



See Inside Section A

Section A is filled with information about arts, people, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board.

Livermore Leaders Debate Downtown Development Plans

By Natalie St. John

A highly-anticipated report evaluating the effects of a downtown initiative measure is likely to spur a lively City Council meeting Monday evening. Two groups of concerned Livermore residents are expected to rally in support of the downtown revitalization plan they favor — which each side considers critical to framing the future of the city.

The council will also consider the next step for the ballot initiative

submitted by Citizens for a Livermore Central Park asking voters to choose their downtown plan and change zoning to make it happen.

There's a lot at stake in the long-simmering controversy. Whatever the city decides will affect parks and green spaces, parking, affordable housing, businesses and arts, education and cultural centers in the heart of Livermore.

In July, Livermore's elected leaders ordered a 9212 report to provide cost estimates and other specifications for each proposal.

The report is expected to answer questions about regional housing needs, infrastructure costs and maintenance, transportation and parks, among other subjects.

Once the report is presented, the city council is set to decide on the ballot initiative. California law requires a city council to take action when presented with a verified initiative petition. City staff is presenting the council with the option of simply adopting the initiative, putting it on next year's November 2020 ballot, or spending

up to \$800,000 to hold a special election in December.

Different Ideas for Downtown

Unify Livermore supports the city's plan, which prioritizes affordable housing. Citizens for a Livermore Central Park favors more green space and more convenient parking.

The 8.2-acre area bordered by L Street, Railroad Avenue, the Bankhead Theater and the back of First Street businesses is now a big dirt

(See DOWNTOWN PLAN, page 10)

Pleasanton Schools Rank 11th Best in California

By Ron McNicoll

The Pleasanton Unified School District ranks 11th in California, according to a survey by Niche.com.

The school data analysis website also rated the district's teachers as the 10th best statewide and Pleasanton the 29th among the top places to teach.

"The results are just one measure of quality, but we are thrilled that these ratings reflect the excellence we strive for as a district team and realize in our schools and classrooms," Superintendent David Haglund said in a news release.

Three Pleasanton schools took top honors in Alameda County. Amador Valley was ranked as the best high school. Harvest Park was rated the number one middle school and Fairlands topped the list of elementary schools.

Some of the scoring for the website's annual ratings is subjective, relying on judgments of students, teachers and parents, who shared their appraisals on Niche.com.

On the website, 147 individuals rated Amador Valley excellent, 198 said it was very good, 99 called it average and eight reported it was poor. Two gave the high school a "terrible" rating.

A small sample of comments listed on the site showed one senior saying, "Amador Valley High School provides students with the tools to succeed in any path they seek out."

Another survey taker who also gave Amador Valley a very good ranking said the school offers students a choice in the rigor of their academics.

"If you choose to take AP (Advanced Placement classes), you'll

(See PLEASANTON SCHOOLS, page 3)



The Purple Heart Outdoor Tour was escorted through Pleasanton and Livermore by military motorcycle riders, police and fire departments on August 16. The tour honors combat wounded soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen by treating them to outdoor events at locations throughout the United States. This was the seventh year that the event has traveled through Pleasanton and Livermore. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Bill Likely to Allow Portion of Carnegie SVRA to be Preserved

A proposed law that could end a long dispute about controversial plans to expand the motorcycle and off-road recreational park southeast of Livermore is making its way through the legislature.

The State Assembly appropriations committee is scheduled to hear Democratic Sen. Steve Glazer's Senate Bill 767 early

next week.

If approved, it would allow the property along Tesla Road to be put on the market, provided the sale price is equal to the amount the state paid for it. Proceeds would go into a state trust fund for off-highway vehicle recreation.

Dick Schneider, chairman of the Tri-valley Sierra Club, said he's

hopeful the bill will pass. He said the group is thankful for Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's help moving SB 767 forward. The Democrat from Orinda is serving her first term after defeating Republican incumbent Catherine Baker in 2018.

Glazer, also of Orinda, introduced the bill.

(See EXPANSION, page 2)

Pleasanton Unified School District to Ask for Tax Hike

The Pleasanton Unified School District trustees have unanimously approved steps to sell more bonds from Measure II, a \$270 million bond issue authorized by voters in the November 2016 election.

The district in 2017 sold \$70 million worth of the bonds, leaving about \$200 million. Now,

because of projected increases in enrollment, the district wants to issue \$90 million more to complete more buildings and update worn out equipment.

Another \$110 million would be left for the district to tap into later.

Trustees voted to commit to the bond sale at their Aug. 13

meeting. They said they wanted to act quickly to take advantage of lower interest rates that make it cheaper to finance bond payback. They hope to meet the deadline to put the measure on the ballot with California's March 3 presidential primary, saving the district some election costs.

One of the steps the board approved was hiring consulting firm TWBW, at \$6500 a month, to poll the community between Aug. 23 and Sept. 6 to see if it is likely the public will back the bond sales. TWBW would also be available later for other consulting, if the

(See PUSD, page 2)

LLNL Celebrates 40th Anniversary Of Atmospheric Advisory Center

By Jeff Garberson

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory last week celebrated the 40th anniversary of a computer center that can forecast the path and destination of airborne pollutants.

The system, called the National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center, was developed in the 1970s to respond to radiation emergencies at nuclear power plants and nuclear facilities of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Its purpose was to give civic authorities up-to-date information on potential radiation exposures so they could make sound decisions about sheltering or evacuating populations from specific locations.

The Three Mile Island nuclear power plant emergency in 1979

provided the first major operational test of the fledgling system.

In the years since then, NARAC capabilities have expanded enormously as computing power and model sophistication have advanced.

NARAC is the main source of radiological and nuclear modeling for the federal government's efforts to centralize its own atmospheric assessment response.

This is done through IMAAC, the Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center, which was created in 2004 as part of the Department of Homeland Security.

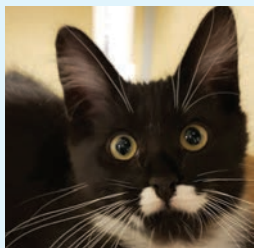
Access to high-resolution weather observation networks gives NARAC information on wind and precipitation faster and

(See ADVISORY CENTER, page 2)



In the final days before the start of school, kids found the perfect place to cool off at Emerald Glen Park in Dublin while temperatures soared. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK



GRYFFINDOR

Sorting hat not required...let your cat pick you! Do you value courage, bravery and determination? Don your scarlet and gold and come adopt Gryffindor! This 3 month old male domestic medium hair tuxedo is ready to cast a spell on you. If the lion crest doesn't suit you, come adopt one of his 3 siblings, Hufflepuff, Slytherin or Ravenclaw. Meet Gryffindor at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am – 4pm. Visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information. Photo credit: Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz

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California Public Utilities Commission Welcomes New President

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) welcomed Marybel Batjer as President following her oath of office ceremony on August 16. Governor Gavin Newsom announced Batjer's appointment on July 12.

"The CPUC is one of the most important regulatory agencies in California, with oversight over industries that impact nearly every Californian," said Batjer. "I'm honored Governor Newsom selected me for this role as the state faces unprecedented challenges caused by wildfires and climate change. I look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners, the staff of the CPUC, and the many stakeholders to the CPUC's processes to ensure that we are all benefiting the state and its consumers."

Batjer most recently served as the first-ever Secretary of the California Government Operations Agency. In this role, she led efforts to revamp the way the state approaches data and technology, modernized the civil service system, and led the implementation of key initiatives to green state government and promote renewable energy.

Before heading the Gov-

ernment Operations Agency, Batjer was Vice President for Public Policy and Corporate Social Responsibility at Caesars Entertainment Inc., where she developed and promoted corporate social responsibility policy and initiatives, and counseled the senior executive team during a public merger on issues pertaining to reputation management and public policy. Batjer also served as Cabinet Secretary to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger from 2003 to 2005, Chief of Staff to Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn from 2000 to 2003, and Undersecretary at the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency from 1997 to 1998.

Commissioners are appointed to the CPUC for six-year terms and require Senate confirmation. Batjer replaces former CPUC President, Michael Picker, who retired from the CPUC after serving as President since 2014.

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians' access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. To learn more, visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

PUSD

(Continued from first page)

election goes forward.

At issue is tailoring the property tax to pay for the bond. Since assessed valuation has risen since the last bond sale in 2017, the district could charge property owners about \$46 instead of \$49 per \$100,000 per assessed valuation.

The school board said that many property owners will prefer to continue that tax rate at \$49, with the additional money doing more for schools to take care of buildings and make repairs.

For a \$1 million property, Pleasanton homeowners would be saving \$30 annu-

ally. But collectively, that \$3 per \$100,000 from all Pleasanton properties could pay off in a big way for the district.

Currently, the PUSD tax rate is the third lowest among school districts in the county.

Trustee Joan Laursen told the board room audience and television viewers that the public should not misunderstand where the money goes. It cannot be used to pay for program costs, such as salaries for teachers or administrators. Those costs are covered by state funding that goes to each school district.

EXPANSION

(Continued from first page)

duced a similar measure last year that died in committee. This year, he said, supporters believe the Assembly will approve the bill if it makes it onto the floor for a vote in September.

More than three dozen organizations support the sale. Among them are Native American groups who want to protect artifacts on the site. The area was later used for coal mining.

Alameda County and conservation groups have sued the state to try to halt the 3,400-acre expansion due to environmental concerns. Many groups, including Save Mount Diablo, the Sierra Club, Greenbelt Alliance, the Ohlone and San Joaquin Audubon societies, and the California Native

Plant Society are backing the bill because they're concerned motorcycles and ATVs could hurt native wildlife and plants.

Governments and public agencies are also on board with the sale. The City of Livermore, Alameda County, and the East Bay Regional Park District and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District are also supporters.

Advocates of allowing the park expansion argue the area provides a place for recreation and gets people outdoors. They say there's plenty of open space around the site.

Even so, Glazer said, state records show fewer people are using the park, which has seen a decline in visitors since 2007.

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ADVISORY CENTER

(Continued from first page)

in far greater detail than was available just a few years ago.

Beyond radioactivity and nuclear emergencies, NARAC now gives technical assessments of other kinds of hazards, internationally as well as domestically.

It has been called up for oil fires, industrial accidents, rocket launches, volcanic eruptions -- even a smoky fire in a tire dump near Tracy two decades ago.

Some responses demand expertise in an unusual range of disciplines, like physics, chemistry, atmospheric science, radioactive risk assessment and computer modeling.

These are all fields in which LLNL has expertise, but they are normally carried out as research programs, rather than under the pressure of an emergency with human health at risk.

The most pressing crises can impose round-the-clock demands on NARAC staff for weeks at a time.

At last week's celebration, Laboratory director Bill Goldstein noted that

the Center has been ready to respond to emergencies every hour of every day for the past 40 years.

This is "an incredible record," he said.

Speakers at the celebration included the head of the Nuclear National Security Administration, Lisa Godon-Hagerty, who once worked at LLNL. NNSA is the quasi-autonomous arm of the U.S. Department of Energy that is responsible for nuclear weapons.

Several of the speakers noted highlights of NARAC's 40 years. Many of these highlights are listed on the Laboratory's website, including:

- NARAC provided a steady stream of worldwide dose assessments from the nuclear power plant disasters at Chernobyl in northern Ukraine in 1986 and Fukushima in northeastern Japan in 2011.

With data from field measurements, NARAC models made it possible to calculate the kinds and amounts of radiation being released and anticipate further evolution of the nuclear reactions.

- In 2005, NARAC helped evaluate the risks of a solvent plant fire in Texas. A few weeks later, it estimated exposure to toxic fumes from Louisiana industrial fires following Hurricane Katrina.

- In 2007, it provided downwind plume estimates for another solvent plant fire, this time in Kansas. Later that year, it estimated the downwind path of pollutants following explosions and a fire at a welding plant in Texas.

- In 2008, it was used to evaluate the risks of sulfur dioxide exposure from the eruption of Kilauea volcano in Hawaii. Three years later, it provided twice-daily smoke inhalation risk estimates during the Las Conchas fire that burned more than 150,000 acres and threatened Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

- In the fall of 2017, NARAC was used to track the puzzling dispersal of a radioactive form of the element ruthenium across Central Europe. Little official information has been

made available, but news reports suggest it may be material released from Russia's Mayak nuclear reprocessing plant.

Asked whether the system is currently tracking radioactivity reportedly released in a missile accident in Russia's Northwest, near the White Sea, an LLNL spokesperson was unable to respond by the time the Independent went to press.

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California Mayors Call for Action On Levine Gun & Ammunition Tax To Reduce Gun Violence

Mayors from across the state called for the California Legislature to move AB 18 by Assemblymember Marc Levine (D–Marin County) before the adjournment of the Legislature next month.

“The latest mass shootings across our country are only the most recent reminder of the failure of our elected officials to address the epidemic of gun violence in our county,” said San Francisco Mayor London Breed. “Since the federal government seems incapable of taking action, we must do what we can locally and statewide to keep our residents safe. This proposal, which would raise millions of dollars to fund violence prevention programs in our communities, is a step in the right direction.”

AB 18 (Levine) would impose a statewide excise tax of \$25 on the sale of handguns and semiautomatic rifles sold in California. Additional planned amendments will add an excise tax to bullets sold in the Golden

State, with revenues directed to fund California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program (CalVIP), which supports violence intervention and prevention activities, with preference given to programs that have been shown to be the most effective at reducing violence and to applicants in cities or regions disproportionately affected by violence.

“Local and state leaders do not have the luxury of just offering ‘thoughts and prayers’ while gun violence tears communities apart,” said San Jose Mayor Liccardo. “Without meaningful congressional action, we can’t end gun violence—but we’re going to stop paying for it. I’m grateful for Assemblymember Levine’s leadership in pushing for impactful state action to reduce the public cost of gun violence, and look forward to our continued collaboration to combat this epidemic in the months ahead.”

Levine’s AB 18 was approved by the Assembly Pub-

lic Safety Committee and the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee earlier this year. Co-authored by seven legislators from throughout California, AB 18’s firearm and bullet tax would create a stable, ongoing revenue stream to support successful programs designed to reduce gun violence in communities throughout the state.

“Gun violence traumatizes our communities long after the bullets have been fired,” Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf said. “I support Assemblymember Levine’s AB 18 because it funds violence prevention programs like Ceasefire that are proven to reduce gun violence and it gives young men and women the support they deserve and need. AB 18 gives all of our residents, and all of our families, a chance to live in a safe, healthy, and vibrant community.”

AB 18 (Levine) is currently pending action in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

PLEASANTON SCHOOLS

(Continued from first page)

be challenged every day, and you’ll be forced to develop new study habits that will benefit you throughout high school and college,” the commenter wrote.

Amador’s overall grade was an A+. The school also got an A+ in academics, teachers and college preparation. For diversity and health and safety, Amador earned an A. Its clubs and activities got a B-.

The ratings were also based on objective factors, such as the percentage of

students who score at or above the level of competency level for their grade on standardized tests.

At Amador Valley, 90% of students are proficient in reading, and 75% in math. About 40% of the students are enrolled in AP classes.

The school has a 97% graduation rate with an average SAT score of 1350. The highest possible score is 1600.

Harvest Park was ranked 11th best in the state among middle schools. Its teach-

ers were rated 32nd in California. About 83% of students are proficient in reading, and 82% in math. The school earned an A for academics, an A+ for teachers, and an A- for diversity.

Fairlands ranked 29th among California elementary schools. The faculty came in 46th statewide. About 85% of students were proficient in reading, and 82% in math. Fairlands earned an A for academics, an A+ for teachers, and an A- for diversity.



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²Bankrate.com 06/03/19.

EDITORIAL

A Step Closer to Preserving the Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area

In the hills southeast of Livermore, a 3400-acre parcel of land has caused quite a stir.

More than a century ago it held the booming towns of Carnegie and Tesla, whose residents worked in nearby mines. Yet by 1919, both were ghost towns.

In the 1940s, people were riding off-road in the pastoral hills. Then, in the '60s, the privately-owned Carnegie

Cycle Park was established. In 1979, the state purchased the land with off-highway vehicle (OHV) trust fund monies and created the present-day Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA).

As the East Bay Area grew, and open land disappeared, a battle began – one that pitted nature enthusiasts against recreational riders.

Today, a solution is in sight.

SB 767 authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to permanently preserve the portion of the Carnegie SVRA known as the “Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area” for conservation purposes, ensuring that future generations can enjoy the park’s rich natural beauty and cultural heritage. The bill, introduced by Senator Steve Glazer, was co-authored by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, a key and tire-

less advocate for this legislation.

The Independent joins dozens of groups – including the Ohlone and San Joaquin Audubon societies, Sierra Club California, California Native Plant Society, Greenbelt Alliance, City of Livermore, Alameda County Board of Supervisors, East Bay Regional Park District, and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District – to support SB 767, now on its way to clear its final hurdle.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them and city of residence. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com)

Trust Downtown Plan Kathy Streeter, Livermore

Don't be fooled again! A small group of wealthy people with seemingly limitless funds, is trying to take control of the development in our downtown.

People who don't live in our community, and don't really understand what the issues are, are paid to collect signatures on petitions that have tremendous influence on our community. These hired signature gatherers repeat over and over again that "People deserve a vote." Sounds so good, but says nothing about what actually happens as a result of your signature.

The fact is this group's plans are constantly in flux. Why? Because they keep changing direction because what they really want, more than anything else, is to be in control! They want to take control away from our own elected representatives.

In the last election the overwhelming results stated very clearly that we, as a community, want our elected representatives to move ahead with our plan without delay! So in response this group of individuals does anything and everything to delay and delay and delay.

They don't want what you and I want, a plan that has been painstakingly put together, tested, examined, studied by our Council, city staff, our own downtown businesses, our own Chamber of Commerce, our own wine industry, our own local restaurants, and our own and other financial and development experts, and then presented in tons of different ways and at different venues to our own populous for input and approval.

Don't sign their petitions. They don't want our plan.

They are NOT our elected representatives and they DO NOT have the right to take over the job we enthusiastically gave to our official elected representatives!

Something to Think About

Jan Brovont, Livermore

For those of you who are impatient to get the downtown built out, or who are tired of sitting through endless city council meetings where we are told the east side hotel is the best location and everything will be wonderful with it there, but not told why – even though parking for residents and traffic

for all will be much worse... for those of you who are tired of having signature gatherers ask you if you'd like to sign a referendum or initiative, and those of you trying to gather signatures who are tired of people being snippy because someone else across town has already asked them, all should take a deep breath, look around at the trees and sky, and count your lucky stars you live in this wonderful country where you have the freedom to participate in this process and can openly, hopefully politely, voice your opinion – whatever it is.

So try and be civil, maybe even kind and polite, and think of those lucky stars if you are asked again, or hear the same “nothingness” from city council. That being said, city council shouldn't be snippy to the people who put them in office, or anyone else. They should be setting a proper example for our residents and our youth, not running around getting in peoples' faces to try and prevent someone from signing what they want to sign.

Remember the saying “Rome was not built in a day.”

Consider Retail Space Rion Causey, Livermore

When I moved to Livermore over 30 years ago, downtown Livermore was not a sought-after destination. We had Highway 84 running through the middle of town, and there were few desirable shops and restaurants. Parking was not a problem because no one wanted to come downtown. Pleasanton was where you would go for a night out.

That is different now. If you dine outside at any of Livermore's fine restaurants, you will see hundreds of people walk by as you eat. Restaurants are quite often packed even during the week. Livermore's population is increasing, and even more people will be looking for an evening out, perhaps for a movie, dining and window shopping at retail stores. Have you taken a careful look at the proposed Central Park Plan? There are two tiny boxes listed as “retail.” It is the retail, shops and restaurants that will draw people downtown. Can you really envision this park being filled at night? I can see some people being there because it will be a draw for teenagers with skateboards and the homeless. Keep Livermore vibrant. Go with the already approved Downtown Plan that does provide retail space that people will really use.

Education Awareness Owen Brovont, Livermore

How about a break from the Livermore Central Park plan controversy!

To all Livermore parents of children in school, there is a major battle brewing within the California state school system. It started in 2011. Your children are being propagandized without your knowledge and consent,

and you should be aware of it. It is all about what your kids (mine are all grown and have children of their own) are being taught, including that it is all right for girls to withhold information from their parents regarding obtaining an abortion without their knowledge.

But there are far worse things being taught that concerned parents should know. To begin your education, go to this news website for an introduction: www.dailysignal.com; or search the internet with the keywords “California Parents Powerless Against School District's LGBTQ Content.” If you value your children's future, take the time to read this article. You must decide whether you want to have a major say in what your children are taught, or are willing to leave it up the State School Board and the State Legislature – neither of which wants your contribution. You are looking at one of the initial steps in creating a socialist tyranny. What you do about it indicates how much you care!

Special Interest Shoes Stomping on Public Process

John Lawrence, Livermore

The leaders and supporters of an alternative downtown development plan are purposefully exploiting and manipulating public-input processes and initiative and referendum procedures to force their special interest demands and political agenda on the Livermore community.

This name-changing group stacked one element of the community input process with supporters, and then claimed the results as the will of the people. Fortunately it doesn't work that way. Public-input meetings are just one part of a larger collection of community-wide input. The community's input is just that – input – not a requirement or absolute. Input is added to a long list of regulations, requirements, citywide development needs, aesthetic values, estimated use patterns, and financial considerations to create proposed development plans. The City's professional staff is experienced in analyzing the community's current and future development needs and the input received. Staff members create plans that work in the best interest of the entire city and when appropriate, they include the preferences of special interests. In this situation, the development process and elected officials determined that the special interest demands were not in the best interest of the community. That led to the special interest group rejecting the concept of democratically elected officials doing their job of making decisions for the community. They are now claiming to be the majority, and their leader is using her weekly paper to attack those that disagree with her.

And what's with this deceptive smokescreen about letting the people be heard and demanding that the wheels of government stop because they have an initiative for the next election. If government worked that way, nothing would ever get done. Not only are the results of future elections uncertain, there are always differing views, including disagreement with every special interest group. A new group, opposing any specific special interest group, could

easily form and get enough signatures on a petition for the next election. Then they too could demand government do nothing until after the next following election – and so the never-ending merry-go-round of waiting for election results would start.

Help stop the improper influence of special interest demands and big money in Livermore. Reject the efforts of this self-proclaimed “community group” to derail our government and threaten our elected officials. Don't sign their never-ending, misleading and vindictive petitions.

Support Global Peace and Fiscal Responsibility

Brendan Phillips, Dublin

The Department of Energy is now considering plans for the production of 80 new plutonium bomb cores every year, despite the redundancy and high cost that such a project would entail. The plan is in accordance to Donald Trump's 2018 nuclear posture review, which in addition to demanding new pit production, has designs for newer, deadlier bombs.

New pit production is unnecessary however, since the United States already has up to 20,000 pits in reserve at the Department of Energy's Pantex site in Texas – each with a credible lifetime use of up to 100 years after production. Additionally, the United States already has 1750 deployed nuclear weapons and another 2000 in active reserve. It's unclear how pursuing policy of brinksmanship helps our national security interests, or why we need new warheads given the overwhelming firepower already have.

The six billion dollar project is a reflection of ignorance on the part of our current administration, and should be opposed by all who care about global peace, or fiscal responsibility.

Democracy Needs Ability to Correct

Tom O'Neill, Livermore

Direct democracy, in an effort to wrest California from control by the railroad Big Four, was brought to California in 1911 – along with Hiram Johnson as Governor. The form by which direct democracy came included the adoption of initiative, referendum and recall as instruments by which to correct or supplement the activities of elected officials.

In summers when I taught California History at Chabot College, my comment on these instruments was mostly positive. For one thing, their advent seemed to curtail the power of the Big Four. True, I've regretted the use of the initiative to pass Proposition 13 – feeling it took too much out of state revenues needed for our infrastructure. And I've felt over the years there have been some deceptively worded initiatives put on our ballots to get people to vote for the opposite of what they thought they were voting for. It's significant though that we Californians have retained these instruments for the 108 years since we adopted them. I'm glad we have. The remedy for whatever defects they have is solidly in the hands of the public – they have simply to be willing to pay attention.

So lately, I've been surprised by voices in our townhall meetings that seem to express a kind of blanket aversion to these instru-

ments. Granted, I don't think I've heard even one suggestion to throw them out. We are all good Californians in this respect. I've heard though the most amazing contempt for those who collect signatures. One would get the impression these collectors have all slithered up out of the sewers and have no other purpose than to ruin Livermore by telling lies. They seem to be the wretched of the earth. Some of them even get paid for their collecting! What further proof do we need that they're up to no good?

I remember in the past when we'd gather together in Bob Baltzer's garage to collect signs to post around town promoting John March and for Mayor. You know, I think we paid the people who printed the signs. These were possibly people who didn't even live here! What an atrocity! By today's townhall ethics, I guess greedy ole power-hungry Bob should have constructed those signs himself with cardboard and crayons. Then the signs would have had integrity.

Sarcasm aside, seems some who "come to meeting" are like people who love circles but hate radii. I've never met a circle that didn't have a radius, and I'm not aware of any way to have an initiative or referendum veto without collecting signatures.

Trumping the Public To Save Face

Elizabeth Judge, Livermore

Livermore's City Council will not admit it made a mistake with the way it arrived at its downtown plan. To save face, it energizes its base to focus on accusing the opposition personally in order to distract from the plan itself.

Council did not respect the wishes of the public which were: parking first, housing last, and the hotel on the west side of Livermore Avenue. When this provoked public referenda and an initiative, Council focused blame away from itself onto the opposition, particularly individuals, particularly women. Sound familiar?

When the hotelier nixed the underground parking for the hotel next to the Bankhead, Council should have reconsidered the whole situation right away. The possibility for underground parking had saved that hotel from dismissal two years ago in the middle of the Public Outreach Process. Having a hotel squeezed next to the Bankhead without onsite parking for itself is just foolish.

Taking the kids to the movies? Better park in the future L Street garage acres away, because hotel valet parking will crowd the old garage. (The currently circulating referendum will stop this madness.)

To make sure that the Council's plan survives anyway, lest another one “win,” the mayor even resurrected the ancient plan for a larger theater as motive for the Initiative's Central Park Plan when he knows full well that a larger theater has nothing to do with it. The emperor has no clothes on this one but his base believes it anyway. Sound familiar?

“I like the Council's plan” is touted by some individuals who then are surprised when they learn the particulars. One Council plan supporter most confidently announced that the 130 units of affordable housing, taking up much of the old Lucky site,

“is never going to happen.” The Development Agreement for that section will probably be approved next week!

Sadly, newbies to city politics from a younger generation are learning that to be accepted by the “in” crowd here they have to: support the Council's plan no matter what; call opposing persons liars; harass petition gatherers; repeat untruths about a larger theater; use social media in a particularly vicious way; and disrespect the taxpayers because it's only the folks in the downtown bubble who matter.

Council is cutting off Livermore's nose to save its own face.

Right to Vote

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Our most fundamental rights? The right to vote and the right to voice our opinions.

The current city council has eroded our rights in several ways. First, they have resorted to name calling and personal attacks on those who oppose their downtown plan. Second, they have signed developer agreements to force the hotel on the east side before our initiative vote – essentially destroying the option for the large central park that thousands of residents want. Upset by their bully tactics?

Sign the referendum this week – it repeals the development contracts and guarantees your right to vote on the downtown plan. A fundamental right we earned with the initiative: the right to vote without council interference.

Appreciation For Editorial

Marilyn and Jerry Russell, Livermore

We were overwhelmed, delightfully surprised, and very honored with the wonderful editorial in the August 15 Independent! The Thoreau quote is one of my very favorites.

Thank you so much for emphasizing the importance of giving back to the environment and community, and caring for friends and neighbors – a worthy lesson and inspiration for all of us in this troubled time.

We truly appreciate your insight and support.

One Chance to Make It Right

Rob Blum, Livermore

As a citizen of Livermore we have a right to vote on a better Downtown Central Park Plan. The City Council has purposely denied the citizen's choice for a better Downtown Central Park Plan and has forced a referendum petition to put this on a ballot. There are two plans to be considered. The City has forced a plan with an east side hotel situated in a tight space with rooms viewing a brick wall of the Bankhead Theater. The better plan, that the citizens overwhelming voiced their input through various workshops and outreach, for the hotel to be on the west side has been ignored.

Sign the new petition. As citizens we have a choice to vote on a better Downtown Central Park Plan with a 4-star hotel on the west side that can give the downtown a uniqueness that most cities do not have. The west side location to the Central Park with a connection to 3 acres of open space including Stockmen's Park makes

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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www.independentnews.com

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

a beautiful quaint hotel. This connection with the beauty of a park atmosphere also has a direct connection to a variety of activities including the Blacksmith Square, Center for Science and Culture, and the Black Box Theater. This uniqueness can easily be shown when you compare the City Council's forced plan to the well thought out plan that the citizens of Livermore want – the Central Park Plan.

When you compare the two plans side by side, the Central Park Plan shows more open space with a continuous flow connecting the Bankhead Theater and the existing outdoor amphitheater to the new Central Park. This connection has a free flowing attractive walkway with an artisan market that connects smoothly to the large Stockmen's Park with an inspiring well-landscaped open space that the public can enjoy. This would create a focal point for the downtown that most cities do not have, especially with a west side 4-star hotel that blends in well with the open space park. The west side hotel would attract visitors from all over to stay and visit the wineries, attend events, enjoy shows at the Bankhead Theater and be in a park atmosphere. This will make Livermore a destination to enjoy and stay.

Livermore has one chance at this – this needs to be done right and not rushed through. The City Council is rushing this project through and coming up with a bad layout of a plan that will be regretted if implemented and forced through. The citizens of Livermore should have a choice.

Please sign the petition and voice your opinion so you can vote on the best plan for Livermore. Compare the two plans side by side and it is easy to see which plan is best. The Citizens Central Park Plan is the better plan showing a lot more parking and separating housing

and connecting the west side hotel with a beautiful open space. This connection will have various walkways, seating areas and planters in combination with a colorful well-landscaped open space that shows constant flow and connects the existing downtown activities and businesses together.

All this lends itself to a great downtown for a better Livermore. Sign the petition so the citizens of Livermore can choose to vote for the better plan – the Central Park Plan.

Truth Matters:
The Independent's
Obligation

Allie Felker, Livermore

On July 29, I submitted a letter to the editor in which I stated that Joan Seppala lied to a Senior Executive at the Marriot. On the evening of July 31, I was informed that the letter would not be printed as it was not factual. I will be the first to recognize that I was mistaken. It was not a Senior Executive that Ms. Seppala spoke to, but a separate hotel developer. I re-wrote my letter to reflect this and found that it was printed in the August 8 edition, and followed by an extensive editor's note. This editor's note claimed: "During Ms. Seppala's extended conversations with a separate developer, he clearly understood then, and continues to understand now, that the city plans to move forward with Presidio's eastside hotel."

Looking back to a statement from Adam Van de Water, the Director of Innovation and Economic Development, we find that this was not the case. During the City Council meeting on July 22, Mr. Van de Water states, "[this separate hotel developer] was under the impression that we did not have a viable option and that he would be asked to come in to provide that viable option." Essentially, this hotel developer did not know that the city planned to move forward

with Presidio in developing the wine country hotel at the Bankhead. Mr. Van de Water was connected to him by Ms. Seppala. All of this information public record and the video is available on Unify Livermore's Facebook page.

I was mistaken, and my letter was not printed due to a technicality. I thought that this person Mr. Van de Water and Ms. Seppala spoke to was a Senior Executive at the Marriot. Turns out, he was a separate hotel developer. This developer did not "clearly understand then" that the City planned to move forward with Presidio. This misinformation eventually made its way to a Senior Executive from Marriot (this is why I was previously mistaken). In the same City Council meeting Mr. Rakesh, the Presidio hotelier, states, "I received a call from a Senior Executive from Marriot...who informed me that he had been told that we [Presidio] were no longer interested in Livermore."

This newspaper has an obligation to the truth. My words were held to a level of

scrutiny that I can only hope applies to everything published in The Independent. The discrepancy between what was written in the editor's note, and what was stated during the July 22 City Council meeting would indicate that this is not the case.

The editor's response to my letter prompted me to look into the issue a little further. Through the use of a public-records request, I was able to obtain emails from Ms. Seppala and Adam Van de Water. These emails mostly consisted of a back and forth conversation in which Ms. Seppala obtains a quotation from Mr. Van de Water to be published in the article titled "Can Westside Downtown Hotel Developer Be Found if City of Livermore Interested?"

Here is Mr. Van de Water's original quote: "I had a wide-ranging, hour long conversation with the president of one of the largest hotel development companies in the United States. His company owns and operates several similar hotels in California which he referenced to affirm

the market for a downtown Livermore hotel that could serve wine country, business and downtown visitors. However, he was unaware of the public process to date,

including the City's approval of a Disposition and Development Agreement with Presidio Companies last September, ultimately con-

(See MAILBOX, page 9)

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LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LIVERMORE RESIDENTS: Share your talents with the community by volunteering on one of the City of Livermore's advisory bodies. We are accepting applications now through Friday, September 13, 2019. You must attend one meeting of the advisory body for which you are applying before submitting an application.

Beautification Committee (1 vacancy)

Join us in working to preserve the natural beauty and habitat of Livermore. Next meeting: September 4, 2019, 6:00 pm, Maintenance Service Center, 3500 Robertson Park Road.

Commission for the Arts (2 vacancies)

Join us in encouraging and facilitating cultural programs that enrich the community. Next meeting: August 27, 2019, 4:30 pm, Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

Housing Authority (1 at-large and 1 tenant vacancy)

Join us in administering and overseeing low-income housing units and the Section Eight Voucher Program for subsidized housing. Next meeting: September 11, 2019, 5:30 pm, 3203 Leahy Way.

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be held the evening of September 19, 2019. For more information or to apply, please visit www.cityoflivermore.net/AB, call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email us at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE LIVERMORE AREA YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

The City of Livermore is accepting applications now through Friday, September 13, 2019 for both youth member and adult member vacancies. Join the commission in bringing together young people and adults, and private and public sectors of the community, to address responsibility for the care, health, safety, welfare, and education of Livermore's young people.

You must attend one meeting of the Youth Commission before applying. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2019, 7:00 pm, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue.

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be held the evening of Thursday, September 19, 2019. For more information or to apply, please visit www.cityoflivermore.net/AB, call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email us at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

Protect The Central Park Plan



5 Reasons To Sign The New Petition!

1 A Bigger, Better Park. The Central Park plan provides a 3-acre park, including Stockmen's Park, twice the size of the park in the city's plan.¹

2 More Convenient Parking. The citizens' plan brings 316 more spaces than the city plan provides in the Livermore Avenue area, where they are most needed.²

3 More Appropriate Housing. Both plans bring affordable housing to the downtown center, but the Central Park plan has just 84 3-story units off the Central Park, compared to 130 3- and 4-story units located on the park area in the city plan. In the Central Park Plan, 46 affordable units will also be available on Pacific Ave.

4 A High-Quality Hotel. A real Wine Country destination hotel of up to 160 rooms with a fine restaurant and other amenities, compared to a 133 room lower brand hotel without a restaurant. The top level hotel would become the face of our community and wineries, and contribute higher tax revenues to the city.

5 Financially Feasible And No Delays. The Central Park plan is financially achievable and won't cause delays in renovating our downtown.

1. Council Meeting September 24, 2018 Agenda, Public Hearing Item 5.05, page 557, Stockmen's Park; 2. Community Newsletter Summer/Fall 2018 #50, page 2, Downtown Interim Parking Timeline; City Council Meeting May 13, 2019, Item 5.01 Staff discussion of I Street garage; City Council Special Meeting, Budget Workshop Agenda, May 20, 2019, page 493, LVC Compactor Facility; Council January 29, 2018 Meeting Agenda page 39, Parking Requirements; Community Newsletter Special Edition 2 Winter 2018, page 2 (New Retail Uses), page 5 (Eastside Hotel Concept)

SHORT NOTES

Flavored Tobacco and E-Cigarette Sting Operation

On August 12-13, the Pleasanton Police Department's Special Enforcement Unit conducted a decoy operation targeting the sales of flavored tobacco and e-cigarettes to persons under 21 years of age.

Currently, Pleasanton has approximately 29 businesses selling these products. Plain-clothed officers accompanied underage decoys during each of the 29 site visits. Four businesses sold to the underage decoy and were issued citations.

While visiting each establishment officers also inspected the premises to ensure they followed mandatory posting of signs regarding the prohibition of tobacco sales to underage persons, and confirmed each business had a valid tobacco license.

The Pleasanton Police Department recognizes the increase in popularity of flavored tobacco and e-cigarettes with youth nationwide, and will continue to proactively address the illegal sales and purchase of flavored tobacco and e-cigarettes through similar sting operations. In partnership with the Pleasanton Unified School District, the PPD is committed to the health and safety of the youth in the community, and will include efforts to increase awareness about the harmfulness of vaping.

Agenda Posted for Open Space Meeting

The Altamont Landfill & Resource Recovery Facility Open Space Advisory Committee posted an agenda for its August 23 meeting that will include an update on the status of SB 767 concerning the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area, Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area, and possible action regarding the legislation; and a discussion of the project "Prioritizing Land Conservation in Eastern Alameda County," to establish priority lists and fund allocations consistent with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

This meeting, open to the public, takes place from 12:30-2 p.m. at 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, in the Regional Room.

Additionally, the Alameda County Resource Conservation District Transportation Wildlife Corridors Project will be addressed by Katherine Boxer.

To learn more, visit acgov.org, or call Liz McElligott, Alameda County Planning Department, (510) 670-6120.

Wrongfully Convicted Man Gets Free Dentistry

On August 17, the Pleasanton Ridge Dental Group gave Lionel Rubalcava a new smile on Smile Generation Serve Day.

Rubalcava was convicted in the 2002 shooting of Raymond Rodriguez in San Jose. The shooting was non-fatal, but resulted in Rodriguez becoming paralyzed. However, Rubalcava was exonerated this year because he had been misidentified by key witnesses and had received an inadequate legal defense.

After having served 16 years in prison, Rubalcava is taking steps to reintegrate himself into society, and received free dental care during Smile Generation Serve Day, an annual day of service and part of a nationwide campaign of giving that focuses on dental care. Since its start in 2011, Smile Generation Serve Day has helped more than 15,000 people.

Rubalcava's care was provided by the Pleasanton Ridge Dental Group, located at 6766 Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton.

Beautification Committee Special Meeting

The City of Livermore's Beautification Committee announced a special meeting will be held on Thursday, August 22, at 6 p.m.

The purpose of the special meeting is to discuss various Graffiti Abatement-Mural Projects.

The meeting, called by the chairperson of the Beautification Committee, takes place at Livermore's Maintenance Service Center, 3500 Robertson Park Road.

Livermore Knights of Columbus Annual Family Picnic

On August 11, the Livermore Knights of Columbus had their annual family picnic at Monsignor Adams Field. The day started with a Knights' family mass at St. Michael

Church, followed by a traditional barbecue of burgers, hot-dogs and salads at the field. Knights, families and friends enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and camaraderie. Youths aged 9 to 14 later participated in the 2019 Youth Soccer Challenge.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization devoted to works of charity. They raise funds through various community events and donate the net proceeds to worthy causes, mostly in Livermore and the Tri-Valley region.

Hagemann Ranch Invites All to Play

On Sunday, August 25, all are invited to "Go Outside and Play" at Hagemann Ranch from 1-4 p.m.

The free event will offer water games, vintage toys, games, face painting by the Hispanic Heritage Center, and Center Stage East Bay will be performing three times throughout the afternoon.

Attendees can take ranch tours on a hayride, which will run all afternoon.

Alan Frank will be signing his new book, Depot, a history of Livermore and its railroad depot.

Hagemann Ranch is located at 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

Dublin Chamber of Commerce Hosts Networking Mixer

All are invited to attend the Dublin Chamber of Commerce Networking Mixer on Wednesday, August 28, from 5-7 p.m. The mixer, hosted by Dublin Partners in Education, takes place at 6379 Clark Ave., Suite 200.

Attendees will enjoy light refreshments, beverages, and a chance to win raffle prizes while meeting local business people. Members attend for free; non-member tickets are \$25 at the door. To learn more, visit www.dublinchamberof-commerce.org.

\$117 Million Invested in Local Park and Recreation Projects

The East Bay Regional Park District has published a 10-year report on its Measure WW local grant program. The report showcases the many local park and recreation projects throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties funded by the Park District.

As of 2019, the Park District has approved \$117 million in local grant program funds for 236 total projects. Improvements include enhanced parks, playgrounds and community open spaces, renovated pools, new sports and recreation centers, upgraded skate parks, dog parks, sports courts, and additional walking trails.

"East Bay Regional Park District is proud to partner with local park and recreation agencies to help improve the quality of life for East Bay residents," said Park District General Manager Robert Doyle. "The 10-year Report highlights how funds have been invested, including how the \$117 million approved by the Park District has been leveraged by 277% for \$324 million in total park and recreation improvements."

In 2008, voters in the two counties approved Measure WW, a \$500 million bond extension, to expand regional parks and trails, and to preserve and protect open space for recreation and wildlife habitat. Measure WW extended Measure AA, which was originally approved in 1988. Measure WW, passed with 72% support, was the largest regional bond funding measure for parks in the U.S.

Of the \$500 million from Measure WW, \$125 million (25%) was allocated on a per-capita basis for grants to 46 cities, communities, park and recreation districts, county service areas, and the Oakland Zoo to address park and recreation needs. Cities and public agencies decide for themselves what recreation facilities need funding, and submit applications to the East Bay Regional Park District to receive funds.

"We are pleased that Measure WW has been able to assist local communities in improving their local parks and recreational facilities," said East Bay Regional Park District President Ayn Wieskamp. "So far, the Park District has paid \$96.8 million directly to local cities and service areas for 170 completed projects."

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**17th Annual Independent Watchdog Committee Report to the Public** FY2017-18

Measure B and Measure BB Sales Tax Activities

In November 2000, Alameda County voters approved Measure B, which extended the County's 1986 half-cent transportation sales tax to 2022 and set forth a 20-year Expenditure Plan to enhance the County's transportation system. 2000 Measure B also established a Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) to review all Measure B expenditures for compliance with the Expenditure Plan.

In November 2014, Alameda County voters approved Measure BB, which increased the County's half-cent transportation sales tax to one full cent, extended the tax through 2045 and set forth a 30-year Expenditure Plan for essential transportation improvements in every city throughout the County.

2014 Measure BB established an Independent Watchdog Committee (IWC) that reports its findings annually to the public to ensure appropriate use of sales tax funds and provides oversight by reviewing Measure B expenditures and Measure BB expenditures and performance measures. The IWC does not opine on other funds the Alameda CTC manages and/or programs. The IWC replaced and assumed responsibility for CWC activities in July 2015.

This 17th annual report covers expenditures and IWC activities during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 (FY2017-18). The full report is available at www.AlamedaCTC.org/IWC2019Report.

Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is responsible for administering the Measure B and Measure BB transportation sales tax measures. In FY2017-18, Measure B revenues for Alameda CTC totaled \$154.5 million, and audited expenditures totaled \$149.6 million. Measure BB revenues totaled \$153.5 million, and audited expenditures totaled \$122.9 million in FY2017-18.

The IWC concludes that 2000 Measure B and 2014 Measure BB tax dollars were spent in accordance with the intent of the two measures during FY2017-18, except as noted on the last page of the full report. However, opportunities for improvement remain.



Measure B and Measure BB Funded Programs

Alameda CTC allocates approximately 60 percent of Measure B and 65 percent of Measure BB funds on a monthly basis to programs by formula and through competitive grants to Alameda County, cities and transit operators.

In FY2017-18, Alameda CTC expended \$83.6 million in Measure B funds and \$81.8 million in Measure BB funds on programs, including local streets and roads, mass transit, special transportation for seniors and people with disabilities, bicycle and pedestrian safety and community development projects to improve access to jobs and schools.

Measure B and Measure BB Funded Projects

Alameda CTC allocates approximately 40 percent of Measure B and 35 percent of Measure BB funds to specific capital projects.

In FY2017-18, Alameda CTC expended \$36.5 million of 2000 Measure B funds and \$36.0 million of 2014 Measure BB funds on capital projects for transportation infrastructure improvements, such as highway and transit improvements, local street and road enhancements, intermodal and other local projects.

Independent Watchdog Committee Activities

IWC members performed the following activities from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

- Ongoing Programs and Capital Projects Monitoring:** The IWC monitors specific programs, capital projects and issues of concern.
- Review of Independent Audit of Alameda CTC:** The IWC reviews the independent auditor's plan for the audit before it begins and reviews the draft audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report regarding Measure B and Measure BB revenues and expenditures.
- Audit and Compliance Report Review:** The IWC members review audited financial statements and compliance reports, including performance measures, received from Measure B and Measure BB direct local distribution (DLD) recipients to ensure expenditures comply with the requirements in the applicable Expenditure Plan.
- Issues Identification Process:** IWC members may request and receive information from DLD recipients and/or Alameda CTC staff if they have concerns regarding Measure B and Measure BB expenditures. The committee may also review issues regarding Measure B and Measure BB expenditures identified by the public.
- Annual Report to the Public:** Each year, the IWC establishes a subcommittee to develop the annual report to the public regarding Measure B and Measure BB expenditures and to discuss distribution of and outreach for the annual report.

How to Get Involved

Independent Watchdog Committee meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in vacancies on Alameda CTC's advisory committees, contact Alameda CTC. Visit www.AlamedaCTC.org or contact the IWC at IndependentWatchdog@alamedactc.org to learn more. Follow Alameda CTC on:

 www.facebook.com/AlamedaCTC
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CHEMICAL WEAPONS

(Continued from first page)

are recorded in five other languages to make sure interested parties aren't left out.

Although not part of the United Nations, it works co-operatively with that body and has benefited from the association – particularly in the case of the chemical weapons crisis that erupted in Syria in 2013.

Indiscriminate cruelty

Chemical weapons have been among the most feared instruments of mass destruction for more than a century, after causing an estimated one million casualties during World War I.

They are notorious both for indiscriminate cruelty and military unreliability. During World War I, poison gas literally blew with the wind, sometimes contaminating terrain that attacking troops hoped to occupy, sometimes blowing back toward the attackers.

Today, OPCW tries to make sure no one makes or uses chemical weapons, a job that may be impossible in a world with terrorist groups and belligerent, secretive dictatorships.

It's not for want of trying. Under the terms of a 1997 agreement called the Chemical Weapons Convention, which has been joined by nearly every country in the world, OPCW has overseen the destruction of an estimated 97 percent of the world's chemical weapons stockpiles.

In part, it does its job by carrying out inspections and collecting samples for testing and analysis.

That's where the OPCW laboratory comes in. It does not carry out the analyses itself, but sets high standards and makes sure fully qualified laboratories are available to do the testing.

At any given time, about 20 laboratories worldwide are qualified to serve as OPCW partner labs.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, one of two U.S. facilities that have made the grade, became an OPCW partner lab in 2003. The other is Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland.

Gregg first began interacting with OPCW when he helped lead LLNL's preparation for proficiency testing, traveling occasionally to OPCW headquarters in The Hague.

A few years later, he learned that the OPCW laboratory directorship was open, applied and was accepted.

He started work in 2010 at a time when the OPCW laboratory had eight staff, including himself.

Proud of improvements

Gregg is proud of a number of things that he helped improve at the laboratory.

For one thing, as the workload increased in the years that followed, he was able to persuade his management to gradually expand laboratory staff to 13, and pay for a new building.

For another, he set up systems for doing both environmental and biomedical sampling to test for chemicals of concern.

Testing and exercises aside, the first time OPCW had to deal with genuine chemical weapons sampling occurred in 2013 after the Syrian regime appeared to use chemical weapons on rebels.

Because Syria had not signed the Chemical Weapons Convention at that point, OPCW was powerless to send in inspectors.

On the other hand, Syria was part of the United Nations, which sent inspectors who returned with an unusually large number of samples to be tested – 49, in contrast to the half-dozen or so that OPCW inspectors might have brought back.

The samples were analyzed by OPCW partner laboratories on an accelerated schedule; they indicated the presence of chemical weapons constituents.

Subsequent crises arose in early 2017, when the half-brother of North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un was assassinated with VX nerve gas in an airport in Malaysia, and a year later when a former Russian spy was poisoned and nearly killed in England.

The Russian attack was carried out with a nerve gas, Novichok, that Russia is widely believed to have synthesized with a novel chemical formula that did not appear on any OPCW lists. As a result, it was not prohibited.

OPCW conducted tests on both of these, the North Korean murder occurring in Gregg's final year and the Russian poisoning shortly after his departure.

Gregg is cautious when discussing the incidents, but news reports make it clear that both were the result of hostile actions with lethal chemicals.

While OPCW helped bring them to light, it is part of an international system that relies on public exposure and diplomatic pressure, with no clear means of enforcement when powerful nations like Russia and North Korea break its rules.

'Top tier'

Even among highly qualified OPCW laboratories, some stand out.

Gregg considers LLNL to be part of the "top tier," the best of the best for its ability to identify unknown chemicals and then synthesize a tiny sample for verification.

That does not mean they are perfect, however. Designated partner labs are tested annually to make sure their skills are current. The tests are hard, and most labs

slip up at least once.

LLNL did so in 2011, when it was disqualified after receiving a substandard grade in an accreditation test. Two years later, it requalified, and has received perfect test scores since.

Partner labs like LLNL are sometimes asked to prepare samples for testing other labs, and sometimes help with evaluating other labs' performance.

Purpose is to kill

The Chemical Weapons Convention requires the destruction of chemical weapons and prohibits their manufacture or use. Member nations are subject to inspections to ensure compliance.

The Convention lists three kinds of chemicals, and spells out their scientific formulas, according to potential usefulness in weapons applications.

Schedule 1 chemicals can be used to make weapons, or are themselves weapons. Deadly chemicals with names like Sarin and VX, they have few if any other purposes than to kill. (Some, like a nitrogen mustard compound, have application in tiny quantities in chemotherapy.)

Schedules 2 and 3 are dual use, meaning they have genuine industrial applications, but could also be used to make weapons. Schedule 2 chemicals can be legitimate for small scale industrial use, Schedule 3 in larger quantities.

Chemicals can be com-

bined in almost limitless ways. The technical job of identifying unknowns in a complex environment is extremely difficult -- hence the need for a variety of highly capable partner laboratories.

Looking back, Gregg finds both personal and professional satisfaction in his years leading the OPCW laboratory.

On a personal basis, he and his wife "just loved living in Europe," he said. "It's a whole different experience. You get a very different appreciation for the U.S., as well as for the other country."

Professionally, the work was challenging and vital, contributing to international safety and stability. "It was extremely rewarding and I think it was a great way to end my career," he said.

Correction

An article accompanying the headline "Livermore Knights of Columbus Annual Family Picnic" in last week's newspaper instead featured information about the Knight of the Month. Information about the annual picnic is in this week's edition.

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SPORTS NOTES



Livermore Fusion U10 Maroon Girls had a great outcome this past weekend, Saturday, August 17, at the Stanford Summer Classic Tournament in Sunnyvale, Calif. The girls had a great weekend, with no goals scored on them throughout all three games. In the final championship game, they tied and went into overtime. The girls played a hard game, but the final score was 2-1, and the girls placed second. They had an amazing weekend and worked so hard.



Livermore Fusion Soccer Club's U6 "Secret Agents" and "Flower Power" helped kick off Fusion's fall recreational soccer season by playing a stirring match on Saturday, August 17. For the Secret Agents, Kiki C., Emerson D. and Charlie D. starred, while Peyton S. and Viola P. made their recreational soccer debuts.



Livermore Fusion U12 Girls Maroon, had a great outcome this past weekend, Saturday, August 17, at the Davis Legacy Tournament in Davis, Calif., coming in at second place with a record of 2 wins, 1 loss and 1 tie.



The Pleasanton Rage 05 ECNL started the 2019-2020 soccer season this past weekend, on Saturday, August 17, against Blues FC and Santa Rosa 05 ECNL. Much like the previous season, Rage's defense was the key to victory in both of the NPL matches with scores of 1-0. Rage scored off a beautiful set piece with a finish from Macy Lehrer against a feisty Blues team. This game was followed by Sunday's matchup against an always game opponent in Santa Rosa. The game was finally busted open with a fantastic cross by Emma Fuller and a finish by Cameron Amaral. With an NPL record of 2-0, Rage is at the top of the bracket. Rage starts its ECNL season next week against Mustang 05 ECNL at 11 a.m. at Mustang fields in Danville. On Sunday, Rage is back to NPL action against California Odyssey at 1 p.m. at Patelco fields in Pleasanton.



Playing their first match at the Premier level, Fusion's 2011 (U9) Girls Maroon opened the fall season with a strong showing in the Walnut Creek Cup, compiling a 2-1-1 record, highlighted by a tournament-ending 2-0 shutout win over East Bay United.

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OBITUARIES

Richard V. Greville

Richard Wayne Greville sadly passed away on July 30, 2019. He was 93 years old.

Richard was born and raised in San Diego, Calif. Like many young men of his generation, upon graduating from high school Richard joined the United States Army and proudly served his country for four years. After his WWII service, he returned home to begin his working career.

He spent his successful business life in the grocery industry. During his time in the grocery industry, he spent many years working, managing and consulting for various grocery stores across America. He loved his work and began a long career of learning and studying his customers' shopping habits. Upon retiring, he implemented what he had learned by becoming a Store Planner for the grocery industry to change the shopping experience. In his second retirement, Richard learned about wood carving. He became an excellent woodcarver who made and sold indoor and outdoor furniture, garden art, and an assortment of children's toys.

While in San Diego, he met the love of his life, Freida Hartman, and was married for over 60 years. They lived in the Midwest for several years, and then decided to return to California in 1966, moving to Sunnyvale. In 1971, they moved to Pleasanton where they purchased a home and lived there for 47 years. In early 2019, they moved to an assisted living facility in Livermore, Calif.

Richard is survived by his wife Freida, nephew Don Pupera of Sacramento, Calif., niece Florence Taylor of Tallahassee, Fla., and several great-nieces and nephews.

At Richard's request, a private burial was held at the Oakmont Cemetery in Livermore.

Roberta Hutchinson Garland

Roberta "Bobbie" Garland passed away peacefully following respiratory failure, surrounded by her loving family.



She grew up in Pasadena, graduated from UC Berkeley in Fine Arts, and continued her interest and talents in the arts her entire life. Newly married to J. Jepson Garland, Bobbie worked at the Wind Tunnel at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab (part of Cal Tech, our dad's alma mater), then moved to the Bay Area to raise her family. As an empty nester, she expanded her skills in desktop publishing at Menlo College Admissions and Alumni offices, and then branched off into her own business.

Bobbie loved family, friends, church, music, sports, and travelling the world. She sang in choirs from a young age, played piano and guitar, and was an SF symphony season ticket holder for many years. Bobbie enjoyed playing and watching tennis, golf and skiing. She was an avid fan and supporter of the local teams the Warriors and the Giants, as well as her kids' sports and music endeavors. Bobbie volunteered in many organizations, including PTA, UMA, CAR, Kiwanis, and as a church deacon.

She relocated to Pleasanton about six years ago to be closer to family, and greatly enjoyed her Stoneridge Creek community.

Bobbie is survived by her sister Mary Pond; her four children Nancy Garland of Va., Susan Garland Foti, Cindy Garland Timby (Chris), and Tom Garland (Mari) of Colo.; four grandchildren Francesco Foti,

Jennifer and Amy Garland, and Corey Timby; and many nieces and nephews.

We already miss her strong faith, common sense, dry humor, and joy in life. Donations may be made to the American Lung Association.

Mark Reis Viera

Feb. 4, 1959 – Aug. 15, 2019

Mark Reis Viera was a loving husband, father and friend. He was born on February 4, 1959, and passed away peacefully on August 15, 2019, after a 2-year and 9-month battle with glioblastoma. He was surrounded by his family by his side.



"Thank you for your endless Love, that helps us though each day, and thank you for the memories that will never fade away. We'll always remember that special smile, that caring heart, that warm embrace. No matter what, we will always remember you because there will never be another one to replace you in our hearts, and the love we will always have for you."

Mark was born in San Jose, Calif., to Rudolph Viera and Bernadine Viera. He grew up in Santa Clara, Calif., and graduated from Wilcox High School. Mark worked for Pacific Bell for many years. He moved with his wife to the East Bay in 1989. After he moved to Livermore, Calif., he began working at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Mark enjoyed coaching Little League and football throughout the years. Mark also loved playing volleyball, going to the beach, and playing keyboards in various bands. Most of all he loved being at home with his family and friends.

Mark was married – just shy of his 32nd wedding anniversary. Mark is survived by his best friend and wife Lori and his devoted son Ryan. Mark's number one priority was always Lori and Ryan. He is also survived by his sister Marilyn Vitale, brother-in-law Al Vitale, and brother Armand Viera – all of New Bedford, Mass. He is also survived by sisters Cynthia and Chris Viera of N.Y., and mother-in-law Kathleen Hoffman of Pleasanton, Calif., along with many loving friends that were also like family.

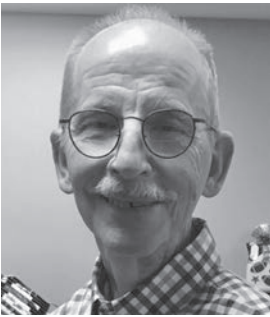
Friends and family are invited to his Celebration of Life on Saturday, August 31, 2 p.m., at Crosswinds Church, 1660 Freisman Rd., Livermore.

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

Lee Alex Dravidzius

Aug. 9, 1945 – Aug. 17, 2019

Lee Alex Dravidzius, 74, of Petersburg, Illinois, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, August 17, 2019, with his family by his side. He was born on August 9, 1945, the son of Louis and Jane (Woodworth) Dravidzius in Detroit, Michigan. He married Carla Cave on July 19, 2008, in Petersburg, and was very loved by the Cave family from Easton, Illinois.



Lee was accepted into the Detroit Magnet School, Cass Technical, as an art major where he was a classmate of Diana Ross and the

Supremes. His senior year he won a national poster contest with his design being put on all postal delivery trucks. He was awarded a scholarship to the California College of Art where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. He was a Technical Animator at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 25 years. Lee belonged to several watercolors societies in California and Illinois. Besides being a talented artist, he was an accomplished woodworker and carpenter, skills he used to restore a 100-year-old home in Livermore, California. Lee served our grateful nation in the Viet Nam War aboard the submarine USS Segundo in the Tonkin Gulf, attaining the rank of QM3. He was a member of the VFW and Sub Vets.

Lee is survived by his wife, Carla; stepdaughter, Tania Nassar of Phoenix, Arizona; two sisters, Elizabeth (husband George) Telfer of Troy, Michigan, and Marci Modolinski; and one brother, Al (Peggy) Dravidzius of Bangor, Maine.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Lou and Paul Dravidzius; and his first wife, Oneida Dravidzius.

Lee's family will be hosting a memorial gathering on Saturday, August 24, 2019, from 2-4 p.m. at Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg. There will be a celebration of Lee's life held at his family's home at a later date.

Memorials in Lee's name may be made to Disabled American Veterans or the VFW.

Please visit Lee's online obituary at hurleyfh.com to leave condolences and share memories.

Herman Philip Barberis

July 16, 1928 – Aug. 14, 2019

Herman Philip Barberis (Uncle Mondo to many) passed away on August 14, 2019, at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton, Calif., from pneumonia. He was 91 years old.



He was born in Plainsville, Pennsylvania, to Madalena Barberis (Nona), who was born in Asti, Italy, on April 27, 1894, and father Felippo Barberis also born in Asti, Italy.

He graduated from Plains High School in Pennsylvania in 1946. He then drove to California with two friends in a panel truck.

He lived with his sister Josephine Alfano and her husband Joseph Alfano in San Lorenzo, California. He was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1950 and served two years of active duty. He received an Honorable Discharge. Herman worked for General Motors in Fremont for 30 years.

He was a wonderful uncle to Joseph Alfano, Phillip Alfano and Marie Levasseur, and numerous nephews and nieces.

He loved his family, the American Flag, the Catholic Church, his Italian heritage, and the Oakland A's.

He lived in a Care Home in Pleasanton, California, for the last five years of his life. He loved the owner's dog Munches, a 5-lb. Chihuahua.

He always liked to say, "It is great to be an Italian."

A viewing will be held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, on August 30, from 10-11 a.m. Church services will be held at St. Augustine Catholic Church at 11:30 a.m., with interment following services at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations are welcomed in his name to St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton.

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

cluding that [these were Mont's exact words] 'the last thing we want to do is to interfere with someone else's hard work.'

Did you catch that? The hotel developer was unaware of the City's approval of a DDA with Presidio. So, the assertion that "he clearly understood then, and continues to understand now, that the city plans to move forward with Presidio's east side hotel" is not factual.

After 12 emails the quote was changed to what was printed in The Independent: "I had a wide-ranging, hour long conversation with the president of a hotel development company, one of the largest in the United States. His company owns and operates many boutique hotels in California, which he referenced to affirm the market for a downtown Livermore hotel that could serve wine country, business and downtown visitors."

Why spend so much time and energy on one quote for one article? What you read and how you interpret it matters. The changes made to Mr. Van de Water's statements clearly show that this newspaper is attempting to portray the hotel issue in a certain light. The article would make it seem that a well-qualified developer is ready to create a west side hotel. Mr. Van de Water's original statements indicate otherwise. The citizens of Livermore deserve to know what happens behind closed doors. They deserve to know why a newspaper owner cares so much about the downtown plan. Why a group is willing to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to sway local politics.

What does all this mean for you as a voter and resident of Livermore? First and foremost, read, read, read. Before signing any petitions, initiative or referendums, know what the impact will be on the city and on you as a taxpayer. From my understanding the current referendum would change zoning laws regarding the hotel and have very little to do with parking or a park. Read everything with a grain of salt. Joan Seppala, the owner of this newspaper, is willing to go to great lengths to ensure her desires are met.

Editor's Note:

If the City persists in developing an Eastside Hotel with Presidio Companies, it is true that no new developer will be available. However, one of the largest hotel developing companies in the United States has told a number of citizens that he is interested in the Livermore market and a downtown site on the condition that the City moves to a west side location, and that Presidio withdraws. That is the whole truth. Supporters of the Eastside Hotel are telling a half-truth in claiming that no Westside Hotel developer can be found.

Ms. Seppala did not mislead the national hotel developer into thinking that Presidio had dropped out.

Stop Emulating National Contention LaMyrl Sandholtz, Livermore

I don't usually write a letter to the editor. I am compelled to write now because I am so tired of reading ongoing arguments, ugliness and personal attacks concerning the future of downtown Livermore.

My husband, four children and I moved to Livermore in 1961. During our years here we have been active in campaigns for candidates and on controversial issues which we felt were for the good of our city. We welcomed the open coverage of city and valley news and issues when The Independent appeared in 1963. It was a breath of fresh air presenting all sides of our community, its virtues and its challenges.

I remember times of great disagreement on issues such as restrictive covenants which would have prevented a person of color from buying a home in Livermore.

Many of us of diverse backgrounds worked together to defeat that measure at the ballot box. Some candidates for city office have been more contentious than others. Through these years, however, I have never seen such unkind, and untrue, even vicious personal attacks as those written about Joan Seppala, The Independent, Jean King and anybody else who has voiced concern over recent City Council decisions and actions.

My concerns now are these.

1. Why did the City Council spend thousands of dollars on the community meetings and then vote unanimously to ignore the findings from those meetings? The session I attended supported the west side hotel, more parking, an extended park, etc., as did most of the sessions. Had the Council committed to Presidio before these community meetings were even held? Why are you, City Councilmembers, opposed to letting citizens vote to decide these issues? A vote against the Initiative or Referendum would completely support the current city plan and vindicate your actions; there could be no more opposition. A vote in favor of the Initiative or Referendum would speak to the desires of your constituents, whom you were elected to serve. Either way the rancor would stop because the community populace would have had our say.

2. I'm wondering if the people who have such unkind things to say about The Independent and Joan Seppala ever read The Independent? Their nasty, critical letters are published, not pitched in a wastebasket. City Council meetings are reported. Speakers on both sides of the Downtown Plan are quoted. City Councilmembers and the Mayor really did make those unbecoming statements. Their opponents have not made personal attacks on anybody.

3. Money matters. I donate my 'widow's mite' to as many causes as I can. Had it depended on people of my income level we would not have a Bankhead Theater and its many wonderful and diverse offerings which educate and entertain those of us who live here. I am grateful to the Bankheads, the Seppalas, Jean King and many others who donated significant sums so that I don't have to endure ever increasing traffic, bridge tolls, expensive parking, etc. to enjoy a quality night out. These and other good people continue to donate as sponsors to bring quality events to Livermore. Other aspects that make Livermore a great place to live have likewise been made possible because of the generosity of these and other citizens.

Owners of wineries and downtown businesses now criticize some of the people with whom they have previously worked in harmony to make good things happen here. I suspect they don't mind the income they've received from the influx of paying customers drawn here partly by the efforts of those they now defame.

Let's stop emulating the contention and the lack of civility, courtesy, compromise and cooperation flowing from our nation's capital. Livermore has been a great place to live in part because of our diversity and our respect for one another. Let's stop this pettiness and move forward working together.

It's About a Park, Not a Theater

Johnna Thompson, Livermore

Contrary to Mayor Marchand's recent public statements regarding the Central Park Initiative, the main idea motivating the initiative is actually a park in the center of our downtown hub, hence the name: Central Park Initiative. It's not Central Theater Initiative, or Central Dirt Lot Initiative, as the mayor and his Unify Livermore sycophants are trying to make people believe are the ultimate and ulterior goals of the citizens like me who favor a park in downtown Livermore instead of more housing and more congestion.

Why do Central Park opponents like the mayor keep re-invoking fears of a regional theater that was once proposed for the old Lucky site downtown, as though the idea is some zombie that is only waiting for passage of the Initiative to reappear in Livermore, with the opponents' favorite bête noire, Joan Seppala, leading the way? Is it that they know the majority of Livermore residents would really prefer a central park, so they must conjure up unfounded fears that there is some secret nefarious plot underlying the innocuous notion of a park? In this view, "park" doesn't mean park (with grass and trees), it means "Joan's theater" or "dirt lot."

The ongoing effort to demonize Joan Seppala and all the citizen supporters of the Central Park Initiative, is ugly and unseemly, especially in an elected public servant. Mayor Marchand, you should be ashamed of yourself. I'm ashamed for you.

Attempt to Thwart Voters

Jean King, Livermore

The Citizens for a Livermore Central Park collected 30% more than the required valid signatures of Livermore voters to qualify a ballot measure so there could be a vote to approve the Central Park Plan instead of the City's Plan for the Downtown. The Central Park plan has a 3-acre park, including Stockmen's Park, from the Bankhead Plaza to L Street, a parking structure on the east side of Livermore Avenue, 84 affordable housing units, and a hotel overlooking the park on the west side.

Instead of waiting for the voters to decide, the Council moved forward with their plan by approving a Development Agreement with Presidio to have the hotel on the east side. In order to stop that, a referendum was filed and signatures are being gathered to qualify that referendum.

Now the Council is moving forward with a Development Agreement for the housing in the City Plan. The housing in the Central Park Plan is on the edge of the park. The City's Housing Development Agreement puts the housing in the middle of the proposed Central Park. These residential units will kill the 3-acre Central Park. Council is going forward with another backdoor attempt to thwart the right of voters to adopt a better plan for the community.

The Council should not approve the Development Agreement for the housing. Wait for the results of the vote and then move ahead with the plan that the voters want.

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DOWNTOWN PLAN

(Continued from first page)

lot and a parking area. Both groups want to transform the area into a park with more affordable housing, shops and restaurants, a blackbox theater and science center.

But they have different ideas for how it should be done. During eight public meetings in 2017, more than 2,000 people weighed in on what they want downtown Livermore to look like. Priorities included a public park, preserving the character of the community, more parking and affordable housing, according to city documents.

The City Plan

In early 2018, the council came up with a new downtown plan that attempted to balance the priorities of the people with the budget, infrastructure needs and a requirement for the city to include affordable housing.

The City Plan includes a four-building complex of 130 affordable studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments in the northwestern part of the development. The city wants to build a parking garage on the southwestern portion of the property. More parking spots would go in east of the garage.

The property near Blacksmith Square at Livermore and Railroad Avenues would include a public fountain surrounded by a proposed Science and Society Center, a Blackbox Theater, retail buildings and the long-promised Stockmen’s Park.

The city wants to put a hotel between Livermore Avenue and the Bankhead Theater. The city has done some preliminary construction, including prep-work for Stockmen’s Park, and built a new street, Veterans Way.

The Central Park Plan

The city’s plan doesn’t sit well with the Central Park group. They believe officials are ignoring what people in Livermore want.

“The idea is not to put so much housing right on an area that could be open space for the community and visitors,” said Tamara Reus, a group member. Central Park plan supporters created a political action committee to promote their plan through advertising and commissioned a rendering to show their vision of a reinvigorated downtown.

The plan features a large, central park that would span from the Bankhead Park Plaza to L Street, and a parking structure on the southwestern portion of the property.

Parking on both sides of Livermore Avenue, the entertainment center of town, should not be lost, they state. They propose an Eastside Garage with a signature restaurant on the ground floor.

They want to bring in a larger, higher-end hotel and build a center for design,



culture and education east of L Street and north of Veterans Way.

The plan includes 84 smaller units of affordable housing south of the center portion of Veterans Way, as well as an additional 46 units on Pacific Avenue. An L Street Garage meets the needs of First Street businesses. Stockmen’s Park, a fountain, the Blackbox Theater, and retail buildings would be placed next to Blacksmith Square.

Hotel vs. Housing

A larger hotel with a restaurant and higher room rates could generate more revenue for the city through taxes and attract tourists looking to vacation in Livermore Valley’s wine country, Reus said. She points out the potential economic boost could offset the cost of the larger 3-acre park,

for instance, and should be factored into any analysis of the two proposals.

Reus said her group’s design would also make it easier for people to park near the Bankhead Theater, Blacksmith Square and surrounding restaurants. “There are a lot of people who are older and less physically able. It would be better for them if they had parking closer to Livermore Avenue than L Street,” Reus said.

Supporters of the city’s plan say their design would do more to address the Bay Area’s serious housing crisis, while still providing some new green space for everyone.

“The city came to what I think is a very elegant compromise,” said Asa Strout, a member of Unify Livermore. Strout said he decided to get

involved because he wants to see Livermore improve prime downtown real estate that has been empty for decades. Even in a comparatively “affordable” part of the Bay area, housing prices are driving away young families and entry-level workers.

“A lot of my friends don’t live in the city anymore because it’s too expensive,” the Livermore native said. People with incomes that would make them well-off elsewhere in the U.S. are struggling to make it in Livermore, Strout commented. A family of four with an annual income of \$140,000 would qualify for partial housing assistance under federal guidelines, he said.

The Initiative

Advocates earlier this year gathered enough signatures on a petition to put an

initiative in front of voters. If approved, it would change downtown zoning to make their project possible.

Strout is concerned that language in the Central Park initiative does not include the specific references to lower-cost housing which exists in the city plan. The initiative replaces “apartments” with “dwellings,” which he said is a legally-vague term more open to interpretation. It replaces “will be affordable to a variety of incomes, serving the Livermore workforce” with “will provide much-needed multifamily housing to residents who enjoy the dynamic downtown lifestyle.”

“There is a clear, distinct strike through the word affordable. That simple strike turns the housing from legally-defined affordable

housing to market rate,” Strout said. “That changes the math, changes the cost dramatically.”

Reus balks at the suggestion that her group is trying to shut lower-income people out of downtown by building smaller, less central units. “It’s small units, so we will attract a certain demographic, but that demographic needs housing too,” Reus said. “It’s not true that we don’t intend it to be affordable housing.”

The city plans to release the report during the council meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday at 3575 Pacific Ave., Livermore. People can also watch the meeting on Tri-Valley Community TV or use the video on demand service to see it online at tri-valleytv.org.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561433

The following person(s) doing business as: RICH RESULTS Marketing & Promotions, LLC, 3617 Dunsuir Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard B. Alvari, 3617 Dunsuir Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Richard B. Alvari, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2019. Expires July 22, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4593 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL
OF PARTNERSHIP OPERATING
UNDER FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO. 547159

The following person(s) has/ have withdrawn as a general partner(s) from the partnership operating under the fictitious business name: Ms. Carmen's Kinder Casa, 860 Herman Ave, Suite# 102, Livermore,

CA, 94551. The full name(s) and residence address(es) of the withdrawing partner(s): Vicente S. Meneses, 6364 Altamar Circle, Livermore, CA 94551. Registrants: /s/ Vicente Meneses, Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jul 24, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 4594 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561559

The following person(s) doing business as: Butter and Batter, 577 Windemere Circle, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lisa Corti, 577 Windemere Circle, 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: 7/25/19. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Lisa Corti, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2019. Expires July 25, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4595 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561078

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Butcher Shop, 282 South L Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Livermore Butcher Shop, 282 South L Street, Livermore, CA 94550. 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 Registrants: /s: Andrew Cusimano, President/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2019. Expires July 10 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4596 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561565

The following person(s) doing business as: Noire Aesthetics, 4230 Rosewood Dr. Suite 120, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nasia James, 6450 Dougherty Rd Apt 922, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: July 25,2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Nasia James, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jul y10, 2019. Expires July 10 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4597 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 560867

The following person(s) do-

ing business as: Grafo Mini Mart, 1309 Portola Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ana Molina Martinez, 1127 W Sonora St, Stockton, CA 95203. 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 Registrants: /s/: Ana Moria Martinez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 3, 2019. Expires July 3 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4598 Published Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561517

The following person(s) doing business as: Beckman Investment Securities, 4049 First Street, Suite 141, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kenneth L. Dammel, 22994 N Lower Sacramento Road, Acampo, CA 95220. 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: July 7, 2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Kenneth Dammel, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 24, 2019. Expires July 24, 2024. The Independent Le-

gal No. 4599 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561657

The following person(s) doing business as: Silicon Valley Consulting Group, 2858 Sable Oaks Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jaideep Sharma, 2858 Sable Oaks Way, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Jaideep Sharma, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 29, 2019. Expires July 29, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4600 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561500-5001

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Livermore Handyman Services 2. Denney Handyman Services, 4753 Apple Tree Cmn, Livermore, CA, 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Patrick Brian Denney, 4753 Apple Tree Cmn, 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: July 8, 2019.

Signature of Registrants: /s/: Patrick Brian Denney, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 24, 2019. Expires July 24, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4601 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561543-544

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Laura for Dogs 2. LFD Dog Training, 2090 Ponderosa Dr, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Laura Anne Enos, 2090 Ponderosa Dr, 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: August 27, 1997. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Laura Enos, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2019. Expires July 25, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 4602 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
ORIGINAL FILE NO. 505220

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Fit For Life, 8647 Galindo Dr. Dublin, CA 94568. Registered Owner(s): Jeffery King, 8647 Galindo Dr.

Dublin, CA 94568. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 5/20/15 in the County of Alameda. This business wasconducted by an individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Jeffery King, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 30, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 4603. Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561758

The following person(s) doing business as: S&S Partners, 3910 Gorman Court, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Youngho Seo, 3910 Gorman Court, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: July 25, 2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Young Seo, Managing Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 31, 2019. Expires July 24 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4604 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 561758

The following person(s) doing business as: Uptown Pup Mobile Grooming, 7048 Lancaster Rd, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Monica Cain, 7048 Lancaster Rd, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Monica Cain, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 17, 2019. Expires July 17 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4605 Published Aug 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. HG19029156

SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS:

Petitioner: Robert Anthony Armenio 460 Hummingbird Lane Livermore, CA 94551 (925) 784-9484, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Robert Anthony VanHof Proposed Name: Robert Anthony Armenio THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the

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reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 9/13/19
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17

The address of the court is:
Hayward Hall of Justice
24405 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county:

The Independent Newspaper
2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: July 30, 2019
/s/: Wynne S. Carvill, Judge of the Superior Court.
The Independent Legal No. 4606 Published August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561819

The following person(s) doing business as: 3D Remodeling & Construction, 111 Lindbergh Ave, Suite D, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): 3D Remodeling & Construction, 111 Lindbergh Ave, Suite D, 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: January 18, 2019. Signature of Registrants: /s/: James Alexander, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2019. Expires August 1 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4607 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 562094

The following person(s) doing business as: Authors AI, 3756 Pimlico Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joseph Daniel Lasica, 3756 Pimlico Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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 Registrants: /s/: Joseph Daniel Lasica, Founder. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2019. Expires August 9 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4608 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 562162-3
The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Edge Auto Care, 2. Edge Detailing, 1784 Creek Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jordan Paul Esling, 1784 Creek Road, 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 Registrants: /s/: Jordan Paul Esling, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2019. Expires August 9, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4609 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561479-561481

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. ALP Equity LLC, 2. 3 Cameros, 3. Silicon Valley Resume, 2949 College Ave, Apt 135, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ALP Equity LLC, 2949 College Ave, Apt 135, 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: July 24, 2018. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Pedro Aguilera, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 23, 2019. Expires July 23, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4610 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561863

The following person(s) doing business as: R K Houtz, LLC, 6363 Collier Canyon Rd, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): R K Houtz, LLC, 6363 Collier Canyon Rd, 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 Registrants: /s/: Roger Kenneth Houtz, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 2, 2019. Expires August 2, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4611 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561935

The following person(s) doing business as: Solsys, 2833 Al-

wick Ave, Unit 2, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Paulo Maldonado, 2833 Al-wick Ave, Unit 2, 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 Registrants: /s/: Paulo Maldonado, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 5, 2019. Expires August 5, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4612 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561531

The following person(s) doing business as: JJ Grooming, 8419 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J. Marshall Investments, LLC, 1267 Willis St, Ste 200, Redding, CA 96001. 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 Registrants: /s/: Jacquelyn T. Marshall, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2019. Expires July 25, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4613 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561671

The following person(s) doing business as: Ovasians Vietnamese Cuisine & Boba Tea, 1548 N. Vasco Rd, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Syndicated Inc., 5593 McFarlan Ranch Dr, Antioch, CA 94531. 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: May 10, 2009. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Thomas La, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 29, 2019. Expires July 29, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4614 Published Aug 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561409

The following person(s) doing business as: Del Rancho Supermercado, 1565 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maricela Diaz Diaz, 810 Kings Canyon Ct, Tracy, CA 95376. 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 Registrants: /s/: Maricela Diaz Diaz, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2019. Expires July 22, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4615 Published Aug 22, 29, September 5, 9, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 562364-562367

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Liv Fitness, 2. Lead Athletics, 3. Sniper Basketball, 4. Boreman Sportsplex Basketball Training Center, 2506 Bassetts Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jordan Boreman, 2506 Bassetts Way, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Jordan Boreman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2019. Expires August 15, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4616 Published Aug 22, 29, September 5, 9, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 562457

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri-Valley Classes, 1257 Amalfi Common Court, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following Francine Sneddon, Jordan Boreman, 1257 Amalfi Common Court, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Francine Sneddon, Co-Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 19, 2019. Expires August 19, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4617 Published Aug 22, 29, September 5, 9, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 562244

The following person(s) doing business as: The Bay Cellar, 3234 Saratoga Court, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Charles Thomas, 3234 Saratoga 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 Registrants: /s/: David Charles Thomas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 13, 2019. Expires August 13, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4618 Published Aug 22, 29, September 5, 9, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 561562

The following person(s) doing business as: Oculus LLC, 1948 Fiorio Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oculus Cleaning, LLC, 1948 Fiorio Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Sandra Saldivar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2019. Expires July 25, 2024. The Independent Legal No. 4619 Published Aug 22, 29, September 5, 9, 2019.

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Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

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155) NOTICES

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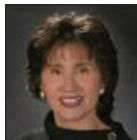
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Solar Panel construction is underway at Amador Valley High School. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Air District Supports State’s Lawsuit Against Trump’s Plan

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District released a press release last week supporting the state’s lawsuit against Trump’s plan to gut restrictions to the 2015 Clean Power Plan. “The Bay Area Air District strongly supports the State of California’s lawsuit against the Trump Administration’s misguided efforts to gut restrictions on coal-

burning power plants and undermine efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” said the District’s Executive Officer Jack Broadbent. “The time for action on climate change is now. We cannot deny, delay or diminish the catastrophic threat of climate change that is already impacting our state and Bay Area residents. The Trump Administration is moving in

the wrong direction and we will continue to resist any efforts to recklessly endanger the health and well-being of Bay Area residents.”

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. To learn more, visit www.baaqmd.gov.

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Offers Sexual Harassment Prevention Seminar

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance (TVNPA) is offering a sexual harassment prevention seminar on Thursday, August 29, 8:30-11:15 a.m., at Hively, 6100 Owens Drive in Pleasanton.

Starting in 2019, statewide for-profit and nonprofit organizations with five or more employees must provide sexual harassment prevention training for their employees, and this seminar satisfies that requirement. The training is also open to non-profit volunteers and board members.

“This will be a great opportunity for attendees to get guidance in an extremely sensitive area from someone who has litigated sexual harassment cases for many

years,” said Robert Nuddelman, a Pleasanton attorney who has specialized in employment and business law for more than 20 years. “Educating employees about inappropriate workplace conduct, and what to do if someone is a victim of or is aware of potentially inappropriate conduct, can create a positive work environment.”

The seminar includes a one-hour session for all employees from 9-10 a.m., and an additional one-hour session for supervisory staff from 10:15-11:15 a.m. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

Nuddelman encourages attendees to bring questions and share relevant experiences during the sessions. He also incorporates role

playing to make the seminar engaging.

Organizations that fail to complete the training by January 1, 2020, “could possibly be cited by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing,” said Nuddelman. “More importantly, the absence of training could be used as evidence that the employer failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment.”

Preregistration is required. Tickets are \$35 for members or \$45 for non-members for the 9 a.m. session; tickets are \$45 for members or \$55 for non-members for both sessions. To learn more, visit www.tvnpa.org.

Scottish Games at Fairgrounds Over Labor Day Weekend

The 154th Scottish Highland Gathering & Games takes place Labor Day weekend, August 31-September 1, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

“I invite everyone to visit us at the world’s most complete Celtic festival. It is not just for Scots,” said Rob Tysinger, Chief of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, producer of the Games. “With over 20 different events and attractions, we offer something for everyone – from individuals to families.”

Topping the long list of attractions is the gathering of 30 pipe bands from the U.S. and Canada. These bands compete each day in their respective grades, then gather late in the afternoon to march onto the track in front of the grandstands to produce one of the world’s largest assemblies of pipe bands. The spectacle of the 750-plus pipers and drummers merging to face the grandstand audience is awesome in itself, but

added to the grandeur is the march onto the track of the U.S. Marine Band integrated with the Robert Malcolm Memorial Pipe Band from Vancouver, Canada.

The 45th U.S. Invitational Heavy Event Championships, consisting of Pro and Amateur Men and Women, features ten of the world’s top professional heavy-event athletes. In all, there are 87 athlete entries from 22 states and four countries. All athletes compete in all eight disciplines, including Caber, Weight-for-Height, Weight-for-Distance, Hammer, and Stone Put. This year the 20-lb. sheaf toss will feature the world champions in both the men’s and women’s divisions.

The Western United States Open Highland Dancing Championships takes place both days in the amphitheater stage area.

Seven stages of continuous entertainment from the traditional to Celtic Rock bring live music to all. Entertainers include Scotland’s

Albannach and the crowd-pleasing Tempest among the 11 different groups. Two of the stages feature Celtic Heritage, consisting of fiddlers, harpists, country dancing and much more.

Living History goes back in time with Mary Queen of Scots and her entourage with the Highland Warriors and invading Vikings.

The Highland Games also feature the Glen of the Clans with nearly 100 clans assembled, Irish Step Dancing exhibitions, Children’s Glen for the little tikes, Sheep Dog Trials, Five-A-Side semi-pro soccer tournament, Birds of Prey, Highland Cattle, Clydesdale Team, Rugby and Shinty Tournaments, British automobiles, the Kilted Mile, and more than 100 vendors in air-conditioned buildings, Scottish and American food, and the popular Whisky Tasting Pavilion.

For schedules, admission and additional information, visit www.TheScottishGames.com.



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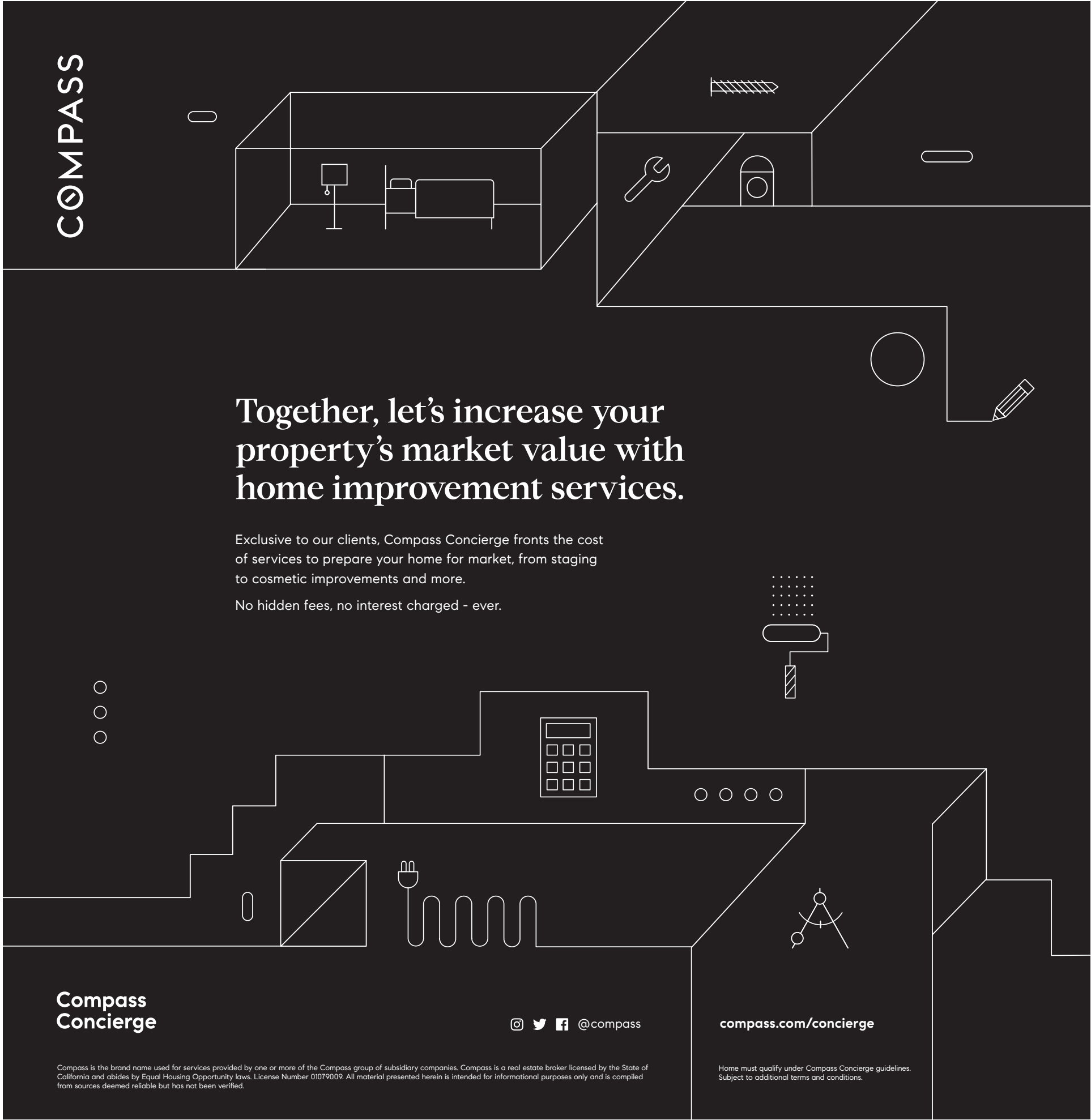
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Spirits of Pleasanton's Past Come Alive at Museum on Main's Annual Ghost Walk

As dark falls upon downtown Pleasanton at the end of October, you're likely to catch a glimpse of the spooky spirits who call Main Street

home. Museum on Main announces the annual Ghost Walk, a two-hour guided tour of Pleasanton's most haunted sites along Main Street in the

downtown area.

This family-friendly tour, held for more than 12 years, continues to be a popular event during the Halloween

season. The museum expects this year to be no different. About 1,200 people join in Ghost Walk each year, with tours often selling out in advance. Most of the attendees are adults from the Bay Area, but children also attend and have a great time.

With a volunteer team of ghost hosts to lead groups and actors playing the roles of the various ghosts around town, Ghost Walk is a very unique event.

"Ghost Walk has successfully brought the haunted side of Pleasanton to life through the stories and experiences collected from psychics, ghost hunters and shop workers over the years," Executive Direc-

tor Jim DeMersman said. "Ghost Walk is more spooky than it is scary. It's not a haunted house type of program where people jump out to scare you."

The museum is also proud to announce the return of teen improv students from the city of Pleasanton's Creatures of Impulse.

"The improv team is a great addition to Ghost Walk," DeMersman said. "They are so fun playing the many roles of the downtown ghosts and we are pleased they will be back again this year."

Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended. Tours depart the museum every 30 minutes from 6 to 8 p.m.

on Oct. 18, 19, 25, and 26. Tours take place rain or shine, so dress appropriately. Costumes are highly encouraged!

Tickets can be purchased online at museumonmain.org or by calling (925) 462-2766. They're also available at the museum, 603 Main St., Pleasanton.

Tickets cost \$18 for adults and teens and \$13 for children 12 and younger.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information about current exhibits and programs, visit museumonmain.org or call (925) 462-2766.



Above: Creatures of Impulse students portraying the Ghosts at Prim. Ghost Walk tickets can be purchased online at museumonmain.org or by calling (925) 462-2766.

Livermore Trolley Launches Sip, Savor and Shop Tour

By Laura Ness

The Livermore Wine Trolley kicks off its Sip, Savor and Shop tour on Thursday. Trolley owners Brian and Ann Luke wanted come up with a tour that pairs premium wine and shopping. So they partnered with the San Francisco Premium Outlets in Livermore

to make it happen. They plan to run the tours every Thursday as long as there is sufficient interest.

"We are excited to be launching this exciting new tour," Brian Luke said.

The trolley will pick guests up at the outlets and take them on a trip through the Livermore Valley's wine country. The tour stops for

tastings at two wineries. Ofelia's Kitchen also serves lunch as part of the trip. When guests return to the outlets, there's a reception with snacks and refreshments along with deals from retailers.

The idea is to encourage visitors to spend money at the mall and visit local wineries. The first tour is

scheduled to stop at Las Positas and Darcie Kent wineries. The lineup will change each week.

The idea to give tourists a taste of what the region has to offer, then drop them off to do their shopping. Not many places have trolley ride through wine country. And shopping after the tastings can't be bad for

business.

Shoppers have more than 180 stores to choose from at the state's largest outdoor outlet mall. Outlets in Livermore include retailers such as Burberry, Prada, Gucci, Versace, Tory Burch, Coach, Karl Lagerfeld Paris, Longchamp, Stance, Timbuk2 and Kate Spade New York. It also includes 46 shoe stores.

The mall is located off of exit 48 for El Charro/Fallon Road on Interstate 580.

The trolley has room for 20 people. Tours start at 10:15 a.m. and return to the outlets at 2:15 p.m.

Tickets cost \$115.99. They're available available online at tinyurl.com/yy-qfs8du or by calling (925) 989-0421.

Livermore School of Dance to Present 8th Annual Sunset Soiree

The Livermore School of Dance will present its 8th annual Sunset Soiree on Sept. 6 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in front of the Bankhead Theater.

Bring a picnic dinner and chairs to enjoy a great evening outdoors as the sun sets over downtown Livermore.

The Livermore School of Dance Jazz Company is scheduled to perform under the direction of Liz Roberts. The show includes jazz, modern, musical theater, tap, hip hop and contemporary lyrical styles of dance with popular songs of today and some added classics.

The show will also feature Matt Finders and the Element 116 jazz band.

Admission is free.

Visitors can sit outside in one of the patio dining areas at nearby eateries to enjoy the music and dance performances.



Livermore School of Dance students entertain the crowd with a performance to the music of "Wipe Out." (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

Local Heroes Honored for Saving a Life



Albert Hart, second from left, met with Tri-Valley heroes two months after his June 15 cardiac arrest.

On the morning of August 15, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department recognized a handful of local heroes who jumped into action to save the victim of sudden cardiac arrest. The ceremony took place at Shadow Cliffs Lake.

Exactly two months earlier, Albert Hart had suffered a sudden cardiac arrest while running on Stanley Blvd., outside of the East Bay Regional Park's Shadow Cliffs Lake. A friend recognized the severity of the situation and flagged down passing motorists who called 911 and started cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Noticing the commotion, off-duty Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighter Cadets Cody and Jason Stearns pulled over and took over CPR. The 911 call also triggered PulsePoint, an app that alerts nearby CPR-trained

responders — one of whom was a lifeguard working at Shadow Cliffs. The lifeguard and his colleagues were directed to the scene, and were able to deliver defibrillation shock to Hart using the Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

A few minutes behind on the same run was Hart's wife, Trish, who arrived and spoke to her husband during the resuscitation. The Harts live in Marin, but often travel to Pleasanton to train for endurance events that include running and open-water swimming.

When Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department paramedics and a Paramedics Plus ambulance arrived at the scene, they initiated Advanced Life Support care, and Hart was transported to a local cardiac care emergency room, then to Kaiser hospital.

Eight days after the event, and one day after his 28th wedding anniversary, Hart walked out of the hospital in good condition. He celebrated his 60th birthday this week.

"This miraculous recovery was only possible be-

cause of the individuals who chose to learn CPR, and those who downloaded the PulsePoint app," said Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Deputy Chief Joe Testa. "This story should serve as inspiration for anyone who is able to learn CPR

to do so. There is no better example of how important the bystander link is in the chain of survival."

Albert and Trish Hart attended the event, and met with rescuers for the first time.

Honorees are: EBRPD Lifeguards McKenna Stevu-

lak, Joseph Jerome, Rafael Ledezma-Villalva, Jeremiah Howland, and Anthony Nguyen; citizens Juliana Schirmer, Bill Schirmer, and Albert Dyrness; and off-duty LPFD Explorer Cody Stearns and LPFD Reserve Jason Stearns.

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Man on the MOON
 EXHIBITION
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Closing Reception
Sunday, August 25
6-8 p.m.
 Gallery will be closed
 Saturday the 24th
 lvpac.org



Crooked Vine/Stony Ridge Finish Tasting Room Renovation

By Laura Ness

The Crooked Vine/Stony Ridge has completed a remodeling of its tasting room that was spearheaded by the recently departed Gina Donofrio.

Now, guests can see into the courtyard from the bar.

A huge new window lets in the light and gives people a chance to look at the scenery instead of a wall. The improvement offers different seating options and the chance to enjoy the outdoors too.

Crooked Vine winemaker Chris Sorenson is tran-

sitioning out of Kunde and plans to return his attention to Livermore just in time for the harvest season.

He's been working on the renovation project and his own brand, Caddis. Sorenson is opening his Caddis tasting room from noon to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Whistlestop Writers to Host Open Mic

Whistlestop Writers will host an open mic for writers of all genres on Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Swirl on the Square, 21 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

The evening will include food and wine along with writing.

"Don't be shy," Cynthia Patton, Livermore's Poet Laureate and the event's host, said. "Support local writers in a fun and welcoming environment."

The Whistlestop Writers plan to continue open mic events on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

For more information, email LivermorePoetLaureate@gmail.com or visit the Whistlestop Writers Facebook page.



The 33rd Good Guys West Coast Nationals Car Show featuring classic and custom cars, autocross, and competitions will be held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on August 23–25. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Reaches New Milestones Leading up to 2019-2020 Season

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center began its new fiscal year last month after reaching several notable milestones in sales, membership, and fundraising.

The 2019-2020 Bankhead Presents season, which was announced in late May, will open with the Brilliance at the Bankhead Gala on Sept. 7. The season runs through June 2020.

Sales for the new season are moving quickly. On the first day of member pre-sales, single day sales were double the level reached on

Some of the upcoming shows are selling fast. The May 2020 performance by Broadway star and Disney legend Lea Salonga is already sold out. Nearly all the regularly priced tickets for the "So You Think You Can Dance LIVE 2019" show on Nov. 29 sold within a few days after it went on sale last month.

Texican rock band Los Lonely Boys in November, Lonestar and Phil Vassar's "Holiday & Hits" show in December, and the return of The Choir of Man in January are among the others now

Bankhead" project, initiated in early 2018, reached the \$500,000 funding milestone, allowing the next phase of the project to begin.

New environmentally-friendly carpet will be installed throughout the Bankhead Theater. The building will be closed to the public while the work is completed and will reopen before to the gala.

Last year, new programmable LED lights were added above the stage. This fall, solar panels will be mounted on the roof to provide energy for the building.

In June, the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center was awarded a California Arts Council "Arts Education Exposure" grant of \$12,680. One of just 124 organizations to receive the money this year, it will be used to help underwrite special student matinee performances and local school assemblies. The grant will also help support free cultural arts celebrations for Native American Day in September and Hispanic Heritage Day in May.

Director of Development and Communications Chris Carter said the past fiscal year has also seen a broadening of support for the organization's efforts.

"Our pool of donors has grown considerably and we are closing in on reaching the 1,000 member milestone," he said. "What is perhaps even more significant is that the number of larger donors has also increased. In the last year, 20 percent of our members gave \$1,000 or more."

Community participation across the organization has also grown. In addition to attendance at Bankhead performances and the new Bothwell Presents music

series, the third Livermore Innovation Fair in April saw record attendance.

The current "Man on the Moon" art and photography exhibit in the Bankhead Gallery has welcomed more than 900 visitors, the most recorded for any exhibit there to date. A closing reception for "Man on the Moon" will be held on Aug. 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. It will provide a final opportunity to view the large-scale photographs from NASA and the scale model of the Apollo 11 mission trajectory created by members of the Livermore Science & Society Center. Additional photos, video, artwork and associated memorabilia complete the exhibit.

Bent Creek Winery Events

Lots of great fun at the end of the road
Labor Day weekend!

September 1
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September 5
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(Thank Goodness It's Thursday) 5-8.
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wine by the glass, bottle or case.

Winery hours: 12-5
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Tickets to see Broadway star and Disney Legend Lea Salonga on May 8, 2020 are already sold out, nine months in advance. (Photo - Raymund Issac)

the same day a year earlier. The record pace continued through the public on-sale date in June.

selling well.

Additional money for key projects has also been secured. The "Green the



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Events Planned to Support Dublin Schools

The Dublin Partners in Education are planning two events to support schools in the community.

The nonprofit's back to school splash celebration is scheduled for from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sept. 7. at the Dublin Wave Waterpark. Tickets cost \$7.50. They can be purchased at dpie.org/back-to-school.

The second event, the Speakeasy Gala, is an 1920s-themed party for adults 21 and older. The fundraiser is a chance to dress up dolled and dapper in evening attire. It is scheduled from 6 to 11 p.m. on Oct. 5 at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Ave, Dublin.

Tickets cost \$85 and include a seated dinner, wine, beer, cocktails, dancing and a silent and live auction to raise money for more than 12,000 students in the Dublin Unified School District.

People are encouraged to coordinate with their friends when buying tickets to make sure they're seated together at the 10-person tables. Tickets are being sold at eventbrite.com. Michael Utsumi can help accommodate seating requests. Contact him at (925) 587-5612 or michael@dpie.org.

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The annual Pleasanton Soccer Parade will take place this Saturday to launch the fall soccer season. Teams wear creative costumes that reflect their team names. The parade will march down Main Street in Pleasanton starting at 7:30 a.m. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



The 154th consecutive Scottish Highland Gathering and Games will be held on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. The event celebrates Scottish culture, competition, cuisine and entertainment. For more information, go to caledonian.org. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

New Art Show at Ryan's Automotive

The Alliance for the Visual Arts and Ryan's Automotive are hosting a new show of art by local animal artist Kathleen Hill.

Hill has lived and worked in Livermore for 40 years, capturing and celebrating the unique bond people share with animals.

"My work is considered more portraiture because I tend to want to zone in on their individual characteristics. I want them to be the center of interest, not just part of a landscape. I will always consider their eyes to be the key element in my work, for it is through

their eyes that I see their life essence. My intent is to capture that unique being before me so that my audience can almost reach out and feel the softness of feather or fur, the dampness of a nose or tongue, and take in the beauty without being disturbed by movement. Working in oils or in colored pencil on suede board, I continually work to learn something new and to improve my use of the materials.

The natural world has always been my comfort zone. You won't find me at the mall unless art supplies are

on sale! I would much rather take a walk with my dog or ride out into the country and look for cows and wildlife. I am blessed to live in the Livermore Valley where I can still leave town in any direction and pickup trucks and cowboy boots aren't a fashion statement but a way of life"

Ryan's Automotive Service, 2115 First St., has been serving the Livermore area since 1997. They are a family-run business that supports the arts by supplying a gallery wall space in their showroom.



"Spotty Shade," an oil on canvas by artist Kathleen Hill

Kiddie Academy to Host Storytime Live

Kiddie Academy of Livermore, a educational child care provider, invites children and their families to Storytime Live, a free community reading event on Saturday at 10 a.m.

During the event, people will have the opportunity to enjoy a story reading and classroom visit with Curious George and Pinkalicious. Parents are encouraged to

bring their cameras to capture the excitement.

Storytime Live is open to all. The Kiddie Academy is located at 1400 N. Vasco Road in Livermore. Register online at kastorytime.com

For more information, call Rishu Khare at (925) 292-1948 or email livermore@kiddieacademy.com.

Fertile GroundWorks To Hold 7th Annual Taste for Giving Celebration

Join Fertile GroundWorks in celebration of another successful year in fulfilling the mission to teach, grow and give at the 7th annual Taste for Giving on Sept. 8 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the historic Livermore Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave.

A catered dinner by On the Vine will be served with an assortment of local wines and beers on tap. The event will also feature auctions and drawings.

Tickets are available at fertilegroundworks.org and brownpapertickets.com.

Proceeds are expected to help Fertile Ground-

Works continue its efforts to make sure everyone in the community has access to fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables. The main teaching garden is located at 4743 East Ave., behind the Asbury Church. Fertile GroundWorks grows 15,000 to 20,000 pounds of nutritious food to give to neighbors every year, while teaching volunteers how to sustainably grow food for themselves and their families.

So far this year, Fertile GroundWorks has been able to share more than 12,000 pounds of food with the

community. To continue improving the food security of neighbors in need, they are asking for support.



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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Livermore Art Association

Gallery, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2155 Third Street, Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sat. 11:30 to 4 pm and Sunday 10 to 2:30 pm. For information call 449-9927.

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at five businesses in the area. Viewing locations are: The Stanford Health Care Dermatology Clinic, 1133 E. Stanley Blvd. Suite 111, Livermore; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 183, Pleasanton; The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton; and The Bagel Street Café at 4101-A Dublin Blvd., Dublin. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

Man on the Moon: 50th Anniversary of the Lunar Landing Exhibit, July 10-Sept. 9. Bankhead Theater Gallery, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvoac.org

"Play Date!" Themed Fine Art Exhibition: August 2 through September 14 in the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. 7 Bay Area Artists: Carolyn Crampton, Susan Else, Dimitry Grudsky, Martin Hsu, Diana Krevsky, Hugo Kobayashi and Joshua Nissen King. **YOUNG @ ART:** Class for young people ages 5-11. Thursday, August 29, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Register at www.pleasantonfun.com, Code 13959. **DEMO & BOOK SIGNING:** Wednesday, August 28, 4-5:30 p.m. Martin Hsu presents his illustrated children's book *Metta*, an intimate collection of artworks

to inspire compassion and loving-kindness, with wisdom by Rumi. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue.

Art Reception: Where Art and Nature Meet, 1-3 p.m. Sept. 21. Exhibit Dates: Sept. 11 through Oct. 28. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 373-6800.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

The Young Artists' Studio has openings in its 2018 - 2019 school year art classes. Artist Peggy Frank offers small group, individualized instruction in art to students ages 7 through high school. She also works with adults. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. Home schoolers and high school students working on advanced portfolios are welcome. Peggy has been an art instructor in the Livermore Valley for many years. Contact her at (925) 443-8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info: 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

Preschool Art classes: Thursday mornings 9:45-10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit [\[ects.blogspot.com\]\(http://ects.blogspot.com\).](http://childrensartclassesproj-</p>
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Art Classes, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and keyboard lessons, For children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the last Saturday of each month from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

WINERIES

Fun Fridays at Wood Family Vineyards. Live Music Acoustic Wednesdays each and every Wednesday: Tasting Room opens at Noon with music from 4-7pm. 8/28 - Brian Skinner. Fun Fridays each and every Friday. 8/23 - Michelle Lambert; 8/30 - Kinetic NRJ Tasting room opens at Noon with music from 5-8pm. 2407 Research Dr., Livermore.

Charles R Vineyards, 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore. www.charlesrvineyards.com 925-454-3040. Ukulele Jam & Open Mic with Steve Kritzer Saturdays, August 24 and September 28. 1:00pm to 4:00pm Music sheets will be provided, or email Steve at steveonstrings@gmail.com for a PDF of the songs in

advance. Bring a picnic, kids are welcome, and wine is available for purchase by the glass or bottle. An Open Mic session will give those with more expertise a chance to strut their stuff.

Las Positas Vineyards, August 23 -25 at Las Positas Vineyards featured food pairing flight will be Chocolate Truffle & Wine Pairing flight and also offering our Reserve Flight. Tasting Room hours are open 11:30am-4:30pm. For more information, contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com Saturday, August 31 at Las Positas Vineyards featured food pairing flight will be our 7th Annual Bacon-Cabernet Sauvignon Pairing Event. International Bacon and International Cabernet Days together at the winery. No tickets required but reservations are required for groups of 6 or more. For more information, contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com

Charles R Vineyards 4th Friday Free Summer Concert Series 6 to 9 p.m. August 23 - Rick Spitaleri - Danceable rock and roll from the 60s through today; September 27 - The Spencer James Band - A remix and a mashup of great blues and rock 'n' roll. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore, www.CharlesRVineyards.com 925-454-3040.

Las Positas Vineyards, Tasting Room hours are 11:30 am-4:30 pm. For more information, contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com. Saturday, August will be our Annual Bacon-Cabernet Sauvignon Pairing Event. No tickets required but reservations are required for groups of 6 or more. For more information, contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com.

Grill and Chill at Cedar Mountain Winery, August 24, 5-8pm. Featuring Lost Cats Band. B.Y.O.F. (bring your own food to grill). We supply the grill with hot coals! You bring your grilling- food, BBQ tools, side dishes, plates, and utensils. Wines by the glass/bottle, non-alcoholic

beverages, snacks, cheese and crackers will be available for purchase. Plus Port Sundaes! Call the Tasting Room for more information at (925) 373-6636. Fee is \$5 per/person (cash collected as you park.) All fees go to the band.

Rodrigue Molyneaux Summer Wine Release, Sunday, August 25. 2016 Barbera, 2015 Merlot and 2016 Sangiovese - Double Gold and Best Micro Red at the 2019 California State Fair - to the public on Sunday, August 25. Stop by the tasting room to pick up a bottle of award winning wine. www.rmwinery.com 3053 Marina Ave., Livermore.

Harvest Wine Festival, noon to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 1. Wine tasting,

entertainment at wineries. Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. www.lvwine.org.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Retzlaff Estate Winery, Live Music every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. retzlaffvineyards.com

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at: Old Mexico Bar & Grill in Livermore on Portola Avenue - the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

Queen Nation, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 28. Firehouse Art Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.

Brilliance at the Bankhead with Matthew Morrison, 8 p.m.

Applefest at Ravenswood Historic Site

**Applefest will take place
Aug. 25, 2019 at 12:00 - 4:00 pm
at Ravenswood Historic Site,
2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore.**

Explore the apple orchard and taste heirloom apple varieties you can't find in stores. Ongoing activities from 12 - 4 pm, include cider making (and drinking!), "apple slinkie" making, face painting, old-fashioned games, and docent-led tours of the historic buildings. Special apple tasting and apple history talk with Ranger "Apple"

Amy begins at 2 pm.

Fee for age 18+: \$5

Fee for age 2 - 17: \$1

No fee for kids under age 2

RSVP for ranger-led programs by calling the ranger office at (925) 960 2400 or emailing valleywilds@larpd.org. Programs are subject to cancellation if there are not enough RSVPs. Listed fees will be collected at the start of the program. Payment by credit card, check or cash (exact change appreciated).

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District
4444 East Ave., Livermore
925-373-5700

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Sept. 7. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 373-6800.

Stephen Bishop, 8 p.m. Sept. 7. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

Meri Bhavna, 4 p.m. Sept. 8. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

Night of the Living Prog, 8 p.m. Sept. 13. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

Midnight Flyer, Sept. 14 - Sept. 15. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

The Glenn Miller Orchestra, 3 p.m. Sept. 14. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925-373-6800.

Pacific Chamber Orchestra, Symphony #9 - Beethoven, 3 p.m. Sept. 15. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925-373-6800.

Marc Broussard, 8 p.m. Sept. 28. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

ON THE STAGE

H.M.S. Pinafore, Lamplighters Musical Theatre August 24 and 25. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org, 925-373-6800.

The Glass Menagerie, Role Players Ensemble. August 30-September 15, 2019, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm; Sundays at 2 pm The Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville www.RolePlayersEnsemble.com.

COMEDY

Free Comedy Show every Thursday at Sanctuary from 7:30-9 pm in the Skylight Room at Sanctuary, 2369 First St. in

Livermore.

Free comedy show every Thursday at Rebel Kitchen & Libations, 2369 First St., Livermore 7:30pm.

San Francisco Comedy Competition, 8 p.m. Sept. 20. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925-373-6800.

DANCE

Tango Del Cielo, Sept. 21 - Sunday, Sept. 22. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925-931-4848.

MOVIES

Dublin Picnic Flix, Free Summer Movie Series at Emerald Glen Park. Incredibles 2, August 30. Movies will begin at dusk usually 8:30 - 9:00 p.m. Food trucks and other snack food vendors such as kettle corn will be on site.

Royal Wedding (1951), Bankhead Presents Classic Film, 7 p.m. Sept. 18. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 373-6800.

OPERA

Eugene Onegin, Livermore Valley Opera, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m., Sept. 29, 2 p.m. Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 6, 2 p.m. chaikovsky's best-loved opera. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925-373-6800.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Livermore-Amador Symphony Association's 47th Competition for Young Musicians. Application deadline is Sunday, September 8, 2019. (Applications will be accepted starting September 5, 2019.) Competition open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside in Alameda County, Contra Costa County, the city of Tracy, or the community of Mountain House. The selection, one movement of a concerto, should have the minimum length of about 10

minutes. All instruments will be considered. Students are eligible through the age of 19 (being 19 at the time of concert performance February 22, 2020). Two young musicians will be chosen to perform as soloists with the symphony on February 22, 2020 in the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$500. Applicants must submit a completed application form, a non-refundable fee of \$20 and a recording of their playing (submitted link to YouTube via email). Additional information may be obtained from www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at (925)525-6070.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hagemann Ranch Open House. Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 PM. Go to www.livermorehistory.com for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

A Writers Meetup for adults 18 and older meets on the first Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA. There is no charge and no sign-up needed to attend this informal gathering. Hosted by local writer and NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) participant Sydney Dent. To learn more about this program check the library's website at livermorelibrary.net or call the library at 925-373-5500.

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 925-872-7923, for questions. .

Fertile GroundWorks Taste for Giving Fundraiser, Sunday, September 8, 2019 at The Barn in Livermore 4 to 8 p.m. at 3131 Pacific Avenue. Food, beer, wine and music plus auctions and drawings for all. Early bird tickets, \$65 each or sponsor a table of 8 for \$480, available through Brown Paper tickets now through August 31, bpt.me/4287415

154th consecutive Scottish Highland Gathering and Games, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Celebrate the very best of Scottish culture, competition, cuisine and entertainment. www.caledonian.org

The Cutting Edge Management of Concussions, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 12. ValleyCare Speaker Series. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925-373-6800.

Splatter, a colorful splash of water, wine, art and music at Dublin's Emerald Glen Park. The 8th Annual Splatter festival will be held Saturday, September 14, 2019, from noon to 8:00 p.m. Admission and parking are free. <http://dublin.ca.gov/1145/Splatter>

Taste of Downtown, Sunday, Sept. 15, noon to 5 p.m. Livermore. Sample Wines, Beer & Culinary Treats, and More. Downtown restaurants will offer culinary; Downtown shops will be host to a tasting of wines and beers. Live entertainment and shopping specials. Tickets and information Livermore Downtown, Inc. www.livermoredowntown.com

Museum on Main, An Afternoon or Evening with.. William Clark: Tuesday, September 24, 2pm; Tuesday, September 24th, 7pm; Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets at www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

30th Nostalgia Day Car Show, The Altamont Cruisers - September 29, 2019. Downtown Livermore. Opening ceremonies 9 a.m. www.altamontcruisers.org

New Art Exhibit and Opening Reception at Blackhawk Gallery

The Alamo Danville Artists' Society will host the opening of Blackhawk Gallery's new Exhibit 'Inspiration'. A Gala Reception will be held on Saturday September 14 from 5 to 7pm, with wine and Hors d'oeuvre. The exhibit will be on view seven days a week from Friday September 13 to Sunday November 17, 2019. The Reception and Exhibit are free and open to the public.

The 'Inspiration' exhibit features one guest artist and thirty-eight member artists. Guest artist Jacques Blumer will be showing his finely crafted turned wood. Members' artworks include paintings, drawings, sculptures, ceramics, photographs, and wearable art.

The exhibit is curated by Debby Koonce, Kerima Swain and Beverly Turner.

The Blackhawk Gallery is located at 3416 Blackhawk Plaza Circle in Danville, California, in the Blackhawk Plaza. Telephone: (925) 648-8023.

Regular Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm and Sunday 11am-6pm. Holiday hours: Columbus Day, Halloween, and Veterans Day all regular hours.

For more information, please contact Blackhawk Gallery Director Kerima Swain at swain.kerima@gmail.com



Turned Wood Bowl by Jacques Blumer

BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to ed@mail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

Ohlone Audubon Meeting, Tuesday, September 3, at 7:30pm at Carlton Plaza of Fremont, 3800 Walnut Ave, 94538. Topic: Ecology and Conservation of the Gulf of the Farallones. Presenter Peter Pyle's talk will cover the ecology and conservation of the gulf's marine vertebrates, from birds to pinnipeds to cetaceans with emphasis on his main research species, breeding and pelagic seabirds, and Great White Sharks. No admission charge and refreshments served. For more information and directions visit the website www.ohloneaudubon.org.

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, will take place at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center on Thursday, September 12, at 1:30 p.m. Ray Rychnovsky will present "The Tri-Valley's Amazing Wildlife." Ray will share photographs of egrets, herons, hawks, deer, ducks, and other animals he has observed at Shadow Cliffs, Stoneridge Creek Park, and other locations. Ray's presentation will highlight the diversity of wildlife to be found right here in the Tri-Valley. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Storytime Room of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

Dublin San Ramon's Women's Club, major event which supports all our community service in the Tri-Valley Area. Includes dinner, outstanding prizes, and casino event 12-4 p.m. 11/3/19 at Crow Canyon Country Club. Please go to our website to purchase tickets dsrwomensclub.org

Livermore Valley Coin Club, Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you enjoy collecting coins or other numismatics this is the place for you. The meetings incorporate shared numismatic knowledge, various club raffles, a Coin of the Month and a club coin auction. For information contact: Gary Antone (925) 373-6758

East Bay Singles Convention, Single Professionals meet new friends on Labor Day Sunday, September 1, 2019, 7:30-11:30pm, at Faz at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 5121 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton CA. \$20 at the door. Adults of all ages welcome. Dress to impress. 7:30pm – The East Bay Singles Scene, featuring representatives of the leading singles organizations and meetups in the East Bay. 8-11:30pm – Dance to your favorite hits. CO-SPONSORED by dozens of major singles organizations and meetups, including Society of Single Professionals, the world's largest non-profit singles organization; Professionals Guild Singles, San Francisco Singles, Bay Area Professional Women, Single Professionals Internet Network (SPIN), Single n' Professional, 40+ Singles, Cougar Events, Bay Area Womens Happiness, International Association of Dating Websites, Lifestyle Parties, Cougar Meetup, Happiness in Love Coaching, Bay Area Single Boomers, Walnut Creek Single Pro-

fessional Women, Bay Area Asian Women, etc. Anyone wishing a discount or more information about this and many more events for singles may visit www.thepartyhotline.com.

Dress a Girl Around the World, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Meetings are once a month. The next meeting is Sept. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Hall, Corner of 3rd and Maple St., Livermore. Bring sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with helping hands. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) Always accepting cheerful cotton fabric donations. Those who can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Valley Children's Museum, a community based, non profit, children's museum for children 3 to 10 years old, offering fun and educational STEAM based play activities. Located in Emerald Glen Park, Dublin, off Gleason Dr. Open Thursdays 4 to 8 pm during Dublin Farmer's Market & third Saturday of the month. Volunteer opportunities for teens and seniors. For more info visit <http://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org> or contact Linda Spencer, 925-683-4741 or linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org

Castlemont High School All Classes Reunion Saturday, September 7 from 10am to 4pm at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunaol Blvd. Bring own food and beverages, no alcohol allowed. Entrance is \$15. ea. or \$10. ea for Castlemont Alumni Association members. For more information contact Greg Hickey 925-461-1381 or whizman@prodigy.net.

The Fifth Annual Hope 100 Golf Marathon accepting player registrations. Join Hope Hospice for a fun and challenging day where you will be among an exclusive group of passionate golfers completing 100 holes in one day, all for a great cause! The event takes place September 30 at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. Each golfer commits to raising \$2,500, with net proceeds benefiting Hope's patient care and grief support programs in the East Bay and Tri-Valley areas. You can pay your own \$2,500 entry fee directly, or encourage friends and family to collectively support you and cover the fee. Register at hope100golfmarathon.com. For registration questions or sponsorship inquiries, contact the Hope Hospice Development Department at (925) 829-8770.

Livermore Lions Club meets for dinner every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at Emil Villa's Restaurant, 3064 Pacific Ave. in Livermore. Lions are the world's largest service organization. Livermore Lions support the needs within the community and state, the nation and the world. Funds provided to support the homeless, the fire victims, and the hurricane and earthquakes victims. Charities include: Canine Companions, Blind Centers, and the Ear of the Lion. Check out our website (livermorelionsclub.org) for up-coming projects and events. All are welcome to meetings and to participate in activities.

Master Gardeners talks, Demonstration Garden, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Trained Master Gardeners are on site at to answer question and give tours of the garden 9:30am-11:30am on the second Saturday of

the month; talks on seasonally appropriate topics. All Talks are 10 am - 11 on the second Saturday of the Month Mar-Nov. Aug. 10 Soil- why does it matter so much; Sept. 14 Fireescaping in a Suburban environment; Oct. 12 Propagation: Seed Saving; Nov. 9 MG Plant Favorites- Win nr interest

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley's Connections Support Group, meets every Wednesday, from 7:15pm - 8:45pm at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. This group provides support and education for anyone experiencing a mental illness. For further information, visit www.nami-trivalley.org or contact Kendall @ 925-872-0170.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Jose Maria Amador, Pleasanton Chapter. The local Jose Maria Amador chapter meets on the second Saturday of the month from September to May, with a short business meeting and a program. DAR was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the world during the past three years. For more information, please visit <https://josemaria.californiadar.org/> or contact Debbie Janes at jmadar.regent@gmail.com.

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter. Meets September through May on the first Saturday of each month. DAR was founded in 1890 to promote education, historic preservation, and patriotism. Its members are descended from patriots who supported and/or fought for American independence during the Revolutionary War. With nearly 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. For additional information, visit <http://jhl.californiadar.org>.

Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group - those with Parkinson's or a variant diagnosis plus their care partners meet at the Pleasanton Sr. Center on the 2nd Sat of every month from 10am-12Noon. Hear speakers on a variety of related topics and to share challenges, solutions, and triumphs! Contact mary.behrendt@comcast.net or 925-462-5081 for more information. No cost.

Pleasanton Amer. Leg. Post 237 located at 301 Main St. is looking for few good veterans to join us. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1900 hr. or consider joining us for coffee/donuts every Saturday 0700-0830. All veterans all welcome to join us at coffee. You qualify to attend if you served. Come and meet other veterans and you will hear and see nothing has changed since you were discharged. We enjoy new faces and guarantee you will enjoy being around veterans. Please consider coming and joining your comrades, because there still fun to be around. Lock and Load. Ready on the right ready on the left. Visit our post at americanlegionpost237@comcast.net

Alcoholics Anonymous If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call AA) 925-829-0666

Native Daughters of the Golden West, (California born Women) is a fraternal and patriotic organization founded on the principles of : Love of Home; Devotion to the Flag; Veneration of the Pioneers; Faith in the Existence of God., Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore, meet first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, I.O.O.F Hall, 2160 First St., Livermore (easy entrance from back of building) Rec. Sec.: Shelley Buchberger, 925-698-4345- website: NDGW.org

Scottish country dancing in Livermore. Enjoy the lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Make new friends and have fun while you exercise. Join us Mondays 8:00 to 10:00 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience or partner required. We welcome new dancers at any time. Call Margaret Ward at (925) 449-5932 or Sheena MacQueen at (925) 784-3662 for more information.

Wednesday Night Run with Sunrise Mountain Sports, every Wednesday night (rain or shine) at 6:30PM. Start/End Location: Sunrise Mountain Sports 2184 First Street Livermore. The run/walk will start at 6:30PM, but come hang with us around 6PM to socialize/ warm-up/change. There are a variety of distances starting at 2 miles and they go up to 9 miles. The most popular is the 3.5 mile course (that does have two water fountains along its route). Dogs, kids, and people of all paces are welcome. More information located on Sunrise's Facebook Event Page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/>

The City of Pleasanton Library's Literacy Program is searching for patient, caring volunteer tutors to help adults practice and improve their English reading, writing, and conversation skills. Volunteers will work one-on-one with students, lead small group conversation practice, conduct citizenship test preparation, or lead book clubs. No advance preparation is needed. Find more information contact the Adult Literacy team literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov / 925-931-3405.

Livermore Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post 7265, seeking returning Veterans from foreign conflicts who are interested in staying engaged with other Veterans and their families. The VFW is one of the strongest Veterans organizations in America but is in serious decline because of lack of membership. Meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month with a light dinner social at 6:00pm followed by a business meeting at 7:00pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 522 So. L. St. (corner of So. L & 5th Street-enter on 5th St.). For more information contact Commander Hank Jean: 480-585-8970 or Service Officer Ron Gillette: 925-443-4444.

Tri-Valley Haven - Individual Counseling & Group Therapy Openings, For over forty years, Tri-Valley Haven, a non-profit agency, has provided shelter and counseling for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, and their children in the Tri-Valley. The Haven provides free, professional individual and group therapy for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and poverty. For more information on Tri-Valley Haven's Support Groups and Individual Counseling, please call: (925) 449-5845.

Docents for the Livermore History-Mobile. Volunteers interested in Livermore

history and/or like working with children (mostly 3rd graders) are needed. Mission is to teach children the history of Livermore and instill in them a sense of pride in the city. There will be training. Time commitment could be as little as a few days a year. There are usually have 3 docents at each school. If interested, call Nancy Mulligan, 925-443-3076 or E-mail n.mulligan@comcast.net.

Sing for fun, Music Sing-a-Long, sing familiar tunes with other folks along with piano accompaniment. The words of the songs will be provided. No musical experience needed. Most Mondays, from 11:00-12:00 at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Small fee.

Counter Point (Addiction Family Support Group), a free faith based, Christ centered (Al Anon based) program designed to help individuals with family members who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at the St. Michael Convent building, first floor (375 Maple Street, Livermore). For further information contact Rachel at (510-501-1411).

Tri-Valley Geeks, group of adults who get together for events like board games, movies and fan conventions. Meetings every Tuesday at 5:30 for dinner and board games A schedule of upcoming events can be found on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks). Text Melody Evenson at 925-209-1214 for more information.

Golden Circle Seniors, meetings Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Sewing, knitting and crocheting all year, saving items for the annual bazaar in November. Ninety-five percent of the proceeds are donated to local charities.

Pleasanton Lions Club, dinner meetings every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Bottle-Taps -3020 Bernal Ave Suite 160, Pleasanton. Check website for meeting updates pleasantonlionsclub.org. Pleasanton Lions Club is a non-profit organization that seeks to identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. All are welcome.

Have you been affected by someone's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. www.AlanonTriValley.org, 925-277-7661, help@AlanonTriValley.org.

Recovery International (RI) is a weekly self-help group, led by a trained, peer volunteer leader, for people who want to reduce their stress. There is no charge Anyone 18 or older is welcome; just drop in. Meetings every Sunday 2:00 to 3:30 PM at Arbor Vista library room, 1300 South Livermore Avenue.. Call Barbara, 916-335-8836 or Dave, 415-948-9462.

Ethos 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore. Free and confidential services related to pregnancy include guidance and referrals, baby clothing, and diapers. Call (925) 449-5887 for an appointment.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers are needed to deliver fresh meals to homebound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 p.m.. For more information, please call (925)483-1989.

Rotary Club of Livermore Valley invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at

7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to www.livermorevalleyrotary.org/ or Jill Duerig / 1-510-378-7243 / jillduerig@hotmail.com

Del Valle Folk Dancers: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel (925) 447-8020 or george.pavel@gmail.com

Square Dance Lessons in Livermore, 7 p.m. at Del Valle High School, 2253 5th Street. All ages welcome. Dancing Thursdays weekly from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. No partner or special attire needed. For more information call Margaret 925-447-6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com.

Shepherd's Gate New Life Thrift Store, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9-7 Monday through Friday, 9-5 Saturday, closed Sunday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building, 9:30 AM to 5 PM M-F, 8-2:30pm Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 462-2487.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group (CL) is a non profit,peer based, all volunteer, self help in-person support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings at Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton, every Monday 7 - 8:30 pm (except postal holidays). www.clutterless.org (national) or www.ClutterlessEastBay.org for more info.

Questers is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. At chapter meetings, members learn about antiques, share and view members' collections, visit historic sites, museums and antiques shops and help non-profit organizations with restoration and preservation work. Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday monthly from September to May. New members are invited to join the local Amador Chapter. If interested call President Rickie at 925-292-8123 or e-mail rffgiono@comcast.net.

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 p.m.. For more info visit us @ <http://www.trivalleystargazers.org/>

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully

BULLETIN BOARD

landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at (925) 443-0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at www.trivalleysir.org and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org/. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925-967-8177.

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans' causes. The American Legion is the largest federally chartered veterans organization that is the veterans lobby and voice to congress. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to <http://www.calegion.org/> or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or (925) 443-2330 or Roy Warner at 925-449-6048.

Eric's Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30 - 8:00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericscorner.org

Assistance League® of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call (925) 461-6401.

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925-215-8405 or visit www.PleasantonNewcomers.com

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their com-

munity for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contact is Lee Parlett 292-9280.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-621-8946 for additional information.

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC), Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. www.trivalleytriclub.com.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collects supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information www.fpcl.us or 925-447-2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com.

com.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. Sunday Service 10:30am. Church of the open mind, loving heart and helping hands. All are welcome. Childcare, and religious education for children as well as adults are offered. For more information, visit www.uucil.org or call 925-447-8747.

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBay-SecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship (semiformal); 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925-447-1246.

Calvary Tri-Valley, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. www.calvarylivermore.org or 925-447-4357.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 447-3428.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, Pleasanton, 6656 Alisal Street. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 10:35 a.m., Nursery, Children's Church (ages 3-12) at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday Women's Bible Study will be taking a break, Senior Adult Ministry every other month. Call for date and time and other church programs at 846-8650.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. New Sunday Worship Services & Children's Ministry times now at 9 a.m & 10:30 a.m. Small Groups also meet on Sundays, and during the week at various times/locations. Trinity Student Ministries (7-12th Grade) meet on Sundays at 9 a.m and on Weds. eve. from 7-9 p.m. Awana meets Sundays from 3:30-5:30PM trinitylivermore.org or 925-447-1848.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La

Scola at 447-9800.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or contact Father Augustine Lewton at 925.400.8119 or pateraugustine@gmail.com

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. www.saintbartsilivermore.com. Sunday service with Rev. Andrew Lobban, pastor and priest, 10:00 am Eucharist with music, childcare and Godly Play children education.

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Kilcare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org 925-862-2580

Pathway Community Church, 1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday, 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcome. www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org (925) 322-1222.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd-livermore.org or call (950) 371-6200.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen

Drive, Livermore.

Lynnewood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton, offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Summer worship schedule one service at 9:30 a.m. Childcare provided. Contact the church office 846-0221, send an email to office@lynnewood.org or visit our website at www.lynnewood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - Livermore Stake: Sunday services -1501 Hillcrest Ave: Sycamore Grove Ward 9:00 am; Windmill Springs Ward 10:30 am. 950 Mocho St.; Valley View Ward 9:00 am; Vineyard Hills Ward 10:30 am; Del Valle Branch (Spanish) first meeting 11:40; Sacrament meeting 12:40; 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 12:30.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org (925)828-1846.

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 AM. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley - A Lighthouse to the world. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Meeting place Parish Hall, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://csllvlighthouse.org>.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4481 E. Avenue, Livermore.

Christ Church (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0665.

GraceWay Church worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at 1183 Quarry Lane in Pleasanton. Services include band-led worship music, Bible-based messages and Sunday School for pre-schoolers and elementary through high school students. Infant care is provided. www.gracewaylife.org (925) 846-4436.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church, meets at 1759 Locust St., Livermore. (925) 667-1610. www.gracembc.com. Sunday School, 9:45 am; Sunday Worship, 11 am. Relevant and refreshing Bible teaching. Pastor: Jeff Barger.

Discovery Church of the Nazarene, 5862 Las Positas Road, Livermore. Pastor Curtis Lillie, 925 449-5256. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 AM. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 AM **Asbury United Methodist Church** 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. A Reconciling Church,

where all are welcomed. Sunday Worship time is at 10:00 a.m. Children's and youth groups Sunday School during worship services and Sunday evening Middle School and High School Youth Groups. Children are welcome at all services, and childcare in the nursery. Caregivers Support Group will meet August 10, 10:30 to noon in the Fireside Room. This group meets the Second Saturday of each month. This group is open to people in the community. For more information, contact the church office at 925-447-1950. For more information about other opportunities visit our website at www.asburylive.org or call 925-447-1950. Asbury UMC can also be found on Facebook at "Asbury UMC Livermore."

Gateway Church, 811 Marylin Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit gatewaylivermore.org or call Larry Trummel at 449.1444.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Livermore invites members of the community to Wednesday evening study, "Discovering the Bible." Currently, the subject is, "The Holy Spirit and His Work." The church address is 1759 Locust Street in Livermore. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 6:30 p.m. www.gracembc.com

Celebration Church, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore. 925-455-4250. Sunday Service: 9:45am; children's programs: 9:45am; Spanish service at 1:00pm; Jr. & Sr. High: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm. For more information or weekday Bible study and Prayer group schedules, go to www.celebrationcc.org. Welcome home.

B'rit Ahabah Messianic Congregation, worship every Saturday, 11 a.m. at 193 Contractors Ave., Livermore. Congregation and Jews and Gentiles. Liturgy presented in both Hebrew and English. Families are welcome. Blessing of bread and wine (or grape juice) follows each service and all are invited to Oneg, a fellowship meal.

Tagalog Mass: 3rd Sunday of the month (remaining dates for the year: Aug. 18, Oct. 20, Nov. 17); Time: 3:30 pm St. Michael Catholic Parish, 458 Maple St.; Potluck reception to follow in the parish hall. Check <https://stmi-chaellivermore.com/Filipino> for details

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews - Jewish Culture School The school-wide curriculum for the 2019-2020 (Jewish year 5780) will be "Jewish Ideas." It will cover topics like Jewish views of Justice, Learning, Family, Being a Mensch, Israel or Diaspora and the Jewish Community. First session will be on September 8 from 10:30-12:30 at Aran's Art Studio in Castro Valley. Students who attend this first day will paint mezuzahs and hear stories. Enrolled students paint for free; others pay \$10 per mezuzah. Space is limited... make your reservations now. RSVP to culturaljews@gmail.com, or call 510-384-8756 with any questions. Throughout this school year, students will be encouraged to discuss among themselves and with their parents topics related to these themes. The younger children will enjoy crafts related to the concepts; older children will learn the history and literature surrounding these Jewish ideas. Both classes will learn songs on these themes. Jewish Culture School is open to children aged 5-14 and culminates in a Brit Mitzvah ceremony.

Milestones

Pleasanton Students Win Statewide Recycling Award

Leaders of Amador Valley High School's 2018-2019 21st Club won the Next Generation Recycler Award. They received the honor at the California Resource Recovery Association's annual conference in Rancho Mirage on Aug. 13.

"This award is specifically designed to promote the next generation of recyclers or zero-wasters in California," Monica Devincenzi, the co-chairwoman for the conference, said. "It is awarded to an individual young person or youth group that sets themselves apart from their peers in promoting waste prevention, recycling, composting, zero waste or buying recycled."

The Amador club was nominated by the Pleasanton Garbage Service.

Determined to help all 15 Pleasanton Unified School District schools enact its integrated waste management policy, club leaders accompanied staff from the Go Green Initiative to help with waste audits of lunch waste at every school from Jan. 5 to Feb. 13. During those six weeks, members helped students and staff at nine elementary, three middle and three high schools audit more than 2,300 pounds of trash, recycling and organic material. They worked closely with Pleasanton Garbage Service to ensure they could advise schools on what items were recyclable and compostable.

The club's Vice-President Bryan Luo, now a freshman



From left: Tracie Onstad Bills, of SCS Engineers and the executive director for the California Resource Recovery Association; Jill Buck, CEO of Go Green Initiative; Bryan Luo, 21st Club president and UCLA student; Paulina Umansky, club secretary and UC-Berkeley student; Lauren Londoño, club communications officer and Cal Poly student and Judy Erlandson, city of Livermore and CRRA board member.

at UCLA; Secretary Paulina Umansky, a freshman at UC Berkeley; and Communications Officer Lauren Londoño, freshman at Cal Poly accepted the award.

"We would like to thank our club advisor Jill Buck, who connected us with establishing multigenerational solidarity, an environment where adults and students are all connected, which was really crucial to the success of our project," Luo said during his acceptance speech.

The students also thanked Pleasanton Garbage Service for nominating them for the award.

Livermore Girl Scouts Honored For School Garden Project

Croce Elementary School students returned to campus on Monday to see newly painted planter boxes. The addition will give students at the kindergarten through fifth grade school an opportunity to work in the gardens and enjoy nature.

Junior Girl Scouts from Troop 33482 and 31177

worked together to complete the project this summer. Their efforts to plan and execute the beautification project earned the Bronze Award, the highest honor that can be achieved at this level of scouting. Each girl spent more than 20 hours to complete the community project.

CityServe of the Tri-Valley Welcomes New Chief Executive Officer

CityServe of the Tri-Valley, a nonprofit that supports for people in crisis through connection and coordination of resources in the Tri-Valley, has appointed Christine Beitsch-Bahmani as its new chief executive officer, effective Sept. 16.

Beitsch-Bahmani is the founding executive director of the Compassion Network office, which opened at the Fremont City Hall complex in 2007. For 12 years she built a platform of collaboration between the local churches of Fremont, Newark and Union City, and the 27 social service agencies housed inside the Fremont Family Resource Center.

In 2017, Beitsch-Bahmani earned a master of arts degree in leadership from William Jessup University.

She has traveled abroad, working with refugees in Burma, prostitutes in Amsterdam and prisoners in Argentina. She taught English to monks in Thailand, built 53 homes for people in Mexico, and cared for hundreds of orphans in Zimbabwe.



Christine Beitsch-Bahmani

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