

## City Explores SCS Affordable Housing Options

By David Jen

DUBLIN — The city council took another look at the affordable-housing options for residential developer SCS at its Nov. 15 meeting.

After expanding the project's allowed alternatives, the council unanimously approved a development agreement between the city and SCS, along with zoning changes, planning changes and the environmental impact report related to the project.

Councilmember Sherry Hu recused herself due to the project's proximity to her home.

The latest proposed plan intends to execute a preferred vision for the property that was approved by the city council in February.

*"Hopefully, it's all the same goodies, all the core tenets of the preferred plan, with just a little bit less housing"*

— Kevin Fryer

"(The proposed plan) is strikingly similar," said Kevin Fryer on behalf of SCS Development. "Hopefully, it's all the same goodies, all the core tenets of the preferred plan, with just a little bit less housing."

Located north of I-580 between Tassajara Road and Brannigan Street, the SCS project plans to develop the 76 acres with a mix of commercial, retail and residential uses.

The latest iteration called for 493 market-rate housing units, down from 550, and 100 affordable-housing units — well above the 69 affordable housing units required by Dublin's Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance (IZO). SCS, however, also proposed a development agreement that allowed for several alternatives.

Instead of building the units, the project could, per the agreement, satisfy its affordable housing requirement by either building five moderate-income townhomes, paying \$2 million to the city's first-time homebuyer program, building 100 deed-restricted detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs), completing an affordable housing project, or dedicating the project's semi-public site to the city.

The council also offered the applicant a new option to consider at the meeting. Instead of satisfying the

(See SCS, page 9)



Members of the Culinary Academy at Del Valle High School in Livermore, above, celebrated an early Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 17, with a feast prepared for students and district employees. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Supervisor Haubert Hosts Energy Roundtable To Help Landlords Meet Climate Change Goals

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert, whose district includes most of the Tri-Valley, is encouraging owners of multifamily rental housing properties to take advantage of a little-known Bay Area program that offers government rebates to update their buildings with energy and water efficient equipment for their tenants.

During an "Energy Efficiency Incentives Roundtable" on Nov. 16, Haubert and Chris Hunter of the Oakland-based organization, StopWaste, discussed ways landlords can receive help to upgrade and seal windows; buy efficient appliances; replace gas-powered furnaces, water heaters

and cooking equipment with electricity-powered instruments; install energy-saving insulation and LED lighting; and more.

"As the name suggests, a lot of the work that we do

ings and energy efficiency."

StopWaste's staff, Hunter said, implements the Alameda County efforts of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a coalition of the region's nine counties that focuses on energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction. StopWaste is a public agency governed by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board, and the Energy Council.

"It's been around for about 10 years," Hunter said. "The goal of BayREN is to help the state meet its really ambitious climate goals by offering a wide

(See HAUBERT, page 9)

*"The goal of BayREN is to help the state meet its really ambitious climate goals by offering a wide range of energy savings programs and resources."*

— Chris Hunter, StopWaste organization

really revolves around solid waste reduction," Hunter said. "We do a lot on assisting our cities implement statewide recycling and composting laws, doing educational campaigns around food waste reduction and gardening and lots of great programs in that field. However, what's less known is that there's a team of us that works on issues that are more related to green build-

## Housing Accelerated to Avoid Rogue Projects

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — The city will scramble through the end of the year to defend against housing developers looking to exploit a legal loophole to build rogue housing projects.

At its Nov. 15 meeting, the city council received a report on Pleasanton's Housing Element update process that described the exploit.

While the city previously planned to take advantage of a 120-day grace period following the Housing Element's Jan. 31, 2023, deadline, Community Development Director Ellen Clark explained that such a strategy could render the

city non-compliant beginning Feb. 1, 2023, even with the grace period.

The lapse would trigger the so-called "Builder's Remedy" of the Housing Accountability Act, "which essentially says that when you don't have a certified Housing Element — I won't say that all bets are off, but — effectively the fact that (a builder is) consistent with the general plan, with the zoning, ceases to matter," continued Clark.

City staff have therefore set a new accelerated schedule, including at least five public meetings before the end of the year, to adopt the Housing Element before the Jan. 31 deadline.

"The above reflects an extremely aggressive schedule that will require significant and dedicated effort on the part of staff, the professional services team, commissions and city council to complete," read the staff report.

Pleasanton's Housing Element, part of its General Plan, describes the city's zonings, policies and programs that support its housing activities. State law requires that cities update their Housing Elements every eight years and incorporate their latest housing targets.

The update due in January will guide Pleasanton from 2023 to 2031 and allow

(See HOUSING, page 9)

## Public Utilities Proposal Sparks Controversy Over Roof Top Solar Credits

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — A California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proposal that will significantly reduce the amount of money credited to new rooftop solar owners has sparked intense opposition from residents and solar advocates who believe the changes will stymie the shift to this clean energy source.

Opponents believe the so-called NEM3 (net metering) proposal to be voted on in December will kill incentives for residents to generate their own electricity by both reducing the payments to them and lengthening the time it takes to make a solar panel investment pay off.

The primary issue in the new policy is the amount of money the utility companies credit to residents and businesses who discharge solar power they don't use onto the grid. The Sacramento-based California Solar & Storage Association (CALSSA) said the proposal would cut the average export rate in California from 30 cents to

8 cents per kilowatt-hour in April, resulting in a nearly 75% reduction in the value of exports. Other solar advocates drop that number to 5 cents. They say that by lowering the rate paid residents and businesses, the utilities could sell the energy they take from homeowners for their own profit.

The time to pay off the panel investment will extend from six to 10 years, further reducing the benefit for homeowners.

The payment reductions only affect new solar buyers, not existing ones.

Opponents think the move will increase profits for public utility companies like Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), which they say prefer building large-scale solar farms and charging for use of their transmission lines.

Friends of Livermore representative Michael Fredrich said the CPUC's net-metering proposal will kill rooftop solar in Cali-

(See SOLAR, page 7)

## Pleasanton's W. Las Positas Bicycle, Ped Upgrades OK'd

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — The segment of West Las Positas Boulevard between Hopyard Road and Hacienda Drive will serve as a demonstration for bicycle and pedestrian improvements early next year.

"We all understand we need to protect our bicyclists," said Mayor Karla Brown. "When we talk about accidents and how they tend to be very serious ... it is alarming. We want to do what we can to keep you safe, but (ask you to) do what you can as well."

Intended to serve the larger West Las Positas Bicycle and Pedestrian Corridor project, the city will convert one traffic lane in each of the roadway's directions into a bicycle lane, reducing the total roadway from six to four lanes during this first demonstration phase. Roadway paint and bollards will separate the bicycle lanes from other vehicles.

Traffic studies suggested that four lanes can handle existing vehicle traffic.

The city council unanimously authorized this first demonstration phase and adopted the corridor plan at its Nov. 15 meeting, with the

additional requirements that staff explore a north crosswalk at the intersection of West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa Rita Road, eliminate proposed on-street parking south of the Thomas S. Hart Middle School, and initiate outreach regarding improvements adjacent to the Fairlands Elementary School.

The city hopes to gather data, such as usage and street-cleaning requirements, from the demonstration.

Residents, citing safety and climate-change concerns, welcomed the coming east-west thruway for bicycles and pedestrians.

"I want you to have the experience of learning whether these kids use this or not before you go to the rest of the plan," said resident Todd Nelson. "And that's why I support the quick build."

The larger corridor project runs along West Las Positas Boulevard from Foothill Road to Fairlands Drive.

The city's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan identified this stretch as the highest priority corridor for bicycle and pedestrian improvements, after consider-

(See BICYCLE, page 9)

## Marchand, Nop Provide Their Post-Election Statements

LIVERMORE — The two Livermore mayoral candidates this week submitted statements following the results of the Nov. 8 election. John Marchand, who will become mayor, and his contender, Mony Nop, thanked voters for their support.

**John Marchand**

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to everyone who supported this last election. Thanks to all of you who voted, those who worked on campaigns, those who ran for public office, the people who walked precincts, talked with voters, worked at the polling places, and put out signs. It's clear that many are passionate about our community. We serve Livermore because we love

(See MARCHAND, page 5)

**Mony Nop**

First, I want to thank my wife, my team, all of my supporters, and the wonderful residents of Livermore who believed in my vision for the future of ALL Livermore.

Regrettably, based on the most recent results, I am conceding my race for Livermore Mayor. I wish John Marchand good luck serving Livermore.

I love making a difference in the lives of others.

(See NOP, page 5)



The City of Pleasanton celebrated the opening of the new Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department's Station 3, above, on Friday, Nov. 18. The freshly constructed facility located at the corner of Santa Rita Road and W. Las Positas Boulevard, was attended by local officials, fire staff and the general public. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Fire Department Christens New Station No. 3

By Dawnmarie Fehr

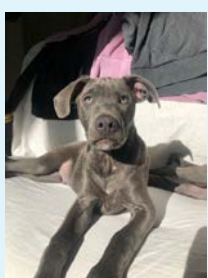
PLEASANTON — The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) hosted a ribbon cutting for its all-new Station No. 3 at the corner of West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa Rita Road on Friday, Nov. 18.

The station is the department's oldest in Pleasanton, and the original building was completely torn down in January 2021 to make way for a new, state-of-the-art station.

"The new station is beautiful," said Deputy Chief Aaron Lacey, who had oversight of the project. "It has polished concrete apparatus

(See FIRE, page 9)

### PET OF THE WEEK



**DREW**

Drew is dynamic — downright daring at times! He's beyond decent with other dog pals. This deserving dog has a healthy appetite for fun and food. Don't despair — this darling pal is available now. Learn more about Drew and other cats and dogs at [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org). Email [info@valleyhumane.org](mailto:info@valleyhumane.org) to start the adoption application process. #ShareTheCare

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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## Hart Middle School Joins the Fight With Kids Against Hunger

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Students at Hart Middle School in Pleasanton participated in a food packing event for Kids Against Hunger on Friday, Nov. 17.

The packing event was run by the school's leadership students and attended by all 1,200 students at the school. In total, they were able to raise \$6,100 to pack 52,000 meals in eight hours.

"The majority of the meals are going to Ukraine," said leadership teacher Jenny Ebbers. "But about 15,000 are going to a program called Food for Thought through Feeding America and it goes to the Modesto and Manteca areas."

Ebbers and her fellow leadership teacher, Willie Brown, decided to host the

event on the last day before Thanksgiving break to teach their students compassion and the need to combat hunger. Ebbers said students were working hard in the weeks leading up to the packing event to raise money and awareness. The students made flyers and posters, sent information to newsletters and spread the word, eventually exceeding their \$6,000 goal.

"I think it's such a cool thing because every single student participated in this event, so I was really proud of the fact every kid got to contribute," said Ebbers. "We are hoping to teach these kids compassion, and the idea of being thankful for what we have and being compassionate and serving others. I was so impressed with their work ethic today."



Justin Meyer has completed his field training as an officer with the Livermore Police Department. Meyers, who grew up in Livermore, previously spent two years with the Hayward Police Department.

## Livermore Receives Grant for STEAM Magnet School Program

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) has received a \$6.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to create a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) magnet program at Marilyn Avenue Elementary School.

LVJUSD said a portion of the federal grant would also be used to expand the Dual Immersion magnet program now offered at the Junction Avenue TK-8 School.

Last spring, the school district asked the parents of elementary school students to rank their preference for the focus of a new magnet-school program. Possible themes included visual and performing arts, career exploration academy, and STEAM education. Along with input from teachers and school administrators, the LVJUSD Board of Supervisors decided to pursue funding for a STEAM mag-

net program.

"We are grateful that the U.S. Department of Education understands the value of creating a magnet school in (Livermore)," said Chris Connor, LVJUSD director of elementary education. "Home to two national laboratories, we know our Livermore community places a high value on STEAM education. With the added value of several community partners, the development of a STEAM magnet school is a natural fit for our district and our students."

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Kids Against Hunger, a nonprofit organization that provides free meals to those in need, came to Hart Middle School in Pleasanton on Friday, Nov. 18. Students, above, packed a total of 52,000 meals in eight hours. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

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**JOHN MARCHAND**  
YOUR LIVERMORE MAYOR

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# Heritage Estates Seniors Step into Santa's Boots to Help Answer Christmas Letters

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Seniors at Livermore's Heritage Estates Senior Living are helping Santa out this year by answering Christmas letters.

Children can mail or drop off their Santa letters and a group of seniors living at Heritage Estates will pen responses, customizing each one to make it personal.

"Santa is very busy this time of year," said Programs Supervisor Nancy denBroeder. "If you mail a letter to Santa, it goes to Santa Clause, Indiana, and they get thousands, so I thought we could take a few off their

plate. We have a few seniors together to do just that."

The group of Santa's Helpers currently consists of eight residents, but denBroeder is sure more will join once word spreads. The group has already started, answering some letters dropped in a box put out by Livermore resident Alex Dourov of [www.California-ChristamsLights.com](http://www.California-ChristamsLights.com).

"I reached out to Alex, he does this website for Christmas lights, and he has some incredible lights at his home and a Santa's letters box and he gave me a few to get us started and kick us

off," denBroeder said.

The Santa's Letter box in the Heritage lobby will be checked often, and letters dropped there – and received in the mail – will be given to the group. The letters will be split up between the helpers and answered. DenBroeder said she has letterheads and Santa stickers and her seniors are ready to go.

"We have some generic form letters, but we will tweak them based on what the child says, and we can add personal touches," said denBroeder. "If parents want to include any tidbits of information they want com-

mented on, like 'you did a great job at soccer this year,' that's perfectly welcome, because it's fun."

JoAnne Spellman is one of the residents who joined the letter-writing crew. She thought it was a great idea and looks forward to shining joy in a child's life.

"Everyone there said 'oh what a great idea,'" Spellman said of the first time the plan was broached. "The letters go off to Santa Clause, Indiana, and the kids don't hear back, so we thought we could have the children write their letters and send them here, and we can send a letter

back to them ... I'm very excited to read the letters and see what they say and think of the answers that will go back."

DenBroeder said helping Santa is getting the seniors in the Christmas spirit. Even though this is the first year Heritage has done this, she hopes it becomes an annual tradition.

"This is the first year we have done this, but it won't

be the last," she said. "I want kids to know this is a place to drop off a letter to Santa and hey, he writes back."

Letters are welcome from anywhere and must reach Heritage by Dec. 20 to ensure a timely answer. Letters can be dropped off in the main lobby or mailed to 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore CA, 94505. For more information, call 925-373-3636.

# Senator Steve Glazer Updates Year's Legislative Successes

California State Senator Steve Glazer, representing the 7th district, closed out the legislative session with a full checklist of accomplishments for the year. In a recent press release, the senator highlighted a few of his office's achievements in 2022.

Glazer – who serves the residents of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton, as well as other areas of Alameda and Contra Costa County – worked to garner financial support for several local projects this year, including Goodness Village, a non-profit community-supported temporary housing organization that has 28 tiny homes on CrossWinds Church's 35-acre plot in Livermore.

"In this year's budget, we were able to secure \$5 million ... to go toward the expansion of (Goodness Village's) second phase," he

stated in the press release.

Glazer authored several bills this year in various areas of education, health care and election standards. These include Cal-Works (SB 768), which will assist welfare students attending a university. He also voted for Assembly Bill (AB) 185 and Senate Bill (SB) 190, which together will provide \$170 billion in funding levels for K-12 education, childcare and pre-K school.

"By 2025, schools will serve an additional 450,000 children per year," he added. "Under the \$4.7 billion Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health, all young people ages 0-25 will have access to universal mental health support. All students, regardless of income, will have access to two free school meals per day under California's new universal school meals program. Families will have

more access to the state's expanded subsidized childcare system, which will receive \$100.5 million to develop and renovate child care facilities. This program is also being reshaped to serve three-year-olds and children with disabilities, and temporarily extends family fee waivers and reimburses subsidized childcare and state preschool providers."

The senator's blood bank collection bill (SB 1475) now allows blood to be collected at drives with a registered nurse available through telehealth.

"This is the same practice that was allowed during the COVID-19 state of emergency," Glazer said in the press release. "Authored in partnership with the American Red Cross, we have been experiencing blood shortages throughout California and this can help."

SB 1439, the Elections Pay-to Play, Conflict of Interest Standards bill for local governments, is "one of the most significant campaign finance reforms in the past 50 years," he stated. "This bill will prohibit local government officials from receiving \$250 or more in campaign contributions 12 months before or after a vote on any permit, license or entitlement (development application)."

For more information, visit [sd07.senate.ca.gov](http://sd07.senate.ca.gov).



LEFT: Pajama-clad shoppers got an early start on their holiday shopping thanks to Livermore Downtown Inc.'s Earlier Than The Bird event. The annual party was held on Saturday, Nov. 19.

[See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)]

(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

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# EDITORIAL

## Senator Steve Glazer's Efforts Paid Off for Tri-Valley Residents

As Californians, we elect legislators to make important determinations about running the state. Those decisions include how schools and colleges work, what roads and infrastructure we need and how best to protect our residents and environment.

California State Senator Steve Glazer (D) is one legislator who worked hard this year to fight, preserve and push ahead important legislation for the Tri-Valley.

Glazer serves the 7th District, which covers most of Contra Costa County and eastern portions of Alameda County, including Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and Sunol.

He is an advocate for open space preservation, as evidenced by his support of the Senate Bill (SB) 799 Conservation of

the Alameda-Tesla property and his co-authored bill (AB 2374) with Rebecca Bauer-Khan making illegal dumping a crime. He worked tirelessly this year to secure \$5 million for the local Goodness Village, a community of temporary tiny homes for the homeless in Livermore. And SB 843, the Renters Tax Credit program, did much to support those in financial straits because of COVID-19 by increasing the tax credit to \$500 for renters individually and \$1,000 for joint filers. This was a significant benefit to renters in the high-priced Tri-Valley.

On the political front, Glazer's efforts with SB 1439, the Elections Pay to Play Conflict of Interest Standards bill for local governments, was landmark legislation that prohibits local government officials

from receiving \$250 or more in campaign contributions 12 months before or after a vote on any permit, license or entitlement (development application).

While the now four-term senator has kept the needs of his constituency close, he has also advocated for far-reaching changes that will aid not only the residents of his district, but also the state at large. He has supported the new \$4.7 billion Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health bill that will provide universal mental health support to young people up to the age of 25. His ability to see the benefit of such a far-reaching program in a time of violent school unrest is a win-win for voters throughout the state.

The Independent looks forward to seeing what Glazer brings to California in 2023.

## 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.

### Downtown Dublin Charade

#### Dawn Plants, Dublin

Regarding the 11/3 article about the latest version of the "Downtown Dublin" project. The new owner claims he spent "years working on a plan that honors the core tenants and principles." What specific principles? The mention of the insane amount of housing is being carefully avoided.

The concept drawing shows the shopping area divided into 12 sections:

- 6 Sections are 100% multi-story High-Density housing (about half of the entire area)
- 2 Sections are 100% Offices
- 4 Sections are combined 50% HD housing, with the remaining space to be Restaurants/Retail/Parking (including two Hotels)

The Land Use map shows the housing is twice the amount of retail/office space. The original (hush-hush) plan in 2019 was for 1,500 units of high-density housing in two 6-story buildings. Add 1,500 units

to the 500 units underway behind Ross, plus the 300 units approved for the lot under the West BART walkway, for a total of 2,300 units, packed into this small section of Dublin. Since housing will take up most of the area, the "destination" factor is an obvious sales pitch from yet another Investor/Builder.

What about water? The traffic counts? BART riders? The additional school capacity needed? 2,300 units will contain an average 3.5 people each, resulting in 8,000 people crammed into a half a mile radius? How can the owners actually believe this project is feasible?

This will not be a charming "Pleasanton Main Street" type area, as Dublin residents expect. It will be a constant traffic gridlock that people will avoid! "Destinations" that consist of mostly high-density housing are not considered actual "destinations."

It's bad enough to think about the resulting increase in crime, trash, required security, air quality issues and constant traffic gridlock resulting from this deceptive "Downtown" project. How exactly will the infrastructure upgrades and extra school capacity be funded?

This "Downtown" pipe dream will backfire on us. How can our elected officials actually believe this charade will be good for Dublin, or future generations?

The reality is the latest "Downtown Dublin" plan is all about sneaking in an absurd amount of high-density housing, disguised as a "Downtown destination." The cheaply done "Downtown Dublin" sign is a preview of what to expect.

Dublin has already done more than their share of housing. Don't believe the "Destination" rhetoric, or buy into this bogus "Downtown" plan.

### All Apologies and Open Conversation

#### Tania Panarello, Livermore

To Sharon Draggoo: Please forgive me if I inadvertently dragged you into any unwanted controversy by replying favorably to your letter. I wish I knew you, too; I sincerely hope our paths cross someday.

To Greg Scott: In response to your Nov. 17 letter and in keeping with quotes, "What else should I be? All apologies..." ("All Apologies", Nirvana).

Mr. Scott, I don't recall personally attacking you — nor do I claim to have any specific solutions to effectively helping the homeless — but I do apologize, as it seems I've offended you with my can-do attitude. I'm sorry you spent 6-1/2+ years homeless in Livermore, so help me understand; I'd like to hear your story.

I did some research and saw, many times, that you've tried to foster respect toward the homeless, while bringing awareness of their plight to the City Council and the community. Maybe your attempts have fallen on deaf ears and you've all but given up your mission?

While I thank you for your reading recommendation of Barbara Ehrenreich, I will remain optimistic, despite my daily discourse of criticism and cynicism to family and friends.

Though I've yet to experience homelessness, I've faced my own challenges: child of single working mother and absentee father; survivor of child molestation and attempted rape by abusive stalker boyfriend (I fought him off, but felt guilty after breaking up with him); sexual harassment from boss; codependent of a drug addict and alcoholics; racist comments (I'm part Mexican); eviction while 8 months pregnant (new landlord wanted to build condos); homeschooling two children (my older being autistic); living daily with ADHD.

I was never homeless (well, almost), yet by the grace of God I've persevered and kept alcoholism at bay, while developing life hacks for ADHD. God blessed me with a wonderful, supportive husband, himself a navy veteran and child abuse survivor. God made me a fighter, so I WILL get up, again and again.

Have you given up, Mr. Scott? Or will you keep fighting? I am scarred from past negative encounters with the homeless and don't know what to do or how to properly interact with them — because I do care and want to know their stories, too — so please, tell me how I can help.

Above all else, I will continue to hope — you cannot take that from me.

### Meat Without Slaughter

#### Lucas Nelson, Livermore

In a landmark ruling destined to save billions of animal and human lives, the Food and Drug Administration has ruled Wednesday that meat cultivated from animal cells is safe to eat. The ruling was granted to Upside Foods, funded by Bill Gates and Richard Branson, but also by meat industry giants Cargill and Tyson Foods.

In the past decade, the cultivated-meat industry has grown to more than

150 companies on six continents, backed by \$2.6 billion in investments. They all grow meat from animal cells in clean manufacturing plants, rather than in cruel filthy factory farms.

An estimated 70 billion animals are macerated or suffocated at birth or raised in tiny cages each year to produce today's animal meat and dairy offerings. Consumption of these products has been linked conclusively with elevated incidence of killer diseases.

Production of animal-based foods pollutes our waterways and groundwater supplies, destroys wildlife habitats, and accounts for 20 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

The forthcoming massive switch from animal agriculture to plant-based and cultivated meat and dairy products offers a truly monumental change in kindness to animals, human health, environmental pollution, and global warming.

### Giving Thanks for Food, For Sun, And for Soil

#### Trish Munro, Livermore

This is Thanksgiving Day, literally a day to give thanks, to be grateful. So let's set aside (for oh so many reasons) the "Pilgrims-Indians" story, the disagreements over which food to serve at whose house, the right team (or none) to root for, the political arguments, the family dynamics, and have I left anything out? If so, insert here.

And while many of us are grateful for family, health, community, or some combination of the preceding, let's set that gratitude aside as well.

Instead, let's consider what we are literally giving thanks for: Thanksgiving is explicitly a harvest festival that celebrates the abundance of food grown through a season and intended to last through winter. Thanksgiving reminds us that abundant food should not be taken for granted. We are deeply fortunate to live in a place and at a time where food is abundant. (Although the distribution of that food is uneven, so here's the pitch to give generously to Open Heart Kitchen, the Alameda County Food Bank, Spectrum Meals on Wheels, and so on.)

In remembering what we have, it's also worth remembering the responsibility we have to care for and renew the earth.

Many religious and cultural traditions include saying thanks before eating (and, for some, after eating as well). In my Jewish tradition, that blessing is, very roughly: "Thank you, God, who brings forth bread from the earth." But the problem is that God (or nature or the earth) does not bring bread from the earth, but rather wheat. Humans turn that wheat into bread,

speaking to—as one of my rabbis pointed out—the partnership and mutual responsibility between humanity and the earth in creating a thriving, abundant world for all.

Here's to a peaceful Thanksgiving, filled only with nourishing and delicious food, enough spice in conversation to be interesting, and the ability to enjoy it all with a whole and open heart!

### Tri-Valley Turkey Burn Continues its Great Run

#### Jim Brice, Pleasanton

Now in its eighth year, the Tri-Valley Turkey Burn 5K/10K Family Fun Run will again offer participants of all ages an opportunity for healthy exercise for a good cause on Thanksgiving Day morning at Pleasanton's Ken Mercer Sports Park.

Organized by Pleasanton North Rotary (PNR), the Turkey Burn has become a tradition for many families and circles of friends, according to Michael Cherman, Turkey Burn organizing committee co-chair. More than 2000 area residents were inspired last year to run, walk or stroll in the 5K and 10K versions of the charity event.

The Turkey Burn's creative race bibs are expected to be a highlight again, Cherman said. They are printed with the phrase "I am thankful for ..." and serve as an invitation for participants to share their personalized messages of thanks during the festivities.

"As an indication of current support, more than 700 Tri-Valley residents had already registered online for as of Nov. 11 at www.trivalleyturkeyburn.org. The entry fee is \$10 for adults (age 18 and older) and \$5 for teens and pre-teens (ages 10-to-17). Children (nine and under) are free.

Park gates at 5800 Parkside Dr., Pleasanton, will open at 7:30 on Thanksgiving Day morning. Ample free parking will be available. After organized warmups, the 10K event will start 9 a.m. and the 5K race will follow shortly afterward. The start will lead to marked trails for adults, seniors, children, and infants in strollers. Dogs on leashes will be welcomed.

Pre-registered participants are encouraged to pick up their event packets at the Ken Mercer Sports Park (the second parking lot from the Hopyard Ave. entrance) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 23. Registration and packet pickup will also be available in the staging area before the race. A map and other details are on the website.

Funds raised from the Turkey Burn — including contributions from Elation Real Estate and other generous sponsors — will

support local Rotary youth services for the next year. All participants will receive Turkey Burn medallions at the finish line. Souvenir caps and T-shirts will be available for donations. Everyone is encouraged to bring non-perishable, non-expired food items to donate to Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry for distribution to folks needing assistance during the holiday season.

### The Big Lie

#### David Jonas, Livermore

"If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it."

Take Back Livermore can teach a master class in this Third Reich propaganda technique.

TBL ran a display ad in the 11/17 issue of The Independent to thank its slate of candidates for, among other things, "standing up for Democracy."

(The cost of that ad is a pittance of the \$378,000+ that TBL spent on our elections overall.)

"Stand up for Democracy" is code for "Perpetuate the lie that City of Livermore undemocratically threw out the signatures of the voters who signed the Eden Housing petition."

(TBL spent over \$100,000 to collect those signatures, not included in the figure above.)

This is a cheap, clumsy over-the-top falsehood that TBL continues to spread.

Since the most effective way to combat lies is with facts, here they are:

- On 5/27 TBL's attorney sent the proposed referendum to Livermore's City Attorney.

- On 6/9, the City Attorney notified the TBL attorney via email that the actions challenged by the proposed referendum were "not eligible for referendum."

- Despite this explicit legal guidance, TBL proceeded with the petition drive, knowing that the referendum was illegal.

- Guided by the advice of the City Attorney, the City Clerk rejected the petition signatures.

The decision to reject the signatures was grounded in law and precedent; it was not political, partisan or discretionary, as TBL has shrilly claimed.

TBL hoped to create a flagrantly dishonest narrative that the City acted "undemocratically" by rejecting signatures from a petition drive for referendum that TBL knew was foredoomed.

While many Livermore voters swallowed this lie, the majority spit it out, as the election results show.

As long as the TBL (or whatever they call themselves tomorrow) and The Independent continue to spew lies, the fight to counter those lies with facts

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

## THE Independent

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### High School Speakers Contest Applicants Wanted

The Livermore Lions Club is holding its annual Student Speakers Contest next February in Livermore. This contest provides scholarships for high school students in grades 9-12. Each participant will give a 5 to 10 speech on the topic "Social Media: Connects Us or Isolates Us?"

This contest is open to all high school students in Livermore and the surrounding area. Last year's winner was a senior from Heritage High School in Brentwood.

These contests are held statewide. Every finalist uses the same speech at each level. At the beginning levels winners receive cash rewards totaling \$500. As they advance, winners receive \$4,500 and \$6,500 in college/trade school scholarships. The state winner receives \$10,000, making a total of \$21,000 in scholarships.

Last year's state winner hails from Chowchilla. Past winners were from Monterey, Long Beach, Anaheim, Walnut Creek, and Fresno. This contest was started in 1937 by the San Joaquin Valley Lions Club.

For information on how to enter this contest, call (805) 405-8742.

### MARCHAND

(Continued from first page)

it, and we love Livermore because we serve it.

Through all of the campaign rhetoric, there has been one truth upon which everyone agreed—that is, we need to respect the results of the election and now

that the election is over, the real work of governance begins.

In 2020, during the last citywide poll, 92% of respondents agreed that Livermore is a great place to live and raise a family. Now that

we have heard from the voters, I am asking everyone to come together and work together for the common good, to restore our community spirit, to keep Livermore a remarkable place to live, work and play, for everyone.

### NOP

(Continued from first page)

I came here as a child from Cambodia with nothing and have been very blessed by this community and all that you have given my family. I ran for Mayor to give back to the community that has made such a difference in my life.

I have been proud to run a strong campaign. It has been a great and humbling honor to meet and speak with

so many people in all the Livermore neighborhoods, walking door-to-door. Every conversation was important to me, and I will take everything with me as I continue to find other ways to be of service to my community.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I too will give thanks for this great opportunity. Please make sure that we think of others less fortunate.

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## Rotary Club of Livermore Valley Donates Turkeys

In keeping with its annual Thanksgiving tradition, this past Saturday the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley donated turkeys and grocery gift cards to Livermore families whose children attend CAPE Head Start

Preschool.

"This year we were able to give to every family who requested help, 57 in all. What a blessing to have the opportunity to contribute to their Thanksgiving. This holiday is all about sharing

a meal with loved ones, and to be able to help them is an honor," said Rotarian Sherri Simoni, Coordinator of the Annual Turkey Giveaway.

CAPE offers preschool and daycare to working, low-income families at four

centers in Livermore, as well as others in surrounding cities.

To learn more about the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley and how its members help our community, visit [livermorevalleyrotary.org](http://livermorevalleyrotary.org).

### MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

will continue as well.

#### Some of the People Frank Cannella, Livermore

President Abraham Lincoln is quoted as saying "you can fool some of the people all the time, all of the people some of the time but you can't fool all of the people all of the time." Our recent midterm elections have borne this out. Instead of offering quality candidates with thoughtful solutions to the myriad of problems facing our country, one party advanced weak candidates whose main "qualification" was the endorsement of the big lie perpetrated by our disgraced former president. While many of these election deniers lost, some remain in congress or were elected. They remain a cancer to our democracy.

On November 15th our former president announced his intention to seek the republican nomination for president. Media reports indicated invitations were sent to numerous republican leaders to attend the Mira Largo announcement and I assume those who elected not to attend were added to the former president's growing list of non supporters and would be denied his "coveted" endorsement. However, "some of the people" will be thrilled with his announcement and have turned a deaf ear to the numerous felonious acts apparently committed by him during his presidency and the two years that followed. And let us not forget he intentionally endangered the life of his own vice president.

For what it is worth, I speak as a lifelong republican who will be forced to leave the party if the former president remains the standard bearer. His ego has done untold damage to the party, not to mention the country.

#### Wake Up America! John Clatworthy, Livermore

We need to call Donald Trump's attempt to run for president again to call it by what it really is. His bid for another presidency is actually his bid to be the first The United States of America's first "Dictator". He is following Adolph Hitler's playbook, only on a, compressed time scale due to our 4 year presidential election cycle. His attempt to overturn the January 6th election certification was akin to Hitler's "beer hall putsch", and it created a following that believes anything Trump says. It also enabled him to start his "enemies list". His previous actions while a first term president clearly showed he didn't want to follow normal protocols and routinely fired cabinet appointees that tried to give him sound advice. He even fired some who had already resigned so could

demonstrate to his followers he was "IN Charge". His dedicated followers are already trying to rig the 2024 election to come out in his favor. Beware America! We don't want or need a "Dictator". Our system has worked for over 200 years. We don't need a dictator or the threat of another civil war.

#### Speaking Out – Community Environmental Safety

Mary Perner, Livermore

As a Livermore resident, I will be participating in a public hearing on Wednesday, December 7, at Garre Vineyard & Winery. It will be hosted by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), which oversees Livermore Lab operations.

At last, NNSA has a new Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS), examining at the effects of nuclear weapons programs and other operations at the Lab's Livermore Main Site and its Site 300 test site overlooking Tracy.

The SWEIS also looks at new programs that could begin in Livermore and Tracy over the next 15 years.

This SWEIS proposes an increase in radioactive hydrogen (Tritium) emissions at the Main Site. It also increases allowable limits for nuclear weapons-grade plutonium use here.

Site 300's issues include open-air bomb blasts and cleanup plans for environmental radioactive and tox-

ic poisons from past bomb blasts.

The SWEIS hearing at Garre will start with an NNSA presentation and then open for public comments...our opportunity to respond to the proposed changes. I plan to talk about the importance of protecting our community health, and will advocate for more cleanup and fewer nuclear programs.

I will also point out that although the SWEIS is more than 1,000 pages, the comment period has been scheduled during the holiday season when most of us are engaged with other activities. I will be asking the Lab to add 30-days to the comment period to allow our community to learn more details of this plan and develop a response.

This is a once-in-15-years opportunity for community input on the environmental safety of our city. I invite my neighbors to join me. Each of us has a stake in the future health of our families. The Garrett hearing is from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The Lab is planning an "open house" for 30-minutes beforehand.

The SWEIS and related information are available at: <https://tri-valleycares.org/2022/livermore-lab-releases-draft-site-wide-eis-public-comment-period-commences>

Tri-Valley CAREs is a nonprofit organization. I serve on its board. Our staff attorney will have a reader-friendly SWEIS handout at the hearing and our bilingual organizer will help

our Spanish-speaking residents.

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Deacon Dave's annual Christmas display, seen above in previous years, will open for the season on Friday, Dec. 2. Opening ceremonies will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the Annual Christmas Procession down Hillcrest Avenue in Livermore. The location of Deacon Dave's, Casa del Pombo (Portuguese for "House of the Dove,") is 352 Hillcrest Avenue. The display will be open Sunday through Thursday 6 to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 6 to 10 p.m. Display is subject to closing if winds are high or there is heavy rain. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

**Kymerlie Ingalls to Speak at Tri-Valley Writers Meeting**

Kymerlie Ingalls will present "Create a Relevant Marketing Plan" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting on December 17, 2022. Most writers like to write, and don't like marketing, but to be successful as a writer, you must market yourself and your work. In her presentation, Ingalls will explain the essential parts of doing this, including building a platform, focusing your ef-

orts, and developing a flexible strategy while tackling your fear and self-doubt. Ingalls is an award-winning essayist, editor, and author of memoir, opinion, and short fiction. Her books, *Bridges: A Lifetime in Essay* and 43, compile personal essay, social media, and memoir to address themes of grief, humanity, and the heart. Join in on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m., at Four Points

by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required at <https://bit.ly/3CpD0UC>. Tickets are \$14 for CWC adult members; \$18 for adult nonmembers; \$6 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and \$10 for student nonmembers.

*Happy Thanksgiving*  
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**LHS Band Shines in Concert Competition**

The Honors Symphonic Band at Livermore High School (LHS) placed first in the 4A division and second overall last month in the concert competition of the 48th annual Foothill Band Review.

The review, which included parade, field, and concert competitions were held Saturday, Oct. 22, at host Foothill High School and Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, and included a parade down Main Street. Including four 4A high schools, 17 schools participated in the concert competition.

Both the Honors Symphonic Band and Honors Chamber Orchestra at LHS are scheduled to perform at New York's Carnegie Hall in April 2023 for the National Band and Orchestra Festival, based on their top rating at a music festival in Anaheim last spring.

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Leading up to their Carnegie Hall debuts, the LHS Chamber Orchestra will also be a featured performer in the 2023 California All-State Music Education

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**Police Create Fund for Shop with a Cop**

The Livermore Police Department has established a GoFundMe page to raise money for its annual Shop with a Cop program. On Saturday, Dec. 10, police department employees will take 40 Livermore students from needy families shopping at Walmart to

buy Christmas presents for themselves and their families. Students are identified for the program by the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Once the shopping is over, police officers will treat the students to breakfast and help them wrap their presents at police

headquarters. The department hopes to raise about \$10,000 for the program. To contribute, visit [gofund.me/5ff96711](http://gofund.me/5ff96711). Department employees who donated at least \$75 each have been wearing boots and other Western wear to work in November.

**"Something Rotten" This Way Comes to Livermore**

From Jan. 14 to Jan. 29, Livermore's Bankhead Theater will present "Something Rotten." Two brothers set out to write the world's first musi-

cal in this hilarious mash-up of 16th-century Shakespeare and 21st-century Broadway. The show was hailed by Time Out New York as the funniest musical comedy in

at least 400 years." The show is produced by Kathleen Breedveld and directed by Brian Olkowski. For more information, visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**Pleasanton to Host Holiday Social for Seniors**

Pleasanton will host the fourth annual Holiday Social for senior citizens from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353

Sunol Boulevard. Sponsored by Friends of Pleasanton Senior Center, the social will include tea, dessert, and a sing-along to live holiday music.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the senior center or by calling 925-931-5365. The cost is \$5 per person

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**Alameda County Fair Dates Announced for 2023**

The Alameda County Fair will run from Friday, June 16, through Sunday, July, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. The theme for the annual fair will be Summer Vibes. "We are excited to bring the community back together next year with a theme that celebrates summer," said Jerome Hoban, chief executive officer for the Alameda County Fairgrounds. "The fair is an exciting time when memories are made, (next) year's theme captures

that feeling." The fair will include a summer concert series, horse racing, and special events, including the Hispanic festival, along with traditional fair food, carnival rides, animal exhibits, and children's activities. "We are proud to offer an inclusive and safe fair that celebrates the entire community," said Angel Moore, the fairgrounds chief operating officer. Discount tickets will be available online through

June 15: \$15 for general admission, \$13 for child and senior admission. General parking will be \$13, one-day carnival wristbands \$32, and season passes will start at \$45. Tickets will go on sale Wednesday, Nov. 23, with an additional 10% savings through Tuesday, Nov. 29. Processing fees will also be waived during the November sale. For more information, visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

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**NNSA**  
 National Nuclear Security Administration

**National Nuclear Security Administration  
 Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement  
 Public Hearings**

The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has prepared a Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) for the Continued Operation of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. The document analyzes the potential environmental impacts of ongoing operations and proposed projects and activities at both the Laboratory's Livermore, California site and Site 300 near Tracy, California for approximately the next 15 years.

NNSA will host the following in-person public hearings to receive formal public comments on the Draft SWEIS:

**Wednesday, Dec. 7**  
 Garré Vineyard Bella Rosa Room • 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore  
 Poster session: 6:00-6:30 p.m.  
 Formal program and public comment: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 8**  
 Tracy City Council Chambers • 333 Civic Center Plaza, Tracy  
 Poster session: 6:00-6:30 p.m.  
 Formal program and public comment: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

A virtual public hearing will be held using Zoom:  
**Tuesday, Dec. 13 6:00-8:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/LLNLSWEIS>  
**Join by phone:** (669) 900-9128  
**Meeting ID:** 852 6045 5697 **Passcode:** 975388

**Public comments can also be submitted by email to:**  
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 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585.  
 Please mark envelopes and emails as "SWEIS Comments."  
 Comments must be received/postmarked by Jan. 3, 2023.

Additional information about the Draft SWEIS is available at the NNSA online Reading Room: <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room> under Open For Public Comment. Para información general en español, visite: <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room>. Hard copies of the Draft SWEIS also are available in the Livermore and Tracy public libraries.  
 If you require special assistance to participate in the public hearings, please call 833-778-0508 to leave a message or email: [LLNLSWEIS@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:LLNLSWEIS@nnsa.doe.gov)

# SOLAR

(Continued from first page)

fornia. “California’s plan to achieve its 100% renewable power goal depends on 50% of that power coming from rooftop solar,” Fredrich said. “In places where NEM credits have been cut (Nevada and Arizona, for example), rooftop solar installations have dropped in half or more.”

Fredrich added that California is needs to make its 100% clean energy goal by 2045.

“How is that going to happen if rooftop solar is made more expensive?” Fredrich asked. “California needs rooftop solar to reach that renewable power goal.”

Catherine Justino, a Berkeley resident, was also among dozens of people who called into the CPUC’s meetings last week to complain.

“The NEM3 as written would obviate anybody’s contribution, everyone’s individual choice to fight global warming by installing solar on the roof,” said Justino. “I totally think that the NEM3 as written should be trashed and that individual contribution to the grid should be treasured.” Bernadette Del Chiaro, CALSA executive director, said in a statement that “The CPUC’s new proposed decision would really hurt.”

“An immediate 75% percent reduction of net energy metering credits does not support a growing solar market in California. If passed as is, the CPUC’s proposal would protect utility monopolies and boost their profits, while making solar less affordable and delaying the goal of 100% clean energy.”

The CPUC, however, believes its proposal will “promote solar and battery storage, grid reliability, and control electricity costs for all Californians.”

“The update launches the solar industry into the future so that it can support the modern grid by incentivizing solar paired with battery storage and

the adoption of electric vehicles, heat pump water heaters, and other electrification appliances, while making rates more affordable for Californians,” the CPUC said in a statement.

The CPUC added that the proposal will support the solar and battery storage industry; save residential solar customers about \$100 a month and those with battery storage about \$136 a month; control electricity costs for all Californians; and has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers.

The proposal eliminates an \$8 per installed kilowatt a month tariff that rooftop solar customers would have

solar systems pay \$3.4 billion more annually in their bills, or on average \$245 per customer. If nothing changes, by 2030 this amount will grow to \$10.7 billion more each year, or more than \$550 per customer.”

The consortium, a coalition of 120 organizations representing low-income families, seniors, environmentalists, labor, small business and community groups, does not believe the CPUC proposal goes far enough.

“The CPUC’s new proposed decision .... fails to make the meaningful reform necessary to ensure

going to make this kind of investment, we need to see a payoff in a reasonable time,” Rosenfeld said.

Fredrich called it a canard that rooftop solar is unfair to those without it. He said the argument is “being propagated by the large power monopolies because they make huge profits from doing long-distance power transmission.”

“Last year ratepayers paid \$9 billion for building and maintaining long distance lines. Rooftop solar saves all ratepayers money by eliminating the need for as much long distant infrastructure. This is why the large power monopolies want to kill rooftop solar. As usual, follow the money.”

*“California’s plan to achieve its 100% renewable power goal depends on 50% of that power coming from rooftop solar.”*

— Michael Fredrich, Friends of Livermore

had to pay to the utility companies to maintain the grid under a previous plan.

Supporters of changes to current net-metering policies contend lower-income residents who cannot afford rooftop solar pay higher rates for electricity to make up for the losses the utility companies pay out to wealthier people who can afford it.

Among them, Affordable Clean Energy for All — a consortium funded by PG&E, Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric — said the “benefits are highly concentrated among a subset of the population that are almost exclusively homeowners and tend to be, on average, higher income than the rest of California.”

“The fact that comparatively well-off homeowners benefit from greater energy subsidies than low-income customers reinforces the need for reform,” Affordable Clean Energy for All says on its website. “Electricity customers without

that all electricity customers, those with rooftop solar and those without, pay their fair share of the costs for electric grid reliability, wildfire mitigation and other state mandated programs that benefit all Californians,” the organization said in a statement.

During an hour-long webinar last week, Dave Rosenfeld, executive director of the San Diego-based Solar Rights Alliance, encouraged an online audience of about 2,000 people to write to CPUC members to express opposition to the policy changes, to speak out at their meetings and to write letters to newspaper editors.

Cutting the solar credit, Rosenfeld said, will drastically put solar out of reach for most working families. He provided a study that showed that people with household incomes under \$50,000 a year were installing rooftop solar at higher rates than those with incomes over \$250,000.

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## NOTICE OF VACANCY Member, Board of Directors ALAMEDA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

There are two director terms expiring on the Board of Directors that will be filled by appointment of the Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda in December, 2022. The directors are appointed at-large for a four-year term and serve without compensation. Directors may serve two terms of office, not including an immediate short-term appointment due to an unanticipated vacancy.

The qualifications for office are required by the Principle Act, under which the District is organized: An applicant must be a:

- a. Registered voter; and
- b. Resident real property owner within the District or a designated agent of a landowner residing within the District; or an Associate Director for 2 years
- c. Further, applicants must have demonstrated interest in soil, wildlife habitat and water conservation

To apply:

Request an application packet at the Resource Conservation District office, 3585 Greenville Road, Suite 2, Livermore, CA 94550 or email request to Marilyn.harvey@acr.cd.org. The packet must be completed, with the original returned, to the office by November 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

For additional information: Please contact Marilyn Harvey, Chief Financial Officer, 925-453-3863.

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## Nutcracker Opens Dec. 10 at the Bankhead

The Valley Dance Theatre's annual production of the holiday classic "The Nutcracker" will open at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore with a matinee and evening performances on Saturday, Dec. 10.

The Nutcracker is a fanciful ballet, based on the 1816 book "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by Prussian author Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann. It tells the story of a young girl, Clara,

and her dream journey to the Land of Sweets, accompanied by a wooden nutcracker who becomes a handsome prince. Music for the ballet, first performed in 1892, was written by famed Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

Evening performances are also scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 11, and Friday, Saturday, and Sunday the following weekend. Additional matinee performances are scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 11, and the

following Saturday and Sunday. Matinee performances begin at 2 p.m., while evening performances begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available online at [bankheadtheater.org](http://bankheadtheater.org), by calling 925-373-6800, or at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First St., Livermore. The cost is \$35 to \$45 for adults and \$25 for students under 18. Children under 2 will be admitted free with a ticket available from the box office.

## Livermore-Amador Symphony to Present Concert

The Livermore-Amador Symphony will present a "Holiday Joy" concert on Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The program will begin with two seasonal favorites by English composers, "A Christmas Overture" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and "Fantasia on Greensleeves" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The symphony will also perform Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg's "Lyric Suite," before concluding with French composer Camille Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 3, also known as

the "Organ Symphony," with Christopher Keady, assistant music director at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, as the featured organist.

Lara Webber, symphony music director and conductor, said the Saint-Saëns' composition, first performed in 1886, will take listeners "on a musical journey from profound darkness into brilliant light."

"This marvelous music features the organ, sneaking in quietly at first, and then blowing your mind and possibly levitating you out of your seat with perhaps one of the most exhilarating mu-

sical climaxes of all time," Webber said. "Saint-Saëns literally pulls out all the stops with this symphony."

The concert begins at 8:15 p.m. Webber will provide brief commentary during the concert in lieu of a prelude talk. There will be a complimentary sparkling cider and wine reception following the performance at the Bankhead, 2400 First St. Tickets are \$27 to \$39, with free admission for those from 6 to 21 years old.

For tickets, visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org), call 925-373-6800, or stop by the Bankhead box office.



The holiday production of "The Nutcracker" opens at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Saturday, Dec. 10. The annual performance is produced by the Valley Dance Theater.

(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Valley Arts Performances to Celebrate the Season

Livermore Valley Arts will celebrate the holiday season with several performances at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, culminating with "New Year's Eve with Meredith McHenry" on Saturday, Dec. 31.

A Livermore native, McHenry and the Meredith McHenry Band will cover classic songs made famous by such artists as Etta James and Ella Fitzgerald, as well as more recent releases by The Weeknd and Los Angeles rock band TOOL.

Other holiday season performances will include "The Doo Wop Project Christmas," tracing the evolution of Doo Wop, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 4, and a concert by the U.S. Air Force

Band of the Golden West at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5.

Ukulele master Jake Shimabukuro brings "Christmas in Hawaii" to the Bankhead Theater at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 19, followed by "Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular," featuring the Ballet Folklórico de Los Angeles and Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuéllar, at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 20.

At 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 22, the Bankhead will present "All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914," a dramatic retelling of Allied and German soldiers observing an unofficial truce during World War I to sing carols and share food and drink.

For more information or tickets, visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Now to Thursday, Dec. 8 GRIEF MINISTRY

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss, and grieving people need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when a loved one has died. Join in grief meetings, which will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., in Pleasanton. The schedule is Sept. 8 and 22, Oct. 6 and 13, Nov. 17, and Dec. 8. The meetings will begin at 7 p.m., and registration is not required. However, organizers ask attendees to arrive early for check in. The meetings are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. For a short video explaining the grief program, visit [catholicsofpleasanton.org](http://catholicsofpleasanton.org), scroll to 'Grief Ministry' and tap on the video box. For more information, call 925-846-3904.

### Sunday, Nov. 27 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AT HAGEMANN RANCH

From 1 to 4 p.m., attendees can do their holiday shopping early at the Artists and Crafts Bazaar. Returning by request will be Greg Pane on keyboard. The Hispanic Heritage Center will bring a piñata for the kids to break, and there will be a Diwali Festival of Lights display, as well as the Filipino-American Organization sharing their customs. Santa will be sure to drop by. Tours, demonstrations of new historical treasures and lots of holiday crafts for the kids are just some of the other festive activities. The ranch is located at 455 Olivina Ave., in Livermore.

### Thursday, Dec. 1 LIVERMORE TEACHER/MINISTER TURNS WRITER

Author Heather Hammer will introduce her book "Shetland Mist" and sign copies at 11 a.m. at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., in Pleasanton. On Dec. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m., she will launch her book in Livermore at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., beginning with a book talk followed by signing and refreshments. The book tells the story of the author's great-great-grandmother and her hardship, faith, and resilience. For more information, visit [heatherlesliehammer.com](http://heatherlesliehammer.com).

### Friday, Dec. 2 ANNUAL SING-IT-YOURSELF MESSIAH

Valley Concert Chorale's "Sing-it-Yourself Messiah" will take place at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. The event is open to all singers of all ages in the community to join in singing Part I of Handel's great choral masterpiece, also known as the Christmas portion of "Messiah", which will conclude with a powerful rendition of the "Hallelujah Chorus." Singers are encouraged to bring their own copy of "Messiah," though there will be some copies available to borrow. The event is also open to those who wish to listen to the performance. Tickets are \$15. For more information, call 925-866-4003.

### Saturday, Dec. 3 LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY'S FAMILY CONCERT

Join in at the Bankhead Theater for a free, family-friendly concert with the Livermore-Amador Symphony and ballet dancers from the Valley Dance Theatre. Directed by Lara Webber, the program will include music from Christmas and Hanukkah, excerpts from The Nutcracker, Mary Poppins, Sound of Music, and the ever popular "Sleigh Ride!" Sponsored by Livermore Valley Arts. All are welcome. There is no cost to attend, but tickets are required. For tickets or more information, visit [bit.ly/3hVSXKn](http://bit.ly/3hVSXKn) or call 925-373-6800.

### Saturday, Dec. 3 at 8:15 p.m. LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY'S HOLIDAY JOY

Two English composers, Coleridge-Taylor and Vaughan Williams, bring holiday favorites with "A Christmas Overture" and "Greensleeves." The Nordic lyricism of Grieg leads a journey from darkness to brilliant bold light with French composer Saint-Saëns' exhilarating and triumphant "Organ Symphony." A complimentary sparkling cider and wine reception will be held in the Bankhead lobby following the performance. For tickets or more information, visit [bit.ly/3QuRUb](http://bit.ly/3QuRUb) or call 925-373-6800.

### Saturday, Dec. 3 THE COBBLER'S GIFT

This Christmas ballet weaves the tale of a good and kind, yet poor cobbler, struggling to survive the holiday season. The event takes place from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Dublin Center for Performing Arts and Education, located at 8151 Village Parkway, in Dublin. Tickets are \$17 to \$26 and can be purchased at [radianceballet.com](http://radianceballet.com).

### Saturday, Dec. 3 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Santa Claus is coming to Dublin! Don't miss this fun annual

event, with seatings at 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., and 11 a.m. Families are invited to enjoy a delicious hot pancake breakfast served with sausage, fruit, coffee, and juice, followed by the arrival Santa Claus. Santa will happily pose for holiday photos following each session. The cost to attend is \$15 for residents of all ages and \$18 for non-residents. To register, visit [dublinrecguide.com](http://dublinrecguide.com).

### Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4 LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE COMMUNITY'S HOLIDAYS IN THE VINEYARDS

The Livermore Valley Wine Community has partnered with Pacific States Petroleum for a Toys for Tots drive. Pacific State Petroleum will be matching the donations (up to \$100,000) collected at the wineries toy-for-toy, as they showcase their decorated tasting rooms with special wines, arts, crafts, holiday music, activities and more. The event takes place both days, from noon to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free, however, tasting fees may apply and vary by winery.

### Saturday, Dec. 10 REMEMBERING DEPUTY JOHN MONEGO

On Dec. 12, 1998, Dublin Police Deputy John Monego was killed in the line of duty while responding to a robbery. Join with the Dublin Police in honoring his memory at an annual tree-lighting ceremony at 5 p.m., in the lobby of Dublin Police Services, located at 6361 Clark Ave. Following the tree lighting, light refreshments will be served.

### Monday, Dec. 12 LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS MADELINE YANOV

From 7 to 8:30 p.m., Madeline Yanov, the owner of Time Travel Genealogy, presents Ancestral Road Trips, Part II: Go West Young Man, the sequel to Ancestral Road Trips, Part I. The focus will be on the Santa Fe Trail, The Oregon-California Trail, The Mormon Pioneer Trail, and the Trail of Tears. The event is free, and visitors are always welcome. For tickets or more information, visit [bit.ly/3VaANmv](http://bit.ly/3VaANmv).

### Saturday, Dec. 17 KIMBERLIE INGALLS PRESENTS "CREATE A RELEVANT MARKETING PLAN"

Ingalls is an award-winning essayist, editor, and author of memoir, opinion, and short fiction. Her books, Bridges: A Lifetime in Essay and 43, compile personal essay, social media, and memoir to address themes of grief, humanity, and the heart. In her presentation, Ingalls will explain the essential parts of doing this, including building a platform, focusing your efforts, and developing a flexible strategy while tackling your fear and self-doubt. Join in at 2 p.m., at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required at [bit.ly/3CpDOUC](http://bit.ly/3CpDOUC). Tickets are \$14 for adult members; \$18 for adult nonmembers; \$6 for student members ages 14 to 22; and \$10 for student nonmembers.

### Saturday, Dec. 10 and Sunday, Dec. 11 CHRISTMAS JOY

Joyous music for the holiday season featuring choruses from Bach's "Magnificat in D," a choral arrangement of A'soalin made famous by singing group Peter, Paul and Mary, plus carols and a fun arrangement of Jingle Bells. As is tradition, the audience is invited to sing-along for a selection of carols. The Saturday event will take place at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. The Sunday event will take place at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. Tickets are \$30 for general admission, and \$10 for high school and college students with valid identification. Children are free. Advance tickets are available at [valleyconcertchorale.org](http://valleyconcertchorale.org) or 925-866-4003. Audiences will be asked to follow current Alameda County guidelines in effect at the time of the events, which may require showing proof of vaccination upon entry and wearing your mask while indoors. All singers have been vaccinated.

### ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TOPSCIENCE

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

### ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

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

## Encore Players to Present Holiday Traditions From Around the World

The Encore Players of Livermore, a community theatre group, will present a program on holiday traditions from around the world at Livermore's Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8.

Titled "The Language of the Holidays: Cultural Traditions Around the World," the program will explore holiday traditions from the

Philippines, Mexico, Germany, Ireland, and Alaska. It will also look at the Jewish festival of Hanukkah; the African American celebration of Kwanzaa; the Hindu festival of Diwali; and the Vietnamese New Year holiday, Tet. The program is free and open to all ages.

For more information, visit [library.livermoreca.org](http://library.livermoreca.org) or call 925-373-5500.

## Free Family Concert Scheduled for Dec. 3

The Livermore-Amador Symphony will present a free family concert at 3 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The audience will be invited to sing along as the symphony performs popular holiday songs, as well as selections from "The Sound of Music" and "Mary Poppins." Funded by Livermore Valley Arts, the concert is expected to last about an hour, which is "a perfect fit

for families and children," according to music director Lara Webber.

The Valley Dance Theatre will also offer a preview of its performance of "The Nutcracker," scheduled for the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., from Saturday, Dec. 10, through Sunday, Dec. 18.

While the concert is free, tickets are required. For tickets, visit [livermorearts.org/events](http://livermorearts.org/events) or call 925-373-6800.

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## Open Heart Kitchen Names New Executive Director

John Bost, who currently serves as Advisory Council president for the Livermore Homeless Refuge, has been named executive director by Open Heart Kitchen.

Open Heart Kitchen is a Livermore-based nonprofit that provides free meals to seniors and needy members of the Tri-Valley community. Bost, who will assume his new position on Jan. 1, succeeds Heather Greaux, who will remain with Open Heart Kitchen as chief financial officer.

Michael Haase, who

chairs the nonprofit's board of directors, said the organization was looking for an outcome-driven leader to guide them through some big upcoming changes, while building upon recent successes and continuing to deliver on their core mandate. Open Heart Kitchen is currently building a production kitchen and dining facility, along with temporary and long-term housing units, at 450 N. Livermore. Known as the Vineyard 2.0 project, the facility is expected to be completed next summer.

According to Greaux, who was involved in the planning for the Vineyard 2.0 project, Bost's fundraising experience, business acumen, and community connections will be invaluable to the next phase of this project and the continuation of the mission.

Bost has been with the Livermore Homeless Refuge, which partners with local churches to provide meals and temporary shelter for the homeless when temperatures drop below 45 degrees, since 2013.

## Rotarian Foundation of Livermore Invites Grant Applications

Applications are now available for the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore's annual Community Grant program.

Community organizations are encouraged to seek support for their ongoing efforts or their special projects that contribute to the health and wellbeing of our community. Applications for awards up to \$5,000 are due Jan. 3. Grants will be awarded in April 2023.

Over the years, the foun-

ation has supported projects that have the greatest impact per dollar spent. In 2022, the foundation awarded \$94,951 to 22 community organizations. Since 1999, the foundation has awarded over \$1.4 million in grants to support our community.

As a public charity, the foundation manages contributions, fundraisers, corporate sponsorship, bequests and professionally managed investments to support charitable organizations already

in the community, as well as developing exciting new programs. The foundation has grown into a more than \$4 million sustainable enterprise that promotes the common good and nurtures the community.

Applications are available now on the RFL website. For more information, visit [rotarianfoundationlivermore.org](http://rotarianfoundationlivermore.org) or email [rotarianfoundationlivermore@gmail.com](mailto:rotarianfoundationlivermore@gmail.com).

## Livermore Police Department Collecting Gifts for Needy Families

The Livermore Police Department is collecting gifts for local families, senior citizens, and military veterans who may need some extra help during the holiday season.

The department and the

Livermore Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association are sponsoring a Giving Tree in the department lobby at 1110 S. Livermore. Members of the community can take a tag with a suggested gift off the tree, or sign up to

donate gifts at [signup.com/go/QRvKkk](http://signup.com/go/QRvKkk).

Gifts should be returned unwrapped to the department lobby. Volunteers will deliver the gifts before Christmas.

## BICYCLE

(Continued from first page)

ing collisions, destinations, and bicycle and pedestrian traffic within the city.

"We focused on a corridor so we had a complete project when we were done, instead of just separate intersection or segment projects," said traffic engineer Mike Tassano.

The demonstration phase plans to run through June 2024, when construction of another project, the West Las Positas Reconstruction project, will begin. Although this project will tear up any bicycle-lane improvements, the city will attempt to save costs by combining elements of the two projects to complement each other.

The reconstruction project intends to address uneven roadways along West Las Positas and began with soil studies in October 2021. Referred to as "the roller coaster" by the city council, the uneven settlement results from clay soils that

expand and contract when wet or dry.

As a solution, the city will tear up the asphalt and mix lime stabilizer with the underlying soil, some four to five feet deep, before replacing the surface asphalt.

Matt Nelson, associate traffic engineer, said he was "relatively 99% confident" the project will prevent future settling.

The timing of the two plans allows for the reconstruction project to possibly stabilize only four lanes of traffic instead of six, if the bicycle corridor project pursues an elevated bicycle lane, flush with the sidewalk. The elevated bicycle lane would not require stabilization.

Including the first demonstration phase, the bicycle and pedestrian corridor contains six phases, estimated to cost a total of \$10 million. Phase 6 of the project — conversion of all bicycle lanes throughout the

corridor to elevated concrete — comprises the bulk of the cost, at an estimated \$6.7 million.

Staff estimated the first demonstration phase to cost \$155,000.

While the city currently has just under \$3 million in bike and pedestrian funding and another \$4 million dedicated to the reconstruction project, the source of the remaining \$3 million stands to be found, said Tassano. With only vague plans to apply for grant funding, city staff expect to revisit the funding question next summer, when further design work will make cost estimates more reliable.

The city expects to begin design of the reconstruction project next month, with the year-long construction phase to begin in June 2024.

Meanwhile, the fully-designed demo phase of the bicycle and pedestrian corridor will now begin to seek contractors.

## HAUBERT

(Continued from first page)

range of energy savings programs and resources."

Hunter said BayREN has programs for single-family homeowners, multifamily property owners, real estate professionals, contractors and small business owners.

During the last eight years, BayREN has supplied \$34 million in rebates to the owners of 600 properties throughout the Bay Area, he said. The money comes from a special surcharge on all PG&E bills that is collected by the state and allocated to programs like BayREN, he said.

After adding rebates for gas to electric conversions in 2020, the program plans to expand in 2023 to address health issues and heat-related concerns. Hunter declined to elaborate.

Those who sign up through the BayREN website will be visited by a free technical consultant who will evaluate the property to assess what options are available. The inspection is free, Hunter said.

"We help you move forward," he said. "But if you decide that this program isn't quite the right fit or now is not the right time, there's no obligation. There's no penalty for getting started and not completing your project."

The program's minimum rebate is \$750 per unit, so a 20-unit property would be eligible for \$50,000. Rebates, however, can go

higher.

"Many properties will actually be eligible for the greater base rebate above the \$750," Hunter said. "It will be based on the zip code that that property resides in."

The program does have requirements. Properties must have five or more dwelling units on a single parcel. In addition to apartment buildings, the program includes condominiums and their HOAs. Participants must install three or more unique measures that will reduce energy consumption by at least 15%.

"The goals and needs of all these properties can differ," Hunter said. "We know this has been a really hard time for the rental housing space in the last couple of years, and a lot of owners out there are struggling right now. And so, by making these improvements, I think we can really help lower your utility bills and reduce equipment downtime."

Owners of properties that don't have air conditioning also can receive rebates for installing cooling units, he said.

"Having an AC is a major thing that many prospective tenants will be looking for in a property," Hunter said. "We find that just generally happy residents tend to stay longer in their units. They tend to make fewer complaints and they tend to treat the property with

greater care. And so over time, this will mean less vacancy rates and higher quality tenants that result in lower maintenance costs for you."

Hunter's colleague, Sheetal Chitnis, who manages BayREN's Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements program for the nonprofit Association for Energy Affordability office in Emeryville, said research has found the program not only lowers energy bills and saves energy, it provides health benefits for residents. Retrofits, she said, can make units more comfortable.

By adding insulation, a tenant might not have to use air conditioning. Sealing windows can keep out smoke from wildfires, she said.

"Not only is it addressing the energy savings, which is great for the bills, but it's also improving resident health," Chitnis said.

Hunter added that the time is now to utilize the program as the state begins mandating some changes in the coming years. The California Public Utilities Commission, for example, recently announced that the sale of new gas water heaters and gas furnaces will be banned by the year 2030.

Interested property owners can enroll online at [BayREN.org/multifamily](http://BayREN.org/multifamily), and contact representatives at 855-213-2832 or [multifamily@BayREN.org](mailto:multifamily@BayREN.org).

## OBITUARIES

### Della Fay Hicks Jan. 25, 1923 – Nov. 13, 2022



Della Fay Hicks passed away peacefully with her family by her side when she took her last breath on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022, in Seattle, Washington. She defied the odds on more than three occasions until she passed at the age of 99.

She was born in 1923 to John Homer Groff and Frances Anna Groff (Pidima) in Guernsey, Iowa (a town of about 100 people) where she grew up with her older sister Doris. She played basketball at Guernsey High School. Della used to take the cream from the family cow to the Guernsey creamery and got to keep the money. Her father Homer Groff was the town postman and delivered the mail in a mail wagon. Della accompanied her father on his mail route and remembers her mother putting hot bricks in the wagon to keep their feet warm on cold Iowa mornings. Homer was also a scout leader.

Della's first job was running the elevator at a Cedar Rapids department store. She married Harold James Hicks in 1948 in Montezuma, Iowa. They had four girls: Sharon,

Treva, Valera and Claudia. In 1955, they drove to California for a new job opportunity for Harold in the Bay Area. They lived in a room above the local bar in Brisbane, California. In about 1962 they moved to K Street in Livermore, California and lived there for about 50 years. Della worked in a laundromat for her sister-in-law Betty Hicks and brother-in-law Mearle Hicks in Livermore in the 1960s. Before retiring, Harold worked at San Jose State University and

Sandia National Laboratory in Livermore, California in the computer field (when computers filled a large room!) Harold passed away in 2008.

In 2012 Della moved to Paradise, California to live with her daughter Valera and husband Tom. About 2017 Della then went to live with daughter Treva and husband Larry in Concow, California until the Camp Fire of Nov. 8, 2018. She then went to live with daughter Sharon and husband Brian in Seattle, Washington.

She loved to do word searches, crochet doilies, afghans, potholders and scarves and said when she went to bed, her fingers were still moving like she was still crocheting! She always had a word search or crochet project in her hands.

Survived by all four daughters, sister-in-law Hazel Sigafosse Hester and many nieces and nephews, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Think of Della while you crochet, do a word search, play in the garden, watch Wheel of Fortune or enjoy hummingbirds!

## HOUSING

(Continued from first page)

for 5,965 new housing units within the city, as assigned by the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process.

"For some cities, because of the lateness with which the RHNA was actually delivered, because of COVID, it delayed that process to establish that number," said Clark. "Most Bay Area cities were planning to make use of the 120-day grace period."

The staff report described a case in Southern California where a city missed its deadline.

The city "had seen submittal of numerous project applications that proposed to make use of the so-called 'builder's remedy' — a longstanding but seldom used provision of the Housing Accountability Act which had been interpreted to remove most local zoning controls when a jurisdiction has a non-compliant housing element," read the staff

report.

To add to the holiday rush, staff had already fast tracked another project — the Stoneridge Framework — in an attempt to complete it in time for the Housing Element's adoption.

Intended to guide the configuration of a possible housing project at the Stoneridge Mall site for up to 965 new housing units, the framework began in August to help inform the Housing Element before its final adoption.

"The framework is already very challenging," said Chuck Davis of the Simon Property Group, one of the four major owners of the mall property. "We have multiple owners with very different desires and perspectives, and trying to pull it all together is kind of a herculean effort in and of itself."

Clark, however, tried to assuage concerns of a rushed process.

## FIRE

(Continued from first page)

bay floors, the interior is all hard concrete that's been epoxied and that's really nice, so when we track stuff into the station, it's easier to clean than carpet. The gym is state of the art, the living quarters are better, and overall, it's a beautiful station."

During construction, the department set up a temporary station near St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church on Stoneridge Drive. The new

station is operating now.

The cost to rebuild the station — including design, demolition of the old building, constructing, then removing the temporary station, and constructing and outfitting the new station — was approximately \$9,000,000.

Lacey said the old, single-story station did not meet the needs of a 21st century workforce, but the

new, two-story building has everything the department needs, including an apparatus bay to house the station's 110-foot tall aerial ladder fire truck.

Pleasanton's Station No. 3 is one of five LPFD stations owned and maintained by the City of Pleasanton. There are also five LPFD stations in Livermore which are owned and operated by the City of Livermore.

## SCS

(Continued from first page)

69 affordable-housing unit requirement, SCS could build six moderate-income units, contribute \$1 million to the first-time homebuyer program and another \$1 million to the city's community benefit program.

Some residents called foul, saying the alternatives sidestepped the spirit of the affordable housing laws and excluded lower-income residents from the city.

"This project doesn't contribute to the affordable housing challenge we have in Dublin," resident Shirley Lewandowski stated at the council meeting.

Lewandowski added that the city has the discretion to not offer in-lieu fees and thereby force developers to build affordable housing.

Referring to the ADU option, resident Tom Evans said, "An 800 square-foot rental in someone's yard is not a substitute for a two bedroom home for sale to a young family."

Councilmember Michael McCorriston initially echoed similar affordable housing concerns.

"I think what the developer is offering is a bit light in terms of the amount of

inclusionary housing," he said. "I also think we could probably do better on the first-time buyer choice."

The other councilmembers, however, expressed gratitude for a project that offered community benefits above and beyond state housing law requirements.

"That doesn't mean that they couldn't have just said, 'Okay, we're going to develop all this medium-density housing; we're not going to do the rest. We're entitled to do that under existing law, and we want to achieve value from our property,'" said Councilmember Shawn Kumagai.

Councilmember Jean Josey also cautioned against losing sight of the bigger picture.

"I don't want us to kill the project by asking for more and more and more to the point where it's not fiscally feasible to build any of it," said Josey.

Although McCorriston suggested that staff return on a later date with revised affordable housing numbers, he and the council agreed to include the additional option in the devel-

opment agreement.

Kumagai said he rejected the notion that following the IZO to the letter is the only path toward achieving the city's affordable-housing goals.

"We're trying to achieve our goals through ways that may not have been written by a simple percentage number," he continued.

Evans also asked that Kumagai recuse himself from the SCS discussion because of Kumagai's recent campaign activities outside the city council.

SCS Development Company donated \$4,500 to Kumagai's State Assembly campaign this year, according to Transparency USA.

At Kumagai's questioning, city attorney John Bakker said that although the law did not currently require a recusal, "after Jan. 1, the rules will change and campaign contributions will be attributed to you. And you'll have to consider those when you're acting on decisions that may involve somebody that made a campaign contribution to you."

Kumagai ultimately continued to participate in the SCS decision.

## Foothill Ends Season With Loss to SRVH

By Nathan Canilao

The Foothill High School football team was defeated by San Ramon Valley High School 42-13 in the semi-finals of the North Coast Section Division II Playoffs on Nov. 19. The Falcons season ends as they finish the year 7-5.

Foothill struggled to get their offense going early and San Ramon Valley took

advantage. The Wolves took control of the ground game and held the Falcons' offense.

The second half was much of the same for Foothill. They couldn't get the ball to their playmakers and struggled to put points on the board.

San Ramon Valley had two rushers reach over 100 yards rushing and were able

to chew clock for the majority of the game.

The Falcons' season ended with a loss in the NCS playoffs, but they picked up notable wins over Vintage, College Park and Dublin High. The Falcons will go into the offseason with key returners coming back such as wide receiver Chris Lawson and running back Sameer Lattier.



The Foothill Falcons varsity football team traveled to San Ramon to take on the Wolves in the 2022 North Coast Section Division 2 Football Championships, on Friday, Nov. 18. San Ramon won 42 to 13. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## West Coast Soccer Team Wins State Championship

West Coast 2013 Black displayed high energy right out the gate and continued the momentum throughout the game until the final whistle. They faced the opponents

Within 2 minutes of kickoff, Bhavnie Sunil chipped a goal into the net. Sharanya Singh and Mazzy Rodriguez would follow up with two more goals before halftime

fast breaks and shot attempts on goal. Ravenswood's forwards were pressuring equally well, but a collectively strong effort by our defenders and goalie made it tough



The West Coast Black U10 girls, above, are the new NorCal State Cup Champions 2022 (Bronze level). (Photo courtesy of Aduarie Dayak)

during the earlier seeding rounds when West Coast were defeated with a 4-2 loss. With three consecutive wins since that loss, (which included beating the undefeated Pacifica by 6-2 during semi-finals) West Coast were determined to win it all.

to get them well ahead. The entire West Coast Black team played a solid game of soccer, with great passing and applying tremendous pressure throughout.

Mazzy Rodriguez and Layla Crisostomo's excellent dribbling skills led to several

for them to score. It was an exciting run leading up to this equally exciting game. Final score 3-0 to West Coast Black. West Coast Black U10 girls named NorCal State Cup Champions 2022. (Bronze level). — Courtesy of Aduarie Dayak

## 2022 Football Recap

By Nathan Canilao

With Foothill's loss to San Ramon Valley on Nov. 19, high school football in the Tri-Valley has officially ended. Through the ups and downs there were many highs that each school can hang their hat on.

Granada High School struggled in its first season under new head coach Marc Moses, but somehow snuck into the playoffs with a 4-7 record. A strong win over Dublin High catapulted the Matadors into playoff contention as they finished the year with a .500 league record to qualify them for the North Coast Section Division II Playoffs.

Though they lost in a blowout to Campolindo High School in the first round of the playoffs, the Matadors have a bright future as they will be bringing back several members of this team next season.

Dublin High School got off to a good start to the season and finished the year 6-4. They went on a two game winning streak to end the season, but their loss to Granada hurt them when trying to get a bid for a playoff spot.

The Gaels had notable wins over Livermore and American High Schools.

Livermore High had one of their best seasons to date under head coach John Wade. The Cowboys finished 8-3 and went on a six game winning streak to start the year.

The Cowboys fell in the playoffs to Rancho Cotate, but had memorable performances from players on the team. Senior Tyler Trudeau passed for 2,172 yards and 24 touchdowns on the year.

It was a down year for Amador Valley. After starting off the year 4-1, the Dons could only muster up one win after their initial start and went 1-4 to end the year.

The Dons ended the year on a high note, defeating California High School 16-6 on Nov. 4. The team will be returning key pieces on their defense and will look to bounce back next season.

The Falcons of Foothill High had the most success of any team in the Tri-Valley, They ended the year 7-5 and made it to the NCS semi-final game where they lost to San Ramon Valley.

They will return key players Chris Lawson and Sameer Lattier who have been key pieces in the Falcons' offense in the last two seasons.

As football season ends, high school sports will get ready to shift into the winter season.

## Boys' Basketball is Headed for the Tri-Valley

By Nathan Canilao

With the Holidays beginning, this also signals the time for basketball in the Tri-Valley. The valley might be one of the most competitive places in the Bay Area for basketball this upcoming season.

The Granada Matadors exited last season with its first berth in the North Coast Section Playoffs Open Division and will look to build on that this season.

The team will be headlined by Saint Mary's commit Andrew McKeever who will be entering his senior season with the black and gold. He will be joined by transfer Tyler Harris who will join McKeever in an already loaded Granada front court.

Dublin High School will

also be a threat to take the East Bay Athletic League Championship this season. They will return their three-headed offensive attack in Courtney Anderson Jr., Donovan Cooks and Mehki Thomas.

Head Coach Tom Costello will be leading the group once again as they will be looking to capture a state championship.

Foothill snuck into the playoffs last season with solid league play and a stingy defense. Most of their returners are graduating, but head coach Jason Wallis is returning for the Falcons.

They will have a tough stretch of preseason games as they will face Antioch, Pittsburg and Berkeley High School in December.

Head coach Willis Gardner had an excellent first

season in 2021, leading Amador Valley to the North Coast Section Playoffs. The Dons will return point guard Tyler Cheng who led the Dons in scoring last season.

They will have a marquee matchup against East Bay powerhouse James Logan High School on Nov. 28 at home.

Livermore High School has struggled to compete in the East Bay Athletic League for over a decade now. They have not won a league game since 2012 and will look to build on their 3-win season in 2021.

Leading scorer Spencer Langowski transferred to Granada High School and the Cowboys will have to start from scratch once again. Look for senior Owen Omweg to lead the Cowboys this season.

## Girls' Basketball Season Looking to be a Solid One

By Nathan Canilao

The Tri-Valley looks like it will have another exciting year of girls basketball this season.

Dublin High School went to the North Coast Section Playoffs in 2021 and will return some key players from last season. Center Kenya Craven and guard Sophia Ignacio will headline the Gaels team as they will look to build on the success they had last season.

Livermore High School ended last season with just one win in 23 games. Head coach Ed Blake will look to turn this ship around as the Cowboys get ready for next season.

Granada High School

went undefeated in the preseason in 2021 and will look to continue their success under head coach Kris Birco.

The Matadors will have a key game against Bishop O'Dowd High School on Dec. 17.

Amador Valley will head into this season as one of the younger teams in the league. Head Coach Dan Sweeney will look to guide this team to another successful season.

They will have a big matchup with San Leandro High School on Dec. 8.

Foothill enters this season with an older group of girls to lead the Falcons. Last season Foothill was one of the youngest teams in

the conference, but managed to compete in many of the games they were in.

Head Coach Cheryl Namoca will look to keep the momentum going in her second season as head basketball coach.

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Mony Nop, above left, and Sophie Mao got into the spirit of the season last weekend during Nop's annual Turkey Drop in Livermore. All donations benefited Tri-Valley Haven. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

### Visit Tri-Valley Sponsors 'Spread Cheer with Beer' Challenge

Visit Tri-Valley is sponsoring a "Spread Cheer with Beer" campaign for the holidays to raise money for the Livermore Valley Craft Beer Foundation. From now through the end of the year, Visit Tri-Valley, a nonprofit destination marketing organization, will donate \$20 to the foundation for everyone who checks in at any five of more than a dozen participating breweries and alehouses. Those who complete the "challenge" by visiting five locations will also receive a 64-ounce beer growler. The Craft Beer Foundation sponsors several annual events in the Tri-Valley, including the Livermore Valley Craft Beer

Festival, Livermore Bikes & Brews, and the Livermore Beer Crawl and Food Drive. In addition to providing free bicycles to local youths, the foundation has raised nearly \$165,000 for the Shriners Hospital for Children and provided more than 41,000 meals through food drives. To participate in the holiday challenge, residents and visitors to the Tri-Valley need to sign up for the free Tri-Valley Beer Trail mobile pass. The Tri-Valley Beer Trail, which includes deals and discounts offered by breweries and alehouses, is also sponsored by Visit Tri-Valley. To sign up or for a list of participating locations, visit [bit.ly/3UTDKNk](http://bit.ly/3UTDKNk).

### VA Medical Van Set for Livermore Library

The Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System mobile medical outreach van will be at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Thursday, Dec. 15. Medical providers will be on-site to provide examinations, consultations, and referrals for veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. The outreach team can also assist veterans who have not enrolled or are uncertain about their eligibility for medical or mental health services. Veterans who are not enrolled should bring a copy of their DD-214 forms. For more information, visit [library.livermoreca.gov](http://library.livermoreca.gov) or call 925-373-5500.

## LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593035

The following person(s) doing business as: Alt Interior Design Co, 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/: Angulo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 28, 2022. Expires October 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5307. Published November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593113

The following person(s) doing business as: Squares, 4237 Emory Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amy Elizabeth Williams, 4237 Emory Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amy Elizabeth Williams, Founder. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 1, 2022. Expires October 31, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5308. Published November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593066

The following person(s) doing business as: Doolan Canyon Vineyards, 5033 Doolan Road, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Karm, Inc., 5033 Doolan Road, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ravi Randhawa, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 31, 2022. Expires October 30, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5309. Published November

10, 17, 24, December 1, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593261

The following person(s) doing business as: First Responder therapist - Psychological Services, 3121 Tokay CT, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brian John Lawrence, 3121 Tokay Ct, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brian J. Lawrence, Solce Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 7, 2022. Expires November 6, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5310. Published November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592887

The following person(s) doing business as: Fremont Commerce, 933 Corporate Way, Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ann Chen, 7862 Foothill Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ann Chen, Self. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2022. Expires October 20, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5312. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593270

The following person(s) doing business as: Pinenuts, M., 19225 Santa Rita Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maki Nishikawa, 19225 Santa Rita Avenue, 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/: Maki Nishikawa, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2022. Expires November 6, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5313. Published November

17, 24, December 1, 8, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592854

The following person(s) doing business as: Atomic Turtle, 570 Mormandy Circle, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Launch Pad Ventures, LLC, 2301 Concannon Blvd, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/7/19. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jill M. Zolkos, . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 20, 2022. Expires October 19, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5314. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593274

The following person(s) doing business as: Designs by Deena Lynn, 755 N N St, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Deena Kennedy, 755 N N St, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Deena Kennedy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2022. Expires November 5, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5315. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593336

The following person(s) doing business as: Nuhope Wellness, 15101 Dublin Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Park Legend LLC, 3045 S. Archibald Ave #H178, Ontario, CA 91761. 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: 11/9/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ferdous Ahmed, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 9, 2022. Expires November 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5316. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593419

The following person(s) doing business as: Rick's Landscape and Maintenance service, 2729 Kennedy St, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard Sanchez Jr., 2729 Kennedy St, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/00/1993. Signature of Registrant/s/: Richard Sanchez Jr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2022. Expires November 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5320. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 2022.

The following person(s) doing business as: Amore Montessori Family Child Care and Preschool, 266 Wood St. Unit 406, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jessica Perez Maldonado Munoz, 266 Wood St Unit 406, 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/: Jessica Perez Maldonado Munoz, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 14, 2022. Expires November 13, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5318. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593353

The following person(s) doing business as: Valley Montessori School, 1273 N Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tri-valley Montessori School, 1273 N Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/23/1994. Signature of Registrant/s/: Andrew Wang, Director of Finance. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 9, 2022. Expires November 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5319. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593433

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#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593433

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#### NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593383

The following person(s) doing business as: Mountain Ridge Rentals, 3988 California Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Finster's Hauling and Equipment LLC, 3988 California Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Matthew Finster, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 10, 2022. Expires November 9, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5321. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593502

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Harsh Jadhav, CPA; 2. Mirabelle Investments; 3. Harshavardhan Jadhav, CAP, 6436 Tiffany Common, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Harshavardhan Jadhav, 6436 Tiffany Common, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/9/2018. Signature of Registrant/s/: Harshavardhan Jadhav, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 18, 2022. Expires November 17, 2027.

The Independent, Legal No. 5322. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 2022.

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Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm. Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 11am to 3pm. Visit our website: [WWW.TVAR.ORG](http://WWW.TVAR.ORG), to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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