

DA Recall Effort Now Underway

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL – A community organization seeking to recall Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price has started gathering signatures to put the matter on next year’s ballot.

SAFE, “Save Alameda for Everyone,” said its petition drive has 160 days — a target of March 5 — to collect 73,195 valid signatures to submit to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters office for certification.

State law requires signatures from 15% of votes cast in the county for the previous gubernatorial election. In 2022, that number was 487,969, meaning SAFE has to collect 73, 195 valid signatures.

Certification could take until May, meaning a special election would occur separately from and after California holds its presidential primary election in March.

“We anticipate a special election taking place in June of 2024,” SAFE said in a statement. “The timing will ultimately be determined by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, but we aim to complete our signature gathering to make a special election.”

SAFE said it has \$2 million raised for its campaign to oust Price from office.

Lauren Richardson, a spokeswoman for Price’s campaign, did not respond to a request for comment on

(See RECALL, page 8)

Kevin Kiyoi Is County Teacher of The Year

By Dawnmarie Fehr

PLEASANTON – A teacher from the Pleasanton school district and the City of Alameda school district were named Alameda County Teacher of the Year and will now run for the statewide award.

Amador Valley’s Kevin Kiyoi, a Pleasanton high school teacher, was chosen alongside Jessica Kerber, an English teacher at Encinal Junior and Senior High School in the Alameda Unified School District, to represent Alameda County at the California Teacher of the Year competition next spring.

(See TEACHER, page 8)



Haily and Lucas (front) check out Saturday’s solar eclipse with Jen Decker and Robin Rehagen during the Tri Valley Star Gazers viewing party. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Gov. Signs Bee Protection Bill

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL – California recently became the first West Coast state to ban over-the-counter sales of home gardening products that contain a toxic chemical known to kill bees, birds and butterflies.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed The Pollinator Protection Act, authored by Tri-Valley Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, D-Orinda, earlier this month.

The bill, which takes effect in 2025, does not completely prohibit neonicotinoid pesticides in non-agricultural settings, but allows only trained certified professionals to use them. Neonics are a class of synthetic, neurotoxic insecticides that are used on agricultural crops, lawns, gardens, golf courses, and in flea and tick pet treatments.

Hundreds of products commonly on store shelves or online under the Ortho, BioAdvanced and Scotts Co. brand names contain the toxic ingredients that no longer will be allowed for sale in the state.

“Public health and ecological well-being throughout California are better protected today because of this new law,” Lucas Rhoads, an attorney with the Pollinator Initiative at Natural Resources Defense Council, said in a statement.

But Megan Provost, the president of Responsible Industry for a Sound Environ-

ment said the new law undermines the state and federal regulatory alignment that is essential for safe and effective product use.

“Consumers should have continued access to important residential uses of neonicotinoid insecticides, which are one of the only controls available to them for managing tree-destroying and invasive pests on their property,” she said in an email. “Our industry supports meaningful and measurable efforts to increase pollinator habitat and forage, and to address the primary stressors to bees – the Varroa mite and habitat loss.”

Sarah Goodman, a spokeswoman for Bauer-Kahan, said any sales would be

(See BEES page 8)

Dublin’s Lucky Store Closing Soon

By Kristin J. Bender

DUBLIN –The Lucky California store in the Fallon Gateway shopping center in Dublin is closing next month due to a lack of customers.

The store will close permanently at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3.

The store, which is owned and operated by The Save Mart Companies, was the first Lucky California store built from the ground up when the concept began in 2015. The idea was to give shoppers California sourced and grown food along with deli items, a

tasting bar, a hot food bar and a bakery.

Although the Lucky California stores offer products and services not traditionally available in other Lucky stores, such as a sushi-counter and a floral department, officials said low customer traffic is the

(See LUCKY, page 8)

Attorney Says

Jail Video Shows Deputies Ignored A Dying Inmate

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN – Santa Rita Jail inmate Maurice Monk laid face down and half naked on his cell bunk in his own body fluids for so long that the logo from his jail-issued T-shirt stained his bedsheet, according to a newly released amended lawsuit against the Alameda County facility.

At least three days’ worth of untouched plates of food that jailers had slid through a slot in the enclosed metal cell doors littered the cement floor. Pills of various shapes and sizes were scattered around the tiny enclosure.

For at least 72 hours – possibly longer – deputies and other jail workers made their rounds past Monk’s cell but

never opened the cell door to check to make sure he was alive.

Monk died Nov. 15, 2021, about a month after he was arrested and placed in the minimum-security facility following a fight with a bus driver over Monk’s refusal to wear a mask.

The Alameda County Coroner found that the 45-year-old Monk died from a heart attack, possibly caused by hypertensive cardiovascular disease. After reviewing dozens of newly released videos taken inside the jail in the days leading up to Monk’s death, his family and their attorney say they believe his life could have been saved.

“The people working at

(See JAIL, page 8)



A number of buildings in a Livermore business park were destroyed by fire Sunday night. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Blaze Causes Regional Call for Help

LIVERMORE – Three empty buildings in a Livermore commercial complex were destroyed by fire and a closeby restaurant was damaged Sunday night, but no one was injured. The fire was reported at 5:15 p.m. at Holmes Street and Concanon Boulevard. Firefighters from every station in the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department were eventually called to the fire, which sent gray smoke into the sky

that could be seen for miles. Crews were also called for mutual aid from the Alameda County Fire Department. The three-alarm fire was under control in about two hours. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. Firefighters said the three buildings that were destroyed were empty when the fire started. The roof on the nearby Charming Fig restaurant was damaged by the fire.



Giselle Velez, Cindi Hagley, Leslie Grunewald, Brad Hebert, Christina Cavallaro, and Gloria Landavazo (not pictured) are the musicians behind The Whiskey Sundays. The band will play at PrideFest 2023 on Saturday. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PrideFest 2023 To Be Held This Saturday Outside the Bankhead

By Dawnmarie Fahr

LIVERMORE – As the world marks LGBTQ History Month, Livermore is gearing up to celebrate its own diverse community with PrideFest 2023 on Saturday afternoon.

The courtyard in front of Livermore’s Bankhead Theater will be the spot to check out live music, grab a keepsake from one of the many vendors or get some information from one of the nonprofit and community

group booths. There will also be plenty of activities for the kids. And if you want to continue the fun, Tap 25’s after party will take place at Blacksmith Square, at the southwest corner of the intersection of Livermore Avenue and Railroad Avenue, from 6 to 10 p.m.

“PrideFest is a vital celebration of diversity and equality, providing a platform for marginalized communities to stand up, be heard, and celebrated for who they are,” said Ruth

Egherman, the marketing director for Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, which sponsors the event. “These events not only foster a sense of belonging, but also serve as a powerful reminder that love and acceptance are universal rights worth celebrating.”

Although June is Pride month across the world, Livermore Vice Mayor Brittni Kiick said competition with other LGBTQ events can make it difficult to secure enter-

(See PRIDEFEST, page 8)

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(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

LLNL Scientist Using Smartphones In Order to Improve STEM Education

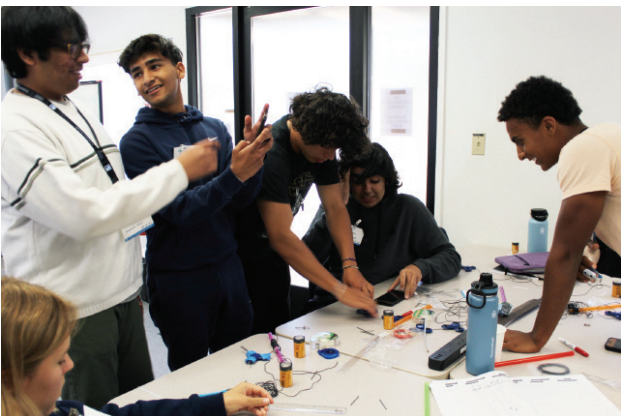
By David Jen

LIVERMORE — A scientist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is using something that students love — cell phones — to teach them about physics. Senior Scientist David Rakestraw has spent the past five years developing an education program that uses different sensors on a modern cell phone to help students do physics experiments that were previously cost prohibitive. The program brings physics education to lower-income areas, and addresses a nationwide shortfall in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. Smart phone sensors, such as accelerometers that measure acceleration and transducers that measure air pressure, allow schools to offer lab experiments at a fraction of the cost of a traditional physics classroom.

When he worked at Monte Vista High in Danville, Rakestraw brainstormed with Scott Getty, a teacher at the school, about how to expand the use of ordinary cell phones for use in physics classes. Getty said, “It would take years of lab donations to purchase all of ... (the necessary pieces of equipment), and by the time I had managed to purchase all of them, they would be starting to break down.” Furthermore, designing labs around phones allows every student to conduct hands-on experiments themselves, instead of in groups of three or four sharing one piece of equipment, said Michael Tobler, Department Co-Chair at Hayward’s Moreau Catholic High School, who was introduced to the idea through LLNL’s Teacher Research Academies. “We typically learn through

actively participating, investigating, trial and error, evaluating information,” said Rakestraw. “And that’s all great. Except it’s not so easy to do, because it oftentimes takes equipment and supplies, and so it costs money.” The lab’s Physics with Phones program offers teachers 3,000 pages of course material and 100 physics experiments to interactively teach physics using smartphone sensors and apps. It has helped teachers in schools across the country, such as Reservoir High School in Fulton, Maryland and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax, Virginia, as well as Livermore High School. Rakestraw has trained about 800 high-school teachers and college professors nationwide, by developing partnerships with the National Science Teachers Association

and the American Association of Physics Teachers. The training is important because nationally, only about 61% of high schools offer a physics course, with that number dropping as low as 30% in some states, such as Alaska and Oklahoma, according to the Education Week Research Center. Less than half of California schools offer physics classes. Educational opportunities in STEM have long been a problem in the U.S. “Research shows how a sense of belonging in rich and rigorous classrooms is directly correlated to students’ long-term academic success,” said U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Cindy Marten, who launched the national Raise the Bar initiative, a push for renewed STEM education. “Moreover, the Department’s Civil Rights Data Collection



Students at Livermore High School use their phones to conduct experiments as part of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory’s Physics with Phones program. (Photo courtesy of Livermore High School)

continues to demonstrate that students of color and students with disabilities are disproportionately excluded from learning opportunities in STEM.” And finding physics teachers is also problematic, said Rakestraw. “Generally, people who are capable of teaching physics have lots of options to them. ... There just aren’t enough people qualified to teach physics.” Internationally, U.S. eighth graders ranked behind 10 other countries in both math and science in 2019, the latest survey available, according

to the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. “It’s not because we expect there to be a lot more physicists,” he said. “Physics becomes a very foundational science to help people learn other things.” Looking ahead, Rakestraw hopes to partner with technology companies to incorporate artificial intelligence into the mobile apps, critiquing, and guiding students in real time, as they work through the material, without the need for additional teachers.

CPUC’s Solar Billing Decision for Schools, Renters and Farmers Delayed Until Nov. 2

By David Jen

A decision to reduce rooftop-solar incentives for users with multiple meters — such as schools, apartment buildings and farmers — has been delayed until Nov. 2 by the California Public Utilities Commission. Although the CPUC did not provide a reason for the extension on its agenda changes, Reimagine Power, a localized-energy advocacy group, pointed to a wide swath of opposition from utility customers across the

state, including agricultural organizations, renters’ rights groups, school districts and environmental advocates. “The extension is likely the result of all the public pressure, hundreds and hundreds of personal communications, op-eds and editorials that the CPUC — and Governor who appoints the commissioners — received from everyone under the sun, that the decision must be amended,” said Igor Tregub, Reimagine’s Strategic Partnership Director. “I think the

decision to postpone the meeting for three weeks is a positive one. Of course, I don’t know what their final decision will be.” Originally planned for Oct. 12, the proposed virtual net metering tariff, if approved, will characterize all consumed power as coming from the utility, billed at the full retail rate, and all generated power as exported to the utility, sold at the lower wholesale rate, reducing the feasibility of rooftop solar for multiple-meter customers.

The change will hurt those customers’ ability to reduce their utility burden through rooftop solar, said Tregub. But according to the CPUC, the accounting change will encourage those customers to invest more in battery storage, which will increase the overall resiliency of the power grid, while better quantifying the power produced by rooftop solar. Instructions for commenting at CPUC meetings can be found at bit.ly/indy_cpucmeetings.

Dublin Seeks Artists to Paint Storm Drain Murals

The City of Dublin invites qualified professional artists and student artists working under the supervision of a professional artist or art teacher to submit designs for a unique temporary art project - Storm Drain Murals. For this project, the City of Dublin is seeking artists to paint functional murals directly adjacent to 10-20 storm drain inlets throughout Dublin. Storm Drains are the initial inlets that allow for rainwater to enter local waterways before eventually flowing to the San Francisco Bay. Pollutants, such as motor oil, pet waste, and other sediment and urban chemicals, also make their way into stormwater systems. The addition of artistic murals to storm drain inlets will help raise awareness and improve water quality in local watersheds and the San Francisco Bay. The deadline to submit

a proposal is November 15, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. Artists are encouraged to be as creative as possible when approaching this project. The proposed designs should help raise awareness and improve water quality in local watersheds and the San Francisco Bay. Site-specific proposals and general proposals that the City may display at its sole discretion are acceptable. Artists are responsible for preparing, painting, and sealing the storm drain art. Because of the nature of this project, artists will be provided with the paint to be utilized. Stipends of \$500 will be provided to selected artists or artist teams. Artists may submit up to five (5) proposals and be selected for up to three (3). The stipend will be paid for each selection (\$1,500 max). For submission information, visit www.dublin.ca.gov

Elementary School Getting New Upgrades

By Dawnmarie Fehr

DUBLIN – Dublin Elementary School is set to get new classrooms and restrooms, a new administration building, a library and media center and a new cafeteria following the school board’s vote to earmark an additional \$15 million towards modernization. The decision to boost funding for the project came during the Oct. 10 board meeting, where other school site projects were considered and approved by the board. Money comes

from developer’s fees and Prop 51 state funds. Jennifer Kennedy, Dublin Elementary parent and co-president of the school’s Parent Faculty Club, said she felt “guarded relief” after the vote to earmark money to modernize Dublin Elementary, the district’s oldest school. “I have watched time and again as measures were willingly passed by Dublin residents, and promised to aging schools, only to have those funds stripped in order to fund new construction on the other side of town to support the city’s

growing population,” Kennedy said. According to the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD), Dublin Elementary has received \$60.9 million over the past 14 years for new classrooms and other upgrades. While the board voted to upgrade Dublin Elementary, it shot down a measure to build a 133-space parking garage at Emerald High School (EHS), which will open next spring in east Dublin. Parents of highschoolers — and those who live near the new campus — cit-

ed overcrowding, student safety and convenience, as reasons to build a \$24 million parking garage. “I want to emphasize that the EHS parking garage is not a want, it is a need,” said one speaker who did not give her full name. “It addresses safety concerns for high school students who are as important as elementary students.” The board also unanimously approved HVAC updates at the gyms at Fallon Middle School, Wells Middle School, and Dublin High School.



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Las Positas Soccer Players Bring Friendship and Talent to the Field

By Matt Schwab

Las Positas College sophomore midfielders Adrian Denoncourt and McKenna Masinter, close friends and Dublin High graduates, bring a sense of vitality and quality to Hawks' soccer.

Their passion for the sport is infectious.

"McKenna and Adrian are a pleasure to work with," said Andy Cumbo, head coach of the Las Positas men's and women's teams. "Self-disciplined and talented, and just as important to me they are fun to be around. They have a strong friendship and the connection between them has also played a part in the synergy between my two teams here at LPC."

Both Las Positas squads are enjoying solid seasons while dealing with injuries. The Las Positas men entered the week fresh off a wild 5-4 win over Ohlone, improving to 8-3-2 overall and 2-1-1 in the Coast-South Conference. The women's team improved to 5-2-5 overall and 1-0-2 in the Coast-North after topping Cabrillo 4-0.

Masinter and Denoncourt met innocently enough as Dublin Gaels.

"He's been my best friend since junior year of high school," Masinter said.

Denoncourt added, "I sat behind her in science class freshman year, and we didn't become real good friends until we were upperclassmen."

Masinter, who played on the Las Positas women's team two years ago but not last season, helped convince De-

noncourt to play at LPC as well.

"It was a great decision on my part because she introduced me to Coach Cumbo, and I know they get along really well, and me and Coach Cumbo get along really well," Denoncourt recalled. "Obviously, me and McKenna are best friends, so it's been a really good time being able to go to school and play soccer and see her compete on the women's team as well."

The two hold similar vital roles on the field as connecting links between the back line and the attack. Off the field they serve as connecting links between the men's and women's teams, encouraging players to cheer each other on when they can.

"Because me and her are so close, we're trying to build a dynamic between the men's and women's teams. Most home games if the men's team is playing in the evening, the women's team is out there supporting and vice versa, which is awesome," Denoncourt says, adding that Masinter is "always the first to say, 'Who wants to go watch the men's game with me.'"

Moreover, Denoncourt and Masinter reflect a Gael force in Las Positas soccer: a combined 12 Dublin High graduates are on the two rosters — seven men and five women.

"Dublin's really big on soccer," Denoncourt said. "I've lived here since I was three and I'm glad I did because I



Longtime friends Adrian Denoncourt and McKenna Masinter are creating a sensation on the pitch this season with their respective Las Positas soccer squads. (Photo courtesy of Matt Schwab)

have such a passion for the game. All my friends in high school played soccer."

Cumbo gives Masinter and Denoncourt high praise for what they bring to the program.

"AD is a true student of the game. He's constantly playing, watching, talking or thinking about soccer," Cumbo says. "He has a great soccer IQ and has really fine-tuned his craft the last couple years. He's doing well on both sides of the ball, creative while safe on when we have the ball, and organized and pres-

ent when they have the ball. Most impressively is how he has stepped up in becoming an extremely effective leader in the past 12 months."

Cumbo describes Masinter as "very coachable" and a hard-working team player. "She's a good ball winner who is constantly improving, and on the ball she has a good first touch and the ability to combine with others. She helps us in our combination play and possession, and while not super flashy she's a main piece to overall success," Cumbo said.

He adds that Masinter is "funny and has a good sense of humor."

Masinter appreciates all that Denoncourt brings to their friendship — even the tough love.

"He's awesome ... Person-wise, I love him because I'm a pretty straight-up person and he always gives his honest opinion, personal-issues-wise and on the field. ... I can always trust his opinion will be beneficial for me, even if it's like, 'Hey, you didn't play the best today, you should do this and this and this.' I'm always going to take that because of how smart he is, and how good he is on the ball."

One of three captains on the men's team, along with Edwin Zabala and Luis Castillo Guzman, Denoncourt has taken on the role of "The General," he says. "I'm always out there, yelling and screaming and encouraging my teammates, and they all seem to really respect me."

Denoncourt grew up playing for Ballistic United Soccer Club in Pleasanton and coaches in the club for one of his former coaches. He appears to enjoy all aspects of college life at Las Positas, and has big goals on the field.

"It's great, honestly, the team and the school in general is just really nice," Denoncourt said. "What did it get voted, the top community college in California? ... I think it's great. Being able to balance soccer and academics has never been too challenging for

me, which is nice, but Las Po', the environment is awesome."

Both Las Positas teams are dealing with injuries as they forge through a challenging conference season.

"We have a really strong team," said Masinter, who is interested in going to flight attendant school. "We have a decent amount of injuries right now, though. Once those are all better I think it will be easier for us for in conference, but we did a good job preseason."

On the men's side, the Hawks, ranked 16th in the state CCCSIAPoll on Oct. 2, were missing four or five injured players for the Ohlone game, including Denoncourt, and others were playing nicked up. Then the team also lost Granada graduate Parker Moore, who suffered a broken leg in the victory.

Masinter agrees that the women's team's tough schedule prepared it well for conference action.

"Oh, 100 percent," she said, "especially playing Folsom and Lake Tahoe, those were two super-strong teams that we played amazing against as a whole. That showed us what we're capable of as a team. ... Cumbo mentioned that it was some the highest level he's seen from the women's team at Las Po."

Now it's about finishing off the season successfully for Masinter and Denoncourt, two friends who have put a hop in the Hawks' soccer step.

Amador Valley Receiver Ties Record in Victory Over Livermore



Amador Valley's running back Jake Goldsworthy shoves Livermore's Tommy Pierson out of the way during a game between the Dons and the Cowboys. The Dons won 42 to 7. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]

By Phil Jensen

Amador Valley High School's Nate Jetter had quite a game in the Dons' 42-7 defeat of Livermore on Oct. 13.

The 6-foot-3 senior wide receiver caught nine passes for 150 yards and four touchdowns in the home game. Jetter's four receiving touchdowns tied the school record for one game, Amador Valley coach Danny Jones said.

"He's phenomenal," said Jones. "He's one of our great players. When we get down into the red

zone, we want to score with an explosive play, and he gives us the ability to win those 50-50 balls. ... He's confident that he can't be stopped on those."

It was also the second game that Amador Valley quarterback Tristan Tia has been on the field. The transfer from Granada had to sit out the first five games of the season due to a North Coast Section rule, Jones said. Tia, a junior, finished with 12 completions in 17 attempts for 194 yards and no interceptions.

"The kid is unbelievable. He's going to be the best quarterback in Northern California next year," Jones said.

Jetter caught touchdown passes from Tia of 15, 42, 9 and 14 yards.

"He's a great target, of course, because he's 6-3," said the 6-2 Tia. "We have a good chemistry. We work on it every day."

Amador Valley improved to 5-2 overall and 2-0 in the East Bay Athletic League Valley Division. The Dons will travel to face Granada

(6-2, 2-0) on Oct. 20 for a 7 p.m. game.

Livermore is now 3-4, 0-1. The Cowboys will host Dublin (4-3, 0-1) on Oct. 20 at 7 p.m.

In the Oct. 13 game, Amador Valley scored the first four touchdowns. The initial one occurred with 3 minutes, 32 seconds left in the first quarter when Tia found Jetter in the left corner of the end zone on a 15-yard pass.

The Dons also scored on the last offensive play of the first quarter when Anthony Harrington took a sweep 54 yards into the end zone. That drive started on the Amador Valley 12-yard-line after Jake Goldsworthy intercepted a Livermore pass to end a long Cowboys drive. Harrington also had an interception for the Dons in the first half, and ended up with 72 yards rushing on two carries offensively.

Amador Valley held a 21-0 halftime lead after Tia connected with Jetter on the longest completion of the game, 42 yards. It was a catch-and-run, as Jetter grabbed the ball at approximately the 40 and bolted through a huge hole to the end zone.

Ethan Ling's point-after-touchdown kick made the score 21-0 with 7:25

left in the half. Ling connected on all six of his PAT kicks.

Tia and Jetter connected for their third touchdown on the opening drive of the second half with an accurate pass to the right corner of the end zone. The score remained 28-0 until the third play of the fourth quarter.

Livermore ended a 16-play drive that took 8:43 off the clock with a five-yard touchdown pass from Matteo Lortie to CT Harper, and a point-after-touchdown kick by Grant VonHeeder.

But Amador Valley answered quickly. After a 31-yard kickoff return by Nehemiah Fungula, Goldsworthy sprinted 43 yards up the middle for a touchdown. He finished with a team-high 124 yards rushing on 16 carries.

The final touchdown of the game was a 14-yard pass from Tia to Jetter with 7:21 remaining.

Livermore's Kamarri Robinson rushed for a game-high 147 yards on 22 carries. Teammate Joel Indrebo had a team-high eight receptions for 60 yards.



Nayam Bara of the Dublin Gaels works to help her team during a match against the Amador Valley Dons at the Wave Aquatic Center in Dublin. Amador won 21 to 4. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]



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Our Comprehensive Breast Cancer Program provides a **"One Team - Complete Care"** approach to women and men newly diagnosed with breast cancer. A dedicated team of specialists including a medical oncologist, a radiation oncologist, and a breast surgeon reviews every case in a single, same-day visit to discuss treatment options and customize a care plan with you. This coordinated approach can reduce anxiety by not having to wait for individual appointments, and minimizes the time between diagnosis and treatment. The ongoing collaboration and communication between you and members of your team ensure treatment is coordinated, timely and effective.

For more information on how the Comprehensive Breast Cancer Program can make a difference, visit johnsahospital.com/comprehensiveprogram.





Rashmi Rao talks about the inspiration for her painting with traditional Indian culture during the annual Art Walk in downtown Livermore on Saturday, Oct. 14. Over 200 local artists participated in the event. Live music, booths and crafts for children were also included.
[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

New Tool Helps Clarify Possible Upcoming Water-Rate Increases

By David Jen

The city has released an online water-rate calculator to help residents figure out how much their bills will increase if the City Council votes to hike rates next month.

The calculator takes a resident’s current water usage, breaks down the various charges on the water bill, and projects rate increases through 2026, that is, if the proposed increases take effect.

The City Council was set to consider hiking rates last month, but was flooded with questions and concerns from residents at the meeting. They presented an anti-rate hike petition that had garnered 2,194 signatures and called for a delay in the increases due to what petitioners said was a lack of transparency and solid communication.

The council will take up the matter at its Nov. 7 meeting.

Part of the problem was caused by the fact that when some residents calculated on their own what they could expect under the new rates, they

said they found large discrepancies between their numbers and the city’s calculations.

An initial notice from the city stated that an average single-family household could expect to see a \$33 per-billing-cycle increase next year. But residents called the figure misleading, as it only described the first year of a three-year schedule.

That household would see billing-cycle costs jump \$75 — about 76% — over their current bill by 2026 under the proposal. The proportion of the increase will vary depending on usage.

City Manager Gerry Beaudin has said the city does not currently have the resources to continue to provide quality water services. Rate hikes, potentially averaging some 60% over three years, are needed to bolster a city water fund that is so low city that leaders say it was headed toward bankruptcy.

The city, which previously sourced about 20% of its water from its own

groundwater wells, began closing those wells in 2019 due to contamination in the aquifer. It currently needs funds to pay for heavier infrastructure to make up for the missing water with supplemental water from the regional water supplier, to treat the two wells taken out of service or to build new city-owned wells.

Following the water-rate hike meeting postponement, the petitioners have continued to ask the city to “communicate honestly and consistently,” including calls to present the increases in annual figures instead of per billing cycle, and to focus on final 2026 numbers instead of 2024 figures.

They have also asked for a five-year timeline to bring the city’s water fund back to solvency, instead of three, to lessen the burden on rate-payers.

The water calculator can be found at bit.ly/indy_pls-watercalc.

The Musical “School of Rock” Coming to Livermore



Based on the hit film starring Jack Black, “School of Rock” is coming to Livermore High School in December. (Photo courtesy of Mary Grace Gomilla)

The musical, “School of Rock,” is set to rock the Tri-Valley as it takes center stage at Livermore High

School this coming December. Presented by the Royal Theatre Academy, this dynamic production promises an energetic and unforgettable theatrical experience. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/royal-theater-academy-35351791343>.

Based on the hit film starring Jack Black, “School of Rock” follows the story of Dewey Finn, a down-on-his-luck musician who stumbles into a substitute teaching gig at a prestigious prep school. Through his unconventional methods, he transforms a class of straight-A students into a powerhouse rock band, teaching them to embrace their inner rockstars and face life’s challenges head-on.

The production features

an impressive score featuring high-octane rock music by the legendary Andrew Lloyd Webber, along with lyrics by Glenn Slater, and an incredible ensemble cast of local talent, including young actors who will awe you with their musical prowess. From the exhilarating rock anthems to the heartfelt moments of self-discovery, “School of Rock” is a show that will have you on your feet, cheering for these talented kids.

“We are thrilled to bring the energy and excitement of ‘School of Rock’ to the Tri-Valley,” said Trenton Torain, Artistic Director of Royal Theater Academy. “This show celebrates the power of music and the potential within us to unleash our inner rock star.”

The cast and crew of

Displaced Residents of Israel And Palestine Can Be Helped

By William Crawford

Nearly two weeks after Hamas launched an attack, including thousands of indiscriminate rockets that have reached central Israel, the United Nations is warning against indiscriminate or disproportionate action against Gaza. The UN also expressed concern over the “full siege” of the territory ordered by the Israeli authorities, shutting off electricity, water, food and fuel supplies.

This, as the UN chief underscored that UN premises, hospitals, schools and clinics must never be targeted, and stressed the urgency of humanitarian access to the enclave.

“Crucial life-saving supplies – including fuel, food and water – must be allowed into Gaza.

If you want to show your support and help the people of Israel and Palestine in this desperate time of need, here is a website for each that you can visit:

Magen David Adom

Magen David Adom is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization seeking to provide disaster relief, ambulance, and blood services for the people of Israel. If you want to help them continue to save lives, you can find their “Donate” link on the upper-left corner of their homepage where you can

donate a penny or more for a one-time or monthly donation to their cause.

<https://afmda.org/>

Doctors Without Borders

Doctors Without Borders is a non-governmental organization of French origin that seeks to provide medical emergency aid to the people of Gaza affected by armed conflict and natural disasters among the other emergencies that occur. If you click on “Donate” on the upper-left corner of their homepage, you can donate five dollars or more for a monthly or one-time donation to their cause.

<https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

Livermore/Japanese School Exchange Program to Resume

A program that allows Livermore middle school students to spend a week with a family in Japan will resume in 2024, according to an announcement from the Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City Organization (LYSCO).

Yotsukaido, about 40 miles east of Tokyo, is a part of the official Livermore Sister City program, along with Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, and Snezhinsk, Russia.

look forward to welcoming students from Yotsukaido to observe our customs and way of life in our schools and community.”

The students are also accompanied by adult chaperones and delegates.

For more information, go to lyscoorg.wordpress.com.

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The Great Pumpkin is Waiting – Where Will it Find You?

By David Scholz

A trip to an authentic rural pumpkin patch has long been a rite of fall, when the colors of the leaves begin changing with the arrival of crisper air and shorter days.

And, in this digital age, such unplugged, pastoral experiences of old are still providing a feast for all the senses.

But if venturing out to the hinterlands to walk among a farm’s rows of prospective plump orange gourds isn’t in the cards, in town corner “pumpkin patches,” have sprouted up in our cities along I-580 and 680 corridors.

Alternatively, untraditional pumpkin patches also are becoming increasingly the rage. Local communities have taken to hosting plunges at their municipal pools. Yes, donning the swim trunks and getting wet are required. Here are two options:

CITY OF DUBLIN

Two sessions for the Dublin Floating Pumpkin Patch will be held Saturday, Oct. 21, at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m., at The Wave. 4201 Central Parkway. The registration fee ranges from \$20 to \$24. To retrieve a pumpkin, attendees must get into the pool. There are other activities onsite as well. For each registrant,



Parker Moody of Alamo hauls her pumpkins in a wagon at G&M Farms in Livermore on Sunday, Oct. 8. The popular pumpkin patch draws visitors each season in search of the perfect pumpkin. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

two free spectators can enter the grounds and take a swim, if under six years of age. Visit DublinRecGuide.com for more details.

CITY OF PLEASANTON

Its floating pumpkin patch is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 28, from noon to 2 p.m., at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center, 4455 Black Ave. Registration is \$12. Visit PleasantonFun.com for more details.

So, for folks not willing to settle for bargain pumpkins on offer in the large bins at local supermarkets,

in the town corner carnival patches, nor in swimming pools. here is a roundup of area patches a bit farther afield that are open now for that traditional October outing:

LIVERMORE - G&M Farms

487 E Airway Blvd. Parking is free and there is no charge for admission to the patch. On Saturdays and Sundays, the following attractions are offered: Cow train, hayride, pedal carts, pony rides and Jump Pillows. The tokens needed for the attraction can be purchased for \$5 a piece or \$20 for a bundle of 5.

- Pumpkin patch hours:
- Wednesday to Friday, 3 to 7 p.m.
 - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

LIVERMORE - Moore Pumpkins & Christmas Trees

2180 Cayetano Court. For an admission charge of \$5 per person, with children two and under free, the following are offered; wagon use, photo opportunities, a seed planting station and parking. For an additional cost, a hayride, pillow jump, corn maze, pumpkin spin, and an animal observatory corral are available. Moore also operates a second location in San Ramon, at 19901 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Here, jumps are the only additional cost.

Pumpkin patch hours at both locations through Oct. 31 are:

- Monday to Thursday,

- noon to 7 p.m.
- Friday, noon to 8 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

LIVERMORE - Joan’s Farm & Pumpkin Patch

4351 Mines Rd. Joan’s operates a cash only patch, with an ATM available onsite. Admission and parking are free. Activities include the corn maze, pumpkin bowling, the little blue train, a large inflatable slide, gem pan-

ning, nerf shooting gallery, kids korral, obstacle course, and hayride (on weekends) for \$5 each or an unlimited wristband for \$25. Looking at the animals, old west town, and old farm equipment museum is free. Patrons are asked to bring their own wagons.

Pumpkin patch hours:

- Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Activities close at 5:45 p.m.).
- Closed Mondays, except Monday, Oct. 9.

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Rotary Awards Grants to Schools, Nonprofits

The Rotary Club of Livermore recently awarded nearly \$7,000 in mini grants to local schools and nonprofit and organizations for projects designed to directly benefit the Livermore community.

The Rotary Club distributes grants three times a year, with funds coming from members, fundraisers, and the Rotary Foundation of Livermore.

The latest round of grants

went to The Crayon Initiative, Culinary Angels, Girl Scouts Worldwide, the Livermore Fusion Soccer Club, Our Savior Lutheran School, Partners for Change Tri-Valley, Asbury Tri-Valley Bus Pass Program, and Reins in Motion.

Grants also went to Christensen Middle School, Mendenhall Middle School, Del Valle High School, Joe Michell TK-8 School,

Livermore High School, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Welfare and Attendance Specialist Program, and Granada High School, which received three 3 mini grants.

The Livermore Valley Education Foundation also matched the grants for LVJUSD schools, bringing the total amount in mini grants to \$10,000.

New Stanford Blood Center Location Opening October 26th!

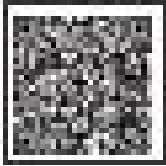
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THE WATERMARK
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JAIL

(Continued from front page)

Santa Rita Jail denied Mr. Monk his basic humanity, and demonstrated a callous disregard for human life,” said attorney Adanté Pointer in a statement.

Pointer said his Oakland-based firm Lawyers for the People obtained the video taken by body-worn cameras following two years of battling with Alameda County over their release. The new evidence has now been added to the federal civil rights lawsuit against Alameda County and Wellpath Community Care, which has a \$250 million annual contract with the county to provide the jail’s medical services.

Videos show deputies and another worker walking from cell to cell, sliding trays of food to inmates through a slot in each door. Videos also

reveal they looked at Monk, who was lying on his stomach on his bunk, naked from the waist down, not moving at the back of the cell. No one ever entered his cell to check on him before they moved on to the next inmate’s cell.

When two deputies and an inmate delivered lunch two days before Monk was found dead, one of them asked, “Is he alive?” They noted that he had not changed his position from a day earlier.

Others working in the jail commented on the fact Monk had urinated and defecated on himself.

“Mr. Monk? Mr. Monk?” a visitor asked during a dinner delivery. “Is he breathing?”

According to the lawsuit, Monk’s sister, Elvira Monk, told jail personnel repeatedly that her brother required

medication for diabetes, high blood pressure and schizophrenia, but deputies rebuffed her efforts to provide him with what he needed, including when she brought his pills to the jail.

Pointer blames the jail’s nurses and guards for not getting him the medications he needed in a timely manner.

“They literally did nothing more than stare at him and throw food and medications into his cell like he was an animal in a pen at the zoo. Despite the obvious crisis, not a single guard or nurse thought enough about Mr. Monk to call for help,” Pointer said in a statement.

The video from the day he died, shows Monk still in the same position, deputies knocking on his door and finally calling for medical help. After

pulling his body out of the cell, Alameda County firefighters did CPR for several minutes. He was pronounced dead outside his cell door and covered with a yellow plastic sheet.

The lawsuit, filed last year on behalf of Monk’s adult daughter and teen son, identifies Alameda County, Wellpath Community Care, 15 sheriff’s deputies, nine Wellpath nurses and a Wellpath physician’s assistant as defendants for failing to provide medical care. Santa Rita Jail is run by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO) and Lt. Tya Modeste said the department had no comment on the pending litigation.

“The jail’s neglect stole Maurice from us,” Elvira Monk said in a statement. “If not for their utter neglect, my brother would still

be here today to go to his son’s upcoming high school graduation, hug his daughter and play with his nieces and nephews.”

An ACSO Internal Affairs investigation found that some deputies forged records in addition to failing to recognize many signs that Monk was in medical distress, according to the lawsuit.

Santa Rita Jail is operating under a federal consent decree following the settlement of a civil rights lawsuit that was filed on behalf of inmates after death rates spiked,

Under the decree, Alameda County is required to establish mental health procedures and provide better care for inmates at Santa Rita Jail, where 68 inmates have died since 2014, including 11 since Monk died. A county spokesperson

told The Independent in July that jail officials were working hard to improve conditions to meet the federal judge’s requirements. In a lengthy statement to The Independent, the ACSO said it was working toward “substantial compliance” with the 2022 court order by increasing staff to handle emergency and behavioral care for inmates, adding suicide-resistant measures known as “cell softening,” re-configuring space for inmate recreation, and lengthening out-of-cell time for those in custody. The Consent Decree called for the agency to hire 259 sworn officers and 72 non-sworn employees by Feb. 7, 2025, to work in the jail. By the end of May, the agency had 159 sworn vacancies and 44 non-sworn job openings to fill.

RECALL

(Continued from front page)

the recall effort.

Price’s 2022 campaign website is now seeking donations under the name “Protect the Win.”

“Pamela Price ran a winning corporate-free and people-powered campaign to bring justice with compassion to Alameda County,” the website says. “We need to come together to protect the win!”

SAFE, a coalition of residents, business owners, crime victims and their families, says it has 1,900 volunteers prepared to hit the streets with petitions in the coming months.

SAFE contends Price, a former civil rights and defense attorney, has forsaken crime victims and is taking action

that instead aids criminals.

“In less than nine months, DA Price has violated victims’ rights, ignored victim pleas and disrespected people who have been victimized by some of the worst crimes imaginable,” SAFE said. “She has told mothers that the lives of their children are worth less than the lives of the offender.”

Price won election as the county’s top prosecutor last November with 53% of the vote over Chief Assistant District Attorney Terry Wiley. He had served as second in charge under DA Nancy O’Malley, who retired.

Price campaigned on a platform of reforming the criminal justice system, re-

ducing the number of people behind bars, and holding police accountable.

Since taking office she has fired some longtime prosecutors, reopened investigations into police-involved shootings, and refused to seek the death penalty or seek sentences of life in prison without parole. She also issued a policy against filing enhancements that can add years to sentences for gang involvement, gun use and other crimes.

“When there are repeat offenders committing crimes over and over and over again, we cannot allow them to be on the street,” said Oakland community activist and SAFE leader Carl Chan.

TEACHER

(Continued from front page)

“It’s been overwhelming,” Kiyoi said of the county recognition.

Kiyoi teaches computer science and cybersecurity, hosts coding events to help draw in minority students and pushes community service in both his classes and the clubs he leads.

“Mr. Kiyoi is a model for educators everywhere for his commitment inside and outside the classroom to inspire and empower each student,” said Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund. “He leads programs that have engaged hundreds of young women in the computer sciences and improved representation of many underrepresented student groups in the field.”

Kiyoi was first recognized as the Pleasanton school district’s Teacher of the Year before being hon-

ored by Alameda County.

Originally from Martinez, Kiyoi studied mining engineering in college, and even spent a summer working in a gold mine, but said the work brought him no joy. When he discovered a passion for education, he committed to helping his students’ set goals that were about more than impressive degrees and high salaries.

“What I bring to the table now is to encourage kids to try lots of things,” he said. “If it’s computers you’re interested in, let me give you all the information I can. If it’s journalism, let me point you to the right teacher.”

Kiyoi created an advanced computer science class to meet the needs of students prepared for more challenging coursework, and he advises the Cybersecurity Club, Girls Who Code, and Every 15 Minutes.

“I think I’ve had a lot of support, a lot of encouragement, just to do some of the initiatives I’ve been successful with,” he said. “And to be honest, it’s been a lot of fun. I’m enjoying myself quite a bit; it’s one of those jobs that it feels good to come in every day and make a difference.”

He insists on his clubs running community service projects, from collecting donations to offering educational workshops at the senior center on phishing and scam avoidance, to hosting free coding classes.

“This is exciting for me,” he said of his work. “Computer science opens a lot of avenues and has creativity and allows you to invest in things that aren’t traditional ... it’s not just about ‘let’s make the next video game;’ it’s about ‘how can we help the community.’”

BEEES

(Continued from front page)

prohibited for use, except by state certified applicators and sale by state licensed pest control dealers.

Newsom’s signature comes a year after he vetoed similar legislation by Bauer-Kahan that imposed an outright ban on the chemicals’ use in all non-agricultural settings.

Bauer-Kahan and environmentalists argued the pesticides had a devastating effect

on pollinators, including 1,600 varieties of bees, Monarch butterflies, birds and insects. Bees are necessary to pollinate critical California crops including strawberries and almonds, but studies found beekeepers had lost nearly half their colonies two years ago.

Environmentalists cited studies that showed neonic chemicals are 1,000 times more deadly to bees than

DDT. Doses that failed to kill them caused disorientation, making it difficult for them to fly and perform their tasks.

“Our pollinators are threatened, we know the cause, and it’s time to take action,” Bauer-Kahan said in a statement. “It’s time to catch up to the rest of the world to save the bees.”

Laura Deehan, state director for Environment California, said her organization built support for the bill across the state, delivering more than 35,000 signatures on petitions urging the governor to take action.

“Taking these pesticides off the shelves is a critical step to saving the bees,” Deehan said. “We can now promise our pollinators, who play such a critical role for our ecosystems from the coast to the mountains, a safer Golden State. We’re thrilled that one in four Americans will now live in a state that has taken this action.”

Although Bauer-Kahan did not achieve an outright ban, her spokeswoman said the legislator is pleased with the new law.

“We’re proud of what we’ve accomplished, and we will continue our work to save the bees,” Goodman said.

California joins Colorado, Nevada, New York, Maryland, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island as states with restrictions on the sale of neonic pesticides since 2016.



Delta Wires to Play at Almost Famous Lounge

Delta Wires, a Bay Area harmonica and horns blues band, will play at Livermore’s Almost Famous Wine Lounge, 2271 S. Vasco Road, on Saturday, Oct. 21. Led by founder Ernie Pinata on harmonica, the band is known for its high energy big-band performances. Inducted into the California Blues Hall of Fame in 2012, the group’s most recent CD, “if somebody told me ...,” was released in January. Tickets for the show at 6:30 p.m. begin at \$10. The Red’s Blues Band will open.

LUCKY

(Continued from front page)

reason for the closure.

“It is normal course of business for healthy retail companies to constantly evaluate the performance of their entire fleet in order to ensure long-term success and growth. Due to the underperformance of the Dublin store location, it is beneficial to the overall company health to close this store,” according to a statement from The Save Mart Companies.

Officials said all store employees will have the opportunity to transfer to another store. And customers can still shop at nearby stores in Pleasanton, Livermore, or San Ramon.

The Dublin store, built in 2018, is not the first Save Mart owned store to shutter this year. The Larkspur location, which had been open since 1982, closed in April after the store’s lease was not renewed.

But the company is also opening new stores.

Last fall, the retailer opened a new Lucky store in the Bayview neighborhood of San Francisco, an area that had long been considered a food desert.

Based in Modesto, The Save Mart Cos. operates more than 200 retail stores under the banners of Save Mart, Lucky California and FoodMaxx.

PRIDEFEST

(Continued from front page)

tainment and bring visitors to Livermore during that summer month.

October also has better weather, she said.

Kiick noted that the afternoon will have something for everyone to enjoy.

“We have great bands playing all afternoon, and we are lucky to have some local high schoolers come out to perform as well, so it will be a great time to come and meet other members of the community and celebrate (LGBTQ) History Month,” Kiick said.

LGBTQ History Month, created in 1994 by a high school history teacher in Missouri, is celebrated in October to coincide with National Coming Out Day on

Oct. 11 and the anniversary of the first March on Washington for gay and lesbian rights in 1979.

Kiick noted that the festival is a celebration of community and diversity, “and should be a fun afternoon.”

If The Whiskey Sundays, an all-woman acoustic band led by Livermore’s own Christina Cavallaro, have anything to do with it, it will be

“We are a good fit for an event that is celebrating diversity of all kinds and I like to think they think we might also play well,” the singer said.

Cavallaro, who is a freelance writer for The Independent, said the band formed last fall after meeting at a Tri-Valley open mic night

and not long after started churning out an eclectic folk-rock sound.

“We hope it’s clear how much we love what we are doing,” she said. “We hope that the people who come to see will feel that, and that same spirit will come to them. It will make their day joyful, and we will be sharing the same experience of music and the love for making music and celebrating the great aspects of the Livermore community.”

IF YOU GO:
WHAT: PrideFest 2023
WHERE: Courtyard outside Livermore’s Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St.
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 21 noon to 3 p.m.
INFO: www.livermorepride.org.

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EDITORIAL

Livermore’s PrideFest Held as Nation Celebrates LGBTQ History Month

Across the nation and around the world, Pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops and concerts happen each June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York City, a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States.

But Livermore does things a little differently – not that there’s anything wrong with that.

On Saturday, thousands of people are expected to descend on downtown Livermore for PrideFest 2023 to enjoy good music, great food, family friendly activities and most importantly, community bonding.

We support Livermore Pride’s efforts to organize the festival and

applaud their decision to have such a celebration in October, when Pride events don’t usually take place. Holding the celebration in the fall allows organizers to avoid competition for top-notch Pride entertainment, attract more visitors and hold the event in cooler weather.

Holding the Pride celebration in October also highlights an important month that can often be overlooked by people outside the LGBTQ community – LGBTQ History Month.

In 1994, a Missouri high school teacher believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history. He gathered other teachers and

community leaders, who selected October because public schools are in session and existing traditions, such as Coming Out Day (October 11), occur that month, according to information on the website LGBTQ History Month.

Nearly 30 years later, LGBTQ History Month has been endorsed by GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Education Association and other organizations.

Livermore’s road to holding a Pride celebration started in the spring of 2019 when two residents – Tracy Kronzak and Amy Pannu – put up a few fliers downtown hoping to organize a Pride celebration.

They were a success. A few months later the event drew more than 2,000 people to the city. The event was a steppingstone to creating the nonprofit organization Livermore Pride, which remains strong to this day.

We commend Livermore Pride for taking a stance and continuing to organize PrideFest and other Pride activities, because nearly 55 years after Stonewall, LGBTQ people still face a social and political landscape that often seeks to marginalize them. As Livermore Pride states, “(The) world has great strides to make in its understanding (of the LGBTQ community). And Livermore is the perfect city to help shape our collective future.”

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:
Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters must be submitted by someone living in or from the Tri-Valley; they must not offer medical advice from unconfirmed professional sources or contain libelous or inappropriate content. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication.

Editor’s note: Last week, a portion of Trish Munro’s letter was moved to another letter in error. She has given us permission to run her letter this week as she intended it to be published.

Unity Week: A Time to Fight Bullying

Trish Munro, Livermore

When I received my Livermore Community newsletter on Friday, I was excited. (Don’t subscribe? Go here: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/tD04KXv> now and make it so!) This coming week is Unity Week, beginning on October 16. Sponsored by all three of Livermore’s governmental bodies (City, School District, and LARPD), this is a week to stand against bullies and for inclusion. The week began as a response to school bullying. More than one out of every five students’ experiences bullying every year and those experiences leave deep scars. They make what is a difficult time of life all the more painful. Yet, bullying doesn’t necessarily end with adulthood. It simply takes different forms: cliques, ignoring or belittling others. And, as we’ve sadly seen in recent weeks, bullying can be Zoombombing or attacking others for simply existing.

No matter how old or young, participating in Unity Week is a chance to pay attention to how we treat each other and how we

can do better. Here’s how to participate:

1. On Monday, take the Unity Pledge here: <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/pledge/>, which simply asks people to support others who have been hurt or harmed, treat others with kindness, be more accepting of people’s differences, and help include those who are left out.
2. On Tuesday, go to the library and make a kindness card for a senior citizen. Or, if you are an elder, make a card for someone younger—intergenerational goes both ways.
3. On Wednesday, Unity Day, wear orange and help make a unity chain at one of the Livermore Libraries.
4. On Thursday, at 5:30, meet at the Wetmore entrance of Sycamore Grove to take a walk with LPD officers and LARPD rangers.
5. End the week on Friday at Stockmen’s Park where, from 3-6, participants can use sidewalk chalk to draw messages of love, hope, and support for the future.

In today’s world, standing against hate and bullying is more important than ever. Here’s to participating in Unity Week and living its message in the future.

We Reap What We Sow in Gaza, Palestine, and Israel

Greg Scott, Livermore

There is no justification for the heinous terrorist attacks last October 7th by Hamas. These were war crimes. We need to hope that the hostages get safely returned. We need to have empathy for those that are grieving the loss of family, loved ones, friends, neighbors, and fellow citizens.

There is no justification for the revenge bombing of civilians by Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). These are also war crimes and violations of international law. As of this writing, more than five hundred children in Gaza have been killed during these recent events, along with thousands of civilians. Israel needs to cease its military campaign against Gaza immediately.

The effects of these actions are global and will last for generations. Even before the Hamas killings, the world has been experiencing more incidences of antisemitic violence and intimidation. This is probably, lamentably, going to increase.

There are also anti-Muslim incidences of violence and aggression. Saturday morning a 71-year-old male landlord savagely assaulted a Palestinian mother and killed her 6-year-old son in Chicago. The boy was stabbed 26 times and

the mother 12.

I could dwell on incidences of hate and brutality here; however, I must change tack. I turn to the French philosopher Emmanuel Levinas (1906-1995), who was of Lithuanian Jewish ancestry. Levinas thought of philosophy as the “wisdom of love” and not the “love of wisdom.” He also incorporated “Other” and “Othering” into his ideas, where there is a focus on others outside of “Self.” These ideas would lead to a greater empathy and understanding that we desperately need in today’s world.

We simply cannot continue in the mode of violence and hate, for revenge or anything else.

Hamas met some of its objectives by horrendous, savage means. Palestinians have been rendered powerless, are being humiliated and ignored. The world is not completely innocent in this, including me, except the children and relatively few others.

Gaza is the “world’s largest outdoor prison” (former British Prime Minister Cameron). Gaza is also “the largest concentration camp ever to exist” (Baruch Kimmerling, 1939-2007, sociologist, Hebrew University of Jerusalem). There are 2.1 million individuals in Gaza, half of which are 18 years old or younger. Over half of the population suffered from severe food insecurity before October 7th. Now no electricity, no food, no water, no gas? (Recently, water supplies have been restored in Southern Gaza near the Egyptian border) This blatant inhumanity is insane!

Tesla Classification

Faye and Lee Younker, Livermore

For twenty years, individuals, groups and organizations have been working to save the Tesla-Alameda Property and its important natural, cultural, and scenic characteristics. Go to www.TeslaPark.org for more information about the important natural and cultural features that the Tesla land contains.

Progress has been made, but the job is not finished. State Parks is embarking on a two-stage, multi-year process to determine what uses will be allowed on the 3,100 acres of land formerly slated to become part of the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area. The first stage will be classifying the type of state park the 3,100 acres will become. The second stage will be writing a general plan for uses consistent with the classification.

Step one, getting the

right classification, is extremely critical! There are seven types of California state parks with a wide range of activities allowed depending on the park classification. The expectation is the Alameda Tesla Property will become either a regular State Park or a State Reserve. Reserves provide the greatest protection of the natural features (State Natural Reserves) or cultural features (State Cultural Reserves). The Alameda Tesla area has a wealth of both natural and cultural features that clearly deserve the highest protection the state system can provide.

To become involved in this process, go to www.AlamedaTeslaPlan.com. On the top menu bar, click on Participate. Take the short visioning survey to share your thoughts on key topics related to your vision for the Alameda-Tesla property. The survey is due by October 31. This will provide input for the classification process. At the bottom of the Participate page, provide your email address to get notices of public engagement meetings. The next few months are so important. Now is the time to engage or re-engage to complete the 20-year journey.

Open Space Survey

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Do you want to preserve open space near Livermore? Do you want to keep the green buffer between the cities of Dublin and Livermore? Do you like the scenic vistas north of I-580?

At the last Livermore City Council meeting, the Livermore Planning Department and staff made a recommendation to continue to support the North Livermore Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) that protects and preserves open space, natural habitat, agricultural land, scenic corridors, and visual resources.

Because of a previous memorandum of understanding, the cities of Dublin and Livermore agreed only a road would be permitted across a 180 parcel north of I-580. Now, the City of Dublin wants to move their Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) east to include commercial development along the road.

The Livermore City Council voted to conduct a survey to find out if keeping the open space between Dublin and Livermore is important to Livermore voters. The survey will begin soon. Voters will be contacted by email, text and calls to landline phones. The survey is NOT conducted or paid for by

any political group or organization but by a neutral 3rd party hired by the city. Please respond if you are contacted; your voice is important. If you are a registered voter, and are not contacted, please contact the City Hall so you can participate. Please call the City Clerk at (925) 960-4200.

I hope you will agree that the North Livermore (UGB) is important to Livermore residents and that open space and a green buffer between cities adds positively to our quality of life.

Please take the time to respond to the survey. Together, we can preserve the open space that surrounds Livermore.

Take a Chance on Art

William Crawford, Livermore

I’ve lived in Livermore for my entire life, and I love the local events that occur here, especially the ArtWalk. I just walked around this year’s ArtWalk in downtown Livermore today, and it was an amazing experience to meet all of the unique artists and photographers that live here and express their talents and passions through their work. Especially as an aspiring artist myself, as well as being an art enthusiast, I love how so many people use their own unique voices to bring their passions to the many citizens who walk through the streets of downtown Livermore, curious to see the creativity of these artists’ unique visions. If anyone reading this wants to be an artist one day, don’t hesitate. Pick up a brush, a pencil, a pen, or even a camera, and just take a leap of faith. You never know what that first step will lead you to one day. It could perhaps be the first step towards your potential career in the artistic community. You never know unless you try and take a chance after all.

Save Livermore’s Greenbelt Buffer

Jean King, Livermore

The City of Livermore will soon be conducting a poll to find out if Livermore residents still support maintaining a greenbelt buffer between the cities of Livermore and Dublin.

Livermore residents have supported greenbelt buffers and protection of open space and agriculture since supporting the County Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Measure D in 2000, Livermore UGB in 2002, and defeating Pardee’s effort to break the Livermore UGB in 2005.

The land in question is 180 acres north of I-580 between Dublin and Livermore by Doolan Road.

Dublin wants to annex the land for commercial development.

It is important that Livermore control the area by having it in Livermore’s Sphere of Influence.

Please respond to the poll that Livermore residents want to maintain control of the greenbelt buffer and preserve the agricultural and open space lands within the buffer.

Why the Rainbow Inclusivity Flag is Important

Brendan Cooper, Livermore

Hello, I’d like to respond to what I’ve been reading about the controversy surrounding the Sunol Glen School District Board and their decision to deny Sunol Glen School’s request to fly the rainbow Inclusivity Flag at the school. I grew up in Livermore, the child of two LVJUSD lifers, and am a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Specifically, I will respond to Phyllis Couper’s letter published in the Independent on October 12, 2023, in which she supports the SGUSD’s decision to deny the school’s petition, with the rationale that “[the U.S. flag] says proudly that we welcome all students. It says to students you are special and important to this country. The American Flag flown at educational institutions is a symbol of togetherness, signifying to each student that they deserve to have the best education that America can give.” With respect to Ms. Couper, this is really naive. Setting aside the seriously misguided faith in the U.S. educational system, the U.S. flag did most definitely not make me feel welcome, or special, or important or included when I was in school. In the 35 years since then, the U.S. flag has been used by many anti-LGBTQ+ organizations as a symbol of their right to discriminate (or worse) against their fellow Americans, and the LGBTQ+ community, both generally and specifically. I now feel less covered by these purported protections of the U.S. flag than ever, and I’m not alone. It’s a nice idea, Phyllis, and I wish it were so, but it’s just... not. Not yet. But we’re getting there. And the visibility, inclusivity, and the public declaration that LGBTQ+ people are not only welcomed at a place that chooses (as Sunol Glen School did, I believe) to fly the rainbow Inclusivity Flag, but they are supported and valued... that does mean something. A really big and important something to kids and faculty who, regardless of

MAILBOX

(Continued from 9 page)

their sexuality or gender identity, may feel definitely separate and not at all equal to our country people. That’s what inclusivity means. And that is how we get to inclusivity for all. FOR ALL. It’s not special treatment. It’s not anything other than humans trying to take the next, inevitable and unstoppable step toward making real what this country’s constitution promises for people currently not enjoying the equality it was written to provide. And it takes decades to accomplish. But it’s worth doing.

Stop The Hatred Cycle
Kenneth Henneman,
Pleasanton

Oh no, hatred cycle again. Sadly, it’s springing forth again. I can’t help but remember the last hatred cycle and am saddened to remember. I am reminded that in 1941-1942 the teacher told us two 2nd graders and the other 18 kids in our small one room school (with no electricity or inside bathrooms, and wood heat) that WAR had broken out. In the following war years, we kids all bought war bonds and picked bags of milkweed pods for the war effort. The German Nazis viciously attacked neighbors and the hated (within & without) Jews. Because, I think, mankind wants and strives for good, not evil, the war ended for the good, bringing an end to killing, the elimination of the Nazi Party, and a new German constitution and government – all beneficial.

Sadly, Israel is going through this hatred cycle again. Killings on both sides. With the Hamas Par-

ty eliminated, the two million Gazans will have better governance and living conditions. Will this hatred cycle stop here?

Sadly, Hamas and Hezbollah parties in Lebanon hate Jews. Iran’s government openly announces it hates Israel so much that Iranians WILL destroy it. So, what do we do to prevent this hatred cycle from happening yet again?

There are little and big hates in this world today, as there often was in the previous 5,000 years. A few (hates – not just dislikes) are even justified. Nevertheless, I believe (let us all hope) that this time wise civilized people will wisely find a way to avoid further hatred cycle killings.

Normal people aren’t haters. People are good; thankfully this is nearly always true. I share an exemplary story from the German cycle. In 2005, the Church pastor and Hanstatten city manager showed us the stone in front of the church. The German ‘enemies’ (us & allies) were bombing every city along the railroad that ran east through the town towards Frankfurt. The US bomber pilot saw the small town and old church and disobeyed orders: he circled instead of bombing the town. The people were amazed – no bomb! The plane was shot down; the people buried the body properly, and also wrote in stone their thankfulness story. And continue telling it for its good.

Disney Invasion
Richard Andrews, Livermore

For years I have watched Disney grow — both in size and importance. In

fact, they have become such a 600-pound gorilla in the room you cannot ignore their presence. But they have finally become the 600-pound virus in the room.

Now that they have invaded the mainstream network industry with a vengeance with the acquisition of ABC7 and other network stations, they have become an invasive species. I love Channel 7 News, and it is my favorite. But I don’t think a day goes by that Disney doesn’t intrude in news to promote some phase of their empire as “news”. I’m sick of it.

It is to the point where I do not want any of their products in my home. I wonder if anyone else is sick up to their eyeballs with this corporate takeover?

Thanks for a Wonderful
Chili Cookoff

Nile Runge, Livermore, Rotary
Noon Club of Livermore

A huge thank you to our morning Rotary Club for bringing a wonderful Saturday community event to our town: the Chili Cookoff. The idea of Sherri Simoni has brought out thousands of people to sample a variety of chilis by many competitors for a \$20 cup. Some chilis were sweet, some spicy, but all interesting. Commercial food stands on all sides of the Carnegie block paid for a spot.

Rotary is the largest charity in the world raising money by Rotary clubs, then giving it away. Livermore celebrates this delightful gathering of our neighbors on a beautiful warm day.

OBITUARIES

Diane Lois Scott
1941 – 2023



Diane Lois Scott passed away peacefully at her Pleasanton residence on October 3, 2023. She will be remembered as a kind, caring, generous and very special lady who loved her family and friends. She had the most infectious smile and always a very positive attitude. Diane loved life and did whatever she could to make everyone around her appreciate and love life too.

Diane grew up in Hayward and graduated from Hayward High School. She attended San Jose City College and Chabot College with an emphasis on Early Childhood.

Diane worked for Sunset Designs, Safeway and the Pleasanton School District. She also volunteered many hours for the Pleasanton Recreation Department. She held a variety of leadership and coaching positions for

Girls Softball, Soccer and Basketball. She was also the President of Pleasanton Little League and ran the snack bar and supervised umpires for many years. Diane loved to work with young kids as they always held a special place in her heart.

Diane also ran a Daycare

and spoiled her kids with her baking talents — especially her Gingerbread Cookies. She treated her kids with so much love and care that they didn’t want to go home. Toys, books, movies, snacks, and big hugs were all part of the fun at Diances.

She is preceded in death by her oldest son Gregory Scott. She is survived by her two sons, Jeffrey Scott (Pleasanton) and Patrick Scott (Livermore). She has one grandson Riley Scott (Livermore).

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life to be held at The Eagles Lodge at 527 North Livermore Ave. on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 2:00 in the afternoon. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Hugh A. Walker

Dec. 6, 1946 – Oct. 10, 2023



Judge Hugh A. Walker, a third-generation rancher from Livermore, transitioned peacefully with his husband John in their home in Palm Springs on Oct. 10. He is survived by his husband, John Walker Passama; his three children, Mathew Walker, Jennifer Profumo (spouse Michael), Nichole Walker (spouse Christopher), and stepchildren, Jeff Passama (spouse Kelli) and Josh Passama (spouse Kasie). He is also survived by his combined grandchildren: Hunter, Roxie, Soren, Brooklyn, Chase, Cole, Parker and Paxton. He is preceded in death by his parents, George Walker and Lois Mulqueeny Walker.

The honorable Judge Walker attended local schools before obtaining his law degree from Santa Clara University. Hugh went from practicing law to becoming a Superior Court Judge for the state of California.

Among many other accomplishments, Judge Walker was a pioneer in wind energy and grass-fed beef.

He served on several boards including Valley Care Hospital, the Livermore Rodeo, Zone 7 Water, Alameda County Fair, and a center for metaphysical studies. Hugh lived life with authenticity,

and always had a sparkle in his eyes. He will be remembered by all for his wicked sense of humor, abiding love of family, friends, ranch life, and his affection for all animals, especially dogs.

His passing has left a void in the hearts of all who knew him. He will be deeply missed.

Services for our beloved Hugh Walker are as follows: Rosary Service; Monday, Oct. 23, from 7-9 p.m., at Callaghan Mortuary (3833 East Avenue, Livermore, California). Funeral Mass; Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 11 a.m. at St. Michael’s Catholic Church (458 Maple Street, Livermore, California).

Donations in Hugh’s honor can be made to support Lewy Body Dementia Research at give.americanbrainfoundation.org or mailed to: American Brain Foundation, 201 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55415-1126.

The Beauty of California Comes
To Life in New Gallery Exhibit

A new exhibit, “150 Years of A Beautiful California: Landscapes from William Keith to Today,” is on display at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery from Oct. 12 to Jan. 7. This exhibit showcases the beauty of the California landscape over the past 150 years, featuring works from William Keith to contemporary artists, in collaboration with Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art. There is also a special Artist Highlight in the Founders Room at the Art Gallery: George Staehle presents “Talking Art,” featuring enchanting watercolor paintings of California scenes and beyond. The public is invited to ex-



Mount Shasta in winter during the 1890s, is one of several pieces on display at the new exhibit at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery in Livermore. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Valley Arts)

perience these picturesque exhibits at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery

and Founders Room at the Bankhead Theater in Downtown Livermore.

Caltrans Closures Planned For
Southbound I-680 in Pleasanton

Caltrans is scheduled to close southbound I-680 in Pleasanton between the I-580/I-680 connector and Koopman Road on Friday, Nov. 3, at 9 p.m., through Monday morning, Nov. 6, at 4 a.m. During the closure, the contractor will replace a portion of the existing deteriorated roadway with new

pavement on southbound I-680, between I-580/I-680 connector and Koopman Road. The weekend work is expected to reduce the number of nightly closures needed on the project. In the case of rain or unanticipated developments, the closures will be rescheduled, and the public will be notified.

Portable changeable message signs will be placed prior to the closure, advising motorists of the roadwork and closure, and will remain in effect throughout the weekend while work is being carried out. Northbound I-680 will remain open and will not be affected by the closure.

Livermore Library Invites Residents
To Detox Their Minds With Meditation

Livermore Public Library will host a live Zoom presentation titled Detox Your Mind Through Meditation, on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, 7-8 p.m. This program is free, and no registration is required. Access this link to attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83593398138>.

Long time meditator Bruce Faithwick will teach attendees how to implement a simple yet very powerful

meditation technique that can help detoxify the mind of stress and anxiety. A short meditation sitting is included in this program.

Bruce Faithwick is a successful business consultant in the software industry. With a degree in Economics from the University of California, Faithwick has many years of product management and marketing experience. He currently provides

workshops and trainings to groups in California on connecting meditation and self-development. Faithwick has been meditating for over 40 years and now focuses much of his time on his own personal development and in helping others who wish to do the same.

For additional program information, visit library.livermoreca.gov, or call (925) 373- 5500.

William A. Archer, Jr. “Deacon Bill”

Sept. 2, 1946 – Sept. 29, 2023



William was born in Oakland and grew up in San Lorenzo. He graduated from Sunset High School, Hayward, in 1964 and attended Chabot College. He worked for PGE and was transferred to Livermore. Bill worked for PGE until he was asked to work at his family’s janitorial business in Oakland. Bill worked for Keene-Riese Supply until he became the Director of Religious Education at St. Michael’s in 1999 teaching Faith Formation. After a year as DRE, the pastor hired him as the business administrator managing the church and was instrumental in building the new St. Michael School and the retrofit of the church.

He retired as the business administrator in 2015 and stayed as a pastoral associate.

In 1995 he was ordained a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Oakland and ministered at St. Michael. He served under several pastors. As a deacon, he did many baptisms, weddings, funerals, house blessings, and visited the sick at hospitals and homes. He was president of the Oakland Diaconate in 2003 and was honored to be the

deacon at Bishop Vigneron’s installation.

Bill was active with the Livermore Jaycees, working on community events like the rodeo parade, the Maid of Livermore contest, and the Livermore Airshow. He became a police chaplain in 2015. As a police chaplain, he worked on many police projects, including the school backpack, Torch Run, Every 15 Minutes and did ride-along’s with the Livermore Police assisting police officers. He taught new recruits to the Livermore Police Citizen Academy about Chaplaincy. He tried to com-

fort anyone who asked for his help.

He was an avid fan of the Oakland Raiders starting in high school helping with seating people and handing out programs for the games before there was an actual stadium.

Bill loved to collect Christmas decorations and had many large 7’ to 12’ trees, each having a theme. He enjoyed decorating as it brought back good memories.

He was preceded in death by his son, Bryan, and daughter Sybil Avila; grandson, Jacob Benson; parents, Bill Sr. and Dorothy Archer.

Bill leaves behind his wife, Jayne, and grown children, William III, Jeffery, Kevin, Daniel, Julia, Janelle and Barbara; 17 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; sister, Peggy Dee Porter and her sons, Bobby, Gilbert and Matthew and their families.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Michael Church and burial at St. Michael Cemetery on Friday, Oct. 6. Donations can be made in memory of Bill to St. Michael, Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul, or a charity of choice.



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HER VINENESS



Laura Ness

By Laura Ness

There’s no denying this protracted growing season could be excellent for flavor development. Some are already raving about the quality.

Says longtime winemaker and Page Mill winery owner, Dane Stark, “Best Chardonnay harvest in a decade. Clean, healthy, plentiful. We picked for sparkling on Sept 1. Normally, we pick for sparkling Aug 10.” The clone 72 Chardonnay comes from the Chandler vineyard in Kalthoff Commons, which he’s been farming organically for seven years. To have such fantastic fruit after a challengingly cool growing season is a sweet reward.

“The acids and pHs are exquisite this year,” Stark notes. “I anticipate this being a banner vintage from a quality perspective.”

Stark says they’ve finished harvesting Sauvignon Blanc, plus Grenache for Angela’s Cuvée rosé, and Pinot Noir from Castro Valley and Lamorinda. Soon, he’ll get Syrah from the Dante Robere Vineyard (formerly Nelson). “I trade Chardonnay for Syrah from their vineyard. I’ve been using their Syrah for 15+ years for my GPS,” he says, referring to his cleverly named Grenache, Petite Sirah and Syrah blend. The Grenache comes from Concannon and Ghielmetti.

Speaking of Ghielmetti, after getting burned last year by Corbett’s selling Sauvignon Blanc grapes to Daou (Paso Robles), John Kinney of Occasio is about to pick SB for the first time from Nella Terra Vineyard in the Sunol Highlands. He’ll pick three tons: one for Occasio, one for Darin Winton’s Cellar 13 and a ton for Rosa Fierro Cellars.

Speaking of Rosa Fierro, winemaker Rosie Fierro tells us, “So far, we have only harvested Zinfandel from Frank-

Could This Be the Harvest of a Lifetime?

ie’s vineyard in Contra Costa (owned by Frankie Favalora, her crush-pad neighbor on Vasco), which was harvested on Sept 27.” She expected her Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc the week of Oct 8. “All of my reds are still in the low 20’s on brix, so hopefully they will get ripe in the next few weeks.”

Brent Amos of Las Positas thinks the potential for a great vintage despite this crazy year is definitely there. He’s really happy with the reds in thus far, including Merlot, Garnacha, and Tempranillo. He expected to pick Barbera, Petite Sirah, Syrah, and Sangiovese by October 13, saying, “Chemistry is good. Everything is achieving ripeness at lower sugar than usual, with great acids. Barbera and Sangiovese are both tasting great with amazing flavors at about 24 brix, which is hard to do with those varietals.”

At Cuda Ridge, Larry and Marge Dino are now grandparents, their daughter just having just welcomed baby Brooklyn to the fold. He also just hired a new winemaker, Dane De Luca. Dino already brought in Sauv Blanc, Rosé (Merlot/Cab), and Sangiovese, and was expecting Carmenere and White Cat Vineyard Cabernet by Oct 11.

Steve Ziganti of 3 Steves notes, “So far we’ve brought in Pinot Grigio and Pinot Blanc from Buttner in Sunol, Sangiovese and some

Cab from Grimes, and Chard from Block 12 in Kalthoff.” He expects Pruett Chard, Thatcher Bay Merlot and Dry Creek Zin soon. His estate Cab might be ready by Oct 23. Still outstanding are Eagle Ridge Zin, Fenestra Syrah, plus Cab Pfeffer, Cab Franc and Sangiovese from Hollister.

Jesse Plautz of Ruby Hill applauds the recent heat saying, “We are really just getting going. We have our Chardonnay in, and we are now picking Petit Verdot, Sangiovese, Barbera, some Petite Sirah and Merlot in the next week or so.” He says the vines are still looking healthy and are producing heavy yields this year.

Steven Mirassou of The Lineage Collection and Steven Kent Winery noted on Sept 29 that he had only brought in one wine for 2023 at that point: Monastrell (Mourvèdre) from the Miravet Vineyard in the Clements-Hills sub-appellation of Lodi on September 18th. He observed that last year, they had pulled in 13 out of 20 lots by that date. In 2021, they had 10 of 21 lots already in and in 2020, only 8 of 20. He picked Merlot from the Zayante Vineyard in Felton on Oct 9.

Despite the roller coaster forecast, he says, “Winemakers and farmers are generally optimistic, and if we get enough heat, the 2023 Harvest may end up being one of the finest in memory.”



Dublin Recruiting Instructors For New Multi-use Arts Center

Dublin is recruiting contract instructors for the new Dublin Arts Center, which is expected to open next summer.

The 13,000-square-foot arts center will be in the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, and will serve as a multiuse facility for cultural, educational, and social programs.

The first-floor center will include an art

gallery, black box theater, indoor/outdoor art yard, dance studio, and multipurpose art and music classrooms.

The city is recruiting instructors to offer programming for children, teens, and adults.

Anyone interested in becoming an instructor can fill out a form at tinyurl.com/49vzyxd6.

San Francisco Business Times

Tri-Valley Women Honored

Seven women with connections to the Tri-Valley area were among the 100 Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business for 2023, named by the San Francisco Business Times earlier this month.

Stephanie Beasley, who chairs the Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV), was recognized for both her work with ITV and in executive strategy at Sandia National Laboratories.

“I’m the first female board chair for i-GATE Innovation Hub and now Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group,” Beasley noted. “I’m inspired and motivated by opportunities to pave the path for women to drive change, innovate and collaborate. Our communities, organizations and families are better

when strong, resilient and innovative women have a seat at the table.”

Other women with Tri-Valley connections recognized by the San Francisco Business Time included:

- Kim Budil, who made history when she was named the first woman director of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.
- Lisa Dyson, co-founder and CEO of Air Protein, a Pleasanton-based pioneer in air-based protein that requires no agriculture or farmland for production, which has the potential to revolutionize the future of food sustainability.
- Carla Peterman, executive vice president of corporate affairs for Pacific Gas & Electric, one of the largest natural

gas and electric energy companies in the United States.

- Maria Ansari, executive director of the Oakland-based Permanente Medical Group, a physician-led group that works with Kaiser Permanente to serve over 3.8 million members in Northern California.
- Mehrnaz Boroumand Smith, a partner in the international law firm Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, which specializes in intellectual property.
- Christina Clark, vice chair of the Newmark Group, a national real estate advisory and services company, who is responsible for expansion of the group’s tenant representation business.

Research Confirms Earliest Date of Fossilized Footprints

New research confirms that human footprints found in New Mexico two years ago date back more than 20,000 years, to the last time that glaciers covered most of North America.

The discovery at White Sands National Park in 2021 pushed back the earliest known date of human presence in North America, originally thought to be about 14,000 years ago, by thousands of years

The research, analyzing pollen and seeds found at the same geological subsurface level as the footprints, was conducted by scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the National Park Service, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

When USGS and an international team of scientists first announced their discovery, pegging the footprints to 21,000 to 23,000 years ago, some researchers questioned the finding. But the new research affirms the original finding, according to USGS research geologist Jeff Pigati.

“The immediate reaction in some circles of the archaeological community was that the accuracy of our dating was insufficient to make the extraordinary claim that humans were present in North America during the Last Glacial Maximum,” Pigati said. “But our targeted methodology in this current research really paid off.”

The original finding was based on radiocarbon dating of Ruppia cirrhosa seeds, a freshwater plant also known as spiral ditchgrass, that were found in the fossilized footprints.

But aquatic plants can absorb dissolved carbon atoms from water along with

the ambient air, which can distort radiocarbon dating.

In the follow-up study, published in Science, researchers used two new and independent approaches to date the footprints, both of which resulted in the same age range as the original estimate.

“This study really shows the power of using multiple chronometers together,” said Susan Zimmerman, with LLNL’s Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry. “Each technique has its own strengths and weaknesses and uncertainties, and the agreement between them makes the result much more robust than any one technique alone.”

LLNL carbon-dated several samples of conifer pollen collected from the same “stratigraphic horizon” as the Ruppia seeds, thus avoiding the potential issues that arise when dating aquatic plants. In each case, the pollen age was

statistically identical to the corresponding seed age, according to the research team.

In addition, researchers utilized a type of testing known as optically stimulated luminescence, which dates the last time quartz grains were exposed to sunlight. Using this method, they found that quartz samples collected within the footprint-bearing layers had a minimum age of about 21,000 years, providing further support to the radiocarbon results.

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E-bikes On EBRPD Trails Trigger Varying Views

By Christina Cavallaro

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Board of Directors has approved electric bikes on trails where regular bicycles are allowed and on all paved park district trails. Many celebrate the decision, while others have concerns.

Two types of e-bikes, those that require pedaling and those that do not require pedaling, will be allowed on the trails. Both types can travel up to 20 mph. A third type of e-bike, called a Class 3, will not be allowed on trails due to their faster speeds.

“All e-bikes must follow the 15 mile-per-hour bike speed limit. Bikers should also remember to slow down around others, call out or ring their bell when passing, and stay on designated trails only,” said park district spokesman Dave Mason.

The board approved the changes at its meeting last month.

The park district first began studying the change of its regulations to allow e-bikes on trails in 2017 and two years later, amended regulations to allow e-bike access to 8 of the 20 paved regional trails. Now, e-bikers will have access to 850 miles



Ebikes will now be allowed on unpaved trails where regular bikes are permitted and all paved trails within the East Bay Regional Park District (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

of the park district’s 1,330 miles of trails.

“I think this is a good compromise between fair and improved access for the public, safety goals, and environmental protection,” said avid biker and advocate Steven Dunbar, who is also a Livermore planning commissioner.

In addition, Dunbar said e-bikes allow people to keep fit.

“Class 1 e-bikes allow for faster uphill climbing, possibly longer rides, but still require substantial effort to get uphill. According to Dunbar, down-

hill speeds are similar to a traditional bike. He said, “Gravity is doing the work anyways.”

EBRPD said in a public statement that e-bikes expand access to outdoor areas for an aging population or to those with mobility challenges. But e-bikes are also used by hard-core fitness buffs.

E-bike rider Brandon Norton of Pleasanton cranks up about a mile and half to the top of the Pleasanton Ridge quickly, so he can have more time riding around the ridge enjoying the views before

coming back down.

Jim Buck, owner of Pedego Electric Bikes in Livermore and Lafayette, said the amendment codifies something that’s been de facto for a while. Buck’s father, a volunteer marshal on the Iron Horse Trail, told him police have not been issuing tickets to e-bikes in the hills for a while now. “Something that’s been kind of Wild West is getting some normalization, and that’s a big thing. These laws need to morph as more people get e-bikes, as the demand increases for safe riding,

which is not going away.”

The changes for the park district trails come as e-bikes have become increasingly popular over the past few years. A report in Fortune Business Insights shows the electric bike market was valued at more than \$37 billion in 2022. As of 2023, the market has been valued at \$43 billion, and is anticipated to rocket up to \$120 billion by 2030.

Buck noted e-bike sales have been steadily climbing since COVID, when people were looking for things to do outdoors. He said, “They discovered there are a lot of great trails out there.”

But not everyone is on board with allowing e-bikes to have access to the same areas as regular bicycles. Postings on social media and speakers at government meetings have over the past few years decried e-bikes as a threat to wildlife and a disruption to peace in nature.

Norman La Force, East Bay Public Lands Committee Chair for the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, has written for Sierra Club publications about how e-bikes impact the environment. He claims mountain bike tires accelerate erosion with their gripping design and

hence tear the soil.

La Force has also noted that combining e-bike riders with hikers on trails affects “the trail user’s desire for a contemplative experience (communing with nature rather than worrying about whether a bike is barreling down the trail), birdwatching, observations of other wildlife and plant life,

Jason Kahn, president of The Rewilding Institute, an organization that works to restore natural habitats for wildlife, said the effects of simple pedal-powered mountain bikes on trails can range from “benign to catastrophic.”

“Salamanders, frogs, snakes, chipmunks, squirrels, weasels, and rabbits have been run over by careless trail riders or riders traveling at high speed,” Kahn wrote on his organization’s website, rewilding.org. “Larger animals can be reluctant to cross trails.”

The newest threat to the environment, Kahn wrote on his website, is the “e-mountain” bike (eMTB), which he said is heavy, can attain faster speeds for longer periods of time than a traditional mountain bike, and can enable the rider to go longer distances and threaten the environment.

DSRSD Employees Honored on Water Professionals Appreciation Week

Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) is celebrating Water Professionals Appreciation Week by posting stories about its staff on the district website and social media.

The district said the stories will share how its employees got “their start in the industry” and are directed at “anyone interested in pursuing a career in the water, wastewater, or recycled water fields.”

Designated by the state, the seventh annual Water Professionals Appreciation Week, Saturday, Oct. 7, to Sunday, Oct. 15, highlights the role of industry professionals and local public water agencies in ensuring safe and reliable water, wastewater, and recycled water services.

The DSRSD provides drinking and recycled wa-

ter services to Dublin and the Dougherty Valley area of San Ramon, wastewater collection and treatment for Dublin and south San Ramon, and wastewater treatment for Pleasanton. The district also operates the Hansen Water Recycling Plant and the recycled water distribution system for the San Ramon Valley Recycled Water Program.

Nonprofit Pantry Receives 20 Tons of Food

The One Nation Dream Makers food pantry in Livermore recently received more than 20 tons of food from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The Livermore nonprofit, which operates a food pantry in an old firehouse on College Avenue, said the donation was part of the Latter-day Saints surplus food program and included pallets of corn, black beans, peaches, spaghetti, flour, macaroni, rice, rolled oats, cocoa mix, milk, and other items.

The Utah-based church owns its own farms, canneries, dairies, and processing plants, and donates surplus food from its warehouses to food pantries and during national disasters.

Sandee Munroe, operations director for One Nation Dream Makers, said the Oct. 3 delivery was the fourth semitrailer load the food pantry has received from the church this year. In addition to providing food to needy families and individuals

directly, One Nation also shares the deliveries with the Tri-Valley Haven in Livermore and the St. Raymond Catholic Church food bank and Hively, both in Dublin.

The One Nation food pantry was founded by Ronnie Forbes, a Korean War veteran and former drug and alcohol addict. The pantry also works with Costco, Grocery Outlet, and other local retailers to “rescue” leftover food for delivery to the needy.

Museum on Main Extends Amador Valley High School Exhibit

Pleasanton’s Museum on Main will extend an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Amador Valley High School through the end of the year.

“The Don Century: Amador Valley High School 1923-2023” shows how Pleasanton’s first high school has grown and changed along with the community it serves. It features photographs and memorabilia from across all 10 decades of the school’s existence, as well as video interviews with alumni who attended Amador as far back as the 1940s and as recently as the 2020s.

The museum said it was extending the exhibit due to “overwhelmingly positive reaction.”

To accommodate the extension, the museum skipped its usual “What are You Afraid Of?” exhibit in conjunction with the annual Halloween-season Ghost Walk.

Instead, the museum, 603 Main Street, has organized a “fears and phobias” scavenger hunt of its current exhibits for the month of October. Visitors who find artifacts or images

that relate to the 13 phobias on the scavenger list will win a Halloween-themed prize.

The museum also post-

poned a traveling exhibit, “Gadgets Galore,” originally scheduled to open in December, until late 2024.

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Nuclear Care Partners to Observe Day of Remembrance Ceremony

Nuclear Care Partners, which provides case management for former Department of Energy workers who have developed cancer or other serious illnesses from exposure to radiation or toxic chemicals, will host a National Day of Remembrance ceremony in Livermore on Thursday, Oct. 26.

The U.S. Senate adopted a resolution in 2009 declaring a National Day of Remembrance to honor the country’s nuclear weapons industry workers. The Senate has renewed the resolution every year since.

The Livermore commemoration will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Cresta Blanca Ballroom, 4444 East Ave.

Nuclear Care Partners helps former nuclear weapons workers and surviving spouses receive benefits under the federal Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICPA). It also coordinates benefits for uranium miners, millers, and haulers under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).

Laura Welsh, a local benefits specialist, will host the ceremony and award commemorative pins to former atomic workers to

thank them for their commitment to our country.

“For many years, the scope of the sacrifices made by atomic workers had largely gone unrecognized,” Nuclear Care Partners said in its announcement. “And, while our nation enjoyed the freedoms afforded by these efforts, the effects of working with nuclear materials and being exposed to various chemicals, toxins, and hazards had a significant cost in the health of these nuclear workers.”

The program is open

to all former atomic and Department of Energy workers.

For more information, call 925-453-3805.

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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600937

The following person(s) doing business as: Strait Money Management, 1026 Innsbruck ST., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kristin Strait, 1026 Innsbruck ST., 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/: Kristin Strait, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5623. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600919

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Ruha Yoga; 2. Bay Area Play Therapy Training, 381 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Keler Emily, 1688 Fluorite CT., 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: 8/4/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Keler, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 20, 2023. Expires September 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5624. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600907

The following person(s) doing business as: London's Closet LLC, 10850 80th Ave Unit 1, Oakland, CA 94621 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): London's Closet LLC, 10850 80th Ave Unit 1, Oakland, CA 94621. 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: 8/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rosario Khalil, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 20, 2023. Expires September 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5625. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600335

The following person(s) doing business as: Luna's Transport and Watering Services, 7548 San Sabana Rd., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ramon Luna, 748 San Sabana Rd., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ramon Luna, Owner/Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 24, 2023. Expires August 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5626. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600324

The following person(s) doing business as: Mama T's Pies, 1013 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Norman Riffe, 1013 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Norman J. Riffe, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 24, 2023. Expires August 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5627. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600834

The following person(s) doing business as: Plumbing 1 Builder's Inc., 26079 Cascade St., Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Plumbing 1 Builder's Inc., 26079 Cascade St., 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/: Leonardo Cervantes, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 18, 2023. Expires September 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5628. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600469

The following person(s) doing business as: Comprehensive Site Services, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ProCraft Equipment LLC, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Com-

pany. 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/: Terry S. Truesdale, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 30, 2023. Expires August 29, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5629. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600587

The following person(s) doing business as: Royal Diamond Magazine, 625 Berry Ave. #110, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rodney Duane Mitchell Jr., 625 Berry Ave. #110, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/6/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rodney Duane Mitchell Jr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 6, 2023. Expires September 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5630. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600387

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Friends Preschool of Pleasanton, 5627 Gibraltar Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): VLV Educational Services LLC, 5627 Gibraltar Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: 8/28/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Hui, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 28, 2023. Expires August 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5631. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600940

The following person(s) doing business as: CharityWorks, 7087 Commerce Cir, Unit D, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ira Klein, 1888 W Cavendish Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552; Lauri Klein, 1888 W Cavendish Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/27/2001. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lauri Klein, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5632. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER

ESTATE OF: JANNE TURNER CASE NUMBER: RP23141030
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **JANNE TURNER, A** Petition for Probate has been filed by: **LAUAGHN HART** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that **LAUAGHN HART** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the pe-

tition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: 11/13/2023
Time: 10:15 AM
Dept.: 202.
Address of court: **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley Courthouse**

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
LaVaughn Hart
5351 Superstition Drive Las Cruces, NM, 88011.
The Independent, Legal No. 5533. Published October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600977

The following person(s) doing business as: Expert Moving & Storage, 25509 Industrial Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545-2802 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Expert Moving & Storage LLC, 1330 Alma Ave, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. 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/: Alexander Belykh, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 22, 2023. Expires September 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5634. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600646

The following person(s) doing business as: Pura Vida Pranaya Inc., 868 Berryessa CT, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pura Vida Pranaya Inc., 868 Berryessa CT, 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: 2/22/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Prathyusha Yariagadda, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2023. Expires September 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5635. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600207

The following person(s) doing business as: Jeremy Blanchard Coaching, 2930 Domingo Ave Num 1055, Berkeley CA 94705. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/27/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jeremy Blanchard, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5636. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

KEVIN ABBOTT KREMER

Case No. RP23146063

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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601139

The following person(s) doing business as: CCM Studios, 31162 San Clemente # 109, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wayne Hayes, 400 del Antico Ave, # 702 Oakley, CA 94561-702. 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: 8/21/2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Wayne Hayes, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 29, 2023. Expires September 28, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5641. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600513

The following person(s) doing business as: Tech Pros Group, 1858 Corte Cava, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Limitless Enterprises Group LLC, 1858 Corte Cava, 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: 8/15/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Danny Wunderlich, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 31, 2023. Expires August 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5642. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600513

The following person(s) doing business as: Action Jack, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christina Saffell, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27 Castro Valley, CA 94546. 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/: Christina Saffell, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2023. Expires October 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5643. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600298

The following person(s) doing business as: Be Strong Inspirations, 588 emerald St., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lisa Tolido, 588 Emerald 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/: Lisa Tolido, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2023. Expires August 22, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5643. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601057

The following person(s) doing business as: Just Advocates, 8945 Golf Links Road, Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alliance for Community Advocacy, 8945 Golf Links Road, Oakland, CA 94605. 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/: Megan Salazar, Treasurer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2023. Expires September 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5639. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FILE NO. 601063

The following person(s) doing business as: Milky Way Tea Shoppe, 4288 Dublin Blvd Ste 104, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): D'Artique LLC, 3111 Independence Dr, 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/: Di Yang, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2023. Expires September 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5643. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601236

The following person(s) doing business as: Out There Communications, 484 Lake Park Ave 04, Oakland, CA 94610 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Revolution Operations Consulting LLC, 484 Lake Park Ave 04, Oakland, CA 94610. 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/: Laila Makled, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 5, 2023. Expires October 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5644. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601128

The following person(s) doing business as: Lux Renovations, 22826 Vermont Street, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Edmund Narh, 206 W Erics Way, Mountain House, CA 95391. 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/: Edmund Narh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 28, 2023. Expires September 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5645. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601325

The following person(s) doing business as: Christa Saffell, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christina Saffell, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27 Castro Valley, CA 94546. 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/: Christina Saffell, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2023. Expires October 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5646. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600684

The following person(s) doing business as: Paradisemama1, 3825 Mera St., Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by

the following owner(s): Janel McCoy, Owner. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Janel McCoy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 12, 2023. Expires September 11, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5647. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601317

The following person(s) doing business as: Building Women Empowered, 3950 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 9466 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Renu S. Dhillon, 3950 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/11/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Renu Dhillon, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2023. Expires October 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5648. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600950

The following person(s) doing business as: Design Studio 29, 1109 Hillcrest Court, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maranda Angulo, 1109 Hillcrest Court, 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/: Maranda Angulo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5649. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601284

The following person(s) doing business as: Alyas Gale Productions, 24833 Yoshida Drive, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gaylord Clemente, 24833 Yoshida Drive, Hayward, CA 94545. 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: 9/11/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gaylord Clemente, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2023. Expires October 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5650. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

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