

Ambulance Provider's Services Reduced

By Tony Kukulich

REGIONAL — Alameda County's provider of 9-1-1 ambulance service, Falck Alameda County, has reduced the level of service it will provide in some critical emergency circumstances.

Under the new protocol, Falck will dispatch basic life support (BLS) crews to critical emergency calls in place of advanced life support (ALS) crews when three or fewer ALS units are available in the county. This revision to its service delivery model took effect Dec. 21 and was confirmed

(See AMBULANCE, page 7)

Council to Consider Downtown Changes

By Larry Altman

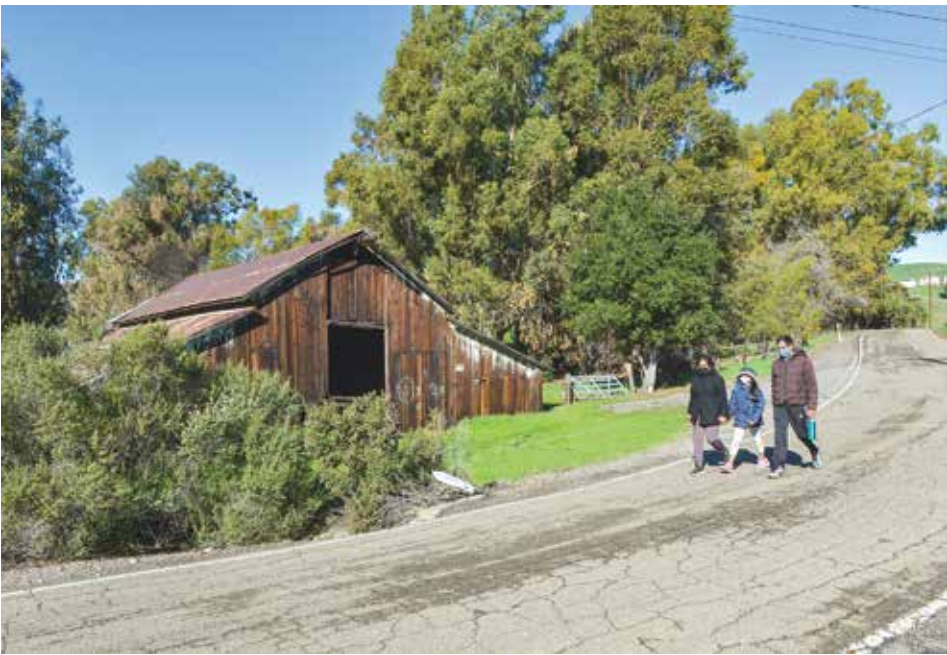
LIVERMORE — The Livermore City Council will hold a public hearing Jan. 10 to discuss a proposal to loan nearly \$2 million to a downtown hotel developer to buy a parcel of land to use as a parking lot.

The proposal would enable Davis-based Presidio Companies to purchase .77 acres on the northwest corner of K Street and Railroad Avenue, about a block from the hotel project at 2205 Railroad Ave.

The site formerly was occupied by Livermore Pool and Spa. Online property records and a 2020 Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department list of downtown parcels shows 2080 Railroad Avenue is owned by Bordoni Ranch LLC and Green Valley Corporation.

Livermore Principal Planner Steve Stewart said the terms and conditions of the property sale are still being negotiated, but

(See DOWNTOWN, page 7)



Dublin's Croak Road, blocked to vehicle traffic, is a favorite of walkers and joggers. The rural location is part of the site where the East Dublin project will be developed.

(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

County Tightens Mask Mandate

REGIONAL — A new, more restrictive face mask mandate by health officers for the County of Alameda and the City of Berkeley requires all individuals to wear a mask in all indoor public settings regardless of their vaccination status.

This change does not impact face masking requirements for school and youth settings.

The stricter masking requirements went into effect Dec. 30, the Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) stated in a Dec. 29 press release.

The local daily case rate is 18.7 per 100,000 residents

and rising; Alameda County community transmission is now categorized as "High" on the CDC's COVID-19 data tracker. ACPHD further noted that the omicron variant of the virus that causes COVID-19 is highly transmissible; everyone wearing masks in all indoor public settings will help limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect vulnerable residents as we enter a winter surge.

"We have learned that omicron can spread even among the vaccinated and those who had prior COVID infection," said Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County Health Officer. "Masks work

and are a critical layer of safety for everyone this winter."

While people who are fully vaccinated can become infected and pass this virus to others, vaccination and boosters greatly reduce the chance of someone going to the hospital or dying because of COVID-19, the ACPHD press release continued.

"But rapidly increasing case numbers will cause significant stress on our hospitals, even if only a small percentage of those infected require hospital care," the release stated. (See MANDATE, page 6)

Swalwell Urges CDC, FAA to Require Proof of Vaccination for All Flights

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Tri-Valley Congressman Eric Swalwell and California Sen. Dianne Feinstein recently called for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to require airline travelers to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test result before being allowed to board a domestic flight.

The request in a Dec. 20 letter to CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky and FAA Administrator Steve Dick-

son came at a time the new Omicron variant triggered a surge of infections across the nation and during the busy holiday travel period.

"Travel at our nation's airports has essentially returned to pre-pandemic levels but the risk from COVID-19, including from its new variant Omicron, continues to present a major public health threat," the letter said. "Requiring proof of vaccination or a negative test for domestic flights would improve public health and address concerns that passengers have about fly-

ing."

The letter said recent polling showed two-thirds of the public agrees with the measure.

Airline travel has been reaching pre-pandemic levels, especially as the holidays approached. The Transportation Security Administration reported that its officers screened more than 2 million people on Dec. 29.

In the letter, Swalwell and his fellow legislators told Walensky and Dickson that the vaccination or test requirement is "critical to

(See SWALWELL, page 6)

Following Council Vote

Dublin School District Weighs Legal Options

Education Officials Call for Updated EIR on East Ranch Project

By David Jen

DUBLIN — Continued frustration by the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) over the city council's seeming inability, or willingness, to push for further environmental reviews on the 573-unit East Ranch housing project, has spurred the DUSD to consider additional legal alternatives.

"The district is exploring its options," said Harold M. Freiman of Lozano Smith, the law firm representing the school district. "The

(DUSD) expressed its concerns over the project and its impact on the school district, in a letter to the city council. DUSD repeated its concerns in a second letter to Dublin City Council, dated Dec. 17, 2021.

Both letters criticized the project's attempt to exempt itself from further environmental review, while the second letter refuted the council's argument that it was legally unable to consider school impacts in its approval decision.

The Dec. 17 letter stated,

"With inadequate capacity available, particularly at the closest schools, students and their families may have to travel significantly longer distances to get to school."

— Harold M. Freiman

district's preference is, and always has been, to work cooperatively with the city and homebuilders to address the impacts of new development on the district. In this instance, that type of cooperation has not occurred in any meaningful way."

Freiman argued that as part of the environmental review, the new development's traffic impacts on the school district need to be studied.

"With inadequate capacity available, particularly at the closest schools, students and their families may have to travel significantly longer distances to get to school," he added.

The additional traffic, Freiman continued, would create noise and air emission issues at school sites, and raise doubts about emergency response effectiveness at those schools.

In early December, the

"The district maintains that further environmental review is required before the city can approve this project due to the project's reliance on the outdated, incomplete and inadequate analysis of the potential impacts related to schools."

Councilmember Shawn Kumagai told The Independent that the city's legal counsel considered the school district's points, but felt that, under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), they were allowed to proceed under the existing environmental impact reports (EIRs).

"To be frank, these are the EIRs that we used to develop all of East Dublin," said Kumagai.

However, the school district's letter, continued, "(The) city and district have both changed in such a way

(See LEGAL, page 6)

Arkin Named New Council Vice Mayor; Miller Appointed School Board President

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — The city council unanimously elected councilmember Valerie Arkin as their new vice mayor during its Dec. 21, 2021 meeting.

Arkin joined the council in 2020 and, prior to that, was a member of the Pleasanton Library Commission as well as a Board Trustee for the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD), during which she was Board President three times.

Outgoing Vice Mayor Julie Testa was elected to the city council in 2018. Her civic experience includes 11 years as Human Services Commissioner. She also served on the boards of Tri-Valley REACH and the Tri-Valley chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

In her closing thoughts in her role, Testa urged the council to strive for broader

experiences through committee rotations.

"I think it's really important for all of us to have background and understanding of our different regional committees and commissions," she said. "Rather than a policy where you start with one and keep that indefinitely, I would like to ask that we consider in the future, moving things around a bit so we each get an opportunity to learn more."

Elsewhere in Pleasanton, the PUSD Board of Trustees elected a new president and vice president (Trustees Mark Miller and Steve Maher, respectively) in a 3-2 vote during its Dec. 16, 2021 meeting.

Outgoing board President Joan Laursen initially nominated the two trustees.

Both Laursen and Miller intend to vacate their seats at the end of their current terms in December, and Laursen said the upcoming empty

seats influenced her decision.

"The stability of the board, with the two new board members, in the new year, is going to take some experienced hands," Laursen said. "I really feel that after Trustee Miller serves his term — which I have every confidence he'll do an exemplary job, as he has done in the past — I just believe that Steve Maher will be the person to take us forward into the next phase with the two new board members."

Trustee Kelly Mokashi, however, pointed out that Maher recently served as president and, with the board's tradition of promoting the vice president to president, another presidential term from Maher in 2023 would eliminate an opportunity for other board members to fill that role.

"I understand the value of having stability, but also there are benefits of coaching

(See APPOINTED, page 6)



Revelers rang in the new year at the Main Street Brewery's MASKerade Party in downtown Pleasanton on Dec. 31. Erin Anderegg, Howard Benner and Veronica Roderick (holding the phone) capture the moment with a selfie. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK



VIXEN

Vixen is a vivacious little pup who adores various activities — playing and snuggling are equally vital. Her personality is vibrant yet calming, a vividly beautiful juxtaposition. She's a viable candidate to add value to your family! Learn more about Vixen and other dogs and cats at valleyhumane.org. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. (Photo - Valley Humane Society)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds	11
Editorial	4
Mailbox	4
Obituaries	9
Sports	10

Former Councilman Awaiting Transplant	2
New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk	2
Livermore Garden Club Show	2
Tri-Valley Clergy Explore Holy Books	11
Mosaic Show at Bankhead	12
Local Eagle Scouts Honored	12

Former Councilman Awaiting Kidney Transplant

By Larry Altman

Former Livermore City Councilman Bob Coomber says he is fortunate that his chronic kidney condition hasn't worsened as he heads into the new year on two waiting lists for a transplant.



Bob Coomber

Coomber, who chose not to run for re-election in 2020 to concentrate on his health, said in an interview on Dec. 30 that he continues to spend his time hiking and enjoying the outdoors in the Tri-Valley and Sierra foothills. "There's still no need for dialysis, and everything is holding steady," Coomber said. "I attribute it to eating

well. So it's working. So far so good."

A year away from the city council, which he served from 2016 to 2020, Coomber said he misses his old position "to a degree" but not enough to run again. "I won't be tempted to do

sign because his need has not become dire, he said. "I probably need to call to see if everything is on course," said Coomber, who visits his own kidney specialist locally. "I haven't heard anything adverse."

Coomber's kidney diagnosis was the last in a string of medical setbacks — none of which have ever held him back. At 20, he began taking insulin and keeping track of his blood sugar levels after doctors discovered he had juvenile diabetes. As a young father, Coomber's legs shattered from osteoporosis, a condition resulting from the diabetes. He has used a wheelchair to get around for years. uses a wheelchair to get around.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began last year, Coomber did not give in. Although he stayed home with his wife, he ventured out to hike as much as he could in local wilderness areas.

"I didn't take any special precautions," he said. "I just was careful about where I mingled. I'm so used to being out by myself anyway."

Once the subject of the documentary, "4 Wheel Bob," which chronicled his attempt to become the first person in a wheelchair to cross the nearly 12,000-foot elevation Kearsarge Pass in the Inyo National Forest, Coomber takes his hikes a little easier. [Text Wrapping Break]

Most mornings, Coomber leaves his wife, Gina, working at home and spends his time at Sycamore Park or in the Sierra foothills, where he likes to "putter around" on trails in Sonora

and Angels Camp. He hikes as much as he can and feels up to it, he said.

"I really like driving. I like getting out on a quiet road," Coomber said. "I've learned there are so many in California ... It doesn't take you much to get out on a good back road and go through farm county and good hill country."

Coomber said that during treks to Sycamore Grove, he looks to see if any others are enjoying the creeks. He recently watched a mountain lion at Lake Del Valle cross the road. He looked on as a golden eagle stood over the hole to a squirrel den, waiting to pounce for a meal.

"We don't see that very often," said Coomber, who didn't get close enough to disturb the bird. "I didn't want to make it fly away. It was just good to get a look at it and take a close look at its head and big dark beak. We have more bald eagles around here than golden eagles."

Although he doesn't stray too far from home for vacations, Coomber said he is considering a trip with his wife to Maui next year, or perhaps a camping trip in the mountains.

"It depends on how things go," he added. said.

Although he visited his daughter in Cotati in Sonoma County recently, he stayed home for Christmas and New Year's, and planned to do the same for his birthday. Coomber turned 67 on Jan. 4.

"Just to know I made it through another rough (year) is good enough for me," he explained. said.

Livermore-Amador Garden Club to Learn About Chelsea Flower Show

Lydia Roberts, a member of the Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club, will give a presentation on her



visit to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in London during the group's Zoom-based meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 13.

The Royal Horticultural Society has hosted the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, originally known as the Great Spring Show, since 1862.

Although traditionally held in May, the show was moved to September last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which coincided with Roberts' visit with friends and family in England.

Her presentation will

include photos from inside the Great Pavilion and the gardens surrounding the Royal Hospital in Chelsea, London, where the flower show has been held since 1912.

Her presentation will also cover the five Royal Horticultural Society gardens in England and the Eden Project, a global garden in a massive greenhouse complex in a former clay pit the size of 30 soccer fields in Cornwall.

Club members will be sent links to the Zoom meeting. Non-members inter-

ested in attending the virtual meeting should contact club President Jeri Stark at jjstark-home@comcast.net.



The Livermore First Presbyterian Church hosted its annual New Year's Eve labyrinth walk on Friday, Dec. 31. The walk returned after a year off due to the pandemic, offering residents a chance to celebrate the new year and reflect on 2021. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



CALIFORNIA DERMATOLOGY CARE
Advanced Care with a Personal Touch

Call to learn about Sebacea, FDA approved laser treatment for nodulocystic acne instead of Accutane.

Center of Excellence for skin cancer, acne and psoriasis

NEW LIVERMORE LOCATION
Text/Call 925-328-0255 for APPT

A place where beauty and healthy skin meet.

We are dedicated to Medical, Cosmetic and Surgical Dermatology. A place for medical skin consultation, aesthetic rejuvenation and face & body contouring. Visit us online for an extensive list of procedures, treatments, product lines, lasers and therapies offered.

www.DrWilliamTing.com Schedule your consultation appointment today!



Dr. William Ting, MD
Board Certified Dermatologist and Mohs Micrographic Surgeon

Livermore, 48 Fenton Street
Text: 925-328-0255
Office: 925-359-6255

San Ramon, 2262 Camino Ramon
Text/Phone: 925-328-0255

Email: staff@CalDermCare.com | www.DrWilliamTing.com



**SOLD FOR \$1,037,640
IN JUST TWO DAYS!**



442 El Caminito
3 Bed 2 Bath, ~1120 Sq Ft.
Call Linda for an outstanding marketing experience!



Linda Diaz Futral
Broker/Realtor
925.980.3561
linda@lindafutral.com
www.lindafutral.com
License #01257605



LIVERMORE
— arts —
BANKHEAD THEATER

LIVE AT THE BANKHEAD
WED JAN 26 AT 7:30 PM



*The Queen's
Cartoonists*

"Who needs another Broadway show when you can hire a jazz combo playing music from Bugs Bunny cartoons?"
- The Wall Street Journal



**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA'S
JEREMY STOLLE**
FRI JAN 21 AT 8 PM

GET TICKETS NOW
LivermoreArts.org
925.373.6800 | 2400 First Street, Livermore



Congratulations Dublin and Pleasanton!

Together with the cities of Albany and Hayward, you're making the transition to **100% renewable solar and wind energy in January 2022**

READ ABOUT THE TRANSITION AT EBCE.ORG/DUBLIN
AND AT EBCE.ORG/PLEASANTON



Livermore Wine Country Remembers NFL Icon John Madden

By Laura Ness

With the passing of the larger-than-life John Madden, the region has lost not only a beloved human being, coach, mentor, broadcaster and friend, but also a vineyard owner whose vines produced some line-backer-esque grapes that local vintners proudly turned into bold, award-winning wines.

The Madden family moved to Pleasanton in 1967, when John joined the Oakland Raiders coaching staff. They've remained here since, investing in the local economy and purchasing vineyard acreage, including what became known as Madden Ranch Vineyard.



From left, NFL Hall of Fame coach John Madden is seen with Rhonda Wood at Campo de Bocce in Livermore. (Photo courtesy of Rhonda Wood)

According to Flip2Media owner Doug Mann, Madden had never intended to be in the wine business. Mann said the venture came courtesy of the South Livermore Valley Plan, which stipulated that for every homesite built, 20 acres of land had to be set aside for agriculture.

"We were hanging out on First Street years ago, before the streetscape was done," Mann said. "This period was near the dawn of their Livermore real estate acquisition/building phase, and redevelopment momentum was gearing up, etc. Mostly, we were talking about all the downtown stuff. At one point, he turned to say, 'And there's this 20-acre parcel thing in the south. Somebody's building houses, and we're growing the grapes they need to make it all happen!'"

Mann particularly recalled Madden's expression.

"Those of us who knew him would recognize a certain look, which appeared on his face sometimes — a mixture of joy and bewilderment," Mann continued. "One more thing in his life he never could have expected or predicted had somehow, happened to him. (Madden had said) 'Can you believe it? We're growing the grapes!'"

Those grapes happened to be on a 20-acre vineyard parcel on the west side of the Altamont Pass, a steep

region that reached heights of 1,000 feet. It would become a source of pride for the Maddens.

The Scarlet Red Bear Company — owned by Madden's son, Mike Madden — purchased the Steven Kent property from Phil Wentz.

The Madden family was instrumental in developing Blacksmith Square, which became a wine tasting destination featuring the Retzlaff tasting room — a dream of the late Gloria Retzlaff Taylor — along with tasting rooms for Thomas Coyne Winery and John Christopher Cellars.

Late winemaker, Tom Doczy, was a big fan of Madden Ranch fruit.

"Mike asked us to make

gnons and an even more impressive lineup of Madden Ranch "Big Petite" petite sirahs.

Kent, who admitted to being completely intimidated by the big man the first time she met him, said, "We were honored to work with John Madden for over a decade on our mutual love of fine wine and the potential of Livermore Valley grapes. His Madden Ranch Vineyard, whose elevation topped out at over 1,000 feet, was the source for our top-selling cabernet sauvignon and petite sirah until it was set for replanting.

Kent said Madden was particularly committed to Livermore petite sirah, which he considered to be the best in the world.

"He told us that he didn't know that much about wine — not true — but he knew the American consumer, and (that) they gravitate to whatever is the best," Kent continued. "He believed that once you proved you could be world class at one varietal, folks would trust that Livermore Valley could be great at many things. John was always so generous with his time, and I will always cherish my frequent visits to his office to chat and get bottles of our wine signed for charity auctions."

Kent further noted that her last Madden wine will be released later this year. Already in bottle, it is called "Ghost Vines Madden Ranch" — her winery's way of commemorating the last vintage from a vineyard.

Kent met Madden through Peggy Fleming (the Olympic Gold Medal figure skating champion from 1968) and her husband, physician Greg Jenkins, who used to work with the 49ers. The couple's label, Fleming Jenkins — formerly based in Los Gatos — sourced syrah from Madden Ranch Vineyard, using it for their breast cancer fundraiser, Victories Rosé, as well as for their highly acclaimed Madden Ranch Syrah.

Fleming and Madden would go on to hold many fundraising events together, including bocce ball tournaments. Fleming said that Madden was fond of big bottles — the bigger the better — and the pair made quite a day of it signing them for charity auctions.

Another winemaker, Rhonda Wood, also made syrah from Madden Ranch Vineyard for over 10 years. She recalled meeting Fleming and Jenkins at the vineyard on picking day, usually at 3 a.m.; Fleming would always bring pizza for the picking crew.

"John was a supporter of the Livermore Valley Wine Country and so much more," Wood said. "He was an amazing man, and he always remembered my name whenever I came across him."

Although Steve Burman, winemaker at 3 Steves Winery, never made wine from Madden Ranch Vineyard, he recognized firsthand the family's importance as vineyard owners in the Livermore Valley. He first met Madden at a bocce ball charity. Burnam's friend Steve Bitker from KCBS radio later invited him to watch football with the coach, which made Burman a bit nervous.

"I'll never forget that experience, listening to the coach sharing his insights from the most fundamental of plays to the most complicated," Burman recalled. "He was completely engaging, and I saw the game in a whole new light. In between the plays, he would talk wine with me. He had this way of educating without making you feel inferior, using stories and analogies that just made things so clear. He was the kind of person everyone could and will continue to look up to."

Even though the bottles Burman brought to share that day were never opened,

he said the coach asked intently about each one, inquiring about the blends, the vineyards and clearly knowledgeable about all aspects of wine — from growing and blending to marketing.

"It was just a group of

friends sharing a regular Sunday afternoon watching football together in the coach's eyes," Burman continued. "Only we got to spend that special day with a living legend. I will never forget that day. How fortunate I am."

Thinking of Making a Move in 2022?

COMPASS CONCIERGE

5 REASONS YOU SHOULD BE USING COMPASS CONCIERGE

1. Maximize the value of your home.
2. Show your home in its best light.
3. Sell your home faster.
4. No upfront costs or interest.
5. Compass Concierge is hassle free.

Contact me today to learn more about how Compass Concierge can help you make the most of your sale!

Leslie FAUGHT
REALTOR®, CRS, SRES®
COMPASS

Service. Experience. Results.
925.784.7979
LeslieFaught.com
SellingEastBayHomes.com
DRE01027778
2018 Bay East Association REALTOR® of the Year

"I'll find a buyer for your home and a home for you to buy"

IF IT HAS SPECIAL MEANING FOR YOU, WHY NOT FRAME IT?

WE CAN FRAME JUST ABOUT ANYTHING!

PACKAGE DEALS

UP TO 12 X 16	\$49.99
UP TO 16 X 20	\$79.99
UP TO 18 X 24	\$89.99
UP TO 22 X 28	\$99.99
UP TO 24 X 36	\$149.99

PACKAGES INCLUDE YOUR CHOICE OF SELECTED FRAMES, ONE ACID FREE MAT, REGULAR GLASS, FITTING, BACKING & LABOR.

Way Up
ART & FRAME SINCE 1968

1912 2nd St. Downtown Livermore
925-443-3388
wayupartandframe.com
Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Experience counts!

2 Brokers, 20+ years. 250+ successful transactions.
Luxury representation at every price point!

Broker Associates, Compass
barbara@nickandbarbara.com
C: 408-893-6306
Serving the Tri Valley & Silicon Valley
CalDRE 01342934 & 01322651

COMPASS
NICK & BARBARA
LYMBERIS TEAM

MAKING LIFE EASY
HECM
Home Equity Conversion Mortgage

TAKE THE WORRY OUT OF RETIREMENT!

If you're a homeowner age 62 or older, a Reverse Mortgage, also known as **Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM)** could change your life. It may allow you to safely tap into your home equity while still remaining in your home. You'll have taxfree* cash without depending on others or burdening your heirs. So you can enjoy the life you so richly deserve.

The funds can be used for anything, including:

- Paying Off an Existing Mortgage and Other Debt
- Home Repairs and Renovations
- Long Term Healthcare and Prescription Drugs
- Cash Reserves for Emergencies
- Property Taxes

I am dedicated to simplifying the mortgage process and matching solutions to individual needs. Once I understand your goals, I can help you find an appropriate loan program. Contact me today to learn more about how a HECM can make your retirement years more fun and more secure!

Bill Groth
Loan Officer
NMLS# 289687
WGroth@prmg.net

CALL TODAY for Details!
925.989.2227
167 South P. Street
Unit B&C Livermore CA 94550

PRMG
All Pro Mortgage Team

*Note: Additional Restrictions and Requirements Will Apply
©2021 Paramount Residential Mortgage Group, Inc. ("PRMG") NMLS ID #75243; 1265 Corona Pointe Court, Corona, CA 92679. All Rights Reserved. Licensed by The Department of Financial Protection and Innovation under the California Residential Mortgage Act ("CRMA") License #413700; Finance Lenders Law License #00000000; AZ Mortgage Banker License #00000000; Georgia Residential Mortgage License #00000000; Maryland License #00000000; NC Mortgage License #00000000; NJ Mortgage License #00000000; NY Mortgage License #00000000; OH Mortgage License #00000000; OK Mortgage License #00000000; OR Mortgage License #00000000; SC Mortgage License #00000000; SD Mortgage License #00000000; TN Mortgage License #00000000; TX Mortgage License #00000000; VA Mortgage License #00000000; WA Mortgage License #00000000; WI Mortgage License #00000000; WY Mortgage License #00000000; Lender. Questions? Comments? Email: Feedback@PRMG.net

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

4 of 5 students would encourage others to attend Las Positas College

Invest in you

Register Now
www.laspositascollege.edu

SAVE WORK TRANSFER LEARN

EDITORIAL

Sheriff Candidate Forum Offers Chance to Discuss Prison Reform

The upcoming candidates’ forum will offer voters the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the three individuals running for election this June to become the next Alameda County Sheriff.

Incumbent Gregory Ahern will appear with Alameda County Division Commander Yesenia Sanchez and San Francisco Police Officer JoAnn Walker during a Jan. 9 virtual debate.

The candidates will likely face questions regarding issues at correctional facilities in Dublin. Since 2014, there have been 56 in-custody deaths at Santa Rita Jail, seven of which occurred this year. Charges of misconduct at the penitentiary include the mistreatment of prisoners, witness intimidation, ra-

cial profiling and the targeting of inmates with mental health issues.

In August, two former Santa Rita guards were sentenced to four years in prison for their roles in a 2017 incident where four guards were arrested for instructing prisoners to throw feces at other inmates.

Activist groups including Critical Resistance and The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights have called for reform.

And it’s no wonder.

One of these three is going to be responsible after the election in June, for making the changes that are surely coming to the prison. A public forum such as this is a way for the candidates to address concerns, garner sup-

port and reassure an understandably nervous and angry constituency.

As Alameda County residents who have one of the nation’s largest prisons in their backyard, it is incumbent on us to understand the complicated, real-world issues facing law enforcement in 2022.

What better way to begin than with an open, public debate? Mark your calendars for Jan. 9 at 1:30 p.m. and be an active participant in the process. There is indeed much at stake.

The event is co-sponsored by The Independent, Indivisible East Bay, the Livermore Vine and the Pleasanton Weekly. To register for the forum, visit www.trivalley.rocks/ACSheriff.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

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

John Madden

William Zagotta, Livermore

As a Chicago Bears fan, I first heard the name of coach Madden when the Bears lost their first inter-league game against the Raiders, in 1972. I couldn’t believe a good AFL team could so easily beat even a lousy NFL team. I didn’t think about him much for a long time after that game.

Later he emerged as a broadcaster, on four networks of NFL games. People really liked him as an announcer and JM was popular because of his way of speaking. JM was an Everyman...a stock character in fiction, an ordinary character, generally a protagonist whose character and mannerisms foster the audience's wide identification ... (adapted from Wikipedia).

I wasn’t that impressed with the Turducken segments on TV but his insight into football, his sense of humor, his energy, the tele Strater enabled him to teach listeners to appreciate the game and many fine points of what we were seeing and enjoying.

JM genuinely liked people and was proud to be a fellow citizen and a celebrity at the same time. I have learned in the last few days how much JM enjoyed close, even casual, interactions with folks, friends and kids.

Of course, in recent times JM has been out of

the public eye. He lived in the Tri-Valley, and I have friends who have come to know the Maddens. Many of us have been hearing from the Maddens only because Mike Madden has been active and an activist in business in town. Thanks Mike.

AND this week ... BOOM he is gone!

Monster Garage vs Robotic Parking

Glenn Stewart, Livermore

On March 1, 2021 the City Council held a city priorities workshop to address ten goals and priorities for the upcoming fiscal years.

Downtown implementation was number 4 on the list that included - Eden housing, Veterans Park, boutique hotel, Madden’s retail project, Black Box Theater, I-Street and L-Street parking structures.

A couple of years ago, Komorous-Towey Architects (KTA) of Oakland submitted an architectural rendering for the L-Street parking structure, a 5-level monstrosity of a parking structure for approximately 500 vehicles, towering over several merchants on First Street.

So much for the City of Livermore residents’ number 2 priority of Community Character and Design that came out of the 2017 PlaceWorks community workshops. The City spent \$500K+ of the taxpayers’ money on the workshops. Did the City Council listen to the residents? I think not.

I called Robotic Parking Systems and asked for rough numbers to build a 500-car robotic parking garage.

They replied, “Here is one idea for a 500+ space garage... 100 ft x 350 ft x 34 ft high (3-levels of parking) = about 625-650 spaces... peak traffic throughput would be about 200 cars per hour, but this can be adjusted with additional entry / exits and lift machines... very rough turnkey cost is in the ball park of \$29,000-\$31,000 per space.”

The additional 125-150 robotic parking stalls could be allocated for hotel valet parking or to meet Vision for 2045 parking needs.

The listed benefits of a robotic parking structure are... 50% less land used... Lower development costs... Lower overall operation costs... Increased personal security... No damage or dents... No graffiti... No theft or vandalism... Eco-friendly, cuts pollution of driving around looking for

space... Solar panels for energy efficiency and green building... No more walking around decks, waiting for elevator, climbing stairs... No more remembering where car is parked... Valet service ease, but you keep the keys... Redundant machines and components... No single failure will result in system being inoperable... Fault tolerant computer servers guarantee continuous availability... Emergency power generator... 24/7 hotline.

A rectangular, conventional parking garage costs approximately \$38K to \$42K per parking space, possibly more these days. An automatic parking garage saves the taxpayer \$8,000 to \$11,000 per parking stall or \$6,000,000 at \$9,500 average per stall savings.

Hey, City Council... What’s not to like about robotic parking?

Livermore Council Must Release Tax Survey!

Alan Heckman, Livermore

The Livermore City Council is plotting to raise our taxes - adding a half percent local sales tax and an additional \$108 parcel tax.

Pleasanton has no local sales tax and a very small parcel tax.

Their city and schools seem to be run just fine.

The council directed Livermore City Manager Marc Roberts to pay \$95,000 to Jared Boigon of the firm TBWBH Props & Measures to determine the “feasibility” of getting these taxes passed in a ballot measure.

This firm conducted a survey in November with Livermore voters to determine language to be used in the ballot measures, testing which vague promises would work best such as “Maintaining and repairing storm drains” or “Repairing potholes” - services they should already be providing.

The survey also asked about potential negatives such as the city’s “dumping money” on “low-quality, high-density housing”. The council must be worried about Eden Housing.

For some reason, the survey did not ask if it was appropriate for Mayor Bob Woerner to take the senior exemption for the school parcel tax. Do City Manager Marc Roberts and Mayor Bob Woerner believe the public would support a tax pushed by a Mayor who exempts himself from paying them?

Even more insidious is that the survey collected demographic ethnic information along with level of support or opposition in order to determine the best election date.

Hypothetically, if the survey determined poor minorities struggling with inflation and a rapidly rising cost of living would be more likely to oppose these regressive taxes, but older white home owners who could take advantage of the

“Bob Woerner tax exemption” would be more likely to support these taxes, and they find that these older whiter people are more likely than poor minorities to vote in a separate Special Election, the council would choose to hold it on a lower participation Special Election instead of the Primary or Gubernatorial election.

Tax ballot measures promise “citizen oversight”, but if the council refuses to be transparent with the survey, they won’t be transparent once they get our money.

Livermore, we paid \$95,000 for the survey, we deserve to see the results!

Let's Preserve Our Freedom to Vote

Maria Kirby, Livermore

No matter where we live or what our background, in America we value the freedom to vote and to pick our leaders, so we have an equal say in decisions that impact our lives such as curbing the pandemic, creating jobs and making health care affordable. But some Republican politicians and pundits are lying about the 2020 election, and one year ago, helped to incite a deadly attack on the nation’s Capital in an attempt to subvert the will of the voters. And, on the basis of that lie, some Republican-led states now have made it not just more difficult to vote but also easier to ignore our votes and instead impose their own partisan result.

To move forward together as a nation, we must ensure that every American can cast a ballot and have their ballot counted, so we can elect leaders who govern in our interests. The Freedom to Vote Act sets national standards for our elections, so all of us can safely and freely cast our ballots, have our voices heard, and elect leaders who deliver on our priorities. Coming together, we should urge the U.S. Senate to pass the Freedom to Vote Act, to ensure all of us have an equal say and help make the promise of our democracy real for us all.

Passing the Freedom to Vote Act in January 2022 would be a fitting way to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the insurrection at the Capital and to honor the courage of all of those who fought that day for the core tenet of our democracy - the freedom to vote.

Let Your Voice be Heard

Robin Groth-Hill, Livermore

Like so many writers of letters to the editor each week, I have grave concerns about Eden Housing being placed in the heart of our downtown. The community said they want green space for the citizens to enjoy; we are getting a concrete jungle instead that is called Eden Housing’s “Livermore Village”.

I was part of the group that recently met with Bob Carling to get his feedback on some community issues.

Shockingly, Mr. Carling stated that the community is behind the Eden project and stated he only has received one email to date against it. I inquired how he felt that way when all these weekly letters to the editor are against Eden. His response? He does not read the Independent, so he has never seen any feedback against it! So, here you have it, the Mayor and City Council have chosen to ignore forums in which they do not like the conversation. They chose to bury their head in the sand and act like our community voices are not heard.

Facts about The Eden Project:

The 130 units that Eden’s “Livermore Village” will provide is 105 SHORT of what the city is obligated to provide in the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). They currently do not know where they will put the 105 additional REQUIRED units. Per Councilmen Carling, “The new RHNA process will have consequences, but it remains to be seen if they will be enforced.”

Eden’s Livermore Village project of 130 units only provides one parking space per unit. Most units are 2-3 bedrooms, so if a 2- or 3-person unit has more than one car among them, where do they park? On our overcrowded downtown streets? In our new parking garage that is designed for consumers of our downtown businesses?

With these 130 units and the Legacy 222-unit apartments, how is our downtown traffic going to handle another 350+ cars daily?

Join us, a group of concerned citizens, who want to preserve our downtown and take a stand against this Mayor/Council who think they cater to the developers. We are meeting Friday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, January 15 we will hold a rally downtown to let our local officials hear our voices. Get more information at unfitstoserve@livermore@gmail.com. Find out how you too can have your voice be heard and save our downtown from being ruined!

Behind Closed Doors

Jim Hutchins, Livermore

In October 2020, Bob Woerner campaigned for mayor on the issue of the location for the Eden Housing project, saying “I believe it is still possible in principle to relocate the housing element.” He promised “plenty of opportunity for public input and reasoned discussion” and “to help the community come together.” This position was a major factor in his winning the election. After the election, he turned from his promise, and has not only refused to consider any alternative, but also has put into motion actions designed to prevent an alternative.

Beginning in September 2021, the City Coun-

cil has held three closed door meetings with Presidio Companies LLC, the firm contracted to build the downtown boutique hotel. The discussions included giving Presidio a \$1.925M loan so they can purchase one of the lots north of Railroad Avenue and turn it into a parking lot for the hotel. A December public notice says the loan will finally be discussed in open session at the January 10 City Council meeting. It is hard to believe that Presidio, “a reputable developer,” would need a loan from the city, so another purpose appears to be at play.

The City is currently performing surveys in preparation for seeking sales tax and parcel tax increases due to financial shortfalls, yet they are willing to give almost \$2M to a developer for a land purchase, one the “reputable developer” is unable to do themselves. It seems more likely the city is using Presidio to impede any plans to relocate the Eden Housing project north of Railroad Avenue.

This tactic is also in line with Alan Burnham’s October 2021 purchase of another of the lots north of Railroad Avenue. Alan spoke in support of Eden Housing at the May 24 City Council meeting, has written letters supporting Eden Housing, and is listed on the Woerner4Mayor website endorsing Woerner. Like Woerner, he seems motivated to do what he can to keep the Eden project from relocating.

It stretches credulity to believe these actions are not designed to interfere with alternatives. However, the public sees what the Council is doing.

January 6th

Alan Marling, Livermore

“A republic, if you can keep it,” Benjamin Franklin said after helping draft the US Constitution. Someone had asked him what form of government they had created.

We may like to think of our democracy as inviolable, but Benjamin Franklin knew better. The truth is our representative republic is threatened from multiple directions: money in politics, gerrymandering, voter suppression, foreign manipulation, Trump’s Big Lie, and last year’s January 6 Insurrection.

Watchdog groups such as Freedom House downgraded our democracy scores last year, placing us closer to Panama, Romania and Croatia than, say, the UK. This is embarrassing, and to avoid dwelling on it, it’s tempting to ignore the problem in favor of “moving on” in regard to the January 6 Insurrection.

History warns us against this course. After a 1923 failed coup attempt by Hitler, he was allowed back into politics and ten years later, cemented his power with a successful takeover

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala
EDITOR: Aly Brown

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

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925)243-8000. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. For more information or to sign up visit www.independentnews.com. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

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

www.independentnews.com

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

with the Reichstag fire. Germany lost its democracy to dictator.

For us to keep our republic we must stay vigilant. Congress must expel those who incited the January 6 Insurrection and prevent them from holding future office. The Department of Justice must prosecute the leaders of the coup and those they tricked into being foot soldiers. The Senate must end the filibuster to pass voting rights. And we the people must make certain it all happens. Talk to your officials and join January 6 vigils.

Livermore or Council-Town?

Deborah McQueen, Livermore

The holidays are over, but many moms and dads are still putting together unique gifts that require assembly. Most people have been there, sifting the nuts and bolts of building a bicycle for their children or a new barbecue for the summertime. Things don't go well when vital parts are missing, or the instructions aren't clear. Shoppers trust companies to give them accurate instructions and

details. If essential items are missing or mismatched, it creates frustration and anger. It often leads to post Holiday returns. Worse, it can lead to losing confidence in the vendor forever.

Such is the case with the downtown Eden Housing plan. In 2017, Ex-Mayor Marchand and now Mayor Woerner put into place a set of diagrams and instructions for a downtown plan that was supposed to give the public a robust park and buildings scaled to match "the look and feel of Livermore." They hired Eden Housing whose plan was supposed to be a "fait accompli", but instead the public has received a "bait and switch" set of design drawings from Eden Housing that feature enormous four-story buildings and grass strips that will permanently change the character of downtown Livermore forever. Good instructions are clear, detailed, orderly, factual, and honest.

Eden Housing's plan does not meet that standard. Good instructions and plans match the pictured diagram that comes with the purchase. Like shifting staircases at Hogwarts, Eden Housing's diagrams oddly change as

the years roll by. Big buildings in undersized lots are forced together as if they believe that "with enough force even pigs can fly."

Shoppers can return products that fail to meet the promise made by the vendor. Similarly, the residents of Livermore can send back their mayor and council on November 22. Like famous TV spokespeople, the mayor and council have pitched and sold a downtown concept to the citizens that was never what they were initially promised. The public deserves the downtown plan they crafted in the 2017 PlaceWork's Outreach Program.

The city must adopt a strategy written in a language the public understands - honesty, not the amorphous letters of deceit. The city council should never leverage political influence against its citizens in private land purchases, such as Alan Burnham's recent \$2,442,500.00 acquisition or meetings with hoteliers who return "cap-in-hand" begging for loans to meet their parking needs. We live in Livermore, after all, not Council-town.

How Many More Will Flee?

Maryann Brent, Livermore

Several Livermore city officials have judged the present an auspicious time to exit service. One wonders if a motivating factor might have been avoiding the debate of the city's performance leading up to the November 2022 election.

Among those leaving: Marc Roberts, City Manager

Adam Van de Water, Economic Development Director

Doug Alessio, Administrative (financial) Services Director (November, 2021)

Adam Van de Water, Economic Development Director

As well as: Rachael Snedecor, Executive Director of Livermore Downtown, Inc.

How many more key city officials will call it quits before November?



HOPE HOSPICE

Supporting East Bay Families Since 1980

Hospice Care | Grief Support | Dementia Education
Senior-Care Classes | Caregiver Resources
Volunteering Opportunities

HopeHospice.com | (925) 829-8770

—Paid Political Advertisement—

\$1.9 Million for Valet Parking? Tell the City Council “No!”

The Livermore City Council may hand over a \$1.9 million loan to a hotel developer for valet parking. And you would be giving them the cash.

On Monday January 10th, the Council will address publicly – after discussions in three sessions closed to the public last year – whether to give a \$1.9 million loan to the City’s downtown hotel developer. The loan would be used to acquire the parcel on the NW corner of Railroad Ave. and K St., formerly known as the Livermore Pool and Spa, for hotel valet parking. This would be a waste of taxpayer money, and the Council should vote it down.

A Bad Parking Plan

The loan money would provide a “down payment” for a poorly designed parking plan. The Livermore Pool and Spa parcel would have space for only 100 parking stalls – 49 stalls short of the 1.1 stalls per unit required for a hotel planned for up to 135 rooms. To make up the shortfall, would the Councilmembers again take away public parking in the L Street Garage for use by a private developer, as they did for the Eden Housing developer?

A 5-level L Street Garage

The City’s current downtown plan includes the 500-stall L Street Garage – a 5-level, 48-foot high monstrosity. The proposed garage, 4’ taller than a typical 4-story multi-use building, will create a visual mass that will overwhelm those at street level in our unique and charming downtown. The City has budgeted \$34.5 million for the construction of this garage.



Waste of a Prime Location

Purchasing this parcel for valet parking is not only a waste of our taxpayer money, but also a waste of a downtown asset. The vacant Livermore Pool and Spa parcel, which is zoned for residential uses, touches the very center of town. Turning it into a parking lot just for the hotel, when better alternatives are available, is not in the best interests of the community.

City Funds Required for Other Purposes

So why is the \$1.9 million needed now, when the start of hotel construction is TBD? The City recently authorized a poll to evaluate whether they should ask the voters to say “yes” to a measure that would increase sales taxes and add a new parcel tax. Necessary sidewalk repairs and other infrastructure maintenance have been neglected. Council members should not proceed with this spendthrift parking plan, particularly when the City is facing more pressing needs.

There’s A Better Alternative

The city’s plan ignores the latest advances in parking that could provide more parking, with a smaller garage, for less cost. According to Robotic Parking Systems, Inc., the City could build a 650-stall robotic garage for just \$20.1 million, saving the City \$14.4 million. The garage would reach only 36’ high, 3’ more than a typical 3-story multiuse building. An additional level would be set back at least 20’ from all sides of the building. It would add 9’, but not be seen from the street. A robotic L Street Garage deserves the community’s wholehearted support.

It's not too late to save Livermore's downtown



Paid for by Save Livermore Downtown

LEGAL

(Continued from first page)



Passed in early December by the council, the Dublin East Ranch project has received push back from the overcrowded school district.
Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

that the circumstances under which the project is to be undertaken have changed substantially, new information and mitigation measures not previously known are now available, and there are a multitude of impacts that the EDSP EIRs fail to address, thus requiring further environmental review.”

Despite vocal opposition from both the district and the public, the city council approved the project’s Stage 2 Development Plan and CEQA exemption at its Dec. 7 meeting, and adopted the ordinance approving the plan and CEQA findings at its Dec. 21, 2021 meeting.

The council also made an argument during its Dec. 7 meeting that it was legally unable to consider school impacts in its approval decision.

Kumagai later reiterated the council’s position that school impacts cannot be used as a reason to deny a project, referring to Senate Bill 50, which declared that “school impact fees were the exclusive means of considering mitigating impacts on school facilities.”

“We’re limited on what we can do there,” he added.

Led by Trumark Homes, the East Ranch project plans to build 573 housing units on the 165- acres straddling Croak Road, east of the Jordan Ranch neighborhood in Dublin and adjacent to the Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve. The proposal includes 18 moderate-income single-family units, 11.5 acres of park space and a small, neighborhood pocket park. The development will also reserve 2 acres of land for the future development of 77 affordable-housing units.

Under CEQA, residential

projects, like East Ranch, may claim an exemption from further environmental review if they are consistent with a prior specific plan that underwent review. To this end, the East Ranch proposal cited environmental impact reports (EIRs) from the East Dublin Specific Plan (EDSP) released between 1993 and 2005.

Kumagai pointed to the Bay Area’s housing crisis as his reason for personally supporting the project.

“In order for us to get out of that crisis, we have to build more housing of all types across the spectrum,” he said. “You know, market rate, smaller units, affordable-by-design, as well as subsidized affordable housing. And this project brought all of that.”

“To be frank, these are the EIRs that we used to develop all of East Dublin,” said Kumagai.

Under CEQA, residential projects, like East Ranch, may claim an exemption from further environmental review if they are consistent with a prior specific plan that underwent review. To this end, the East Ranch proposal cited EIRs from the East Dublin Specific Plan (EDSP) released between 1993 and 2005.

However, the school district’s letter continued, “(The) city and district have both changed in such a way that the circumstances under which the project is to be undertaken have changed substantially; new information and mitigation measures not previously known are now available, and there are a multitude of impacts that the EDSP EIRs fail to address, thus requiring further environmental review.”

The council also made an argument during its Dec. 7 meeting that it was legally unable to consider school impacts in its approval decision.

Kumagai later reiterated the council’s position that school impacts cannot be used as a reason to deny a project, referring to Senate Bill 50, which declared that “school impact fees were the exclusive means of considering mitigating impacts on school facilities.”

“We’re limited on what we can do there,” he added.

In response to this position, the school district’s Dec. 17 letter stated, “The city is not only legally allowed to consider school related impacts, but is also required to do so.” The letter cited a similar case in Madera County in which the court decided that developer fees only mitigate impacts to “on school facilities.”

Freiman added, “The court concluded that the county was in fact required to consider and analyze increased traffic to and from schools, air quality impacts, (and) impacts related to construction of school facilities that would be needed to accommodate enrollment growth, which could include noise, pollution and traffic impacts.”

Kumagai pointed to the Bay Area’s housing crisis as his reason for personally supporting the project.

“In order for us to get out of that crisis, we have to build more housing of all types across the spectrum,” he said. “You know, market rate, smaller units, affordable-by-design, as well as subsidized affordable housing. And this project brought all of that.”

MANDATE

(Continued from first page)

“Vaccination and booster doses together with masking will protect our residents and keep hospitals from being overwhelmed with people who are severely ill due to COVID. Protecting our hospitals’ capacity is a top priority, so anyone who needs to go to the hospital

for any reason can access care in a timely manner.”

“Omicron may be more transmissible, but we have the tools to prevent infection,” said Moss. “Because even a mild infection in a vaccinated person may be passed on to someone who could become hospitalized,

we must take every precaution this winter.”

ACPHD advised the community to get vaccinated and boosted, and to stay home if positive, symptomatic, or unvaccinated/not boosted and exposed.

For more information, visit acphd.org.

APPOINTED

(Continued from first page)

and the leadership capacity of other trustees as well,” she said.

Trustee Mary Jo Carreon was also disappointed by Laursen’s nomination.

“I think that sometimes having someone new is beneficial,” she said.

While Laursen acknowledged the value of new leadership, she also explained that the math of the board’s bylaws doesn’t support a true rotation.

“It’s the board’s intent that everyone have the opportunity to serve, but there’s five members and a term is only four years, so in reality, you have (to) run for more than one term for everybody to have that opportunity,” Laursen continued.

Laursen’s nomination motion passed with Trustees Mokashi and Carreon against it.

Your Daily Online Local News.



independentnews.com

Follow us on  

Water District Names New Engineering Director

Steve Delight has been named district engineer and director of engineering services for the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) following the retirement of Judy Zavadil in December.

As director of engineering services, Delight is responsible for planning, permitting, capital improvements, asset management, and clean water and water conservation programs for the district, which provides

water, wastewater, and recycled water services for Dublin, San Ramon, and Pleasanton.

Delight, who joined DSRSD in 2000, previously served as an engineer and supervisor of the district’s capital improvement program.

A licensed professional engineer, he holds a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from California State University, Chico, and a master’s degree in civil

engineering from San Jose State University.



Steve Delight

SWALWELL

(Continued from first page)

mitigating the ongoing COVID-19 surge.”

Although the airlines require passengers to wear masks, only international travelers coming to the United States must show COVID-19 related documents before boarding their flights. Feinstein and Swalwell wrote that the airline companies have shown they have the capacity to implement vaccine and testing requirements.

“Delta Airlines and American Airlines have adopted their FlyReady and VeriFLY verification systems, and United Airlines has introduced similar requirements,” the letter said. “CDC has also already published guidance on what types of COVID-19 vaccination are acceptable for this process.”

Verification systems were initially established at airlines to meet mandates that flight crews and international travelers show proof of vaccination. These systems would further expand to verify domestic travelers should the CDC and FAA issue new guidance.

Back in September, Feinstein introduced the U.S. Air Travel Public Safety Act, a bill that would require all

passengers on domestic airline flights to either be fully vaccinated, have recently tested negative for COVID-19 or have fully recovered from COVID-19.

The bill would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services and FAA to develop national vaccination standards and procedures related to COVID-19 and domestic air travel.

Swalwell is also a cosponsor on HR 4980, a bill Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY15) introduced in August. If passed, the law would direct the Transportation Security Administration to “ensure that any individual traveling on a flight that departs from or arrives (at) an airport inside the United States or a U.S.

territory is fully vaccinated against COVID-19.” The bill would include exceptions for those ineligible or medically unable to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. However, agencies such as the CDC and FAA are at liberty to implement their own mandates.

Swalwell has talked for weeks about how a requirement to travel could increase vaccination rates.

“Prediction,” Swalwell tweeted on Dec. 12. “We can go from 60% Americans vaxxed to 80% if we require vaccines to fly.”

The Omicron surge has forced hundreds of flights to be canceled during the holidays because so many airline employees have been unable to work.



NOW OPEN FOR WINE TASTING AND PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS.

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND MONDAYS 12-4:30 FALL AND WINTER HOURS.

LIVE MUSIC MOST WEEKENDS. FOOD FOR PURCHASE EVERY WEEKEND.

Make your online reservation at
RetzlaffVineyards.com

ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF CANDIDATES FORUM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022 @ 1:30 PM

Presented by Livermore Indivisible

Join us for the forum and learn more about the candidates for this important elected office. Sponsored by The Independent, Livermore Vine, Pleasanton Weekly, Indivisible East Bay.

WEBINAR REGISTRATION INFO:

trivalley.rocks/ACSheriff

For more information, email info@livermoreindivisible.org.



Gregory Ahern



Yesenia Sanchez



JoAnn Walker

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

- Providing security to the Consolidated Superior Courts
- Operating the Coroner’s Bureau
- Operating a full service criminalistics laboratory
- Performing Civil Process
- Operating a County Jail (Santa Rita)
- Operating the County Office of Emergency Services
- Conducting a basic academy pursuant to Police Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) requirements
- Providing Fish and Game enforcement
- Project Director of the Narcotics Task Force
- Serving as the Executive Director of the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Task Force
- Operating a Marine Patrol Unit in the San Francisco Bay waters
- Providing patrol and investigative services to the unincorporated areas of Alameda County Pursuant to contractual agreements, providing patrol and investigative services to the City of Dublin, Peralta Community College District, Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum complex, Oakland International Airport, Highland County Hospital, Social Services, and to the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District



Lost In Space: Rocky Planets Formed From Missing Solar System Material

By looking at the range of isotopic variations in terrestrial and meteoritic samples, a Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) scientist and collaborators have figured out that Earth and Mars formed by collisions of planetary embryos originating from the inner solar system.

Rocky planets may have formed by two fundamentally different processes, but it is unclear which one built the terrestrial planets of our solar system. The planets formed either by collisions among planetary embryos from the inner solar system or by accreting sunward-drifting millimeter-sized “pebbles” from the outer solar system.

DOWNTOWN

(Continued from first page)

the deal will include a city loan of \$1.93 million to the hotel developer for the acquisition of 2080 Railroad Avenue and development of a parking area.

He declined to release more details until the City Council agenda was made public.

It was not immediately known how many parking stalls would become available. Earlier city statements referred to the use of the parcel as a hotel valet

In the new research, the team showed that the isotopic compositions of Earth and Mars predominantly result from the accretion of planetary bodies from the inner solar system, including material from the innermost disk unsampled by meteorites, with only a few percentages of a planet’s mass coming from outer solar system bodies. The research appears in the Dec. 22 issue of Science Advances.

“Our data refute a pebble accretion origin of the terrestrial planets but are consistent with collisional growth from inner solar system embryos,” said LLNL scientist and co-author Jan Render, who performed part of the measurements while

working as a postdoc at his previous position at the University of Münster. “This low fraction of outer solar system material in Earth and Mars suggests the presence of a persistent dust-drift barrier in the disk and highlights the specific pathway of rocky planet formation in the solar system.”

Determining which of the two processes governed the formation of the terrestrial planets of our solar system is crucial for understanding the solar system’s architecture and dynamical evolution, and for placing planet formation in the solar system into the context of general planet formation processes, such as those observed in exoplanetary systems.

parking lot.

A notice of the public hearing said the agenda and staff report on the property sale would be released the evening of Jan. 4. When that time arrived, the City Clerk’s Office said the staff report was not expected to be released until Jan. 5, too late for The Independent’s print edition deadline. An updated article will be available online at independentnews.com.

Comments on the pro-

posal can be sent to the city clerk at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net by noon, Jan. 10. The meeting can be viewed online at www.

The developer plans to build a three-story, approximately 70,000 square-foot, 125 to 135 room hotel with 1,400 to 2,000 square feet of conference space and a rooftop deck. The date when construction will begin has not yet been determined.

Livermore Gurdwara Hosts Vaccination Drive

Livermore’s Tri Valley Sikh Center, partnered with Sikhs For Humanity and private vaccination administrator BJRX LTC Pharmacy, to hold a free, day-long vaccination event for the local community, on Saturday, Dec. 11.

The event was advertised on the CDC website and drew significant interest from the local and neighboring communities. The drive offered Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson boosters, as well as children’s (ages 5 to 12) Pfizer shots. A total of 1126 vaccinations were administered to a broad representation of diverse communities that make up the East and the South Bay.

The Livermore Gurdwara, as it is informally known, hosted the event at its premises and the congregation volunteered at the event in various capacities. Congregants and volunteers participated in registration activities, parking coordination and traffic control, managing the public throughout the vaccination process, and overseeing the waiting and recovery areas.

Notably, the congregation had 11 licensed health care professionals volunteering to administer the shots, alongside professionals from the private administrator, effectively doubling the number of vaccinations being done at one time. This expansion of capacity contributed to being able to vaccinate everyone who showed up, despite over half of the registrations being made on the event day itself.

In addition, the Gurdwara’s volunteer-run community kitchen, known as Langar kitchen, provided food and refreshments throughout the day. This was supplemented by the donation of pizzas for the attendees by local pizzerias. The Livermore Gurdwara offers a place of worship for the Sikh religion

and is open for attendance by all. It services residents from Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and surrounding communities. In addition to offering religious services, the Gurdwara kitchen which is tasked with providing free food to everyone regardless of their religious beliefs, race, social or financial status.

The organization also offers various programs to learn about Sikh religion, Gurmukhi language, and training on Indian classical instruments, as well as other outreach initiatives like serving prepared meals to the homeless during the pandemic and periodic food drives.

TVSC is located at 2089 N. Livermore Ave., in Livermore. The next scheduled vaccination drive at TVSC or Gurdwara is by appointment only on Jan. 08, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For appointments, visit myturn.ca.gov.

Art Groups Set to Hold First General Meeting of 2022

Join Pleasanton Art League (PAL) member Lisa Rigge in a presentation describing the earliest cameras, an overview of their printing methods, and the art of hand-coloring the images on Jan. 10, at 7:30 p.m. To find the Zoom link, visit www.pal-art.com.

In her discussion during the first general meeting for PAL, Livermore Art Association and Dublin Arts Collective, Rigge will cover how early photography influenced artwork. As photography improved and quickly gained worldwide popularity, the art of hand-coloring photographs expanded along with it. Rigge will describe the ways in which these early photographs, especially Daguerreotypes and Albumen prints, were hand-colored. Following this part of the talk, Lisa will show a step-by-step illustrated example of how to hand-color a digi-

tal image.

Lisa Rigge is a photographer and educator. She was an Artist-in-Residence at the KALA Art Institute in Berkeley creating a portfolio of solar plate etchings. She has won numerous local and national awards, and her work is in many private collections across the US. Her work has been published in ZYZZYVA; Dream Time Magazine; The Rose in the World; Passager Books (online); The Sun Magazine; and LensWork “Seeing in Sixes 2019” and “Our Mag-

nificent Planet 2020”, and soon to be released, “Our Magnificent Planet 2021.”

AMBULANCE

(Continued from first page)

by Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency (ALCO EMS) – the agency in charge of managing countywide ambulance service.

“BLS Falck units on ALS calls is something that the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) is actively seeing,” said LPFD Deputy Chief Joe Testa.

In recent months, Falck has struggled with extended ambulance response times. The agency’s failure to meet its contractual service levels in the county has resulted in ALCO EMS assessing financial penalties for noncompliance. This policy change is intended to help Falck improve response times and restore service levels.

“Falck has demonstrated a commitment to the county and meeting its contractual and performance metrics,” said an ALCO EMS spokesperson in an email to the Independent. “Recent initiatives are producing results.”

While ambulance response times may improve, Falck BLS crews are not qualified to provide advanced levels of patient care. That responsibility will fall on firefighter paramedics as fire department units are dispatched on most medical calls along with an ambulance crew. If a patient requires advanced medical care during transportation to a hospital, a firefighter will fill that role.

Exactly how Falck’s policy will affect the county’s fire agencies remains to be seen, Deputy Chief Ryan Nishimoto of the Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) said. However, Testa expressed concern.

“The primary impact to our jurisdiction is the decreased availability of our fire units while firefighters are en route to hospitals, retrieving firefighters from the hospital and (the) drive time back to their district,” he explained.” The Alameda County fire chiefs have been in frequent discussions with Alameda County EMS, but the fire chiefs learned of this particular plan shortly before implementation.”

After Falck failed to respond to 90% of its emergency calls within the established time frame in August and September, ALCO EMS required the agency to submit a corrective action plan detailing how it would return to compliance. They also missed their service level standard in October and November, while the December performance report has yet to be published.

The move to greater dependence on BLS units was one of the steps Falck included in its plan, which was approved by ALCO EMS. Alameda County fire chiefs were not consulted on the policy change, but according to ALCO EMS, they were notified prior to its implementation.

“We made the decision in consultation with the county EMS agency to triage calls, which will ensure that patients receive appropriate care based on the severity of the call,” said Jeff Lucia, Falck USA director of marketing and communications, in an email to The Independent.

Despite concerns voiced by the county’s fire agencies, ALCO EMS — the agency in charge of managing countywide ambulance service — stated that the new policy will reduce the strain on fire crews.

“Falck reinstated a patient-focused practice to reduce ambulance delays and the time commitment from the fire service,” said an ALCO EMS spokesperson. “Restoring this practice actually allows fire to be available for response elsewhere as needed by improving ambulance availability.”

In the past interviews, Falck has pointed to staffing shortages and long waits to transfer patient care from its ambulance crews to hospital staff as the primary drivers of its performance issues. Those issues continue to put stress on the emergency response system. Lucia noted that wait times to transfer patients from an ambulance to a hospital emergency department has increased 12% in the last week with crews

experiencing wait times of up to three hours.

“I cannot stress this enough,” Lucia added. “This is a national issue. Numerous communities have called in the National Guard to assist with ambulance and hospital staffing. Fortunately, Omicron symptoms are mostly less severe than other COVID variants. We used to say we’re all in this together, and that’s as true today as it was at the beginning of the pandemic.”



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT WITHIN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN LIVERMORE OR HAYWARD?

CAPE, Inc. is currently looking for Early Childhood Professionals.

Seeking Individuals With:

- Minimum Associate Permit
- AA Degree or Higher
- Experience Working with ECE

CAPE, Inc. Offers:

- Competitive Wages/Benefits
- Quality Programs
- Reimbursement Program for Continuing Education

For More Information Please Contact:
CAPE, Inc. Human Resources
E-Mail: HR@capeheadstart.org Website: www.capeheadstart.org



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR FREE OR LOW-COST PRESCHOOL AND/OR CHILDCARE FOR CHILDREN AGES 12 Months TO 5 Years?

CAPE, Inc. MAY BE THE PROGRAM FOR YOU!!

Give your child a HEAD START with:

- Quality opportunities to support school readiness!
- Family support services including parent education!
- Health and development screenings and assessments!
- Disability and mental wellness support for families!

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!
For more information, please contact:
ERSEA Department (925) 443-3434 ext. 125
COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE
[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/CAPEAPP](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CAPEAPP)



TIRED OF NO BURN DAYS?



MENIOTI®

WE SELL AND INSTALL FIREPLACE INSERTS* AND FIREPLACES.
SAVE UP TO \$400.00 ON SELECT UNITS.

JERRY'S FIREPLACES
Locally owned by Livermore resident, happily servicing the Tri-Valley since 1982

***Gas, Wood and Pellet**

23585 CONNECTICUT ST # 15, HAYWARD 510.471.5601 www.jerrysfireplaces.com

OBITUARIES

Claire Nelson May 8, 1932 - Oct. 16, 2021



Rachael Claire Ensign Nelson, 89, died Oct. 16, 2021, at home surrounded by family. A resident of Livermore, California for over 60 years, Claire was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas. After graduation from Topeka High School, she attended the University of Kansas and Boston College as an English major, but marriage, children, and an eventual move to the Bay Area inspired her to obtain a degree in Early Childhood Education from California State University, Hayward. A friend noted, "Claire was a formidable woman, involved in numerous causes throughout the Tri-Valley." And another, "always cheerful, kind and thoughtful, achieving so much without making a big deal about it - always an inspiration." Indeed, Claire often worked behind the scenes and was instrumental in founding TriValley Haven, Leahy Square Day Care, and Community Association for Preschool Education (CAPE). Numerous other organizations benefited from her participation including Friends of the Livermore Library, National Organization for Women (NOW) and the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore (UUCIL).

Said long-time friend and Haven counselor, Carolyn Staehle, "Claire was a mighty spirit in a small frame, a force for love in this community for decades. It was Claire who literally housed women and their kids in her home be-

fore we even had a shelter." Claire believed not only in helping others, but in giving them the tools they would need to continue to grow and thrive long after they passed out of her life and care.

As a specialist in child development, Claire believed in legacies; how helping the mothers would help the children, which would help those children's children yet unborn. She knew that breaking the cycle of violence started in the smallest, most direct acts, like a hot meal, a warm cookie, a place in a home when hope had been lost. It is staggering to think of the number of lives Claire's vision has touched [since the Haven's inception]. For anyone who ever thought they could not make a difference, that the problems of the world are too vast, too complicated, or too distant for them to touch, Claire Nelson proved again and again, that we can make a difference. One person, one family, one community at a time.

She was a determined gardener, worm cultivator and avid reader so losing her sight to macular degeneration was devastating, but not insurmountable as audio books became a passion in her last months. Cookbooks were always a particular favorite, and she was a brilliant cook. She adapted many recipes to streamline their preparation and make them more affordable and was in the process of writing her own low-cost meals cookbook at the time of her death. Claire brought an equal amount of energy and passion to family, friends and strangers with educational scholarships, home-cooked meals, letter-writing campaigns and political activism across the country. Though Claire's flame has been extinguished, the light she shined on all those whom she touched carries on.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Virgil and Blanche Ensign. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Harry L. Nelson of the home; three sons Craig (Nancy) of Livermore, Bron (Desiree) of Saratoga, Scott (Sabrina) of Castro Valley; daughter Sandy (David) of Manhattan, Kansas; her brother Mike Ensign (Jeanne) of Aptos; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and numerous other friends and relatives. A celebration of life is planned for spring 2022. Memorial contributions to the Tri-Valley Haven are encouraged.

Moti Lal Baru Oct. 3, 1938 - Dec. 21, 2022



Moti Lal Baru (Moti) passed away at the Marin General Hospital at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021, at the age of 83 years.

He was born in Fiji Islands on Oct. 3, 1938. He migrated to the United States of America in 1968 and lived in the Bay Area. Moti worked as a grounds man at the Sunol Golf Course. Later, he worked for the City of Livermore at the Springtown Golf Course and Las Positas Golf Course as a Senior Greenskeeper for 30 years.

He loved gardening and shared his home-grown vegetables with everyone. He had a God-gifted green thumb. He knew how to keep plants and grass green. Everyone enjoyed his generosity. He would ask his wife to cook food for the neighbors who were living alone and shared his home-made

Indian curry dishes and roti (Indian Flour Tortillas). Moti enjoyed doing community work and served his Temple for 40 years. He enjoyed helping people. He would check on people just to see if they were OK because he had not seen them for days. His neighbors always counted on him whenever

they needed help. He would be there with his white Ford truck along with his son.

He was a true environmentalist as he would advise people of the risks of chemicals. He loved drinking tea; while sipping tea, he enjoyed discussing current affairs. He also had a thirst for knowledge. He was not shy in asking about things that either were not clear to him, or he wanted to know and learn about. He was a quick learner and retained things very well.

Moti is survived by his wife Mahendar Kaur, son Paresh Lal (wife Sunita and daughters Sariya and Nirali) and son Sudesh Lal. His services will be held at Callaghan Mortuary on Jan. 6, 2022, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. The Baru family invites all his friends to attend and be part of his last rights.

Duane David "Dave" Specht



friendship, and many expressions of shared ministry. Dave was a longtime member of the audio-visual team at Cedar Grove and served passionately in the Spirit West Coast ministry where his AV expertise was invested every summer for many years. Through Spirit West Coast, thousands and thousands of attendees celebrated contemporary Christian music's messages of faith. Dave enjoyed serving others and modeled this joy for his sons and many friends at church. He was steadfast in supporting missions, missionaries, and connecting with the people around him, wherever he was living and enjoying his life.

Dave retired from Hewlett Packard in October 2019 and gave himself fully to enjoying his many passions: hiking, running with his run club, biking around town and across the country, camping, reading, and having a cup of coffee, especially with a friend. It was no surprise to all who knew him that he was on a cross-country bike ride when he began experiencing some health concerns. Three weeks after being diagnosed with lymphoma, Dave exited this life and entered his eternal life with Jesus on Dec. 14, 2021.

We, his family, are sure of this: Dave is at peace and has been made whole, knowing his purpose on earth is fulfilled. He is reunited with Judy and in the presence of God who created him and in whom he had placed a lifetime of trust.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Duane and Mary, and his wife Judy. He is survived by his siblings, Kathy, Lynne, Brian and John, and by his children, Jon and daughter-in-law Bethany, Matt and Aaron, as well as his grandchildren, Hunter Jonathan, Riley Ann Marie and Roman James Specht.

The family will hold a private burial at the National Cemetery in San Joaquin Valley, California on Jan. 20. A memorial service will be held in Livermore at Cedar Grove Community Church on Jan. 21, at 4 p.m. For those desiring to do so, donations in Dave's name can be made to Cedar Grove Community Church's General Fund in Livermore, California, or to cadence.org/ministry/victory-ranch in support of Eric and Janet Thimell.

Thanks, Dad, for loving us well and being a great example of what true strength looks like. We do not grieve as those have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13). We are at peace, knowing by faith we will see you and mom again. "Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seeds to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them." (Psalms 126:5-6)

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

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Traci Lynn Jorgensen Moyot

Traci Lynn Jorgensen Moyot, age 51 of Livermore, left us on Nov. 23, 2021. Traci grew up in Pleasanton, summered at Wentle Boy Scout Camp in Willits, and lived with her husband Dave in Livermore.

Traci leaves behind her mother and father, Bill and Pat Jorgensen, two older brothers Pete and Eric Jorgensen, and sister-in-law Nicole Jorgenson, and her husband David Moyot and stepson Wesley Moyot, and son-in-law Albert Cubillos. Nieces and nephew, and in-laws a plenty.

Traci's surrogate parents Elaine Robinson, predeceased Ranger Al Robinson and the family dog Shadow.

Traci loved things mystical and spiritual, photography, horses, dogs, dragons, especially Mooses! Wentle Boy Scout Camp, and Ranger Al and his wife Elaine.

Most of all, Traci loved her husband, Dave.

Traci and Dave's marriage was a magical rabbit pulled out of life's hat. Out of routine of ordinary life, the extraordinary happened. Traci and Dave had no idea their paths would cross with the help of a subtle whiff of perfume that evening when they were learning to line dance. Or that they would go through all the thrills and fretting's of the initial stages of romance, to discover the love of substance and depth that has lasted 22 years.

Traci has touched so many people's lives with her kindness and selflessness. She will be missed ever-so greatly. Traci has given me a great fulfilled life. We were one of the fortunate ones that have deep lasting love that never wavered.

Traci and I Support the Open-Heart Kitchen organization. They help feed the less fortunate people in the Tri-Valley area. Flowers are nice, but they don't live long, Traci would rather you help the Open-Heart



Organization with a donation in her name.

Donate to Open Heart Kitchen; www.openheart-kitchen.org/donate.

A celebration of life for Traci will be held in the neighborhood she lived and loved on March 19, 2022 at 5 p.m., 5062 Pisces Ave., Livermore, CA, 94551. Please RSVP by March 19, 2022. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Moyot family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Judith Thompson March 14, 1953 - Oct. 22, 2021



Judith (Judy) Thompson aged 68 passed away on Oct. 22, 2021. She was born on March 14, 1953, in Feilding, New Zealand, the second of four children of Edith Myrtle Macdonald and Roderick Douglas Macdonald.

She tried medical college and nursing training before completing a biology degree at the University of Auckland. She found her vocation then with a Diploma of Optometry in 1979. She married Ian Joseph Thompson in the same year in Nelson, New Zealand.

In January 1980, they moved to Manchester, England, where later in 1980 she fully qualified as a registered optometrist. Her first child Catherine Mary was born in Manchester, the second Alice Barbara in Bristol, and the third Jennifer Eileen when the family was living in Dorking, England. The family had multi-month visits to Auckland, New Zealand; Copenhagen, Denmark; South Bend, Indiana.

She found working part-time as an optometrist a useful job to fit around children and travel. Coming to actually live in the USA, she said, helped relieve some prejudices generated by TV soap operas, and made her want to return.

In 2006 she was thus keen for her husband to accept an appointment at Livermore Laboratory, so they and their youngest daughter came to Pleasanton in July 2006. She was by then looking forward to retiring from optometry, and instead took the courses

at Las Positas College that she had always wanted to, such as literature, history, computer operation and poetry. She helped as a tutor at LPC and also at Pleasanton Library with other new immigrants.

Judy and Ian moved to Livermore in 2015, bringing along and then growing further her cactus collection. She became a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church, Livermore in 2016: she found great value in being able to reach out to those in need of conversation and friendship. She also became a very enthusiastic handball player at the church. In 2016, however, she was diagnosed with a rare slow-growing appendix cancer with few good treatment options. At first, she was discouraged, but then decided there was still much to do. Once she found her voice and determination, the change was dramatic. One month after her first operation in 2016 she flew to England for the wedding of Catherine and Przemek Rogala, and the following year to Manchester for the wedding of Alice and Chris Johnson.

Jenny had settled nearby in California and was a great source of support. She had already discovered the delights of touring in the USA, first looking at the many canyons and mesas in the southwest. Later there were train tours around Colorado and British Columbia, Canada. She discovered her unique voice for writing short and expressive poems, and she published one collection in 2018 and another in 2020 also with prose chapters. In the covid times she was confined to zoom calls, but still joined several writing classes.

Her first grandson Huxley Ian was born in June 2021, and at first it looked like visiting would be too difficult. However, rules were relaxed sufficiently concerning quarantines that she and her husband were able to fly to England in September and visit Alice and Catherine and their families. She was so happy to be able to hold Huxley even for a few days.

Judy is survived by her siblings Jeff, Peter and Anne, her husband Ian of 41 years, her three daughters Catherine, Alice and Jennifer and grandson Huxley. There will be an in-person memorial service at the First Presbyterian Church at 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, on Saturday, Jan 8, 2022, at 11 a.m., with masks required indoors. This will also be online at fpcl.online.church. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Judy's memory may be made to the Sunflower Hill project at sunflowerhill.org.

Nellie Sue Breazeale Dec. 16, 1933 - Nov. 23, 2021



children. Nellie loved to tell stories from her childhood in South Carolina and of her beloved children. Nellie was loved by many, and she will

be greatly missed.

Nellie is preceded in death by her husband George. Nellie is survived by her sisters Shirley and Martha, her children Linda, Ben, Brian and his wife Carol, Tracy and her husband Jim, Wally and his wife Lisa; grandchildren Stephanie, Jennifer, Hope, Davlin, Austyn, Jady, Kayla, Kaite, Kaycee, Matthew, Kelly, Carlee, Lauren, Ivie, and several beautiful great-grandchildren. A celebration of Nellie's life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 8, at the home of Wally and Lisa, 846 South K St., Livermore, California, 94550.

Catherine Nicholson Oct. 18, 1925- Dec. 17, 2021



Catherine was born to Frank and Rose Demma on October 18, 1925, in Baltimore, Maryland. She went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 17, 2021, in Castro Valley, California surrounded by her family.

She was the second of four children: Marie (98), Dolores (Deceased), and Anthony (85).

Catherine is survived by her only child, a daughter, Paula Nokes, and her husband Gene; four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Catherine or Cassie as we

called her was an integral part of a large, close knit Italian family where she hosted many family gatherings. Catherine moved to California 12 years ago to

live with her daughter and her family. She moved to her own apartment at Baywood Court, a Senior Retirement Community, in Castro Valley six years ago after breaking her hip on a family outing to Reno.

Cassie was a world traveler as a young, professional woman traveling all over the world. She enjoyed the company of family and friends and enjoyed the good life. She did things her way as an independent woman before her time and lived a very adventuresome life. She was greatly loved by her family and will be missed by all.

OBITUARIES

Mary Lou Trudeau
Nov. 11, 1935 - Dec. 18, 2021



She is survived by her sons; Scott (Linda), Jack, Kevin (JoAnn) and Mike (Kelly). She was proud of her boys. Scott and Mike both worked for the Livermore Police Department, Ted was in the United States Air Force, Jack played in the NFL, Kevin played professional baseball. Twelve grandchildren also survive Mary Lou: Kel-

Mary Louise Conway was born the daughter of William and Ethel Vaillancourt Conway, Nov. 11, 1935, in St. Paul, Minnesota, and just celebrated her 86th birthday. She lived 31,449 days.

Mary Lou attended St. Paul Central High School, graduating in 1953. Upon graduation, she worked at Minnesota Mutual for six years. She was married to Jack Trudeau in 1957 and they had six sons. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack in 1979, sons, Joseph 1957, and Ted in 1999.

The family moved to Livermore California in 1973 and she went to work at Liberty House and then Kaiser Sand and Gravel. She was highly active in Granada Little League and Livermore Pop Warner Football, supporting all her boys and their various sports teams.

James Kash
March 27, 1958 - Oct. 28, 2021

James Kash was a Marin native who lived in Castro Valley. After a stint in the U.S. Navy, Jim was an electrician by trade for over 20 years. Later he taught Electrical Theory in Hayward for a number of years. He loved teaching and encouraging

his students to succeed. His hobbies were playing his many guitars, golf and photography. Jim fought a good fight, but Jim succumbed to pancreatic cancer in late October 2021. He was dearly loved by his family and his siblings Sandra,

ly (Rich) Campbell, Nichole (Lloyd) McCulloch, Jackie (Trevor) Fisher, Kendall (Bobby) Hernandez, Danielle (Corey) Fosdick, John, Jack, Beau, Tommy, Trey, Colton and Tyler Trudeau. Mary Lou also survived by 10 great-grandchildren; Jake, Derek and Grayson Campbell, Travis, Reece, Hayes Fisher, Easton, Gentry Kechriotis, Cassidy and Shelby Hernandez, and her 11th is due soon. Gary Conway, her brother, of Duluth, Minnesota also survives.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests charitable contributions in memory of Mary Lou Trudeau be made to Brain Support Network, PO Box 7264, Menlo Park, California, 94026, www.brainsupportnetwork.org.

Robert and Kevin along with his nephews and nieces. We will miss him greatly. The celebration of his life and a short service will be held Jan. 8, 2022, at Valley Memorial Park in Novato at 1 p.m.

Mary E. Warren
July 17, 1938 - Dec. 15, 2021



dentials and taught kindergarten and first grade for the Livermore School District for 25 years.

Her husband retired the following year, and they began travelling and cruising, visiting all seven continents, the five oceans, and over 60 countries. In early 2000 they moved to Dallas, Oregon to be closer to friends and relatives. Mary was a talented pianist and musician, playing a number of different instruments and singing in a number of choirs over the years. Her favorite was performing with the former VA National Musical Group

On Wednesday, Dec.15, 2021, my dear lovely, talented, charming wife, Mary Warren went to be with her Lord and Savior at the Salem Hospital in Salem, Oregon.

Mary was born in Ontario, Oregon at her grandfather's farm on the banks of the Snake River to Jule and Grace Houston, July 17, 1938. After her birth she joined her parents and older sister on the family homestead in Lincoln Heights, Ontario, Oregon. When she was eight, they sold the farm and moved to La Grande, Oregon, while her mother obtained her teaching credential. At 11, they moved to Madras, Oregon where she graduated from high school in 1956.

She married Del Warren on Aug. 17, 1956. The day of the ceremony, they loaded up their worldly possessions and headed for Langley AFB, Virginia, where Del was stationed. Afterward, they moved to Concord, California while her husband received his teaching credentials, later moving to Livermore, California where Mary then obtained her cre-

Robert Esquivel Solorio
March 24, 1931 - Dec. 27, 2021



April of 1959. Within seven years they had four children: two boys and two girls. To support his ever-growing family Robert charmed his way into a 20-year printing career. His specialty was fine art reproduction, and he was honored as a true craftsman in his field.

In 1970 he purchased his first and only home in Livermore, California. Robert worked hard and he played hard. Primarily handball. It was at the Oakland YMCA when his life became even greater. Ken Hofmann, a homebuilder, befriended Robert on the handball court and offered him an assistant managing position at his new athletic club in Concord, The Big C. Robert's passions for handball and socializing intertwined and soon he found himself on amazing adventures with Mr. Hofmann. Flying on private jets, or sailing in yachts in Mexico, Robert experienced things he never imagined as a young boy. He organized many events for the club and pretty much became the honorary ambassador of the Big C. Everybody loved Bob. If you walked through the club with him, you needed to prepare your-

"Have a great life." That is what you would hear before hanging up the phone or leaving a get together with Robert E. Solorio. And boy did he ever have a great life! Born in Mexico City, Mexico on March 24, 1931, Robert (also known as Roberto, Bob and Bobby) grew up in poor conditions with his parents and four siblings. He had to learn to be tough in order to survive such conditions. Unfortunately, his toughness got him into a lot of trouble which caused his mother much worry. After his father's passing when he was around 11, his mother, who was unable to control the wild Robert, sent him to a boy's home for a time. A big opportunity came for Robert and his family when his uncle, who had immigrated to the U.S. with his own family, assisted with acquiring legal sponsorship for Robert's mother and her then three children. However, there was one caveat for Robert from his uncle: "Straighten up or go back to Mexico." Robert did just that. His great life was just beginning. At the age of 25, with only a third-grade education, Robert attended Oakland Technical High School where he excelled in music, winning competitions and acclaim with his singing and guitar playing. His singing and guitar playing would continue throughout his life as he performed for his family and friends at the many parties he attended.

It was at Oakland Tech, in the English class for immigrants, that life would get so much greater. He met Ingrid Schloetzer, a German immigrant, whose sweet demeanor captured his heart. They became inseparable and wed in

self that he would be stopped by many people who wanted to say hello. It was this charm that also brought him a part-time job at Scott's Seafood in Walnut Creek. There he would meet up with potential clients who were interested in holding events at the restaurant. Robert understood that his great life was not a factor of luck, but of being fortunate. That fortune came from his faith in God, or "Big Daddy" as he would say. He attended services at Saint Michael Church in Livermore, and eventually became an usher and offered sacramental services to those who could not leave their homes.

Robert retired at the age of 78 and a few years later his wife Ingrid joined him. He spent his days enjoying her company and not a day went by that he didn't say "I love you.". He truly adored her. When his children would tell him that they loved him, he would always respond "I love you more." Out of all his many talents, love was his strongest.

Robert crossed over to his next great life on Dec. 27, at home surrounded by those who loved him and he "loved more." He is preceded in death by his mother Basilisa, father Jesus, and sisters Rosa and Teresa. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ingrid. As well as his children Roy, Peggy, Monique, Bobby; grandchildren Richard, Jayde, Jesse, Cassandra, LaRosa; and great-grandchildren Sabrina, Matthew, Mishael and Angelo. Along with his brother Jesus (Chuy) and sister Lupe. His final resting place is located at the Oakmont Memorial Park and Mortuary in Lafayette, California.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Carmen Garcia



Carmen Garcia, of Livermore, California, passed away in the early hours of Thursday, Dec.16, 2021 at the age of 75. Carmen had a long and full life. She was born in Zacatecas, Mexico and immigrated to the United States in 1962 with her parents and siblings. The family settled in San Francisco and Carmen then attended Samuel Gompers High School. She met Albert Garcia in 1968 while attending Heald College and they married in 1970. They grew their family in 1972 and 1976 with the birth of their daughters.

Carmen had a long career in banking. She was a loyal employee of Wells Fargo Bank and retired from there after 25 years of service. She then worked at the San Mateo Credit Union for an additional

seven years before retiring to spend time with her grandchildren. She also began volunteering at the American Cancer Society's Discovery Shop in Pleasanton.

She is survived by her husband, Albert; children Mariza (Darren) and Maritez (Willie); her grandchildren Josiah, Jonah, Judah, Johannah, Sean, Seth, Samantha, Jack, and Maddie; and her siblings Ramon, Alfredo, Cecilia, Rodrigo, Martha, Juana and Luis.

Preceding her in death are her parents, Cruz and Guadalupe De La Rosa; and her brother, Salomon De La Rosa.

Carmen was a devoted wife, mother and Nana. She enjoyed being with her family. She and Albert loved travelling, attending concerts, and their special Friday night dinners out. She was a regular attendee

at her grandchildren's team games and recitals. She hosted her family's large holiday events for decades, and she looked forward to her weekends spent with her sisters and brothers. She leaves behind many other family and friends, and her sweet dog, Daisy.

A celebration of life will be held on Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton. Flowers welcome.

Kevin E. Ryan
April 20, 1950 - Dec. 15, 2021
Pleasanton



Kevin Ryan of Pleasanton took his last flight to heaven Dec. 15 at age 71. He was born in San Mateo, the fourth son of Margaret Schott Ryan and Captain Joseph Ryan. He graduated from St. Gregory's Catholic School, Serra High School, both in San Mateo, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in engineering technology from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo in 1974.

Kevin worked as a manufacturing engineer for 45 years at several companies, including Lam Research in Livermore. The thrill of his life was manufacturing sail cloth for the 1992 America's Cup.

Kevin married Sandra Sanfilippo, also from San Mateo in 1980, and they moved to Pleasanton with their daughter, Andrea "Dre", one year later, where they lived for 40 years.

He was a great adventurer.

Pleasanton.

Survivors include: his wife Sandra Ryan; daughter Dre Ryan, son-in-law Seth John, granddaughters Cecilia and Celeste John, all from Los Angeles; brothers, Terry (Dinah) from Vallejo, Dennis (the late Virginia) from San Carlos, and Brendan from Brussels; six nephews and one niece.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Augustine's Catholic Church, located at 3999 Bernal Ave. (at East Angela St.) on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., followed by interment at St. Augustine's Catholic Cemetery on 5750 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. The funeral will be live streamed on YouTube and Facebook at the Catholics Community of Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Kevin's name to the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, or the Yosemite Conservancy.

Emily Kimlinger
Aug. 13, 1933 - Dec. 27, 2021



Emily Kimlinger passed away on Dec. 27, 2021. The second child of Richard Salisbury Wright and Helen Chase Wright, Emily was born in Oakland, California, and grew up nearby in Piedmont, where she met and married her first husband, Frank Anderson. After the marriage ended, she moved to Long Barn, in Tuolumne County, to raise her two young sons and daughter. There, she met John Kimlinger of Livermore, and he became her second husband after friends chartered a Greyhound bus to take the couple to Nevada for an impromptu wedding. When John retired from the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, he and Emily moved back to the cabin in Long Barn, and later, as winters became more of a strain, to James-

town and then Sonora.

When John passed away, she came to Grass Valley to live closer to family. Emily immersed herself in the drama and pleasures of everyday life, enjoying good conversation, the company of her many friends, home decorating and gardening,

all things cat and cocktail hour. She was known as an excellent and considerate hostess, and her personal warmth charmed everyone.

Emily is survived by her son Jeff Anderson of Los Altos and Nevada City, her son Richard Anderson of Truckee, her daughter Kelly Anderson of Reno, Nevada, her grandsons Michael Harrison and Tyler Harrison of Reno, her sister Ann Swartz of Oakland and her brother Jack Wright of Vancouver, WA. Surviving stepsiblings include Chuck Land of Danville, Bob Land of Santa Cruz and Alice Runnette of New Canaan, Connecticut. Surviving cousins include George Davison of San Rafael and Emmy Weakley of Walnut Creek. Her ashes will be scattered at sea.

Paul W. Senden
Feb. 22, 1932 - Dec. 10, 2021



Paul W. Senden, 89, was born on Feb. 22, 1932, in St. Charles, Missouri, to John and Elvira Senden. He passed away on Friday, Dec. 10, at his home in Pleasanton.

Services are to be held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton, California at noon. An open viewing will be held from 10 a.m. to noon before the service.

Paul Senden was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Paul was a retired US Naval Aviator having flown the Grumman S2F (Stoof) aboard the USS Bennington, Kearsarge, Philippine Sea, Hornet and other US Navy Aircraft carriers. After retirement from the Navy, he went to work for the Burkhardt company, a premium advertising company. After that, he started his own advertising company, the Senden Company.

He was preceded in death

by his wife of 52 years, Billie Jeanine and his brother, John Jr.

He is survived by his wife of nine years, Edith Linea, and three sons and their spouses: Steven and Sue of Manteca, Scott and Michelle of Phoenix and Shawn and Betty of Livermore. He also leaves behind six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

dren.

Paul was heavily involved in the local Pleasanton community, serving as president of the Pleasanton Valley Swim Club, Pleasanton Little League, and the Elks Lodge. He was also an active part of the local Kiwanis.

One of Paul's favorite things to do was hosting backyard family BBQs, where he cooked his famous ribs. He also loved attending Pleasanton's Concerts in Park on warm, summer evenings.

Paul was an avid golfer and enjoyed spending his time in retirement as a golf marshal at Wente Vineyards. He was also a devout Lutheran who attended Trinity Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Oakland Children's Hospital, a charity that was near and dear to his heart.

Amador Valley Takes Second Place in Dougherty Valley Holiday Tournament

By Nathan Canilao

The Amador Valley High boys’ basketball team took second place at the Dougherty Valley Holiday Tournament, losing in the championship game on Dec. 30, and finishing the preseason with a 8-3 record.

The Dons started off the tournament with an impressive win over Antioch High School in the first round of the tournament on Dec. 28. They were able to take control of the game in the second half with some hot shooting from junior point guard Tyler Cheng. The Dons won 57-49.

On Dec. 29, the Dons faced the Queen Creek Bulldogs from Queen Creek, Arizona. After falling behind early, the Dons had a huge fourth quarter. After taking

a 35-33 lead with 6:00 left in the fourth quarter, the Dons would go on a 8-2 run at the end of the game to ice out the Bulldogs. They would win 47-42 with a big performance from junior Colton Cash who finished with 22 points.

“I told the guys that defense was going to be the reason we win,” said assistant coach Isaiah Moore who filled in for Head Coach Willis Gardner for the entirety of the tournament.

Going into the championship game, the big key was to stop Dougherty Valley junior guard Ryan Beasley. Beasley scored 40 points against Tracy High School and was the main catalyst for the Wildcats success.

The Dons relied on their

hot shooting throughout the tournament, but went on a cold streak during the championship game. They got down 18-4 after the first quarter and couldn’t recover, going into the half-time break down 18 points.

The second half was not any better for the Dons. The Wildcats grew their lead to 21 points and the cold streak continued for the Dons. They would eventually fall to the Wildcats 51-31.

Cheng and Cash would make the all-tournament team and the Dons would finish in second place. Cash would finish with a team high 11 points in the championship game.

The Dons finished the preseason with an 8-3 record. They will go on to face Livermore High on the road on Jan. 8.



Amador Valley guard Foster Keast shoots a free throw against Antioch High School. (Photo - Nathan Canilao)

Cowboys Go Winless in Tournament

By Nathan Canilao

The Livermore High School boys’ basketball team went winless in the Livermore Cowboy Holiday Tournament, dropping all three of their games.

The Cowboys lost three straight and have lost six of their last seven games. They were without leading scorer Spencer Langowski and starting point guard Ajai Franklin due to injury.

The Cowboys were matched up with Bay Area powerhouse James Logan High School in the first round of the tournament on Dec. 27. Despite their injuries, the Cowboys kept the game close for the first three quarters of the game. They capitalized off of the Colts turnovers and missed

shots and managed to cut the game to eight going into the fourth quarter.

As the fourth quarter rolled around, the Colts were able to take control of the game. A dunk by Colts’ senior Logan Baltazar with 4:30 left in the fourth quarter pushed the Colts’ lead to 16 and shifted the momentum of the game. The Cowboys lost 68-47.

On Dec. 28, the Cowboys matched up with the Novato High Hornets for the second round of the tournament, during which, they looked outmatched from the jump. The Hornets took a 12 point lead at the halftime break and started to run away with the game in the third quarter.

The Cowboys had no answer for the Hornets’ hot

shooting night as Novato hit five three pointers in the game. On the offensive end, the Cowboys struggled to get anything going against the Hornets’ 2-2-1 press. They would lose the game 58-37.

The Cowboys faced Golden Valley High School (Merced) on Dec. 30 for their final game of the tournament. Langowski suited up and played a few minutes in the first half, but his injury kept him out for the rest of the game.

They kept the first half competitive. After a 9-2 start to the first quarter, the Cowboys went on a 6-0 run to close the lead to just two. That would be the closest it would get all game.

The Cougars ended the second quarter on a 9-0 run to push their lead to 12 at halftime. From then on, it was all Cougars. A 6-0 run to start the fourth quarter pushed the Cougar lead to 20. The Cougars would go on to win 59-35.

It was a rough go for the Cowboys, as they lost each game by at least 20 or more points. Outside of junior point guard Owen Omweg, the Cowboys struggled to find any other source of scoring. Omweg would average 17 points per game for the tournament. Senior Dillon Maheshwari would average eight points per game.

Livermore will play Amador Valley on Dec. 8 in their home league opener.



Junior Owen Omweg attempts a free throw against Novato High School. He finished the Cowboy Holiday Tournament averaging 17 points per game. (Photo - Nathan Canilao)

SPORTS CORNER

With Nathan Canilao



Girls’ Hoops Need More Support

Girls’ basketball in the Valley division of the East Bay Athletic League (EBAL) has gotten off to a great start.

Out of the five teams in the league, three have winning records, including Granada High, who enters the regular season with an undefeated record.

Dublin Gaels’ center Rachel Grier looks like an early candidate for EBAL MVP, as she is averaging 9.9 points per game and 8.4 rebounds per game. The Amador Valley Dons have picked up notable wins over Berkeley, Washington and Half Moon Bay. Despite all of these great storylines, attendance at these games are low and are made up of mostly parents.

Boys’ hoops have dominated the eyes of fans at every level of basketball, whether it is high school, college or pro, but more attention has to be paid to the girls who make Tri-Valley hoops so great. Not only does the Tri-Valley have great talent, but the teams are fun to watch and know how to play the game the right way.

When I was in high school, boys’ hoops almost always took up the attention, whether it be on the school newspaper or the morning announcements. when it came to the girls’ teams, it took a lot for students to show up to a home game, even on Friday nights. Most of the time, it would take a free t-shirt night or some extra credit just to get some students to fill the student section a quarter of the way.

The common misconception is that the girls’ teams lack the quality of play the boys show. Some fans believe girls lack the athletic prowess boys have and opt to not watch girls’ hoops, regardless of the talent that is put on the floor. This couldn’t be further from the case in regards to the Tri-Valley teams.

The Lady Matadors have shown all season they can compete with anyone. Their physical style of play, mixed with their ability to run the fast break, is a sight to see if you’re a big time hoops fan. Some would also say the girls’ teams lack the size the boys do, which makes plays like slam dunks and alley-oops more rare to see.

Though you may not see a 360 alley-oop slam at one of these games, the Dublin Gaels do a great job of using their size to win games. Grier is a talented post scorer who can get any shot she wants when she is in the paint. Teammate Kenya Craven is a tenacious offensive rebounder who gets a lot of her points using her size to clean up missed shots.

One thing about Tri-Valley girls is they play extremely hard every minute they are on the floor. Both Livermore and Foothill have losing records, but stay in games because they do the little things. like offensive rebound and dive on loose balls.

This year looks to be a special one for the Valley division. Amador, Granada and Dublin are all on pace to make the playoffs and each could make a big run. I predict we will see multiple all league selections from these schools when it is all said and done.

Girls’ basketball in the Tri-Valley is more competitive than it has ever been this year. The teams have the talent and the coaching to make deep playoff runs, but fan support needs to be there as well. This year could mark a historic run for Tri-Valley girls’ hoops.

Las Positas College Men's Basketball Finishes Preseason 13-1, Ranked 6th

By Nathan Canilao

The Las Positas Men’s basketball team defeated the College of Redwoods Corsairs 90-75 on Dec. 30 to finish off the preseason 13-1, ending the preseason at No. 6 in the California Community College Men’s Basketball Association latest poll.

The Hawks dominated the game from the jump. They started the game going on an 8-0 run and forced the Corsairs to call a timeout. Sophomore guard Lee Jones Jr. attacked the defense well and got good looks inside the painted area.

Hawks’ sharp shooter Dathan Satchell struggled to get going, but it didn’t matter as freshman Isaiah Victor hit a pair of 3-pointers in the second half to extend their lead to 16 going into halftime.

The Corsairs came out of the halftime break on fire from behind the arc. They cut the Hawks lead to just six with a little over nine minutes to go in the second half. Their hustle on the offensive glass gave them second chance looks that helped cut into the Hawks’ lead.

Victor’s hot shooting continued into the second half and ultimately sealed



Freshman Isaiah Victor (left) lines up at the free throw line. He finished the game with 20 points. (Photo - Nathan Canilao)

the deal for the Hawks. They would close out the game with a dunk from Evan Johnson which pushed their lead to 18 and would kill any chances the Corsairs had of coming back.

In attendance at the game were many prominent college scouts. The University of San Francisco as well as Sonoma State were in the crowd watching some of the talent the Hawks had to offer. Head Coach James Giacomazzi believes that playing the guys who play hard will be key to showcasing his player’s talents to scouts.

“The guys know if I play hard they play hard, they will stay in the game,” said

Giacomazzi.

Victor finished with a team high 20 points off the bench for the Hawks. Jones Jr. finished with 17 and freshman Jordahn Johnson finished with 12.

Giacomazzi finished with his best statistical preseason since his coaching career started at Las Positas.

“I’m really happy that they’ve stuck together, and that they’re great kids that go to class and take care of their responsibilities. They’re great representatives of Las Positas,” said Giacomazzi.

The Hawks will play their first conference home game on Jan. 12 against Skyline College.



The Catholic Community of Pleasanton's eighth-grade boys' Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball team won the Hardwood Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament in Fremont last month, defeating the host, Holy Spirit, 63-28 in the championship game. Shown from left are coach Scott Bodensteiner, Aren Case, Hudson Flora, Tyler Bodensteiner, Peyton Heine, Grant Hoenninger, Josh Salonga, RJ Mannicki, Joey Gibson, and coach Shelby Salonga. The team resumes regular CYO Tri-Valley League competition on Jan. 9. (Photo courtesy of Scott Bodensteiner)

Fire Association Encourages Removal of Christmas Trees

Nearly one-third (30 percent) of U.S. home fires involving Christmas trees occur in January.

With this post-holiday fire hazard in mind, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) strongly encourages everyone to keep the festive memories and remove the hazards by disposing of Christmas trees promptly after the holiday season.

“As much as we all enjoy the look and feel of Christmas trees in our homes, they’re large, combustible items that have the potential to result in serious fires,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. “The longer Christmas trees remain in homes, the longer they present a risk.”

Carli notes that fresh Christmas trees, which continue to dry out and become

more flammable over time, are involved in a much larger share of reported Christmas tree fires than artificial trees.

According to the latest NFPA winter holiday fire data, 160 home structure fires began with Christmas trees, resulting in two civilian deaths, 12 civilian injuries, and \$10 million in direct property damage, on average each year between 2015 and 2019. Overall, fires that begin with Christmas trees represent a very small but notable part of the U.S. fire problem, considering that they are generally in use for a short time each year.

To safely dispose of a Christmas tree, NFPA recommends using the local community’s recycling program, if possible; trees should not be put in the garage or left outside. NFPA also offers these tips for

safely removing lighting and decorations to ensure that they remain in good condition:

Use the gripping area on the plug when unplugging electrical decorations. Never pull the cord to unplug any device from an electrical outlet, as this can harm the wire and insulation of the cord, increasing the risk for shock or electrical fire.

As you pack up light strings, inspect each line for damage, throwing out any sets that have loose connections, broken sockets or cracked or bare wires.

Wrap each set of lights and put them in individual plastic bags or wrap them around a piece of cardboard.

Store electrical decorations in a dry place away from children and pets where they will not be damaged by water or dampness.

Religion Chat to Explore Common Holy Books

Interfaith Interconnect, a group of Tri-Valley area clergy and community members who meet monthly for ‘religion chats,’ will explore the holy books and other texts that form the foundation of six different religions on Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Pejman Naraghi-Arani, a member of Baha’i Faith, and Rabbi Laurence Milder, with Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton, will lead the Zoom-based online discussion from 5 to 6 p.m. Optional breakout discussion groups will follow from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

To participate, visit <https://bit.ly/3eKrHJV>. For more information, email interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. 21CV003714

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:

Bryan David Spitzer
24268 Galloway Street,
Livermore, CA 94551
Telephone: 510-485-6993
E-Mail: bryan.spitzer07@gmail.com
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:

Bryan David Spitzer

Proposed Name:

Bryan David Ingle

THE COURT ORDERS

that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 1/28/2022
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17
The address of the court is: Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612

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: December 8, 2021 /s/: Judge Tara M. Desautels. The Independent, Legal No. 5044. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584490

The following person(s) doing business as: Sparke, 155 4th Street, Apt# 476, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sparke, 155 4th Street, Apt# 476, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 11/22/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Tashina Johnson, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 22, 2021. Expires November 28, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5045. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584739

The following person(s) doing business as: H Art Studio, 3867 Apian Street, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Youngsin Han, 3867 Apian Street, 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 Registrant/s: Yousin Han, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 2, 2021. Expires December 1, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5046. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584568

The following person(s) doing business as: Epistemologi, 2363 Amantea Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bonky Emporium LLC, 2363 Amantea Way, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the

fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Eric Lai, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 29, 2021. Expires November 28, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5047. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584868

The following person(s) doing business as: Circles Pottery, 638 Via Acalanes, San Lorenzo, CA 94580, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jordan Reynolds, 638 Via Acalanes, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/15/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Jordan Reynolds, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 8, 2021. Expires December 7, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5049. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584876

The following person(s) doing business as: Digital Walkthroughs, 4960 Rhonda Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Clint Cuellar, 4960 Rhonda Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Clint Cuellar, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 8, 2021. Expires December 7, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5050. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584962

The following person(s) doing business as: Affirm Your Birth, 6219 Gibson Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julianna Winer, 6219 Gibson Court, 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 Registrant/s: Julianna Winer, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 8, 2021. Expires December 7, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5051. Published December 16, 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584982

The following person(s) doing business as: Williams Landscape Designs, 495 Abbie Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Trevor C. Williams, 945 Abbie Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted

by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Trevor C. Williams, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5053. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585006

The following person(s) doing business as: Royal Restrooms of California, Inc., 5552 La Ribera ST. Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Royal Restrooms of California, Inc., 5552 La Ribera ST. 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: 2/2007. Signature of Registrant/s: Rich Reynolds, V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5054. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585007

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. E Tribe Mobile 2. Etribe Mobile, 1487 Sauvignon CT, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Royal Restrooms of California, Inc., 5552 La Ribera ST. 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 Registrant/s: Rich Reynolds, V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5054. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585005

The following person(s) doing business as: Red Carpet Trailers, 1452 N. Vasco Rd. # 350, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Red Carpet Trailers, 1487 Sauvignon CT, 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: 5/2014. Signature of Registrant/s: Rich Reynolds, V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5055. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584985

The following person(s) doing business as: Livmore Live Scan, 4047 First St, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 9455, is

hereby registered by the following owner(s): Readymade Services LLC, 4047 First St, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 9455. 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: 2007. Signature of Registrant/s: Dan McDowell, V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5058. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 584721

The following person(s) doing business as: Step Into My Studio, 2218 Via Espada, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miyoung Lim, 2218 Via Espada, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/25/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Miyoung Lim, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 2, 2021. Expires December 1, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5059. Published December 23, 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585185

The following person(s) doing business as: The Chairman, 2317 Amatrice Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lamar Spalding, 2317 Amatrice 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: 1/1/2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Lamar Spalding, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 21, 2021. Expires December 20, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5060. Published December 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 20, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585178

The following person(s) doing business as: E.T.F Logistics, 7500 Weld ST, Oakland, CA 94621, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Essay T. Fkadi, 7500 Weld ST, Oakland, CA 94621. 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: 12/20/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Essay T. Fkadi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 20, 2021. Expires December 19, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5061. Published December 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 20, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585008

The following person(s) doing business as: Lamorinda Volleyball Club dba Norcal Volleyball Club, 789 N. Canyons Parkway, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Meg Herr, 16240 E Twin Acres Dr. Gilbert, AZ 85298. 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: 2012. Signature of Registrant/s: Meg Herr, Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2021. Expires December 12, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5062. Published December 30, 2021 & January 6, 13, 20, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585337

The following person(s) doing business as: United CU Partners, 4234 Hacienda Dr. # 110, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Teri Banholzer, 653 Saint Marg St. Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Teri Banholzer, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 29, 2021. Expires December 28, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5063. Published January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 585204

The following person(s) doing business as: Organized with Julie, 1437 Roselli Drive, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julie Melendez, 1437 Roselli Dr., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual.

The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Julie Melendez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 22, 2021. Expires December 21, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5064. Published January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

CATS/DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT

For adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)428-8656



Adopt a New Best Friend TVAR
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

Follow TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION
Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM

to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

EMPLOYMENT

CDL-A TRUCK DRIVING JOBS HOME EVERY DAY!

J.B. Hunt is hiring CDL-A drivers for a local driving job on our Dedicated fleet. \$96,000 a year + daily home time. Medical benefits after 30 days of employment, company-matched 401(k), paid time off & more!
Call us at 1-800-723-3169 or visit DriveJBHunt.com for more info!

AEye Inc.

(AEye, Technologies, Inc.)
Seeks: LIDAR Signal Processing Engineer (worksite: Dublin, CA)
Develop novel signal processing algorithms for company's proprietary LIDAR signal detection & estimation.
Requires 10% domestic travel to unanticipated client sites.
Send resume/cover to: careers@aye.ai

HELP WANTED

SERVICES

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS go to
bit.ly/Indy-Classifieds
or call
(925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE

ESTATE/ GARAGE/YARD

SALES

FREE SECTION

Free Pine & Oak Wood
You cut & haul it
Lots of Pine cones, too
Please call
(408)897-3156

LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES /ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR RENT

OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

Inland Valley Publishing Co.
Client Code:04128-00001
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads
The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPDC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

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

MIKE FRACISCO
(925) 998-8131
Fracisco Realty
Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt
MikeFracisco.com
DRE #01378428
REALTOR®

Sandee Utterback
(925) 487-0524
CalBRE#00855150
WWW.SANDEEU.COM
Specializing in
Livermore's
Finest Homes

TO PLACE YOUR AD, PLEASE CONTACT:
925.243.8010
kim@independentnews.com

NICOLE SWEENEY
REALTOR®
925.518.2142
nicole@nicolesweeneyhomes.com

Cindy Greci
(925) 784-1243
GRI
www.GreciGroup.com

Dominic Greci
(925) 525-0864
GRI

MARTI GILBERT
IRON HORSE REAL ESTATE
550 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON
marti@homesbymarti.com
DRE 01520061
925.216.4063

THE KRISTY PEIXOTO TEAM
Luxury homes, Ranches & Land Realtors
(925) 621-1210
TheKristyPeixotoTeam@gmail.com
TheKristyPeixotoTeam.com

Linda Newton
REALTOR® GRI, SRES
(925) 216-2015
Linda@ElationRE.com
ElationRE.com

PREFERRED BROKERS
Wanda Thompson
925.858.9128
411 So L St, Suite E, Livermore
CA DRE #00983781 / NMLS#244633

CHASE
Mortgage Banking
Serving Livermore and Danville areas
Michelle Elliott
Senior Home Lending Advisor
925-212-6907 | Fax: 866-378-1616
michelle.d.elliott@chase.com
homeLoans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott
NMLS ID: 694685

Gail Henderson
BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
(925) 980-5648
homes@gailhenderson.com
www.gailhenderson.com

Gordon Corsie
Real Estate Broker
Scotsman Realty Group
CA DRE Lic # 0091100
Call/Text:
925.202.5497
www.thescotsman.com

ROOM FOR RENT

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE

independentnews.com

Aperitivo Italiano at the Bankhead Theater

Start the new year with a visit to the most successful exhibition in town, on Friday, Jan. 7, at 5:30 p.m., at the Bankhead Theater

Lobby located at 2400 First St., in downtown Livermore

This event is a full immersion in the magical world of mosaic with

Italian curator, Guglielmo Zanette. All of the pieces are available for purchase, and many beautiful portraits have already been sold. Proceeds from sales go towards supporting the student artists who created the pieces, and to the visual arts programs at the Bankhead.

Drinks will be prepared by the Locanda Wine Bar. Proof of vaccination and masks will be required for entry. Organizers will keep the lobby doors open to increase ventilation.

The 50 Faces Exhibit will be on display until Jan. 16, so be sure to stop by before then to enjoy these beautiful pieces. RSVP to Anne Giancola at agiancola@lvpac.org.

For more information about Naonis Association in Italy, visit naonis.org. For more information about the event, visit <https://bit.ly/3mWIBL4>.



The 50 Faces Exhibit will be on display at the Bankhead Theater Friday through Jan. 16. (Photo courtesy of Bankhead Theater)

Musical Flair Coming This Month

The Bankhead Theater will follow up its sold-out first performances of 2022 with two New York musical acts who will be bringing musical genius, inventiveness, and flair at the end of this month. On Friday, Jan. 21, Broadway star Jeremy Stolle - who has been with “The Phan-

tom of the Opera” for more than a decade - will bring his show “No More Talk of Darkness” right to the Tri-Valley for an evening filled with show-stopping Broadway songs, soaring high notes, classic music, and hilarious stories of making a life on the stage.

The next week on

Wednesday, Jan.26, The Bankhead will be presenting “The Queen’s Cartoonists”, who will be bringing an infectious mix of classic and contemporary cartoons, live music, and comedy. Both events will be at the beautiful Bankhead Theater in Downtown Livermore.

Pleasanton’s Adi Lankipalle Earns Eagle Badge

Aryaditya (Adi) Lankipalle, a member of Troop 998 in Pleasanton, has earned the rank of Eagle, the highest award in the Scouts BSA program of the Boy Scouts of America.



Aryaditya (Adi) Lankipalle

A junior at Amador Valley High School, he is the son of Rajani and Giriprasad Lankipalle of Pleasanton. To be awarded the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges and complete a service project.

For his Eagle project, Lankipalle organized a community drive to collect clothing and shoes for an orphanage in India, continuing a family tradition of helping youths in rural, impoverished areas of the world’s second-largest country. More than 50 volunteers spent more than 400 hours collecting, cleaning, and sorting more than 8,500 articles of clothing and pairs of shoes. The donations

were packed in more than 100 boxes and given to the Spandana Foundation for shipping.

Lankipalle has been an active leader in his troop, serving as senior patrol leader, patrol leader, and chaplain’s aide, among other positions.

At Amador High, he is a member of the concert and marching bands and a member of DECA and the AVHS Investment Club and DECA. He is also a third-degree black belt and an assistant instructor in Taekwondo, and has received the President’s Service Award for more than 100 hours of volunteer work for three consecutive years.

Livermore Scout Advances to Eagle Status

Jason Cruz, a member of Troop 924 in Livermore, has achieved the rank of Eagle, the highest in the Scouts BSA program.

Cruz, a junior in the biotechnology university path-

way program at Granada High School, has been in the scouting program since the first grade. According to the Boy Scouts of America, only about 4% of all scouts reach the rank of Eagle.

Eagle Scouts must earn a total of at least 21 merit badges and Cruz earned 52. They must also complete a community service project. For his Eagle project, Cruz planned and led a group of volunteers in constructing and delivering 25 new, reusable dog beds for Jelly’s Place, a no-kill animal shelter in San Pablo.

Cruz was elected into scouting’s national honor society, the Order of the Arrow, in 2017 and served as a lodge officer for the

San Francisco Bay Area for three years. He also planned and led a group of scouts at Camp Pupukea on Oahu in 2018, where he earned the Hawaiiana Award and helped to raise the flag on the USS Missouri at Pearl Harbor.

In 2019, he trekked over 80 miles and crested Mt. Baldy, the highest peak in the wilderness backcountry of Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Earlier this year, he attended the high adventure Sea Base on St. Thomas US Virgin Islands, where he served as crew chief for the Antillean.

Cruz plans to pursue a career in genetic engineering with an emphasis in marine and zoo biology.

Cartoon Museum to Host Voice of Wonder Woman

Susan Eisenberg, the voice of Wonder Woman for the Cartoon Network’s “Justice League” series, will join Nina Taylor Kester, program director for the Cartoon Art Museum in San Francisco, on Wednesday, Jan. 12, for an online discussion of the

iconic DC Comics female super hero.

Eisenberg has continued to be the voice of Wonder Woman in video games including “Injustice” and “Lego DC Super-Villains.”

Tickets for “Wonder Woman Speaks!” are \$5.

To register for the presentation, which begins at 5:30 p.m., visit <https://bit.ly/31bodwWonder>.

Smothers Brothers Appearance Cancelled

The Smothers Brothers have cancelled their scheduled January appearance at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore because of concerns about COVID-19.

Livermore Arts, which had booked the comedy team for an evening of live routines, reminiscing, and vintage video clips, said the Jan. 14 appearance had been a sellout. The Smother

Brothers, now both in their early 80s, have cancelled all January appearances out of an abundance of caution, according to Livermore Arts. Organizers hope to reschedule the Smothers Brothers in the spring.

Tom and Dick Smothers were folk singers who turned their sibling rivalry into a comedy act, with Tommy’s signature line,

"Mom always liked you best!" In the late 1960s, they hosted the Emmy Award-winning “Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour,” but CBS cancelled the program in 1969 because of the show’s political satire and conflicts with network censors.

Al Franken Postponing Dates For January Performances

Livermore Arts is saddened to announce that out of an abundance of caution, Al Franken is postponing his January tour dates at the Bankhead Theater.

Franken is eager to move his postponed tour dates to a date in the near future and is currently exploring options at the Bankhead still within the calendar year. The previously scheduled performances with the former SNL cast member and U.S. Senator were sold out events this Saturday, Jan. 8.

Livermore Arts will be contacting ticket holders with the rescheduled performance date as soon as it is locked in. The all-around Al Franken, in his now to-be-announced performance date, will be performing at the beautiful Bankhead Theater in Downtown Livermore. Livermore Arts apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

As Franken’s two performances at the Bankhead were sold out events, Livermore Arts is asking patrons to hold on to their tickets for the rescheduled date. If for some reason, ticket holders already know later this year does not work for their schedules, they are asked to email boxoffice@lvpac.org

A R R O Y O
C E L L A R S

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

2270 Research Drive,
Livermore
(925) 292-9157

MILLER'S
AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING
925-447-3000
www.millersacandheating.com

SERVING
TRIVALLEY
SINCE
1960
License
#253756

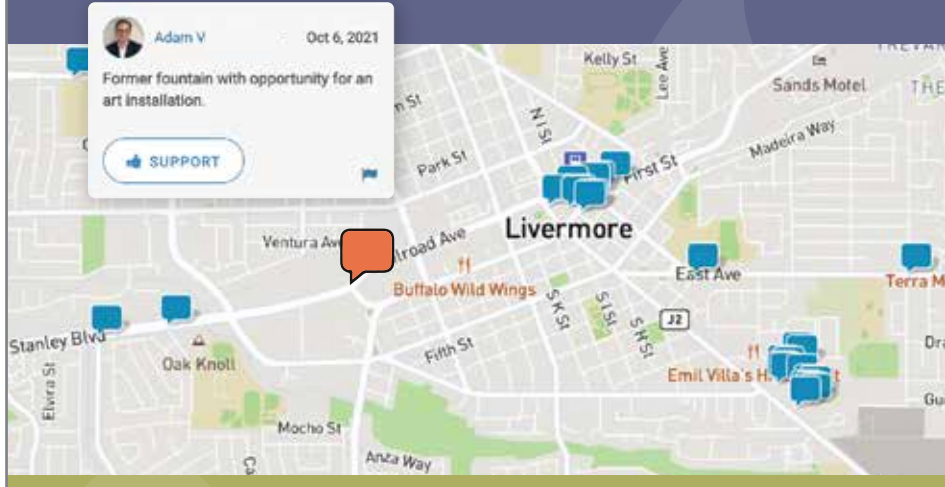
\$3400
IMPLANT
START TO FINISH
EVERYTHING INCLUDED*
**Extractions & Bone Grafting Are Not Included*
SINGLE TOOTH REPLACEMENT
SMILES
by Design
(925) 443-4182
RICHARD D. HOWES, D.D.S.
www.smilesbydesigninlivermore.com

Where should the city invest in cultural arts in Livermore?

Pin your ideas on our map!

Community members who live, work, play, and visit the city are invited to help build the Livermore Cultural Arts Vision, a strategic cultural arts plan for the coming decade.

Deadline to participate: 1/31/22



coub.co/LivermoreCulturalArtsVision



New Year’s New Baby

San Ramon Regional Medical Center has introduced the first newborn of 2022.

Gabriella and Nicholas of Pleasanton welcomed their baby boy at 4:54 p.m., on Jan. 1, 2022. They are happy to share this memorable moment with the community.



(Photo courtesy of San Ramon Regional Medical Center)

Baby Stats:

Name: Thomas
Weight: 9 lb. 12 oz.
Height: 22.5 in.

Livermore’s trusted independent insurance agency since 1953!

HOME AUTO BUSINESS HEALTH LIFE

Contact us TODAY for your free quote!
(925) 447-2565
or email us at:
save@genemorganinsurance.com

Keep your insurance premium dollars local!

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency
www.genemorganinsurance.com

LIC#0M28209