tennis rackets, balls, frisbees and other sports equipment available for use.

The idea was originally presented by FHS students during a public comment period at an LARPD Board of Directors meeting. Members of the “Sports Stack” team later attended a LARPD Facilities Committee meeting to expand on the concept and answer questions.

The students also created a prototype and conducted a small-scale test at a local park to gather feedback and refine the idea.

We wanted to create a way to encourage more kids and families to be active outdoors, said Neti Vyas, a Sports Stack team member. “By making sports equipment freely available at parks, Sports Stack helps park visitors experience a variety of sports whenever they want and build a stronger community within our parks.”

“Our parks are designed to bring people together, and this pilot program is a creative way to encourage kids and families to get outside and connect with one another,” said Jan Palajac, LARPD board director and Facilities Committee chair. “What makes this project especially exciting is that these students identified an opportunity to enhance local parks, and they worked through the public process to help bring their idea to life.”

The pilot program is expected to run through Monday, Aug. 31, with the students monitoring the equipment box, gathering community feedback and evaluating usage to help determine the program’s effectiveness.

Goodness Village to Celebrate 5th Anniversary at Fundraiser

LIVERMORE -- Goodness Village will celebrate its fifth anniversary at its annual fundraiser at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., on Saturday, June 20.

Goodness Village, which provides housing and support services for formerly homeless residents, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on its 28-unit “tiny homes” community on property owned by CrossWinds Church on May 21, 2021.

Since then, the Livermore-based nonprofit said, 50 individuals have lived in the single-occupancy, 160-square-foot units, which include a bathroom, kitchenette and central heating and cooling.

Goodness Village also offers vocational training, mentorship, mental health and substance abuse support, and a resource center for community activities.

Goodness Village said 11 residents have found outside employment through the nonprofit’s vocational programming, while those who qualified for federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments were also able to increase their income and create greater long-term stability.

“To watch individuals who once believed they had no future begin planning for apartments, reconnecting with family, maintaining employment and dreaming again is incredibly powerful,” said Goodness Village Executive Director Kim Curtis. “Goodness Village was built on the belief that people heal in community when they are treated with dignity, consistency and compassion.

Five years later, we are seeing that vision come to life every single day.”

The fundraiser will begin at 5 p.m. and includes dinner, no-host bar, dancing and both live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$150 and are available online by going to gvlivermore.org and clicking on “events.”

MEASURE D

(Continued from front page)

incorporated county, it has been criticized for having negative unintended consequences,” wrote Alameda County Community Development Agency (CDA) Director Sandra Rivera in a report.

“For those of us who are in the unincorporated agricultural areas, Measure D is not theoretical,” said rancher and winegrower Griffin Beemiller, adding that the restrictions have increased the risks of families losing their farms. “It affects whether families can remain on the land, whether agricultural businesses can adapt, whether the next generation can live and work here, and whether policies that were written decades ago still match today’s realities.”

According to the request for proposal for polling services issued in February, CDA looks to analyze a new initiative “to re-establish the board of supervisors as the legislative authority in making general plan changes, in a defined and limited capacity.” Currently, general-plan changes beyond Measure D’s limits require a public vote.

Haubert, whose district will sponsor the polling, shared feedback from the Livermore wine country on Measure D’s perceived detrimental effects.

“The wine region of East County is dying,” Haubert said. “I will not have the death of the wine region on my hands, because we can only have one restaurant that predates Measure D in all of East County.”

But numerous public speakers took issue with using taxpayer dollars to try to undo a voter-approved policy, as any change would require a ballot measure of its own.

“This is far more than a poll,” Mark Evanoff said. “It’s not appropriate to use public funds to prepare a ballot strategy to amend Measure D.”

Shirley Lewandowski added, “This is a misuse of taxpayer money — my money. Whatever entity wants this poll to be done by consultants should privately pay for it and not use public funds.”

The board also voted to waive the county’s competitive procurement process in soliciting polling services. According to county staff, the county accepted bids for three weeks earlier this year, but it received only one bid at \$149,000 when it had expected bids below \$100,000. Cognizant of an August deadline to finalize any ballot measure for this November’s election, and expecting the same one-party interest in bidding, CDA asked the board to waive the competitive process.

Resident Donna Cabanne called the contract a “waste of money” and urged the board to adhere to the competitive process. She also highlighted past practices of first forming working groups of constituents before bringing recommendations to the board for potential ballot measures.

Miley, in an attempt to quench alarm over changes to Measure D, said it may already be too late to place a measure for the coming election.

“The board has made no decisions about a ballot measure in November,” Miley said, adding the poll was to better inform the county. “Quite frankly, I don’t think we would have time even if this poll were to be conducted and get back to us to craft a ballot measure for November.”

Tam said the requested services were “kind of duplicative” of existing polling conducted less than three months ago. The poll of 600 Tri-Valley voters, commissioned by the Tri-Valley Conservancy, found that 80% of respondents prioritize open space and 71% prefer preserving open lands over new businesses and industries.

Haubert responded by saying the new poll would query residents countywide.

The contract with Team-CivX extends to July 31.

COUNCIL

(Continued from page 3)

253 all-electric housing units under construction, 110 new trees planted by the city and 123 acres of open space secured for conservation.

“This shows our commitment to climate action, and I particularly want to highlight the open space which the city acquired through public funds,” said Mayor John Marchand. “These acres are strategically placed around the fringes of our community for a wildlife corridor and to be conserved in perpetuity.”

Affordable Housing Rules Amended

Next, the council voted to amend the project approvals for Shea Homes Aura and Serenity and authorize an alternative means of compliance with the city’s Inclusionary Housing Ordinance for each project.

The alternative compliance method would be implemented through a future Affordable Housing Agreement for Aura, and an amendment to the existing Affordable Housing Agreement for Serenity.

Shea Aura, located at the southwest corner of Portola Avenue and the Tranquility Circle intersection within the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan, is currently under review for the Final Map. Shea Serenity, located at the northeast corner of Portola Avenue and Collier Canyon Road is still under construction and has sold some units.

The Shea Aura and Serenity townhome projects were approved by the council in 2024 and 2022, respectively. Although both townhome projects were originally approved in compliance with city affordability codes, Shea Homes Development Manager David Best requested the amendments in light of shifting market conditions. Although the local development ordinance allows for paying into the city’s housing fund to meet the affordable housing requirements, neither project included a request for alternative compliance options when originally approved.

“One issue is that one- and two-bedroom condos aren’t really sellable in the current marketplace, especially in a suburban environment like Livermore,” Best said.

With these concerns, Best requested to pay an in-lieu fee to satisfy the affordability requirements rather than building the affordable units on-site.

“For amendments like this, it doesn’t happen frequently,” emphasized Housing and Human Services Manager Frances Reisner. “The city has allowed a few amendments to occur with developers during times of difficult housing market conditions, but this is fairly unusual.”

Under the added amendments, the total number of units for both projects will remain unchanged, and a portion of the moderate-income units will instead be sold at market rate. To maintain the concessions and waivers the projects were granted under State Density Bonus Law, they must maintain a minimum 10% of overall units as affordable on site. Therefore, only a portion of the approved moderate-income units would be authorized for an alternative means of compliance.

Pushback Over Former Prison Site

Also at the June 8 meeting, 20 speakers turned out to request that the council add a resolution to their next meeting agenda, formally declaring their opposition to the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in Dublin reopening as an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center.

While ICE and the Department of Homeland Security have stated that they currently have no plans to use the former federal prison site as an immigration detention center, the facility’s future remains heavily disputed.

On May 1, the federal Bureau of Prisons released an environmental assessment on the property, a required procedural step before transferring the land to the General Services Administration. Advocates argue this transfer could be a precursor to repurposing the site for ICE.

“Livermore is a beautiful, tolerant and empathetic city that cares for all its residents and strives to keep us all safe and free,” said Livermore resident Lara Webber. “With an ICE detention center 15 minutes away, this will mean a significantly increased presence of ICE officers in our community and have a chilling effect here in Livermore.”

The City of Dublin and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors have already passed a resolution declaring opposition to the reopening of FCI Dublin as an ICE detention center. In the meantime, while Livermore city officials consider the same measure, the ICE Out of Dublin Coalition continues to organize protests and advocate for the demolition of the closed prison rather than its repurposing.

Wine Country Inn Scaled Down

The Livermore Planning Commission recently approved proposed modifications to the Wine Country Inn. While supporters praised the project for bringing much-needed lodging to the South Livermore Valley, the development also faced significant pushback during a May 19 Planning Commission meeting. Of the roughly 30 public commenters, the majority voiced concerns over the inn’s perceived unsightly design aesthetics. Opponents also warned of potential traffic disruptions, increased noise and safety hazards.

The modifications include a reduction of its building square footage and the removal of a planned restaurant.

Slated for the southwest corner of Arroyo and Hansen roads, the Wine Country Inn will feature 24 single-story, cottage-style buildings with a total of 30 guest bedrooms, a meeting space, guest kitchen, lobby building, guest pool and a caretaker’s unit.

The latest version of the project also includes 39 paved parking spaces, eight bicycle parking spaces, landscaping with 82 new trees and related on- and off-site improvements, according to the planning commission’s May 19 agenda. The modifications bring the total building area to roughly 19,100 square feet.

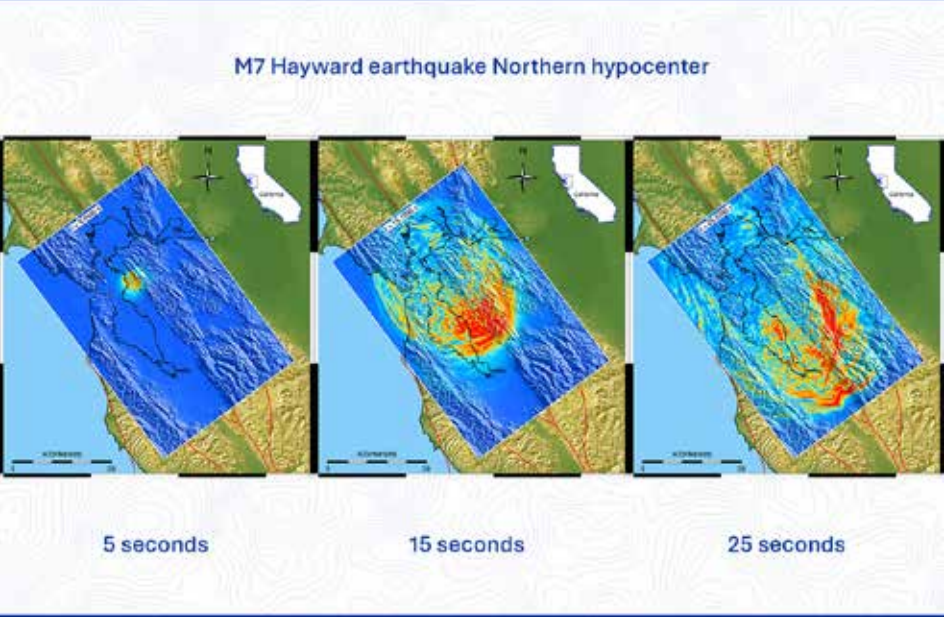
Under the project’s previous Site Plan Design Review, the Wine Country Inn was expected to have a two-story, 29,345-square-foot building and a 77-seat restaurant.

“This modification shifts the project toward a more lodging-focused, visitor-serving facility without a restaurant, and continues to advance the area specific plan goals of enhancing the wine country visitor experience and supporting long-term visitation in the South Livermore Valley,” the staff report stated.

The planning commission adopted both a resolution approving the Site Plan Design Review Modification and a resolution finding that the inn remains within the scope of the previously certified environmental impact report.

HAYWARD

(Continued from front page)



Ground motion simulation of a magnitude 7 earthquake on the Hayward fault using the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory-Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Earthquake Simulation platform. (Rendering courtesy of LLNL)

estimated magnitude-6.8 earthquake shook for more than 40 seconds and caused damage from San Francisco to Napa to Hollister.

With almost 160 years now since the last earthquake, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) considers the fault one of the most dangerous in the nation, estimating a 14.3% chance of a magnitude 6.7 or bigger earthquake by 2034 and a 33% chance by 2043. The East Bay’s dense population, with its critical gas, water, electrical and transportation infrastructure crossing the fault, has primed the area for extensive damage.

To better understand the hazard, the national labs team created a simulation platform that models both the generation and propagation of seismic waves. The researchers then used LLNL supercomputers to simulate 50 magnitude 7 earthquakes along the fault.

“With this new database, not only can we provide better estimates of the expected ground motion from this type of earthquake, but we can also locate areas that are susceptible to very strong shaking in the San Francisco Bay Area,” Pitarka said.

The research team now hopes to simulate more powerful earthquakes, which require more computational power to model. The team is also interested in earthquakes along the Greenville Fault, which notably produced strong back-to-back earthquakes in January 1980.



The Hayward Fault, seen here in Fremont’s Central Park, creeps at about a rate of an inch every five years. (Photo — David Jen)



East Bay Grooveline, a six-person dance band that features funk, groove, Motown, rhythm & blues and disco hits, will take the outdoor Shea Homes Stage in front of the Bankhead Theater for a free Tuesday Tunes concert at 6:45 p.m. on June 16. The summertime Tuesday Tunes concerts are sponsored by the Livermore Cultural Arts Council with support from Shea Homes, Fremont Bank, The Independent, Mony Nop Real Estate, Uncle Credit Union and Uncle's Yu's. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Cultural Arts Council)

Chamber Hosts Wine Country Luncheon

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce will host a Wine Country Luncheon at the Garre Vineyard and Winery, 7986 Tessa Road, on Thursday, June 25, with Alameda County District 1

Supervisor David Haubert providing an update the “State of the County.” The luncheon, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., will also celebrate the 2026 graduates of the chamber’s nine-month Leadership Liver-

more development program conducted in partnership with the city. Cost of the luncheons is \$90 for chamber members and \$100 for non-members. To register, go to livermore-chamber.org.

SEWER

(Continued from front page)

“This is the first time Pleasanton sewer rates have been comprehensively evaluated using a detailed cost-of-service methodology designed to right size revenue and equitably allocate costs among customer classes supported by a detailed

management plan and (capital improvement program) plan,” said Pleasanton Director of Public Works Siew-Chin Yeong.

Without such drastic measures, the city’s sewer service would not meet state regulatory requirements

for effective sewer system management, according to a city report.

Even with the increase, Pleasanton’s total sewer rates will remain between those charged by DSRSD and the City of Livermore. While DSRSD currently

SPARC to Update ‘Hamlet’ to Cold War Era Interpretation

LIVERMORE — SPARC Theater will mark its 20th anniversary season this summer with a reimagined production of Shakespeare’s “Hamlet,” updated to the Cold War era and a world of shifting power and deception.

“Setting ‘Hamlet’ in the 1990s allows us to explore the intersection of private grief and public image in

a way that feels immediate and recognizable,” said director Lisa Tromovitch. “It’s a decade many of us remember, but it’s also the beginning of the world we’re living in now.”

Andre Amarotico, a familiar face on Bay Area stages, will take on the role of Hamlet.

The play will be performed under the stars at

Darcie Kent Vineyards, 7000 Tesla Road.

Opening night is Thursday, July 2. Friday, Saturday and Sunday performances are scheduled every weekend in July, with the exception of Saturday, July 4.

All performances start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available online at sparctheater.org.

Nonprofit to Offer Lunches for Youth at Livermore Libraries

LIVERMORE — Open Heart Kitchen is partnering with the Livermore Public Library to provide free lunches for children and teens throughout the summer.

Bag lunches will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Rincon and Springtown branch library locations

through Saturday, Aug. 1, helping ensure that youths have access to nutritious meals while school is out of session.

Open Heart Kitchen is a Livermore-based nonprofit that sponsors multiple community and senior meal programs in the Tri-Valley and operates a regional food bank that

helps supply nine partner agencies.

1606 Holmes Street
Livermore CA 94550
925-409-2615
BubbsBagels.com

\$1 or 10% Off
Your Order (whichever is greater)
6:30am-2:00pm Daily
Offer Expires 7/15/26

LASPO

(Continued from page 3)

projections presented to the Board of Trustees.

Compared with those projections, the final financing reduced total debt service on the Series D bonds by approximately \$31.7 million, while the

refunding transaction generated approximately \$25.1 million in gross taxpayer savings. Issuance costs also came in below budget, allowing additional funds to be directed toward campus projects.

“The community entrusted us with these resources through Measure A, and we take that responsibility seriously,” Linda Granger, CLPCCD board president, said in a statement. “This fi-

ncing demonstrates the district’s commitment to protecting taxpayer dollars while continuing to improve the learning environments and facilities our students and communities rely on.”

City staff plans to present its final rate study in July

WINE TASTING AND PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS
FRI 12pm - 4:30pm, SAT, SUN & MON 12pm - 4:30pm

LIVE MUSIC AND FOOD VENDORS
FRIDAYS 5pm 8pm & SAT/SUN 12pm to 4:30pm

WINE DOWN FRIDAY - HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY 12pm - 8pm
\$10 GLASS, \$20 FLIGHTS, \$10 MIMOSAS & WINE SPECIALS

Make your online reservations at
reservations@retzlaffwinery.com

TESLA

(Continued from front page)

finalizes its comprehensive environmental review of the project.

Haubert said he wanted time to better understand the potential interplay between people, horses, bikes and wildlife in the future park.

“While I am supportive of this letter in some ways, I also can’t in good conscience support forwarding it because we have opposition,” Haubert said, adding that a future town hall might serve to explore that balance further.

Speakers representing numerous groups — including the Native Plant Society, Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, Livermore Heritage Guild, Tri-Valley Conservancy and Friends of Tesla Park — shared their opposition to a multi-use trail, calling AAC’s request premature and misguided.

“The (AAC) did not review the nearly 25 years of work that had been done to document Tesla’s irreplace-

able resources,” said Celeste Garamendi of Friends of Tesla Park. “They hadn’t studied the comprehensive and extensively sourced and peer-reviewed biological assessment and scientist consensus statement.”

Livermore resident David Furst, who serves on the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP) board but speaking for himself, said that LARP’s master plan never implied a South Livermore Valley Trail connection to Alameda-Tesla, nor did it imply multi-use access to the property.

AAC Chair Jack Norton repeated that his committee did not seek a recommendation on the park’s classification, but instead sought to address the lack of regional trails in eastern Alameda County.

“State Parks does not build trails that harm wildlife,” Norton said. “In fact, designated trails are a conservation tool. They con-

centrate visitor traffic into managed corridors, direct people away from sensitive habitat, support biodiversity goals and create opportunities for wildlife education and stewardship.”

To set the context for the trail, AAC Member Larry Gosselin described the human uses the area has already seen since pre-European times, including those for food management, food processing and hide production. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory’s Site 300, which tests explosive materials, also sits adjacent to the Alameda-Tesla property.

“If weapons development at Site 300 didn’t impede bioresources in the area, there’s no reason to think that a trail could not be managed in a way that did manage bioresources,” Gosselin said.

State Parks estimates the completion of Alameda-Tesla’s draft environmental impact report will take place toward the end of this year.

PLEASE HELP BRING MIGUEL HOME



Miguel Lopez left in the photo, next to his son, Julian Lopez, and his wife, Rosa Lopez.

Livermore Wente Winery worker, married father of three and grandfather

Miguel Lopez

remains in Mexico after having been illegally deported last June.

To donate to a GoFundMe account supporting the Lopez family, visit

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/bring-miguel-back-to-his-loved-ones>

THE INDEPENDENT GALLERY

Oratoria A New Art Exhibit by Leonardo Cuervo



Presenting the newest etching pieces embedded in a retrospective of oil and graphite works.

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Gallery Open During

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FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH 6 - 8 PM

&

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH 6 - 8PM

Art Gallery Sponsored by
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arts
&
THE *Independent*
2250 First St., Livermore

Dublin Summer Concert Series Kicks Off Tonight, June 11

DUBLIN — Singer-songwriter Tyler Gene will kick off the city’s annual Summer Concert Series tonight (Thursday, June 11) at the Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater, 4201 Central Parkway.

The free Thursday night concerts, featuring Bay Area bands, run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and coincide with the Dublin Farmers’ Market, which opens at 4 p.m.

Gene, a Livermore resident whose social media

describes him as a “part-time California Cowboy by way of the Ozark Mountains,” features a blend of country, folk and Americana.

Also scheduled are Best Intentions with a June-

teenth celebration featuring Motown, rhythm and blues, soul and early hip hop, on June 18; Hella Doubtful, a No Doubt tribute band, on June 25; Amor Prohibido, a Selena tribute band, on July 9; and

Pop Fiction, performing dance hits from the ’70s to today, on July 16.

Rounding out the series will be The Unauthorized Rolling Stones, a Rolling Stones tribute band, on July 23; Take 2, a dance band

known for blending classics with modern hits, on July 30; and Tainted Love, playing hits from the ‘80 in a Back to School Night performance on Aug. 6.

No concert is scheduled for Thursday, July 2.

Opera in the Vineyard Makes Its Return to the Garre Winery

LIVERMORE — Opera in the Vineyard will return to the Garre Vineyard & Winery this summer with performances by the Livermore Valley Opera (LVA) at 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 28, and Sunday, Aug. 16.

The first performance will feature soprano Liesl McPherrin, mezzo-soprano Edith Dowd, tenor Joachim Luis and baritone Andrew Pardini, baritone, with Chun Mei Wilson on piano.

The second performance will feature soprano Avery Boettcher, mezzo-soprano Courtney Miller, tenor William Gorton, tenor and baritone Luis Orozco, with Varvara Milinder on piano.

Both nights will include familiar opera arias and timeless Broadway melodies, with the singers moving through the crowd. LVA said guests will also be able to “purchase” songs to be sung at

their tables or seating area from a menu of arias.

Opera in the Vineyard is a “bring your own picnic” event, with wine available to purchase from the Garre. Guests can also purchase charcuterie boxes from the vineyard when they make their reservations.

There will also be a raffle drawing and silent auction at both performances.

Tickets are \$80 and are available online at [livermorevalleyopera.com](#).

Police Special Needs Registry Is Now Easier with New Design

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Police Department has introduced a mobile-device friendly form to add names to its special needs registry, which allows officers to understand a person’s cognitive, de-

velopmental or medical conditions before they arrive during welfare checks, missing person incidents or other emergencies.

The Special Needs Registry is a voluntary program that allows family members or

caregivers to share information they feel would be helpful to first responders. The registration form is available at [livermoreca.gov/snr](#). For more information, email [snr@livermoreca.gov](#).



Winners of the Adult Division of the City of Livermore’s 10th Annual Poetry in a Test Tube contest gather with city officials at the Livermore Public Library. From left: Livermore Poet Laureate Peggy Schimmelman, Patricia Boyle (first place), Mary Noble (honorable mention), Ashley Grenier (third place), Eva Holz (second place) and Mayor John Marchand. (Photo courtesy of Peggy Schimmelman)

Winners Announced in the 10th Annual Test Tube Poetry Contest

LIVERMORE — Winners in the city’s 10th annual Poetry in a Test Tube contest were recognized last month during an awards ceremony at the Civic Center Library hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Peggy Schimmelman.

In the adult division, first place went to Patricia J. Boyle for “Song of Spring,” second place went to Eva Holtz for “A Scientist’s Love Poem,” and third place went to Ashley Grenier for “Climate Change’s Wardrobe.”

Mary Noble received honorable mention for “How Declan (Age 6) Learned the States of Matter.”

In the high school division, first went to Brendan Mazerlev for “Of Fossils and Fission,” second went to Donya Gonaguntla for “The Ocean Remembers (A Climate Change Sorrow),” and third went to Ram Nagar

for “Science All Around Us.”

Arshia Sharda received an honorable mention for “Biological Software: Double Helix, Binary Code.”

In the middle school division, first went to Artha Mishra for “Poetry in a Test Tube,” second to Shayaan Adepu for “When the Forest Went Quiet,” and third to Dia Pise for “The Woes of Endangered Animals.”

Logan Kerns received an honorable mention for “Science: Geology, Marine Biology, and Botany.”

In the grades 3-5 division, first went to Natalie Whyte for “Lilly Wonders,” second went to Andrew McCall for “Water id Life,” and third to Atharv Sharma for “Pair or Repair.”

Riley Raines received honorable mention for “The Science Fair.”

In the kindergarten

through second grade division, first went to Esme Lockhart for “Stars,” second to Ria Anandhan for “A Future Scientist,” and third to Alishka Sharma for “The Moon’s Invite.”

Honorable mentions went to Isabella Ramirez for “Red Pandas” and Mia Vineeth for “The Beautiful Butterfly Cycle.”

LEWIS
(Continued from front page)



Don Lewis III plays on one of the instruments in front of ‘the Maestro’; the sculpture of his father is now on view in Pleasanton’s Delucchi Park . (Photo — Kathryn Stroud)

“That feeling I had in that dream, it was something I never felt in my whole life,” he said. Though he continued to play, he never thought about becoming a musician until after he left the U.S. Air Force and began performing. He then composed three symphonic works for the Denver Symphony Orchestra before building a career as a sound designer, musician and vocalist. He collaborated with Quincy Jones and Michael Jackson, among others, and opened for the Beach Boys during their 1974 tour.

That same year, Lewis designed what would become his most lasting contribution to music: the Live Electronic Orchestra, or LEO. He connected several analog synthesizers, organs and drum machines to play and synchronize from a single keyboard and pedal setup — a full decade before MIDI technology existed. The idea was to bring

many instruments under one voice, one vision.

The Don Lewis Harmonic Symphony does something similar. There are six playable instruments surrounding the Maestro: Contrabass Chimes, Pagoda Bells, Aria Metalphone, Lilypad Cymbals, Harp and Mantra Ray Chimes, all created by FreeNotes Harmony Park. The piece is not just playable, according to Jan Coleman-Knight, a Board Member for the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, “the art is incomplete without human interaction.”

In many ways, the Don Lewis Harmonic Symphony is a nod to the decades Lewis spent encouraging young people to play music. He founded Young Expressions, a mentorship program for student artists, and Say “Yes” to Music!, through which he performed at

school assemblies to get kids to pick up an

instrument. Musician Jeff Bordes was in fifth grade when he first saw Lewis at one of those assemblies.

“I’ll never forget the sound. I felt the magic, and I’ve been playing ever since,” Bordes said. “Few people can say they have changed the direction of an entire community. Don Lewis can say that.”

After the unveiling, Lewis’s son, Don Lewis III, stepped up to one of the playable instruments and began to play. “He loved music. He loved that creative spark,” Lewis said of his father. Asked what his dad would think of the piece, Lewis smiled and said he would love it because it reminds everyone not to worry about who’s watching.

“They see someone with this big smile saying, ‘Come in and play.’

If you find yourself in Pleasanton, stop by Delucchi Park and do exactly that.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 13
QUEST SPARKS! BUILD & RACE SAIL CARS
Join Quest Science Center for SPARKS!, a free monthly family science activity held on the second Saturday of each month. This month, design, build, and race your own wind powered sail car while exploring engineering and problem solving through hands-on fun. Appropriate for ages 5 and up. Free. Drop in anytime. On June 13 from 10 a.m. to –12 noon. Stockmen’s Park, Downtown Livermore. Learn more at [quest-science.org](#).

Wednesday, June 17
CONSUMER FRAUD: DON’T GET HOOKED
Learn about common scams and forms of fraud, get practical tips on how to protect yourself and learn where to report fraud and where to get help. This is a free, drop-in presentation by the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) of Legal Assistance for Seniors. On June 17 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza.

Saturday, June 20
DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD
Make simple dresses for girls in Third World countries! The next monthly Sew-Fest is on June 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands. Come for an hour or all day! (Please bring a bag lunch if you plan to stay all day.) Cheerful cotton fabric donations are always welcome. Contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447, or [suzbeck@yahoo.com](#) for questions or kits that you can sew from home.

Thursday, June 25
STATE OF THE COUNTY, WINE COUNTRY LUNCHEON
Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce is holding a State of the County, Wine Country Luncheon on June 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at Garre Winery and Vineyard. The presenter

will be District 1 Supervisor David Haubert. The luncheon will also celebrate the 2025/2026 Leadership Livermore graduating class from LVCC. Reservations and more information can be found at [www.livermorechamber.org](#). \$90 for members and their guests, \$100 for not-yet-members.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES
FOOD RELIEF SERVICES
Local residents can access vital food-assistance services to help meet basic needs. Food relief services can be found at: Children’s Emergency Food Bank; 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin; appointments M-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 925-828-5363; St. Raymond Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin; third Sat. of the month, 8 to 11 a.m.; Open Heart Kitchen; M-F, 1 to 5 p.m.; 450 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore; Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry , 150 N. “L” Street, Livermore; 925-449-1664 — M-Th, 1 to 5 p.m.; Fri/Sat 12 to 4 p.m.; Alameda County Community Food Bank; 510-635-3663; M-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
In AA, we don’t tell anyone to do anything. We talk about our own drinking, the trouble we got into, and how we stopped. To find a local meeting in person or online, visit [valleyservice-centeraa.org](#) or call the 24-hour hotline at 925-829-0666.

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.

Email non-profit events to [calendar@independentnews.com](#) for newspaper calendar and visit our website [www.independentnews.com](#) to promote all events online.

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Tri-Valley Nonprofit Asking Donations for Kids ‘Thrive Bags’

TRI-VALLEY — Set to Thrive, a nonprofit that provides backpacks with clothing, personal hygiene products and school supplies to homeless children and those in the foster care system in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, is holding a

Summer Thrive Bag drive. The Danville-based nonprofit is encouraging members of the community to donate directly by going to settothrive.org or to purchase recommended items from an Amazon wish list, which can also be accessed

from the group’s website. Set to Thrive is also encouraging community or neighborhood organizations to sponsor their own donation drives. The nonprofit said each of its backpacks includes a new jacket, shoes and

shorts, shirts, underwear and socks for three days. The Set to Thrive bags also include personal hygiene products and age-appropriate books, balls, toys or drawing supplies “to help break up long summer days.” It costs about \$125 to

complete each backpack, according to the nonprofit. Founded in 2021, Set to Thrive said there are about 2,200 children in foster care in Alameda and Contra Cos-

ta counties and more than 5,500 children experiencing homelessness. For more information, go to the nonprofit’s website.

Three Charged with Stealing Catalytic Converter

LIVERMORE — Three Stockton men were charged with grand theft after they were discovered by a car owner trying to steal a catalytic converter on the north side of town, according to Livermore police.

Police said the car’s

owner interrupted the theft in progress about 2:30 a.m. on Friday, May 29. The three men fled in a gray SUV, which police stopped a short time later. Police said a search of the vehicle revealed multiple reciprocating saws, masks, floor jack and a

battery charger charging several saw batteries. One of the suspects admitted to the attempted theft and said they regularly steal catalytic converters, according to police. The suspects were identified as Eliso Gallardo,

36, Juan Cazarez-Alvarado, 35, and Jose Perez, 33, all from Stockton. They were charged with grand theft involving property from a motor vehicle and other charges. Police said Gallardo is also on parole for a prior robbery.

Dublin to Host Emergency Preparedness Class

DUBLIN — Dublin and the Alameda County Fire Department will hold a free Personal Emergency Preparedness class at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25. The session will cover how to minimize hazards in the home, what to include in a disaster kit, how to create a family communication plan and how to manage utilities after an earthquake. To register for the class, go to tinyurl.com/52hkk65d.

OBITUARIES

Celebration of Life

Larry D Howard
Jan. 20, 1942 — Dec. 29, 2025
In Loving Memory



Larry Howard passed away on December 29, 2025, of natural causes surrounded by members of his loving family. He was born in Sylacauga, Alabama to Elizebeth Warbritton and George Harry Howard. His stepfather, Dewey Hudson, also played a prominent role in raising him from an early age. At the age of five, he moved to Livermore, California, where he resided all his life, graduating from Livermore High School in 1960. Growing up, he loved sports, especially football, and during his senior year in high school he was awarded the most valuable player award following Livermore High’s undefeated season, which culminated in a local playoff victory. He joined the

Pleasanton Fire Department and was proud of his lifelong career as a first responder serving the community he loved. During the last few years of his career, he took on a leadership role in the Pleasanton Firefighters Union, successfully negotiating the merger

of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Departments (LFPD). In retirement, he spent time playing country and blues tunes on his guitar, gathering with family, fishing, BBQing, and enjoying the good life at his fishing shack in Oakley, California. He was a wonderful, caring father who put his family first, had many good friends, and always stressed the importance of doing the right thing. He is survived by his children Rebecca, Shawn, Holly and Phillip, and his grandchildren. Larry is reunited in peace with his daughter Sharon, who preceded him in death. Family and friends will be gathering for a celebration of life on May 27 at 11 a.m. at 2137 Buena Vista Ave., Livermore, California.

Christine Ann Aarvik
Feb. 6, 1967 — Apr. 6, 2026



With heavy hearts, we share the passing of someone deeply loved and cherished. Our family has lost a beautiful soul whose kindness and love touched everyone around her. Though our hearts are broken, we are grateful for the time we had with her and the memories we will carry forever. Christine Ann Aarvik passed away on April 6, 2026, at the age of 59. Our beloved mother, Christine, was the heart of our family. She was kind, warm, and endlessly giving—always putting others before herself and making sure everyone around her felt cared for and loved. She had a gentle spirit and a generous heart, and she found joy in the simple things, especially spending time with family, playing bingo, and shopping, which she truly loved. Christine was born to Robert and Irene Bishop, who

preceded her in death. She grew up in Livermore, California, and attended Livermore High School, remaining closely tied to the community she called home. She was a devoted sister to John (Mitzi) Bishop and Cathy (Scott) Rich, whom she loved dearly. She leaves behind her children, Amber (Patrick) Campbell, Thomas Aarvik, Jonathan (Teresa) Aarvik, and Henry

Davis, along with her four grandchildren, Addison, Jaxon, Aubrey, and Maddison, who meant the world to her and brought her so much happiness. Being a grandmother brought Christine immense joy, and she treasured every moment she spent with her grandchildren. Our mom worked at Albertsons and later at Seaside as an accountant. No matter where she was, she was known for her caring nature, strong work ethic, and willingness to help others. To us, she was everything—a wonderful mother, a constant source of love and support, and someone who always put her family first. Her love, strength, and kindness will remain with us always. She will be missed more than words can express. Our family will be holding a private celebration of life to honor her memory.

Jimmy Diaz
Oct. 1, 1948 — May 7, 2026



Jimmy Diaz passed away on May 7, 2026, at the age of 77 after battling stomach cancer. Born on Oct. 1, 1948, in Sacramento, California, Jimmy was the son of Theodoro and Frances Diaz. He grew up in Sacramento before moving with his family to Livermore in 1963, where he built lifelong friendships and created many cherished memories. Jimmy was married to the love of his life, Marlyn Diaz, for 44 years. Together they built a home centered around family, camping trips, holiday gatherings, and backyard parties. They loved bringing people together and hosting family and friends. Jimmy worked in facilities for the Pleasanton Unified School District for more than 30 years before retiring. He took pride in his work and the community he served. In 2019, Jimmy moved to Brentwood to be closer to his daughter, Kaycie Kaeding, son-in-law Scott Kaeding, and grandchildren Korver, Syler, and Reed. Grandpa, better known as “Cha Cha,”

was one of his greatest joys. He loved family dinners, backyard firepit nights, watching Yellowstone with the family, and spending time with those he loved most. Family and friends knew Jimmy for his sense of humor, storytelling, and ability to make people laugh. He was often called “Jim Rambo” because of his tough personality, though those closest to him knew he had a big heart. One of his favorite quotes was, “I ain’t got time to bleed,” from the movie Predator, and anyone who knew Jimmy can probably hear him

saying it. Camping trips were some of Jimmy’s favorite times. He loved gathering around the campfire, telling stories, and making people laugh. When the trip was over and it was time to head home, he would always shout, “Herd ‘em up and move ‘em out!”, his saying he got from an old western show, signaling that it was time to get going. He also enjoyed hunting, fitness, and staying active. Whether working out, spending time outdoors, or teaching others about self-defense, staying active was simply part of who he was. Jimmy is survived by his daughter, Kaycie; son-in-law, Scott; grandchildren, Korver, Syler, and Reed; sisters, Aurelia Diaz Gove and Roselia Diaz Hernandez; and brothers, Theodore Diaz, Roy Diaz, Ruben Diaz, and Robert Ximenez-Diaz. He was preceded in death by his wife Marlyn Diaz, parents, brother Richard Diaz, and sister Amelia Diaz Lovan. Dad, we’ll miss you every day. Herd ‘em up and move ‘em out. ♡

Celebration of Life

Roger Marley
Sept. 15, 1946 — April 22, 2026



Roger Marley passed into eternal life on April 22, 2026, nearly 80 years a lifelong Bay Area resident. He is survived by wife, Linda; son, Jeremy; sisters, Debbie Roberson and Diana Marley-Givins; and nieces, nephews and cousins. He is a man of honor, integrity, and sense of duty and fairness; always sharing God’s light and love with the world. Born to father, Donald, and mother, Grace, in Richmond, California in 1946, he spent many summers hitchhiking down to his Granddad Tex in Pacific Grove. He graduated from Ravenswood High School, East Palo Alto, in 1964, where he met high school sweetheart and wife of 58 years, Linda Marley. He joined the US Navy in 1964 and served aboard the USS Carpenter with three tours in Vietnam. He was active in the Jaycees, 1971-1975, where he helped build the North Livermore Neighborhood Park,

supported seniors in the neighborhood installing deadbolts, and served on the Springtown Board of Directors. He then became active in the First Presbyterian Church as a deacon, choir member, and chaplain for Scout Troop 939 for over 40 years. As deacon, he served as Christmas Eve dinner chair, led the annual giving tree, and visited with elders and veterans in the community. He spent over 40 years

camping with Jeremy and Troop 939 at Wente Scout Reservation where he earned the Unsung Hero Award. He was a founding sponsor of the Bankhead Theater, loved the Oakland A’s, Raiders, and 49ers. He traveled the world, with the love of his wife. Europe, Caribbean, Central America, South Pacific, Hawaii, Mexico, Canada, Panama; he always found a way to connect with locals over tourists, living the words of his cousin and musical mentor, Bob Marley, “The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his ability to affect those around him positively.” A celebration of his life will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, California, on June 20, 2026, at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to livermorearts.org/support-the-arts in his name.

Eva Gayle Marion
Aug. 15, 1930 — May 4, 2026



Eva Gayle Marion passed away peacefully on May 4, 2026, aged 95, in Livermore, California. Her memorial service will be at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street in Livermore, California, on June 18, 2026, at 11 a.m. All are welcome. Eva was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1930, to Mary Elizabeth and George R. Liddle; she had two older

brothers, John and George. In 1944, her family moved to Pasadena, California. Eva attended Pasadena City College and then UCLA where she obtained a degree in Education. She met her future husband, John, on a double date, and they were married on Eva’s 23rd birthday, in 1953. She taught elementary school in Santa Monica while John finished his degree, and then together they followed his assignments as an officer in the Marines. Their first child, George Howard (Howie), was born in Quantico, Virginia, and their second, John Edward, in Palm Springs. After John completed his military service, the family moved to Livermore, where John began his career at Sandia Laboratories in 1958. Their youngest, Mark James, was born the next year at St. Paul’s Hospital in Livermore.

In 1967, they built a home in Livermore, where Eva continued through her 95th year. Even though she was outnumbered in the family by boys, she was an active supporter and enthusiastic participant in many strenuous hiking and boating trips with the family. Eva Gayle resumed her teaching career in the early 1970s, teaching elementary school in Livermore at Mocho, Marilyn Avenue, and Portola schools. A decade later, she returned to university and obtained her Master’s Degree in Family Therapy, and began her second career as a professional psychotherapist. Eva Gayle and her family were members of the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore, beginning in 1958 in the old chapel. Eva served as a deacon in the church and after obtaining her therapist license, she provided coun-

selling and taught parenting classes at the church. Eva Gayle’s life was also one for great worldwide adventures with John, visiting six of the seven continents, including two round-the-world trips, a transatlantic crossing on the QE2, and a trip to Australia in the early 80s, where son Howie was the sailmaker for the America’s Cup defender in Perth. Eva Gayle was an avid, passionate, and gifted singer. She could comfortably sing a high “C” and had a notably clear tone. For 60 years she sang and competed nationally in barbershop choruses and especially quartets, and was a long-time member of the church choir, directed by Janet Holmes. One of her most lasting and memorable contributions to the family has been spreading her love of singing. Eva

taught her family a love for music. The boys have fond memories of singing together in the car on long road trips, and nearly all family gatherings included enthusiastic singing. John was relatively young when he died at age 69, so Eva has been a widow for her last quarter century. Her family has been able to assemble for holidays and birthdays that Eva hosted in her home. Her family members were all close by in her final days. Eva was introduced to PEO by her mother and was active for most of her years. She participated in several book clubs, the community garden, and SIRS and was a member of the SF Symphony. Eva continued to live in her home, which was her ardent choice, until her last few months, which were at Quail Garden Residential Care, the

same location where she gave birth to her son Mark. Eva Gayle is survived by her three sons and their partners, Howie (Kathryn) of Santa Fe, New Mexico, John (Diana) of Livermore and Mark (Rick) of Sebastopol, her grandchildren, John Evan, Laura, Monica and Max, and by her great-grandson, Jude. She was preceded in death by her husband, John. Her sons are grateful for, and would like to thank, caregiver Sandy Aldrich, Sally Leonard, and all her friends who provided support and care. We would also like to thank the staff at Quail Garden for her peaceful final days, and Hope Hospice for their excellent care. In lieu of flowers, contributions to Quail Garden recreation fund would be appreciated.

Cowboys Are Last Team Standing in NCS Baseball Final

By Mitch Stephens

Sometimes the stars simply align. Sometimes, the script writes itself, the floodgates open and the chips fall where they may.

Livermore High School's athletic season was not going to end in the cellar. Not this senior class. Not a chance. No way. Hell and no.

The Cowboys' baseball team, blessed with a load of talent, plenty of winners and a preseason MVP candidate in UC Santa Barbara bound Braden Ford, was optimistic heading into the 2026 season.

But the East Bay Athletic League is a gauntlet.

It's loaded with confidence, tradition and quality teams. Despite dominating nonleague wins over Mission San Jose-Fremont (9-1), Santa Rosa (21-2), Kimball-Tracy (11-3) and San Marin-Novato (14-1), the Cowboys came crashing back to earth with six straight losses and 11 in 13 games, six by a single run.

They finished in last place in the EBAL's Valley Division at 1-7, which just didn't seem right.

After all, the school's football team, behind league offensive Player of the Year and first-team All-Bay Area quarterback Matteo Lortie, won its first EBAL title since 1993. To top it off, they beat

arch-rival Granada to clinch the crown.

The school's boys basketball team, led by super sophomore Amare Chandler, won its first league game after 121 straight defeats, went on to beat league champion De La Salle-Concord for the first time,

in 32 years. That propelled them to a 24-2 regular season, an undefeated (13-0) EBAL championship season and a No. 1 Bay Area ranking by the San Francisco Chronicle.

The boys volleyball team, buoyed by EBAL Player of the Year Carter Macintosh,

before graduation day.

Fortunately, within Livermore's enrollment classification (Division 4), the Cowboys had an above-.500 record at 4-2, qualifying them for the NCS playoffs.

And with new life, the Cowboys were reborn, and

added a run-scoring double. Ryan Kohn got the win with two innings of work without giving up an earned run.

"Baseball had one amazing postseason run," Livermore athletic director James Petersdorf said.

And it was just getting

with a double, two home runs and seven RBIs. He was also the winning pitcher with two scoreless innings of relief. Dylan Wherry also homered among his three hits and three RBIs, vaulting the Cowboys into the NorCal finals at top seed Half Moon Bay on Saturday, June 6.

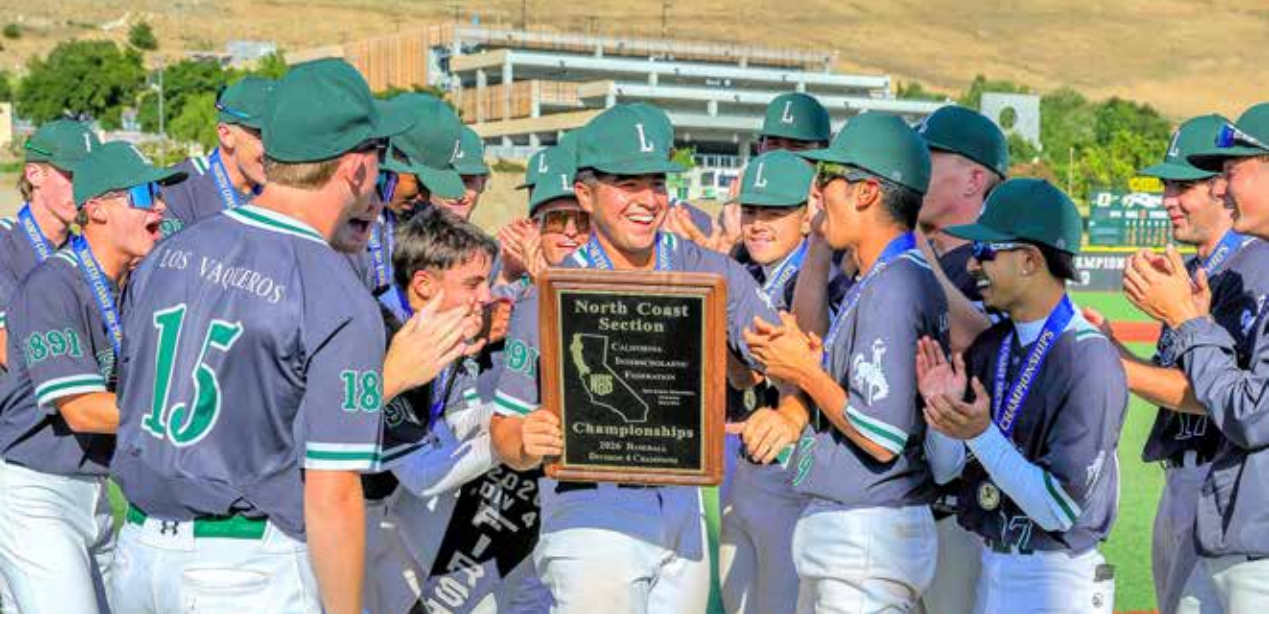
Unfortunately for the Cowboys, the cool ocean breeze and the Half Moon Bay pitching duo of Kai Kung and Paxton Holden proved to be a giant wet blanket to Livermore's big bats, recording a 2-0 win. A double by Lee and singles from Wherry, Nolan Armanino and Erik Schock were the only hits Livermore managed, wasting a fine pitching performance from Ford and Wherry, who gave up just two earned runs, struck out five and walked one.

"They just ran out of hitting in the last game but prior to that, it was the best hitting we had all year," Petersdorf said.

The loss didn't diminish the baseball team's season, which finished at 12-19 while outscoring opponents, 176-172. Remarkably, not only were the Cowboys the last EBAL team still standing at the end of the season, but also the last NCS squad.

It also helped finish off one of the more impressive athletic years in school history.

"Overall, it was one of the most successful years we've had in a really long time," Petersdorf said. "We had a lot of teams that were really successful in football, baseball, softball, volleyball and basketball. They all had great seasons, and the coaches did a phenomenal job. I'm really proud of all of our kids and coaches for how hard they worked and I'm excited to see what we can do next year."



Livermore's Nico Rodriguez holds NCS title plaque. Livermore celebrated an 8-7 win over Newark Memorial in the North Coast Section Division 4 title game at Ohlone College in Fremont on June 6. (Photo courtesy of Kiera Winslow/Livermore-Granada Booster)

and won a first North Coast Section road playoff game.

The softball team, behind league Player of the Year, shortstop Laine Macosky, and Pitcher of the Year Kaci Norton, won its first Livermore Stampede title since 2015 and for only the third time

and first-team All-Leaguers Jacob Smithson and Matthew Calaway, recorded its first 30-win season (32-5) — it had never even won 20 games — and first league title (13-2).

The baseball team couldn't end the 2025-26 season with an unsightly 6-18 record. Not

made amends.

They won six straight games, the first three by two runs each before an 8-7 humdinger of a victory over top seed Newark Memorial at Ohlone College-Fremont to win the school's second NCS championship and first since 2016 when as the seventh seed, they won the Division 2 crown. The championship propelled Livermore for the first time into the CIF Northern California championships.

In the NCS title win over Newark Memorial, Nico Rodriguez went 4-for-4 with four RBIs including a homer. Griffin Lee and Luke Mederos each had two hits and an RBI and Ajay Sahi

started, especially at the offensive end.

The second-seeded Cowboys had their hitting boots on during home wins over University Prep-Redding (15-8) and Immanuel-Reedley (13-5).

In the win over University Prep, Ford blasted a two-run home run and Lee was 4-for-5 with four RBI. Mederos, Ford, Gavin Guenther and Jack Wilhite each drove in two runs as Livermore battered University Prep pitching for 16 hits.

The hit parade continued against Immanuel with 15 more knocks, including three long balls, two by Ford who closed his home career with a career game, going 5-for-5



Teams Shine in Spring Finals

By Mitch Stephens

What a finish. Like a fantastic race to the line, Tri-Valley athletes made a tremendous push down the stretch in the spring this 2025-26 school year.

Among the many highlights:

Livermore's 4x400-yard girls track relay team. Sometimes the winner isn't the best story at all. Witnessing the euphoric reaction of freshmen Sophia Robinson and Francesca Romagna, sophomores Divynity Dulay and Shelby Sousa and senior/mama bear Lanie Hempel after the final running event of the North Coast Section Meet of Champions at Dublin High School showed something here was special.

The Cowboys actually crossed the line second in 3 minutes, 55.80 seconds, just behind the winner Campolindo-Moraga (3:55.10). Judging from the five girls' reaction — Sousa was an alternate but ran with the team all season — it appeared they were victorious.

That's because in the trials, they had run 4:03.35, so in one day the team had improved almost eight seconds and by doing so, qualified for the state meet. "We have one more week of practice, ya'll," one of the girls blurted amid a sea of tears and laughter.

"It's beautiful," said Hempel, who earlier qualified for state in the 800 with a time of 2:10.80, just off her personal best of 2:10.36 set while winning the East Bay Athletic League title the previous week. "These are my little babies (laughter). All season we've been working toward this one race and time and we all put it together when it counted most."

The Cowboys didn't make it to the state finals the following week in the trials at Buchanan High in Clovis, but at least they had reached the pinnacle meet.

Granada baseball. The 2024 team had one of the greatest seasons in California history, going 32-1, and winning historic EBAL, NCS and NorCal titles while being ranked No. 4 nationally by MaxPreps.com. Without a single player returning from that team, and graduating 18 players from its 2025 team, the 2026 Matadors began a voyage of self-discovery early, going 3-4 in their first seven games. A nice rebuilding season seemed in the works.

Instead, coach Corrigan Willis' program advanced as far as they could go, with a new bunch of scrappy and talented players, bolstered by a terrific defense and pitching staff, in the NCS Division I finals, knocking off powerhouses San Ramon Valley-Danville (6-5), Alhambra-Martinez (8-6) and Clayton Valley Charter-Concord (3-1) in the process.

They lost in the finals to arch-rival De La Salle-Concord (6-0) but responded immediately with a dramatic 5-4 win at Sac-Joaquin Section champion St. Mary's-Stockton (5-4) keyed by an RBI double from Jeff Badger and RBI singles by Austin Sheldon and Joseph Holt. A

three-run seventh-inning rally vaulted the Matadors to the NorCal semifinals, where they rallied again from a 6-3 deficit at second-seed Elk Grove only to score four in the fifth, keyed by a two-run double by Colton Rieke and run-scoring double from Austin Sheldon.

The Matadors (20-10) ultimately ran out of pitching and lost 11-7, but Willis, in his 18th season, said this was "one of my favorites I've ever coached." He noted they basically had to hit the "reset button" after replacing so many graduates. "We have some talented ballplayers, but we were a completely different team in February than we were in May because guys bought in and worked," Willis said. "We had a great team culture. It felt like a family and that's how it was established."

First-team All-League pitcher Braden Makley, a junior, was remarkable at 7-3 with a 1.58 ERA, 97 strikeouts, 14 walks in 75.1 innings. The team ERA was 2.15.

Livermore's softball. The EBAL champions finished 25-4 with their four losses coming by a total of six runs. The Cowboys, led by league Player of the Year Laine Macosky (.537 average, 44 hits — 20 for extra bases, 30 RBIs) and Pitcher of the Year Kaci Norton (20-3, 1.27 ERA), outscored opponents on the season 215-58. Other first-team All-Leaguers were Isabella Kelton (.388, 33 hits), Payten Williams (.351, seven home runs, 29 RBIs) and Gianna Willes (.437, nine doubles, six home runs, 43 RBIs).

More first-team All-EBAL softball players: Granada's Madeline Bittman and Aubrey Ingram, Foothill's Alexa Sponsel, Dublin's Caitlyn Carr and Amador Valley's Mai Falcone.

More baseball stars. Foothill senior catcher and UCSB-bound standout Hudson Flora was the EBAL Mountain Division Player of the Year. Other first-team All-EBAL Mountain players were Foothill's George Schmitt and Amador Valley's George Fagundes, and second-teamers were Granada's Brandon Hahn and Tyler Palma, Foothill's Ryan Cooney and Grant Hoenninger and Amador Valley's Aaron Solomon.

First-team Valley Division baseball players included: Dublin's Kolby Brening and Matt Phelps and Livermore's Braden Ford, and second teamers were Dublin's Christian Acuna and Dalton Doyle and Livermore's Erik Schock.

Swimming sensations. First team All-EBAL aquatic team boys members/champions were Granada's Ryan Harrington (diving), Amador Valley's Kealan Tupper (200-yard individual medley), Cade Vieler (100 freestyle, 100 backstroke) and the 400 free relay team of Vieler, Dylan Li, Tupper and Oryan Liu.

Foothill's McKinley Scobie (100 butterfly, 100 freestyle) were female EBAL champions along with Amador Valley's Alexis Thompson (100 breaststroke). Granada's Brooke Bennett (200 IM, 500 free) and Taylor Bennett (100 breaststroke) took second.

Foothill DECA Team Finishes First at Career Conference

PLEASANTON — The Foothill High School DECA team of John Allen, Nikhil Krishnan and Agastya Kuluvall took top honors in the Career Development Project category at the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) last month in Atlanta.

The category, part of the Business Management and Administration section for high school students, emphasizes the use of project management skills to promote careers in marketing, hospitality, management,

and entrepreneurship.

For their project, the Foothill team planned and executed a hackathon centered around entrepreneurship for Bay Area youth and then described the management process and presented the results to a panel of judges at the ICDC.

Foothill DECA member Vatsal Srivastava also finished in the top 20 in the Quick Serve Restaurant Management Series, while Tanvi Poewar and Elise Chou finished in the top 20 in Hospitality Services

Team Decision Making.

DECA is an international program for high school and college students considering careers in marketing, business management and administration, finance, hospitality and tourism.

More than 10,000 high school students qualified for the conference, considered the highlight of the DECA program year, and competed in 60 role-play and written categories. Foothill had 29 students qualify for the five-day conference.

Wheels Adds Photos Contest to 40th Anniversary Celebrations

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) has expanded its 40th anniversary Wheels celebration to include a Spot the Bus photo contest.

Residents can post pic-

tures of the 40th anniversary bus to win gift cards and Wheels gear.

LAVTA said winners would be drawn monthly from all eligible entries.

LAVTA launched its Wheels 40th anniversary

celebration earlier this year by offering free rides on its commemorative bus, which rolls out on a new route each week.

For entry rules and instructions, go to wheels-bus.com.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622897

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Simple Things Hospitality; 2. Da Grinz Coffee, 169 Via Linares, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): 1. Tianna Richard-Arrighi, 169 Via Linares, San Lorenzo, CA 94580; 2. Susan Richard-Arrighi, 169 Via Linares, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Tianna Richard-Arrighi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 30, 2026. Expires April 29, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6851. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622792

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. AJW Ventures; 2. Bible Peruser; 3. Drew's Reviews; 4. Drew Reviews, 6243 Sussex Dr, Dublin CA 94568-7448 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Andrew Warre, 6243 Sussex DR, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s: Andrew Warren, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 24, 2026. Expires April 23, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6852. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622878

The following person(s) doing business as: Silvera Jewelry School, 1105 Virginia Street, Berkeley, CA 94702 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Silvera Jewelry School LLC, 1105 Virginia ST, Berkeley, CA 947002. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/2011. Signature of Registrant/s/: Joe Silvera Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2026. Expires April 28, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6853. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623211

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Valley PHCS LLC, 25500 Gold Ridge Dr, Castro Valley, CA 94552-5454 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Green Valley PHCS LLC, 25500 Gold Ridge DR, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/24/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Cynthia Magwili, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 11, 2026. Expires May 10, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6854. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623231

The following person(s) doing business as: Who Let Her Brake, 2421 64th Ave, Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jessikah Fechner, 2421 64th Ave, Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/11/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jessikah Fechner, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 11, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6855. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623220

The following person(s) doing business as: Raphael Stone Collection, 14694 Wicks Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nuvira Stone, Inc., 14694 Wicks Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/11/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Elidan Ben Hamo, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 12, 2026. Expires May 11, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6856. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623230

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri Valley Automotive, 6743 Dublin Blvd, Ste 5, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tri Valley Auto Group Inc., 6743 Dublin Blvd, Ste 5, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/11/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sofiane Zemmouche, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 12, 2026. Expires May 11, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6857. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623262

The following person(s) doing business as: AB Supply, 45461

Fremont Blvd, Ste 8, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ATC Colors, Inc., 445 Lesser ST, Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Dong Yi, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 13, 2026. Expires May 12, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6858. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623338

The following person(s) doing business as: Ground & Grow Your Mind Therapy, 2883 Hopyard RD #1008, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amanda Knoese, 2883 opyard RD #1008, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/20/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amanda Knoese, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 13, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6859. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623352

The following person(s) doing business as: Hamza Auto Body, 37643 Timber ST, Unit P, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Said Hasib Sadat, 37643 Timber ST, Unit P, Newark, CA 94560. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/14/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Said Hasib Sadat, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 14, 2026. Expires May 13, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6860. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623332

The following person(s) doing business as: Door and Frame Worx, 1283 Martin Luther King DR, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marco Antonio Reyes Rocha, 1283 Martin Luther King DR, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/14/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Marco Antonio Reyes Rocha, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 14, 2026. Expires May 13, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6861. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623387

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Moon Flower Melts; 2. Grounded Growth, 577 Via Acalanes, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miss Jessica Millett, 577 Via Acalanes, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Miss Jessica Millett, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 15, 2026. Expires May 14, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6862. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623494

The following person(s) doing business as: Falafel N Gyro, 51 Wright Brothers Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ahmad Masoud Faizi, 51 Wright Brothers Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ahmad Masoud Faizi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 21, 2026. Expires May 20, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6863. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622996

The following person(s) doing

business as: DrHussainYoga, 1133 E Stanley Blvd, Suite 103, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tasmina Hussain, 1133 E Stanley Blvd, Suite 103, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tasmina Hussain, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2026. Expires May 3, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6864. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622956

The following person(s) doing business as: FBB Studios, 1940 Webster ST, Ste 806, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ngo Bassong, 1940 Webster ST, Ste 806, Oakland, CA 94612-2920. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ngo Bassong Bassong, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 1, 2026. Expires April 30, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6865. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622633

The following person(s) doing business as: Dandy Lion Florals, 727 Arbor DR, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jessica Parkyn, 727 Arbor DR, San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jessica Parkyn, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 21, 2026. Expires April 20, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6866. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623417

The following person(s) doing business as: Wanhive, 2155 Chateau Place, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chateau Fiasco, LLC, 2155 Chateau Place, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/14/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Peter Hootman, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 18, 2026. Expires May 17, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6867. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622786

The following person(s) doing business as: Mortgage Dynamix, 11501 Dublin Blvd #200, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dynamic Real Estate Services, 11501 Dublin Blvd, Ste 200, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/1/2004. Signature of Registrant/s/: Levy Barnes, President, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 24, 2026. Expires April 23, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6868. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623413

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Lost Worlds; 2. I love Lost Worlds; 3. Lost Worlds Livermore; 4. Lost Worlds By Playverse, 6538 Patterson Pass RD, Ste E, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Playverse LLC, 6538 Patterson Pass RD, Ste E, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 7/16/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kamran Chaudhry, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 15, 2026. Expires May 14, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6869. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623197

The following person(s) doing business as: The UPS Store #1411, 6167 Jarvis Ave, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rai Portfolio LLC, 2609 Cranston CT, Tracy, CA 95377. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Aman Rai, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 11, 2026. Expires May 10, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6870. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623407

The following person(s) doing business as: Delford West Flowers, 10971 Clifford Dr, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shana Draggoo, 10971 Clifford Dr, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Shana Draggoo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 15, 2026. Expires May 14, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6871. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 585641

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Delford West Flowers, 3070 Oliviro CT, Livermore, CA 94550. Registered by the following owner(s): Karl Raymond Eckel, 3070 Oliviro CT, Livermore, CA 94550. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 1/13/2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Karl Raymond Eckel, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 5/13/2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6872. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 620918

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Black Cat Closet, 3917A Novel Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546. Registered by the following owner(s): Wen-Yi Wan, 3917A Novel Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 2/18/2026 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Wen-Yi Wan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 5/20/2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6873. Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623555

The following person(s) doing business as: L'Arcana, 4249 Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Justine Valino, 3736 Fallon Road, #641, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/22/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Justine Valino, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 22, 2026. Expires May 21, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6874. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622877

The following person(s) doing business as: Bloom Craft Floral Co., 3833 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lukas Plato, 3833 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/24/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lukas Plato, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2026. Expires April 28, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6875. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623247

The following person(s) doing business as: Paradise Landscape, 1115 Rincon Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ivan Munoz Cardenas, 1115 Rincon Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ivan Munoz Cardenas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 12, 2026. Expires May 11, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6876. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623599

The following person(s) doing business as: Como en Casa Colombia Restaurant, 4336 San Pablo Ave, Emeryville, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Como En Casa Colombia Food LLC, 455 Buena Vista Ave, APT 102, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 2/6/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Olga Patricia Gutierrez Garcia, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2026. Expires May 26, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6877. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622712

The following person(s) doing business as: Bly Lee Designs, 7427 Mines RD, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brenda Chambers, 7427 Mines RD, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brenda Chambers, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2026. Expires April 21, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6878. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622952

The following person(s) doing business as: Critter Control of Fremont, 34191 Whitehead LN, Fremont, CA 94555 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kura Pest Control Services LLC, 114 Bald Eagle LN, Kyle, TX 78640. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sridhar Kura, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 1, 2026. Expires April 30, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6879. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623659

The following person(s) doing business as: Juliana Amaya Es-thetics, 2500 Central Ave #201, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby

registered by the following owner(s): Juliana McWilliams, 228 Puddingstone RD, Alameda, CA 94502. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 5/27/2026. Signature of Registrant/s/: Juliana McWilliams, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6880. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623631

The following person(s) doing business as: Omni Mechanical Solutions, 6336 Patterson Pass Road, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Thermo-tekt Services Inc., 6336 Patterson Pass Road, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: James Merver, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 28, 2026. Expires May 27, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6881. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623744

The following person(s) doing business as: I Smart Services, 1705 South Terracina DR, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): I Smart Devices LLC, 1705 S Terracina DR, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Daniele Diodati, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 1, 2026. Expires May 31, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6882. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623542

The following person(s) doing business as: California Sinus Centers, a Division of BASS Medical Group, 5924 Stoneridge Drive, Ste 108, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BASS Medical Group, 2637 Shadelands DR, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 12/18/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rajiv Nagesetty, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 22, 2026. Expires May 21, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6883. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623722

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Ash N Dust Art; 2. Vincent Antoin; 3. Story Our Life, 189 W Angela ST, Ste B, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Story of Our Existence LLC, 189 W Angela ST, Ste B, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 4/8/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Anton Fair Schwaegerle, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 29, 2026. Expires May 28, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6884. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 622778

The following person(s) doing business as: Spotlight Services, 7338 Quartz Cir, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gerald Gallardo, 7338 Quartz Cir, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gerald Gallardo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 24, 2026. Expires April 23, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6885. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623772

The following person(s) doing business as: Solstains, 2313 Central Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ma Althea Yanni Yatco Villareal, 2313 Central Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ma Althea Yanni Yatco Villareal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 2, 2026. Expires June 1, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6886. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 623699

The following person(s) doing business as: Monarch Designs, 3856 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CNM Holdings Ltd Liability Co, 3856 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 04/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christine Noell Michalowski, Owner/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 13, 2026. Expires May 12, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6887. Published June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026.

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NOTICES

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Students Build Anti-Trafficking Awareness Organization

By Sanestina Hunter

LIVERMORE — After noticing widespread misconceptions about human trafficking among her peers, Livermore High School student Archismita Mukherjee set out to raise awareness about the issue.

Those efforts grew into A.S.H.A. (Awareness, Safety, Hope and Action) a youth-led organization founded by Mukherjee alongside Emerald High School student Afnaan Islam to promote trafficking awareness, prevention education and online safety.

Mukherjee launched the initiative after her own interest was sparked during an Advanced Placement Seminar class at Livermore High School, where students were assigned research topics. Human trafficking was one of the options, and Mukherjee said many students appeared uncomfortable discussing it.

“I noticed that many students only associated trafficking with extreme situations shown in movies like ‘Taken’ or online headlines, without understanding how

it can connect to online grooming, manipulation, exploitation, or even labor and organ trafficking,” Mukherjee said.

That experience led Mukherjee and Islam to seek training from anti-trafficking organizations and connect with others working in prevention and awareness.

According to the United Nations’ International Labour Organization (ILO), an estimated 27.6 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking. About 77% are subjected to forced labor and 23% to sexual exploitation. The organization’s focus on youth education comes as the ILO reports that children account for 27% of those victims.

While there is no reliable estimate of the number of victims in the United States, cases have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Tribal lands and U.S. territories. “Schools often teach about cyberbullying or reproductive health, but conversations about how online risks can connect to trafficking and exploitation are still very limited,”

she said.

“You never know who could be behind a direct message on social media. A conversation can start

school students, one example of the youth-led outreach taking place across its growing international network.

members were receptive to the message, she said more work is needed to bring the issue into schools and other youth-focused

ties, it has been inspiring to watch youth recognize the urgency of this issue and take action.”

Looking ahead, Mukherjee said she plans to continue growing A.S.H.A. while studying public health in college.

“There are already students asking about continuing A.S.H.A. chapters,” she said.

“Our biggest goal is to bring these conversations directly to youth spaces. We hope to continue expanding presentations in schools, community events and youth programs because we believe prevention starts with education at an early stage.”

Students interested in volunteering, starting a chapter or learning more about A.S.H.A. can connect with the organization through its Instagram page, @Project.A.S.H.A., or by completing its interest form at forms.gle/KZApyLzXSCsCAcVA.



Pictured from left are Afnaan Islam and Archismita Mukherjee, co-founders of the youth-led anti-trafficking initiative A.S.H.A. (Awareness, Safety, Hope and Action). The Tri-Valley high school teens are working to raise awareness, improve prevention education, and promote online safety among their peers. (Photo courtesy of Archismita Mukherjee)

online and develop into something much more serious. It can happen anywhere, including schools and local communities.”

As part of its awareness efforts, A.S.H.A. has partnered with Love Never Fails and 3Strands Global Foundation while building a network of student volunteers focused on prevention education, online safety awareness and recognizing warning signs before exploitation occurs.

Since then, A.S.H.A. has expanded beyond the Tri-Valley, establishing student-led chapters in Southern California, Hong Kong, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Canada and Australia while reaching more than 3,500 people through Instagram, according to Mukherjee.

Student volunteers conduct outreach through schools, libraries, churches, temples and community organizations, helping young people recognize warning signs and understand how exploitation can occur both online and offline.

Recently, members of the organization’s Hong Kong chapter presented a human trafficking awareness program to middle

“It shows that young people genuinely want these conversations to happen,” she said.

Despite the organization’s growth, Mukherjee said bringing human trafficking awareness into schools and community discussions has not always been easy.

Many people remain uncomfortable discussing the topic, she said, even though schools regularly address issues such as cyberbullying, substance abuse and online safety.

Mukherjee said raising awareness among students is only part of the challenge. Last month, she spoke during public comment at a Livermore City Council meeting to encourage broader community conversations about human trafficking prevention and education.

While community



The Livermore Police Department’s Sticker of the Month for June is a tribute to the annual Livermore Rodeo. The Livermore police Collector’s Sticker Club offers a different sticker every month, which can be picked up at the kiosk in the Police Department lobby. The Rodeo sticker will be available through Tuesday, June 30. (Photo courtesy of LPD)

Tri-Valley Haven Issues an Update to Public on Status of Fundraising Goal

LIVERMORE — Tri-Valley Haven (TVH), which provides housing and support services for the homeless and victims of sexual and domestic abuse, stated that it needs to raise another \$8,000 to meet a community goal of \$70,000, part of its broader campaign to build a domestic violence shelter.

TVH said reaching the \$70,000 mark would unlock a full 50% match from the Community Health and Education Foundation

(CHEF), raising the impact to \$105,000.

“We are deeply grateful to CHEF for partnering with us on this important effort,” said TVH Director of Development Ranjani D’Costa. “This campaign is about more than a shelter. It is about ensuring survivors and their children have access to safety, hope and the support they need to move forward.”

CHEF is a Livermore-based nonprofit that offers matching funds for

projects designed to improve health and education in the Tri-Valley area.

A new emergency domestic abuse center is expected to open in January 2027, replacing a 50-year-old shelter, known as Shiloh, which was razed last year, according to the TVH website. The total cost of the project is pegged at \$9.4 million, with \$1.4 million remaining to be raised.

For more information, go to trivalleyhaven.org.

READER SNAPSHOTS

Share Your Best Shot

We are looking for local photos to feature in The Independent’s new Reader Snapshots section. Whether it’s a beautiful moment, a slice of Tri-Valley life or something that made you smile, we want to see it. Email your image, full name, city of residence and a brief caption to editor@independentnews.com for a chance to be featured in an upcoming issue.

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