

Search for Missing Man Carries On

By Larry Altman

PLEASANTON — Despite intensive searches involving hundreds of professionals and volunteers, a Berkeley man's whereabouts remained a mystery more than a week after he vanished at Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park.

Through Tuesday, Pleasanton police and Sheriff's Office officials said that Philip Kreycik, a 37-year-old husband and father of two was either somewhere within the park and not found or not there at all.

"Like the community, we are frustrated and perplexed that this massive effort has

(See SEARCH, page 10)

Construction Projects on Schedule for The LVJUSD

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Board of Trustees recently received an update on the progress of Measure J construction.

The district completed a variety of projects with \$157 million of a \$245 million bond — passed by voters in 2016 — and more are slated for the coming months.

At Livermore High School (LHS), work has begun on a new athletic and aquatic complex. The sports facility is scheduled for completion next summer, with the pool ready the following year.

Bond Program Director Kim McNeely said the project is currently ahead of schedule, with a bud-

(See CONSTRUCTION, page 6)

Rep. Swalwell Puts Forward Two Bills for Public Health

REGIONAL — Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA) has introduced two bills that supporters say would better prepare the federal government to treat pandemics, such as COVID-19, as national security threats.

The National Security Council Modernization Act (NSCMA) would provide the secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), who oversees the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a seat on the National Security Council (NSC).

The Biosecurity Information Optimization for Defense (BIO Defense) Act would create a National Biodefense Directorate, formalizing a bipartisan plan enacted by Congress in 2016 as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, that includes the vice president and Cabinet secretaries.

The directorate would be charged with meeting regularly, hiring staff, and establishing uniform data collection methods to monitor and update national security risks posed by pandemics.

"COVID-19 must be seen as a wake-up call for the national security threats posed by major pandemics," Swalwell said. "Infectious disease outbreaks bring

(See BILLS, page 10)



The City of Dublin held its second Family Campout at Emerald Glen Park, Saturday, July 17. The event gave local families a chance to get a taste of the great outdoors in their own backyard. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]

District Welcomes New Superintendent

By Aly Brown

DUBLIN — Chris Funk's position at the helm of the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) officially began July 1.

He's now gearing up to tackle the unique challenges of a growing community returning to school after a pandemic.

The DUSD Board of Trustees selected Funk in May 2021 after an extensive search, which began in May 2019, following the March resignation of former Superintendent Leslie Boozer. Dave Marken filled the role on a short-term basis as the district searched for a permanent replacement from April 2019 until his resignation in June 2020. Daniel R. Moirao, Ed.D. then served as interim superintendent before Funk stepped in.

A native of San Jose, Funk comes to DUSD with more than 30 years in public education. Over the last nine years, he served as the superintendent of East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD), which consists of 16 high schools with a combined enrollment of approximately 26,500, as well as an Adult Education program that serves another 4,000 students. Prior to his time at ESUHSD, Funk spent five years in district office leadership roles in the San Jose Unified School District as the assistant superintendent of the Division of Instruction and director of Human Resources.

Noting that Dublin grew 93% from 2010 to 2020, Funk said he's excited to bring his experience of working for a larger population to the once-small DUSD as it adjusts to its rapid growth.

"The biggest thing I want to portray is that I'm here for the long haul. My track record shows that," he said. "I hope to bring stability. I hope to bring a level of professionalism. I hope to bring a level of engagement, and with that, I think trust will be built."

Funk said there's currently a lack of trust in the system, which he believes stems from its high turnover.

"The last four or five years there has been tremendous turnover, and turnover leads to a lack of trust," he said. "And when there's a lack of trust, even a good system will fall to the wayside, because there's no accountability and people begin to operate in silos."

As students return to the classroom this year following the closures from the pandemic, Funk recognized that students and staff alike will have a different set of needs in 2021 and beyond.

"We have to make sure we focus on the whole child, as well as taking care of our employees," he added. "It's about developing relationships and understanding that kids aren't going to respond to school as they did before the pandemic. We will be tasked with addressing the learning loss and trauma that's impacted so many families ... For some kids, they haven't even been on their elementary or middle or high school campus yet ... It's going to be a big transition. We have to welcome kids back at where they're at. I don't mean to say that we're not going to teach early on. I'm just saying we need to respond differently to kids early on than we traditionally have."

While it's another chal-

lenge, Funk said he's excited to problem-solve the issue of the district's bond program deficit. He reported that an external audit should come before the board in September or early October to explain how the DUSD's bond program became \$200-250 million underfunded from what was originally projected.

"I think one of the challenges that the district has faced in the past is maybe they didn't have the right levels of skill set from people who were overseeing the bond," he continued. "I don't think there was anything unlawful that took place — I think that people weren't skilled at monitoring the bond program."

Funk said that other possible reasons for the bond



Chris Funk

deficit included an inflation in construction costs and the district's decision to build new facilities on school sites instead of modernizing, when possible, as it costs more to build than to modernize.

However, when it comes to building new campuses to accommodate the DUSD's growing student population, Funk looks forward to the opening of Emerald High

(See SUPERINTENDENT, page 10)

Health Officials Call for Masks

Cases of COVID-19 Rise as the Delta Variant Circulates

By Tony Kukulich

REGIONAL — After a months-long decline in COVID-19 case rates in Alameda County, mounting evidence shows that the so-called Delta variant appears to be playing a key role in a recent surge.

In response, a coalition of eight Bay Area health officers issued a recommendation on Friday, July 16, that all people wear a face mask when indoors, regardless of their vaccination status.

"The Delta variant is spreading quickly, and everyone should take action to protect themselves and others against this potentially deadly virus," said Alameda County Health Officer

Dr. Nicholas Moss. "For masks to work properly, they need to completely cover your nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of your face and around your nose."

It was just over a month

ago that the state chucked its COVID-19-related restrictions, collectively known as the Blueprint for a Safer Economy. With a few exceptions, fully vaccinated individuals could refrain from wearing a mask indoors in most everyday situations as of June 15. Almost immediately, downward trends in the metrics that measure the spread of COVID-19 began to reverse themselves.

Alameda County data reported on the state's website www.covid19.ca.gov shows a daily case rate as of July 11 was 8.2 per 100,000 residents, and it continues to rise. By comparison, the case rate was 1.7 on June 1. Under the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, a case rate of 7.0 would have pushed the county into the most restrictive purple tier.

Hospitalizations have risen 86% since the end of June, with 114 patients hos-

(See VARIANT, page 10)

Water Quality Board Calls Contamination Clean-Up Plan Unacceptable For Eden Site

LIVERMORE — According to a June 25 report published by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, the city's proposed cleanup for contamination at the site set for Eden Housing in downtown Livermore is "neither appropriately justified nor acceptable."

Jean King, spokesperson for Save Livermore Downtown (SLD), submitted a press release stating that staff experts from the Water Quality Control Board "have raised new concerns about the city's plan to remediate volatile organic compounds in the soil and mitigate vapor intrusion risks to future residents at the site of the proposed Eden Housing plan."

The site of the future Eden Housing project approved by the council May 25 once housed a train depot and dry-cleaning businesses. The city has been tasked with remediating the volatile organic compounds and other chemicals of concern present at the site due to its previous uses.

The five-page, prelimi-

nary report also questions the city's contention that a ventilated garage "is an engineering control that mitigates potential vapor intrusion." The report states that "the consideration of garages as a VI (vapor intrusion) mitigation measures is relatively new and there is limited information on the subject."

The report outlines in detail further shortcomings in the city's clean-up plan and lists a number of areas where more information, more testing, and further reporting are necessary. The full report is available at https://bit.ly/Indy_WaterBoardReport.

According to the SLD community group, the report bolsters the lawsuit that it has filed against the City of Livermore and Eden Housing. SLD contends that "the city wrongly determined that the project was exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act."

"In fact, it is apparent from the report that the city approved the project without

(See CONTAMINATION, page 8)

Local Group Raises Funds For a New Shade Structure

By Ron McNicoll

PLEASANTON — Dignitaries wielded gold-colored shovels for the groundbreaking for a shade structure at Amador High School.

The July 14 event almost did not happen, because the \$225,000 to build the shaded area failed to get approval as part of Measure M, which Pleasanton voters defeated last year. But a new group in town — We Are Pleasanton — rode to the rescue with fundraising. Members assessed the cost, took their cause to the public as a single, specific project, and rallied a tremendous number of people to finance the project.

Todd Utikal, who owns the Side-Track Bar + Grill

in Pleasanton, organized the group.

"I know how to put people in a room," Utikal said.

He succeeded in rounding up 40 community members to serve as a board of directors for We Are Pleasanton.

Utikal saw that lumping many projects together for one big sum was the reason voters rejected Measure M. Focusing on one specific project at a time, so people could see tangible results, was key, he said.

Utikal shared his knowledge with Steve McCoy-Thompson of Pleasanton Partners in Education (PPIE) and won sponsorship. PPIE agreed to let its donors earmark money for

(See SHADE, page 8)



We Are Pleasanton, along with the Pleasanton Unified School District, broke ground to celebrate a new shade structure at Amador High School, Wednesday, July 14.

(Photo — Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]



TINK

PET OF THE WEEK

Sprinkle some pixie dust, and your wish for the perfect pet will be granted! Sweet three-year-old Tink is a delightful girl, who is drawn to people and eager to shower you with love. Keep thinking happy thoughts and apply to adopt Tink today by sending an email to info@valleyhumane.org! Valley Humane Society coordinates adoptions by appointment only.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society /M. Bontilao)

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The Asphalt Social Club held an informal car show along Veterans Way in Livermore, Sunday, July 18. The group gathers every third Sunday of the month to promote community outreach and downtown businesses. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]

Asian American Students to Honor War Veterans

The Asian American High School Alliance (AAHSA), in conjunction with Pleasanton VFW Post 6298 and Pleasanton American Legion Post 237, will honor and recognize the sacrifice of American military forces during and after the Korean War on Sunday, July 25.

The program, “The Unforgotten War for Peace,” will take place in the parking lot at 3550 Bernal Ave., in Pleasanton, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 25.

The Korean War began in June 1950 when the North Korean People’s Army invaded South Korea.

The fighting ended, officially, with a cease fire in July 1953.

More than 50,000 American troops died during the Korean War, and American forces have continued to serve in Korea during the armistice, which has now lasted 68 years.

In addition to recognizing several Korean War veterans from the area, organizers said there will be a demonstration of Asian games and crafts, along with traditional Korean dance and music, K-Pop (or popular Korean music), and Taekwondo demonstrations.

“We are coming together to remember what American forces did to preserve and protect South Korea,” said Joshua Sim, a student at Berean Christian High School in Walnut Creek who founded AAHSA to counter rising prejudice against Asian Americans.

“If we do not preserve and protect our heritage, how can we expect others to respect us?” Sim added. “Our heritage as Asian Americans is that we live in a free society where an individual can pursue his or her dreams and be judged one’s character as well as merit.”

Chamber of Commerce “Gets Back to Business”

Returning to its schedule of in-person activities, the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce (LVCC) announced its events for the coming months.

“We are absolutely thrilled to return to in-person events,” said Dawn Argula, LVCC CEO. “We are taking every precaution to keep our team, members and guests safe as we transition from operating on a virtual platform over the past 15 months. We look forward to seeing the faces of our members soon.”

Registration is required for all activities. On Aug. 18, Garre’ Winery is hosting the LVCC Mixer & Business Expo in an indoor/outdoor setting on its property. To maintain sufficient spacing, exhibits are limited to 30.

“Businesses are ready to get back to business with outreach activities,” said Argula.

On Sept. 30, The Course at Wente Vineyards is the scene for the Chamber’s second annual golf tournament. Last year’s tournament was strictly limited to fewer golfers adhering to all restrictions in effect at the time. This year, it will host 144 golfers and an after-event.

“In spite of COVID restrictions, a red-flag warning and a public safety power shut-off, 72 golfers had such a good time. We look forward to expanding this year’s event to allow many more golfers to enjoy the event,” said Argula.

On Oct. 28, LVCC hosts the Tri-Valley Mayor’s Summit luncheon outdoors at Wente Vineyards. Tri-Valley Chambers of Commerce rotate host duties each year.

“We are honored and excited to host this year’s event and the opportunity to introduce the newly elected mayors from the five Tri-Valley cities to the business community,” said Argula.

For more information and to register for these events visit www.livermorechamber.org or call 925-447-1606.

Newsom Calls for 15% Water Conservation

By Ron McNicoll

Gov. Gavin Newsom is asking California residents to voluntarily conserve water by 15% to help the state be better prepared for future droughts.

At a July 8 news conference at Lopez Lake near San Luis Obispo, Newsom said people should do their part by making sure dishwasher loads are full and household water leaks are sealed.

The conserved water will contribute to underground water basins, many of which are already at very low levels. Some reservoirs, such as Lake Oroville, are as low as at 30% capacity. Lake Oroville is a part of the State Water Project (SWP), which supplies most of the potable water in the Tri-Valley.

With climate change, much of the precipitation in the mountains fell in the form of rain, and even the snow that did appear quickly seeped into the ground, instead of forming a slow-melting snow pack, which used to be the norm.

Karla Nemeth, who once represented Zone 7 at state water meetings, went on to become director of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). Nemeth commented in an AP story about Newsom’s announcement.

“What we didn’t understand was we had this deepening and intensifying drought underground,” said Nemeth during the AP interview. “It really is the speed at which the compounding effects of climate change in soil moisture and ambient temperatures have made this drought a very different kind of drought. It’s no longer a slow-moving train wreck.”

As timely as Newsom’s call for conservation is now, Zone 7 was warning Tri-Valley residents as early as March that there should be 15% voluntary conservation, in the form of taking efficient showers and dishwashing. The directors backed up their concerns by putting more money into the agency’s programs that reward people to change their

water-wasting lifestyles. For example, the agency’s water-efficient lawn conversion program for single family homes, commercial and multi-family buildings will rise from \$750 to \$2,000. The increase will continue to cover up to 50% of the conversion cost. The maximum rebate for commercial or multi-family property

will increase from \$4,500 to \$6,000, also taking care of up to 50% of the costs. The result must meet certain standards, e.g. amount of lawn area seen from the street and types of plants that are certified as drought resistant.

For more information, see the Zone 7 page at www.zone-7water.com/rebate-programs.

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Clarification:

The July 1 article “Three Aim for the DA Office Seat” incorrectly stated candidate Pamela Price was a former public defender. The civil rights attorney began her career as a criminal defense attorney with the nonprofit Bayview Hunters’ Point Community Defenders office in San Francisco. The article also incorrectly said Price was raised in Alameda County. She has lived in Alameda County since coming to California to attend law school at UC Berkeley.

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Livermore FFA's Joe Hutchinson Named Master Showman at Junior Livestock Show

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Livermore chapter of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) recently hosted its Junior Livestock Show and Auction at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

Along with the traditional auctioning of livestock, the show also offered students the opportunity to demonstrate their showmanship skills and exhibit their animals.

chosen for each species, then the species champions compete for the FFA Master Showman Award.

This year's award went to 16-year-old Joe Hutchinson, president of the Livermore FFA.

"It's a special experience," Joe said. "Meeting people and all the new experiences I have had at FFA is something I really enjoy, and that's why I keep coming back. It's so much fun to

They're allowed to keep the revenue earned from the sale of the animal. Paige Fowler said most students save their money for college or put it toward their next FFA project.

This was Paige's first year showing steers with FFA, and she said the show went well for her. Even though she does not come from an agricultural background, she found her own place and plenty of new friends.

them."

Lori Porter, longtime volunteer, said this year's event was a big improvement over the virtual show held last year.

"The auction was a huge success," said Porter. "The support the kids got from the community — the people who came out — everyone was happy we were in person, and their support was tremendous. Most of the students are there for the experience of being in person with their friends and showing off their animals and last year was just rough having to do it virtually."

Porter's son, 17-year-old Joseph Porter, has been part of the Livermore FFA since he began attending Livermore High School three years ago. He currently serves as the vice president of the chapter and said FFA has been a great part of his time at Livermore High.

"My dad has been raising cattle since he was little, and my mom's family raises sheep, so I always knew I was going to be involved in FFA," Joseph said, noting that his grandfather was president of the chapter in the 1950s. "It is a great program and allowed me to meet tons of new people and make connections throughout California. It's a great extracurricular, awesome program."

Students in Livermore and Granada high schools who participate in the FFA program are supervised by agricultural teachers and FFA advisors. Joe McNealy is one of the mentors in the program. As a graduate of both Livermore High School

and the Livermore FFA, he said he enjoys passing on the tradition of agriculture in the Livermore Valley and teaching students important life skills.

"The auction is a great opportunity for buyers to buy animals that are really good quality meat, and it's an opportunity to help the exhibitors out," McNealy said. "We are a unique program

in itself because the students are taking a risk — they are investing in a livestock project and having the opportunity to manage it, keep records of it, market themselves and then have the opportunity to sell it at auction and make money."

For more information on the Livermore FFA, visit https://bit.ly/indy_FFAhome or email jmcnealy@lvjUSD.org.



Joe Hutchinson, president of the Future Farmers of America, Livermore chapter, took home Master Showman honors at this year's event. (Photo - Bob Bronzan)

Students participating in the show and auction can choose to show cattle, hogs, lambs or goats. During the show, they display their animals to the judges and are rated on both the quality of the animal and their ability to present the animal. A Showman Champion is

exhibit your project that you have been working on for months and seeing all our friends after the long year with COVID-19 was really a fun time."

FFA students purchase their animal at the beginning of the year, then care for it and practice their showing techniques until the auction.

The strategies she learned in 4H served her well when it came time to show animals with FFA.

"There are certain ways you are supposed to show each animal, based on the species," Paige explained. "So you have to work with your animal throughout the year to set up and train

Livermore Amador Transit Earns Financial Reporting Award

For the 25th consecutive year, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

LAVTA received the

award for its fiscal year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

"It is quite an honor for LAVTA to receive this award," said Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, who serves as chair of the LAVTA Board of Directors. "To have won the award for 25 consecutive years is

a testament to the LAVTA staff's efforts to be effective stewards of the public trust and ensure that our precious tax dollars are accounted for in an exemplary manner."

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the award in 1945 to encourage

state and local government agencies to exceed the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles in preparing their annual financial reports.

The LAVTA 2020 financial report is available online at the agency's website, www.wheelsbus.com.

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EDITORIAL

Working Toward Eliminating PFAs

What do pizza delivery boxes, waterproof mascara, Scotchgard, nonstick pans and microwaveable popcorn bags all have in common?

PFAs — or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances — the potentially cancerous chemicals that are contaminating our local water supplies.

Notoriously dubbed “forever chemicals” because they do not naturally break down, PFAs are costing local and regional water agencies countless dollars to clean up. A report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey even found that 97% of Americans have PFAs in their blood.

The unfortunate reality is that the list of everyday household items that contain PFAs is rather minor compared to the reality of chemical-containing products available on the mar-

ket. In fact, one June 2021 study published by the American Chemical Society (ACS) found that of the 231 cosmetic products purchased in the U.S. and Canada, more than three-fourths of the waterproof mascaras, almost two-thirds of liquid lipsticks and foundations, and more than half of lip and eye liners suggested the presence of PFAs. But the report further states that the ingredient lists on most of these products did not disclose this, “exposing a gap in the U.S. and Canada labeling laws.” And that’s just beauty products...

We absolutely can — and should — vote with our dollars. But what happens when it’s not as simple as avoiding a restaurant because you disagree with the company’s message? Our supply is inundated with these chemicals, and oftentimes, they’re snuck in under the radar. It’s not reasonable to expect the average

busy consumer with a job and family to know that “perfluoromethylcyclopentane” (found in shaving cream) sits under the PFAs umbrella — or which restaurants in town wrap their food in chemical-laced packages. As a result, consumers unknowingly support the products that unleash PFAs while simultaneously paying taxes to clean up the damage they cause.

Why not nip it in the bud?

According to Saferchemicals.org, the states of Washington, Maine, New York and Vermont have passed laws to ban PFAs in food packaging. Such bans have already gone into effect in San Francisco and Berkeley.

As the PFAS Action Act of 2021 moves forward, local municipalities might consider how they can further rid their cities of PFAs with local legislation. Let’s remove PFAs from our water, our products and our bodies.

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.

Aramis Project Misleading

Chris O'Brien, Livermore

Your recent article "Roof Top Panels Could Save Acres from Development" reflects exactly what Save North Livermore Valley (SNLV) and many others have been saying for several years. We have expressed over and over again that studies of roof top solar and conflict lands should be analyzed before approving solar projects on sensitive agricultural land. We have continually expressed this to county staff and the board of supervisors and our pleas have fallen on deaf ears. The approval of the Aramis project prior to a detailed study of the above is simply poor planning.

Now SNLV along with other groups and citizens who are constituents of the supervisors and especially Supervisor Haubert find themselves in a lawsuit with their own county for their violation of state zoning law and violation of Measure D. There was zero need for this had the county followed state zoning laws and performed the detailed studies as to where best to place solar and amended their general plan accordingly. Not to mention their violation of voter-approved Measure D. Finally quoting Mr. Gosselin in your article without mentioning that he is a paid consultant to Intersect Power the devel-

oper of the Aramis project is misleading as he has a clear conflict of interest.

Lack of Vision

Susan Mayall, Livermore

Recently you published a letter from Doug Horner, retired architect, and past member of Livermore City Council. His letter reflected my own disappointment with the development of the old Lucky’s site and the continued lack of attention by recent city councils to the wishes of much of the population.

In 1980, just before opening Goodenough Books, I took part in a city ‘walk around’ study of Livermore’s downtown, followed by group discussions in which we all suggested ideas for development. It took 25 years for any of these to be achieved.

Once Hwy 84 was re-routed, the sidewalks on First Street could become a narrower, shaded place, with wide sidewalks suitable for outdoor dining. The street is now filled with restaurants and downtown is a vibrant, attractive place.

It still lacks the small, interesting boutique style stores found in many small cities. There is little that would attract tourist traffic. The ground floors of the buildings in Veteran’s Park would have been perfect for this sort of retail - gift shops, kitchen stores, bookstores.

And we still lack a real park downtown, a comfortable place to relax after shopping or eating, a place to sit and chat.

I believe the decision to bring housing into the park was made in haste, for convenience, and without attention to detail, with no vision for what Livermore could be. What other city places tall, bulky housing in the last remaining space for a needed downtown park? Why does Eden Housing seem to have the last word on the size and design of the buildings? Doug comments on the ground floor bedroom windows facing directly onto the pathways - symptomatic of the poor quality of the design. Before the next council elections, we should think seriously about our housing problems, our traffic, and how to balance our city needs against the preservation of the wonderful open spaces around us. Who is considering walking streets, shuttle bus service and high rises with ground floor facilities, stores, playgrounds and gardens? What about zoning and its effects, and how to work towards a more varied and equitable society?

These are the questions that bother me. The park, the housing may be built as planned now and it will undoubtedly look better than the parking lot it was before.

But what an opportunity will have been missed.

Franken Not Welcome at Bankhead

Richard Good, Livermore

While Al Franken has accomplished much over the years, the most disturbing issue is the fact that he was accused of sexual harassment by no less than nine women during his time in the Senate. He resigned his Senate position as more woman came forward. This man does not belong at the Bankhead Theater as a guest speaker. His recent indiscretions outweigh any accomplishments that came earlier. If we 'Believe All Woman' then this man does not belong in Livermore. Please let the Bankhead Theater know Franken is not welcome here.

Please Learn from Your Ignorance

Bruce MacKay, Livermore

In response to Ms. Elphicke’s letter: I was born in England during World War II and grew up with rationing, and I understand hunger. I emigrated to the USA in 1967 with £50, the maximum the UK Government would allow. I have witnessed poverty in many countries, so when I read about Marcus Rashford and his campaign to feed children I was awestruck. What a great way to use his fame for the benefit of those less fortunate. Your comments are disgusting, and I doubt you ever missed a meal and were probably born with a silver spoon.

Since Trump emerged on the political scene racism and bigotry is on full display with his MAGA movement. Your disheveled PM BoJo with his MEGA mindset, aided and abetted by Farage et al is now faced with a real Mea culpa sucking up to President Biden. It’s impossible to make ignorant comments, and then say “So sorry, I misspoke, and meant no offense.” Imagine if I tweeted “Natalie Elphicke sounds like a very foreign name, and she is a racist.” How would you feel? Then I would tweet “Oops, I didn’t really mean that as Natalie is such a wonderful person.” Learn from your ignorance and dedicate your efforts to help create a better place than what it is right now.

Where is the Win-Win Solution?

Richard Ryon, Livermore

I, along with many others, applaud the organization “Save Livermore Downtown” for suing the City of Livermore over the continuing issue of Eden Housing’s plan for downtown Livermore. The whole of City government, from the Council through staff, seems of one mind to thwart the will of the people. From flim-flam pre-election statements to slick mailers from the City, the effort seems to be to simply wear down the majority who have a different vision for the City’s future. With the lawsuit, let us hope that a little good sense will seep into the collective mind of the City and negotiations can take place to settle out-of-court with a win-win solution for everyone. The time is NOW for serious discussion to take place. I concur with

the good sense statement published in this newspaper by Merlin Newton, Sr. He says, “We certainly want affordable housing. It is the proposed location that is the problem.” A much better location is just across Railroad Avenue to the north of the vacant land in question. The bankruptcy of the company building the complex west of L Street may present another opportunity to relocate the housing. As Merlin says, “At both of these locations, we could have more affordable units than the 130 Eden proposes, along with adequate parking.” What’s not to like about these possibilities for a “win-win” solution?

Be Creative

Thomas Soules, Livermore

I have been out of town for the past few weeks and noticed that some other cities are implementing affordable living by converting hotels and condominium projects into affordable living apartments. However, no one on the Livermore city council seems open to thinking outside the box to save the Lucky’s site downtown and provide perhaps more affordable living arrangements than the city plan. OK. If building north of Railroad is too expensive, what about other locations.? And what about the fact that the Legacy building right across the street that is half built may be available.

I don't know the details but my understanding is that the contractor Katerra has filed for bankruptcy and the building is on hold. It has been on hold for over a month. In spite of assurances by our mayor and Legacy, this is serious. It is costing someone huge amounts of money.

Has anyone thought seriously about buying these half-finished residential units and converting them into affordable living units? This win-win fortuity should be seriously explored. Is anyone on the city council listening to their citizens who do not have a financial interest in keeping the current city plan or does anyone on the council have an open-mind to this sudden opportunity?

Animal Cruelty

Meets Sexism
Eric Mills, Coordinator,
Action for Animals

Both the Livermore and Rowell Ranch rodeos feature a brutal, sometimes fatal and blatantly sexist event called the Wild Cow Milking Contest.

The cows are still lactating BEEF cattle, not dairy. As such, they are unused to being handled at all, much less this roughly. One of these frantic cows jumped the fence at the 2014 Rowell Ranch Rodeo, and suffered a broken neck and prolapsed eye. Another broke a leg at the 2004 Livermore rodeo. Both were euthanized, leaving orphaned calves. The Hayward Area Recreation & Park District (H.A.R.D.) boasts one of the more progressive rodeo policies in the country, though weakened in recent years. It states (in part): “The Animal Control Officer, the SPCA representative, and/or the veterinarian shall have complete and unilateral authority

over the treatment and utilization of animals/livestock. Contest events ... shall be limited to the following: bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, dally team roping, barrel racing and wild cow milking. Events such as steer dressing, pig and/or chicken scrambles, greased animal scrambles, cowboy teeter-totter, cowboy poker and mutton busting are strictly prohibited.” The mutton busting ban was imposed by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in 2019. Either H.A.R.D. or the board should add the non-sanctioned, brutal, sometimes fatal, and blatantly sexist Wild Cow Milking contest to the prohibited list. This event is a regular feature at both the Rowell Ranch and Livermore rodeos. Let the powers-that-be hear from you!

Come to the Table

Raquel Holt, Livermore

Important matters are often resolved around a table, so to speak. Participants are more open-minded to discuss the issue on hand and find solutions for the good of the general public. I urge Mayor Woerner and the city council to meet with concerned citizens regarding Eden Housing. Don’t close your ears to what the outcry is. Elected to your positions, your duty is to listen. What is it that many concerned citizens are voicing that prompted the lawsuit?

We want a park that is spacious and beautiful at the city center to be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. It will be the “crown jewel” of our downtown that we can be proud of. On the other hand, it will be dismal if tall structures for housing are built there instead, and to appease, provide a sliver of a token park. We urge the city leaders to find a better alternative where Eden Housing can be built.

Gerrymandering in Tri-Valley Has a Big Impact Elsewhere

Joseph Gracar, Castro Valley

Why does county supervisor District 1 include Dublin and Livermore but skip past Pleasanton to reach Fremont? It is because District 3 splits the Hispanic community in Oakland with District 4, so consequently District 4 needs Pleasanton to fill up its population count. And it gets worse. Districts 1 and 2 split Fremont, which prevents the large Asian community there from electing one of their own. When gerrymandering lessens the voting impact of an ethnic community, it is called “cracking.” Former Assemblyman Rob Bonta wrote new laws in 2019 to make cracking illegal for county supervisor districts. But those laws only work if the communities speak up against cracking. And it gets even worse. The new laws allowed independent commissions to draw new districts from the 2020 census, but Alameda supervisors decided to do it themselves. Call all the supervisors and tell them you are tired of being gerrymandered.

Will Rogers Was Right

Theresa Miller, Livermore

I can’t say it enough times; that perfect piece

of land in our downtown belongs to all of us, not just a select few. I applaud Save Livermore Downtown for filing the lawsuit necessary because the city council would not meet with citizens to discuss and create an alternative for an Eden relocation. Contrary to popular bluster, a proper poll performed by David Binder Research finds “4 to 1 majority oppose the flawed Eden Plan.” Will Rogers (1879-1935) is a person who exuded common sense and reason and had insight into politics and issues of the day. (Not much has changed since the 1920s and early 1930s either). Here I take license and rework his words a little. "American politics is the most obliging thing we have." All the (registered) voters that voted in Livermore have five people in the city "make-up their minds for them" every two to four years.

Who Speaks for Livermore?

John Marchand, Livermore

There have been a number of letters and ads demanding that the City of Livermore “Negotiate with Livermore residents” over the Eden Housing Development. The fact is that the City did work with residents and took thousands of public comments during the development of the Approved Downtown Plan. A committee with representatives from 19 community stakeholders heard from thousands of residents over a period of months to place all of the key elements that were required in the integrated plan. Those elements included open space, cultural facilities, parking, and housing, since housing funds were used to purchase the site. However, nowhere in any of the letters or ads does it suggest exactly who these “Livermore residents” should be or how they should be selected.

Let me suggest who it should not be. It should not be any of the people who created the “Central Park” drawing. That was created in secret with no public input or financial or feasibility analysis. It should also not be any of the major funders of the Measure Referendum. That referendum failed to garner a single endorsement from any local organization or elected representative. The failed referendum ignored the public input of which over 80% agreed that the downtown hotel should face Livermore Avenue. Instead, the referendum promoters spent almost a million dollars trying to convince voters that a 160-room hotel which included no parking should be built on L Street where Eden Housing had already been approved. It should also not be any member of the LVPAC Board which manages the Bankhead Theater. That Board drove the theater near bankruptcy. To save the Bankhead, which is now owned by the City of Livermore, the City approved a bond to retire the \$23 million mortgage, which would have been catastrophic during the pandemic. In fact, many of those same Board members actually funded the opposition against placing the

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

hotel next to the Bankhead. The hotel location was supported by Livermore voters by a margin of 2:1. These Board members have demonstrated that they are out of touch with the majority of Livermore voters. There is clearly a conflict of interest with some of these members who have refused to work with the City of Livermore. As proof, the Board will not allow any of our elected City Council representatives to attend any of their Board meetings.

False Statements About Stop HB 1927
Pete Stephenson, Livermore

In her nearly identical July 15 and June 24 letters to the editor, Madeline Brown-Vega makes several false and unsupported statements regarding Texas' HB 1927, a bill regarding permitless "Constitutional Carry" of firearms, which has since been signed into law.

Constitutional Carry is, with the addition of Texas, the law in 21 states. Vermont has had it since its founding, with the other twenty states enacting such laws since 1986. Decades of data from such states have not seen an increase in unjustified shootings by those legally carrying, excluding crimes by persons prohibited from carrying guns legally, such

as felons and the mentally ill. Indeed, criminals were already carrying illegally, and laws restricting carry by law-abiding people serve only to keep honest people defenseless against criminal aggression. In that context, it seems proper to me for Texas to choose to maximize liberty while not reducing public safety, but I recognize that the opinions of Californians carry little weight in the Texas legislature, just as the opinions of Texans are not considered by the California legislature.

She makes, without citing sources, claims regarding deaths caused by concealed carriers, and falsely

claims that such statistics are from a single year. After some digging, I discovered the numbers in her claims are from the Violence Policy Center (VPC) a strongly biased gun control organization with a long history of distorting the facts, and refer to crimes committed by alleged concealed carriers over all time anywhere in the United States rather than from a single year in a single state. Combining the VPC statistics with FBI crime data, it turns out that concealed carriers are -- contrary to Ms. Brown-Vega's implication -- considerably more law-abiding than the general public (and

police officers) and commit far fewer gun-related crimes per capita. Based on the facts, lawful concealed carry (whether with permits or Constitutional Carry) should be encouraged so as to improve public safety.

Since California's restrictive laws prevent readers from arming themselves with guns for protection from criminal violence while doing little to make our state safer, I urge readers to arm themselves with the facts against false and misleading statements and to encourage the California legislature to allow more

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

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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](https://www.HopeHospice.com/respite) or call (925) 829-8770.



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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.

According to a June 25, 2021 SF Bay Regional Water Board Report

Eden Housing Proposed Contamination Cleanup Levels Are “NEITHER APPROPRIATELY JUSTIFIED NOR ACCEPTABLE.”

Dangerous Contamination At Eden Housing Site

The soil at the site of the proposed Eden Housing plan, which has been used historically as a train depot and for dry cleaners, is known to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Yet in its rush to judgment, the City Council approved the Eden Housing project without fully understanding the dangers of contamination at the site.

Experts Raise Concerns About Clean Up Plan

Just weeks after the City Council approval, staff experts from the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board raised concerns about the city’s plan to remediate volatile organic compounds in the soil and mitigate vapor intrusion risks to future residents. Staff said that the city’s proposed clean up levels “are neither appropriately justified nor acceptable.”

Public Has A Right To Know

When the city wrongly determined that the project was exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act, they robbed residents of the right to know what is really beneath the site, how it might negatively impact future residents, and how the city will address it.

Lawsuit Will Force City To Follow The Law

That is why Save Livermore Downtown has filed a lawsuit to force the city to protect residents by fully following environmental laws. Save Livermore Downtown believes the safest choice is to move housing off the site entirely, to a nearby location where more housing could be built without putting residents at risk, and where the cost and delay of addressing the contamination would be avoided.

Save Livermore Downtown!

It's not too late to Save Livermore Downtown!

Sign the Petition at [SaveLivermoreDowntown.com](https://www.SaveLivermoreDowntown.com)



Save Livermore Downtown!

Paid For By Save Livermore Downtown

For the complete SF Water Quality Control Board report, go to <https://bit.ly/2V4EWPi>

CONSTRUCTION

(Continued from first page)

get of \$57.5 million. The 49,000-square-foot, two-story sports facility will include a main gym and a practice gym. There will also be locker rooms, a weight facility, dance studio, PE classrooms and team rooms.

Once the new gyms are completed, the existing gym will be demolished to make room for the new aquatic facility, with a 12-lane competition swimming pool and aquatic building.

LHS Principal Helen Gladden said it's a great time to be a Livermore High Cowboy.

"Livermore High School is grateful to the community of Livermore for the passing of Measure J, which is bringing many improvements to schools throughout our district," Gladden said.

"At Livermore High, great improvements were made to our outdoor stadium, and we are now witnessing construction of our new, impressive athletic complex building. Each day brings new excitement as we watch the building evolve."

In January, Granada High School (GHS) announced the completion of its athletic and aquatic renovation project following two years of construction. In addition to a new pool and two sand volleyball courts, the project added a new classroom building with a weight room, PE classroom, wrestling area and dance studio. The new facilities provide for a wider range of activities and instruction, giving staff and students much-needed resources to maintain the

high standards of education and competition the school has always offered.

"Thanks to the support of our community, we now have athletic facilities that match the quality of the programs themselves," said GHS Principal Matthew Hart. "I can't wait for everyone to be able to come back and enjoy the new building and pool and benefit from everything they enable us to offer."

The district's high schools are not the only campuses receiving a facelift. East Avenue Middle School saw the completion of a new classroom building earlier this year, ahead of schedule and within the \$15.6 million budget. The building includes 24,000 square feet of space with 16 classrooms.

New restrooms for staff and students were installed, as well as an infrastructure upgrade with new electrical service. A student courtyard will be open for use this fall. Also, new outdoor learning and dining spaces have been created, the PE area has been renovated and a new drop-off and entry area has been constructed.

At Joe Michell TK-8 School, students have been watching the construction of a new classroom building, gym and parking lot. The \$37 million project is currently ahead of schedule; the classrooms and gym will be ready for use this fall. The parking lot and drop-off area will be open sometime next year. The new classroom building is 24,800 square feet and includes 15 classrooms.



The new athletic and aquatic complex at Livermore High School is on schedule for completion this summer. This project, along with others in the district, was funded by Measure J. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

The new gym building will have 11,300 square feet with locker rooms, a music classroom, a maker space and an outdoor amphitheater. This campus also received an

infrastructure upgrade with new electrical service.

For more information on Measure J, visit <https://www.livermoreschools.org/>.

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

common lawful carry.

The Fund of Many Names Jim Hutchins, Livermore

California requires cities to provide housing for residents "regardless of income." Most cities comply by requiring the inclusion of affordable housing in new developments. Livermore, however, decided to let developers buy out of the requirement by paying "in-lieu" fees. The result is what you would expect – developers happily hand over the money so they don't have to include affordable units, and the city builds a sizable fund the City Council can use for the affordable housing projects it wants. As of July 1, 2021, the fund had \$14.2 million, with an estimated \$1 million or more a year coming in from developers.

The city code allows the funds to be used to "assist in providing affordable housing", including land acquisition, mortgages, subsidies, financing, and "any other assistance that will serve to increase" affordable housing. There is a downside to Livermore's approach. As a report by the Urban Institute said, this practice "could lead to construction activity that reinforces patterns of segregation" by creating neighborhoods populated by people of lower socioeconomic status. This was a concern voiced by Commissioner John Stein at the Planning Commission meeting on April 20. It was this voiced concern, and his characterization of the segregation with the use of the word ghetto that caused a subsequent uproar, with the Mayor and City Council threatening to remove him from the Commission. But after this infamous meeting, the Planning Commission quietly addressed the matter at the very next meeting. On May 4, the Commission changed the rules for new apartment developments by "amending the Livermore Development Code to re-activate on-site affordable housing requirements for rental projects." It is curious then why a fund this important doesn't have a formal name. City documents call it the Housing In-Lieu Fund, Low-Income Housing Fund, In-Lieu Housing Fund, Affordable Housing Fund, Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Housing Trust Fund, Housing Fund 611, and probably the most formal name, Fund 611 (the accounting line item in the city's budget is item 611, hence the name Fund 611).

One fund, but many names.

A Pure Democracy Owen Brovont, Livermore

While inconsistent quality of leadership has proven the usual source of instability of most societies, their Achilles' Heel has actually been the quality of their citizens. Disregarding the predominance of tyranny depicted in history, in a "pure democracy" all decisions flow from the body of citizens having the franchise; that is, the right to vote on all decisions affecting their society. The problem with pure democracy is that it is fragile and it is vulnerable. It is fragile because its direction is fluid and can too readily respond to short-sighted expressions of popular will. It is also sensitive and vulnerable to

the frequently undisciplined passions of its citizens. Passionate people, especially when they are shallow, ignorant and deceitfully led by glib rhetoric, are susceptible to joining in mob behavior and suspending their moral and ethical principles, which are ordinarily the basis of sound judgment. Mob behavior is often driven and cleverly guided by individuals who have motives not revealed to the mob. These leaders persuade the mob to do things that most of the participants would not ordinarily do were they not under sway of their passions which divorce them from reason and judgment.

A final criticism of pure democracy is that after a society grows to a certain size, pure democracy is impracticable because it is unmanageable and is therefore destined to become a tyranny of one form or another. For these, and other reasons, building a government based upon pure democracy is unwise. After several thousand years, the principle of people being free and responsible for their own governance has been judged the only morally and ethically satisfactory arrangement for living together in societies. This conclusion raised the problem of how to create a social structure where the citizens are free individuals and the society can manage itself effectively in ways that preserve that individual freedom. The solution is a Democratic Republic. A Democratic Republic retains the preferred features of a democracy in that the citizens are free to lead their lives as they wish so long as they do not deny that same freedom to other citizens. It responds to the requirement that it be manageable by periodic election from its members to represent their views in public forums where issues are freely discussed and weighty, impactful decisions require serious majority support. Does this describe contemporary American political practice? What are the consequences if it does not?

We Must Help Cuba Madeline Brown, Livermore

Cubans are currently suffering under authoritarian dictatorship, by which they are given no freedom of speech nor voting rights, and are undergoing a famine and a pandemic. Inflation rates in Cuba are increasing drastically, with the cost of rice rising from five Cuban pesos to over twenty Cuban pesos during June. Buying less than a month's worth of food costs nearly as much, if not the same amount, as the average Cuban's monthly wage. Activism and elections are prohibited, and Castro's regime has now been in power for 61 years. Along with the severe censorship in Cuba, the government has had a longstanding policy of starving its people. Donating to non-governmental organizations and signing petitions will not help, so it is our obligation as privileged Americans to spread awareness of what is occurring in Cuba, as Cubans cannot do this without putting their lives in danger. It is for these reasons that I beseech you to highlight this issue in your newspaper and arouse public interest as well as you can. We

must help Cuba before more people are hurt and more lives are lost.

Resolving Downtown City Plan Carol Chargin, Livermore

There is obviously a huge conflict between the Livermore City Council and the Eden Housing Plan and citizens of Livermore represented by the Save Livermore Downtown group. Each group accuses the other of not being totally honest in its representations of the situation.

People not pleased with the Eden plan are accused of being insensitive and elitist. The Save Livermore Downtown people list problems, such as crowding and parking as serious problems not being addressed and that more low-income housing can be included if the housing project is moved to the north side of Railroad Avenue.

What is the truth? Both sides must meet with their respective lawyers and present actual data. Each side must present its numbers including costs. Can the low-income housing be moved with the number of housing units increased? Can a large central park be made part of the Save Livermore Downtown project? The decision will become a part of Livermore heritage. It is a vastly important decision, and the people of Livermore deserve to know the truth as best as it can be ascertained. These meetings must be recorded so both sides can know the truth!

Perpetuating the Big Lie Glenn White, Dublin

I would like to respond to Owen Brovont's two questions from the 7/15/21 letters. 1. Yes, Washington and Thomas Paine suggested we choose more trustworthy leaders who are demonstrably honest and virtuous. 2. No, whatever unlisted faults the "Woke Generation" may have, the indictment from Washington and Paine would more likely fall upon the former President who cheated his wives, clients, employees, contractors and investors in addition to publicly proclaiming he left his wife for the best adultery ever and bragging like a spoiled teenager about grabbing women because of his wealth and status. What is more astounding is the weak character of the rank and file of the GOP that encourages weakness and cowardice in their party leadership exemplified by the Texas senator whose father was accused of assassinating President Kennedy and his wife of harlotry by Trump only to see the senator weakly grovel before his leader. The Republican Party willfully confuses neo-fascist loyalty to a leader whom they believe can do no wrong with American patriotism represented by the creed in our Declaration of Independence and our law of the land, The Constitution. This is evidenced by the ostracism of conservative patriot, Liz Cheney, who chose conservative patriotism rather than bending the knee to the unfounded accusation that the election was somehow stolen. When Republicans attempt to blame Democrats for not paying for the wall, they implicitly confess that they know Trump lied about Mexico paying for the wall.

Yet Republicans still cannot muster the honor, integrity or strength of character to explicitly acknowledge that Mexico paying for the wall was always a lie. Republicans demonstrate they are incapable of accepting accountability. The Party seems to have forgotten that in the history of the founding of our Republic, loyalists are the opposite of patriots. And the sycophantic behavior of a party that could not support a bipartisan January 6 Commission under the rules that they negotiated demonstrates their lack of character and good faith to act as a loyal opposition. Instead, they continue the tactics of the "Big Lie" and obstruction practiced by fascist loyalists in Germany and other countries. Whatever threats exist from "The Woke," they don't compare to the activists, militias, candidates and office holders who appear dedicated to the "Big Lie" that the only way Trump could lose is if the election was rigged.

Explore Other Options Maryann Brent, Livermore

Last spring, Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) paid David Binder Research to perform a balanced poll of 300 Livermore residents to learn their preference for keeping Eden Housing's current plan or finding an alternative. The results were super clear. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of those polled want an alternative plan. Only 17% prefer Eden Housing's current plan (<https://www.savelifivermoredowntown.com/voter-survey>). If executed, the current plan would wreck Livermore's traditional character and create frustrating traffic and difficult parking for anyone who might want to visit Livermore. Have the poll results led the Livermore City Council or Eden Housing to consider improving the current plan? Apparently not. They voted to proceed with the current plan in a location more suited to a generous public park that would extend the popular Stockmen's Park.

In the meantime, alternatives exist. Across the street to the west, the 4-story high Legacy project sits abandoned after its contractor Katerra filed for bankruptcy. This project could be condemned and used to fulfill Livermore's affordable housing needs. Additionally, land across the street to the north could be purchased and used for an expanded Eden Housing project. However, neither our city council nor Eden Housing has met with people who have found paths forward for better downtown plans. This behavior begs the question, "Why not?"

Past the Tipping Point on Climate Disruption Greg Scott, Livermore

Accelerated climate change disruption kills by more frequent and intense weather extremes. Weather is not climate, though any particular climate has a set of usual weather, and fewer times of unusual weather. We, as a world, are responding and reacting to weather extremes: we are not easing the climate crisis. ("Ways to Ease the Climate Crisis", Ann Brown, The Independent, 7/15). Only a repeated pattern of response(s) over

years and generations would be actions in regard to climate. Few of our current deeds are going to alleviate accelerated climate change disruptions in the near future, or beyond. Carbon dioxide has a 40% persistence in 100 years. According to a report from REN21, a green energy policy network, in 2009 the world obtained 80.3% of its energy from fossil fuels.

In 2019, after a decade of enormous installation of solar-electric and wind power, global energy generated from fossil fuels was 80.2% of our total energy production. Not much change there. We continue to be highly dependent on fossil fuels. In California 41% of our emissions come from transportation. The thinking is we are going to greatly reduce this by switching to electric vehicles (EVs). California has around 15 million registered vehicles with less than 1 million of those being EVs. Twenty percent of buyers who purchase EVs subsequently buy an internal combustion engine vehicle. We are not transitioning rapidly to EVs anytime soon. Getting under the shade of a tree is a smart move on a hot weather day, however, it does little to ease the changes we are causing to occur in climate. Planting shade trees is a wonderful idea, though realize the southeastern Amazon is now a carbon emitter and not a carbon sink. These little ideas of EV charging stations, planting shade trees and discouraging Net Energy Metering (NEM) rooftop solar-electric are tepid and inconsistent ideas at best, considering the scale of the climate change disruption problem. We seem to want to continue business-as-usual, or not far from it, which is leading us to brutal consequences. Our governorship leaders are bought, feeble and/or feckless on the climate problem. Only well-considered, broad changes will avoid climates that are antagonistic to humans and other species on which we are dependent. Anything else is an 'easing' fantasy, for we are past the tipping point and already through the looking glass on human-induced climate disruption.

Feinstein is No Racist Anthony Beckett, Pleasanton

A letter to the editor last week (in both local papers) caught my attention, not because of some truth it explained, but because it was obviously the product of listening to left-wing TV talking points and forming a flawed opinion without doing any research or fact-checking. When we criticize Georgia's new voting laws, we should, at minimum, research exactly what they propose (I found the facts pretty easily in USA Today.) The administration has no problem calling them "Jim Crow" and "an assault on democracy", for reasons one can only guess. In reality, the new provisions are pretty simple: expand voting hours and the time allowed to obtain a mail-in ballot and outlaw ballot harvesting and soliciting voters while they are in line to vote. The most egregious, and what democrats are really bothered about: it requires proof of identity of the voter. The hyperbole is baffling and dangerous,

and insulting to people the left claim has no ability to obtain ANY acceptable form of identification (a utility bill will suffice). The bottom line is this law will make it easier to vote - and harder to cheat. One can only wonder why the left is so opposed. Incidentally, a recent (Monmouth University June 2021) poll shows 80% was in favor of voter ID. One more thing: The cynically named "For the People Act" which is an attempt to unconstitutionally federalize elections, is anything but "for the people". Among other amazing power-grabbing moves, it also gives an incumbent a 6 to 1 match for any campaign funds they raise, and this comes straight out of your taxes, whether you even like the candidate. Think about it like this: Rep. Swalwell raises \$3 million for his reelection. We, the people, then get to pay him \$18 million in tax money, whether we support him or not. This is why Republicans call it the "For Corrupt Politicians Act". Don't fall for it. Sen. Feinstein is about as far from a "white supremacist" as anyone I know of and standing up for safe elections is to her credit, and I applaud her for it.

Missing Information on Solar Story

Robert Selna, Selna Partners, LLP

Larry Altman's July 14 article, Roof Panels Could Save Acres from Development – about a report concluding that rooftop solar can preserve lands that solar farms might occupy – provides background information on a man named Larry Gosselin and devotes several paragraphs to his opinions about the benefits of solar farms. In a glaring omission, the story fails to mention that Gosselin has provided professional services in support of the 350-acre Aramis solar farm proposed for North Livermore Valley, right in the middle of open space and agricultural land protected by Alameda County voters through Measure D. Specifically, Gosselin is one of two authors of the Aramis project's Agricultural Management Plan, a public document, available to reporters and other interested parties. On behalf of Aramis, Gosselin also has advanced the notion that the project is an "agrivoltatics" project, whatever that may actually mean. Many believe that Gosselin's work for the Aramis project is in direct conflict with his position as an Alameda County Agricultural Advisory Commissioner working on solar issues. Gosselin prefers solar farms to rooftop solar. Surprised? That would be fine if he wasn't providing professional services for one and not the other. In the July 14 article, Gosselin disputes the solar report's positive conclusions about rooftop solar. Gosselin argues that in comparison to solar farms, rooftop solar is too costly and does not provide enough energy. The July 14 article describes Gosselin as rancher and a former horse veterinarian. Wouldn't it have been more useful for readers to know that Gosselin has written reports that support the Aramis solar farm project and that he has advocated for its approval?

Bordes Returning to Firehouse For Evening of Caribbean Jazz

Jazz trumpeter Jeff Bordes, a local favorite who launched his career as a teenager growing up in Pleasanton, will return to the Firehouse Arts Center at 8 p.m., Saturday, July 24.

Bordes will be joined on stage by Duvone Dwayne Stewart, a steelpan virtuoso from Tobago, for an evening of Caribbean jazz.

Stewart was born on Tobago -- the smaller of the two islands that make up the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago -- and began performing when he was 8. He toured other Caribbean islands in his teens and by his mid-20s, he was arranging and touring Europe and North America with his six-

piece steel ensemble, NFM Fantasy.

"We are so excited to return to the stage to perform for an audience," said Bordes, a 1997 graduate of the Berklee College of Music in Boston who still lives in the Bay Area. "And for me, there's no better place than the Firehouse Arts Center for this homecoming."

As a performer, Bordes has shared the stage with jazz and pop icons alike. This will be his seventh appearance at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton.

Tickets are available at www.firehousearts.org/ events.

Dublin Seeks Members for Public Arts Committee

Dublin is seeking residents to serve on a committee to review proposals and make recommendations for two public art projects at Dublin Heritage Park.

The 10-acre park at Dublin Boulevard and Donlon Way includes several historic buildings, a pioneer cemetery, and picnic areas.

Residents will be joined on the Art Selection Committee by city staff and commissioners.

To apply, complete an application form at <https://dublin.ca.gov/FormCenter/Parks-and-Community-Services-9/Public-Art-Selection-Committee-Interest-64> by Monday, Aug. 2.

SHADE

(Continued from first page)

We Are Pleasanton.

Projected cost for the shade structure was \$225,000. Utikal went to the leadership class at Amador, taught by Sarah Marek. Together, they set a goal of raising \$27,500 for the cause. Marek suggested that other groups match the funds.

Utikal secured promises for matching from City Manager Nelson Fialho for a city donation, another from Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund, and a fourth from the Walker Family trust in Pleasanton. The pledges added up to \$110,000. Individual donors made up the remainder.

"People would throw in \$5,000, then \$1,000," said Utikal. "From October last year to this January, the \$228,000 was raised."

The shade structure won't open until 2023, when permits are obtained, but it

will play an important role in protecting students from harmful ultraviolet rays.

"The July 14 event almost did not happen, because the \$225,000 to build the shaded area failed to get approval as part of Measure M, which Pleasanton voters defeated last year."

Haglund was very appreciative of the group's work. "This We Are Pleasanton effort exemplifies one of the things I admire most about our community -- the generosity of the residents and businesses, and the way we find ways to step up for students together," Haglund said. "The Amador students and families will benefit from this generous gift for generations. I am so grateful for the community's support of our students."

We Are Pleasanton

Sunflower Hill to Host Fundraiser

Sunflower Hill will host a fundraising gala, the inaugural Sunflower Showcase, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Friday, July 23, beginning at 6 p.m.

"We are very excited for this unique, inaugural event, which will feature many of the Sunflower Hill residents and program participants," said Edie Nehls, Sunflower Hill executive director.

The nonprofit Sunflower Hill develops independent-living communities and provides life-skills and enrichment programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Several program participants will perform at the gala, which will be emceed by local comedian and award-winning storyteller Regina Stoops. Students from the vocational Futures Explored Film and Media Studio in Livermore will also introduce their short film, "Inclusion."

The evening will also include games, raffles, and live and silent auctions.

Tickets range from \$85 to \$220 and can be purchased through the Bankhead Theater. The Sunflower Showcase will also be livestreamed for those who wish to attend virtually. Virtual tickets are free and can be reserved on the Sunflower Hill website, <https://sunflowerhill.org>.

CONTAMINATION

(Continued from first page)

knowing what is really beneath the site, how it might negatively impact future residents, and how the city will address it," wrote SLD in its press release. "Save Livermore Downtown believes the safest choice is to move housing off the site entirely to a nearby location where more housing could

be built without putting residents at risk, and where the cost and delay of addressing the contamination would be avoided."

The city council, attorney and manager did not return requests for comment. Councilmember Robert Carling noted that he was away on vacation.

Tri-Valley Haven Offers Outreach Event

Tri-Valley Haven will distribute water bottles, sunscreen, hats, and other items to homeless men, woman, and children at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave. in Livermore, from noon to 2 p.m., on Wednesday July 28.

The Livermore-based community organization, which provides services to adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or homelessness, is currently accepting donations for its Summer Outreach Event.

Tri-Valley Haven is requesting bottled water, Gatorade or electrolyte powder, protein bars, reusable water bottles, sunscreen, hats, cooling towels, deodorant, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, handheld spray

bottles, men's and women's underwear, and lightweight tee-shirts.

Items can be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Tri-Valley Haven Community Building, 3663 Pacific Ave.

For more information, call 925-449-5845 or email ralph@trivalleyhaven.org.

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TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now Until Friday, July 23 Art History in Action

A creative and varied monthly curriculum introduces some of art's major periods, artworks and architecture, as well as the impact of different cultures, theories, materials, processes, techniques and audiences. The instructor will be Thomasin Dewhurst. There are multiple class dates. For more information or to register, visit <https://sforce.co/3ktrnkY>.

Now to Friday, July 30 Club V.I.P. Outdoor Girls' Beach Volleyball League

Participating in Club V.I.P.'s Beach Volleyball League, players will get a chance to work on beach skills and receive conditioning due to playing on the sand. This is for intermediate indoor players who want to play beach volleyball. The league will be 6v6 format. Included are practices, two hours, once a week the first three weeks. Scrimmages will be held at different cities within the Tri-Valley during the last two weeks of the five-week league. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3pPfdFx>. For more information, contact the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District at 925-373-5700.

Thursday, July 22 KINDERTRANSPORT by Diane Samuels (A Play Reading)

Livermore Shakespeare Festival presents the final installment of their LifeSPARC: The Victory of Spirit series. In partnership with East Bay Holocaust Education Center, Livermore Shakespeare Festival actors will bring life to a story about the Holocaust through a staged reading of KINDERTRANSPORT by Diane Samuels. This event can also be accessed via livestream, Tuesday, July 22, at 7 p.m., via Zoom, or as a recorded performance July 23 to 27. This event is sponsored by East Bay Holocaust Education Center. Tickets are \$15. For more information

or to purchase tickets, visit <https://sforce.co/35Y9gxe>.

Thursday, Aug. 12 Signs of Normal Aging versus Dementia

Hope Hospice's dementia specialists will discuss "Signs of Normal Aging versus Dementia," from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Since dementia dramatically changes the ways that individuals think, perceive, and communicate, caring for a loved one with dementia presents unique challenges. Hope Hospice's dementia specialists will discuss the nature and progression of dementia and the various diseases and conditions that can produce its symptoms. Participants will gain a basic understanding of the ways in which dementia can impact the brain and behavior. If you're caring for an elderly family member, Hope Hospice is here to help with a free education series, now offered as interactive classes through Zoom. Recordings of past events are also available on the website, too. To register, visit HopeHospice.com/family. For more information, call 925-829-8770.

Saturday, Aug. 14 Valley Dance Theatre 40th Season Gala

Last year was the VDT's 40th season, but due to COVID-19, the entire performing season was cancelled. This coming fall will be their 41st season, 40th year of being able to entertain audiences. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$300 for a table of eight. All proceeds from this fundraiser are to improve facilities at the school, such as getting a new floor in Studio A. There will be hors d'oeuvres, desserts, Livermore wines and beers, a no host bar, a silent auction, and raffle items, as well as performances from the Valley Dance Theatre's vast repertoire. Please RSVP by July 16 to Madison Adkins at maddie@valleydancetheatre.com

Thursday, Sept. 9 Living with Dementia: Dementia Basics

From 10 to 11:30 a.m., Hope Hospice's dementia specialists will discuss "Living with Dementia: Dementia Basics." Since dementia dramatically changes the ways that individuals think, perceive, and communicate, caring for a loved one with dementia presents unique challenges. Participants will gain a basic understanding of the ways in which dementia can impact the brain and behavior. If you're caring for an elderly family member, Hope Hospice is here to help with a free education series, now offered as interactive classes through Zoom. Recordings of past events are also available on the website, too. To register, visit HopeHospice.com/family. For more information, call 925-829-8770.

Monday, Sept. 13, 20, and 27 Experienced Singers Invited to Sing Mozart "Requiem"

The Valley Concert Chorale will open their doors in September to all Bay Area singers with a bold new project. Experienced singers are invited to sing the Mozart "Requiem" in an October performance with VCC members. Starting Sept. 13 and for the next two Monday evenings, singers will meet in Livermore to rehearse the great choral masterwork. Rehearsals are on Monday nights, Sept. 13, 20, and 27, at 7 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. Evening performance is Saturday, Oct. 2, at the same location in Livermore, at 7 p.m. There is a \$30 participation fee payable at the door. For more information or to obtain a registration form, visit valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003.

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

Dublin Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Thursdays, 4 to 8 p.m., at Emerald Glen Community Park, 4201 Central Parkway.

Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Second Street between J Street and L Street. Open Thursdays, April 15 to Nov. 18, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St., between J Street and K Street.

Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME

Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring everyone beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcasts of musician interviews and conversations about the music. Subscribe to listen at www.pacificchamber-orchestra.org.

Sunflower Hill Online Activities

Sunflower Hill posts new Online Activity videos created for people with developmental disabilities each week. Our archive includes over 140 free videos on yoga & meditation, movement exercises, cooking activities, scavenger hunts, arts & crafts activities, and more! Visit www.sunflowerhill.org/onlineactivities

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OBITUARIES

Janet Michelson Read 1939 - 2021



Janet Read died peacefully in her sleep on June 21, at her home in Washington, D.C. where she was under home hospice care following an earlier series of strokes. She was 82-years-old and is survived by her husband of 61 years, Jacques, and her two sons, Jacques, Jr. and Jeremy.

Janet was born in Paterson, New Jersey, the daughter of Dr. Henry Michelson and Marion Deuster Michelson. She spent most of her early years with her mother and grandmother in Georgetown, Delaware, while her father served in the South Pacific with the Army Medical Corps, returning to Paterson after the war. After Paterson public schools, she graduated with high honors from Douglass College for Women at Rutgers University in 1960, marrying Jacques in her senior year. She worked as a research assistant at Yale University's Laboratory of Applied Biodynamics, while her husband completed his

doctorate. Janet then earned a Master of Science degree in physiological psychology from Columbia University, while her husband was a post-doctorate there. Following the birth of their first son, Jacques, Jr., Jacques accepted a job as a nuclear chemist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The family moved to Livermore where a second son, Jeremy, was born. Janet either participated in or co-managed several local elections, including the successful SAVE initiative. She participated in Cask and Mask,

an amateur theatrics group that performed in the May School Theater, and in competition tennis.

The Reads left Livermore in December, 1972, part of the two-year assignment of over twenty LLNL scientists to assist the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, D.C. At D.C. Janet was a volunteer in the Congressional Office of Livermore's Representative, Pete Stark, became active in the local affairs in Bethesda, Maryland, the suburb where they lived, and decided to stay there at the end of the LLNL two-year contract.

As her sons approached college age, she took courses in accounting at Montgomery College, after which she worked at as an accountant at a succession of firms, using her income to pay for their education. She retired in 1995 in order to build an addition onto their Bethesda house in order to take care of her parents.

Dory Bothwell Nov. 17, 1936 - June 25, 2021



Dory Bothwell passed away on Friday, June 25, 2021, after a recent cancer diagnosis. Dory made everyone she met feel like they were the most important person in the world. Dory was a prolific cook in the kitchen, a lover of a good Chardonnay and the most fabulously dressed woman in any room.

Dory was born in Arizona, and later moved to Oakland where she graduated from Holy Names High School. She worked at Valley Memorial Hospital and Valley Care Hospital as a nurse for 35 years. At the age of 70, Dory returned to work as a nurse at the Santa Rita Jail where she worked for several years following retirement.

Dory is survived by her loving husband, Samuel D. Bothwell (Don); her devoted children Barry Mickleburgh (Patty) of Grass Valley; Stacy Babbitt of Livermore; Danny Mickleburgh of Livermore; and her stepchildren, Rene Bothwell of Austin, Texas; Catherine Ford (Andy) of Gil-

bert, Arizona; Jean Vahlensick (Jay) of Livermore; and Donnie Bothwell (Zandi) of Livermore. Dory is also survived by her 12 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, her sister Evelyn Orona of Washington, several nieces and nephews and extended family Janet Janes. Dory was preceded in death by her parents Armando and Isabelle Orona and her sister, Theresa Boisen. She loved her family beyond measure.

Dory's gregarious and loving spirit will be missed every day.

Friends and family are invited to her funeral Mass as St. Michael Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore, on July 28, 2021, at 11 a.m.

George Dunphy Oct. 4, 1935 - July 6, 2021



George passed away peacefully, with his family by his side, at Mt. Eden Hospital, in Castro Valley on July 6, 2021, at the age of 85. He lived in Pleasanton, California for the past 40 years, where he provided for his wife and two sons. He will be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, a passionate teacher and coach and more than a friend to many. George grew up in Emeryville, California and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on his 18th birthday. While serving his country, he was fortunate enough to make the command baseball team, where he honed his skills for the next level. After being honorably discharged from the Marines, George continued to follow his passion, baseball, playing for San Francisco State, while completing his schoolwork to become a teacher and coach. He began his teaching career in 1965 at Marina High School, home of the Titans. "Coach" Dunphy played an instrumental role in the development of a "big

time" athletic program, that sent many student athletes on to successful endeavors. He was well-respected by his peers, college and professional coaches and scouts, and was a pillar of the local community. When Marina closed in 1982, George brought his unique brand of education to Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo, California. His blend of dry humor and subject knowledge was like no other. He quickly gained the trust of the faculty and administration and became the athletic director and the Dons thrived. He officially retired from Arroyo in 2006, but never forgot where he came from. He still attended games and events whenever he could and kept in close contact with his friends, colleagues and past students from both schools. George's retirement from coaching did not last long. He was tapped to help build a resurging baseball program at Foothill High School, in Pleasanton, California. He coached for three more years and left a legacy that will last forever. During that time, he also worked with his sons at their medical supply company in Livermore, California, as a delivery driver. George was famous for only completing two deliveries per day, because he always knew someone at one of the stops and then had

to tell the story to everyone in the warehouse when he returned. The audience was always willing to listen to another great story. George passed as he lived, always thinking of others. He spoke of the lives he touched with such pride and thankfulness. He embodied the occupation of a teacher and lived the title of "Coach." As the saying goes: "He will always be number 14 in our playbook, but number one in our hearts." We'll miss you Coach. George is survived by his wife, Gerrie, of 56 years; sons Jon and Jason; daughters-in-law, Christy and Brandi; grandchildren Evan, Gabriella, Marcus, Lilly and Torin; sisters, Donella and Susan; sisters-in law Maddie and Laura; brother-in-law Tony; and many other close relatives and friends who will keep George's memories alive by continuing to tell his story, just as he would want them to. A small, private gathering will be held for George, to be followed at a later date by a larger event to include all those whose lives he touched. In his honor, the George Dunphy Memorial Scholarship has been set up at: www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org. An electronic version of the obituary is available at, www.Neptune-Society.com.

Carroll "Keith" McCallister



Carroll "Keith" McCallister, passed away at the age of 85 on July 8, 2021. Born in Asbury, West Virginia to Ernest and Madeline McCallister, he was one of 12 children. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his twin sister Kayle Harvey of Livermore; sister Elaine Allen of Richmond, Virginia; and brother Kenneth McCallister of Redding, California.

Keith graduated from Alderson High School in 1954 and moved to Livermore, California where he started his career in plumbing. He was employed by Tom Bailey Plumbing in Livermore and Bettencourt Plumbing in Hayward and worked on many projects around the Bay Area including the Lawrence Livermore Lab, Sandia, Oakland Airport and Eden Hospital. He was a member of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry. He

retired in 1990 after 34 years of service. He briefly came out of retirement and worked at McIvor's Hardware in Mission San Jose where he enjoyed helping customers and sharing his expertise.

Keith will be remembered for his sense of humor, friendliness and generosity. He was a selfless man and a caretaker at heart who enjoyed taking care of his pets and farm animals. His most favorite caretaker role of all was "Papa" to his only granddaughter Annabella

whom he adored.

Keith is survived by his wife Leona of 60 years; son Michael McCallister; daughter Donna Piazza (Joseph); and granddaughter Annabella Piazza. He is also survived by his sister Patricia Moore (Ken) of Glen Allen, Virginia; brothers Bob McCallister; Eddie McCallister; Joe McCallister of Redding; Jimmie McCallister (Shirley); Perry McCallister of Livermore; Sidney McCallister (Kay) of Pahrump, Nevada; Garry McCallister (Frances) of Alderson, West Virginia; sister-in-laws Gloria Monares of Stockton; and Susan Stewart of Bozeman, Montana; and brother-in-law Tom Stewart and his wife Mona of Yorba Linda, California.

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

Denece Decker Bowden Nov. 25, 1927 - July 13, 2021

Denece Decker Bowden, age 93, died July 13, 2021, in Mesquite, Nevada. She was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, on November 25, 1927, to Harold A and Julia Hiatt Decker. On June 9, 1949, she married Daloy Carl Bowden in the Salt Lake City Temple. Although Denece had a long career as a teacher and college professor, she delighted in being a homemaker and mother. Together they loved their eight children; Dennis (Diana) Bowden of Naselle, Washington; Renee Bowden Ranney (Nelson) of Mesa, Arizona; Gerrit (June) Bowden of Cheyenne, Wyoming; Celeste Bowden of Mesquite, Nevada; Lynette Bowden Cook (Grant) of Lathrop, California; Eric (Laura) Bowden of Frederick, Maryland; Rochelle Bowden Jue (Ed) of Livermore, California; and

Melanie Bowden Newman (Scott) of Montevieu, Idaho. There are thirty-six grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Her parents, husband, sister Beverly, and grandson Andrew, preceded her in death. A brother, Dale H. Decker, lives in LaGrande, Oregon. Denece graduated from Brigham Young University magna cum laude in 1949 and later earned two master's degrees at St Mary's University of California. Denece taught English and Latin at Brigham Young University during the 1950s while Daloy did his undergraduate work. Thereafter, wherever Daloy's work in nuclear health physics for General Electric Company took the family, Denece used her linguistics and literature training to teach classes in nearby colleges. She retired after teaching fifteen years for

the University of California at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, CA, where she authored texts and workbooks, including "Grammar Review for Technical Writers" and "Usage Review for Engineers." Her specialty was making grammar enjoyable and understandable via schematics and Venn diagrams for engineers at the laboratory. She was also the author of numerous articles on technical editing and English usage. Denece served in the Relief Society, Young Women and primary organizations of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints all her life. In later years she did genealogy indexing for the Family Search Program. According to her wishes she will be buried in Salt Lake City beside her loved husband.

Lois Iverson Clays Griebel Nov. 5, 1935 - June 27, 2021



Lois Iverson Clays Griebel passed away peacefully on June 27, 2021, in Pleasanton, California with her children at her side. She was born on November 5, 1935, to Vernee Herbert Iverson and Vennes Mercil Davidson in the small farming town of Salem, Utah. There she grew up in her grandfather Andrew Iverson's loving home with her parents, sister Vennes Vee and twin brothers Andrew and Amasa. Following the deaths of her father and later her grandfather, the farm proved too much. In 1951 Lois moved with her mother and brother Andrew to Salt Lake City.

At age 18, Lois boldly moved on her own to San Francisco, where a few years later in 1956 she met Russell Edward Clays. Lois and Russell were married in 1957 shortly before moving to his Naval assignments in Japan and the Philippine Islands. It was in Japan where they were blessed by the births of their children Nancy and then Russell Jr.

With the overseas assignments complete in 1962, the young family returned to the states to situate at a new assignment at Fort Meade. Plans were curtailed by tragedy when Russell Sr. was killed in a hunting accident in Cali-

fornia shortly after arriving stateside.

With the loving support of family, Lois settled with the little ones in Woods Cross, Utah where she met a kind man named Curtis Griebel. Lois and Curtis married on May 11, 1964. Their marriage was later solemnized in the LDS Manti Temple. Together they raised the children punctuated by moves to Colorado and California. In 1991 Lois and Curtis moved to their retirement home in Sandy, Utah. After Curtis passed in 2010, Lois continued to live in Sandy until relocating to California to be near her children in 2016.

Lois was a loving wife, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, great-grandmother, grandmother and a true friend to her children. She found great comfort in her LDS faith and took pleasure in the simple things of life: reading,

traveling, crocheting, candy-making, canning, storytelling and especially spending time with family and loved ones. She worked for 18 years as a KinderCare teacher and had a gift for teaching children. Lois looked on the bright side of life and treasured her happy memories.

She is survived by her daughter Nancy Clays of Livermore, California; son Russell E. Clays (Robin) of Tracy, California; granddaughters Jamie Clays, Lodi, California; Kristin Van Horn (Nick), Laton, California; Lauren Barding (Kyler), Tracy, California; grandson Gavin Barding, Tracy, California; sister-in-law Marie H. Iverson of Salt Lake City, Utah, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Curtis Griebel; husband Russell Clays Sr; daughter Sally Ann Clays; brother Vern Floyd Iverson; sister Vennes Vee Jones; twin brothers Andrew "C" Iverson and Amasa "D" Iverson; and her beloved parents.

Private interment will be in Salem, Utah.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the John A. Moran Eye Center, 65 Mario Capecchi Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84132.

Raymond O. Thompson July 24, 1943 - June 28, 2021

Raymond O. Thompson was born in Oakland, California July 24, 1943, to Lucille and Tommy Thompson. He graduated from Oakland High in 1961. In 1963, he married Marcia and they became the proud parents of Cindy and Carol. Ray was a firefighter for the Oakland Fire Department for 33 years, retiring in 2001. In 1984, he and June were married, and they shared 37 fun-filled, family-filled and friend-filled years together. Ray is survived by his wife June; daughter Carol Schilp (Chris); granddaughters Devinee and Hailee; great-granddaughters Lauren and Kayla; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Jim and

Lauri Hutchinson; and many wonderful nieces and nephews. Ray requested no services be held, preferring family and friends remember the good times, all the laughs and fond memories shared, and to his fire house buddies, the many years of great meals and jokes (usually played on each other). Special thanks to Bethany Homes of Livermore and to Hope Hospice for their exceptional and compassionate care during the 20 days Ray



was with them.

(Photo: Ray & daughter Carol with Dakota - May, 2021)

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

Thomas Deaton Oct. 5, 1940 - July 11, 2021



Thomas B. Deaton, cherished father, grandfather, brother and friend to all, passed away peacefully in his home in Livermore, California, on Sunday, July 11, 2021, at the age of 80. Tom was born on October 5, 1940, in Ola, Arkansas. He was the second of four sons to the late Mr. and Mrs. Boyd and Ruby Deaton, and the older brother to the late Wendell Deaton. As a young child, Tom's family moved west to Madera, California and later to Hayward. He attended Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo. There he met his first wife, Sandy Reposa, and later had daughters, Terri and Traci. Tom started his lifelong career as a communications installer for Western Electric in his teen years. This job allowed him to travel and work throughout the United States during the 1960s and '70s. While working at 140 West Street in New York City in 1969, he met Martha, his wife of 25 years. They had one daughter, Lena, and soon settled down in Livermore. Tom retired from AT&T (previously Western Electric) in 1998, took one

week off for vacation, then returned to work full-time for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where he retired again in 2003. He was a highly respected senior technologist-electronics and was well-liked by his crew. He took great pride in his work skills and knowledge. Whether at work or play, Tom preferred being outdoors. As a young man, he enjoyed working on cars, camping, waterskiing, fishing, panning for gold, dirt biking, traveling and fixing anything. Tom loved to help his neighbors and friends. He was nicknamed the "Neighborhood Watchman" because he observed and reported on

neighborhood activity while sitting in his garage drinking vodka-tonics and listening to Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon." He happily engaged with anyone willing to stop by to listen to his stories. When not at home, he spent time at a family friend's ranch on the outskirts of Livermore working on anything that needed fixing or finishing. At the "ranch" will be his final resting place. Tom is survived by his daughters Terri Cornejo and Traci Thomas of Aurora, Colorado; and Lena Deaton (Jason) of Goleta, California; his five grandchildren; Rindi, Rebecca, Devin, Jonathan and Morgan; his brothers Leonard Deaton of Olympia, Washington; and Jim Deaton (Cathy) of Marysville, California. To honor Tom's wishes to celebrate life together after his passing, we are having an open house gathering at his home Saturday, July 24, from 2 - 6 p.m., at 609 Los Alamos Avenue, in Livermore. If you knew Tom, you were his friend. We hope you can stop by and share a story.

Tyler Laymon Set to Rep USA at Nationals

By Matt Schwab

As the world shifts its gaze to the Tokyo Olympic Games this month, Livermore’s Tyler Laymon will be watching the men’s water polo competition with a keen eye.

That’s because Laymon, a stout central defender for De La Salle High and the 680 Drivers club team, is progressing rapidly in water polo. The 16-year-old was recently selected to the cadet squad for the USA Water Polo ODP Men’s National Team and will be traveling to Hungary on July 31 to represent the United States.

“Definitely excited,” Laymon said of the trip to Hungary, a country in Central Europe steeped in water polo tradition. “It will be cool to travel and play for the U.S.”

Laymon, a high school junior, dreams of competing in the Olympics someday.

“That would be super cool and definitely exciting considering we’re traveling this year and getting picked for the national team right before (the Tokyo Games),” he said. “I’m sure during some of our trainings we’ll watch the games, so that will be exciting.”

Laymon, a swimmer with the Livermore Aquacowboys, attended St. Michael School in Livermore where he also began his water polo career with the Livermore Lasers.

Last week, Laymon traveled to Irvine to represent the 680 Drivers in the Junior Olympics.

To qualify for the cadet



Water polo player Tyler Laymon of Livermore will travel to Hungary this month as a member of the cadet squad for the USA Water Polo ODP Men’s National Team. (Photo courtesy of AKI Cloherty Photo)

squad, Laymon had to first be picked for the Pacific Zone team, where he was then selected among 60 participants to try out for the national team. That number was then whittled down to 16 players who formed the cadet team.

Being a central defender in water polo requires toughness in one of the more physical positions.

“I love it, though,” Laymon said. “It’s definitely very physical ... It also helps a lot that I was a swimmer first, and (water polo) is kind of a sister sport. I would see kids, like the water polo team practicing, and I was like, ‘Hey, I want to give it a shot.’ My parents didn’t know what it was. We just signed up and went from there.”

Laymon looks up to his

680 Drivers coach Kirk Everist, a highly accomplished head coach at Cal Berkeley. He guided the Golden Bears to three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) titles in 2006, 2007 and 2016. Everist was also a three-time All-American, 1988 NCAA Player of the Year and two-time U.S. Olympian.

“He’s definitely been like a mentor now that he’s coaching our (club) team and somebody who has taught me (a lot),” Laymon said.

Laymon also credits Livermore Aquacowboys coach Alex Silver as being “Super supportive of both (sports) and letting me fill in when I can in swimming and helping me continue with my goals.”

Ogawa Takes Three Firsts at Nationals

Kekoa Ogawa of Livermore went undefeated this month at the Rocky Mountain Nationals youth wrestling tournament in Las Vegas, finishing first in the 116-pound weight class for both the Boys 15U and Boys 13U folkstyle divisions, and the Boys 12-16 no-gi Jiu-Jitsu division.

Paired with first place finishes at 116 pounds in the 13U division at the Who’s Bad? National Classic and the Rumble in Arizona national tournaments earlier this year, the performance

also earned the recent Junction Avenue K-8 School graduate a Triple Crown Champion trophy from RMN Events.

Ogawa also competed at the USA Wrestling 14U National Duals this year with the California National Schoolboy Duals team, where his wins contributed to team California’s national runner-up finish in freestyle wrestling.

Ogawa will be a freshman this fall at Central Catholic High School in Modesto.



Kekoa Ogawa hoists Triple Crown Trophy for taking first at 116 pounds in three 13U RMN wrestling tournaments this year.

DeGuzman Snags First in Junior Poomsae

Allison DeGuzman took first place in the Junior Poomsae Freestyle competition at the U.S. Grand Prix Western Regionals in Las Vegas last month and was also a member of the winning team for 12 to 17-year-olds.

Poomsae is a prescribed series of offensive and defensive moves in Taekwondo.

DeGuzman now moves on to the U.S. National Championships, sponsored by USA Taekwondo, in August and a chance to earn a spot on Team USA.

Guzman, a junior at Granada High School, was also selected to Team USA in 2020. She trains at the Elite Taekwondo Academy in Livermore and with the M-Team in San Jose.



Allison DeGuzman

Livermore Aquacowboys Place Fourth at Sectionals in Roseville



Pictured back row: Marcu Holunga, Lilli Chau, Coach Alex Silver, Jared Tovera, Bryson Huey, Nick Coltrin, Chris Rochez, Jack Davis. Front row: Maggie Robinson, Jacques Grove and Jack Hendrick. Not pictured but also participating was Minh-nha Kawamura. (Photo courtesy of Alex Silver)

The Livermore Aquacowboys placed fourth in the 30-team small teams division at the California/Nevada Sectionals, July 15-18 in Roseville. Each member of the Aquacowboys swam at least one best time over the course of the three-day event that featured over 60 teams.

Jacques Grove, Bryson Huey and Jack Hendrick all made the championship finals from the 11-member Livermore squad and achieved Junior National time standards. Marcu Holunga and Lilli Chau made the consolation finals, and the men’s 800 freestyle relay took seventh place overall.

SEARCH

(Continued from first page)

yielded no results. We feel we should have found Philip by now,” Alameda Sheriff’s Office Sgt. Ray Kelly posted to Facebook on Sunday.

“Our mission to find Philip this past week employed hundreds of professional search and rescue personnel from all over the state. We deployed multiple tools and technologies to include search dogs, drones, helicopters, advanced aircraft and the latest thermal and high-definition imagery.”

Kreycik failed to return home July 10 after telling his wife he was going for an hour run at the park. Police found his car containing the route he planned to run and his phone at the park’s entrance. Dogs tracked him to the start of the trail but lost the scent.

Hundreds of people, including police officers, sheriff’s deputies, search and rescue team members, and volunteers combed the trails for him to no avail. Officials called off their search July 14, but volunteers continued to comb the area.

On Thursday, Kreycik’s wife, Yao, told ABC7 news that “I know in my heart of hearts he’s out there.”

“He’s out there, and he’s alive and he’s waiting for us,” she said. “And maybe he’s dehydrated, maybe injured, delirious.”

Although they had ended the official search, authorities returned to the park on Sunday, July 18, and mounted another extensive effort, this time with the largest number of people involved. Kelly said the Sheriff’s Office deployed 169 professional searchers and support staff, along with 10 law enforcement officers and eight firefighters.

“We re-checked areas we had searched before that had limited access,” Kelly said. “We wanted to go back into those difficult areas to be 100% sure. These

areas included deep ravines with high angle rope teams traversing the steep terrain. We also searched private property areas, adjacent park land, to make sure we were exhausting every possible scenario.”

In addition, officers followed up on community tips. Part of a T-shirt located in a ravine was determined not to belong to Kreycik, Kelly said.

No new leads were developed.

“We truly feel we have done an enormous effort covering all possible scenarios,” Kelly said.

Last week, Pleasanton police said investigators were conducting interviews with Kreycik’s family and friends to learn more about him. Although Kreycik’s car was found at the park, police said officers believed Kreycik was either on the mountain or somewhere else.

Lt. Chris Niederhaus said the department’s entire detective bureau was involved in the investigation. Detectives were talking to Kreycik’s colleagues, business associates, family members and friends for any information that could lead to his whereabouts.

Anyone with information was asked to call the department’s tip line at 925-931-5107. Callers can remain anonymous.

Volunteers also continued their work to spread the word about Kreycik’s disappearance on social media, providing updates and calls for help.

“This amazing community continues to give us so much strength,” Allison Rogers posted on the Facebook page, Find Philip Kreycik. “Please keep checking back as we continue our search.”

Posters put out the call for help to create groups to go out searching.

“Did a crude overlay of

the (search and rescue) map and the community map,” Tony Orion wrote with his posted map. “If Philip ran the loop clockwise, and got disoriented or otherwise incapacitated around the north end, is it possible he saw I-580 below and started heading down there cross-country? I know it is mostly private property in that area, but perhaps they would be amenable to a search given the circumstances?”

Residents of other communities also offered to print and post missing persons flyers with Kreycik’s photo.

Eleanor Wiseman said she planned to pass out flyers in Berkeley and Oakland, and others promised to upload them to social media sites for readers in Danville, San Ramon and Alamo.

Kreycik is described as white, 5 feet 11 inches tall, 165 pounds. He was last seen wearing running shorts and a blue Suunto Armbit3 watch.

Monday morning, Tom Wooten said search leaders were planning “the best structure for the search in the week ahead.”

He put out the call for up to 20 volunteers. On Tuesday, search organizers said they strongly discouraged independent searches “as the ground that can be accessed by hikers has been thoroughly and repeatedly covered and we want everyone to remain safe.”

A GoFundme account (https://bit.ly/Indy_Kreycik) was established Monday to aid Kreycik’s family. A day later it had raised nearly \$50,000.

“Sending love and hope from England,” a donor, Louise Cooper, wrote. “Philip’s story popped up on my newsfeed a few days ago and I’ve been following ever since. What a wonderful community you have there.”

comed him, and he looks forward to working with the district that produces “some amazing graduates.”

“Our job as public educators is to serve every child,” he continued. “I will always try to find those gaps to see that no student falls through our system.”

VARIANT

(Continued from first page)

pitalized for COVID-19 in the county on July 16. And over the course of the month, the test positivity rate has increased steadily from 1.8% to 4.7% as of July 17.

Neetu Balram, public information manager with the Alameda County Public Health Department said in an email to The Independent that most new COVID-19 infections are in unvaccinated residents. To date, 70.4% of county residents over 12 have been fully vaccinated, and 82.9% have been partially vaccinated.

“Vaccines remain the best protection against COVID-19, including the highly infectious Delta variant. Unvaccinated Californians are not only at much higher risk of getting COVID-19 than those who are fully vaccinated, but they are also far more likely to suffer severe illness, hospitalization and death,” said the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in a statement sent to The Independent. “As we continue to see the real and aggressive impact of the Delta variant in rising case rates, we cannot stress enough how critical it is for eligible individuals to get vaccinated.”

Viruses are constantly mutating, and most mutations of SARS-CoV-2 – the virus that causes COVID-19 – have nominal impact. However, several variants

have caused concern among health officials worldwide. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) classifies variants as either of interest, concern or high consequence. While the CDC reports there are no variants of high consequence, there are four strains – the Alpha, Beta, Delta and Gamma variants – identified as variants of concern.

The Delta variant was first identified in India in December 2020, and it was soon the dominant variant in India and England. In June, it accounted for 49% of infections in California. Information regarding its specific impact in Alameda County was not available.

“As of July 9, there have been 104 Delta-variant cases reported among Alameda County residents,” Balram said. “Genetic sequence information on cases is limited, and no conclusions about local epidemiology should be made from this data.”

Increased transmissibility is a primary concern with the Delta variant. Reports indicate that the Alpha variant is 50% more transmissible than the original SARS-CoV-2 strain; the Delta variant is 50% more transmissible than the Alpha variant. With its significantly increased ease of transmission, the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions including masking and a plateauing of vaccinations,

health officials and others are concerned about the coming months. Worldwide financial markets slumped on Monday, July 19, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropping more than 700 points. Analysts put the blame squarely on concerns over the Delta variant and the likely impacts of another surge in COVID-19 cases.

“We are closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19 and its variants across our state,” said Dr. Tomás Aragón, CDPH director and state public health officer, earlier this month. “COVID-19 has not gone away. If you are not vaccinated, you are still at risk. Currently, the Delta variant accounts for approximately 36% of cases sampled in California, and we expect this to rise.”

As Aragón predicted, the impact of the Delta variant has grown since his earlier statement. It now accounts for 58% of all COVID-19 infections in the U.S. and 63% of infections in the region that includes California.

“After vaccination, masking is the next most powerful tool we have to protect ourselves and each other during this latest wave of infections,” Moss said. “Wearing masks, especially indoors and in crowded outdoor settings, will help us contain this more transmissible variant.”

SUPERINTENDENT

(Continued from first page)

School in two to three years. He further said DUSD is also exploring options for an additional middle school or possibly returning to a K-6 model, so that the middle schools are only seventh and eighth grades. The latter option is least likely, he said, as it could be disruptive to the

educational programs.

“I don’t know if it’s worth (the change to K-6), but it is an option, and we need to fully engage our stakeholders and educators,” he said. “Plans should be completed by September.”

Funk said the DUSD community has warmly wel-

Livermore Library to Host Conversation on Empathy

The Livermore Public Library will host an online conversation about “empathy” on Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Designed to encourage understanding, reveal common ground, and seek solutions among community members, the guided, interactive discussion will follow a format created by Living Room Conversations, a nonprofit formed in 2010 to “bridge divides through conversation.”

Librarian Paul Sevilla will facilitate the

conversation. Participants will select from a set of questions designed to encourage dialogue during each of three rounds of conversation.

This program will be presented via Zoom from 7-8:30 p.m. Space is limited and registration is required by calling 925-373-5505. Registered participants will receive a Zoom link a few days prior to the event. To access the discussion guide and view the list of questions, go to <https://bit.ly/3xIFvVv>.

Pleasanton Library to Display Art Contest Winners

The winning entries in the East Bay Holocaust Education Center’s High School Art and Writing Contest will be on display at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., beginning Monday, July 26.

Fifteen students from eight schools in the Tri-Valley and surrounding areas received \$3,500 in prize money for their entries reflecting the theme “Why is it important to remember the Holocaust?”

The artwork was judged by Anne Giancola, a professional artist and visual arts manager for the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. The written entries were judged by Deborah Grossman, professional writer and journalist and Pleasanton Poet Laureate from 2009-11.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 579636

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Internal Medicine For Pet Parents 2) Internal Medicine For Vet Techs, 757C North L Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Yvonne Brandenburg, 757C North L Street, Livermore, CA 94551. 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: January 2019. Signature of Registrant/s: Yvonne Brandenburg, Founder - General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 2, 2021. Expires June 2, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4905. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580255

The following person(s) doing business as: Marty's Joint, 73 Rickenbacker Circle, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Martin's Joint LLC, 409 N. O Street, 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: 6/23/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Martin Roberts, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 24, 2021. Expires June 24, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4906. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580008

The following person(s) doing business as: Ruby Aromatherapy, 122 S. Vasco Rd, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Thuy Truong, 2137 Otis Drive, Apt 212, Alameda, CA 94501. 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: 5/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Thuy Truong, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 14, 2021. Expires June 14, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4907. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580217

The following person(s) doing business as: Saltiz Delivery Service INC., 201 McArthur Boulevard, Suite B, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Saltiz Delivery Service INC., 201 McArthur Boulevard, Suite B, San Leandro, CA 94577. 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: 5/18/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Vanessa Ortiz, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 23, 2021. Expires June 23, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4908. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

STATEMENT OF

ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 559574

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Thai Express, 3032 W. Jack London Boulevard, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Registered Owner(s): Five Rivers, 1938 Enterprises, Inc., 3187 E. Ruby Hill Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 5/24/2019 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Corporation. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Rupinder S. Gill, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 15, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4909. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580056

The following person(s) doing business as: The Hummus Republic, 33032 W. Jack London Boulevard, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Five Rivers, 1938 Enterprises, Inc., 3187 E. Ruby Hill Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Rupinder S. Gill, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 15, 2021. Expires June 15, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4910. Published July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. HG21100693

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Stephanie Joy Lopez 2171 Beech Common Livermore, CA 94551 (925)315-1594 sjl_80@hotmail.com filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: **Present Name:** Stephanie Joy Lopez **Proposed Name:** Stephanie Ilana Cruz

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: 8/20/2021 Time: 11:00 AM Dept: 17** The address of the court is: Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612 A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following

newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: May 7, 2021 /s/ Judge Tara M. Desautels. The Independent Legal No. 4911 Published July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580361

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Quick-n-Safe Plumbing 2. Quick Plumbing 3. Safe Plumbing, 1715 Canterbury Lane, Hayward, CA 94544, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Yama Hossainkhil, 1715 Canterbury Lane, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Yama Hossainkhil, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 29, 2021. Expires June 29, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4912. Published July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 579987

The following person(s) doing business as: All Cross Termite, 8332 Davona Dr., Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Myung Hwan Hwang, 8332 Davona Dr., 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: Myung Hwan Hwang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 14, 2021. Expires June 14, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4913. Published July 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580611

The following person(s) doing business as: Gondola, 1678 Feldspar CT, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gondola Exchange, Inc., 1678 Feldspar CT, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Dong

Tran, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 8, 2021. Expires July 8, 2026 Legal No. 4915. Published July 15, 22, 29, August 5, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580570

The following person(s) doing business as: Sleeping Tree Pictures, 1011 Jones Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Silvia Turchin, 1011 Jones Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. 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: Silvia Turchin, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 7, 2021. Expires July 7, 2026. Legal No. 4916. Published July 15, 22, 29, August 5, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580571

The following person(s) doing business as: Bosschart Design, 1011 Jones Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aimee Bosschart, 1011 Jones Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. 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: Aimee Bosschart, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 7, 2021. Expires July 7, 2026. Legal No. 4917. Published July 15, 22, 29, August 5, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 580688

The following person(s) doing business as: Foss Garden Design, 761 Hilldale Ave, Berkeley, CA 94708, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Reka Foss, 761 Hilldale Ave, Berkeley, CA 94708. 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: Reka Foss, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2021. Expires July 14, 2026. Legal No. 4919. Published July 22, 29, August 5, 12, 2021.

C L A S S I F I E D S

ANIMALS

CATS/ DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656



Adopt a new best friend **TVAR** Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

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Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.

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

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PARKWEST CASINO 580 PUBLIC NOTICE Effective July 11, 2021

Chip Redemption Program

Parkwest Casino 580 is removing all previously issued \$500 and \$1000 gaming chips from circulation. These chips may be redeemed 7 days a week during business hours at the main casino cage from July 11, 2021 - August 31, 2021. Parkwest Casino 580 will not honor or redeem any previously issued chips starting September 1, 2021.

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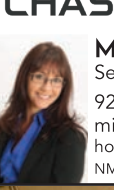
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BATCH Makers Market opened at its new home at Carnegie Park in downtown Livermore, Sunday, July 18. Halau Makana Lani Tri-Valley Hula School, based in Pleasanton, put on a hula dance presentation. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]

Museum on Main Schedules Free Family Days

The Museum on Main in Pleasanton will offer free Family Day activities, including crafts and hands-on demonstrations, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., one Saturday a month through September.

“Our goal for each Family Day is to provide families with free, unique, and fun learning experiences during those long summer days,” said museum education director Sarah Schaefer.

The first Family Day will be on the museum’s lawn, 603 Main St., on July 24, and will be “the perfect Family Day for the young and the young at heart,” Schaefer said.

Families will have an opportunity to play with old-time wooden toys, optical illusion games, traditional carnival games, and retro toys. They will also be able to craft toys of their own to take home, according to Schaefer.

Gallo Executive Joins Wente Family Estates

After 18 years at E&J Gallo Winery in Modesto, Hans Hartjens has been named chief financial officer at Wente Family Estates, the oldest operating winery in Alameda County.

“I’m beyond excited to have Hans join our organization,” said Wente Family Estates CEO Tyson Overton. “His experience and leadership capabilities will contribute significantly to our senior leadership team, and he will be an essential partner as we continue to grow our portfolio of brands for the future.”

Hartjens will oversee all financial operations for the 138-year-old Wente winery.



Hans Hartjens

At Gallo, Hartjens initially headed capital planning and operations finance, before moving to the commercial side of the business to lead the Economy Wine and Spirits business units. After becoming a member of Gallo’s international finance team, he managed financial operations for over 80 countries and 100 brands.

In 2010, Hartjens moved to the manufacturing side of the business to lead the finance, information technology, and supply-chain organizations for Gallo Glass. Most recently, he on an international assignment, based in Hong Kong and leading Gallo’s business and operation teams for the Asia region.

Tri-Valley Aims to Attract Science-Based Startup Companies

With the support from the I-GATE Innovation Hub, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, and Danville have launched an initiative to attract science-based startup businesses that turn technologies into products.

Organizers said the goal of the initiative, known as Startup Tri-Valley, is to make the region the “go to” location for science-based companies and entrepreneurs, and the industries that support them.

“We are dedicated to growing the innovation economy in the Tri-Valley by helping more startups succeed,” said initiative director Brandon Cardwell. “We do this by connecting founders and entrepreneurs with a tightly networked ecosystem of resources and expertise built specifically for science-based startups.”

Cardwell is also executive director of the nonprofit I-GATE, a public-private partnership that includes Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories, as well as the four Tri-Valley communities.

Startup Tri-Valley will serve as an information and networking hub, connecting people, companies, and ideas; sharing news and resources; and offering in-person and virtual networking events and workshops, Cardwell said.

The initiative will begin holding regular in-person and virtual networking and educational events this summer; the website, www.startuptrivalley.org, was expected to go online this week.

“The Tri-Valley is a great place to start and grow a company,” said Stephanie Beasley, who represents Sandia and is the current chairperson of the i-GATE board of directors.

“It has the capital, talent, expertise, and resources

needed to go from startup to scale,” Beasley added. “We are delighted to be partnering with our neighboring cit-

ies with the aim to build an ecosystem that fosters entrepreneurship and strengthens the local economies.”

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