

After Accident

Supervisor Wilma Chan Mourned

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Supervisor Wilma Chan, the first Asian American woman elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and first to serve as state Assembly Majority Leader, died Wednesday after a motorist struck her as she walked her dog in the City of Alameda. She was 72.

Chan's death brought an immediate outpouring of shock and tributes from public officials throughout Northern California and beyond.

"We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan," California Gov. Gavin Newsom said. "Her decades

(See CHAN, page 8)



American Legion Riders District 10 motorcyclists make their way through Main Street in Pleasanton during the Tri-Valley Veterans Parade, Sunday, Nov. 7. The annual event was skipped last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. See more on page 3. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Save Livermore Downtown

Community Group Responds to Ruling

LIVERMORE — Following Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch's ruling that Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) must put up a bond of \$500,000 to offset costs and damages that Eden Housing Inc. might incur as a result of delay, the community group said it will continue to fight.

Agreeing with the judge's ruling, opponents criticized SLD for holding up the project.

The lawsuit brought on by SLD in June followed community contention surrounding the downtown development of Eden's 130-unit affordable housing complex, which was approved by the council May 25. The group stated that it filed the suit because the council refused to seriously consider alternatives to the project that would provide both afford-

able housing and a large centrally located park. Slated for the city's Downtown Core — the area bounded by Railroad Avenue, L Street, Veterans Way and the extension of L Street — the project is planned for 130 affordable housing units.

In response, Eden requested the court to mandate that SLD post the bond to offset delay damages brought on by the suit. Ruling against SLD, Roesch deemed that SLD's lawsuit was filed for the purpose of delay.

In a press release submitted by SLD spokesperson Jean King, the group stated that the court's task to assess whether Eden met the specific statutory requirements necessary to grant the motion did not involve an assessment of the merits of the case.

"While Save Livermore

Downtown believes that the court acted in error in granting Eden Housing's motion for the reasons we explained to the California Court of Appeal, we disagree with Mayor Woerner that the lawsuit is meritless," the release continued. The comment referred to statements made in an East Bay Times Nov. 7 article, in which Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner had stated, "I believe this is a delaying tactic and that the people behind Save Livermore Downtown will do and say whatever they have to in order to delay and prevent the project."

Daniela Ogden, Eden Housing vice president of communications, said that Eden Housing agrees with the court's decision to enforce Section 529.2's bond requirement in this case.

(See RULING, page 8)

On Redistricting

Leaders Call for The Tri-Valley to Remain United

By Aly Brown

REGIONAL — With evolving draft maps for congressional, senate and assembly districts on the table for consideration in the redistricting process, regional leaders have called for the Tri-Valley to remain together.

Across the nation, states and local governments are going through redistricting, which occurs every 10 years alongside the release of new data from the U.S. Census. During that time, electoral district boundaries are redrawn to ensure districts are represented fairly.

Some early draft maps for California showed the Tri-Valley region divided, prompting local leaders to urge the California Citizens

Redistricting Commission — the body responsible for determining these lines — to keep the area united.

The Tri-Valley's five mayors — Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner, Danville Mayor Renee Morgan and San Ramon Mayor Dave Hudson — recently penned a letter addressed to the Commission. In it, they noted that even though the five areas they represent spread across two separate counties, their residents "identify far more with the Tri-Valley region than either Alameda or Contra Costa County."

"In fact, we believe that

(See REDISTRICTING, page 6)

Delays Bump Up Cost of Public Art at Biddle Park

DUBLIN — The Dublin City Council has agreed to pay Carmel-based artist Steven Whyte an additional \$50,000 for sculptures to be displayed at Don Biddle Community Park, part of the 189-acre Dublin Crossing multi-use development.

In May, the city contracted to pay Whyte, doing business as Sculptural Solutions, \$500,000 for sculptures at "Crossroads." These include four larger-than-life bronze figures representing veterans of different eras, branches of service and demographics, standing at attention before four American flags.

But in August, Whyte asked the city for a 10% increase in his commission because of storage fees and

(See DELAYS, page 8)

Wine District Paused, Staff Set to Answer Questions

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — Following a public hearing, during which a winemaker raised questions and concerns about the Livermore Valley Wine Heritage District (LVWHD), the council voted to continue the discussion to the next meeting set for Nov. 22.

Monday's meeting held the final hearing on LVWHD, an assessment district that, if approved, would collect 2% of

(See QUESTIONS, page 8)

School District, City Ramp Up Vaccines

By Tony Kukulich

LIVERMORE — With the recent approval of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5 to 11, the Livermore Valley Joint Union School District (LVJUSD), along with the City of Livermore, are developing strategies to effectively deliver vaccine doses to students.

"With each new population that becomes eligible for vaccination, we move one step closer to ending the COVID pandemic," said Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss. "Now is the time to get yourself and your children vaccinated, as we approach winter and the holidays when we expect to see an increase in cases."

Livermore has struggled with vaccination rates that have lagged much of the rest of Alameda County throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. In

August, the city assembled a task force led by Deputy City Manager Christine Martin for the purpose of increasing vaccination rates.

While Livermore's vaccination rate still ranks 17th out of 22 municipalities in the county, 86.9% of eligible Livermore residents have received at least one dose according to the most current data available from the county, and 81.8% have been fully vaccinated. In Alameda County, 86.3% of eligible residents have been fully vaccinated. By comparison, the fully vaccinated rate in neighboring Contra Costa County stands at 73.4%, and 73.5% of eligible California residents have been fully vaccinated. The national rate is 58.4%.

The LVJUSD, in cooperation with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) and the city, played

a significant role in making vaccinations available to students and other residents in Livermore.

"When the vaccine was first made available for youth 12 and up, the school district partnered with the LARPD and the City of Livermore to provide some local vaccination clinics in partnership with Safeway pharmacies," said Michelle Dawson, LVJUSD coordinator of community engagement. "We held those at the Robert Livermore Community Center and had great success with the implementation of that and the offering of that to those that were interested."

With the opening of a new population of residents eligible for COVID-19 vaccination, LVJUSD is continuing its efforts to provide vaccination opportunities. LVJUSD Superintendent

(See VACCINES, page 6)

Dance Marathon Raises Funds for Cancer Patients

By Dawnmarie Fehr

PLEASANTON — Jazz N Taps Dance Studio of Pleasanton hosted a Dance-athon last month, raising over \$18,000 for the nonprofit Dancers Against Cancer (DAC).

Jennifer Buros co-owns the studio with her mother, Sherri Sweetnam, and said 56 of their dancers participated in a 12-hour Dance Marathon to raise the funds.

affected by cancer.

"It's an organization that our dancers are familiar with, and they know that this charity helps people just like them," Buros said. "In addition, we personally have family members who have battled breast cancer, and we have known several dance moms throughout the years who have as well."

Sweetnam opened Jazz N Taps 30 years ago, so she



Dancers from Jazz N Taps Dance Studio held a 12-hour dance marathon last month, raising \$18,640 for Dancers Against Cancer. In all, 56 girls ages 8-18 participated to raise money for the nonprofit organization. (Photo courtesy of Jennifer Buros)

"The dancers decorated t-shirts, played team building games, and danced, danced, danced," Buros said. "In the end, these dancers raised \$18,640 for Dancers Against Cancer, a cause near and dear to our hearts. We are so proud of them, and so grateful for all of the incredible love and support."

Buros said several of the dance competitions her studio participates in support DAC, sharing information about the importance of the financial aid the organization provides for dancers, dance teachers and the families af-

could teach her daughter to dance. Buros now shares ownership with her mother; her two daughters are dance students, and her cousin is a teacher, making it a true family business. Together, they plan and execute their dance marathon every other year. The 56 participants were divided into teams, with each team taking a turn dancing. When the girls aren't dancing, they stay busy with team-building activities or eat a meal. All the dancers were at the studio for the full 12 hours, and at least

(See DANCERS, page 6)



The Granada High School Matadors celebrate a decisive 28-10 victory over cross-town rivals Livermore High School Cowboys on Friday, Nov. 5 at Livermore High. Granada's Caleb Salinas hoists the City Championship trophy. See more photos on page 10. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Residents Raise Concerns About Trail Access

By David Jen

SUNOL — A group of Sunol residents will submit a petition to the organizing agencies of the Niles Canyon Trail project in the coming weeks that will detail concerns about how the project will affect quality of life in Sunol.

The project, currently in the design phase, proposes a 6-mile, paved pathway through Niles Canyon suitable for pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians. It would connect the Niles District of Fremont with the town of Sunol. The Alameda County Public Works Agency (ACPWA) leads the project.

The petition focuses on the route the trail would take in Sunol. Anna Wang, a petition organizer and Sunol resident, said that some of her neighbors were unaware the preferred route would travel directly in front of their driveways.

"I think part of this (petition) is raising visibility of the project, so Sunolians and other Alameda County residents know," Wang said.

While the project planners prefer a route that borders Tyler Ranch, travels along Foothill Road and ends at the Sunol Train Station, Foothill Road residents oppose this option.

The residents cite in-

creased vehicle traffic as a safety concern to pedestrians and cyclists on the narrow road, which lacks sidewalks. They also worry the route will cause congestion in downtown Sunol and require the removal of mature shade trees along Foothill Road.

Work on another project on Foothill Road — the Tyler Ranch Staging Area — has exacerbated the residents' concerns about the Niles Canyon project.

East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) began development of the staging area in September. Located at the west end of Foothill Road, it promises a picnic

(See TRAIL, page 6)

PET OF THE WEEK



Annabelle

Annabelle is a 2-month-old adoptable angel. Adored by her foster animal associates, she is agreeable and appreciates some soft, affectionate attention as one approaches. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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Hopeful Pot Farmer Responds to Livermore Residents' Concerns

By Larry Altman

In response to public concerns, two Tri-Valley men proposing to build a cannabis farm near Livermore said their neighbors don't have to fear the business will bring crime, swallow up well water or produce a pungent odor.

James Thomas Halter, who formerly ran a car repossession business on the same Tesla Road property that will house the 1.5-acre marijuana cultivation site, claimed the community actually will become safer.

"They are going to have a level of security in this neighborhood they've never had before," said Halter, who holds a security guard license. "This is a safe place. This will be an incredibly safe place."

Halter and his long-time friend, Frank Imhof — a member of the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments (ECBZA) that would approve the farm — proposed the cultivation site for Halter's 4.36-acre property in unincorporated Alameda County four years ago. They funded a county study released in October that showed it will have no significant negative effects on the environment.

Despite that, at least one Tesla Road resident said neighbors were concerned about the project and its effect on their quiet way of life. Imhof suggested their concerns are unwarranted.

"We're only talking an acre here. We're not talking

20 or 30," he said. "It's like a backyard garden."

Imhof said he will recuse himself when the subject comes before the ECBZA and will have no influence over how the other two panelists vote. The ECBZA will adhere to the provisions of the Brown Act, the guidelines for public meetings.

"I don't tell people how to vote or when to vote," Imhof said. "That will be up to them."

Imhof, the former president of the Contra Costa Alameda County Cattleman's Association, reported that he plans to hand over the reins of his current businesses — growing 500 acres of wheat hay, raising 200 mother cows, hydroseeding, weed abatement, and paving and grading — to his son.

The 60-year-old farmer and rancher said he proposed the idea for the marijuana farm with Halter because "I'm going to need something to do" in retirement.

At the same time, Halter, 56, noted that he hopes to find a quieter way of life from his years working in bail bonds enforcement and car repossession, which often involved violent confrontations.

"I love gardening. I love growing," Halter said. "When you need (cannabis) for medical reasons or to function, that's the side of the field I like to play on. I want to get into a peaceful business. That seemed like an incredible opportunity."

Imhof and Halter's proposal calls for 20 separate 1,000-square-foot hoop houses to grow mature plants, and one 3,000-square-foot hoop house to raise mature plants. The plan includes construction of four 10,000-gallon water tanks, an 8-foot security fence, lighting, video surveillance and parking.

Halter, who lives in a nearly 3,000-square-foot house on the property and holds a security guard license, would serve as the 24-hour on-site security listed in their proposal. He said they plan to hire security guards who would not only protect his property, but also patrol the streets outside.

"I'm going to have my security posted up, going from Greenville to Cross Road patrolling," Halter said.

Halter, who has been friends with Imhof for about 18 years, described him as one of the smartest men he knows. He called Imhof a "brilliant guy."

Imhof added that Halter's property is an excellent secure location for a marijuana farm. He said it will meet the provisions of Measure D, which voters approved in 2000 to protect agricultural land.

"It's pretty easy to do," Imhof said. "Marijuana grows as a weed. It doesn't take a lot of water. It's a weed. If you can't grow this, then you've got a problem."

Halter said he is looking forward to his new potential enterprise. His prop-

erty formerly housed H & H Recovery, a business that repossessed some 100,000 vehicles in 18 years. After Halter lost his state license to run the business in 2012, another man ran Champion Recovery Services at the site. Halter worked for him until that business closed last year.

Halter said he became "tired of being the guy that is putting the nail in the coffin of some guy who is down on his luck." He also noted he wanted a quieter lifestyle, far from the daily assaults that he and his employees faced.

"People joke that I'm bulletproof because I've been shot at so many times," he said.

The cannabis business is peaceful and productive, he added.

"To see what CBD and THC has done for people who are ailing and lost, and are tired of doctors throwing pills at them, it's exciting," Halter said. "I want to be a part of that. That's my goal."

Halter took exception to California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS) reports online that showed the state revoked his license to run his car repossession business following complaints and lawsuits involving five incidents in 2010 and 2011.

BSIS investigators accused Halter of using unregistered agents and failing to timely report violent incidents involving their interactions with debtors during repossessions.

Investigators cited specific confrontations, but Halter said it was the car owners who became angry or violent.

"How are we the villains?" Halter asked. "Firearms getting pulled on agents were weekly occurrences, but no one wants to hear the dirty little secrets of what recovery agents must endure to try to recover collateral for financial institutions."

Halter said he would have needed to hire extra employees to simply file reports, so he reported only those incidents where somebody was arrested or hospitalized.

"I'm so blessed I'm out of that industry," he said.

Halter denied a report that a neighbor reported seeing him emerge from his house with a gun to meet someone collecting a car during his repossession days. Halter said he had not carried a gun in decades, and if anyone had one, it was an employee or

Champion's owner.

Officials at the state Department of Cannabis Control will decide whether to issue Imhof and Halter's license for the Tesla Road farm. A spokesperson for the agency reported that Halter's previous non-cannabis license revocation would not disqualify him from a cannabis license, but it would be considered during the process.

Halter, who holds a black belt in karate, said he has taught martial arts to 10,000 kids at businesses in Livermore and Newark. He said he continues to teach about 20 children for free.

"I do have a reputation as a tough guy," Halter said, "but I'm also a fair guy and an honest guy."

The county planning department is currently taking public input on the project through Nov. 15. Reports are available for review at https://bit.ly/Indy_farm.

School District, Union Reach Tentative Agreement

By Ruth Roberts

A potential strike between the Pleasanton Union School District (PUSD) and Association of Pleasanton Teachers (APT) has been averted and a tentative contract agreement struck, according to Patrick Gannon, PUSD coordinator of communications and community engagement.

"Yes, we do have a tentative agreement," said Gannon. "We can't go into specifics yet, as our practice is to give APT members an opportunity to vote on it prior to sharing

details."

Calls to the APT leadership were not returned at press time.

The possible deal comes after months of contentious contract negotiations between APT and PUSD. Last month 98% of the membership who voted authorized a strike should last-minute efforts to reach an agreement with the PUSD fail. In September, APT and PUSD declared an impasse and the California Teachers Association also entered into fact-finding; a process in which both parties

present their respective positions on unresolved issues to a panel. The results of the process have not been released.

"Pleasanton students deserve the best, and we hope that district management recognizes that we provide the high level of education PUSD prides itself on," APT President Michelle VerKuijlen said in October. Prior to APT declaring an impasse, PUSD proposed a two-year compensation package for 2020 through 2022, which was the equivalent of a 5% increase. But APT argued that

certificated employees did not receive benefits, as did the PUSD leadership, and were paying an average of \$14,000 or more a year for medical insurance.

Among the issues on the table were smaller class sizes and caseloads, along with individualized support for special education students.

The agreement is expected to be ratified by APT members next week and presented for final approval by the PUSD board on Nov. 18 during their regular meeting.

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Livermore VFW Post To Honor Veterans and Celebrate Anniversary

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Livermore Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7265 invites the public to mark Veterans Day on Thursday this week in downtown Livermore.

Members of the post will gather in Stockmen's Park, 29 S. Livermore Ave. in Livermore, to hand out poppies and small flags from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11.

"There will be a small ceremony at the Stockman's statue at 11 a.m. to honor the Armistice, which brought an end to the First World War," said Commander Michael Gilmore. "Nearly 116,000 Americans died as a result of the Great War, which is a small number in comparison to the overall death of nearly 20 million people killed during the conflict."

The post will also celebrate its 75th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 13, with a catered event for its members. Local wineries and businesses donated food, beer and wine.

Officially recognized in May of 1946, the Livermore VFW continues to honor and

serve veterans to this day. The post's original charter roster in 1946 consisted of 170 men, including Keith Anderson, a World War II navy veteran who still belongs to the post.

Gilmore said with 75 years now in the history books, he and his fellow members are looking forward to another 25 years of Veterans helping Veterans, with an eye set on the post Centennial Celebration in 2046.

The VFW is made up of men and women who served in the military on foreign soil during war, hostile campaigns or in hostile zones. The organization's mission is to foster camaraderie and serve veterans. Gilmore said post 7265 exemplifies that mission and is dedicated to helping veterans through assistance with VA claim filing, educational grants and food donations. The post also collaborates with Amador Valley Quilts of Valor in presenting quilts to all honorably discharged veterans and active-duty service members regardless of service locations.



The U.S. Navy Sea Cadets Color Guard from Camp Parks in Dublin participated in the Tri-Valley Veterans Parade, Sunday, Nov. 7 in downtown Pleasanton. Crowds lined the parade path on Main Street welcoming participants during the annual event, which was not held last year due to the pandemic. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Police Investigating Fatal Collision

One female was pronounced deceased following a collision with a light pole at the West Las Positas Boulevard and Hopyard Road intersection in Pleasanton, on Nov. 4.

The Pleasanton Police Department received reports of the accident at 10:31 p.m. When officers arrived, they located a silver Toyota Avalon on its driver's side. A light pole impacted the roof of the vehicle, causing major damage, crushing the roof into the passenger compartment. A single female occupant was discovered in the vehicle and was immediately pronounced deceased at the scene.

It appears the vehicle was traveling westbound on West Las Positas Boulevard at a high rate of speed. Where the road bends, the vehicle struck the curb of the center median and flipped on its side, colliding with the light pole. There was one witness to the collision who stayed on scene and is cooperating with the investigation. The identity of the driver is not being released at this time. It has not been determined whether alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision.

Anyone with information related to the collision is encouraged to contact the Pleasanton Police Department Traffic Unit at 925-931-5100.

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Experts Weigh in on Our Neighbors, the Wild Turkeys

By David Jen

They will soon land on our dining room tables, but for many in the Tri-Valley, turkeys have been on our minds all year. The large, vocal, sometimes comical birds seem to show up in more of our parks and neighborhoods every year, where they spark questions, debate and even conflict.

The turkeys we see in the Tri-Valley descended from game releases in Contra Costa County during the 1980s and 1990s, said Kristina Parkison, Sunol naturalist for the East Bay Regional Park District. From Contra Costa, the released birds flew south into the area, enjoying the moderate weather and lack of predators along the way. Like humans, they also benefit from the Bay Area park system.

"There are a lot of interconnected wild areas" that allow wildlife to move freely here, Parkison added.

They prefer habitat with permanent water sources and nearby roosting options, like Pleasanton Ridge and Doolan Canyon.

According to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), before the releases — way before — a native species of turkey gobbled across California and then went extinct about 10,000 years ago. But it turns out, all turkeys — even extinct ones — share a lot genetically. There is only one species of turkey, but there are subspecies, including the Merriam and Rio Grande in California today.

John Krause, a CDFW wildlife biologist, described an argument that the game releases were therefore not an introduction, but a re-introduction, because the released turkeys backfilled an ecological niche left by their extinct relatives so long ago.

Technically, there's no time limit after a local extinction to call a relocation a re-introduction.

"It's a bit esoteric but that is an argument made by turkey supporters and does have merit," said Krause.

But the distinction isn't always academic.

"Some particular agencies are like, 'no, we do not want non-native species in our parks, they must be eradicated.'" Parkison said. "So in that case, you know, depending on what agency it is, they might come in and try to cull all the animals, or catch them."

Regardless of classification, most agree the birds are doing quite well for themselves in the Tri-Valley. Parkison said she "never saw turkeys until probably about the last five or six years and, you know, 'Oh there's a couple. Oh, now there's like 20 of them. Oh God, now there's like 30 of them.'"

Frankie Ayers, animal services officer for the

Pleasanton Police Department, suggested the turkeys were emboldened by last year's lockdowns.

"A quietness swept over our town — I think the animals felt more comfortable branching out into our neighborhoods," she said.

The most recent estimate puts the state turkey population at around 250,000 birds.

What's more, turkeys are not limited to the scenery. Parkison said males can become aggressive during the spring breeding season. If they see their reflection in a car, they may peck at it until the paint comes off. They have also been known to attack people, especially if humans invade their space. There were, for instance, several turkeys at Coyote Hills Regional Park that attacked joggers during

Spring 2020.

"The turkeys would literally come running down the hillside and attack them," said Parkison.

And then there was Gerald, the aggressive Oakland turkey, that attacked dozens of people and caused the Morcom Rose Garden to close in the summer of 2020.

In both cases, the aggressive turkeys were captured and relocated.

Shari Jackman, communications manager for Dublin Parks and Recreation, said that locally, human-turkey relations are quieter.

"Residents who live near where the turkeys roam are quite used to them and they — the residents and the turkeys — tend to avoid each other," Jackman said.

Avoidance may be the best policy. Parkison im-

plored people to not feed them; reminding the public to treat them as wild animals. CDFW has a "Keep Me Wild" program urging the same. Residents can however, still enjoy their presence.

"I mean, when you see one of those, in the sunlight, it's incredible," said Parkison. "And you know, when they have their babies in the spring, watching the moms protect them and have little flocks and hear the little sounds they make — it's pretty magical. So they are pretty impressive birds, but just, you know, give them their space."

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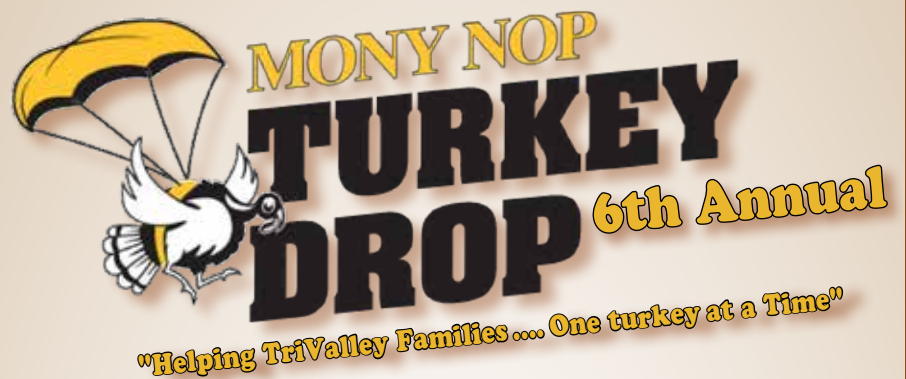
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EDITORIAL

Supervisor Chan Will Be Missed

Alameda County lost a true public servant and community stalwart last week with the untimely passing of County Supervisor Wilma Chan.

Described by friends and associates as a guiding light, champion of truth and an advocate for the vulnerable, Chan spent three decades in Bay Area politics, serving four years on the Oakland Board of Education before becoming the first Asian American elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 1995. She served five years prior to her election to the California State Assembly. During her six years, she became the first woman and Asian American to be elected Majority Leader.

She was later was re-elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 2010.

Chan authored bills that included requiring a no-lead standard in drinking water pipes and fixtures; banning toxic flame retardants; and ending the practice of hospitals overcharging uninsured and underinsured patients. She also won approval of \$100 million to expand state preschool.

As news of her death spread, public officials and leaders throughout the state sent an outpouring of support to her family and friends. The community is deeply grateful to Supervisor Chan for her unwavering service. She will be greatly missed.

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.

Water Concerns Perspective

John Cameron, Dublin

In last week's edition there was a letter about the concern of water usage from a cannabis farm being proposed in Livermore. I would just like to put this in perspective. If it takes several thousand gallons a day to sustain production on this farm, then I would ask the writer if they have ever patronized an In and Out Burger, or had a 12 oz. steak for dinner? The fact is, it takes thousands of gallons of water to produce a mere one pound of beef. It sounds astounding but think about it! Every year we raise over 50 billion animals for food, and the food necessary to raise them is tremendous. In fact, we raise so many animals that if we used the same land to raise crops for humans, there would be more than enough food for the entire world, including Madagascar, (where a million are facing starvation right now).

Another cost of this massive industry is that animal agriculture, which is inherently cruel, is one of the top contributors to the chaos in our climate. Not just because of the massive number of emissions, but deforestation. Brazil is one of the largest exporters of beef on the planet, and most of the illegal fires started there are to expand grazing.

It sounds like madness if you really think about it, and it is! The single way anyone can immediately help with saving water, reducing the impact on our climate and preventing animal suffering, is simply switch over to a plant-based diet.

Don't leave Downtown Plan to Attorneys

Don Maroney, Livermore

Although legal challenges to the current downtown plan were recently portrayed in the East Bay Times as "opposition to affordable housing," nothing could be further from the truth. Every rational resident of Livermore under-

stands affordable housing is a top-of-mind issue. The question is location and design. For several years, the fate of the downtown Livermore development has pitted good citizens on both sides of the issue against each other for no good reason. Although the city leadership has become more intransigent, there are a substantial amount of people who believe a true win-win solution can be accomplished by moving the housing from the downtown park location and deliver on the promise of a unique, family-friendly and accessible park environment.

As I have outlined before, there are a few salient issues: 1) Litigation is a legitimate form of protest, but it should never be the final arbiter as it takes time, money and never satisfies either side. 2) More delays through the February '22 expected ruling and certain appeals from either side will certainly drive construction costs up. 3) The downtown business community deserves to have this issue resolved sooner rather than later. 4) Residents require the property to be developed in a manner that will guarantee all residents and visitors the maximum amount of environmental safety. 5) Existing Livermore City Design requirements must be followed.

The new wrinkle is the "vendor" in this case. Eden Housing has aggressively postured for a half a million-dollar bond to protect "losses and damages" from its own customer, the citizens of Livermore. Although short term court wins may make some of the City Council, the Mayor and Eden Housing officials feel good, the fact is the case won't be decided for many months. In addition, the lawsuit before the judge in February is very different from the bond motion just addressed. The answer to the current stalemate is still pretty simple and there is time to put it together. Identify and appoint a neutral, respected, knowledgeable and unaffiliated third-party individual or maximum of three individuals who can meet expeditiously with the political apparatus, Eden Housing, and the Save Livermore Downtown group. Time is of the essence and should not be left up to attorneys or the courts.

East Bay Times Insinuates

Vic Avila, Livermore

Last Sunday's East Bay Times story states that according to Eden Housing, Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) filed its lawsuit "for the purpose of delay, or to thwart the low- or moderate-income nature of the housing development project." The story at the outset reports on Eden's bond motion, then notes that Joan Seppala and Jean King are involved in the Save Livermore Downtown group, and also serve on the board of the "Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC), which oversees the Bankhead Theater, roughly a few hundred feet from the project site."

Why is the Bankhead relevant to Eden's bond motion? Is the Times insinuating that LVPAC, influenced by Seppala and King, does not want

low-income families to locate near the Bankhead?

Facts undermine that inference. SLD's Downtown Alternative for affordable housing extends to Livermore Avenue. The distance from the Bankhead to the Downtown Alternative is almost half the distance between the Bankhead and the current Eden project. Also, the Downtown Alternative proposes 230 units, 100 more than in the 130-unit Eden plan.

Furthermore, Lynn Seppala, Joan Seppala and Jean King are known for their significant contributions to local charities that aid the disadvantaged; the Bankhead provides culturally diverse programs that attract patrons from different backgrounds and income levels.

Later in the story, the reporter again wanders off topic when he refers to a toxic waste symbol for general use that SLD purchased from a stock agency. The reporter quotes Vice Mayor Trish Munro at a June 14, 2021 council meeting. "(She) called the ad, which she said featured a nuclear waste symbol, an 'absurd attack' over the 'nonissue' of contamination that had been addressed multiple times by city staff." The reporter notes that at the same meeting, city staff member Bob Vinn commented, "Our conversations with the water board have indicated that the cleanup of the site will be routine in nature." The Times reporter neglected to mention that the SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board staff stated in its June 25, 2021 report that the City's proposed clean-up levels "are neither appropriately justified nor acceptable."

With the mention of the Bankhead and the toxic waste symbol, is the reporter attempting to make SLD the problem? Is he trying to divert readers from the real issues that the City failed to address before it approved the Eden Housing project — such as the site's concerning contamination?

Eden Housing Overcrowding Downtown

Jan Brovont, Livermore

Many residents are very disappointed and concerned with the overcrowding, location, lack of open space which Eden Housing will leave in the center of our downtown, to say nothing of the height and design of the buildings. Eden Housing will be taking up our precious last remaining open space in downtown.

I would like to remind Livermore's residents that besides the large four-story Eden Housing, there will also be a four-story or taller public parking garage, a science center and black box theater of approximately 15,000 ft. which will all take up even MORE open space, leaving the remaining amount of open space very small.

Just think, if Eden Housing was on a different location, maybe across Railroad Avenue or elsewhere, we would have a lot of open space for a beautiful inviting park with plenty of space for the science center, and black box theater for Livermore Shakes.

<https://quest-science.org/>; and <https://spartheater.org/>

I suggest, like many others, that the council look at what makes a successful attractive and inviting downtown. Buildings will be there for many years and won't enhance downtown. A large spacious park with walking paths, benches, maybe a playground area and, of course, trees would be a wonderful place where we could have outdoor events, art and craft shows — possibly, meet our

friends before going to dinner or the Bankhead, or after having lunch and shopping downtown; a park which will enhance the size of Stockmen's Park.

Let's take a look and do what is best in the long term for Livermore; and move the housing and have a wonderful park.

Editor's note: Due to a layout error, Jan Brovont's letter from last week was cut short. It should have included a short link to the county's current development projects: bit.ly/Indy_farm.

Enough is Enough

Rion Causey, Livermore

Unless you've been hiding under a rock for the last several months, you know of the criticism facing Facebook. Along with many other criticisms, it has been said that Facebook polarizes our country. Instead of primarily being used to share pictures and stories between family and friends, Facebook is either intentionally or unintentionally spreading false information on topics such as vaccines, elections and politics. Postings are turning families and friends against each other. Instead of looking at national or international problems, let's look at something similar much closer to home.

Think about the anger and angst that is being driven in Livermore by the Independent. I'm trying to think how long it has been since an issue of the Independent has not had an ad criticizing the plan for downtown Livermore. I'm not going to speculate whether the Independent and its owner have anything to do with those ads. I leave that to you to decide for yourself. I think I believe that the mailbox part of the paper does not have any bias as to which letters are published each week. So, nothing illegal is being done. I just think that it is long past the time for this tirade to end. We voted for the city council. They are our representatives. And they decide what happens in and around Livermore. If you don't like what is going on, participate in city council meetings. Vote them out when the next election comes along. Just quit trying to change the decision made by our representatives using this rag of a paper. Enough is enough.

Is Anyone Listening?

Johnna Thompson, Livermore

Are there any powerful or magical words that will finally open the tightly closed ears of the Livermore City Council members so that they hear what hundreds of people have been saying in this space for months? So far, none of the thousands of words published here seems to have penetrated the closed minds of the current council. Maybe it's time to elect a council who are willing to listen to ordinary citizens with the same regard as they afford vintners and downtown business owners. We need a mayor who has the integrity not to dangle the promise of open-minded compromise before the election, only to cavalierly disregard it after he's won. Are there any principled, ethical, truly open-minded people willing to stand for council and mayor in 2022? I surely hope so, for all our sakes.

A Meritless City Council

Tom Ramos, Livermore

In an article for the East Bay Times, Joseph Geha, a Fremont native, became a self-proclaimed expert on Livermore. Joe took it upon himself to write about residents' efforts to reverse a catastrophic decision made by a city council that voted to build two four-story apart-

ment complexes smack in the middle of downtown, on ground that had earlier been expected to become an open park.

Joe wrote an uneven article in which he referred to a lawsuit that had been filed by Livermore citizens against the city council for irresponsibly handling contaminated ground, and for ignoring the city's Downtown Specific Plan design requirements before approving the construction of the Eden Housing apartment complex. He reported that the judge in the case ordered the group that had brought the lawsuit, Save Livermore Downtown (SLD), to post a half million-dollar bond to cover costs of Eden Housing should the company win the suit. In the article, Joe brought out that Eden Housing is a nonprofit company, although it will receive millions of dollars of government funds to build the apartment complex, and the combined salaries of the top three Eden executives amounts to almost one million dollars.

Joe opined SLD's lawsuit had been dealt a terrible blow, although the lawsuit issues are separate from the bond motion that Eden filed. Joe said the city council would deal with the contamination with normal city procedures, and Mayor Woerner thought the lawsuit was "meritless."

Joe identified two members of the lawsuit group as Joan Seppala and Jean King. He stressed their actions were adversely affecting affordable housing in Livermore. Joe must not have discovered that Joan and Jean are not opposed to building affordable housing. In fact, they backed and even promoted affordable apartments in the city, but they considered the wishes of Livermore residents to keep a balanced approach to developing downtown. Ironically, while running for mayor, Woerner promoted a "win-win" solution situating housing not in the downtown center, but across Railroad Avenue. Once elected, Woerner changed positions.

Joe didn't say the two members of SLD he identified were generous contributors to many local charities, including Habitat for Humanity. Contrary to the tone in his article, and to what is being suggested by the city council, the Livermore residents who filed the lawsuit are not against affordable housing. Rather, they are against placing a four-story housing project adjacent to vibrant commercial establishments.

Las Positas – Building Systemic Racism

Owen Brovont, Livermore

In Thursday afternoon's mail, I greeted Jesse Watson's article, "Las Positas College Paving the Way to Equity for Students," in the Independent, with interest because of the title, but with growing incredulity and then with a rising sense of outrage as I read the article. I felt it was nothing less than a conspicuously racist plan justified by claiming it was "to address systemic and institutional inequities on campus" — systematic and institutional inequities that lacked any definition or supporting examples! The specificity, however, of "developing programs for Black students ..." cannot be seen, despite all the euphemistic words and phrases, as anything but a fundamentally racist goal that logically and violently collides with the basic idea and purpose of education, especially higher education.

Does a "Black Cultural Resource Center (BCRC)," hyped by the Las Positas College (LPC) president, suggest anything other than an instrument of intellectual

racism breeding and supporting segregation? We — at least so far — haven't developed special educational facilities for blue-eyed blonde citizens, nor for people of Portuguese ancestry, or for any other ethnic group because our goal in America is to discourage Balkanization of the population into separate groups based on differences of ethnic origin, religious affiliation, or skin color. That was an intended goal of the "melting pot theory" that was euthanized by the political left in the 60s as an early step on the path to socialism.

Such divisions based upon identity inevitably lead to internal social conflict over clashing values, goals, methods, and political leadership to name an obvious few. Indeed, we are experiencing destructive internal conflicts over these very issues today — and the country is clearly much the worse for it!

Kimberly Burks is coordinator of the Umoja Learning Community program, which "promotes student success for all students through curriculum that is responsive to the legacy of the African and African American Diasporas." On the LPC campus, Burks says, "Umoja provides a safe-space learning environment for a cohort of students to complete core general education courses, such as English and math, using pedagogy and cultural references applicable to black students." Again, rather than seeking to encourage developing a color-blind society, these approaches actually emphasize skin color!

Throughout the article, "equity" is never defined though it is the justification underlying programmatic efforts to have students to see through "the lens of our Black students." Does systemic racist indoctrination come to mind?

General Plan Update Problems

Jim Hutchins, Livermore

Livermore began the process of updating its General Plan, which includes the City's goals, policies, and objectives for the next 20 years. The City contracted with PlaceWorks to oversee this project. The process is supposed to collect what the residents view as their primary concerns, and create a new plan based on their observations and input. The two-to-three-year process is in its beginning stages, but so far, has been far from reassuring that it will represent the people's vision.

The process began with a call for people to join the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), but was poorly advertised, thus ensuring a low number of interested applicants. Many, if not most, of the selected applicants were guided to the committee by city insiders, rather than reaching out to a broad selection of applicants that represent the city's diverse community.

PlaceWorks, has held three in-person events asking residents what they see as their biggest issues. These events were at a food bank, a Latinx/Hispanic Heritage Month music event, and the Farmers Market. Polling in this manner skews results, and moves the goalpost away from open space and preserving the character of downtown Livermore, as stated in the first meeting.

Comments made by GPAC members during their first two meetings are of concern. GPAC was created to be an ADVISORY body "with the common goal of representing the community through the General Plan and Housing Element Update

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

process," and to "provide information to and serve as a liaison to the community." Instead, it appears some GPAC members are seeking to DIRECT the process. For example, Tracy Kronzak, (a Brittini Kiick selection), took offense with the term "big hearted" to describe Livermore citizens, and stated "That part, big heart, what feels off about it to me personally is it's a very white term. It's like, Bobby's got a big heart, you know, like, he might act like an idiot, get drunk, and throw bottles around, but he's got a big heart. Right? And I think there may be some language clarification that retains that sentiment, but makes it a little bit less, sort of, white-feeling in my opinion." It appears Tracy equates "big-hearted" with white, male, alcoholic, violent, and destructive behavior.

Thus far the process has been problematic and uncharacteristic of its mission. Please attend meeting No. 3 on Nov. 10th, @ 7PM - see the City's website for zoom links.

Virginia Election: Carlyle Group Republican and Democrat Moneyman Greg Scott, Livermore

Republican ideologue Glenn Youngkin won the Virginia gubernatorial election by defeating Democrat centrist Terry McAuliffe. Mr. Youngkin, the former co-CEO of a private equity firm, The Carlyle Group, made a fortune, estimated as a net worth of \$440 million, being an employee of the company for 25 years.

The Carlyle Group investments fit into Republican Party ideals. These include holdings in the defense industry and the \$27.5 billion acquisition of one of the largest U.S. pipeline companies, Kinder Morgan, whose co-founder, Richard Kinder, was previously president of Enron, a company that defrauded billions of dollars from California electricity-rate payers. A recently passed \$768 billion National Defense Authorization Act added to Virginia Governor-elect Youngkin's view that the causality of climate disruption is unknown and irrelevant, should serve The

Carlyle Group's bets well.

A former governor of Virginia, where law states governors cannot serve consecutive terms, Mr. McAuliffe "earned millions as a banker, real estate developer, home builder, hotel owner and internet venture capitalist." (Washington Post). Both McAuliffe and Youngkin told numerous lies during their campaigns. Financial and ethical imbroglis complete their repertoires.

Youngkin's gubernatorial victory ensued from the issue of education and this strategy flipped a decidedly democratic state. The voters in Virginia have been exasperated with the "culture wars," pandemic school closings, vaccine mandates and masks. McAuliffe gifted Youngkin with the political blunder of stating, "I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach," in a televised debate, with regard to a Pulitzer-Prize winning novel, "Beloved," by African-American writer Toni Morrison. The reading of this book by high school students has been controversial and Youngkin had done an attack ad on this subject. Youngkin's harping on 'parental controls' resonated resoundingly with suburban 'White backlash' voters.

The corporate and corporate media propaganda played Terry McAuliffe's loss as due to President Biden's low ratings and the inaction of democrats in congress on primarily the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework (BIF), already passed by the U.S. Senate, and the internal Democratic Party legislative quagmire of the Build Back Better Act (BBB) - and placed blame on the progressives. Nonsense. The American people will benefit greatly by the BIF, however, the BIF is an enormous corporate slush fund that will increase the federal deficit by \$256 billion and either further guts, or dismisses the BBB.

Overall, via Virginia, most Americans lost and the capital class won.

Please Face Reality Alan Burnham, Livermore

A recent proposal for a five-story mixed-use building three blocks from Main

Street in Pleasanton should be a wakeup call for those continuing to try to delay or kill the Eden project in Livermore. The Pleasanton project is permitted under state law even though it conflicts with Pleasanton zoning, and state law trumps local zoning.

Concerning the legal challenge to the Livermore Eden Project, the first judge and a three-judge appellate court recently agreed that the Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) lawsuit was simply a tactic to delay affordable housing and required SLD to post a \$500,000 bond to continue in case SLD is ultimately held liable for damages to Eden.

The Eden design may not be what everyone wants, but it is a good project. It was designed to Livermore zoning requirements, which are more stringent than required by state law. In fact, if costs escalate because of legal delays, Eden could proceed under state law and build up to a seven-story complex without underground parking, which would be a big inconvenience for others seeking downtown parking.

The situation reminds me of the strict parent who tells their child, "Stop whining or I'll give you something to really cry about." The problem is that the legal system will spank not only the Independent letter writers but all Livermore residents. It is time to return to reality.

A Call for Transparency Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Everyone is talking about the need for transparency. Why hasn't there been transparency concerning contamination downtown? Residents were NOT told about the extent or the types of contamination under the Eden Housing site. We were kept in the dark.

In the near future, the Water Board will tentatively approve a clean-up plan and issue a fact sheet. The public will only have 30 days to comment on the proposed clean-up. It is critical that all residents receive the fact sheet to be able to comment in a meaningful and informed manner. The costs of clean-up are likely to be more expensive if an underground garage is built

at this site. Other clean-up alternatives, similar to those used to clean-up J Cleaners before installing Stockman's Park, could be cheaper and require less monitoring. The Water Board does not have the ability to mail the fact sheet to all residents, but the city can and should.

Please request that the mailing of the updated Water Board contamination findings for Eden Housing be sent to all residents. Email Mayor Woerner, bwoerner@cityoflivermore.net, Bob Carling, rwoerner@cityoflivermore.net, Trish Munro, pkmunro@cityoflivermore.net, Gina Bonanno, rebonanno@cityoflivermore.net, and Brittini Kiick, bkiick@cityoflivermore.net.

Please ask all council members to hold a hearing to explain the possible clean-up solutions and the costs for each alternative. If we are going to pay more taxes, we should know the costs for all clean-up choices.

Everyone Should Participate Trish Munro, Livermore

In last week's Independent, a letter writer noted that I had asked a member of the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) to apply. Actually, I asked a lot of people. During the recruitment period, I approached dozens of people at the Farmers Market to explain the General Plan and ask them to apply for the advisory body. I was delighted that at least one of those people followed

through. I have also been delighted by people who have stopped by outreach stations to comment on Livermore's future. If you have not done so yet, bookmark: <https://imaginelivermore2045.org/> to follow the process and give your input along the way.

The GPAC is only one way to participate in Livermore governance. Every quarter, Livermore recruits for open seats on city boards and commissions, such as: Airport Commission, Beautification Committee, Commission for the Arts, Historic Preservation Commission, Housing Authority, Human Services Commission, Library Board of Trustees, Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission and Planning Commission. While openings do not currently exist on all of the commissions, the city recruits for open positions each quarter, with the next recruitment period opening in January 2022.

Online applications can be submitted when that period opens or submit a hard copy application anytime and it will be included in the next recruitment period. Just contact the City Clerk at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net and ask.

You do not have to sit on a board to be involved, though — all advisory body meetings are open to the public. To find out how to attend, go to <https://www.cityoflivermore.net/government/city-clerk/advisory-bodies> or call 925-960-4200.

And watch out. If you see

me coming, I will be asking you to participate in some way. It's just what I do.

We Can't Put a Moratorium On Combating Climate Damage

Eloise Hamann, Dublin

Alameda County Board of Supervisors' proposal of a moratorium on approving sites to provide solar energy is mind-boggling as the world scrambles to halt the increase in the number of climate disasters. If there is a proposal for a new solar project, consideration could help clarify what might go into the future guidelines. It's hard to believe that there won't always be exceptional cases. It is the Board's job to make wise decisions, not tick off items on a list. I am not arguing against guidelines as they will assist future planners with their proposals, but the climate clock is ticking louder and louder. We all must act wherever and whenever we can.

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DOWNTOWN IN-DEPTH

Focusing on issues that make a difference for the future of Livermore's downtown

How the Eden Housing Project Fails to Meet City Design Requirements. Part 5: Private Open Space



Future Eden Housing building stretching for a block along Railroad Avenue from L Street to the extension of K Street. Source: City of Livermore Planning Document.

Livermore's Downtown Specific Plan requires the Project to provide 60 square feet of on-site private open space per residential unit. This includes "balconies or patios accessible only to the dwelling served." Private open space within a project cannot be accessed by the general public.

The proposed project fails to provide the required amount of private open space. Although the Project includes open terraces for the north and south buildings, the plans for the Project do not show that these areas are provided only for the Project's residents. Indeed, the renderings show that they are not separated from the public park in the middle, and are simply integrated into the park seamlessly. Because the area identified as "private" space is actually accessible to the general public, the Project is inconsistent with the Specific Plan's 60 square feet per residential unit requirement.

The City Council is playing politics with our downtown park space. Because the public clearly wants downtown park space, the City Council has tried to enlarge public park space by merging it with private open space. They are trying to deceive Livermore voters — but what they are doing is against the law.

Find Out More at SaveLivermoreDowntown.com



VACCINES

(Continued from first page)

Kelly Bowers said that clinics scheduled for Nov. 10 and 11 booked all 1,500 available appointments. A third clinic to administer the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine has been scheduled for Nov. 17 from 2 to 8 p.m.; a clinic to begin administering the second dose of the two-dose Pfizer regimen is scheduled for Dec. 8, also from 2 to 8 p.m. All clinics are scheduled for the Robert Livermore Community Center.

Neetu Balram, Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) public information manager, said that the health department — along with the Alameda County Office of Education — plans to offer vaccination clinics on some school sites.

“Alameda County is prioritizing nine school districts with the lowest vaccination rates for stable clinics,” Balram wrote in an email to The Independent. “We will continue to support schools in census tracts with the lowest vaccination rates with pop-up clinics.”

The Livermore school district was one of the nine districts identified by the ACPHD as having a low vaccination rate among students aged 12 and up. What form the assistance from the county will take and how it will integrate with the efforts already underway remains to be seen.

“We are not doing any vaccination on our school sites,” said Dawson. “I know the county is looking to do that in some districts, or make the offering available. But they haven’t been able to execute that quite as quickly. Our superintendent anticipated that it would be approved, so she had already been working in conjunction with our partners at the LARPD and the city to go ahead and set aside some tentative dates and times, because we’ve done so many now that we’ve really got a kind of good system down ... We have not been contacted directly by the county to schedule anything like that.”

The Dublin Unified School District is taking less of a hands-on approach to vaccinating younger students, a move motivated by the community’s overall

vaccination rate.

“Our community has a fairly high vaccination level, so we’re not forcing the issue by requiring vaccinations in advance of what’s already been laid out by the state,” said Chip Dehnert,

public information and community relations officer with the Dublin Unified School District. “I know that some districts are trying to move things forward by getting ahead of the state’s mandate. We’re working in step with the mandate because our community, our teachers and those students that have access to the vaccine now are vaccinating at a relatively high rate.”

In Dublin, 91.5% of residents have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 86.1% have been fully vaccinated.

Requests for comment from the Pleasanton Unified School District were not returned at press time.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized the use of the vaccine in 5- to 11-year-olds on Oct. 29. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention followed suit several days later. A review and approval of the data by the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup was required before the State of California would authorize the vaccination of children in this age group. That approval came Nov. 2. A press release issued by the Alameda County Department of Public Health stated that clinical trials of the Pfizer vaccine showed that it had an efficacy rate of 90.9% in the targeted age group.

In a release from Gov. Gavin Newsom’s office, he said vaccines will be the answer to ending the pandemic and keeping kids safe.

“It’s time to get our children the protection they need from this deadly virus, especially as we head into the winter season,” said Newsom. “California is leading the nation in vaccinations with 54 million administered and 87% of the eligible population with at least one dose, and we’re moving swiftly to implement a robust and equitable vaccination program that will cover this newly eligible age group.”

REDISTRICTING

(Continued from first page)

the Tri-Valley can be considered a model for regional collaboration throughout the State of California in many traditional and non-traditional ways,” the letter stated. “The Tri-Valley shares a common identity and spirit among its residents; residents of our five cities depend on the same transportation networks; we have similar demographics and sources of employment; businesses have formed partnerships throughout the area; our children play in the same sports leagues; and local governments collaborate on a multitude of regional projects.”

At press time, the draft maps showed portions of Dublin removed from what makes up Rep. Eric Swalwell’s 15th Congressional district area — which the city currently shares with Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol and 11 Contra Costa County communities. The northern edge of Dublin would be placed in a district with eastern and western portions of Contra Costa County. Swalwell’s office declined to comment on the Commission’s work while the maps were still being drawn, noting that it has to be an independent citizens’ effort.

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan’s 16th district currently contains the region around Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Walnut Creek. The visualization for the area would put Livermore and Pleasanton with Hayward; Dublin would end up with Walnut Creek and San Ramon. While the district numbers could change as the lines are redrawn, Bauer-Kahan in this situation would serve the Dublin/Walnut Creek region as she resides on that side of the line.

Sen. Steve Glazer represents senate District 7, which covers the five Tri-Valley cities, Sunol and eastern Contra Costa County cities, such as Antioch, Brentwood and Oakley. Earlier draft maps for the Senate districts from October showed Livermore and Dublin with Martinez, Concord, Walnut Creek and other Western Contra Costa

cities — and Pleasanton and Sunol with San Leandro, Fremont, Union City, among others. However, the most recent version showed the Tri-Valley retained as a group, while removing Brentwood and Oakley to a senate district shared in part with Rio Vista, Calistoga and western Sacramento. Glazer would continue to represent the Tri-Valley.

The mayors further discussed the matter during a recent Mayors’ Summit, put on by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce at Wente Vineyards on Oct. 28.

At the Summit, Woerner encouraged the public to urge the Commission not to split up the communities in the Tri-Valley. Morgan further touched on the redistricting process at a municipal level, noting that Danville maintains an at-large election, which she said currently works for her town. Hudson expressed frustration with the process itself.

“We probably don’t have the direction that we should have when they’re drawing up these lines, but it goes along and everybody says here’s a map, here’s a map, and then maybe the next week, they say here are the results,” Hudson said. “But it’s not what we talked about, so if you have the opportunity to start for 10 years, you better get involved ... redistricting is not a simple matter.”

Brown noted that the five cities of the Tri-Valley together make up the 10th largest region in the state — a powerful area worth listening to.

“I strongly support the five regional communities of the Tri-Valley retaining their current state and federal leadership districts,” Brown later wrote in an email to The Independent. “Together we share many of the same regional concerns, such as regional transportation challenges, the need for clean safe water for our residents, and improved air quality. As a voting bloc, we will have a more influential voice when we lobby our legislators on behalf of the Tri-Valley.”

The Tri-Valley’s chamber of commerce CEOs also

submitted a letter to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Signed by Pleasanton Chamber CEO Steve Van Dorn, Livermore Chamber CEO Dawn Argula, Dublin Chamber CEO Inge Houston, San Ramon Chamber CEO Stewart Bambino and Danville Chamber CEO Judy Lloyd, the group outlined several factors that connected the five communities — including community colleges, transportation and cultural activities.

“Several of our Tri-Valley communities share special districts,” the CEOs wrote. “In the San Ramon Valley, we share our school district and our fire district — the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, which encompasses Alamo, Blackhawk, Diablo, Danville and San Ramon. Our water districts, such as East Bay Municipal Utilities District, Dublin-San Ramon Services District and Zone 7 represent us as aligned communities. Pleasanton and Livermore also share the Pleasanton Livermore Fire District.”

Hernandez agreed, saying that to the greatest extent feasible, it makes sense for the Tri-Valley communities to remain together, particularly on state and federal maps.

“Not only are we communities that share physical boundaries, but the mayors work closely together on matters of transportation, housing, legislation and advocacy,” the Dublin mayor continued. “I wouldn’t want a situation where we are diluting the power of the region, particularly as it relates to requests for state and federal funds.”

With official draft maps expected this week, the community will have until Dec. 20 to submit comments before final lines are approved for the next 10 years.

To view current visualizations of maps for congressional, senate and assembly districts, visit www.wedrawthelinesca.org/visualizations. To submit feedback on your community and how the lines should be drawn, visit drawmycommunity.org.

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TRAIL

(Continued from first page)

area, park residence and 70-slot parking lot when complete next summer.

Wang said the construction caught her and her neighbors by surprise. Other than a postcard mailed the week prior to the start of construction, residents said EBRPD conducted no direct outreach about the Tyler Ranch construction plans between 2012 and 2021. Lina Owsley, a Foothill Road resident, said not all residents along the road even received the postcard.

“We had a Sunol Citizen Advisory Council (SCAC) meeting last month to ask (EBRPD), ‘Why didn’t you notify the neighbors?’” said Wang. “You were about to break ground — why didn’t you update anyone?”

Brian Holt, Chief of Planning for EBRPD, acknowledged at the SCAC meeting that outreach could have been better over the years.

DANCERS

(Continued from first page)

one group was dancing at all times.

Buros said the funds were raised by the dancers, who must each raise \$250 to participate, though many girls raised more by reaching out to family and community members for donations.

Mikayla Freeman is a 17-year-old dancer who has been part of Jazz N Taps for a decade. She said she looks forward to the marathon each year and all the fun it entails. This year, she expanded her role by leading one of the teams as captain.

“I love the Dance-athon,” Mikayla said. “It’s one of my favorite parts of being on the team. This only happens every other year, so every time it’s a dance marathon year, I get super excited. I love the bonding experience it provides for my team. Everyone is so tired, but it’s so fun.”

Mikayla said she and her fellow dancers all enjoy raising money for DAC because

“We own that; we take responsibility for that,” Holt continued.

Connie DeGrange, SCAC Chair, added later in the meeting, “It is very upsetting to the community of Sunol when they see people coming in developing parts of the town without communicating with us.”

Holt later explained that following 2012, a lengthy permitting process mired the Tyler Ranch project, and during that time, outreach went dark. He agreed the residents have a legitimate complaint.

He further noted that the project team did, however, present proposals to the EBRPD board in public meetings beginning in 2016 and is actively responding to residents’ correspondence.

Although the Niles Canyon Trail and the Tyler Ranch Staging Area are two independent projects, the petition organizers fear

that a communication gap similar to the Tyler Ranch episode is playing out again with the Niles Canyon project. They claim that the Foothill Road trail option “was created and prioritized without any recent outreach to the residents who reside along Foothill Road, other residents in the town of Sunol, or the Sunol Citizens Advisory Council.”

Wang described how the residents have, for years, advocated for a previously published trail alternative that bypasses Foothill Road, and instead enters Sunol on the south side of the canyon. But project documents after 2017, as listed in the petition, omit the south canyon option.

A feasibility study published by Alameda County cited the cost of two additional bridges and adverse environmental impact as reasons to abandon the south canyon option. ACPWA also

said the Foothill Road option “was supported by the overwhelming majority of community members and stakeholders involved in the (outreach) process.”

ACPWA conducted community outreach for the Niles Canyon project in the form of five community meetings and three Stroll and Roll events through Niles Canyon over the past seven years. ACPWA will also provide a project update at the Nov. 17 SCAC meeting.

The final route decision, however, has not yet been made, according to ACPWA. An upcoming Environmental Impact Report “will review the project and alternatives and provide a recommendation for the least environmentally impacted trail alignment for the project.” The draft report will be available early 2022.

it gets the money to people who need it. Buros agreed.

Speaking of the Dance Marathons, she said, “We have raised close to \$100,000 for charity at these events. Oftentimes, after our participants graduate from high school, they say that the

Dance Marathon is one of the best memories they have at Jazz N Taps. It is truly a meaningful experience for so many of our dancers.”

Jazz N Taps Dance Studio is located at 1270 Quarry Lane, in Pleasanton. For more information, call 925-

484-0678 or visit www.jazzntaps.com. Donations can still be made to DAC by visiting imadanceragainstancer.org. To view a video of the dancers final dance during the marathon, visit youtu.be/KF5skMerDY4.

NEW COMMUNITY PROGRAM FROM HOPE HOSPICE

The Family Caregiver Respite Program helps low- and middle-income families care for a loved one living with dementia by providing complimentary respite care.

Find details and eligibility information at HopeHospice.com/respite or call (925) 829-8770.



Transit Center to Honor Former Drive-In Carhop

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) will honor the late Angelina Navarro on Friday, Nov. 12, by designating the entrance to the downtown Livermore Transit Center as "Angie's Way."

Navarro, who died last year, spent 23 years working as a carhop at an A&W Root Beer Drive-In Restaurant on old First Street, which is now part of the transit center location at 2500 Railroad Ave.

Born in El Centro, Navarro moved to Livermore when she was 24 and started working at the drive-in restaurant in 1960. Nov. 12 would have been her 85th birthday.

LAVTA, agreed to honor Navarro with a sign, painted in the traditional A&W Root Beer brand colors, designating the transit center entrance as "Angie's Way." The transit authority, which operates the Tri-Valley pub-

lic bus system, Wheels, will also unveil a plaque explaining the historical significance of the drive-in, which was owned by Ed and Olea Vierra.

In a letter to The Livermore Independent last week, Terry Givens, who led the push for LAVTA to honor Navarro, noted, "Everybody knew and loved Angie and all one must do is mention the A&W and Angie is the first thing that comes to one's mind."

"Cruising Downtown Livermore in the sixties would not have happened if there was not the A&W Drive-In to turn around in," Givens added.

Karla Brown, Pleasanton mayor and chairperson of the LAVTA board of directors, and Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner will speak at the dedication, which begins at 1 p.m.

Credit Union Donates \$10,000 To Livermore Lab Foundation

UNCLE Credit Union has donated \$10,000 to the Livermore Lab Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and student fellowships and research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).

"We are honored (the credit union) is supporting the foundation and the extensive STEM opportunities at LLNL," said Dona Crawford, chairperson of the foundation's board of directors. "UNCLE's contribution will directly enable the next generation of STEM leaders to pursue their passions."

The credit union, originally named the Radiation Laboratory Credit Union, was formed in 1957 to pro-

vide financial services to workers at the University of California Radiation Laboratory at Livermore, the predecessor to LLNL.

With 31,000 members and assets exceeding \$625 million, the Livermore-based credit union is now open to anyone who lives, works or attends school in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin or Stanislaus counties.

Credit union board chairman Chung Bothwell noted that UNCLE and the foundation "share a guiding principle which places high value on creating a positive impact on our local communities. Like the Lab, UNCLE recognizes the importance of STEM programs and initiatives which build a better world for our future generations."

Capt. Spears Assumes Command Of the Tri-Valley Civil Air Patrol

Captain Joseph Spears, Civil Air Patrol, has assumed command of Tri-Valley Composite Squadron 156, based at the Livermore Municipal Airport.

Spears, who had served as aerospace education officer for the squadron, takes over from Captain Michael Carter, who had led the unit since it was rechartered in 2018.

Spears, a former Army medical specialist, is also a software developer for the National Ignition Facility

at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Carter is expected to remain with the squadron in another capacity.

The Civil Air Patrol is an auxiliary of the Air Force that performs domestic search and rescue missions under the direction of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center.

Squadron 156 includes both senior members, 18 and older, and cadet members between 12 and 21.

Big Jangle to Perform at Firehouse

The Big Jangle Band, a Tom Petty tribute band from the San Francisco Bay Area, will perform live at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Saturday, Nov. 20.

Big Jangle Band founder Paul Cotruvo will be joined by vocalist Kiki Stack and lo-

cal musicians Dan Hertlein, Kevin Scott Kroner, Bruce Brophy and John Gajan.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. concert are now on sale at www.firehousearts.org.

The Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., is owned and operated by the City of Pleasanton.

Orchestra to Perform Handel's Messiah

The Pacific Chamber Orchestra will present a concert production of Handel's "Messiah" at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton on Saturday, Nov. 27, and at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Sunday, Nov. 28.

The performances will feature soprano Hope Briggs, mezzo-soprano Kindra Scharich, tenor Jonathan Smucker, bass Kirk Eichelberger and the Pacific

Chamber Orchestra Chorus.

The performance at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, will begin at 7:30 p.m. The performance at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., is scheduled for 3 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.pacificchamberorchestra.org. Tickets for the Livermore performance at the Bankhead box office or by calling 925-373-6800.

Masons Looking for Matching Funds

The Masonic Lodge #218 of Livermore recently approved a \$1,000 donation to go toward a local food bank, and the group is looking to partner with a grocery store or individuals willing to match the funds for a total of \$2,000. The funds will go to Tri-Valley Haven, a Livermore food bank. For more information, call AJ Macheavich at 916-936-9503.

Lab Foundation Creates Fund For Neuro-Disease Research

The Livermore Lab Foundation has established an endowment to fund neuro-disease research in honor of a former Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) employee, William B. Shuler, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

Shuler, 81, died in March after being struck by a vehicle while trying to cross U.S. 101 in Port Angeles, Washington. He worked at LLNL from 1968 until his retirement in 1997.

The foundation, created in 2016 to encourage philanthropic support of research at LLNL, said the William B. Shuler Fund for Neurodegenerative Research would provide dedicated resources for the lab's study of neurodegenerative diseases.

"The Livermore Lab Foundation is proud to be partnering with the great minds at LLNL to accel-

erate collective efforts to diagnose, understand and treat neurodegenerative diseases like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Alzheimer's and Parkinson's," according to an announcement on the foundation's website.

The foundation said initial funding for the endowment came from Shuler's sister, Leslie Shuler Blain.

The foundation recently funded a pilot project at LLNL to apply multimodal machine learning to identifying ALS risk factors.

Last year, LLNL also announced the development of a "brain-on-a-chip" device to record the neural activity in brain cell cultures, which researchers said could lead to advancements better understanding the brain, including neurological diseases.

For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/3wrVHIS>.

Recruiter Hired for City Manager Search

The Pleasanton City Council has hired William Avery & Associates, an executive recruiting firm in Los Gatos, California, to lead its search for a city manager to replace Nelson Fialho, who will retire at the end of November.

An Alameda County native, Fialho, 53, was hired as deputy city manager in 1996. He was named city

manager in 2004, making him the youngest city manager of a full-service city in the state at the time.

He announced in September that he would be leaving on Nov. 30.

Assistant City Manager Brian Dolan will serve as interim city manager during the search for Fialho's replacement, which is expected to take four to six months.

Dublin Seeking to Fill Volunteer Positions

Dublin is recruiting volunteers for vacancies on the city's Senior Center Advisory Committee, Dublin Planning Commission and the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District.

The five-member advisory committee makes recommendations on the operation and maintenance of the Dublin Senior Center. There is currently an open alternate position for an unexpired term that ends in December 2022.

The application deadline is Nov. 12, at 5 p.m.

The five-member planning commission advises the city council. Its duties, which include making recommendations on the city's long-term planning, zoning and land-use decisions, are spelled out in the Dublin Municipal Code.

The city is recruiting for a community member to fill an open alternate position for an unexpired term that also ends in December 2022.

The application deadline is Nov. 19 at 5 p.m.

The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District is responsible for controlling mosquitoes and limiting the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases in the county.

The district is government by a 14-member board of trustees, with one member appointed by the county and one appointed by each of the 13 incorporated cities in the district. The trustees, who serve two-year terms, meet at 5 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month.

Dublin is recruiting for someone to represent the

city from January 2022 to January 2024.

The application deadline is Nov. 19 at 5 p.m.

To apply for any of the positions, go to <https://bit.ly/3BWVLIi>.

Livermore Seeks Local Input On the City's Vision for Arts

The City of Livermore is asking residents, and those who visit the region, for feedback on how they envision the future of arts and culture in the city.

Residents and visitors can provide their input by filling out online surveys and participating in community engagement meetings as part of the city's effort to update the Livermore Cultural Arts Vision.

The planning process, which began in January, also includes in-person interviews, focus groups and a series of Livermore Cultural Arts Vision Community Outreach Tour meetings.

Outreach meeting are scheduled for Friday, Nov.

19, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Rincon Library; Sunday, Nov. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Batch Makers Market at Carnegie Park; and Sunday, Nov. 28, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Hagemann Ranch.

Feedback can also be provided online at <https://bit.ly/3buohtp>.

The city's 2007 ArtsAlive! planning process led to the creation of a downtown arts district, an Art in Public Places program and the construction of the Bankhead Theatre.

The Rincon Library is located at 725 Rincon Ave.; The Batch Makers Market is located at 2155 Third St.; and Hagemann Ranch is at 455 Olivina Ave.



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RULING

(Continued from first page)

“We believe that the court was correct in its assessment that Save Downtown Livermore’s lawsuit was brought to delay the development of much-needed affordable housing,” she said. “We have no other comment at this time as the case is still pending before the superior court.”

The merits of the case will be addressed by the court at the writ of mandate trial scheduled for February 4, 2022. SLD recently filed its opening brief on the merits in support of its lawsuit, including arguments that the city failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act and planning and zoning laws in approving Eden Housing’s project.

“The (East Bay Times)

article includes quotes from City Engineer Bob Vinn and Vice Mayor Trish Munro downplaying the contamination issues at the Eden Housing site and the planned clean-up of the site,” the SLD release stated. “However, the soil at the site, which was used historically as a train depot and for dry cleaners, is known to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds and other chemicals of concern.”

The release continues, “But in a report published June 25, 2021, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board staff raised new concerns about the city’s plan to remediate volatile organic compounds and mitigate vapor intrusion risks to future residents at the site of

the proposed Eden Housing project. In that report, staff said that the city’s proposed clean-up levels ‘are neither appropriately justified nor acceptable.’ The report also questioned the city’s contention that the project’s planned ventilated garage ‘is an engineering control that mitigates potential vapor intrusion.’”

SLD further stated that the \$500,000 bond the court required to be posted is “only relevant if the city and Eden Housing are victorious in the lawsuit, and even then, Eden Housing will have to prove to the court using admissible evidence that the lawsuit caused it financial damage, and have the court accept that proof, before it can collect anything on the bond.”

Those who support the

current plans approved by the council have stressed the importance of immediately providing affordable homes to a community that’s seen a large portion of residents priced out. They further cite the risk of losing \$14.4 million in Alameda County A1 affordable housing funds if the project doesn’t begin construction by the end of 2022. In previous months, SLD has published its “Downtown Alternative” plan, claiming it would create 100 more affordable housing units than the 130 units the Eden plan proposes across Railroad Avenue. The group noted that the housing funds could transfer to this new location. It further stated that the alternative would be on a site that is “not subject to historical

contamination from train, dry cleaning, and other industrial operations from the past.”

Following requests for comment on the recent ruling, members of the Livermore City Council either expressed opposition to SLD’s actions or remained silent. While Livermore Councilmember Gina Bonanno declined to comment on the pending litigation until the court issues its decision next spring, she said she thinks the judge’s ruling requiring SLD to post a bond covering Eden’s damages “speaks clearly for itself.”

Councilmember Robert Carling said what SLD is doing is “extremely disappointing.”

“And the lawsuit simply seeks to delay the construc-

tion of needed affordable housing,” Carling continued. “In the interest of bringing the community together, they should drop the lawsuit immediately, saving everyone time and money.”

When asked for statements from Woerner, Vice Mayor Trish Munro and Councilmember Britni Kiick, Woerner referred to his statement in the Times quoted above, Munro declined to comment and Kiick did not respond.

SLD concluded that it would fight, “in court and out of it, to win a high-quality project with more affordable housing and a welcoming park in the center of town — one that will truly serve Livermore for generations to come.”

QUESTIONS

(Continued from first page)

direct-to-consumer California wine sales for the purpose of promoting the wineries located within the Livermore American Viticultural Area (AVA). In its first year, the LVWHD is expected to generate \$693,000 for the 51 wineries in the district’s boundaries in the counties of Alameda and Contra Costa. Since the LVWHD’s Sept. 13 introduction, the overall assessment area has been reduced to exclude wineries in Pleasanton and San Ramon. No reason was provided as to why those cities were excluded.

The first hearing in October this year received three public comments all in favor of the district. However, the hearing this week on Nov. 8 heard the negative testimony of a Castro Valley winegrower William Smythe — owner of Westover Winery.com Inc. — who said not only would he not benefit from the district, but also he wanted questions fully answered. He urged the council to delay approval.

“Why are we duplicating the efforts of a well-established Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, which for over 30 years has claimed membership and due collections to accomplish the very same thing this Heritage District is trying to do?” Smythe asked.

He further noted that the proposed borders were not well defined, and wanted to know why Ruby Hill Winery of Pleasanton — which he reported to be one of the

highest earning wineries in the region — was allowed to be excluded. Smythe additionally cited high taxes in the county, and an overall unclear policy for including or excluding wineries.

Councilmember Robert Carling moved to simply exclude Smythe’s winery from the district, but his motion failed to gain a second. The remaining members of the council agreed that they needed answers from staff to better understand which wineries legally fell within the Livermore AVA territory and why Ruby Hill had been excluded. Staff is expected to return to the next council meeting with more information.

Update on the Police Vehicle Fleet Purchase

The city council unanimously approved a revised purchase agreement for police vehicles from Tracy Ford. Instead of the original eight interceptors that had initially been on the order, the city will go forward with acquiring six interceptors and two hybrid vehicles.

The decision followed a pulled consent calendar item from the previous council meeting on Oct. 25, during which time a member of the public and the council expressed a desire to consider more eco-friendly options for its police fleet. The challenge — as outlined by City Manager Marc Roberts — is that interceptor vehicles used by officers are not stock cars;

they require high output engines and electrical systems that current fully electric vehicles can’t offer. According to the staff report, purchasing two of the hybrid vehicles initially will allow the police department to evaluate equipment compatibility, operational effectiveness and reliability in patrol use before ordering the next hybrid batch of police vehicles.

“By ordering the two (hybrid) interceptors this time, we’ll put them through the complete paces about all the equipment that we mount in them — from the computers to the lights to the sirens to all of that stuff — and be able to get them out on the street,” Roberts said. “We’ll have plenty of time to see if there are any issues ... but we don’t expect to find them. We do think the hybrid is a very good vehicle.”

Report on the Arts Pandemic Recovery

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) Executive Director Chris Carter provided an update on the status of the Bankhead Theater coming out of the pandemic. During the closures due to COVID-19, Carter reported that the theater was forced to cancel or reschedule about 200 events, but LVPAC still managed to deliver 103 art programs and events virtually. He reported a decrease of revenue by 93%. The Bankhead secured several federal loans. The group also received an estate gift.

“It was a home that somebody left to us, and we were able to sell that home in the middle of this last fiscal year for about \$670,000,” Carter said.

Carter expressed pride in the staff members who were able to keep things going, and those who waited to come back. Nearly all of the staff returned, he said.

He further said LVPAC wants to continue investing in arts education and outreach.

“We are continuing to do free community events out on the plaza,” he said. “We just had the Filipino Barrio Festival and the Taste of Africa events last month, and we have more events coming up that will be for the community. We’re also continuing to have reduced ticket prices for students and military, and we just started to work with an organization in Livermore called Music Pathways — and they do music instruction for underprivileged students in the district, and part of the program is that they get to keep their instruments when they’re done with instruction.”

He said those students and their families are also offered reduced tickets to attend events at the Bankhead.

“Ultimately, my goal is to activate our space every day,” Carter continued. “We really want to be a presence in this community — a positive presence, supporting the community through the arts.”

Pleasanton Park Schedules Hands-On Activities

The Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton will host free hands-on activities for children and adults from noon to 3 p.m. on four Saturdays between now and Christmas.

The municipal park at 3465 Old Foothill Road is an interpretive center that covers the history of the Amador Valley, beginning with early Native American communities, through the period of large Spanish ranches, to the early mid-20th century when the park site was a popular dairy.

The drop-in programs will be held Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18. Activities will be held outside, weather permitting. If the activities are moved inside, face masks will be required.

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CHAN

(Continued from first page)

of service to the community, championing health care, affordable housing and support for families has touched the lives of many. Our thoughts are with her loved ones at this time.”

Chan’s office said she died at 2:30 p.m., hours after emergency crews rushed her to Highland Hospital. A statement said she was “walking her beloved dog Maggie when a vehicle struck her. She suffered a serious head injury.”

City of Alameda police said the incident occurred about 8 a.m. at Shoreline Drive and Grand Street. Officers found Chan unresponsive in the road.

The driver, an adult woman, remained at the scene and cooperated with police. How the incident occurred remains under investigation.

Chan spent three decades in Bay Area politics, serving four years on the Oakland Board of Education before becoming the first Asian American elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 1995. She served five years prior to her election to the California State Assembly. During her six years, she became the first woman and Asian American to be elected Majority Leader.

Chan authored bills that included requiring a no-lead standard in drinking water pipes and fixtures; banned toxic flame retardants; and ended the practice of hospitals overcharging uninsured and underinsured patients. She also won approval of \$100 million to expand state preschool.

Chan was re-elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 2010, representing District 3, which includes Alameda, San Leandro, portions of Oakland and other unincorporated areas.

“During her 30-year career in public service, Supervisor Chan had been a

staunch advocate for children, families, the elderly, affordable housing, and health care for the uninsured,” her office said in a statement.

As news of her death spread, local politicians, leaders and government bodies issued reactions on Twitter.

“I am saddened to learn of the tragic passing of Supervisor Wilma Chan,” Alameda County Sheriff Greg Ahern said. “She was a strong supporter of our community policing programs to reduce incarceration, poverty, addiction and homelessness. Her leadership and support of these programs will continue to change lives and are part of her lasting legacy of community service. I send my sincere condolences to her family, friends, supporters and our Alameda County community.”

The East Bay Regional Parks District said, “Alameda County lost a true public servant and champion.”

Supervisor Nate Miley, whose district includes Pleasanton, said, “The tragic passing of Supervisor Wilma Chan has shocked and saddened us all. Out of respect for her family, we are reflecting on this loss and in grief.”

The Alameda County Probation department called Chan “a champion for the eradication of hunger and poverty through the ALL-IN initiative. She worked tirelessly for health care and housing in Alameda County.”

Former Dublin Mayor David Haubert, who was last year elected to represent District 1, including Livermore and Dublin, said Chan’s death deeply saddened him.

“Her dedication to serving our community and helping others for over 30 years will never be forgotten,” Haubert said. “I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with her. May she rest in peace.”

Alameda County District

Attorney Nancy O’Malley called Chan “a north star for so many important issues that served the vulnerable in our community.”

“She was a champion, for example, of ALL-IN Alameda County, which addresses food insecurity and addresses issues of poverty,” O’Malley said. “Her influence and commitment to her community and Alameda County will be greatly missed.”

Alameda police said the city holds post-collision site visits for all major and fatal collisions. In the coming weeks, police officers, public works and transportation planning employees will conduct a review of the collision site.

Chan is survived by two children and two grandchildren.

Chan’s office issued the following statement, “The family thanks the first responders and medical staff that provided wonderful care to Supervisor Chan, and they request privacy at this time.”

DELAYS

(Continued from first page)

other increases in costs outside of his control. He cited delays in preparing the site, which will include a 27-foot square plaza of granite pavers.

City staff agreed with the request.

According to the city, the public art is to “honor all who have served and currently serve in the military, and to celebrate the values that the military holds dear: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.”

The \$24 million, 30-acre community park, named for former Dublin Mayor Don Biddle, is now expected to be completed sometime in 2022, with installation of the artwork one of the last projects.

The Dublin Crossing development, on property that was part of the former Camp Parks Army Base in the central Dublin area, will include residential housing and commercial areas.

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Livermore Wine News: An Early Assessment of Harvest 2021

By Laura Ness

Just what should be made of vintage 2021? While it's hard to pin a tail on this multifaceted donkey, most consider it a fantastic vintage. For some, this means not having to add as much acid, while for others, who found the fruit somewhat lacking in natural acidity, it means having to acidulate a bit more than in previous vintages. While growers in France rarely find

themselves in this situation, it's common in California. Blame it on the sunshine.

Larry Dino of Cuda Ridge told us he noticed very low acids across the board due to the drought.

"We had also noticed very low YANS (yeast assimilated nitrogen) in a lot of the fruit, which required us to be diligent in adding nutrients during fermentation," said Dino. "All in all, happy with the quality of the fruit. Time

will tell."

Aaron Luna, winemaker for Fenestra and Garre, agreed the acid levels were fairly in line with previous years.

"Garre had pretty typical numbers in regards to acid and ripeness, but maybe very slightly more natural acid than normal," he said. "I'm very happy with all the wines so far. Fenestra was pretty typical too, except for petite sirah and zinfandel coming

out of the Ravenswood site, which were very high in acid this year."

Brent Amos of Las Positas said nutrient levels were average across the board.

"I would say the acids were slightly better than average," said Amos. "Harvest was of average yield, and a bit more condensed than we usually see. Quality looks great — this will be a very good year."

Meredith Sarboraria from

Rodrigue Molyneux reported their estate fruit came in at a lower brix than in the past. Her observation is that it was pretty normal to get low acidity from all over the Valley.

"For the last two or three years, the acids have been higher in general," she said. "It used to be that fruit in Livermore would come in just about perfect or a little low in acidity, but lately I've barely had to add anything."

Dane Stark of Page Mill

Winery thinks 2021 will be a fantastic vintage.

"Acids were incredible this year," said Stark. "It should be a collector's vintage!"

John Kinney saw things differently.

"As for acids, they have been lower in general than in many past years," he said. "I attribute this to the warm nights we had in August and into early September. So, yes, a lot of tartaric acid will be used this year."

OBITUARIES

Patricia Ann Mann

Nov. 11, 1930 - Oct. 28, 2021



Pat Mann, a valued contributor to Livermore's political and cultural development, died Oct. 28, 2021 after a year-long decline.

Patricia Ann Barraclough was born in Tacoma, Washington on November 11, 1930. Her parents, Marion (Hughes) and Jordan Barraclough, raised their only child in San Diego and South Pasadena. Pat attended Occidental College in Los Angeles, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She then moved to the Bay Area after receiving a scholarship to study psychology at Mills College, where she received her MA degree. While working at Juvenile Hall in Oakland, Pat met her future husband, Lloyd Mann, a physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, on a ski trip with mutual friends. After marrying Lloyd in a ceremony at the Mills College Chapel, Pat relocated to Livermore in 1959, where she lived the rest of her life.

Pat, a sickly child who was not expected to survive to adulthood, lived an active life until a stroke disabled her in 2020. She put her 90 years to good use, raising a loving family, participating actively in local politics, volunteering many hours with local organizations and creating a native plant oasis on the family's two-acre property south of Livermore. Pat worked for many years at Parental Stress Service (now Family Paths), starting as a volunteer on the

phone hotlines before being hired as a supervisor.

She was a lifelong supporter of women's rights and organizations such as Planned Parenthood and the American Association of University Women (AAUW). She filled many roles with the local AAUW branch and the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild, including terms as president of both organizations. In 1997, AAUW acknowledged Pat's contributions with the establishment of the Patricia Mann Research and Projects Endowment. Pat wrote, "The endowment is a legacy I shall treasure all my life." Throughout her life Pat worked hard, and as she said in her last year, "I enjoyed it!" She lived quietly and ethically, always striving to improve herself, to make a positive impression on others, and to follow her own simple, firm principles.

When she joined the Daughters of the American Revolution in 2020, she wrote in

her application, "Should all folks try to live by accepted moral and ethical standards? Are we not a stronger nation when we do?" After a lifetime of caring selflessly for others, Pat fully appreciated the care she received after the stroke from the wonderful family she had nurtured. She spent many enjoyable hours resting in the sun, enjoying home-cooked meals, visiting her beloved Sycamore Grove Park, and attending her grandson's wedding. She even attended two concerts at the Bankhead Theater, which she and Lloyd supported and where they have a memorial tile in the courtyard.

Pat was predeceased by Lloyd, her husband of 52 years. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Martha (Sam), Lorraine (Victor) and Doug (Tamy), grandchildren Rafael, Isaac, Sarah, and Nick, and great-grandchildren Cypress and Ziya. The family is grateful to Pat's many friends for enriching her life, and to Zakia Hazrati of Zakia's Comfort Home Care for coordinating care support in Pat's final months.

Donations to your favorite local charity in Pat's name are welcome. In lieu of a large memorial gathering, the family invites Pat's friends to visit with us in small, safe groups to share tea and memories of her. Please contact the family at grandmamann@yahoo.com to schedule a visit.

Gloria Kimiko Yano

1935 - 2021



Gloria, or Kim as her oldest friends and family knew her, was the youngest of 11 siblings. Born to her father Seiji and mother Haru Fujita, she is survived by her oldest sister Sue and Tomeko (the second youngest Fujita).

As a child, her family had a difficult life working as farm laborers. During World War II, her family was sent to Japanese internment camps in Tule Lake, California and Minidoka, Idaho. After the war was over, they settled in Ontario, Oregon where they became successful farmers. Following graduation from high school in Oregon, she moved to Seattle to live with her brother Nobie, his wife Sachi, and their children Larry and Cindy. She enjoyed Seattle life in the 1950s and had fond memories of working for the department store Frederick and Nelson.

In 1958, she married Hesa Yano and moved to Livermore, California. She and Hesa were both employed at Sandia National Laboratories, but upon finding out they were expecting their first child, Michele, Gloria resigned her position choosing to be a full-time mother. Four years later, Hesa and

Gloria welcomed their son Matthew. During this time, she volunteered at the Presbyterian church where her children attended preschool. She also attended classes at Chabot College (now Las Positas College) pursuing an accounting degree. She began her second career as an accountant, but over the years she enjoyed various interesting jobs as a secretary, in human resources, and even as a welder. She was our real-life Rosie the Riveter.

In her younger years, she enjoyed bowling, sewing, gardening and tennis. Later in life she was often found attending Tai Chi classes, working on jigsaw and crossword puzzles, cross-stitching, and sitting on the deck that

her son built for her. She loved traveling to Hawaii, shopping and spending time with her family. Most of all, she loved spending time with her grandchildren. She will always be remembered for her warm smile and joyous Fujita laughter as well as her generosity.

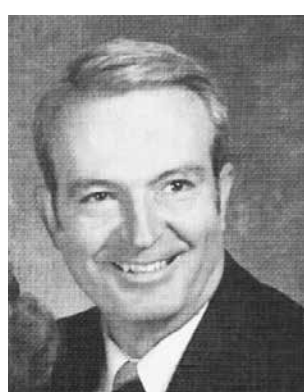
Gloria passed away after a long fight with cancer and other related ailments. Although everyone who knew her will never be the same without her, she had a happy, long life and was ready for the next adventure in Heaven. She is survived by her husband Hesa, daughter Michele, son Matt, daughter-in-law Sophy and her loving grandchildren Christianna and Joseph.

Family and friends are invited to attend her memorial service on Saturday, Nov. 13 at 1p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary. Reception to follow at Strizzi's restaurant on First Street in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, please give to the charity or organization of your choice. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Tano family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

James Francis Cassidy

Jan. 26, 1930 - Sept. 28, 2021



James F. Cassidy passed away at the age of 91. Jim was a devoted husband to his wife Betty for 61 years. Jim was a caring father to his six children Michael, Mary, Kathleen, Paul, Margaret and Mark, and grandfather to Isabel, Alex, Cooper, Claire and Carmen, as well as an uncle to dozens of nieces and nephews.

Jim was born in Helena, Montana to Francis J. Cassidy and Rose Braun Cassidy. He was raised in St. Cloud, Minnesota with his three siblings, Sr Judine (Rosemary), Bob and Tom Cassidy.

For 53 years, he and his family lived in Glendora, California. Jim spent 30+ years as a teacher at Northview High School in Covina, California, where he had a lasting impact on hundreds of students. For the past five

years Jim and Betty lived in Northern California in order to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

He had an amazing ability to solve all problems. Many could be fixed with duct tape. Others required patience and thoughtfulness and usually ended with a quote from a

philosopher or theologian. He found everyone he encountered interesting. He had an enthusiasm for life. And no situation, however dire it might have seemed, could not be turned into a fun adventure.

Above all, Jim valued his family and the time he spent with them. His ready smile and infectious laugh were well-known by his family, friends and colleagues. His deep faith sustained him throughout his life, giving him guidance and inspiration. He taught by example how to be a loving and compassionate person in this world, as a husband, a father, a brother, an uncle and a teacher.

"Preach the Gospel at all times and if necessary, use words" - St. Francis of Assisi

Virginia Bush

Sept. 29, 1921 - Oct. 1, 2021

Virginia was born on Sept. 29, 1921 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Gunilla and Earl Letteller, and died 100 years later on Oct. 1, 2021 in Pleasanton, California.

Virginia moved to California with her parents and six brothers and sisters when she was five, and spent her formative years in the Echo Park area



of Southern California. After high school, Virginia worked at Lockheed in Burbank and during WWII she procured parts and helped to assemble the B17 bombers. After the

war, Virginia worked at a glass works company in Los Angeles as a bookkeeper. While there, she met her future husband, George Bush. George and Virginia were married in 1947 and had two children, Kenneth in 1949 and Charlene in 1954. During their marriage, George worked as a civil engineer and Virginia was a homemaker.

Virginia and George enjoyed traveling in their motor home and made frequent trips to Yellowstone, Grand Tetons and the Southwest particularly enjoying Tucson and the cities of New Mexico. During her travels, Virginia particularly enjoyed antiquing and collecting perfume bottles. Upon George's death in 2000, Virginia relocated to Livermore where she lived until her death. In her later years, Virginia enjoyed reading, crocheting, cooking, working puzzles and spending time with her family. She read all the Outlander novels and watched the entire TV series multiple times. She

was known for her community service, volunteering at ValleyCare Hospital for over 15 years and the Tri-Valley Haven Thrift Store for over five years. In fact, she was still working at the Thrift Store one month before she passed away. Virginia is survived by her daughter, five grandchildren



and three great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew her. A celebration of her life is planned for Spring 2022.

Nancy Loretta Orr McGowan Spence

Sept. 12, 1937 - Oct. 23, 2021



Nancy Loretta Orr McGowan Spence was 84 and died peacefully at Banner Hospital in Sun City West, Arizona on Oct. 23, 2021 of heart failure.

Nancy was born in Pueblo, Colorado on Sept. 12, 1937. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dorsey "Verd" Orr and Dorothy Loretta Bunnell Orr; husband Kirk Mac McGowan; husband Howard "Bud" Clinton Spence; father-in-law Vernon "Mac" McGowan; mother-in-law Hildred "Hilly" Kirkpatrick McGowan; and brother Howard Dorsey Orr.

She is survived by her three children; Marjo Lynn McGowan Brough and Robert "Bob" Louis Brough, Jr. of Surprise, Arizona; Kirk "Mark" McGowan and Sheryl Louise Ekstrom McGowan of Sonora, California; and Jay Dee McGowan of Sonora. She is also survived by; brother Verd "Alden" Orr; sister Linda Lucille Orr Outhier and Louis "Corky" L. Outhier, Jr.; sister-in-law Karen Sue McGowan Nellis and Walter Edward Nellis; sister-in-law Marilyn Elizabeth Laporte Orr; and daughter-in-law Paula Jean Reed McGowan.

Nancy was blessed to have 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren along with many sweet nieces, nephews and cousins. She was very generous and

thoughtful to give each of her loved one's special cards and gifts for every holiday.

She was a 1955 graduate of Central High School in Pueblo, Colorado. Nancy married her high school sweetheart, Kirk Mac McGowan. After graduation, they traveled to many PRCA rodeos. During this time their two children Marjo McGowan Brough and Kirk "Mark" McGowan were born. They lived in Grand Canyon, moved to Moab, Utah where they had another son, Jay Dee McGowan. They then moved to Livermore, California in 1963, which was their long-term home through 2020. Nancy lost Kirk McGowan in 1972 in a car accident and raised her three children amazingly herself. Greatest Mom in the World!

Nancy retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as an adminis-

trative specialist in 2002. She held many positions in the Livermore Valley Unified School District and also graduated from the Livermore Citizens Police Academy and helped with banquets and meetings for the police officers.

Nancy attended Celebration Church for 49 years in Livermore, California. She was the best and sweetest prayer warrior there was. She would pray for you anytime anywhere. Nancy loved traveling with her many dear church friends and family.

Nancy had lots of energy, her heart was full of love for Jesus, joy, fun and would do anything for her many friends and family. Doing for others made her very happy and she was glad to help in any way.

Share your stories of remembrance on Dec. 21, 2021 at noon at Celebration Church, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore, California.

Reception to follow at Clubhouse at Las Positas, 915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore, California from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the following: Celebration Church or National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Online condolences and pictures may be sent to SurpriseFuneralCare.com

Emily S. Stahl

Nov. 18, 1928 - Oct. 6, 2021



Born Emily Ruth Smith on Nov. 18, 1928, in Indianapolis, Indiana, Emily died peacefully on Oct. 6, 2021 in Pleasanton, surrounded by her four children, just as she would have wanted. After earning her B.A. from Butler University, Emily began her professional career as a public-school teacher, later earning a master's degree in education. Emily and her former husband, George Stahl (now deceased), met and married at Butler, moved to Oakland to start their family, lived in Guam while George served in the Navy, and then relocated to Livermore where Emily resided for more than 50 years until her passing. Emily was a kind, compassionate and generous woman — holding fast to her beliefs, defending those she loved, and always seeking to better herself and others.

She devoted her life to community service and social justice. As a founding member of First Christian Church of Livermore, Emily was a vocal proponent for

civil rights, advocating for racial equality and LGBTQ inclusion. Emily actively supported the farm workers movement, led campaigns to end homelessness and vehemently protested the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Emily was also active in the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women. Emily pursued her passion for religious studies at UC Berkeley Pacific School of Religion, graduating with a second master's degree in 1982. A year later she received a third

master's degree, this time in counseling. As the child and family counselor at Tri-Valley Haven for Women for more than 20 years, Emily's extraordinary and unflappable commitment to her clients earned her the nickname "Saint Emily."

To know Emily was to love her. Emily's greatest joy was her family; her love was unconditional and her kindness uplifted and sustained us all. Emily was a voracious reader, consuming biographies, religious texts and popular novels at an amazing clip. She had a deep love for animals, was an avid world traveler in her younger days, and was always first in line to support a worthy charitable cause. Emily's legacy lives on in her four children, Kurt Stahl, Pauline Stahl, Mary Nelson and George Stahl Jr., and her five grandchildren, Lily and Julia Stahl, and Sarah, Shannon and Riley Nelson. We invite you to a remembrance at Asbury United Methodist Church on Nov. 28 at 3 p.m.



Amador Defeats Dublin To Move on to NCS Finals

By Nathan Canilao

The Amador Valley Dons girls' volleyball team defeated the Dublin Gaels on Nov. 11 to advance to the North Coast Section championship. The Dons rallied from a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Gaels 3-2.

The first two sets were very close. The Gaels jumped out to a sizable lead in the first set and controlled Amador's attack. They came away with a 25-21 win in the first set.

The second set was much closer as the Dons jumped out to an early lead. They led by as much as 6 points, but the Gaels stormed back to win 25-22 to take a 2-0 lead in the game.

The third and fourth set was all Dons. In both sets, the Dons held leads as big as 9 and were able to adjust in order to force a fifth set.

The fifth set was the most competitive of the game. The Dons held an early lead, but the Gaels came back to take a 13-12 lead, which forced Amador to take a timeout. The Dons regrouped and ended the set going on a 3-1 run to win the game.

Amador moves on to the NCS championship and will face Monte Vista High School for the NCS championship. Dublin's run for NCS gold will end but will be poised to take a spot in the state playoffs.



The Monte Vista Mustangs hosted the Amador Valley Dons in the NCS CIF Girls' Volleyball Division 1 Championships on Saturday, Nov. 6. The Mustangs won 3 matches to 1. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



Granada High School's players, coaches and fans celebrated a victory win against crosstown rival Livermore High, Nov. 5. The Matadors defeated the Cowboys 28-10 to win the City Championship Trophy. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

Local CYO Runners Finish Strong At Diocese Championships

Several members of the St. Michael/St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Youth League (CYO) cross country team from Livermore posted solid performances at the Oakland Diocese championships held at Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda on Friday, Oct. 15.

Both St. Michael boys' teams took first place.

Jack Heule led the St. Michael team for grades 3 through 5, finishing second among all competitors. Blake Cass finished eighth and Eli Hernandez 10th to take the team title.

Gabriel Heule led the St. Michael team for grades 6-8,

finishing first, with support from Noah Lloyd at 17th and Joseph Spinka at 18th.

St. Michael was fifth in the girls' 3-5 race, led by Genevieve Brown who finished fifth, Aubrey Park at 25th and Sophia Enrique at 39th.

Filimena Bozinoski finished sixth and Audrey Egger finished 10th for St. Charles Borromeo in the girls' K-2 race, while Emma Hickman finished seventh for St. Michael.

In the boys K-2 race, Rawley Kuykendall finished second for St. Charles Borromeo and Cyrus Walker was third for St. Michael.

Amador Valley to Move on to Second Round of Playoffs

By Nathan Canilao

The Amador Valley Dons water polo team defeated the Vintage High School Crushers 15-8 to advance to the second round of the North Coast Section playoffs.

The Dons took control of the match early. They shut out the Crushers in the first quarter and were able to score three quick goals to go up 3-0. The second quarter was much of the same and the Dons headed into the halftime break with a 6-3 lead.

The Crushers gained momentum in the third quarter. They were able to cut the Dons' lead to one and forced them to call a timeout with just over three minutes left in the third quarter.

The Dons regained control of the game in the fourth quarter, outscoring the Crushers 5-2. The big scoring push allowed them to eventually win the game 15-8.

The Dons were able to get scoring contributions from many players. Junior

Evan Grell led all scorers with seven goals. Senior Dustin Schmidt and junior Noah Cole each added four goals. The balance scoring attack along with a disruptive defense was a focal point for the Dons.

"We try to preach a counterattack. We try to preach pressure and defense," said Head Varsity Coach Matt Croghan. "And once we get a turnover, it's off to the races."

One of the bigger keys to victory was the Dons' ability to stop the Crushers' run in the third quarter. The game got physical, and the Crushers' crowd was getting louder as they made their run in the third. Croghan attributes his team's ability to play under pressure as the deciding factor in the win.

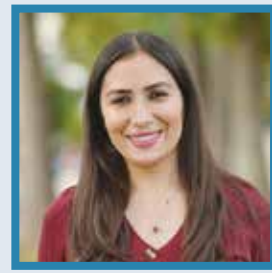
"We fought and didn't fold; that is something that we have been working on all year," said Croghan.

The Dons will move on to play Acalanes High School in the second round of the NCS playoffs

EDUCATOR'S CORNER:

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Gatee Esmat



Title: Principal

School: Arroyo Seco Elementary School in Livermore

Background: Esmat has served as principal at Arroyo Seco for five years. Prior to that, she worked in San Ramon as a vice principal, an instructional coach and a teacher. Though she did not originally have education as a career goal, Esmat said she always wanted to help people.

"I was going to Berkeley to go to law school," she said. "I was visiting some schools as part of a class and noticed the difference between the schools I was visiting in different parts of Oakland, and it intrigued me. It came to a point where I enjoyed talking to the kids, and I felt like it came naturally to me, and I felt it would be a better route."

Esmat changed paths to graduate with a degree in education. She enjoyed her classroom so much, she decided to expand her impact by climbing the administration ladder.

"I saw the difference I made within my classroom as a teacher," she said. "Now, I feel like I'm making more of an impact working with teachers and students than just with a group of students in my classroom."

Fun fact: Esmat's family immigrated to the United States when she was 2 years old. As someone who has struggled to learn a new language and culture, she now wants to be there to help other families face the same issues she and her family overcame.

Favorite part of the job: "The kids," Esmat said. "The relationships I have with the students and the community and my teachers are the best part of my job."

Esmat lives near the California Delta with her husband and their dog. She loves cooking, eating, staying active and spending time with her family.



Amador's Dustin Schmidt shoots the ball during the NCS CIF First Round Division 1 playoffs on Thursday, Nov. 4. Amador won the match against the Vintage Crushers 15-8. On Saturday, Nov. 6, Amador was defeated in the second round by Acalanes High School, 20-8. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Domestic Student Exchange Program Accepting Applications

Similar to traditional foreign-exchange programs, a new nonprofit in Oakland is coordinating a domestic program designed to expose high school students to diverse cultural environments in the U.S.

The American Youth Leader Exchange (AYLE) will also offer workshops to prepare students for their exchange semester, including active listening, how to ask better questions and forms of respect.

AYLE is now accepting applications for spring 2022. The program, which is open to Tri-Valley students, is free and covers the cost of travel and stipends for the participants.

For more information, visit <https://www.aylx.org>.

Lego Exhibit Opens at the Museum on Main

An exhibit of California landmarks depicted in Lego bricks is now on display at the Museum on Main in Pleasanton.

The exhibit, "Brickworks: Lego Artists Celebrate California and the Tri-Valley," showcases the creativity of 10 Northern California artists, including members of the Bay Area Lego User Group.

Nearly two dozen Lego

models represent landmarks from Sacramento to Los Angeles, including Sunol's Little Brown Church, the Pleasanton Gas Station on Main Street and the Castro Valley skyline.

There are also vehicles built with the iconic, interlocking plastic bricks, including San Francisco cable cars and a pair of tractors like those owned by early 20th century Pleasanton

farmer Henry Mohr, along with poppy mosaics and the Museum on Main logo.

"We've got an amazing array of works in this show," said curator Ken MacLennan.

"Brickworks" will be on display at the museum, 603 Main St., through Jan. 8, 2022. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583058

The following person(s) doing business as: Beadzazzled, 1741 Solano Ave, Berkeley, CA 94707, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): William Leung, 7420 Park Vista Ct, El Cerrito, CA 94530. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: William Leung, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 28, 2021. Expires September 28, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5001. Published October

21, 28, November 4, 11, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583275

The following person(s) doing business as: Polo's Corner California Kitchen, 2002 Portola Ave, Ste L, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pairings Lastra LLC, 2002 Portola Ave, Ste L, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Janet Cardenas, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 8, 2021. Expires October 8, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5002. Published October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583326

The following person(s) doing business as: The Knotty Knitting, 110 North Murrieta Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following

owner(s): Donnamarie Fuller, 110 North Murrieta Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/7/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Donnamarie Fuller, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 28, 2021. Expires September 28, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5004. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583429

The following person(s) doing business as: Cherry Property, 526 Cherry Way, Hayward, CA 94541, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Steven Connolly, 16 Fairway LN, Pleasanton, CA 94566; Thomas Connolly, 28 Tescadero CT, Danville, CA 94526; Elizabeth Connolly, 16 Fairway LN, Pleasanton,

CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Joint Venture. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 2017. Signature of Registrant/s: Steven Walter Conolly, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 14, 2021. Expires October 14, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5005. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583527

The following person(s) doing business as: JD Land Development LLC, 1419 Aster Lane, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): JD Land Development, 1419 Aster Lane, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Miguel Jarvis, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2021. Expires October 15, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5006. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583409

The following person(s) doing business as: Castlewood Ventures Partnership, 239 Main Street, Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rosalyn Simon, Trustee, Rosalyn M. Simon Revocable Trust, 5428 Pleasant Hill Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588; Rosalyn Simon, Trustee, 2012 Daniel H. Dunkley Revocable Trust, 5428 Pleasant Hill Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

This business is conducted by a General Partnership / A Trust. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/7/2016. Signature of Registrant/s: Rosalyn M. Simon, Trustee. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2021. Expires October 13, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5007. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583531

The following person(s) doing business as: EmERGE Health and Wellness, 1904 Franklin ST #300, Oakland, CA 94612, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Meghan Tunson, 200 Fairmont Ave #206, Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Meghan Tunson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2021. Expires October 15, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5008. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Prayer Furnace, 5862 Las Positas road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Prayer Furnace, Inc., 1519 Genoa Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2006. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amy Knight, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. Expires October 21,

2021. Expires October 21, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5008. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 583853

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Prayer Furnace, 5862 Las Positas road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Prayer Furnace, Inc., 1519 Genoa Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2006. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amy Knight, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. Expires October 21,

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5009. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583852

The following person(s) doing business as: Roxana & Karen The Home Group, 41111 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria Roxana Gomez, 3400 Stevenson Blvd #102, Fremont, CA 94538; Karenjit Kaur Kalsi, 3400 Stevenson Blvd #V27, Fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. 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: Maria Roxana Gomez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. Expires October 21, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5010. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583609

The following person(s) doing business as: Redwood Creative Therapy, 2128 Alexander Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brittany Tachkov, 2128 Alexander Way, 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: Brittany Tachkov, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 18, 2021. Expires October 18, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5011. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583789

The following person(s) doing business as: Movement Adds to Live, 775 Wimbledon LN, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Barbara Reynolds, 775 Wimbledon LN, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2011. Signature of Registrant/s: Barbara Reynolds, Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 20, 2021. Expires October 20, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5012. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583430

The following person(s) doing business as: Huntwood 2, 27347 Huntwood Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Steven Connolly, 16 Fairway LN, Pleasanton, CA 94566; Elizabeth Connolly, 16 Fairway LN, Pleasanton, CA 94566; Thomas Connolly, 28 Tescaero CT, Danville, CA 94526; Christopher Connolly, 4163 Hall CT, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Joint Venture. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/2017. Signature of Registrant/s: Steven Connolly, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 14, 2021. Expires October 14, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5013. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583423

The following person(s) doing

business as: Nail Creations, 780 Main St, Ste 205, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amanda Stevenson, 6836 Inglewood CT, Pleasanton, CA. 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: 1/12/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Amanda Stevenson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 14, 2021. Expires October 14, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5012. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 567886

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Affordable Custom Signs, LLC, 5675 Ariene Way, Livermore, CA 94550. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 1/27/2020 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Signature of Registrant/s: James Miller, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 20, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 5015. Published November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583845

The following person(s) doing business as: Cup & Crone, 968 Bellflower Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Lee Christensen, 968 Bellflower Street, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Jennifer Lee Christensen, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. Expires October 21, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5016. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583797

The following person(s) doing business as: Gudhurm, 5407 Gracen Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eat Laugh Lift LLC, 5407 Gracen 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: 7/13/21. Signature of Registrant/s: Maniya-Georgia M. Walker, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 20, 2021. Expires October 20, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5017. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583915

The following person(s) doing business as: You Didn't Ask with Frankie and Tish, 2000 Baylor St., Union City, CA 94587, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): You Didn't Ask LLC, 2000 Baylor St., Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/29/21. Signature of Registrant/s: Vanessa Mack-

enzie, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. Expires October 25, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5018. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583286

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Books by Melanie Bookkeeping Solutions 2. Books by Melanie, 637 Estates St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Books by Melanie LLC, 637 Estates St., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Melanie Antonio, Managing Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2021. Expires October 11, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5019. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583782

The following person(s) doing business as: Pleasanton Event Rentals, 4577 Las Positas Rd Ste A, Livermore, CA 94551-9615, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pleasanton Rentals, Inc., 4577 Las Positas Rd Ste A, Livermore, CA 94551-9615. 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: 5/19/2015. Signature of Registrant/s: Sherri Creighton, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 20, 2021. Expires October 20, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5020. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583257

The following person(s) doing business as: Softfact, 4841 Piper Glen Ter, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Arundhati Kulkarni, 4841 Piper Glen Ter, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Arundhati Kulkarni, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 7, 2021. Expires October 7, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5021. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 584041

The following person(s) doing business as: 3D Twin Solutions, 3865 Harvard Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Patricia Machado, 3865 Harvard Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Aaron Machado, Owner/Operator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 29, 2021. Expires October 29, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5022. Published October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE APPLICATION FOR FOREIGN TRADE SUBZONE EXPANSION LAM RESEARCH CORPORATION,

LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE FOREIGN TRADE ZONE 18

The City of San Jose, Grantee of Foreign Trade Zone 18, has applied to the U.S. Foreign Trade Zones Board for a Foreign Trade Subzone expansion for Lam Research Corporation, operator of Subzone 18F. The application was filed on October 21, 2021 pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act and the regulations of the Board. Subzone 18F consists of sites in Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark and Tracy, California. The proposed Subzone expansion is to establish a 4.4-acre site at 7364 Marathon Drive, Livermore, California. If approved, this site would be designated as Site 5. Public comment is invited from interested parties. The closing period for public comment is December 6, 2021. Submissions shall be addressed to the Foreign Trade Zones Board Executive Secretary and sent to ftz@trade.gov. A copy of the application is available in the "Online FTZ Information" section of the Board's website, www.trade.gov/ftz. A notice of the application was published in the Federal Register on October 27, 2021, FR Doc. 2021-23374, 11/11/21 CNS-3526460# The Independent, Legal No. 5023 Published November 11, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 584192

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Horse Heating and Cooling, 4315 Amherst Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jess Daniel Bouscal, 4315 Amherst Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Jess Bouscal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 4, 2021. Expires November 4, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5024. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583997

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Tri-Valley Pictures, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jacob Vital, 363 Holladay CT, Livermore, CA 94551; Francis Hamada, 785 Loma Verde Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94303; Rosalinda Ferdin Cruz, 2033 La Salle Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403. This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/21/21. Signature of Registrant/s: Jacob Vital, Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 27, 2021. Expires October 27, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5025. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583846

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Sunset Supply 2. Palisades Lumber 3. Integrated Technology Services, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pro-Craft Equipment LLC, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/26/2016. Signature of Registrant/s: David C.

Becker, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. Expires October 21, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5026. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 584171

The following person(s) doing business as: Paz Studio, 2200 Adeline Street, Ste 305, Oakland, CA 94607, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Colleen Paz and Associates Architectural Corporation, 2200 Adeline Street, Ste 305, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/1/2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Colleen Paz, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 4, 2021. Expires November 4, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5027. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 583992

The following person(s) doing business as: Luna Dance Collective, 5399 Hillflower Dr., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cecilia Cano Balboa, 5399 Hillflower Dr., Livermore, CA 94551; Lisa Wiedlin, 945 Fulton Way, Hollister, CA 95023. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Lisa Wiedlin, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 27, 2021. Expires October 27, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 5028. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. 21CV001944

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Mary Bowron and Joseph Pineda, 2837 Paltcham Common Livermore, CA 94550 Telephone: 925-784-3325
E-Mail: Pinedajoe80@yahoo.com
I filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name: Skyia Jennifer Bowron
Proposed Name: Skyia Jennifer Pineda
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: 1/14/2022
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 two 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: November 5, 2021 /s/ Judge Tara M. Desautels. The Independent, Legal No. 5029. Published 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021.

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Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

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tens 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.

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In light of worsening drought conditions, California Water Service (Cal Water) requested to move into **Stage 2** of its Schedule 14.1 (Water Shortage Contingency Plan) in the Livermore District by filing Advice Letter 2426 with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on October 20, 2021. Stage 2 restrictions include outdoor irrigation limits and increased water waste penalties. If approved, Stage 2 will become effective December 14, 2021.

Cal Water is hosting a public meeting to help customers understand and comply with these new restrictions. The meeting will educate customers on Stage 2 of Cal Water's Schedule 14.1, water-use restrictions, and a range of conservation programs and tools available to assist customers.

DATE: Tuesday, November 16, 2021
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550

Cal Water invites customers in its Livermore District to attend this public meeting to learn more. Customers can direct questions to Cal Water at (925) 447-4900 or infoLIV@calwater.com. More information is also available online at www.calwater.com/conservation.

Customers who would like to provide comments on this plan directly to the CPUC can write within 20 days of this notice to: California Public Utilities Commission; Attn: Program Manager, Water and Sewer Advisory Branch; Water Utilities Division, Room 3106; 505 Van Ness Ave., 3rd Floor; San Francisco, CA 94102. Please reference California Water Service Advice Letter No. 2426.



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