

## Livermore Schools Revenue Shortfall Called Out

### Letter From County Warns of Future Budget Deficits

By Ruth Roberts

LIVERMORE — The Alameda County Office of Education has approved the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's budget for 2024-'25. But the county also warned that without continued spending cuts and paying more attention to the budget, the district could face further fiscal restraints imposed by the county.

In short, the district is spending more than its annual operating budget allows. In September 2023, the district borrowed \$20 million from one of its reserve funds to cover that year's shortfall, but paid it back in Jan. 2024. However,

(See DEFICIT, page 11)

## PUSD

### Ghysels Hiring is Finalized

#### Superintendent Secures Full-time Contract for a Year

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — The school district's interim superintendent Maurice Ghysels, has been hired for the 2023-2024 school year. Ghysels will be paid \$283,340 in salary.

The Pleasanton Unified School District's board of trustees voted unanimously to offer Ghysels a full-time contract.

Ghysels's salary is lower than that of the previous superintendent, David Haglund, who at the time of his retirement last June was receiving a base salary of \$369,780. The district says it will save an estimated \$114,375.

"I have had the opportunity to see Maurice in action and the experience Maurice is bringing to the table," said Trustee Justin Brown. "I think he will set us up for success and allow us to hire our permanent superintendent while continuing

(See GHYSELS, page 11)



The Altamont Cruisers Car Club's 35th annual car show and fundraisers brought hundreds of vintage and unique vehicles to downtown Livermore, including a 1950s-era Chevy truck with a 500 cubic-inch hemi engine. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

## General Election

### Rematch in Assembly 16th District

#### Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Joseph Rubay Square Off Again

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan is seeking her fourth term representing the Tri-Valley in her district against a familiar opponent, Republican businessman Joseph Rubay.

Bauer-Kahan, a Democrat from Orinda, and Rubay, a long-time resident of Alamo, will face off in a rematch of their 2020

battle for the 16th District seat. Bauer-Kahan won two-thirds of the vote in that race in the heavily Democratic district.

The 16th District spans parts of Contra Costa and Alameda counties, including Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton. Democrats make up 57% of registered voters, while 13% identify as Republican, according to 2023 statistics from the Secre-

tary of State's office.

Rubay lost to Bauer-Kahan in 2020 and again in their faceoff in the March primary.

Bauer-Kahan was first elected to the Assembly in 2018, and has authored or co-authored numerous bills that have been signed into law, including six in the final days of the 2024 session. Rubay has said Democrats have run up deficits and focused

(See 16TH DISTRICT, page 9)

## General Election

### College Trustee Draws Challenger

#### Incumbent Faces Her First Contest for Las Positas District Board

By Christina Cavallaro

REGIONAL — Maria L. Heredia, retired community college counselor and department chair, is facing a challenger in her run for re-election to the board of trustees for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District. Joseph Grear, a technology industry veteran, has filed to run for the Area 4 seat, which represents the area served by three school districts: Sunol Glen, Castro Valley and part of Pleasanton.

The board of trustees is responsible for the governance of Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore.

The position is one that Heredia has held since July of 2019, when she was appointed following the unexpected death of longtime Trustee Donald "Dobie"

Gelles in May of that year. She lives in Castro Valley.

Joseph Grear, who holds a mathematics Ph.D. and who also resides in Castro Valley, is also running for the BART Board of Directors, Castro Valley Sanitary District and Hayward Area Recreation and Parks Department.

#### Maria Heredia

Heredia said Grear's running for multiple offices was his prerogative.

"He is also running for three or four other positions, so I guess he wants to get in somewhere," she said "But I feel I'm better prepared. But let's let the voters decide, and do what is best."

Heredia has four decades of experience in public school administration, working as a counselor and department chair, including 10 years at the high school

level and 30 years in community colleges.

Heredia said she knows the community college mission and will continue to support efforts to help students get jobs — "hopefully ones that pay a living wage" — as well as facilitate transfers to obtain four-year degrees. She also plans to give attention to the current Bay Area community college funding formula, which she said is inequitable.

"It's inequitable, because the students are treated the same ... as if they were living in a less expensive area. And some organizations (like Veterans Affairs) make that adjustment, but it hasn't been made for us."

"I am familiar with every aspect of the college and how to better prepare students to reach their goals. So I feel that I'm able to continue doing that, and it's

(See TRUSTEE, page 9)

## Newsom Vetoes Rooftop Solar Bill

### Utilities Commission Regulations for Multi-meter Buildings Will Not Change

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Governor Gavin Newsom last week vetoed a bill that would have allowed public schools, shopping centers and landlords of multi-unit residential buildings to use the electricity they collect from their own rooftop solar systems.

In his veto statement, Newsom said he disagreed with SB 1374's intention to reverse a California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) decision last year that required solar panel owners with multiple meters on their properties to sell the electricity they generated to utility companies, instead

of utilizing it to offset what they were purchasing from PG&E and other power companies.

"California has provided policy and financial support for the customer solar photovoltaic (PV) market over the last two decades..." Newsom said. "Given the market's exponential growth and significant cost declines in solar PV systems, it is appropriate and prudent to realign the subsidies provided to customers who choose to install these systems at the expense of customers without solar PV systems."

"This is why the CPUC facilitated a robust, public decision-making process

(See SOLAR, page 9)



Twenty-one-year-old artist Bethany Christenson was contracted by Livermore resident Vic Avila and his wife Sharon to paint a landscape scene on the side of their house as a tribute to the city's wineries and open space surroundings. (See story on page 9.) (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

## Pleasanton Schools

### AVHS Students Program AI to Detect the Truth

#### Presidential Debate Gives App Its First Test

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — A group of Amador Valley High School students recently showed off their coding expertise with an artificial intelligence (AI) fact-checker application they built and tested during the recent presidential debate.

Kevin Kiyoi's advanced computer science class used AI tools to analyze statements from the debate to determine whether the candidate's remarks were true or false based on data-driven conclusions. Some of the student's projects integrated voice-to-text technology,

while others used closed captions from live video feeds to gather input.

"The students combined artificial intelligence with real-time information analysis to create tools that could process vast amounts of data from any event, but was beta-tested during the most recent presidential debate," said Kiyoi in a recent statement. "This is a cutting-edge application of AI's emerging potential, an amazing display of the creativity and technical skills whose base knowledge and skill sets go beyond the traditional classroom."

"The initial idea was for the entire class to create a

(See AI, page 14)



Gaetano Donizetti's comic opera, "The Daughter of the Regiment," opened Livermore Valley Opera's fall season. The opera, about a young woman adopted by a French army regiment, continues its run with matinees on Oct. 5 and 6. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

## Livermore Valley Opera

### Love and Joy Open 35th Season

#### Donizetti's Comic "The Daughter of the Regiment" Delights

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Opera opened its 35th season last Saturday at the Bankhead Theater, showcasing joy instead of tragedy, with Gaetano Donizetti's comic opera, "The Daughter of the Regiment."

Erie Mills, artistic director for the company, said about the choice to open with this comic opera, "I wish it ("The Daughter of the Regiment") were done

all the time."

Mills guessed that the reason that doesn't normally happen was in large part due to people's perceptions of the art form. "I think people get the idea that opera has to be so serious, and somebody has to die." And nobody dies in this Donizetti classic.

"And these days... we live in such a world now... I think people need comedies. I think people love to laugh out loud," she added. "The Daughter of the

Regiment," first performed in Paris in 1840, is by no means all fluff. "It's funny and yet there are just really heart-wrenching (moments)," Mills said. "It's sad in a way and then it turns around and it's happy again."

"It's like champagne; you know, the bubbles come out."

The ebullience is refreshing and spirited due in large part to a stellar cast led by the young French American coloratura so-

(See REGIMENT, page 10)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds .....	10	Dublin School Candidates Vie for Open Seat .....	2
Editorial .....	4	Governor Has Signed Six Bills by Bauer-Kahan .....	2
Mailbox .....	4	Elevation Restaurant Holds Grand Opening .....	3
Obituaries .....	9	Livermore Football Falls to Heritage .....	10
Sports .....	10	Four Candidates Run for LARPD Board Seats .....	12

## PET OF THE WEEK



### TERRY MCSWEENEY

Always camera-ready, Terry McSweeney is a friendly and inquisitive guy who loves to socialize. He loves being petted and making new friends. If you're ready to be his new pal, visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process. (Photo courtesy of Valley Humane)

# For Dublin Schools, First-Time Candidates Vie For One Seat

By Ruth Roberts

Two first-time candidates are running for election to the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Board of Trustee, representing Area 1, which covers the southwestern part of the city and district. Board President Kristin Pelham, who currently occupies the seat, is not running for re-election.

In addition, Trustee Gabi Blackman, who represents the easternmost Area 4, is running unopposed for re-election to the board.

**Kristian Reyes**

Kristian Reyes is running on a platform focused on collaboration and budget management. The married father of two lists his occupation as a sales representative with experience in managing multiple small businesses as well as “profit centers” at Fortune 500 corporations with budgets of over \$100 million.

“I believe that a collaborative process needs to be encouraged by the board, making sure that all DUSD’s stakeholder groups are involved in the decision making process,” Reyes said in an email to The

Independent. “DUSD staff has begun this process by conducting town hall meetings, but more communication and collaboration are needed throughout the year to resolve budget shortfalls for the upcoming years.

Reyes acknowledges that the financial challenges facing most school districts across the state are due to



Kristian Reyes

a slowdown in tax revenues and the diminishing of COVID funding on a state and federal level. Despite those issues, Reyes believes it is essential that there be a collaborative process in place among the board in the event the district has to cut expenditures to balance the budget.

“The district’s top priori-

ty going forward is ensuring that their upcoming budget decisions are made with the focus on the students’ access to a high-quality, well-rounded education that will prepare them for life after high school as lifelong learners and contributing members of society,” Reyes added.

“I will be the candidate



Ramnath Shanbhogue

that listens to and addresses all of DUSD’s stakeholder groups when issues and/or disagreements arise and use my decades of managerial experience to help come up with the answers that address concerns—keeping the students first in mind,” Reyes states on his website.

Reyes holds a bachelor’s degree in business adminis-

tration from the University of California, Berkeley, and an M.B.A. from the University of California, Irvine. He and his family have lived in Dublin since 2014.

For more information, visit [www.kristian4dusd.com](http://www.kristian4dusd.com).

**Ramnath Shanbhogue**

Ramnath “Ram” Shan-



Gabi Blackman

bhogue says that if he is elected, he will work to address the district’s budget deficits while safeguarding the educational quality of the district.

According to his website, Shanbhogue is an engineering director and the parent of two children in the district. He says his priorities as a trustee would

include student safety and advocacy, fiscal responsibility and collaboration. Shanbhogue did not reply to requests for comment before The Independent went to press.

Shanbhogue wrote on his website: “I understand deeply and am committed to ensuring that every student’s well-being and learning experience remains at the forefront of the school board’s decisions. I will champion open dialogue, respect, transparency and collaboration to address challenges head-on.”

The 10-year Dublin resident has actively participated at DUSD board meetings as the district navigates through the equity grading process. He is also an avid sports fan and has served as an assistant coach for his daughter’s Dublin Unified Soccer League team and traveled with the team.

He says the students should be the number one focus for the district, and that as a trustee he will always advocate for their success.

“My motivation is simple: doing right by our children,” he said. “I am not driven by political agendas

but by a genuine desire to serve. Let’s make decisions based on what benefits our students most.”

For more information, visit <https://www.ram4dusd-board.com>.

**Gabi Blackman**

For Area 4, incumbent Gabi Blackman is running unopposed for re-election for a second full term. She was first elected in 2019 during a special election and re-elected in 2020 for a four-year term. Blackman also served as board president in 2023. She is looking for a second full term representing Area 4 and is running unopposed.

The Cornell graduate, Bay Area architect and mother of three strongly advocated during previous terms for the building of the second high school in Dublin, Emerald High School, which opened this year.

During her time on the DUSD board, Blackman was one of two trustees who voted for placing a split bond facilities improvement measure on the ballot, but was defeated in a 3-2 board vote last June.

# Governor Signs Six Bills by Bauer-Kahan Into Law

New Laws Govern Abortion Rights, Water Use, Pesticides in Seeds, Tobacco Restrictions and Plastic Bags

By Larry Altman

Among the hundreds of bills California Gov. Gavin Newsom has been signing at the end of the legislative session, several stood out for having a common denominator: they were authored by Tri-Valley Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan.

Specifically, six bills that Bauer-Kahan authored or co-authored were signed into law last week. The laws increase penalties for water rights violations, strengthen efforts to prevent tobacco sales to minors, provide the public with transparency about the pesticides used in seeds, and ban the use of plastic bags in grocery stores.

“Protecting the health and safety of our communities has always been my priority,” Bauer-Kahan said in a statement. “I’m grateful to Gov. Newsom for signing this common-sense legislation that strengthens our efforts to safeguard California’s resources and promote public health.”

Bauer-Kahan, an Orinda Democrat, represents the 16th Assembly district, which includes Livermore and most of Pleasanton and Dublin. She is up for re-election in November.

The bills signed into law include AB 360, AB 1042,

AB 2021, AB 2085, AB 2099 and SB 1053, the latter of which was co-authored by state Sen. Catherine Blake-spear, an Encinitas Democrat.

AB 460, which Bauer-Kahan proposed last year, gives the State Water Resources Control Board more power to deal with illegal and excessive water use. Under the new law taking effect in 2026, penalties for water rights violations will increase from \$1,000 to \$2,500 a day, with an additional \$10,000 a day for the most egregious offenses. The law includes a specific penalty of \$2,500 for every acre-foot of water diverted unlawfully.

“Water is one of California’s most precious resources,” Bauer-Kahan said. “AB 460 is essential to ensuring that the rules we put in place to protect our water are actually followed, with the power to enforce them effectively.”

AB 1042 aims to give clearer information to farmers and the public about pesticide-treated seeds, which Bauer-Kahan said are commonly used in California’s agriculture industry, have raised alarms over their impact on wildlife and ecosystems. The seeds, however, are not regulated like other pesticides.

Bauer-Kahan’s legislation will require all pesticide-treated seeds sold in California to carry labels detailing information including the Environmental Protection Agency registration number, toxicity levels and the precise amount of pesticide used per seed. The law takes effect in 2027.

Bauer-Kahan said the new law closes a loophole in current regulations by ensuring that farmworkers, farmers, and the public have access to clear, concise information about the substances used in the growing process. The bill hopes to provide transparency over the health risks associated with pesticide exposure.

AB 2021 tightens restrictions on tobacco sales to minors and increases the penalties for retailers who violate the laws.

State law prohibits the sale or furnishing of tobacco or tobacco products to people under 21 years old. Currently, a first offense is subject to a \$200 fine; a second offense is \$500, and a third offense is \$1,000.

The new law will increase penalties to \$500 for the first offense, \$1,000 for the second offense, and \$5,000 for any subsequent offense for firms, corporations, businesses, retailers, or wholesalers, who violate the law.

Newsom also signed two of Bauer-Kahan’s bills related to abortion rights into law. AB 2085 streamlines the permitting process for clinics in areas already zoned for commercial or medical facilities. The bill aims to eliminate unnecessary delays resulting from local opposition.

AB 2099 increases penalties for violations of the California Freedom of Access to Clinics and Church Entrances (FACCE) Act. The bill imposes harsher consequences for people who physically obstruct entrances or intimidate patients and providers at clinics.

SB 1053, which was co-authored by Blake-spear, bans the distribution of plastic bags at grocery store checkouts, closing a loophole that had allowed thicker plastic bags to continue being offered despite the 2014 ban on single-use plastic bags.

Blakespear and Bauer-Kahan had identical bills moving through the Legislature’s two chambers. The bills were reconciled and SB 1053 was sent to the governor’s office.

According to the lawmakers, the 2014 bag ban made progress in reducing plastic waste, but the loophole allowing for thicker reusable bags worsened the problem

because few people reused them. Under the new law, stores must offer recycled paper bags or shoppers can bring their own reusable bags.

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

**SHARI'S**  
PET & HOUSE SITTING  
(925)980-5026

**New on the market!**  
3868 Inverness Way  
3 Bedrooms 2.5 Bathrooms ~1875 sq ft  
Outstanding Portola Glen townhome  
In the heart of it all right off First St/Downtown!  
Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4!  
\$1,048,000

**Linda Diaz Futral**  
Broker/Realtor  
925.980.3561  
linda@lindafutral.com  
www.lindafutral.com  
License #0257805

**LUXICOR**  
REAL ESTATE

**FOR SALE**  
**VILLA CHARDONNAY GEM**

**786 HATTAN DRIVE • LIVERMORE**  
3 Bed Plus Loft • 2 1/2 Bath  
1,850 Sq Ft • 5,696 Sq Ft Lot  
Offered At \$1,178,500

**Open House:**  
Saturday, October 5th, 1 PM to 4 PM

**Nicole Sweeney**  
Realtor  
925.518.2142  
nicole@nicolesweeneyshomes.com  
CA DRE #01965816

Results That Move You

**LEGACY**  
REAL ESTATE  
& ASSOCIATES

# Library Offers Sign Language Storytime Programs

The Livermore Public Library will offer four Saturday storytime sessions this fall in American Sign Language (ASL).

Stories will be signed by Kei-Che Randle, a hearing-impaired educational consultant and founder of Songs to Enhance People Signing (STEPS), which

encourages youths to learn ASL through music and dance.

A spoken English interpretation will be provided by Apryl Chauhan, the parent of a deaf child and former president of California Hands & Voices, a nonprofit that provides support for families with deaf and hear-

ing-impaired children.

Sign Language: Stories and Songs programs will take place at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. on Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 16, and Dec. 14.

The programs are free and all ages are welcome

to attend.

Following each storytime session, the library will offer a craft activity with instructions in English and ASL.

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

He has been serving the patients in the Tri-Valley area for the last 15 years and has held several leadership roles at Stanford Tri-Valley (ValleyCare) hospital.

Dr. Pandya specializes in asthma, emphysema/COPD, trouble breathing, lung infections, lung cancer, interstitial lung disease, snoring, sleep apnea, trouble sleeping (insomnia), narcolepsy and restless leg syndrome.

Dr. Pandya is happy to help existing and new patients by providing care at **two new locations!**

**1393 Santa Rita Rd., Ste. A, Pleasanton**

**87 Fenton St., Suite 210, Livermore**

**Offering:** Lung function testing | Sleep studies (home and in-lab) | Actigraphy | Video visits

For appointments and questions, please call **925-434-5144** or visit **www.AdvancedSNP.com**

Accepting most insurances and Medicare.



LIVERMORE VALLEY arts **Live at The Bankhead!**

**FUNNY WOMEN**  
OF A CERTAIN AGE®  
**SAT OCT 26 | 8PM**

**MONIQUE MARVEZ** **CAROLE MONTGOMERY** **JULIA SCOTTI** **BARB NORTH**

**GET TICKETS NOW!** [LivermoreArts.org](http://LivermoreArts.org) | 925.373.6800

# Elevation LVK and California Parachute Club Are Celebrated

By Christina Cavallaro

In a tandem ceremony held at the Livermore Airport on Sept. 26, the Elevation LVK restaurant and the California Parachute Club of Livermore received official recognition from the city of Livermore.

Sherri Souza, president and

CEO of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, welcomed the full-service bar and restaurant at the airport terminal building with a belated ribbon-cutting ceremony. The restaurant opened in 2020 right before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the economy.

Elevation owner Harmail

Chatha told the crowd, “We’re obviously not new to Livermore.” The four-year-old restaurant’s first day was set for March 12, 2020 — and then Covid hit. “We had a few reopenings in there as well.”

“(On) March 16, the world as we know it ceased to exist, and we descended into four

years of madness,” Mayor John Marchand said before reading his proclamation. “And now here we are, at the formal ribbon cutting.”

“It’s good to be part of the community,” Chatha told The Independent. “We work with a lot of the local businesses, especially the wineries, of course. They all come in to support us. And it’s a gorgeous spot.”

Following the ribbon-cutting, the recognition shifted to T.J. McGrath, a representative and member for the past 50 years of the Livermore Parachute Club, which was founded in 1956. The club was recently acknowledged by the United States Parachute Association as the oldest sport parachute club in America.

McGrath and the club have a special place in the restaurant to display a collage of photos, along with the mayor’s proclamation noting the club’s 68-year history.

“This is all thanks to T.J. actually,” Chatha said. “This was all his idea to do. He reached out to the mayor and said, ‘Yeah, we never did the official ribbon cutting. Let’s just do it all together.’”

McGrath, dressed in a white shirt, black tie, and parachute pants, explained his attire to attendees with his favorite story dating back to 1965. “The club was organized by Army Airborne fellas, and they ran a very strict operation,” McGrath said. Club divers always jumped in dress clothes. “A club member showed up one time at a jump zone and didn’t have on a white shirt, black tie or shiny shoes, and he wasn’t allowed to jump.” From that day on he had them. The same guy went down to Los Angeles in 1967, got out of his car and somebody at the skydiving center took one look at him and said, “You must be from Livermore,” McGrath said.

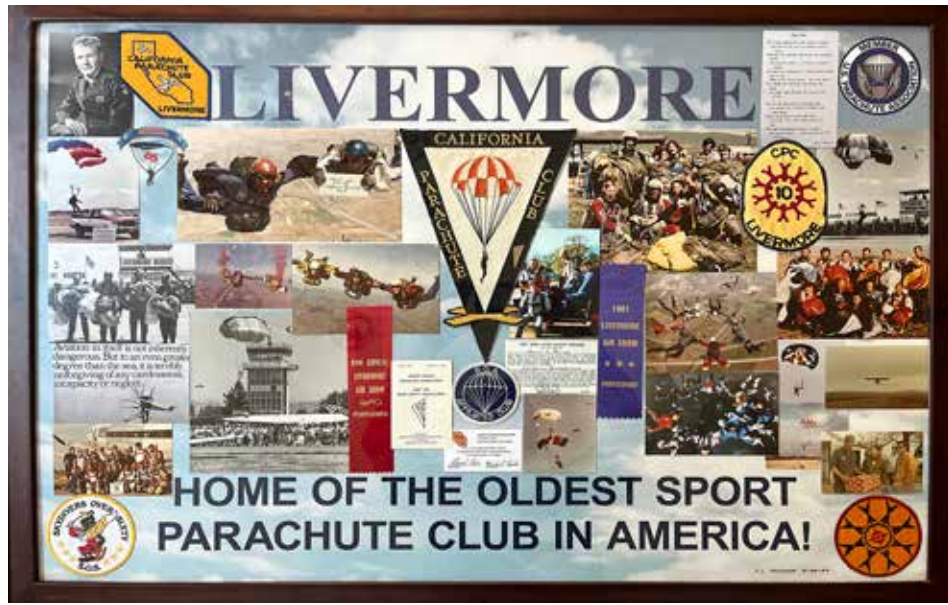
McGrath, who had been mostly a weekend-jumper since he started in 1970, retired from the sport five years ago with 737 jumps under his belt. The collage he showed to the room showcases a colorful medley of patches and archival photos. McGrath flipped the collage around to reveal the back of the frame filled with names and messages for friends and loved ones who have passed

away. (There has never been a skydiving-related fatality in the history of the club.)

“As people start contributing images and keepsakes, this is the piece that really tore me up. It’s something nobody’s going to see,” he said. “It’s called ‘Blue Skies.’”

In the skydiving club culture, he shared, “When someone passes away for whatever reason it is believed that you still skydive in Heaven. So it’s blue skies. Skydivers sign their letters ‘blue skies.’”

He rolled up his sleeve and showed the crowd his bicep, tattooed with the words “blue skies.”



A collage of memorabilia commemorating the Livermore Parachute Club, founded in 1956 and recently recognized as the oldest sport parachute club in America, will be permanently on display at Elevation LVK at the Livermore Airport. (Photo courtesy of TJ McGrath)

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

# Police Hold Annual Drug Takeback Day

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Local law enforcement and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will offer the public a free opportunity to drop off unwanted or expired medication during National Prescription Drug Takeback Day on Oct. 26.

Livermore Police Department spokesperson Azenith Smith said her agency participates in the takeback event each year to help keep the community safe.

“The program provides a safe, convenient way for residents to dispose of unused or expired medications, preventing drug misuse and protecting the environment from improper disposal,” Smith said. “It’s part of our ongoing

commitment to public health and safety.”

The Takeback Day allows the public an anonymous method of dropping off medications. Once received, the items are packaged in cardboard boxes with plastic liners, delivered to the DEA, and incinerated in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines.

Smith said the Livermore Police will accept unwanted prescriptions at a drive-through kiosk outside their headquarters on 1110 S. Livermore Ave. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 26. Participants don’t even need to leave their cars. Liquid medications should be left in their original containers, and “sharps” — needles — cannot

be accepted.

DEA spokesperson Pete Vainauskas said takeback days began in 2010. While a popular way for many people to safely rid themselves of unwanted medications, their popularity has declined slightly in recent years. Vainauskas said that’s likely due to the increasing number of pharmacies and law enforcement agencies that accept unwanted medications year-round.

“There are 17,000 registered pharmacies with collection sites where people can drop off medications, and local law enforcement agencies have their own takeback sites,” he said. “With ours, people can turn in twice a year.”

Pleasanton’s police will not be participating in the October

Takeback event. However, spokesperson Teri Yan said the Pleasanton Police Department is a DEA registered collection site.

“There is a drug drop off area located in the lobby of the police department, which is accessible to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” Yan said. “Both controlled and non-controlled prescription medications, as well as over-the-counter medications, are accepted.”

In Dublin, residents can drop their unwanted medications off at a takeback, shredding and e-waste recycling event on Oct. 19.

For more information on registered takeback sites, visit [www.dea.gov/everyday-takeback-day](http://www.dea.gov/everyday-takeback-day).

Putting LVJUSD Students first!

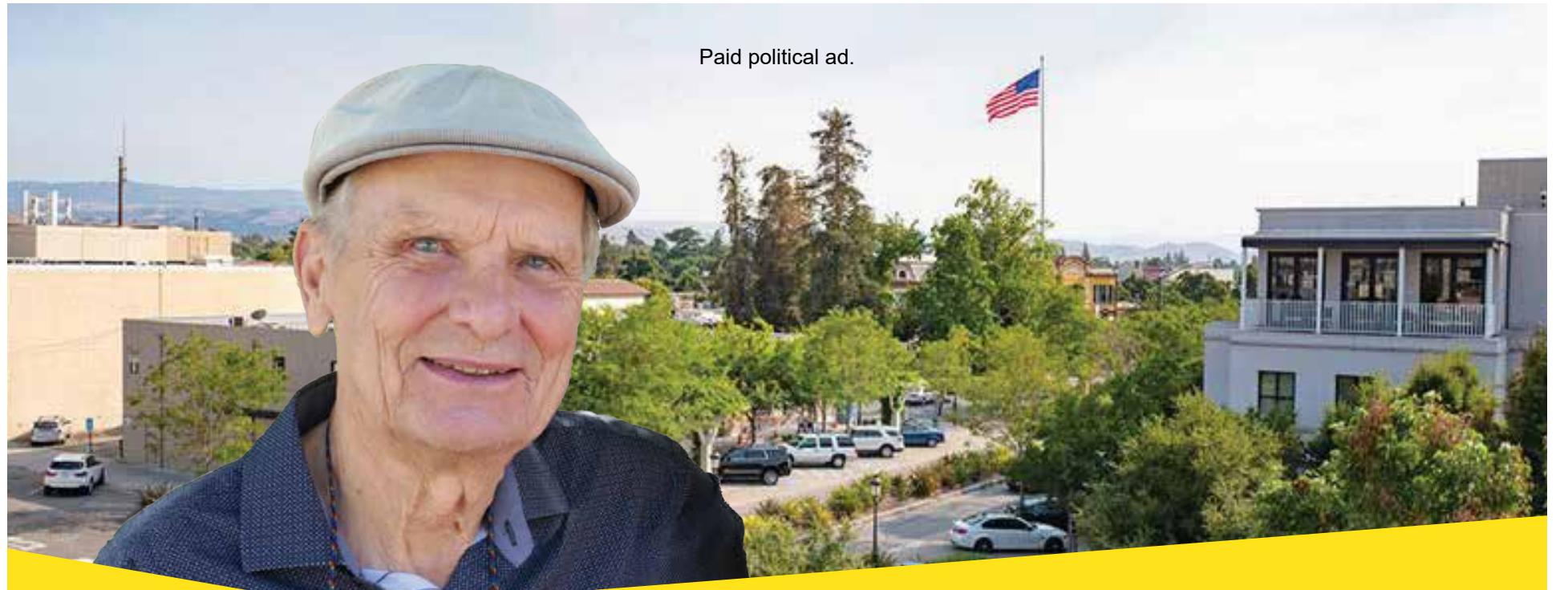


Paid Political Ad  
**VOTE MAGGIE TUFTS**  
LVJUSD SCHOOL BOARD

“We have the resources for our students’ academic success, I will support Livermore students and their families navigating the School System. My bilingual and bi-cultural background, and experience in the Livermore education system has given me the understanding to advocate for Quality Education”

Paid for by Tufts for School Board 2024. FPPC #1471932 [www.MaggieTufts4SchoolBoard.com](http://www.MaggieTufts4SchoolBoard.com)

**RETZLAFF Estate Wines**  
NOW OPEN FOR WINE TASTING AND PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS.  
FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND MONDAYS 12-4:30 FALL HOURS.  
WINE DOWN FRIDAYS 5-8  
FOOD TRUCKS & MUSIC  
LIVE MUSIC MOST WEEKENDS.  
CATERER ON SITE MOST WEEKENDS.  
Make your online reservation at  
**RetzlaffVineyards.com**



Paid political ad.

# Livermore needs:

- ✔ More trees and greenspace to combat extreme heat
- ✔ Economic revitalization and new businesses
- ✔ To maintain access to our beautiful open space
- ✔ To catch up on infrastructure to keep everyone safe and address deteriorating roads and sidewalks
- ✔ A transparent city government that listens



Livermore needs  
**TOM SOULES**  
FOR  
**DISTRICT 4**

Ad paid for by Citizens for a Council that Listens FPPC# 1475128.  
[www.candidatesthatlisten.com](http://www.candidatesthatlisten.com)  
Not authorized by a candidate of a committee controlled by a candidate.  
Funding Details at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

# EDITORIAL

## Tri-Valley Voters Need to Show Up Because Local Issues Matter

Mail-in voting in California starts Monday, Oct. 7, and we might see a record turnout in this year's general election. There's a high likelihood that the general election on Nov. 5 will be even higher than the 71.9% turnout in the 2020 general elections, which was the highest statewide rate since 1952.

The outcome of state, county and local races have much more of an immediate impact on residents' every-

day lives than who's occupying the marble buildings in Washington, D.C.

Consider that local and state governments decide which roads to repair. They also make decisions that affect what school programs to fund or cut, how often or how well parks are created and maintained, or how much we pay in sales taxes. And if we are going to get on top of our endemic problem of rising housing costs and homelessness, the solutions

are going to come from our state and local elected officials.

And truly, 70% turnout isn't all that great. We should be doing better, because Tri-Valley issues matter. The county supervisors and city councils are changing local ordinances; school boards are managing million-dollar budgets that directly affect children; and even more obscure agencies manage things like garbage pick-up, water rates, and sewer service.

California has taken strides to make both registering to vote and voting more convenient: you can register at the same time you cast a vote, and mail-in voting is becoming increasingly commonplace (ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 5).

We as voters need to make voting more of an ingrained habit, so that it becomes an outlier when we don't vote, not when we do.

## MAILBOX

### Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Letters may not contain advertising. Abusive letters and letters containing ad hominem attacks may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed or not run at all. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to [letters@independentnews.com](mailto:letters@independentnews.com) or submitted using the form below. The letters to the editor deadline is Monday at 10 a.m. If you wish to submit a letter pertaining to a special event or meeting taking place on a Monday before any given Thursday print edition — and you would like your letter to run that week — please contact the editor ([editor@independentnews.com](mailto:editor@independentnews.com)) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 10 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.

### Something Rotten in the City of Dublin

David Jonas, Dublin

Someone should audit Dublin for suspicious purchases of wool, since city leaders are attempting to pull mass quantities of the stuff over Dublin voters' eyes.

I'm referring to the "Government Accountability Act" (measure JJ), a ballot measure the Dublin City Council approved for the November election. The success of JJ hinges on how many voters the city can hoodwink. A more honest name for this duplicitous initiative would be "Term Limit Extension Act."

Historically, ballot measures to extend local term limits in California have mostly failed. Two cities succeeded by bundling term limit extension with a package of minor accountability tweaks, and repurposing the measures as "accountability acts," purely to mask their real intent. This

is the underhanded playbook that Dublin is copying in seeking to increase term limits from 8 to 12 years.

JJ includes three accountability changes: Prohibit councilmembers from accepting gifts from lobbyists and city contractors; Prohibit lobbyists from sitting on city commissions; Post all city contracts on the city's website. These are inconsequential changes that address nonexistent accountability "gaps." For example, since 2014, Dublin Councilmembers have collectively reported exactly one gift from a lobbyist or city contractor, valued at \$185. One anti-JJ Dublin Councilmember called these "sweeteners," designed to dupe voters into believing that JJ will make City Hall more accountable. It will do no such thing.

More disturbingly, rather than "extend" term limits, JJ purports to "impose" a 12-year term limit. That is a calculated, Orwellian inversion of the truth. Prison sentences are imposed; term limit extensions are awarded.

Dublin has waged that the average Dublin voter will first learn about JJ upon completing their ballot, hurriedly skim the verbiage, falsely conclude that JJ will rein in bad behavior by Dublin's politicians and city staff, and vote yes.

Dublin Mayoral Candidate Tom Evans wrote a blistering argument against JJ. Tellingly, Dublin declined to offer a rebuttal.

JJ is a gross insult to the intelligence of Dubliners, who I hope see through the deceit and thrash JJ. Councilmembers who supported this abomination should be held accountable.

Dublin is deploying similar sleaze and subterfuge on Measure II. It is another wolf in sheep's clothing. Voters beware.

### Troubling Partisanship Shown by Kaplanis

Joanne Morrison, Livermore

Deena Kaplanis has scrubbed her social media since her last unsuccessful run for schoolboard, but people have saved screenshots and videos of her past statements showing her partisanship. In the past, she followed and "liked" several extreme right-wing political website groups on her personal Facebook account. Sites erased include "Donald Trump Is My President," "Trump Unity Bridge," "ForAmerica,"

and "10H Outfitters," a site "Proudly Serving ... Tactical Gunfighter Communities."

There is nothing wrong with supporting a political party and serving on the non-partisan school board, as long as a member does not allow partisan views to influence their decisions in the line of duty. But Kaplanis has shown that she is likely to do exactly that. Her hidden agenda is demonstrated in videos on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/transparent94550/reels/?hl=en>, where she tries to convince the board to violate state law by adopting the language of AB 1314, which had not been passed by the Legislature or signed by Governor Newsom. The bill would have required teachers, counselors, and other school staff to inform parents in writing within three days of discovering that a student identifies as a gender that doesn't align with the sex assigned at birth. This bill conflicts directly with AB 1266 ("School Success and Opportunity Act"), which became law in 2013. Kaplanis asked the board to ignore state law in order to adopt the extreme policy she was advocating for.

Voters should also read the side-by-side comparison of candidates located at <https://www.lc4pe.org/candidates>.

Kaplanis hopes that voters won't notice that she removed her own children from our public schools and placed them in a private Evangelical Christian school in Livermore. They have attended this school since the fall of 2023, while Kaplanis continued serving on a public school PTA and PCIC, groups intended solely for parents of public school students. This begs the question: Why does she want to serve on the board of our public schools when her own children are being educated in a private church school? Why doesn't she devote her time and abilities to serving the school her kids attend?

Kaplanis has been disingenuous about her extremist political motives. If she is elected, her presence on the board will invite the return of prior years' chaos at board meetings when people came in costume and mocked transgender students. A vote for Kaplanis is a vote for extremism, dissension, and chaos.

### Nay Nay on Eye Eye

Paul Stone, Dublin

Dubliners, don't let them get away with this. Please vote NO on Measure II (pronounced eye-eye).

For at least two decades, successive Dublin city governments have been on a holy terror to turn Dublin into an Orange County style megalopolis.

Measure II will cost 150 million dollars for the Dublin Boulevard extension which city officials say will come,

in part, from a state-federal partnership. Really? Both the state and the feds are broke. A dollar to a donut that this thing is ultimately going to cost us taxpayers big bucks.

It will break through the urban limit line approved by voters in 2014. And don't think they will stop there. They are going to build, build, build.

Council members who voted in favor of putting this on the November ballot were Janine Thalblum and Jean Josey, and Vice Mayor Sherry Hu.

For further info please visit [SaveDublinOpenSpace.com](http://SaveDublinOpenSpace.com).

A big fat nyet on Measure II!

### Why I Am Voting for Karla Brown

Paulette Post, Pleasanton

I am voting for Karla Brown for Pleasanton's mayor. She is knowledgeable, accessible, and cares about all the Pleasanton residents. She has secured millions for the city through grants for Pleasanton. Her three children attended our PUSD schools, and she was a frequent volunteer.

As our second female mayor in 130 years, she will continue to bring businesses like 10xGenomics to Pleasanton. I am voting for Karla Brown for Mayor of Pleasanton. Karla is also careful with the city's finances, and she strongly opposed the \$10 million boondoggle for moving the creek at Lions Wayside Park! The other candidate, Jack Balch, tried to push it forward in 2023, but the others on the council said "NO." He would have wasted our tax dollars.

Her opponent, Balch, claims to be a fiscal conservative, but after four years on the council, he offers no significant solutions to solve the city's fiscal challenges. At the mayoral debate on Sept. 11, 2024, he stated that he had not made up his mind regarding a vote for or against Measure PP. He can't make up his mind on a critical ballot measure, and he complains without offering solutions. He is not a leader.

Balch hides the fact that he is pro-housing and a part-owner of a large builder/developer and property management firm: [www.BalchEnterprises.com](http://www.BalchEnterprises.com). In my opinion, he is a YES man to builders, developers, and the Chamber.

I have lived in Pleasanton since 1973 and raised my two daughters in Pleasanton. Both graduated from Foothill High School. I mention this because Jack Balch does NOT support our PUSD schools; as proof, his only child goes to Athenian in Danville.

### Join Us in Voting for Tom Soules

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Why vote for Tom? Tom embodies the change we need on the Livermore City

Council. Tom is thoughtful, intelligent and listens to the residents he will represent. Tom believes council members need to be accountable to their constituents, not special interests. Tom has NOT accepted donations or gifts from developers, so he will not be indebted to them. Tom believes strongly in referendums, and supporting the concerns of residents. He is open, transparent, and honest. What a refreshing change!!!

Consider his service to the community. For five years, he has worked as a tutor for individuals who are learning English as a second language. He volunteers at Hagemann Ranch to preserve our agricultural heritage and help with family activities. Additionally, Tom supports both open space and responsible growth within our Urban Growth Boundaries. His vision for Livermore includes investing in affordable housing and infrastructure. Moreover, Tom supports the cultural arts that enrich our everyday lives and make Livermore a vibrant community. Tom will be fiscally responsible; he does NOT support new taxes.

Tom will be an outstanding city council member. For more information about Tom, check out [TomSoules.com](http://TomSoules.com). Be part of a much needed change. Join us in voting for Tom Soules, a change for the better.

### No on Jean Josey for Dublin Mayor of Dublin!

Mike Grant, Dublin

Jean has a record that is dangerous for the citizens of Dublin. She tells everyone she is all about public safety but yet she was all about defunding the police. Ask her why the Alameda Sheriff and Alameda fire department did not endorse her for mayor? Because she wants to pull funds from them for nonprofits that support her DEI programs.

She also supported Sanctuary city statue for Dublin and was against ICE being able to enter our city to gather criminal illegals up and deport them out of the country. Now with the southern border wide open and over 400,000 convicted illegals criminals in our country, she would be our second border CZAR! She would not let law enforcement identify their immigration status. She has been on council 6 years and crime has gone up in Dublin each year!

She also has voted YES on every housing project in Dublin. If the City Manager (Linda Smith) says she wants it, Jean votes for it. She comments all the time about the citizens and how she protects our "tax dollars". I guess she should explain when she went to Ireland in 2023 and spent \$6,000 of our city tax dollars on plane fare, motels, food for a sister city Boondoggle, was that needed? Oh I forgot the Bray Air show!

She went with the old mayor and 2 other council members plus 2 city staff. The Mayor took her family and the city manager went. They only spent 6 hours in meetings and cost the city of Dublin well over \$25,000 dollars. In the past, only the Mayor would travel over to Ireland. I guess that is what she calls fiscal responsibility. The question I think should be asked is what did the city of Dublin get out of this travel overseas? This was just a Vacation on the tax payers!

She also was one of the people who refused to listen to the public about posting the city managers job that was going to be open in October. Did she meet with Linda Smith behind closed doors about who she wanted to put in the job? Dublin, was the Brown Act violated?

I also see someone who wrote that she takes no funds from developers. Does cash show up on the sheet??? Jean is wrong for Dublin. Vote No on Jean!

### Could \$25M Make a Difference?

Jeff Kasky, Livermore

One of Livermore City Council's roles is to be an oversight body to the City's operation. That covers many things, but most certainly includes watching City finances. Since Low-Income housing is an area of frequent concern of residents I talk to, I want you to know that the City found and reported an error in various City funds, including the Low-Income Housing Special Revenue Fund. I do understand that errors happen, however, in this case the City lost track of over \$25 million in Fiscal 21-22 just in that fund. This is the fund that collects money from developers, paid in lieu of building low-income housing, to be spent supporting low-income housing. It was a year before the error was discovered and fixed, and now the Low-Income Housing Special Revenue Fund has over \$40 million.

While I'm not shocked that an error was made, what did surprise me was City Council's lack of interest. When staff reported the find to Council in January, no one asked, "How did it happen?" More shockingly, no one asked, "What have you done to keep this from happening again?" Nor did they ask, "With \$25 million more than we thought, does that change our options on our planned low-income projects?" These are not the "hard" questions; they are basic management oversight. They are required questions to build public trust that Council is working to safeguard our budget and to make the best decisions on City projects. Whether we are talking about Eden housing downtown, our general inclusionary housing requirement,

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

**THE Independent**

INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.  
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala  
EDITOR: Chris Winters

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

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925)243-8000. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9999. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. For more information or to sign up visit [www.independentnews.com](http://www.independentnews.com). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

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

[www.independentnews.com](http://www.independentnews.com)



Archival photo shown above, from "Bring your pet to school day" at Murray Elementary in 1952. The Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, will host a panel of lifelong Tri-Valley residents who will talk about their memories of the city from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 9. Panelists will include Lynn Moller Skarratt, whose family settled on Foothill Road when it was still considered part of Dublin; Tim Koopmann, whose ranching family bought land in the 1890s that later became the site of San Ramon Village; and Tony Fisher, whose father started Fisher's Drive-In in the 1950s. Donna Kamp McMillion, a fourth-generation resident who compiled oral histories for, "Cruising Down Memory Lane: Stories of Pleasanton in the 1950s," will moderate the panel discussion. McMillion's family raised cattle in the Dougherty Road area. (Photo courtesy of the Dublin Historical Society)

**MAILBOX**

(Continued from page 4)

or new low-income senior housing planned for Pacific Ave, understanding the available budget is fundamental to making good decisions.

My hope of course is that you elect me to City Council (District 3, vote "Kaskey"). I will make sure we dig into this and not only improve our financial safeguards, but also explore the options this gives us in our low-income housing plans. Your current council has not chosen to do so.

**Karla Brown or Jack Balch for Mayor?**

**Debbie Ayres, Pleasanton**

Pleasanton voters, please watch the Sept. 17 Pleasanton City Council meeting on YouTube. Fast forward to the 52nd minute.

Pleasanton MUST retain City Manager, Gerry Beaudin and his "A Team" of assistant city managers and his finance team. At the Sept. 17 meeting, Gerry Beaudin highlighted his team's academic credentials and their 200+ years of private and public business working experience. He called one team member a "genius".

Pleasanton's previous city manager, Nelson Fialho, served 17 years under mayors Jennifer Hosterman (eight years), Jerry Thome (eight years) and Karla Brown (one year). Fialho influenced the development of visible structures, Callippe Golf Course and Firehouse Arts Center.

Current city manager, Gerry Beaudin, brings modern day methods to Pleasanton City government. Beaudin institutes an asset management systematic approach. Appointed in 2022 by Mayor Karla Brown and the City Council, Beaudin and his staff found that money had not been set aside for reserves for such things as our much needed 130-year-old Pleasanton infrastructure or for the essential equipment needed by our fire department in today's fire threatened tri-valley.

While Pleasantonians were told in November 2021 by the previous city manager that "Financially, we're in a great spot," this may not have been the case.

As soon as Mayor Karla Brown and the City Council learned the findings of Pleasanton's current financial situation, they put the brakes on renovations at Ken Mercer skate park and the Century House. They turned their attention toward the essential needs of the city. Safe clean drinking water and public safety are top priorities of Mayor Karla Brown's.

As a solution to our current city finances, Measure PP proposes a half cent sales tax. Passing Measure PP is necessary to maintain the Pleasanton city services that we currently enjoy (i.e., park maintenance, library hours, police and fire response times).

Pleasanton must keep City Manager Beaudin and his "A" Team in Pleasanton. To do so, Pleasanton must reelect Karla Brown as Mayor. Her opponent, Jack Balch, is endorsed by the previous city

manager.

At Pleasanton's mayoral forum when asked directly by the Pleasanton Weekly, Jack Balch refused to comment on the performance of Beaudin. Conversely, Mayor Karla Brown gave Gerry Beaudin the utmost praise for his work over the past two years.

Re-elect Mayor Karla Brown. Commend Gerry Beaudin and team. And vote YES on Measure PP.

**Campaigning**

**Thomas Soules, Livermore**

I want to second a comment by Jeff Kaskey in last week's mailbox. Walking around door-to-door for the past few weeks, I have been enjoying meeting many of the good folks in Livermore. Like Jeff, I have met a lot of dogs, some with high pitched yelps, others sounding gruff, but I am sure they were friendly. Folks who came to the door may or may not have liked being disturbed, but when they learned I was not selling encyclopedias, they were generally friendly, took my brochure, smiled and wished me luck. This encouraged me.

Some ask questions like, "Why should I vote for you?" I have started asking them how they like Livermore. They usually answer, we like it or we love it. If they are not in a hurry, I then ask if they have any concerns. Some expressed specific concerns like the speed of cars down Alden Lane or the cell tower proposed at Mocho or why don't we have more buses for the handicapped, considering that we make the buses here.

Many expressed that while Livermore was a good city to live in, especially compared to some other cities in the Bay Area, it was going in the wrong direction. They were concerned about crime and the character of the city changing, and that the City Council did not listen to them. One person wondered why we needed another huge apartment building downtown when Legacy was only partially filled. Others were concerned about the high-density housing in downtown causing safety and traffic issues, and about what the Eden affordable apartments would be like in a few years.

Win or lose, Livermore has amazed me with good people who care about the city. If I win, I will be honored to serve you and try to improve Livermore for you. I will not be able to visit all of you in District 4 before Nov. 5, so please go to my website, TomSoules.com, to read about some of my specific positions in my own voice and why I am in this campaign.

**Jean Josey the Best Choice for Mayor**

**Kelly Baalman, Dublin**

It has been a long time since Dublin had a Councilmember as prepared, experienced and responsive as Jean Josey, and she is absolutely the best choice to be our next mayor. Long before she was overwhelmingly

elected to the City Council by the voters of Dublin, Jean was embedded in our community as a leader and a volunteer. As a councilmember, she has done great work for our entire community. Jean is focused on public safety, on attracting, retaining and supporting business and on the fiscal and environmental sustainability of Dublin. She is the lone candidate in this race with the ethics, knowledge and experience to lead our city forward into its bright future. She embraces the cultural diversity that defines Dublin, reaching out to communities across the city to embrace their customs, and to hear the hopes and dreams they have for their families. She is a champion of our beautiful parks, our open space, our schools and a walkable downtown district that could define Dublin for generations. No one is more forward-thinking or community-minded and she is by far the superior choice to lead our city. Vote Jean Josey for Dublin mayor.

**Vote for Steven Dunbar!**

**Christiaan VandenHeuvel, Livermore**

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Steven Dunbar in his bid for Livermore City Council. I first connected with Steven years ago through our shared passion for promoting a more livable and resilient community in Livermore. His focus on promoting financially resilient and sustainable communities is exactly what our Livermore needs.

What is particularly compelling to me is Steven's approach to development. He advocates for incremental, bottom-up approaches, prioritizing small-scale, adaptable investments over large, top-down projects. I believe that this strategy not only ensures long-term prosperity, but also reflects a deep understanding of Livermore's unique needs and challenges.

With five years of deep experience in Livermore's civic processes, Steven has demonstrated his ability to balance complex tradeoffs and the unique concerns of regular Livermore residents effectively. His involvement with the Livermore Community Asset Management Program and his role as a Planning Commissioner showcase his commitment and expertise.

I also love that Steven's roots in a small town much like Livermore have shaped his empathy and dedication to advocating for the marginalized. His passion for continuous improvement and pragmatic leadership will be invaluable on our City Council.

For those reasons I believe that Steven Dunbar is the exact right choice to help guide Livermore toward a vibrant, sustainable future. I encourage everyone in District 3 to support him in this important election! Vote Dunbar!

**Kristie Wang for Livermore City Council District 4!**

**Eric Horn, Livermore**

I support Kristie Wang for

City Council representing District 4.

Over the past three years, I've had the privilege to collaborate and get to know Kristie while attending various community events and during my time on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Spending time and watching Kristie engage with our community over the years through her work as a Board Trustee Member for LVJUSD advocating for student achievement in our District has been inspiring.

Kristie is a leader we need on our City Council to advocate for positive changes needed in our local community. Her commitment, dedication, and steadfast approach to listening to all members of our community is just one of the many qualities I admire in Kristie.

She takes the time to really listen, always open to hearing diverse perspectives and is a strong advocate for positive change in our community. As community leaders, we need to spend more time listening to people and really understanding the concerns of our community and Kristie will do just that.

Kristie's grassroots approach to engaging her District and her unwavering commitment to collaborate with all in our community is the leadership we need here in Livermore. I am confident that Kristie will be available for all residents of Livermore and will listen to the concerns that you have. Although I live outside of District 4, I fully and with confidence endorse Kristie Wang for Livermore City Council.

**Kaskey for Livermore Council #3**

**Jean King, Livermore**

Livermore City Council election for Districts 3 is on the November 5 ballot.

I support Jeff Kaskey in District 3.

Jeff has been involved in community activities for

many years and is not a single-issue candidate.

Among the important issues that he supports are these three:

1. Protect Livermore's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) to preserve our city's and valley's open space and not have rampant growth and sprawl;
2. Protect the half mile open space buffer between Dublin and Livermore on the north side of 580 while allowing the extension of Dublin Blvd. to help with the traffic problems.
3. Enforce affordable housing requirements. Ensure that

affordable housing is included in every housing development in Livermore by requiring "inclusionary" housing. Do not allow developers to get out of their obligations as the present council has done.

Vote for Kaskey for a new council voice.

**Support for Razi Hasni for Dublin City Council (District 3)**

**Ron Gerhard, Livermore**

I proudly endorse Razi Hasni for Dublin City Council, District 3. Having worked directly with Razi,

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

Paid Political Ad

**Karla Brown**

For Mayor of Pleasanton

[www.Vote4Karla.com](http://www.Vote4Karla.com)

**MAYOR**

Mayor Karla Brown is endorsed for Re-Election based on her commitment to the City of Pleasanton for:

**SMART GROWTH POLICIES, RESPONSIBLE BUDGETS, SAFE DRINKING WATER and SUPPORT OF 911-SAFETY PERSONNEL.**

State Senator Steve Glazer  
Chair of the Alameda County Supervisors, Nate Miley  
Alameda County Supervisor, David Haubert  
Livermore Pleasanton Fire, IAFF local 1974  
Teamsters, Local 70  
Julie Testa, Vice Mayor (Pleasanton)  
Jeff Nibert, Councilmember (Pleasanton)  
Valerie Arkin, Councilmember (Pleasanton)  
Debora Allen, BART Board member  
Melissa Hernandez, BART Board member  
Laurene Green, Zone 7 Board member  
Sarah Palmer, Zone 7 Board member  
Catherine Brown, Zone 7 Board member  
Kelly Mokashi, PUSD Board member  
Lily Mei, Mayor (Fremont)  
Karen Stepper, Mayor (Danville)  
Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Mayor (Union City)  
Mark Salinas, Mayor (Hayward)  
Dave Hudson, Mayor (San Ramon)  
And many, many more.

**NEVER ACCEPTS CAMPAIGN DONATIONS FROM BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS THAT AIM TO BUY INFLUENCE**

Paid for by "Karla Brown for Mayor 2024" FPPC#1466840

LIVERMORE VALLEY arts

**2024-2025 CULTURAL CELEBRATION SERIES**

10.05.2024  
**TASTE OF AFRICA**  
10AM-6PM  
BANKHEAD PLAZA  
2400 FIRST STREET | LIVERMORE  
FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY

10.06.2024  
**FILIPINO BARRIO FIESTA**  
10AM-8PM  
BANKHEAD PLAZA  
2400 FIRST STREET | LIVERMORE  
FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY

10.12.2024  
**ARTWALK 2024**  
11AM-5PM  
BANKHEAD PLAZA  
2400 FIRST STREET | LIVERMORE  
FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY

10.12.2024  
**DUSTBOWL REVIVAL & THE MAD ALCHEMIST**  
8PM  
BANKHEAD PLAZA  
2400 FIRST STREET | LIVERMORE  
GET TICKETS

**ArtWalk LIVERMORE After Dark**

**LEARN MORE & GET TICKETS NOW!**  
[LivermoreArts.org](http://LivermoreArts.org) | 925.373.6800

Sponsored in part by: LAS POSITAS Independent Porsche Livermore UNCLE CREDIT UNION



Enzo Becker, a member of Troop 998 in Pleasanton, has earned his Eagle badge, the highest rank in the Scouts BSA program. Becker, a senior at Amador High School, is the son of Cyrus and Susannah Becker. To achieve the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges and complete a community service project. For his project, Becker organized and enlisted other troop members in building a base for a terrarium at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Troop 998 is led by Scoutmaster Clayton Carroll and sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6298. (Photo courtesy of Susannah Becker)

## MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

I have witnessed firsthand his deep commitment to our community, his integrity, and his forward-thinking approach to local governance. Razi brings a unique blend of vision and pragmatism that is essential for addressing Dublin's challenges today and in the future.

Razi's dedication to creating a more inclusive, vibrant, and welcoming city resonates with residents from all walks of life. His focus on enhancing public safety, supporting local businesses, and education speaks to his understanding of the key issues that matter to our community. His proven ability to listen to diverse perspectives and build consensus sets him apart as a leader.

I am personally confident that Razi Hasni's leadership on the Dublin City Council will help ensure that Dublin remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family. I encourage you to join me in supporting Razi Hasni for City Council this election.

### Dunbar for Livermore City Council District 3

Jacob Anderson, Livermore

Being not only born and raised in Livermore, but having grown up in District 3, I strongly continue to affirm my endorsement of Steven Dunbar for Livermore City Council. At just 30 years old, Steven has more knowledge and experience in how city government works than most people in their mid-60s. His time serving on the Livermore Planning Commission, the Asset Management Committee, and working with organizations like Bike East Bay has given him a deep understanding of our city's needs and challenges. It's rare to see someone with this level of expertise paired with the energy and drive to put it to work for the community.

Steven isn't just passionate — he's effective. He's dedicated to ensuring our streets are safer for everyone, whether you're walking, biking, or driving. He's proven that smart investments in infrastructure and safety don't have to be expensive to make a meaningful impact. His balanced approach to city planning ensures Livermore remains a place we all love, with a focus on preserving what makes our community special, like our agricultural lands and wine country heritage.

But it's not just his experience that makes Steven the right choice. He brings a clear commitment to honest and

inclusive governance. He's someone who truly listens to the community, values open communication, and is always approachable. He's driven by a sense of responsibility to ensure that Livermore's future reflects the needs and desires of its residents, while being financially responsible.

Livermore is in good hands with Steven Dunbar. His vision is thoughtful and realistic, but most importantly, it's rooted in preserving the best of what Livermore already offers while ensuring a bright and prosperous future.

Please join me in voting and supporting Steven Dunbar for City Council—because Livermore deserves leadership that knows what it's doing. You can look up more about Steven at [DunbarforLivermore.com](mailto:DunbarforLivermore.com).

### Vote for Tom Soules in District #4

Paul Sponeri, Livermore

Tom Soules for a fair and balanced city council. He is for a downtown which would be a fun and interesting place to go and spend time, not just a place for apartment developers to thrive. Tom would be fair to all groups — business and community groups. He is for affordable housing in the right locations and against wasting taxpayers' money. Please vote for Tom Soules District #4.

### Reelect Karla Brown as Mayor of Pleasanton

Lou Astbury, Pleasanton

Karla Brown has served Pleasanton well as mayor for four years, and before that on City Council for eight years. We need her experience and steady leadership for another term as Pleasanton now faces many challenges: water issues and post-COVID budgetary challenges. In addition, in the coming two years, Pleasanton will have to address significant housing needs and mandates. Karla has declined campaign donations from builders or developers to remain impartial. As real estate projects and mandates come forward, Karla will work with the goal of doing what is best for all of us and with a commitment to a safe, charming, and family-oriented community. Karla as Mayor of Pleasanton is uniquely qualified to deal with all of these challenges.

### Deena is Deceitful

Alek Butler, Livermore

Deena Kaplanis is running for school board under false pretenses and with dishonesty.

1) She does not have students enrolled in public schools and instead has chosen a private, far-right Christian school for her family. Why should she get to make decisions for public schools?

2) She says she's for "all students", yet is a vocal supporter of AB1314, a horrible bill proposed by the California GOP that would have forced schools to out LGBTQ+ students. It's against the law, and Newsom has further protected students' privacy, yet there's a video of her speaking to the school board asking them to adopt its policies on April 18, 2023. The school her children attend is part of a church that is openly bigoted against LGBTQ+. It says so right on their website.

3) She claims to be a practicing "physician." She's a chiropractor with no active website to be found. And she fights against science as a vocal opponent of vaccines. She also asked the schools to do away with mask mandates, the orders of which came from the state. She wrote or attended at least six school board meetings to say so.

4) She has deleted all comments on her social media that question her policies or point out these discrepancies, then she blocks the people who ask. That's not school board trustee behavior — to ignore and block the concerns of her community and manipulate her pages to show unequivocal support.

5) She wants to run for school board, but as pointed out above, she has repeatedly asked the board to break or disregard the law. That's a conflict.

6) She lost her run for school board in 2022. She's keeping her controversial beliefs rather quiet this time around, but we remember.

The teachers' union (LEA) — those individuals who know the needs of our schools, students and staff best — endorses Tara Boyce and Christian VandenHeuvel for school board. You can see more facts about her deceit at Livermore Community for Public Education's website ([lc4pe.org](http://lc4pe.org)) where they compare candidates' records.

### Thomas Evans for Dublin Mayor

Rosel Bada Trolan, Dublin

Thomas Evans is a hard worker, a member of our community, and is involved in the well-being of our residents in Dublin. I have talked to him, and he wants to make a difference in Dublin to benefit all that we are concerned of; from overcrowded schools, over-construction of our area, the need of a Dublin downtown, the need for more parks, etc.

I am supporting him for City of Dublin mayor.

### Good Review for "The Daughter of the Regiment"

Bill Leach, Livermore

Livermore Valley Opera's "The Daughter of the Regiment", playing this coming weekend at the Bankhead, is memorable for several reasons: Nobody dies; the heroine has both an amazing voice and superb comic acting; the tenor love interest is also terrific and funny; the men's chorus gets plenty of action; and the costumes, especially in the last part of Act Two, are a hoot. I probably was smiling all the way through this opera, and laughing often.

### Some Quick Responses

Glenn White, Dublin

I would like to respond to Jan Brovant's letter of Sept. 19, 2024, where after referencing the assassination attempts against Trump, she says regardless of political beliefs, political violence has got to stop. What I find ironic is that Trump told his supporters to "knock the crap out of 'em...Just knock the hell — I promise you, I will pay for the legal fees. I promise. I promise. It won't be so much because the courts agree with us, too". Trump also called for Mark Milley, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff appointed by him, to be executed for treason. He also

made fun of the hammer attack that critically injured the husband of the then House speaker Nancy Pelosi. I am not aware of Harris speaking like this. Remember: Trump's would-be assassins appear to be disgruntled Republicans already predisposed to violent rhetoric.

I would also like to respond to David Ott's letter of Sept. 19, 2024, where he claims the Inflation Reduction Act caused higher prices. Since inflation was global and not constrained within the USA, like the German inflation of the early 1920s, the IRA could not be the sole or even main cause. It appears supply chain issues resulting from Covid and corporations taking advantage of consumers accepting higher prices are a primary and global cause. Trump's tariffs have and will have a greater direct impact on the cost of imported products. Costs are being lowered at Walmart, Costco and other stores for the savvy consumer and not the consumers who accept whatever is being fed to them.

The same old lies from Republicans about cutting taxes and spending to balance the budget spewing from Republicans since Bill Clinton, the last President to come close to balancing the budget, will only aggravate the national debt as usual. The fact is: Clinton and Obama left a lower deficit than they inherited while Republicans: Reagan-Bush (1981-92), W. Bush (2001-8) and Trump (2017-20) all left a higher deficit than what they inherited from their Democratic predecessors.

Regarding Daniella Karo's Sept. 19, 2024 letter, on April 9, 2021, the House Committee on Ethics absolved Swalwell of any guilt in the so-called Fang Fang case. Robert Mueller's investigation into the Russia collusion case did not exonerate Trump and violent crime dropped in 2023 despite Trump saying crime was "through the roof".

The torrent of misinformation, half-truths and hypocrisy can be overwhelming.

### Vote Jeff Kaskey for Council

Tamara Reus, Livermore

I have known and worked with longtime Livermore resident Jeff Kaskey on local issues for many years. I deeply respect him for his intelligence, vision, and values. He is the right choice for the District 3 City Council seat.

Jeff has extensive experience working on behalf of and with the City. He spent eight years as an appointee to the Historic Preservation Commission. He is the curator and past president of the Livermore Heritage Guild which preserves our history and brings it to our school-children. He has also served as vice president of the Cultural Arts Council, collaborating with representatives of different community organizations to further the tremendous arts programs we have in Livermore. He sat on the Downtown Steering Committee. Jeff knows how to work with people and get things done!

Jeff has also used his voice to speak out on issues he feels strongly about. He knows what it's like to go before the Council and advocate for what he believes. This experience is invaluable for a council member and shows he cares about Livermore and is committed to making our city a better place.

Jeff respects divergent viewpoints and will listen to all residents. He has shared with me that listening to different views offers an opportunity to gauge public sentiment and find creative solutions to issues.

Jeff brings a fresh perspective to the Council. With his decades of engineering and entrepreneurial experience, he will understand the technical information presented to him and ask the hard questions.

Jeff is an independent thinker. He dives deeply into issues, conducts his own analysis, and forms his own opinions. Sometimes they may coincide with other peo-

ple's opinions and sometimes not. I can say from my own experience working with Jeff that he will not be beholden to anyone but his constituents.

Jeff supports Livermore's urban growth boundary and will protect our small-town character while working to create smart opportunities for growth.

Our city has experienced painful divisions in recent years which still inform the thinking of some members of the Council. Jeff is not interested in the blame game. He will take our city forward and look for solutions that benefit everyone. It's time to put aside our past differences and create a bright future for Livermore with Jeff's help.

Please join me in voting for Jeff Kaskey. You can learn more at [jeff4livermore.com](http://jeff4livermore.com).

### Deena Kalpanis for the Best!

D. Sylvia Pena, Livermore

I have known Deena Kalpanis to give her best in all she endeavors! It is evident by the many accomplishments she has achieved. The most noticeable is her character. She will give you the best of her ability to make sure your needs or goals are met. It could be health care, home or individual needs, group, team or personal assistance, educational or professional counsel. She has experience and skills in many arenas.

Ask anyone who has either worked with her in her PTA commitments, learned from her teaching and student assignments, or has been a recipient of her athletic and physical health education. See her at games supporting and cheering for her sons, many nephews and nieces. Notice her at community events as a volunteer or participant.

Meet Deena and you will know one of the most respectful and sincere individuals who will give you her best. This is what we want for our children in the Livermore Unified School District; the best!

### Nudity in Art

Doug Sandelin, Livermore

My name is Doug Sandelin. I am a local artist and a member of the Livermore Art Association (LAA) and, until recently, the Pleasanton Art League (PAL). The Pleasanton Art League held its annual member show at the Harrington Gallery, but my painting was rejected due to nudity. This attitude and discrimination towards nudity in art is not new or unique to Pleasanton; it prevails throughout the entire valley under the guise of protecting families with a "family-friendly" approach, using children as a shield for personal sensitivities. If there's one group you want to inspire through art, it's children. The pretense of shielding children from nudity in art undermines their claims of "supporting the arts," especially when cities own the walls supposedly offered in "support of the arts." They shrink in fear like an old man in cold water. What's art without daring to create and the courage to be bold? Without these virtues, art weakens, and the "community" deteriorates. Fear is a great mirror, and hopefully, these local art entities will look at their dogmas surrounding nudity in art and find the courage and bravery to acknowledge their fears. It takes courage to be afraid and do it anyway.

### Jack Balch Is the Best Candidate for Pleasanton Mayor

David Ott, Pleasanton

Jack Balch should be our next Mayor of Pleasanton. He is fiscally responsible, meaning he will stay on budget and spend within the city's means, not ask the citizens for an additional tax increase. He will ensure the public safety for Pleasanton with his sound plans. He will partner with schools, police and fire departments to ensure a cohesive and successful outcome for the future of the city. He will work with local and regional business-

es to improve the economic vitality of Pleasanton and create new jobs and grow the sales tax revenue without an increase to the sales tax percentage. He will ensure we have safe and affordable drinking water.

Jack Balch is a current city council member. He is a certified public accountant, has served as vice mayor, as city planning commissioner and as parks and recreation commissioner.

I have personally attended many city council meetings this year and seen Jack Balch in action. Jack is the only member of the current city council that has the cognitive aptitude to understand and solve the budget issue. He asks the difficult questions to the other council members and the city staff, especially when it comes to the city's budget. I have noticed this year that the other four council members are generally opposed to his ideas and proposals, especially when it comes to understanding and solving the budget issue. Because of Jack's comprehensive understanding of finance, I am convinced that if the other council members and city staff had followed his lead, we would not have the current budget issue.

It has been reported that there were signs of a budget shortfall three years ago, but the mayor, other council members and city staff ignored the issues and did very little to trim the budget. They continued to ignore the issue and spend without regard to the long-term impact. When it was finally made public that we had a budget shortfall, they immediately jumped to the conclusion for a tax increase. Now they are asking the citizens to solve the problem that they were inept at fixing by burdening us with millions of dollars of new taxes over a ten-year period. And at the end of ten years, don't expect the tax to decrease, because tax increases never decrease.

Vote for Jack Balch for Pleasanton Mayor.

### David Farley for City Council District 3

Jennie Lynn Dunn, Livermore

I would like to encourage others to VOTE, and to vote for David Farley who is running for Livermore City Council District 3. I first met David Farley at a local "meet and greet". He was very passionate and extremely dedicated to offering his vast expertise to help our Livermore community as a council member. His background is not just being a Livermore resident; it also includes his family, being a former military officer, a business owner, a volunteer coach for a girls' lacrosse team, a scientist at the National Labs, and so much more. He is easy to talk with and he listens! I hope you will reach out to meet, and learn, more about David Farley. His email is [farley4livermore@gmail.com](mailto:farley4livermore@gmail.com) — or go to [DavidFarley4Livermore.com](http://DavidFarley4Livermore.com). I plan to vote for David Farley, and I hope you will also!

### Best Pleasanton Candidates

Joje Hagerty, Pleasanton

Valerie Arkin (for re-election to Pleasanton City Council District 2) and Karla Brown (for re-election as mayor) promise not to take money from developers. Arkin and Brown do not have close ties with developers; they are more likely to represent the interests of residents who do not want excessive development and they will work to preserve the historic downtown. This is in sharp contrast with candidate Jack Balch (Chief Financial Officer for his dad's development company and candidate for mayor). Arkin and Brown have strong pro-resident track records and can be counted on to represent us on issues of safety, infrastructure, schools, preservation of the historic downtown, etc.

Matt Gaidos (Attorney with the DA's office) is running for City Council (District 4) after years serving on

(See MAILBOX, page 7)



Vehicles on display at the Altamont Cruisers Car Club's 35th annual car show on Sunday, Sept. 29, ranged from the classic to the modern and whimsical, such as a converted Volkswagen bus. The Nostalgia Day Car Show is an annual fundraiser for several charities. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

## MAILBOX

(Continued from page 6)

the Planning Commission.

Vote for Valerie Arkin (District 2), Matt Gaidos (District 4), and Karla Brown (city-wide election).

### The Accurate History of Stockmen's Park

Bob Woerner, Livermore

Some recent letter writers have falsely characterized the Stockmen's Park deal to further their political agenda. Regrettably, they consistently resort to such tactics, especially during the election season. As the originator of the Stockmen's Park deal, I wish to clearly explain how the deal came about and what it does and does not do.

In 2018, Laning Thompson, then president of Interfaith Housing, approached me to see if another affordable senior facility could be built on vacant land on Pacific Avenue near two existing IFH facilities. Unfortunately, it was discovered that the Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association had placed a deed restriction preventing housing when it gifted the land to the City for civic purposes in the mid 1960s. Furthermore, the City had promised the Stockmen that a park, with an appropriate statue, would be built on the land to honor our veterans.

As vice-mayor, I requested a meeting with the Stockmen to understand the situation. Don Staysa explained that they expected the city to honor its commitment about the park, but it didn't have to be built on Pacific Avenue. I then asked if the Stockmen would remove the deed restriction on the Pacific Avenue site if the city named the new park that it was already planning to build in the downtown core after the Stockmen. At their next scheduled board meeting, the Stockmen enthusiastically approved this proposal. As soon as city council rules of procedure allowed, I announced the deal, got it scheduled for consideration and it was unanimously approved. Darcie Kent led the collaborative effort to design the park we enjoy today.

The deal benefited everyone. Interfaith Housing got approval to build the facility with an added preference for veterans. The Stockmen got a great park in the heart of downtown to celebrate their contributions to our heritage. The poignant statue suggested by Don Staysa depicts a Livermore cowboy removing his hat and donning a helmet for WWI. By finally honoring its decades-old commitment to the Stockmen, the city could book a nearly \$10M credit for donating the newly available land for the housing, and only had to build one park. The entire community got a great park that is now the focal point for the expanding Blacksmith Square. The deal did not in any way shift housing from downtown or diminish the affordable housing legal requirements for the downtown parcel.

### Vote Jack Balch for Mayor

Andrew Shotland, Pleasanton

It's hard to know from a "Vote for Me" sign how a candidate will do once in office. It's a bit easier if you have seen that person in action. Over the past 15 years, I have gotten to know Jack Balch well and have often

seen him in action, so I'd like to tell you why I know he'll make an excellent mayor of Pleasanton.

Forget about the fact that Jack has consistently been the most responsible and thoughtful voice on the City Council. Forget about the fact that he has been the only one on the council seriously questioning the strategy behind the proposed sales tax measure and other excessive uses of your tax dollars at a time when we can ill afford it. Forget about the fact that he is often the lone voice on the council talking about things like "long-term strategy" and "common-sense solutions".

If you know or care little about the politics of Pleasanton, the only things you really need to know about Jack is that the guy is the straightest of straight-shooters and he's a "doer". It's an easy thing for a politician to say they really care about the city. From my experience with him, I can tell you, Jack really does care. He really does lose sleep over our challenges. He really does want to make things better for you and your family.

He really should be our next mayor. I back Jack!

### Candidates Shouldn't Be Trash

Alan Marling, Livermore

A year or so ago, Livermore banned campaign signs on public property. I appreciate the City Council for voting for that decision. There were some concerns about the law at the time, but I hope we can now agree it was worthwhile. It has made a world of difference. Now we don't have election material junking up every intersection, and every dozen feet down our streets. Not only is Livermore more beautiful, but also we're less wasteful. How many of those plastic signs and metal stakes went to landfill every two years?

At the same time, we still can employ campaign signs where they are most meaningful, on our private property. If my neighbors believe in a candidate, I can see that on front yards. I also maintain that privilege. That is the beginning of a community discussion. What we had before was simply gross, a display of wealth injected into campaigns and dumped onto our streets.

That said, I am seeing a few signs sticking out of public property. Some citizens may have made mistakes. The law is new after all. An honest error. However, election material is technically legal on county property, surrounding some roads leading out of Livermore. There's no law against that. It still irritates me, and I ask my fellow citizens to keep campaign signs on their own property. Anywhere else feels like littering.

Anyway, if you want my advice about who would be best for the next city council, they are Kristie Wang and Steven Dunbar. They both have experience serving Livermore, Kristie on the school board and Steven on the planning commission.

### The Truth About Unleaded Avgas May Surprise You

Thomas Gray, Livermore

What is it about the barriers to implementing unleaded aviation fuel at Livermore

Airport that Donna Cabanne doesn't understand?

Availability of unleaded fuel is the lowest obstacle to the adoption of unleaded avgas. Go ahead, install an unleaded fuel tank! Heck, install electric aircraft charging stations while you're at it; just don't expect to see flocks of aircraft fueling/charging there any time soon. The planes that can use unleaded avgas (or electric charging) are few-and-far-between.

Ms. Cabanne states, "GAMI G100UL is FAA approved, and can be safely used as a drop in replacement fuel for all piston engine aircraft and in any fuel tank." What she fails to mention is that it takes more than just FAA approval for an aircraft or engine modification to be deemed safe by the aviation community, and then adopted by pilots and aircraft manufacturers.

For example, FAA approval of GAMI G100UL fuel does not protect companies who distribute or sell the fuel from liability.

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) has not approved a specification for G100UL, and G100UL has not been tested and approved to be mixed with other fuels.

Some manufacturers (Cirrus, for one) have said that use of G100UL in their aircraft will void the warranty.

The biggest and most difficult barrier to unleaded avgas adoption is availability of aircraft, engines, and engine modifications. The FAA estimates there are still 220,000 aircraft needing leaded gas. The problem with dropping G100UL into "any tank" is you might not find out it was a mistake until the engine sputters from the non-standard fuel, while you're climbing out of 200 feet, upwind after takeoff, with nothing to crash into in front of you but busy roads or occupied buildings.

At least the avgas that spills from your ruptured tanks will be unleaded!

### Dr. Deena Kaplanis for ALL students

Jacquelin Sousa, Livermore

Deena is not your typical politician. She is approachable, honest and not self-serving.

She is a determined and hard worker. She has been involved in PTA and helped at numerous public and private school events, even prior to running for this position. She attends many community events, including those organized by the Livermore public library and the Livermore Area Parks and Recreation Department. She enjoys being at events where she can meet new families, as well as reconnect with familiar faces. She is and has always been in it for the children.

Families forced to send your children to two different elementary schools — she sees you. Families with children with special needs — she sees you. Families at schools with a nurse present only one day a week — she sees you. Families who are concerned about school safety — she sees you. Families struggling with mental health — she sees you. Families concerned about the quality of education — she sees you. Families wondering where your hard earned

money is being spent — she sees you. No matter what your background or what you believe, she will listen to you, unbiased. Deena appreciates the diversity found in Livermore and cares about getting to know the people. She truly wants the best for all students and isn't focused on only one group of the school population.

She believes all children are created equal and deserve an advocate and a voice. Give her the opportunity to support you and your children.

### Proud to Endorse Tara Boyce

Lainie Pascall, Livermore

As a Livermore parent, yoga teacher, and advocate for LGBTQ+ youth in our community, I am proud to endorse Tara Boyce for the LVJUSD School Board. Tara and I met through the yoga community in Livermore, and I was immediately struck by her focus and dedication. As I've witnessed her become a parent, raise her children, and start her own consulting business over the years, I've also seen how she brings that same mindfulness and passion from her yoga practice into all aspects of her life.

Tara is a fierce advocate for mental wellness and safety for all students. She recognizes that schools are not just places where our children learn facts; schools are where they learn how to be in community with one another. We have had long conversations about the importance of bringing life skills, like emotional regulation and mental resilience, into the classroom. If you've ever witnessed an adult having a complete meltdown in the self-checkout lane at the grocery store, you know that self-regulation is a learned skill, not an instinct!

Tara knows that developing these skills early on requires a partnership between parents and schools, working together to support and uplift students before crises arise. She is committed to advocating for comprehensive systems that connect students with mental health resources and training for teachers and staff to identify and respond to students' needs early. As the parent of two children in the district, she knows firsthand the critical role that schools play in creating safe and supportive environments where every student can thrive.

We need leaders who are deeply invested in the well-being of our students. Tara is exactly that leader. She is committed, curious, and insightful. I wholeheartedly support her candidacy and encourage you to vote for her in the upcoming election to ensure our schools are safe, inclusive, and thriving spaces for all students.

### Who NOT to Vote For

Ronald Minnich, Livermore

I find it hard to decide between candidates in any election season. Selecting who to vote for can be hard.

Deciding who NOT to vote for can sometimes be easy. Candidates can make a statement that clearly, immediately marks them as unqualified.

Donald Trump has stated, over and over, that he will be "Dictator on Day One." This statement should instantly disqualify him in anyone's

mind. Our Constitution was designed to ensure that no one person could have dictatorial powers, even for a day, indeed for any amount of time. Washington refused to be an American king, and left after two terms, setting a precedent that lasted until WWII. Either Trump knows this and does not care; or he does not know this, because he does not understand our Constitution. In either case, he is clearly not qualified. Donald Trump does not deserve your vote.

For school board, it is essential to have board members who understand the subjects, including science. Our security and prosperity are based on our leadership in science. Board members need to understand how science works, to help ensure our students are educated and can compete internationally.

On Nov. 16, 2021, Deena Kaplanis stated: "... I'm against the school mask and now vaccine mandates ... Science shows that we have a natural God-given immunity..."

Science shows no such thing. This statement betrays a complete lack of understanding of the science of immunity.

Deena Kaplanis is free to believe anything she wants; but she is not qualified to be on the board because she is not capable of supporting science in our schools. We need our students to learn science, not faith healing.

For school board, I will be voting for my neighbor Christiaan VandenHeuvel, who I have worked with on the Rhonewood Board. He has a long history of service in our schools and in our

community. I have full confidence that he will do a very fine job.

### Jen Flynn for School Board Area 4

Steve Maher, Pleasanton

After 50-plus years serving the community and students of Pleasanton, I am supporting Jen Flynn for the next Trustee in PUSD Area 4. Unlike Jen's opponent, Jen has put in the time, preparation, and has the experience to be a valuable member of the school board. Jen knows Pleasanton!

Jen's children attend Pleasanton schools; she is a past employee of the district. Jen is the vice-chair of the Budget Advisory Committee, a valuable member of PPIE, and, most importantly, Jen has the time to fulfill the trustee's obligations. It is common for a trustee to have 15-plus commitments/meetings in a month during the day and/or at night. As a teacher in the Bay Area, her opponent cannot do justice

(See MAILBOX, page 8)

**Edward Jones** | [edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com) | 1-800-447-2222

**You deserve a financial advisor who listens. We can help.**

Erin Trayner  
Financial Advisor  
2156 W Grant Line Rd  
Suite 225  
Tracy, CA 95377  
209-835-1005  
MKT-59840-A-01 AICFPAD

## MILLER'S

**AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING**

**WE SERVICE ALL MAJOR BRANDS!**

Residential & Commercial

Serving The Tri-Valley Since 1960

**925.447.3000**

[www.CallMillers.com](http://www.CallMillers.com) Lic. #253756

Goodness Village's Annual

## SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

JOIN US TO SUPPORT GOODNESS VILLAGE'S MISSION TO END THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS BY EXPANDING OUR COMMUNITY AND PROGRAMS.

YOUR TICKET HELPS CREATE HOMES AND HOPE!

WWW.GVLIVERMORE.ORG

hosted by:

## SUNSHINE SALOON

OCTOBER 13TH ~ 5PM-8PM

**COLLEGE HUNKS**  
HAULING JUNK & MOVING

**WE MOVE THE STUFF YOU LOVE AND GET RID OF THE STUFF YOU DON'T**

**COLLEGEHUNKS.COM**  
Call 925-505-1504  
519 Leisure St. Livermore CA

- Full Service Moving
- Eco-Friendly Junk Removal
- Hourly Labor
- Packing Services



French sergent Sulpice, the leader of the regiment that adopted Marie (Véronique Filloux), the opera's main character, is played by Eugene Brancoveanu, a Tony Award winning baritone from Romania. "The Daughter of the Regiment" opened last Saturday evening at the Bankhead Theater and has two more matinee performances on Oct. 5 and 6. (Photo—Doug Jorgensen)

## MAILBOX

(Continued from page 6)

to both responsibilities. To fulfill his trustee obligations, he will need to either be away from his students or limit his daytime trustee obligations.

I urge you to cast your vote for Jen Flynn for trustee area 4. [www.votejenflynn.com](http://www.votejenflynn.com).

### Deena Kaplanis Getting My Vote

Deborah Gibson, Livermore

I read the many letters in The Independent mailbox supporting Deena Kaplanis for school board; however, there was one letter in opposition.

Interestingly, it was pointed out that Deena had asked the school board to drop the mask mandate, which it eventually did even though we are constantly being told that Covid is still a threat.

She also objected to the vaccinations for children against Covid, although we now see that multiple shots and boosters are ineffective, as demonstrated by President Joe Biden's continual infection from Covid.

When it comes to her stand on parental rights, she is not outside the norm for parents being informed if their child is requesting to be identified as a sex in opposition to what their birth certificate state.

These are all common sense convictions that taxpayers need to support. Deena will definitely be getting my vote.

### The Non-Profit Approach to Building Affordable Housing

Laning Thompson, Livermore

I am vice president of Interfaith Housing (IFH), a Livermore non-profit that provides subsidized, supportive senior housing.

In her letter to the editor (Affordable Housing in Livermore, Sept. 26, 2024), Jean King maintains that the "inclusionary" housing process is a better way to build affordable units than the efforts of non-profits such as IFH, Eden Housing and Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA). Her letter dismisses all the supportive communities built by these and other affordable housing developers.

Interfaith Housing was incorporated in 1968 to provide rental apartments for low-income seniors in Livermore; it is governed by an all-volunteer board comprised of representatives from eight local faith congregations. Since 1968, IFH has built and maintained three senior complexes with a total of 207 units: Hillcrest Gardens, Vineyard Village and Arbor Vista. In partnership with the City and SAHA, we are building a fourth community with a total of 140 units that was always to be constructed at the end of Pacific Avenue (not

downtown). Phase I, which includes 79 apartments and all driveways and parking, is projected to cost some \$54 million.

Yes, it has taken IFH and SAHA a very long time to amass the funding. Some delays in approval were due to City staff being pre-occupied with Eden Housing lawsuits, and construction costs have risen greatly since the council leased the land to us in 2018. Currently, the only way to build a project of this size is to gather awards and grants from many different sources. We have funds from the City (from fees developers pay in lieu of building affordable units) and Alameda County; a grant from the State's No Place Like Home program to house formerly homeless individuals, and a \$7M HUD mortgage. We hope to get the last chunk of funding within the next few weeks so we can finally break ground next Spring.

Low-income residents in apartments owned by housing non-profits only pay 30% of their income in rent, and they receive supportive services such as transportation. The few families who can purchase "inclusionary affordable" single houses in commercial developments must pay for their mortgages and maintenance without any support services.

Consequently, thousands of people desperately need affordable rental apartments — but market-rate developers don't like to build such apartments because they're rarely profitable. That's why we need affordable housing non-profits like IFH.

### The Difference Matters

Phyllis Couper, Pleasanton

Inflation under Trump adm was 1.4%; under Biden adm is 8.2%. Gas under Trump adm was \$2.31 gal; under Biden adm is \$3.82 gal; Mortgage rates under Trump adm was 2.65%; under Biden adm is 7.25%; Border under Trump adm — closed; under Biden Adm — open; crime under Trump adm — low; under Biden adm — high; groceries under Trump adm 3.7%; under Biden Adm is 15.6%; 401K under Trump adm +27.6%; under Biden adm is -25.2%; disposable income under Trump adm +8.9%; under Biden adm -11.7%

### Vote Deena Kaplanis

Leslie Alves, Livermore

I have had the honor of working alongside Deena Kaplanis. Her dedication to her family is astounding, and it doesn't stop there; she has a very strong work ethic. The rapport that Mrs. Kaplanis has with the community is really refreshing. I have spent time with her while she is being asked tough questions, and she is always so calm and levelheaded. After being out in the hot soccer field with

her boys, two young boys coaching soccer, she takes a short break with family to cool down and they all go together to a local event to play and have fun in the community. People know her and love her; she is a good neighbor.

Her desire for health and safety for all children and her neighborhood is so apparent. I have heard some of her positions on education; she deserves our support for all her hard work. I have worked with her and she has worked with a very diverse group. Young, old, fast, slow. She always shows grace, compassion and encouragement. Mrs. Kaplanis is well rounded and will be an excellent fit for our school board.

If you have not looked up her website, now is the time: [DrDeenak4LVJUSD.com](http://DrDeenak4LVJUSD.com).

### Boyce and VandenHeuvel Have the Endorsements of Livermore's Leaders

Cathy Rainey, Livermore

Tara Boyce and Christiaan VandenHeuvel deserve the trust of Livermore voters to be elected to the LVJUSD Board of Education. And they have earned it! They have both sought and received the endorsements of many Livermore residents, educators, and elected officials. Their endorsement lineup shows that teachers and school district personnel believe that they will be officials who understand the governance and challenges of a large public school system. Sitting board members believe in these two candidates. Coming from experienced officials, who have weathered tough times on the board during the past few years, conveys a message that Tara and Christiaan have what it takes to lead. Our city officials, past and present, understand the demands of holding office and can see the qualities of these two candidates that will make them outstanding trustees. Below is just a partial list of the endorsements that these two candidates hold so far. They have additional, distinct endorsements on their websites. With five more weeks until the election, Tara and Christiaan will be garnering more support from Livermore leaders and from everyday voters. Let's make sure they are elected to represent us.

- Livermore Education Association (teachers' union)
- Livermore Advocates for Public Education (LAPE)
- Kristie Wang — LVJUSD Board Member
- Steven Drouin — LVJUSD Board Member
- Craig Bueno — LVJUSD Board Member
- Patricia Munro — Former Livermore Vice Mayor
- Evan Branning — Liver-

more City Council Member  
• Brittini Kiick — Livermore City Council Member

### Vote for Deena Kaplanis

Cathryn Villaseñor, Livermore

For the benefit of all children and parents in the city of Livermore, please vote Nov. 5 for Deena Kaplanis for school board. She is a physician who has the safety of the community in her heart. So much energy and commitment to her many tasks show her character. You will not be disappointed by Deena Kaplanis for Livermore School Board. Thank you.

### Jen Flynn for PUSD School Board

Andrea Wilson, Pleasanton

I am proud to support Jen Flynn in her candidacy for the PUSD School Board, Area 4. As a dedicated parent, an advocate for our students, and a committed leader in our community, Jen brings a wealth of experience and insight that makes her the right choice.

She's the person you'll see throughout our town, volunteering at school-wide functions and community events, and listening to our parents. She's endorsed by so many amazing folks in our community — everyone who knows her knows she's dedicated, passionate, and cares so much about our Pleasanton community and our schools.

I first got to know Jen from her role on the PPIE Board, where she has brought fresh ideas and new perspectives. Her work on the Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee shows her dedication to ensuring fiscal responsibility and maintaining excellence in education, even during challenging financial times.

I love how she's been involved both professionally and personally with PUSD, giving her a unique perspective. As the parent of three students in Pleasanton schools, she has been a dedicated volunteer for over a decade, working to support students, teachers, and families.

She's also worked for PUSD, giving her valuable insight into the district's operations, challenges, and opportunities. Her firsthand knowledge of how our PUSD schools function and her ability to work collaboratively with stakeholders make her well-equipped to make thoughtful, informed decisions.

I encourage everyone to vote for Jen Flynn — she is exactly the leader we need to guide our district forward. Please visit [votejenflynn.com](http://votejenflynn.com) to learn more!

### I Am Voting for Deena Kaplanis

Chloe Gomez, Livermore

My name is Chloe Gomez. I have lived in Livermore most of my life and I am a mother of a 9-year-old daughter. I will be voting for Deena Kaplanis because she is a mother herself and she has our children's best interests in mind. She represents all students, and I trust her to do what is right for our children.

### Jack Balch for Mayor

Janeen Rubino-Brumm, Pleasanton

As a resident of Pleasanton for over 32 years, I take great pride in our community. This November, I am casting my vote for Jack Balch for mayor. Jack, a CFO with a strong sense of fiscal responsibility, is committed to finding ways to save money for our city. Notably, he was the only council member to vote against placing the half-cent sales tax on this year's ballot, demonstrating his thorough decision-making and willingness to stand up against the majority. Jack is kind, empathetic, intelligent, and deeply devoted to both his family and our city. I urge you to join me in voting for Jack Balch for mayor this November.

### Kaplanis Wants Parents to Rewrite Health Education Curriculum

Gail Sayers, Livermore

When asked a question from the audience at the Livermore School Board Candidates Forum on Sept. 19, Deena Kaplanis stated that she prefers open communication from the community about topics such as sex education and gender identity. The question was, "As a board member, how will you involve parents in decisions about curriculum within topics like sexual education and gender identity?"

To begin, by law, the California State Department of Education sets the learning standards for every curriculum area taught in public schools. "Growth, Development, and Sexual Health" is included in the health standards and is appropriately addressed in the middle to upper grades. This is the only curriculum area where parents may choose to remove their child from the classroom while these topics are being taught. Before removing students, however, parents are encouraged to preview the online standards and instructional materials used in the district. Districts inform parents ahead of time who will be teaching the course and if any outside speakers will be used as instructors. That is how the districts include parents in their student's education in this sensitive area of instruction. So far, it has worked well for everyone, and parents' wishes have been honored.

Deena Kaplanis, however, wants parents to be allowed to collaborate on these topics and then "we can take that information and form, you know, curriculum that represents the community well and what our values are." That is not the way public education works. Parents do not write the learning standards and teaching objectives for public education. Her words show that Deena Kaplanis is clearly NOT suited to serve on a school board for public education in our state. Her desire to infuse our schools with her personal religious and moral beliefs is unacceptable.

### Livermore School Board Candidate – Vote for Christiaan Vandenheuvel

Tom Moreno, Livermore

I am writing to encourage everyone voting for Livermore School Board to support Christiaan VandenHeuvel.

I have known Christiaan for about ten years, and in that time, he has become a valued family friend. We met at an East Avenue Middle School open house and have shared many conversations, meals, and games at each other's homes. We often talk about Livermore's thriving community, our schools, and current events. Christiaan is deeply committed to keeping our schools safe, innovative, and staffed with dedicated professionals. He prioritizes our children's well-being and education above all else.

As a parent, I have two children currently in the Livermore schools and two who have graduated. Christiaan and his wife, Kristina, have also raised their children in our school system. Kristina is a full-time teacher, and Christiaan himself occasionally substitutes in the schools. Their personal investment in our schools reflects their dedication to making Livermore schools as strong as possible.

I have been in law enforcement for nearly 32 years and am all about character and principles. When I trust someone, it is because of who they are and what they stand for. Christiaan has exceeded my standards. He meets you with a smile, genuinely listens to your views, and offers thoughtful, common-sense responses. He is not pushy but is a listener, a

thinker, and someone who values collaboration to find the best solutions.

Christiaan is a man of integrity and principle. I trust that he will always do what's right for the safety and welfare of our children. He understands the importance of keeping national politics out of our schools unless it directly impacts our students' safety and education. His focus remains on the local issues that affect us most.

Christiaan is committed to collaboration and unity for the betterment of our children. I urge you to make the best choice for our schools and our future. When you cast your ballot for Livermore School Board, vote for Christiaan VandenHeuvel. You will not be disappointed.

Thank you for reading.

### Dr. Deena Kaplanis an Asset to LVJUSD School Board

Raquel Brandt, Pleasanton

Deena is a voice for parents that have long since been ignored by our local California school boards. Deena promises to bring unity to the community and close the gaps that are divisive within the school district. Deena's high standards of integrity and transparency coupled with her years of experience in working with the public give her an advantage over any other candidate. You can not go wrong with a vote for Deena; a parent with a voice of reason who can accomplish great things for the school board and community as a whole. Please vote for Deena Kaplanis for School Board!

### The Good and the Bad

Kenneth Henneman, Pleasanton

In this world love is good, hate is bad.

Love predominates hate by far in our eight billion people, but we tend to notice and then talk about the bad during wars, when both the bad and good are laid bare. Current wars remind me of examples of the bad and good I learned after WW2; they're worth not forgetting.

THE BAD. At 17 years old in Chicago in 1954, my two co-worker warehouse men were newly from Germany and Ukraine. Why come to the U.S.? Never talking, but under a prod, the Ukrainian, almost crying, said to us, "My father was killed by the Germans going to Russia; my mother and siblings were killed by the Russians going to Germany." Enough said.

THE GOOD. In 2005, in the small town of Hanstatten Germany north of the Rhine River, the Church minister and town mayor showed us the annual church records that documented the births, marriages and deaths of all our ancestors back to the 1600's. Families still live and work there. THEN they showed us the big stone monument by the side of the church with an American name and told the story. In 1944, Allied pilots naturally were ordered to bomb every industrial town industry along the Rhine River railroad going east from Holland. The pilot saw the church, DISOBEYED orders, didn't bomb, and townspeople honorably thanked and buried him after his plane crashed, and tell visitors to this day the story. Still grateful the town was not destroyed. Good remains remembered.

TODAY. One can only remember the old saying — "There's so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it ill behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us."

PS: If you like history, this story was told to us by a family member who was at the Hanstatten train station in 1944 and SAW it happen. He helped with the remembrance, as he knew the city would have been bombed and destroyed; and was still glad to be alive to tell the story.

# Livermore Couple's Home Offers a Unique Canvas for a Young Artist

By Christina Cavallaro

A love and appreciation of their city led Livermore residents Vic and Sharon Avila to commission a young Castro Valley artist to paint a vista of their home, on their home.

"We wanted to put a mural up," Vic Avila said about the origin of the painting, which depicts the Tri-Valley's vineyards and rural landscape.

The Avilas were selective about their subject matter. "Livermore has 50 wineries, open space, cowboys and cowgirls, and nukes." Those things represent Livermore and its environs, but the couple wanted to put something classy on the side of their house.

"We've had a glass of wine every night with dinner for the last 40 years. So it's wine country. That was the origin," he explained. "It was meant to be a reflection of the hillsides, the agriculture in the area, which has a

lot of wineries as we all know."

Once the couple had decided on a theme, they needed an artist to execute their vision. They turned to artist friend Jennifer Grafton, who was too busy herself to help but referred them to Bethany Christenson, with whom Grafton had worked on other mural projects.

Soft-spoken Christenson, 21, was a contrast to Avila's bubbly humor. "I'm still very early in my life, but I didn't expect to be here five years ago, having the opportunity to paint murals and doing something that I love and care about — I'm grateful."

Christenson and her family moved to the Castro Valley area a few years ago from Tulare, where she attended a high school with a focus on the arts. "Before that I was just your typical artsy kid who liked to draw," she said.

Since then, things have kind of snowballed as opportunities like this one with the Avilas have come

up. She is now working with Grafton on murals for her local church and hopes to expand her horizons and explore art events like the Livermore Mural Fest that launched in 2022.

She's also grateful for the Avilas, who have made her feel welcome in the months she has spent at their house working on the project that took many sporadic Saturdays over eight months.

"I'm sure that Vic and Sharon are going to be in my life because they're good people. It's not like, oh, 'I painted the mural. I'm done. I'm gone.'"

"To help a young person like Bethany, it's a kick," Avila said. "You know that Jimmy Durante song 'Make Someone Happy'? That's what I'm here for. If you have the resources to help somebody, then get off your backside and go do it."

To see more of Christenson's work visit her on Instagram @bethany\_murals.

## TRUSTEE

(Continued from front page)

satisfying to me to continue contributing, now that I'm retired and I have the time."

## Joseph Grcar

For Grcar, challenging the appointed, but never-elected incumbent Heredia, is about "restoring your right to vote for a trustee."

"It's all about standing up for participatory active democracy," he said. "The races that I'm running for would not even be on the ballot, unless I had run for them." He said the last elec-

tion for trustee in Area 4 was in 2002.

Grcar said that his career in high tech combined with his Ph.D. in a STEM field uniquely sets him apart from other board trustees whose backgrounds are all in education. "I understand the kind of work environment that the college students would go into."

If elected, he would focus on educating tomorrow's workforce, he said, and cited the training program that Tesla in Fremont offers, and

which is connected to other Bay Area schools like Laney College in Oakland.

"After you learn robotics and electronics, then they'll give you a job working at the Tesla factory. But they don't interface with Chabot or Las Positas. I mean, huh?"

He said he'd also push for a set of metrics for success. "I'd want to know what the hot fields are and what are our programs in them and what are the percentage of students who haven't been able to graduate yet."

## SOLAR

(Continued from front page)

over the last several years to revise the applicable electric rate tariffs that provide these rate subsidies to customers without solar PV systems."

The CPUC's decision to end the ability of schools and customers with more than one meter on their properties to use their own generated electricity was included in a CPUC February 2023 vote that reduced the amount of money that Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E) and other utility companies credit solar users who sell the power they don't use back to the grid.

Opponents of that decision argued that cutting the rebate would disincentivize Californians from buying solar panels.

The utility companies — PG&E, which provides electricity in Northern California; Southern California Edison (SCE) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDGE) — supported the CPUC decision, saying customers without solar systems were paying the subsidies to those who could afford to put solar panels on their roofs. State Sen. Josh Becker of Menlo Park proposed SB 1374 to reverse some of those policies, but the utilities also opposed the bill for the same reason. The companies argued that customers without solar systems would end up paying higher prices to subsidize those who could afford to generate their own power.

Tri-Valley Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, whose 16th District includes Livermore and Pleasanton, voted in favor of SB 1374. Assemblymember Liz Ortega, whose 20th District includes Dublin, did not vote on the bill. State Sen. Steven Glazer, who represents the Tri-Valley in the 7th District, also supported the bill.

"I'm disappointed with Governor Newsom's decision to veto SB 1374," Bauer-Kahan said in a statement. "We should be doing everything possible to encourage the switch to renewable energy, and that includes encouraging adoption in multi-family settings and schools. We will not be able to meet our renewable energy goals unless we take an all-of-the-above approach. Our schools have been investing in solar to become more resilient and

help our transition, and that should be incentivized. We will continue to work to make that happen."

Glazer did not reply to a request for comment.

The bill would not have affected property owners with a single electrical meter, as most homeowners would be.

In vetoing the measure, Newsom sided with the CPUC decision, saying the CPUC decision "focused on aligning these rate subsidies with the measurable value these systems provide to the electric grid and toward furthering the state's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals."

"While I support the continued growth of the customer solar PV market, this bill would compound the challenge of electric bill affordability by overturning a key component of a recent CPUC decision adopting these alignment changes," Newsom said. "Specifically, this bill would increase the amount that most customers would pay for their own electric service to provide a rate subsidy to certain customers, and public schools, that install solar PV systems on their property. For this reason, I cannot sign this bill."

Newsom's veto disturbed some advocates of rooftop solar who had supported the bill. Environment California said California has the potential to generate more clean energy from rooftop solar panels, but has taken advantage of only 10%

of the potential. The bill "would have incentivized solar installations on more rooftops and parking lots, thereby accelerating California's transition to clean energy and letting schools and renters enjoy the many benefits of solar panels, including less pollution, lower electricity bills and a more resilient energy system."

"This summer's wildfires and extreme heat waves demonstrate the urgent need to cut our use of climate change-causing fossil fuels in favor of clean, renewable energy like solar power," said Steven King, Environment California's clean energy advocate.

"Schools and apartment buildings should have the same opportunity to install and benefit from solar panels that single-family homes do. We're disappointed in Gov. Newsom's decision to pump the brakes on this popular, proven clean energy resource, especially as cuts to solar incentive programs in the last two years have made rooftop solar's future so uncertain in California."

## 16TH DISTRICT

(Continued from front page)

too much on minority communities, and that he would seek to represent all demographic groups.

## Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

First elected in 2018, Bauer-Kahan said "protecting our community and keeping us safe has always been a top priority."

"I've authored legislation to keep our kids safe from guns, secured millions in public safety dollars for our local fire agencies to fight the threat of wildfire and given law enforcement additional tools to fight retail theft," Bauer-Kahan said.

Bauer-Kahan said she

water, and "fought for and won the decades-long battle to preserve Livermore's 3,100-acre Tesla Park in perpetuity as open space and parkland for all residents." She said she also secured funding for Pleasanton to clean its water supply.

If reelected, Bauer-Kahan said she plans to focus on high utility bills and a home insurance crisis, where many residents, including Bauer-Kahan, have seen their policies suddenly canceled.

"We must restore stability to the (insurance) market as quickly as possible and address our sky-rocketing rates," she

\$73 billion deficit under Democrats. The former certified public accountant said there must be an accounting of all government functions.

He said he disagrees with Bauer-Kahan's support of a bill in 2022 that would have required judges to consider a defendant's ability to pay when setting bail. The bill failed in the Assembly.

"In the last three years in the area where I live — Alamo, Danville, Walnut Creek — we have had five 'juggings' (a form of mugging) where people have been followed and in broad daylight have been robbed at gunpoint," Rubay said.

Rubay said he also disagrees with Bauer-Kahan's support of AB 1955, a bill that prohibited school officials from enforcing any policy requiring the disclosure of information related to a student's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to any other person without the child's consent. The bill passed the state Legislature and was signed by the governor in July.

"My opponent believes that parents should let their children decide when they communicate very important issues to their parents," Rubay said. "I have three children; two of whom are under the age of seven. I feel it is my responsibility to help my children in every part of their school activities."

Rubay added that schools should concentrate on science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, known as STEM.

"Our schools are being used to promote left leaning political ideology over improving their students' test scores," he said. "We must leave politics out of our schools."

Rubay said he will focus on representing all Tri-Valley residents "over the few people that find themselves struggling in poverty that have been arrested into our criminal justice system."

He added he will not support issues like establishing a committee to review reparations for eligible Black adults and "not focus on the less than 1% of the voters that are struggling with gender dysphoria."

"I have great compassion for everyone, yet our representatives are here to represent us all equally, not take sides with small minorities of the population," he said.



Rebecca Bauer-Kahan



Joseph Rubay

was proud to have authored legislation that created the new mental health crisis hotline 9-8-8, which serves as an alternative to calling 9-1-1 for those in mental health emergencies. Dialing 9-8-8 reaches support teams staffed by mental health professionals and trained peers, reducing the role of police in mental crisis response, she said.

"With the fall of Roe v. Wade, I created and chaired the Select Committee on Reproductive Health, the first of its kind in the nation," she said. "I partnered with The White House to pass nation-leading legislation that keeps California a safe harbor for reproductive health services and ensures that doctors and patients can't be prosecuted for seeking and providing care."

Bauer-Kahan also touted legislation she authored that shields the data and communications of abortion patients from law enforcement agencies who wish to prosecute them.

In addition, the environmental attorney said protecting the environment is a core issue for her. She authored legislation that banned dangerous pesticides, recently passed a bill signed by the governor that places steep fines on people who overuse and illegally divert

said. "We must work to make our communities affordable and prosperous, support our small businesses and provide a quality education for our kids. As the chair of the Consumer Protection and Privacy Committee, I am working hard to take actions now to ensure AI is used ethically and responsibly. We must assure AI benefits everyone and doesn't inhibit innovation or stifle California's economic success."

## Joseph Rubay

Hoping to replace Bauer-Kahan with a Republican, Rubay said he is running a "very exciting campaign that will surprise a great many people this November." He notes that he received 43% of the vote in the Alameda County portion of the district in their latest contest.

Rubay said he is running because "our state is in need of help."

"I represent change," Rubay said. "I think we can make a few smart changes in our criminal justice system. We can start by respecting and supporting our law enforcement."

Rubay said he is running to improve public safety, to keep politics out of schools, and because the state's \$100 billion surplus has become a

**ARROYO CELLARS**

**Tasting Room Open:**  
**Saturday: 12 - 5pm,**  
**Sunday: 12 - 5pm,**  
**or by appointment**

**2270 Research Drive,**  
**Livermore**  
**(925) 292-9157**

**GAY NINETIES**  
*Pizza & Pasta Co.*  
 gayninetiespizza.com

**Happy Fall**

**OPENED FOR INSIDE AND OUTSIDE DINING!**

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

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



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

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

**THE Independent**

independentnews.com | 925.243.8000

Follow us on



# Heritage Holds Off Livermore High Football, Team Now 3-2

By Phil Jensen

A balanced offense has given the Livermore High School football team added momentum this season.

But the Cowboys were unable to stop Heritage-Brentwood's offense on Sept. 27, as the Patriots scored touchdowns on their first three possessions and also two in the fourth quarter to cap a 42-28 victory.

"They fought to the end," said Livermore coach John Wade about his team, which has won three of its five games this season. "The effort's there."

Livermore quarterback Matteo Lortie passed for 229 yards and star running back Kamarri Robinson rushed for 130 against Heritage. The Cowboys have been balanced all season, as Lortie had 718 passing yards and Robinson had 612 rushing yards (the team had 707 total) though four games heading into the Heritage matchup.

"You can't leave us or overplay us on one of them because we have enough weapons," said Wade, comparing the run to the pass. "We're really happy with where we are offensively. We feel like we can play

with teams and keep ourselves in games ... I think, obviously, we gave up too many points tonight, and we'll look at the tape and try to clean up some stuff and adjust things."

Livermore's record is now 3-2 overall and the Cowboys will host California High (5-0) on Oct. 4 at 7:15 p.m. Heritage improved to 4-1 overall with the win over the Cowboys.

Heritage opened the scoring on its first possession with a swing pass from Phillip Babbitt that Mekhi Adanandus took 45 yards into the end zone. But Livermore countered with a 69-yard drive that ended with a six-yard touchdown pass from Lortie to Robinson, who shrugged off a Heritage tackle attempt at the 3-yard-line to reach the end zone.

Last year Robinson rushed for a jaw-dropping 2,141 yards. The senior is also making strides as a receiver out of the backfield this season, as he already has 10 receptions for 69 yards and two touchdowns. Wade said that one of his goals has been to move Robinson around and try to get him into space where he can get favorable matchups.

Heritage scored the next two touchdowns of the game on 18- and 6-yard passes from Babbitt to Jordan Kinnaid. However, Livermore cut the Patriots' lead to 21-14 heading into halftime with an 80-yard drive that took more than seven minutes off the clock. Lortie ran one yard up the middle for the touchdown, and Elijah Delgado connected on the second of his four point-after-touchdown kicks.

The Patriots scored on their first possession of the second half when Babbitt and Kinnaid connected again for a touchdown pass, this time from 28-yards out. Kinnaid had four catches for 58 yards in the game.

But Livermore battled back to within a touchdown again. After Livermore's A.J. Carey grabbed an interception in the end zone, the Cowboys marched 80 yards again, ending with a 10-yard pass from Lortie to junior receiver C.T. Harper for a touchdown with three minutes, 34 seconds left in the third quarter. Harper finished with seven receptions for a game-high 127 yards, and teammate Diego Valverde added seven catches for 45 yards.

Heritage produced the



Livermore High senior Matthew Benson tries to break a tackle in last Friday's game against Heritage-Brentwood. Benson caught three passes for 34 yards in the Sept. 27 game, which Livermore ultimately lost 42-28. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

eventual game-winning touchdown about midway through the fourth quarter on a four-yard run by Adanandus. Robinson brought Livermore back within one score with a 40-yard touchdown run in which he broke

at least four tackle attempts on his way to the end zone with 4:31 to play.

But Heritage scored the final touchdown of the game on a three-yard run by Adanandus, who rushed for a game-high 174 yards.

Livermore proceeded to drive to the Heritage six-yard line before an interception by the Patriots' Christian Cerda ended Livermore's comeback hopes with 18 seconds remaining in the game.

## REGIMENT

(Continued from front page)

prano, Véronique Filloux, who plays the charming heroine Marie, found on a battlefield and raised by a French rifle regiment. The spunky Marie sidesteps the wishes of Sulpice, the leader of her regiment guardians, to follow her heart when she falls in love with a Tyrolean peasant boy, Tonio.

The bel canto style opera, known for feats of vocal technique, is sung in French with English super-titles, though one almost needn't know French to follow. Filloux's expressiveness and top-notch acting skills conveyed the meaning of her words through song, joyfulness, patriotism, heartbreak, humor and love.

Filloux said of her character, "It is such a pleasure to see her grow and chase her happiness throughout the show and be able to sing so much gorgeous lyrical music that tells the arc of her story." In the physically active role, Filloux barrels around the stage with a boyish energy unfettered by gender norms. "It's sweet to see all these men in the show... who are totally in love with her for being unabashedly herself."

She is well matched on stage by the uber-talented tenor Chris Mosz, who plays love-struck Tonio. Mosz seemed to effortlessly hit the high Cs a jaw-dropping nine times in the Act 1 aria "Ah Mes Amis" — the piece that

made Luciano Pavarotti famous, and which Stage Director Marc Jacobs said "would kill a normal person." Mosz, however, was quick to redirect any spotlight that might shine on him back to his castmate, Filloux.

"While I may have some high notes to sing, it really is Marie's show. And I couldn't be happier to do this with Véronique Filloux as my Marie. It's a very challenging role, but you wouldn't know it watching Véronique work. She truly is the real deal..."

"It's a wonderful role for her," said Mills, a former Metropolitan Opera soprano who has performed the part of Marie before. "I hope she gets to do it a lot of times."

Mills added that one of the Livermore Valley Opera's goals was to provide young singers with the opportunity to prepare and sing these parts with an audience, such that they may then perform them elsewhere on other stages throughout their careers.

Filloux said the debut role feels like "home" to her.

There will be matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, and Sunday, Oct. 6. There will also be a pre-opera talk in the lobby of the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., one hour before each performance. Tickets start at \$25 and are available at [livermorevalleyopera.com](http://livermorevalleyopera.com).

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Now through Oct. 30

#### ART SHOWS PRESENTED BY LIVERMORE ART ASSOCIATION

The Livermore Art Association presents two shows: "Embrace the Journey", art by Alison Akin, will be up all October at the Robert Livermore Community Center, Mon. through Fri., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. "Celebrate Women", paintings and photography by numerous artists, will be up all month at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave, during regular hours. This show is originated by Barbara Reynolds as a photographic show with memorials to special women in the artist life.

### Thursday, Oct. 3

#### SEASONS OF SMALL BUSINESS — PART 2

The Dublin Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend the "Seasons of Small Business Series," where subject matter experts will share their invaluable insights, providing you with the knowledge to enhance your local business or help you start a new one. Running every Thursday between Sept. 26 and Oct. 24 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, 6200 Village Pkwy. Ste. 100. Each class focuses on a different topic, and you can sign up for as many as you'd like — all free of charge!

### Friday, Oct. 4

#### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The City of Dublin will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bray Community Room at the Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza). To register, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and search "DublinCommunity," or zip code 94568, in the search bar. Each donation can save up to three lives!

### Saturday, Oct. 5

#### FIRE SAFETY EXPO 2024

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is hosting an event on Oct. 5 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Training Tower, 3333 Busch Rd. in Pleasanton. Demonstrations, kid's obstacle course, dunk the chief, and more! demonstrations and activities. To kick-off the fun, the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation will host a pancake breakfast that begins at 8 a.m. and continues to 11 a.m. For more information, visit [www.lpfre.org](http://www.lpfre.org) or call 925-454-2361.

### Thursday, Oct. 10

#### Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club

Enjoy an interesting presentation by Kirby Fong, who grows exhibition varieties for show. He will discuss growing daffodils in our area. Oct. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. Crosswinds Church, 1660 Freisman Rd., Livermore, at the red Farm Theater Building.

### Saturday, Oct. 12

#### FALL FESTIVAL

Valley Bible Church in Livermore invites you to their annual free Fall Festival on Oct. 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a community event offering free food, face painting, balloon making, games, prizes, arts & crafts, jump houses, sweet treats and free pumpkins in their pumpkin patch! Valley Bible Church is located at 6749 Southfront Rd. in Livermore. For more information, visit [vbc.online/events](http://vbc.online/events).

### Thursdays, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19

#### FIBER FRIENDS

On the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., the Livermore Public Library will host Fiber Friends at the Civic Center Library, Community Rooms A & B. Participants are encouraged to chat with fellow crafters and work on their craft projects, knitting, sewing, crochet, cross-stitch, etc. Fiber Friends is geared towards adults. For more information, please call 925-373-5505, or visit the library's website at [library.livermoreca.gov](http://library.livermoreca.gov).

### Saturday, Oct. 19

#### BOOK LAUNCH PARTY FOR "TANGLED THREADS"

Heritage Estates will be hosting a Book Launch Party for "Tangled Threads", honoring authors Martha Eddleman and her daughter Katherine Eddleman Bultman. The party will be on Oct. 19 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. There will be a raffle, book signing and refreshments. Heritage Estates is located at 900 E. Stanley Blvd., in Livermore.

### Saturday, Oct. 19

#### DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

Make simple dresses for girls in third world countries! Meetings are once a month and the next Sew-Fest is Oct. 19 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 accepted. If you can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com), for kits that you can sew from home.

### Sunday, Oct. 20

#### HOUSE CONCERT IN LIVERMORE

Hosted by the Livermore Jazz Society, Matt Finders & Friends is bringing three new faces to the LJS stage — seasoned veteran performers Jim Kassis and Geoff Carter, will deftly accompany versatile vocalist Marina Crouse. Get ready for Blues, Swing, and Boleros! To request a seat, email [info@livermorejazzsociety.org](mailto:info@livermorejazzsociety.org), or use the web form at: [www.livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats](http://www.livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats). Oct 20, 2 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation: \$20 per person

#### ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### TOPSCIENCE

TOPScience is a group that partners with elementary school science teachers to enhance learning for both students and teachers. It is an opportunity to pass on skills and knowledge while having fun and contributing to schools in Livermore. For more information or to volunteer, contact Art Krakowsky at [artkr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artkr@sbcglobal.net) or 925-455-0486.

#### ONGOING EVENTS

##### FARMERS MARKETS

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

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

Thursday Night Livermore Farmers Market  
Now through to Oct. 10 at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St., downtown Livermore, from 4 to 8 p.m. See [www.livermorefarmers-market.org](http://www.livermorefarmers-market.org).

#### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

#### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING

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

#### ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and nursery care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time with bagels, beverages, and great conversation. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit [asburylive.org](http://asburylive.org).

#### WINGS — WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

WINGS is a faith enrichment group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet October thru May on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Attendees can enjoy a variety of engaging speaker presentations and topics, small group discussion, fellowship and more. All are welcome! See [www.stcharleslivermore.org/wings](http://www.stcharleslivermore.org/wings) for more information.

# Your Daily Online Local News.



[independentnews.com](http://independentnews.com)

Follow us on  

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

## Shepherd's Gate to Celebrate 40 Years of Helping Women, Children

Shepherd's Gate, a Livermore-based nonprofit, will celebrate 40 years of providing shelter and counseling services for women and children during a Grateful Gala at Garré Vineyard & Winery in Livermore on Saturday, Oct. 26.

The Christian charity, which operates long-term residential campuses in Livermore and Brentwood, California, works with the legal system to house and support women affected

by poverty, homelessness, addiction, and domestic and sexual violence. It also provides case management and works with child-welfare agencies to help reunite children with their mothers.

Since it was organized as a nonprofit charity in 1984, Shepherd's Gate says it has "transformed the lives of over 15,000 women and children."

The nonprofit says its 12- to 16-month residential program focuses on every

aspect of the women's recovery, including life skills, career, spiritual growth and parenting classes. It also offers an Alumni Program with monthly meetings and other interventions to prevent a relapse.

The fundraising gala at Garré Vineyard's Bella Rosa Event Center, 7986 Tesla Road, will run from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, or for more information, go to [shepherdsgate.org](http://shepherdsgate.org).

### Teen Poet Contest Now Underway

Livermore is now accepting entries for the first teen poet contest of the new school year.

Hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Peggy Schimmelman, there will be divisions for both Livermore high school and middle school students.

The theme is "The Dance," with poets invited to interpret the theme any way they want.

The deadline to submit entries is Monday, Dec. 9.

Entries, including the student's name, grade level, teacher and non-school district email address, should be sent to [poet\\_laureate@livermoreca.gov](mailto:poet_laureate@livermoreca.gov). Only one entry per student.

Students who submit winning poems will receive a certificate and a \$25 gift card to a downtown business. The winning poems will also be displayed at the Livermore Civic Center Library.

### GHYSELS

(Continued from front page)

the very critical work of resculpting the budget."

Ghysels, the retired superintendent of the Menlo Park City School District, had been working as interim superintendent since July. Under the California education code, a retired, part-time superintendent's

salary cannot exceed \$74,733 a year, or they risk losing their pension. Ghysels told the board in August that he was fast approaching the limits of his contract and that he would need to either be rehired or replaced with a new interim superintendent.

According to Board President Mary Jo Carreon, competing salaries for a full-time superintendent in neighboring districts are significantly higher. San Ramon's superintendent receives a salary of \$400,000 and Livermore's superintendent receives \$397,000.

### DEFICIT

(Continued from front page)

continued deficits are threatening the district's ability to meet its needs. If planned cuts aren't implemented, including salaries and staffing, the county may take on a more active role in managing the district.

"The district's 2024-'25 Adopted Budget and Multiyear Projection presents a financial risk for the district," wrote Alysse Castro, superintendent of schools for Alameda County, in a Sept. 16 letter to the Livermore district board. "The district is recommended to implement board-approved budget-balancing solutions, should the district's fiscal position continue to demonstrate an inability to meet the state required minimum reserve standards."

When the district's 2023-'24 Adopted Budget and Local Control & Accountability Plan was approved by the Office of Education, the district projected that it could meet its minimum reserve requirements of 3% through 2025-'26 because of its planned budget reductions for certificated and classified staff salaries.

Subsequently, the district's first interim financial report received a positive certification, but the second interim report was filed as "qualified" by the district, a lower rating indicating fiscal troubles. During

that time, the school board approved temporary borrowing from a reserve fund to meet its financial obligations.

According to the county, no certification is required for the third interim budget report, provided staff follows through with its proposed \$2.5 million in salary reductions in 2024-'25, in addition to unspecified reductions of \$4.4 million in 2025-'26. The school district is planning to take both of these actions.

The district is projecting that it will run a general fund deficit of \$4.9 million in 2024-'25 and \$200,000 in 2025-'26, before realizing a surplus of \$566,000 in the 2026-'27 school year.

If the district is unable to cut at least \$4.4 million from the budget in 2025-'26, that reserve fund balance will be reduced to just \$2 million, the county warned.

"If enrollment growth does not materialize as projected at Budget Adoption, additional budget adjustments may be required," Castro wrote. "Forecasts include continued deficit spending in the Unrestricted General Fund and significant decreases in Restricted General Fund Balance."

School Board President Emily Prusso said the board is taking the district's budget issues very seriously. "We un-

derstand the concerns this has caused throughout the community. Despite the challenges, I'm confident in the incredible team we have working towards solutions. The Alameda County Office of Education, our new Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, our new Superintendent, the union, and the entire board are united in our efforts to address the budget crisis and move our district forward."

Michelle Dawson, coordinator of community engagement for the school district, said in an email to The Independent, that new Superintendent Torie Gibson and staff are working on solutions and plan to have a detailed plan in place by December.

"Our cabinet team (which includes Dr. Gibson and our three Assistant Superintendents of Administrative Services, Business Services, and Educational Services) are doing a deep dive into the budget as we speak to make a plan for the reductions that will be needed in order to balance our budget going forward," Dawson wrote in an email to The Independent. "Those solutions will be developed with consideration and input from others, including our union leaders and school board, so it remains a work in progress."

## OBITUARIES

### Mary Ann Ruth Mansigh Sept. 12, 1932 — Aug. 28, 2024

Mary Ann Ruth Mansigh was born on a beautiful morning, Sept. 12, 1932, in her grandparents' farmhouse in rural Otter Tail County, Minnesota. She was raised by her parents Esther and John in a tiny house outside of New York Mills, Minnesota, that lacked plumbing or electricity. She had two siblings, Milton and Marcy, but as the baby of the family, she grew up showered with love and attention. Even as a small child, Mary Ann was very smart and brimming with confidence. She learned to read on her own at age four and begged to go to school. Mary Ann was the valedictorian when she graduated from New York Mills High School and went on to the University of Minnesota at Duluth on a scholarship, graduating with a Bachelor of Science with a double major: math and chemistry.

At that time, it was assumed that, as a woman, she would use her degree to teach. She didn't want to teach, and instead she moved to Berkeley, California to assist her sister with her first child. She found a job as a chemist, but hated it, so she kept looking. There weren't many interesting and challenging jobs for women in those days. She found an advertisement for a position as a mathematician at Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (later renamed Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) out in rural Livermore. It was listed under "Men Wanted" in the Oakland Tribune. The year was 1955. She was hired at the Livermore Lab and worked there as a computer scientist for 40 years.

Mary Ann had a very enjoyable and satisfying career and worked with many amazing people. She first worked with the eminent scientist Berni Alder using computer simulation to model the behavior of materials at the atomic level. Berni developed the field of molecular dynamics which is now studied in departments around the world and has revolutionized human understanding of the behavior of atoms, molecules and solids. Mary Ann was Alder's entire software development team and was recognized as such in all the seminal research papers that established the field. She programmed many mainframe



computers from the UNIVAC to the CRAY supercomputers, quickly recoding her programs for each new machine so she could use all of the unused computer time before the other programmers learned the machine.

For the remainder of her career, Mary Ann developed code for another eminent scientist, Don Wuebbles. This work was modeling the atmosphere for ozone depletion potentials aimed at the protection of the ozone layer. When Don left LLNL in 1994, Mary Ann retired.

Mary Ann didn't receive recognition for her work until years later, but that recognition meant a great deal to her. She was first invited to give a talk on her career at LLNL in 2015 by the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) committee of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Women's Association, where she encountered a crowded room full of a new generation of scientists and engineers, eager to learn about both her technical work and how she navigated working in science in a time when there were not as many women. Soon after her well-attended presentation at the Lab, she was also invited to give talks for the American Association of University Women and the Livermore Library. In November of 2017, she was invited to Lausanne, Switzerland, to present at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). She was given the royal treatment and treated like a rockstar. Soon after, EPFL began a lecture series named after her. On March 9, 2018, she was the keynote speaker for Marvell Semiconductor's International Women's Day celebration. Then, on Aug. 25, 2024, she

was delighted to receive news that she was selected for an honorary doctorate from Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (Federal Institute of Technology Zurich).

Mary Ann was so much more than a computer scientist. The most important thing to her was her Christian faith. She was a member of the Apostolic Lutheran Church of Berkeley. She demonstrated her Christian faith by practicing a level of acceptance, compassion and love that exemplified Christ's teachings. In her last days, she was impatient to meet Jesus.

Mary Ann loved crafts, especially knitting. She knit Christmas decorations, dish cloths and sweaters for every baby she knew. Mary Ann was a world traveler and set out on a three-month tour of Europe when she only 27. She loved her family and bought houses for her parents as well as her brother and sister. After her father died in 1977, Mary Ann invited her mother to live with her. From then until her mother passed away in 1990, Mary Ann devoted her life to taking care of her mother.

After retiring, Mary Ann began a new chapter of life when she married Cori. The two of them lived in a house which they built in Livermore, but they enjoyed world travel. Mary Ann continued traveling until her death, visiting Africa, Australia, Indonesia, and every corner of Europe.

Mary Ann passed away in her sleep on Aug. 28, 2024.

Mary Ann was preceded in death by her parents and siblings. She is survived by her spouse of 27 years Cori Elena Karlsen, and her nieces Sharon Johnson and Susan Johnson-Doerr, her nephew Michael Johnson, grandnephews Jim and Sam Carmichael.

A celebration of life will be held at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, California, 94550, at 11 a.m., and will be followed by a light lunch.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Asante Africa @1334 Carlton Place, Livermore CA 94550.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Karlsen family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Dr. Charles F. McMillan Oct. 25, 1954 — Sept. 6, 2024



research. Beyond his professional achievements, Charlie

Dr. Charles F. McMillan, 69, passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 6, 2024, due to a vehicle accident in Los Alamos, New Mexico. Born on Oct. 25, 1954, in Fayetteville, Arkansas, Charlie earned a Ph.D. in physics from MIT and held four U.S. patents and one Canadian patent. He spent over two decades at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and became the tenth Director of Los Alamos National Laboratory in 2011, where he played a pivotal role in advancing experimental capabilities and cutting-edge

was a passionate musician, photographer and astronomer who shared his love of the arts and sciences with others. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Janet, their three children, and grandson. A service to honor his life will be held on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Ashley Pond in Los Alamos, New Mexico. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the LANL Foundation, <https://lanlfdn.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list>. For full obituary, visit [devargasfuneral.com](http://devargasfuneral.com).

### Randall Harry Schlientz April 22, 1934 — Sept. 25, 2024



born in the small town of Bicester. After a couple of years living and working in England, they returned to San Jose where Randall (Randy to his coworkers) joined a young architecture and engineering firm called Associated Professions, where he was quickly promoted to be the primary architectural partner in the firm. He would spend the rest of his career with Associated Professions designing everything from private homes to commercial buildings, to St. Michael's chapel and school building. When the firm moved to Livermore, he purchased the first lot in a newly developed cul-de-sac where he designed the house of his dreams. The house included an in-law apartment for Brenda's parents Dora and Charlie Leakey who had moved to the U.S. several years prior. He and Brenda helped care for Dora and Charlie for the remainder of their lives.

After not knowing his father growing up, he decided to try to find him when he was in his mid-forties. He quickly found his father, Ralph Schlientz, who had moved to Southern California where he had remarried and had four children with his new wife. As an only child whose mother had passed away many years earlier, Randall was elated to find his father and discover he had stepsiblings Patty, Larry, Sharon, Stan and Bill, and that he was an uncle to many

nieces and nephews. They took him in instantly as part of their large family; he spent the rest of his life cementing these new bonds and reveling in the family he had missed as a child.

Randall was above everything else a servant, committed to helping those less fortunate. He was an integral part of the local community, deeply committed to his faith and St. Michael's Church where he served as Parish Council President for seven years and was a lay minister for many years. He was a proud Rotarian where he volunteered his time and served as the local club president. After retirement, he continued to serve as board member for Interfaith Housing where he helped develop affordable housing in Livermore. He and Brenda donated their time and resources to causes from global hunger to women's shelters to the Shriner's Hospital. They were weekly volunteers at Open Heart Kitchen for years. His life was centered on service in whatever capacity he could be of use.

Randall was above all a good-hearted man who knew his failings and worked hard to overcome them his whole life. He tried to pay forward all of those who helped him see his own value and nurture his creativity. With Brenda he created the family he never had growing up, and more than succeeded. He struggled to express his feelings, but they ran deep and showed in his actions. He was humble and grateful for all of life's blessings. He will be missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held at St. Michael's Church in Livermore on Thursday, Oct. 10. All are welcome.

# Four Candidates in Contest For Two Park District Seats

By David Jen

Challengers Matt Bogdanowicz, a recreation supervisor, and Jacob Vital, a residential contractor, will contend with incumbents James Boswell and Jan Palajac for two at-large four-year seats on the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Board of Directors next month.

The Independent asked candidates for their views on facilities, diversity and LARPD finances, including the district's tax-sharing agreement with the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) that has recently drawn scrutiny for possible funds withheld by EBRPD, according to the current LARPD board.

## James Boswell

Elected in 2020, Boswell said his time on the board has helped "improve overall operations, expand district programs and services, enhance management controls, improve and expand human resource assets, implement enhanced policies and procedures, and more. It has been a team effort."

His experience outside the district includes management/executive positions at Bank of America, Apple Computer, Apple spin-off Connect Inc., and ADP, as well as 19 years in

law enforcement.

He pointed to a 2021 public bond issued to raise \$12.9 million to reduce the district's unaccrued account liability as an example of improved financial controls during his tenure. But Boswell does not support an additional bond at the moment.

"Requesting public funds to fund operations should not be



James Boswell

done unless deemed appropriate and/or all other avenues of funding, if necessary, have been exhausted," he said. "Accordingly, at this juncture, if LARPD needs additional operational funding, it is incumbent that the board look at all avenues and resources to make an effective decision before considering a bond."

On the tax-sharing agreement, Boswell said, "LARPD is currently working with the county LAFCo (Local Agency Formation Commission) board, county supervisors and EBRPD to resolve any and/or all tax-re-

lated issues that may exist."

For improvements, Boswell pushes for a central Tri-Valley sports complex "complete with additional fields, courts, and a new venue with new technology that would support multiple types of events comparable to some of the new parks such as the Great Park in Irvine, California, or the Arizona Athletic



Jan Palajac

Grounds, in Mesa, Arizona."

## Jan Palajac

A licensed landscape architect, Palajac was elected to the LARPD board in 2016 and served as its chair in 2020. For some of the district's successes during her time on the board, she counted keeping parks, trails and open spaces open to the public during the coronavirus pandemic, as well as improvements to the district's organization, policies and asset management, as some of the district's successes during her time on the board.

Palajac said she would be open to a revenue bond but identified the tax-sharing agreement with EBRPD as the board's first priority.

"We would like to terminate the agreement," said Palajac. "Last year, over \$7 million went to EBRPD, and \$12 million went to LARPD as a result of that agreement. Part of our tax



Jacob Vital

revenue also goes to ERAF (Educational Relief Additional Funding); last year \$12 million went to ERAF. EBRPD does not pay ERAF fees. LARPD's total budget last year was \$24 million. If we did not have to pay EBRPD, we would have an additional \$7 million-plus and might not need any other funding to meet our needs."

She pointed to the aging May Nissan pool as an example of deferred maintenance within the district—the area she thinks needs the most attention.

Palajac also recognized the demand for programs and facili-

ties beyond the district's current funding. "This need includes things like softball/baseball fields, pickleball courts, trails, bicycle pump tracks and similar facilities, and disc golf courses, to name a few."

On top of the district's existing diversity within programs, she would like to see the district continue "to try new approaches/new classes as we have been since COVID."

Palajac promoted the use of Camp Shelly for the underserved this year, including a pilot camping program for children there. She also promoted new communication boards at parks for children who are not verbal communicators.

## Jacob Vital

Vital hopes to bring his experience in tech, business operations, nonprofits and construction to the LARPD board.

"With these life experiences, I am in a unique position to understand the finer details of how an organization such as LARPD operates and help steer its resources to benefit our youth community," said Vital.

While he understands the desire for a possible revenue bond, he remains cautious about burdening taxpayers.

"Before even approaching such a plan, I would advocate for a thorough audit of LARPD's

budget in an attempt to operate within the current budget," he said, calling for additional independent investigation of the agreement with EBRPD. "The simple solution that would make voters feel good is to say that we should stop the agreement altogether, and that might be the right answer, but we need to know unequivocally what the ramifications of such a decision would be."

For Vital, youth sports and community events rank highly as areas for improvement, believing the district can do more with the parks it has.

He hopes to see partnerships with "both Alameda County and LVJUSD (Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District) on programs with the Veterans Hall," adding that the county is interested in improving the facility, and that it could support more after-school programs as well as the homeless population. He also would like to see joint efforts with the City of Livermore to support local artists at the Bothwell Arts Center.

Vital would also expand partnerships with youth sports leagues and the school district to provide resources and outlets to underprivileged students.

## Matt Bogdanowicz

Bogdanowicz could not be reached for comment for this story.



Singer-songwriter Joan Osborne returns to the Bankhead this Friday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Joan Osborne)

## Singer Joan Osborne, Canadian Brass at the Bankhead Theater

Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Joan Osborne will make a return appearance at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Friday, Oct. 4.

Osborne is best known for her hit recording of "One of a Kind," from her debut album in 1995, which became the opening theme for the family drama, "Joan of Acadia," which ran for two seasons on CBS.

She is also known for her gritty, blues-based rock sound and often evocative songwriting.

Tickets to the 8 p.m. Bankhead Presents performance begin at \$25.

The following week, on Sunday, Oct. 13, the Bank-

head Theater will welcome Canadian Brass, an internationally renowned quintet that has recorded more than 130 albums over the last 50 years.

Conrad Daellenback, one of the band's founders, still plays tuba for the quintet, also known for its signature formal black suits and white tennis shoes. Their concerts typically include musical styles from classical and opera to Dixieland and modern compositions.

Tickets to the 3 p.m. performance start at \$50.

On Friday, Oct. 25, the Bankhead Theater will host the "American Authors: Call Your Mother Tour."

American Authors is a

rock band best known for the hit singles "Believer" and "Best Day of My Life, from their debut album "Oh, What a Life, and "Go Big or Go Home" from their second album, "What We Live For."

The band members met while attending Berklee College of Music in Boston and for the first five years they were known as The Blue Pages.

Tickets to the 8 p.m. performance begin at \$25.

Tickets for all Bankhead Presents presentations are available online at livermorearts.org, by calling 925-373-6800, or at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First St.

## Beatles Tribute Band, Britain's Finest, Will Headline Benefit

Britain's Finest, a Beatles tribute band, will headline the fourth annual Harmony & Healing benefit concert at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Friday, Oct. 18.

"We are thrilled to bring Britain's Best to our benefit concert," said Harmony & Healing founder David Victor. "This annual event is a key part of our fundraising efforts and helps us continue to bring the healing power of music to those who need it most."

Harmony & Healing, a San Ramon-based nonprofit, sponsors live and virtual musical performances for patients and their families in healthcare facilities across the United States.

Victor, who lives in San Ramon, was a vocalist and played guitar for the rock band Boston from 2012 to 2014.

He now heads Boomcycle Digital Marketing, a marketing and website design firm, and ProTributeBands.com, which connects tribute bands with booking agents. Victor also continues to perform as lead vocalist and guitarist with the band Supergroup SF.

According to the Harmony & Healing website, Victor was inspired to form the music-based healthcare charity after visiting a children's hospital in Long Beach, California.

"As I met and played for more and more of the kids, I realized that the spirit of music and the feeling it communicated was a universal healing power that bypassed the brain and went straight to the soul of these unfortunate children," Victor said.

Formed in 2011, Britain's Finest is a California-based tribute band known for providing a "Beatles Experience" with Ruben Amaya as John Lennon, Jay Nixon as Paul McCartney, Robert J. Bielma as George Harrison, and Luis Renteria as Ringo Starr.

Tickets to the 7 p.m. performance start at \$49 and are available online at livermorearts.org.

## Bankhead Plaza to Host African, Filipino Cultural Celebrations

Livermore Valley Arts will host two outdoor cultural celebrations at the Bankhead Plaza this weekend, starting with the 12th annual Taste of Africa Festival on Saturday, Oct. 5, and followed by the Filipino Barrio Fiesta on Sunday, Oct. 6.

Both events are free and will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This year's Taste of Africa Festival will include traditional African music and dance performances, dance and drumming workshops, art exhibits, marketplace and food vendors and interactive programs for children.

The Taste of Africa Festival is sponsored by the Cheza Nami Foundation, a Pleasanton-based nonprofit that promotes cultural education.

Filipino Barrio Fiesta, celebrating Filipino Amer-

ican History Month, will also include Filipino art, food, music, dance and cultural exhibits.

The month of outdoor festivities will continue with ArtWalk Livermore from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12, with artwork exhibits, live music, demonstrations, vendors and children's events throughout Bankhead Plaza and extending down First Street to Livermore Park.

There will also be a new ticket event this year, ArtWalk After Dark.

ArtWalk After Dark will include an outdoor concert by Dustbowl Revival at 8

p.m., followed by a light show from Mad Alchemy Liquid Light Projections.

Dustbowl Revival is an American roots band, combining elements of jazz, blues, soul and folk rock. The Mad Alchemy light show will transform Bankhead Plaza into a glowing wonderland of light, color and sound.

General seating for the concert and light show is \$30. Tickets are available online at livermorearts.org.

The annual Livermore Pride Fest will also be held at Bankhead Plaza, from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19.

## Library Picks AI-Themed Book for Reading Program

The theme for the 2025 Livermore Reads Together program will be Artificial Intelligence (AI).

In keeping with tradition, the Livermore Public Library is asking members of the community to vote on which of seven titles should be selected as the featured book.

Those choices are "The Wild Robot" by Peter Brown, "The Worlds I See: Curiosity, Exploration, and Discovery at the Dawn of AI" by Fei-Fei Li, "Klara and the Sun" by Kazuo Ishiguro, "How to Stay Smart in a Smart World: Why Human Intelligence Still Beats Algorithms" by

Gerd Gigerenzer, "Robopocalypse" by Daniel H. Wilson, "All Systems Red" by Martha Wells, and "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" by Philip K. Dick, which inspired the classic 1982 film, "Blade Runner."

Votes can be cast online at tiny.cc/stalzz, or by paper ballot at any Livermore

Public Library location, now through Monday, Oct. 28.

During the Livermore Reads Together program, the library will host various events to discuss the main themes in the book chosen by the community.

## TV30 Launches 15th Season of High School Football

Tri-Valley Community Television (TV30) will kick off its 15th year of high school football with an all-Pleasanton matchup, Amador Valley High School at Foothill High School, at 7

p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4.

The game will be broadcast on Comcast cable TV channel 30 and live streamed at tv30live.org.

TV30 sports personality Ian Bartholomew will call

games with color commentary from Terick Albert and Tom Costello.

Also on the TV30 schedule this fall are games between Granada High School and Dublin High School on Fri-

day, Oct. 18, and Livermore High School and Dublin on Friday, Oct. 25.

All games will be rebroadcast the following week. DVDs of the games will also be available at tv30.org.

DOWNLOAD OUR APP FROM THE APP STORE AND NEVER MISS A STORY  
IndyNewsCA  
independentnews.com  
Follow us on [Facebook] [Instagram]

# LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



## LEGAL NOTICES

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608657

The following person(s) doing business as: Pristine Pools Complete Pool Maintenance and Repair, 3989 1st Street Suite A, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pristine Pools, Inc., 3989 1st Street Suite A, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 11/7/2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Matthew K. Vieira, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2024. Expires August 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6110. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608658

The following person(s) doing business as: Pristine Pools, 3989 1st Street Suite A, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pristine Pools Renovation, Inc., 3989 1st Street Suite A, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/15/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Matthew K. Vieira, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2024. Expires August 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6111. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608650

The following person(s) doing business as: CSN Parts, 86 W. Jackson Street, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CSN Parts, 86 W. Jackson Street, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Samantha Ngwen, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2024. Expires August 7, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6112. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609077

The following person(s) doing business as: Metal Seeds, 378 Embarcadero West #526, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Metal Seeds LLC, 378 Embarcadero West #526, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alejandro Ochoa, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 4, 2024. Expires September 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6113. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608972

The following person(s) doing business as: First Choice Business Brokers #289, 4695 Chabot Drive, Suite 200, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SF Bay Business Sales, Inc., 100 South Murphy Avenue, Suite 200, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Eric Johnson, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 27, 2024. Expires August 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6114. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608972

The following person(s) doing business as: First Choice Business Brokers #289, 4695 Chabot Drive, Suite 200, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SF Bay Business Sales, Inc., 100 South Murphy Avenue, Suite 200, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Eric Johnson, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 27, 2024. Expires August 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6114. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608524

The following person(s) doing business as: Bay Area Blind,

Shade, & Shutter, 24731 Garwood Glen Dr., Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Drew K Goodin LLC, 24731 Garwood Glen Dr., Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/28/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Drew K. Goodin, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2024. Expires August 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6115. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608969

The following person(s) doing business as: Myungrang Berkeley, 2519 Durant Ave, Suite D, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hot Dog Delight LLC, 2274 27th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jonathan Truong, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 28, 2024. Expires August 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6126. Published September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609081

The following person(s) doing business as: CMIT Solutions 1203, 2150 Portola Ave STE D, Livermore, CA 94551-1793 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ITGenius LLC, 1330 Stony Brook LN, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lisa Shah, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 4, 2024. Expires September 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6117. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609068

The following person(s) doing business as: Leo "The Lion" Music & Entertainment, 1911 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leo Brown, 1911 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/25/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Leo Brown, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 4, 2024. Expires September 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6118. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609162

The following person(s) doing business as: Feast & Finance, 1211 Embarcadero E. Suite D, Oakland, CA 94606 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Feast & Finance, 1211 Embarcadero E. Suite D, Oakland, CA 94606. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/4/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jennifer Collins, CEO/Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2024. Expires September 7, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6119. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608594

The following person(s) do-

ing business as: Chan Bros Market, 1479 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, VA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chan Bros Market, 1479 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, VA 94601. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Audrey Luna, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 14, 2024. Expires August 13, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6120. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609228

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Normalizing Non-Monogamy; 2. Beyond The Mind, 2340 Powell ST. # 352, Emeryville, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Further Together LLC, 2340 Powell ST. # 352, Emeryville, CA 94608. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kristian Bartell, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 11, 2024. Expires September 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6121. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608694

The following person(s) doing business as: Huvi Store, 6775 Golden Gate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568-4381 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tanima Sarbajna, 6775 Golden Gate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568-4381. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tanima Sarbajna, Individual. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 16, 2024. Expires August 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6123. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609282

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Trivalley Wine Shuttle; 2. Trivalley Wine Tours; 3. Livermore Wine Shuttle; 4. Livermore Wine Tours; 5. Tri-Valley Wine Shuttle; 6. Tri-Valley Wine Tours; 7. Virtula Therapy Solutions; 8. Norcal Wine Tours 9. Norcal Adventure Tours, 2150 Portola Ave STE D #2014, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): NorCal Tours LLC, 2150 Portola Ave STE D #2014, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Janelle Leyone, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 13, 2024. Expires September 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6124. Published September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2024.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CV091321 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:**

**Petitioner:** Belkasim Maklaf 1680 Almond Avenue Livermore, CA 94550. This filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
**Present Names:** Belkasim Maklaf  
**Proposed Name:** Belkacem Makhlaf  
**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in

this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
**Date: 1/31/2025**  
**Time: 9:30 AM**  
**Dept: 103**

The address of the court is:  
**Wiley W. Manuel**  
**Courthouse**  
**661 Washington Street**  
**Oakland, CA 94607**

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: 9/13/23 /s/: A. Thomas J. Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court. The Independent, Legal No. 6125. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609160

The following person(s) doing business as: Lil Jester Hat Art, 2101 Shoreline Dr., Apt 299, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Link Jakob Huie Arneson, 2101 Shoreline Dr., Apt 299, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Link Jakob Huie Arneson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2024. Expires August 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6127. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608983

The following person(s) doing business as: Mindful Indulgence, 271 Jayne Avenue, Apt 5, Oakland, CA 94610 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vanessa Hope Balanon-Padilla, 2104 Ascot Court, Pittsburg, CA 94565. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/12/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Vanessa Hope Balanon-Padilla, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 29, 2024. Expires August 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6128. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609305

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. A.S.I. Cyber Concepts LLC; 2. Recycle1234.com; 3. E-Waste & Solar Recycling Center, 30311 Whipple Road, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A.S.I. Cyber Concepts LLC, 30311 Whipple Road, Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/8/2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Aditya Inamdar, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 16, 2024. Expires September 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6129. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

### FILE NO. 609331

The following person(s) doing business as: First Response Cleanup, 2150 Portola Ave, Ste D, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BioHoard Services LLC, 2150 Portola Ave, Suite D, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/6/1996. Signature of Registrant/s/: Steven K. Harris, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2024. Expires September 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6130. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608764

The following person(s) doing business as: Anderson Pro Electric, 371 Lincoln Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Andrew Anderson, 371 Lincoln Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/17/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Andrew Anderson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 20, 2024. Expires August 19, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6131. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608995

The following person(s) doing business as: Transportation for Humanity, 1727 5th Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Anna Vickroy, 1727 5th Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Anna Vickroy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 29, 2024. Expires August 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6132. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 608733

The following person(s) doing business as: Puesto Market, 226 Jackson ST, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Puesto Markets, 213 Lusitano Way, Gilroy, CA 95020. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Antonio Mejia, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 20, 2024. Expires August 19, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6133. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609281

The following person(s) doing

business as: Access Hardware Supply, Inc., 14447 ST. San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Access Hardware Supply, Inc., 14447 ST. San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/6/1996. Signature of Registrant/s/: Steven K. Harris, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2024. Expires September 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6134. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609317

The following person(s) doing business as: Law Office of Hellas Leung, 15808 Hesperian Blvd #127, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hellas Leung, 15808 Hesperian Blvd #127, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hellas Leung, Executive Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 16, 2024. Expires September 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6135. Published September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609481

The following person(s) doing business as: Soccer Shots Central East Bay, 236 Ortega St., San Francisco, CA 94122 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bay Area Enrichment LLC, 236 Ortega St., San Francisco, CA 94122. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jonathan Velasquez, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 24, 2024. Expires September 23, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6136. Published October 3, 10, 17, 21, 2024.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609359

The following person(s) doing business as: Hawaii Fluid Art Pleasanton, 1304 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ditan Arts LLC, 6901 Syrah Dr., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/15/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Preeti Garg, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 18, 2024. Expires September 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6137. Published October 3, 10, 17, 21, 2024.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CV088976

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:**

**Petitioner:** Kevin Eugene McLemore Jr. 1254 Lexington Way Livermore, CA 94550 filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
**Present Names:** Kevin Eugene McLemore Jr.  
**Proposed Name:** Kevin Eugene Castillo Jr.  
**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
**Date: 12/27/2024**  
**Time: 9:30 AM**  
**Dept: 103**

The address of the court is:  
**Wiley W. Manuel Couthouse**  
**665 Washington ST.**  
**Oakland, CA 94607**

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: 8/27/2024 /s/: Thomas I. Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court The Independent, Legal No. 6138. Published October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024.

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### ANIMALS

#### CATS/DOGS

**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue**  
Adopt a New Best Friend TVAR  
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue  
Our current weekly adoption events include: Saturdays — Dogs & Puppies at: Dublin Petsmart 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm. Visit our website: WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate. Follow: TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, and Instagram

#### EMPLOYMENT

Help Keep Livermore Kids Safe! School Crossing Guards Needed. \$20 hr plus bonus time, work 2 hrs and earn \$60.00. Yuan 925-436-9977. Senior Technical Program

#### REAL ESTATE

#### LAND FOR RENT

#### OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPEX / APT RENTAL

#### HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

#### BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

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

## Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

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



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



**Santee Utterback**  
(925) 487-0524  
CalBRE#00855150  
www.SanteeUtterback.com  
Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes



**Cindy Greci**  
925.784.1243  
DRE #01323804  
www.GreciGroup.com



**Claire Meager**  
925.315.4502 OFFICE  
510.715.7682 MOBILE  
claire.m.meager@gmail.com CalDRE#01184005

**AVR Properties**  
We Rent Your Homes  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
925.447.2367 | DRE 0096046167

**NICOLE SWEENEY**  
REALTOR®  
925.518.2142  
nicole@nicolesweeneyhomes.com  
Results That Move You  
1983 Second Street | Livermore, CA | 94550  
CA BRE# 01965816 | CA BRE# 01268085

**Lydia Vetere**  
Realtor® | CalRE #01910741  
925.548.6702 | Lydia.Vetere@cncorcal.com  
www.lydiavetere.com  
"Finding your way Home!"

**Leslie FAUGHT**  
REALTOR®, CRS, SRES®  
COMPASS  
925.784.7979  
LeslieFaught.com  
SellingEastBayHomes.com  
DRE#0127778  
"I'll find a buyer for your home and a home for you to buy."

**To Place Your Ad, Call or Email:**  
925-243-8001 Mitch@independentnews.com



**ROOM FOR RENT**

## PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE

independentnews.com

AI  
(Continued from front page)



Amador Valley High School students Abhinav Garg, Ryan Nguyen, Anran Tan and Samantha St. Clair demonstrate an artificial intelligence-driven speech-to-text recognition program. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

fact-checker that we could test at the debate,” said senior Tvisha Choubey. “We then came up with our solution using (Google’s) Chat API which allowed us to access information from our own coding and send out transcripts through it.”

The team compiled more than 10,000 news articles on everything from abortion to the assassination attempt on former President Trump and poured them into their database. From there they programmed the tool to check not only for the validity of a statement but the plausibility of it as well.

“Part of the novelty of our project was to automate something that hadn’t previously been automated,” said senior Colin Lambert. “We tried quite a few language models that didn’t quite work out before we settled on the right one. For example, with one I asked, ‘Is the Earth flat?’ and it said, ‘I can’t verify that.’”

“We definitely had some good laughs,” Choubey added.

Once the team worked out the kinks and the big night arrived, the tool scored a solid 88% accuracy rating.

“What we did was we would get a question from a candidate, and we would take the statement and feed it into our model,” said Lambert.

One of the debate’s most memorable statements from Trump proved the tool’s efficacy. The output of the app includes the candidate’s statement, whether or not the statement is true or false, and why.

For example:

- Statement: “In Springfield, they’re eating the dogs, the people that came in. The cats, they’re eating, they’re eating the pets of the people that live there. And this is what’s happening in our country, and it’s a shame.”
- Result: False.
- Reason: “There is no credible evidence or verified reports to support the claim that immigrants in Springfield are eating the pets of local residents.

This statement is highly inflammatory and lacks any factual basis. It appears to be an attempt to incite fear and xenophobia.”

The AI fact-checker app also backed up what human fact-checkers deduced after the presidential debate.

“I’m afraid Trump’s statements were flagged much more often than Harris’s were,” said Choubey.

With one presidential debate under their fact-checking belts, the team planned to turn to the vice-presidential debate on Oct. 1, while still reveling in their initial successes.

“I think it fared pretty well overall,” said Choubey. “For me, the most exciting part was seeing the first correct fact-check, I was so elated to see that it worked.”

But, Lambert added, it’s also important to remember that AI is not meant to replace the human mind — merely enhance it.

“The idea is that it is a tool, and 88% is not 100%,” said Lambert. “Human brains are still required.”

## Armchair Travelers to Focus on Bicycling Around Livermore Area

Bicycling enthusiast Dan Moore will present an Armchair Travelers program, “Biking Around Livermore,” at the Livermore

Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 10. Using iPhone photographs he has taken over the last 15

years, Moore will highlight bike-accessible sights within 12 miles of Livermore. The program is free and registration is not required.

## East Bay Park District Publishes a Third Batch of Historic Photographs

As part of its ongoing 90th anniversary celebration, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) has published a third batch of historic photographs donated by the Martin J. Cooney family to its website.

Cooney was a commercial photographer in Oakland, although most of the 15,000 donated photos were taken by Nancy McKay, who became his apprentice while working in EBRPD’s Public Affairs Department.

McKay was the district’s principal photographer for more than 37 years.

The newest batch, titled “Park Workers,” focuses on the people working for the park district from 1965 to 1981, including staff, board members, concessionaires, contractors and volunteers.

Earlier this year, EBRPD published photo collections titled “People in Parks” and “Park Landscapes.” A “Special Events” collection will be released later

this year. Created by a public vote in 1934, EBRPD opened its first four parks in 1938.

It is now one of the largest regional park districts in the nation, with 73 parks encompassing 126,000 acres in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, including 55 miles of shoreline and more than 1,330 miles of trails.

To explore the interactive photo collections and other online exhibits, go to [ebparks.org](http://ebparks.org).

## Library Leads ‘Birding by Ear’ Park Hike

The Livermore Public Library and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District will host a “Birding by Ear Hike” for adults at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road, on Sunday, Oct. 13.

The hike, led by an experienced park ranger, will

begin at 9:30 a.m. and will focus on learning to identify birds by their sounds and signs.

The hike is expected to last about two hours and is considered accessible for adults of all fitness levels, according to Adult Services Librarian Paul Sevilla.

Hikers should bring water and sun protection and wear comfortable shoes. Binoculars are recommended and may be checked out from the library’s Library of Things collection.

Registration is required. For more information, call 925-373-5500.

## Rotary Hosts Annual Spirit Run Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton will host its 31st annual Spirit Run fundraiser on Sunday, Oct. 13.

Proceeds from the Spirit Run through downtown Pleasanton and surrounding residential areas will support the Rotary Club’s scholarship program and other community projects.

Since 1993, the Rotary Club said it has awarded more than \$1 million in community grants and scholar-

ships to Pleasanton students to further their education.

This year’s Spirit Run will include 5K and 10K events, both starting at 8:30 a.m. The start and finish line will be on Main Street in front of Workbench Hardware.

There will also be a quarter-mile Kid’s Challenge ages 5-12 and a 100-yard dash for runners 5 and under, at 10 a.m.

All participants will receive a T-shirt and a medal. Spirit Run organizers said

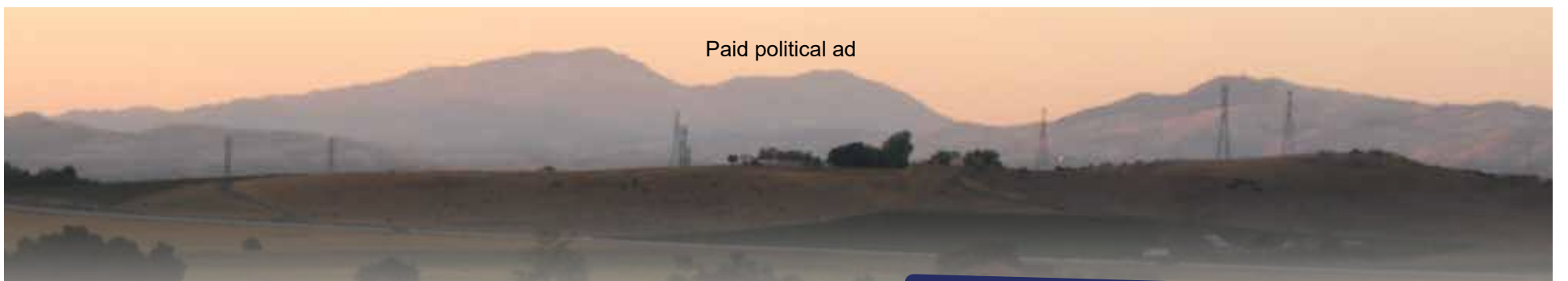
children will also receive a “goody bag.”

Participants are also encouraged to run or walk in Halloween costumes. There will be age group awards and raffle prizes to close out the morning activities.

To register, go to [spiritrun.pleasantonrotary.org](http://spiritrun.pleasantonrotary.org).

Runners can also register from 7 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. in the parking lot adjacent to Workbench Hardware the morning for the Spirit Run.

Paid political ad



## Livermore needs:

- To maintain access to our beautiful open space
- To catch up on infrastructure to keep everyone safe and address deteriorating roads and sidewalks
- Economic revitalization and new businesses
- More trees and greenspace to combat extreme heat
- A transparent city government that listens



# Livermore needs Jeff Kasky for CITY COUNCIL

Ad paid for by Citizens for a Council that Listens FPPC# 1475128.  
[www.candidatesthatlisten.com](http://www.candidatesthatlisten.com)  
Not authorized by a candidate of a committee controlled by a candidate.  
Funding Details at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)