Your Local News Source Since 1963

Schools Set Reopening Plans for **Next Year**

By Dawnmarie Fehr

REGIONAL — Local school districts have begun the work of planning for the 2021-22 school year and are expecting a return to a regular schedule. However, most are also offering virtual options.

As guidelines from the state continue to fluctuate, local districts prepare for a full open, but administrators caution that nothing is certain at this point.

"For next year, the guidelines from the state seem to be leaning toward the idea that schools are reopened fully, 100%, five days a week, full hours," said Sunol Glen Unified School District Superintendent Molleen Barnes. "This whole situation has been an ongoing, fluid movement, and if those guidelines stay the same, then Sunol Glen will follow suit. We are eagerly wanting to be reopened."

Other Tri-Valley districts echoed these sentiments. Schools in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin are preparing to open full time with students attending on campus five days each week. Some students in these districts have found a silver lining in distance learning over the past year, though, and will have the chance to continue their

(See SCHOOLS, page 12)

County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley Set to Retire in 2023

REGIONAL — After 37 years as a member of the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley announced Tuesday this week that she has decided not to seek a fourth term in the upcoming elec-

"I could not be more thankful for the career I have had in the best District Attorney's Office in the state and certainly one of the best in the nation," O'Malley said. "The overwhelming respect for this office is widespread and well earned."

O'Malley will complete her term that ends in the beginning of 2023.

"I will work as I hard as I have in the past as I continue to lead this office," she said.

O'Malley joined the District Attorney's Office in September 1984 and became the first woman elected to the position of District Attorney, taking on the role in 2009.

"As long as I have been in the office — first as a deputy district attorney and then in leadership as chief assistant and now district attorney — our actions have always been grounded in seeking the truth, fighting for justice and working with compassion for others," she stated. "We have consistently strived to ensure that the criminal justice system in California and Alameda County is more responsive, more aware and more humane for those who are accused, for victims of crime and for those who witnessed

(See O'MALLEY, page 12)



Residents at Stoneridge Creek senior living community brought legendary actors back to life for a two-day photo shoot. The photos will be features in a 2022 calendar. To read more, see page 9. To view a photo gallery, visit independentnews.com/multimedia. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Officials Say to Prep For Fire Season

By Tony Kukulich

REGIONAL — On the heels of one of the most destructive fire seasons in California history, local fire agencies have declared the anton Fire Department (LPFD) interim-Fire Chief Joe Testa. "I think people need to be prepared for that to happen this year, and the people that live in high

ers. The most significant incident, the August Complex, burned over 1 million acres across six Northern California counties on its way to becoming the larg-

"We've seen increasingly devastating fires over the last several years, which are likely to only continue to worsen."

start of the 2021 fire sea-

Drought conditions in Northern California caused by two consecutive winters of below average precipitation have upped the ante this year. As fire officials prepare their agencies for what is expected to be a long and difficult season, they are urging local residents to do the same.

"I think we need to be prepared this year for the neighborhoods that are susceptible for the public safety power shutoffs," said Livermore - Pleashazard areas need to have their properties prepared and also be prepared for the possibility of evacuation, if needed. We all need to be prepared for some smoky days in the Tri-Valley and hope that none of that comes true."

The 2020 fire season saw the outbreak of six of the 10 largest fires ever to occur in California, according to Cal Fire data. In total, more than 4.2 million acres burned along with nearly 9,300 structures. Last year fires claimed the lives of 28 civilians and three firefightest fire in state history.

Locally, the SCU Lighting Complex burned almost 400,000 acres and 222 structures in Alameda and four other counties, becoming the third largest wildfire on record in the state. That fire, sparked by lightning strikes in the early morning hours of Aug. 16, threatened the City of Livermore for a time.

"With the Del Puerto Canyon part of the SCU Lightning Complex, we were talking about and preparing to evacuate the (See FIRE, page 12)

Pandemic Leaves a \$20 Million Impact

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — At a special meeting held Monday this week, the Livermore City Council learned that the fiscal impact of the pandemic is about a \$20 million loss.

Doug Alessio, administrative services director, presented the proposed financial plan for fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 and FY 2022-23. He laid out a chart of figures that captured a portion of the last fiscal year, all of this fiscal year and the next two fiscal years to showcase the impact of COVID-19.

In terms of lost revenue, sales taxes took the biggest hit, with a budget projection loss of \$18.2 million; hotel taxes went down \$8.1 million. Expenses in the form of local business grants, employee overtime, personal protective equipment, facility improvements, business conditional use permitting, staffing, and housing and human services accounted for an-

other drop of \$6.4 million. The city received federal funding through the pandemic through the CARES Act in the amount of \$1.1 million. The salary savings amounted to \$2.3 million. The city is also expecting an additional stimulus check through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which was projected to be \$10.8 million. However, Alessio announced during the meeting that he had learned the ARPA funding has been revised to \$9.7 million. Adjusting for the loss of \$1.1 million in grant funding, the total impact

from the pandemic is near-

ly \$20 million.

Mayor Bob Woerner asked how Livermore will deal with the loss. Alessio called it a "foregone opportunity," as staff originally thought the city would have a general fund reserves balance at the end of this period of about \$4.5 million, but it will only be about a half million. To adjust, he said that the city typically places about \$2 million a vear into the infrastructure replacement reserve; about \$6 million now won't go into that reserve.

"We were also planning to make significant investments into stormwater projects, roughly \$5 million worth of projects that will have to be postponed or funded with other revenue sources," Alessio said.

(See PANDEMIC, page 12)

Eden Housing Project Plan to Go Before the **City Council Monday**

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — A project proposed for the Downtown Core will go before the council next week in a meeting that could span more than one day.

Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner said at a recent council session that the May 24 hearing for Eden Housing — the 130-unit, four-story affordable housing project proposed for the city's downtown core could take more than one day due to the anticipated number of public speakers.

The housing complex has seen its share of controversy within the community. Those who support it want the housing now; those who oppose the plans want the housing moved across the street to enable a park on the vacated land and create more units on the new location.

Supporters have called the project desperately needed, saying it would create more diversity within the city, build housing for a local workforce, provide construction jobs for union members and develop affordable units to meet state mandates. The project is supported by several Livermore and Bay Area anti-(See EDEN, page 6)

At press time, The Independent received a letter from land-use attorney Winston Stromberg, with Latham & Watkins, who represents the community group, Save Livermore Downtown. A story covering his comments will be posted online.

In his communication, Stromberg addresses legal issues affecting the Eden Housing project that will be considered Monday, 7 p.m., at the virtual Livermore City Council meeting. Comments from city representatives will be sought as well. Read the story online at www. independentnews.com.

Two Facing Charges in **Connection with Brothel**

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — Two men are facing charges of allegedly operating a prostitution ring in two Dublin apartments and using their profits to go on extravagant shopping sprees in Las Vegas, court documents show.

Zheng Xu, 32, of Fremont and Qiwei Liu, 29, of Hayward are charged in Alameda County Superior Court with a string of crimes, including conspiracy, pimping and money laundering.

A Dublin police investigation located two female sex workers alleged to be victims of human trafficking, police said.

Although the cases against the men were filed in 2018 — and relate to alleged crimes committed in 2016 and 2017 — they had not come to trial. Both men pleaded not guilty in 2018, court records show. No reason was provided regarding why the case has moved so slowly through the court system. The men appeared in court last week, and the judge scheduled the next hearing for August.

The allegations stem from February 2017, when Dublin police received a

complaint about possible prostitution activity in an apartment at the Sofi Apartments at 7100 San Ramon Road. According to a probable cause report written by a detective and filed in court, undercover investigators put the apartment under surveillance and "confirmed prostitution was occurring."

The report said Liu leased the apartment and listed Xu as his emergency contact.

As police watched, the alleged brothel ceased operations. Liu paid the rent and moved a limited amount of furniture from the unit, the report said.

Liu then began visiting the Park Sierra Apartment complex at 6450 Dougherty Road in Dublin. Undercover officers browsed online prostitution advertisements and "were directed to" the complex, where they "confirmed crimes related to prostitution were occurring inside."

While under surveillance, Liu, who had leased the apartment, was seen walking in and out with a woman. The police report said multiple men were seen entering and exiting the apartments Liu had

(See BROTHEL, page 12)

Airport Reports Increase in 2021 Complaints and Operations crease due to back in March

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — The Airport Commission recently reported an increase in complaints and operations for the Livermore Municipal Airport for the month of March during its regular meeting on May 10.

Both operations and complaints increased from March 2020 to March 2021. This year, there were 14,781 operations — defined as takeoffs and landings — up 65% compared to last 2020. Sean Moran, interim airport manager, said there were two reasons for the surge.

"This is a significant in-

2020, we did enact the regional shelter-in-place order brought on the by the pandemic," Moran told the commission. "So, we did see a significant decrease in our operations. We also did have quite a few days of inclement weather that hit around the same time, the March 16- to 24-time frame, so I'm happy to report we are up a significant amount."

Complaints also surged this year compared to last. In March 2021, 605 noise complaints were registered from the surrounding com-

(See AIRPORT, page 12)



Livermore Downtown Inc.'s Makers Market ushered in a display of dancers and vendors to First Street May 15 and 16. Seen here are Livermore School of Dance performers. To view a photo gallery, visit independentnews.com/multimedia. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK

One-eyed Jacky has been through the ringer in her short 10-month life. The nine-pound dog was found not only missing her eye but also suffering from parvovirus. Fully recovered from illness and trauma, this little lady is trying to make her way in the world despite being overwhelmed in new experiences. Jacky is looking for an owner who can be her coach and her cheerleader! Contact info@vallevhumane.

org for more information. (Photo - Valley Humane Society /M. Varma)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE -

Classifieds	13
Editorial	4
Mailbox	4
Obituaries	9
Poal Estato	12

COVID -19 Vaccines for Children Now Available	2
ab Develops Electrodes to View Brain Activity	. 9
Oublin Calls for Public Art Proposals	. 9
ivermore Statue Removed for Maintenance	9
Community Sports	11
Retired Livermore Cop Cars Go to England	

VISIT WWW.INDEPENDENTNEWS.COM FOR DAILY ONLINE NEWS-



In celebration of its newly remodeled store in Pleasanton, Lucky on Hopyard Road and West Las Positas Boulevard held a light drone show Friday, May 14. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Tour de Cure Bike Event Comes to Tri-Valley

By Ruth Roberts

A group of Livermore cyclists are pedaling toward a cure for diabetes.

Team members from Fremont bank are preparing for their annual Tour de Cure bike event on May 22 and calling on the community to support the Livermorebased ride.

The Northern California annual event is the largest fundraiser of the season for the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and this year marks the 30th anniversary of the ride. CO-VID-19 restrictions last year mandated the event be virtual. This year, the ADA will host another virtual ride on Oct. 22, but the local group at Fremont Bank added the in-person ride this month as a way to bring supporters together.

Kim Burdick, a Fremont Bank employee who lives in Alameda, is looking forward to his sixth ride for the ADA. His father and two brothers-in-law have diabetes, and the annual event is a way for Burdick and his family to show their support.

"Many of our associates know someone affected by diabetes," said Burdick. "The ride not only raises funds for the cause, it reminds so many of us that we are not alone in this fight."

The 15-mile ride will loop around Livermore, taking riders through Collier Canyon and ending near North Livermore Avenue. Fremont Bank will supply food and drinks for participants. There are additional routes for more ambitious riders including 30- and 60-mile courses.

"We have some experienced riders and some novice riders," said Steve Aubel, team captain. "Anyone can participate; it's an open event and all are welcome. I'm a diabetic so this is a cause near and dear to my heart. I'm very grateful (Fremont Bank has) chosen this as one of the communi-

ty-supporting charities." This year's goal is to raise \$20,000 for the ADA, and so far, Aubel said the team is nearly halfway to its mark. There is still time for individuals to sign up for the event or give to the

"By making a donation or joining our team, you will be helping the American Diabetes Association provide community-based education programs, protect the rights of people with diabetes, and fund critical research for a cure," added Aubel.

Through its ongoing fundraising and support for advancements in diabetes research, the Tour de Cure has helped over 34 million Americans living with diabetes. The organization was founded 75 years ago by a group of 26 health care professionals. In 1970, the ADA began welcoming the general public, and today has over 1 million mem-

Riders will check into the event in the parking of Fremont Bank, at the Livermore operations center at 2580 Shea Drive. Between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m., depending upon the length of the ride. To register for the ride or make a donation, visit www.bitly.com/teamfremontbank.

CDC Approves Vaccines for 12 and Older

providers Healthcare in Alameda County have begun offering the Pfizer-COVID-19 BioNTech vaccine to children 12 and older after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said last week the vaccine is safe and effective for adolescents.

"Vaccinating children has helped eradicate many diseases in our modern world and will help us end the COVID pandemic," said Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss. "Expanding COVID vaccine eligibility to younger children means we can increase the amount of protection our communities have from this deadly virus."

The Pfizer vaccine is the first to be approved for children as young as 12, although the CDC is evaluating other vaccines.

Stanford Children's Health is offering the Pfizer vaccine on a drivethrough basis at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

Kaiser Permanente is scheduling appointments for adolescents and accepting walk-ins at some facilities. A parent or guardian must accompany anyone under 18 or print out and complete the consent and screening forms on its website for the child to bring to the appointment. Children may also be asked to provide a photo ID and proof of age.

To schedule an appointment with Kaiser, go to www.kp.org/covidvaccine.

The University of California, San Francisco's Benioff Children's Hospital is also vaccinating children 12 and older at its outpatient center, 747

tration is required.

52nd St. in Oakland, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. To make an appointment, call 415-

COMING SOON

4587 Jeannie Ct

One-third acre lot!

\$1,400,000

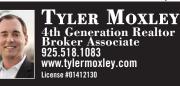
To find other providers offering appointments for children, go to www.My-Turn.CA.gov.

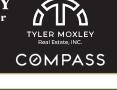




1.932 SQ. FT. 4 BEDROOM NORTH VASCO

6274 Altamar Cir, Livermore







4787 MULQUEENEY CMN, LIVERMORE 3 Bedroom • 2 Bath

1,250 Sq Ft.



925.518.2142

@nicolesweeneyhomes DRE #01965816

Always There For You



Offered At \$719,000

Cantabella Children's Chorus to Perform Springtime Concert Online

The Cantabella Children's Chorus will perform its spring concert, "Spring Up, Oh Well," online at 4 p.m., Saturday, May 22.

The concert will include two pieces commissioned for the upper-level chorus with a Pleasanton community grant.

The link to the free, 40-minute concert will be available throughout the evening at www.cantabel-

la.org. No advance regis-

During the pandemic, the award-winning children's chorus, based in Pleasanton,

continued practicing via Zoom. For the concert, chorus members recorded their parts individually. The recordings were then mixed digitally into a multi-part harmony.



145 ELVIRA ST., LIVERMORE 4 Bedroom • 2 Bath 1,670 Sq Ft • 6,500 Sq Ft Lot **Newly Updated** Offered At \$987,000



Always There For You **LEGACY** REAL ESTATE & ASSOCIATES



The upper-level Cantabella Children's Chorus will perform two pieces commissioned for the chorus using a Pleasanton community grant.

Livermore to Honor Vets Who Died Serving Nation

The Livermore Valley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7265 and California American Legion Post 47 will join the City of Livermore in hosting a Memorial Day Remembrance at Stockmen's Park on Monday, May 31, to honor those who died in service to the nation.

The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. with vehicle displays and include comments from Mayor Bob Woerner and representatives of the California State Guard and Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association. Afterwards, the Amador Valley Quilters will present Quilts of Honor to several military

Facemasks will be required for anyone over 2 years old, in keeping with Alameda County Public Health guidelines.

The memorial will also be streamed live on the city's Facebook page and available on its YouTube channel afterwards.



Dublin Seeks Feedback on Designs For Future Park in Development

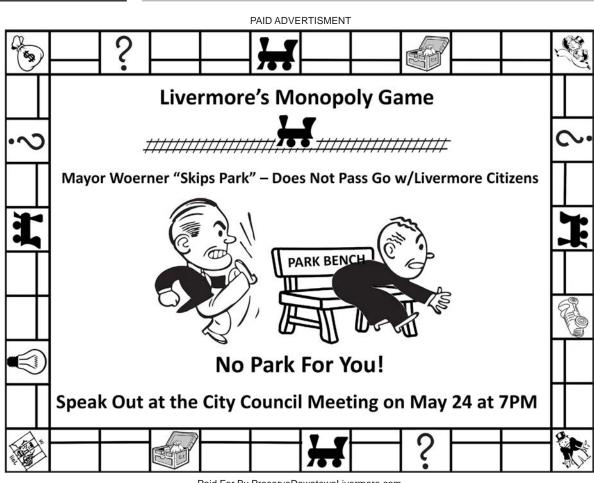
City of Dublin will hold an in-person community input meeting for residents to provide feedback on proposed designs of the future park at the Wallis Ranch development.

The event will take place outside from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the corner of Tassajara Road and Ruth-

On Saturday, June 5, the erford Drive. Attendees will get to review and provide input on three design

alternatives. To find more information about the future park's planning process, or to sign up for further updates on the project, visit www.dublin.ca.gov/2289/ Wallis-Ranch-Development-Future-Park.





For everything now, and everything that's next.



The pandemic has shown us the true power, precision, and innovation of Stanford Medicine in researching and fighting COVID-19. It has also proved that Stanford Medicine—made up of Stanford Children's Health, Stanford School of Medicine, and Stanford Health Care—is at its strongest when backed by a community committed to keeping everyone safe.

Thank you, Bay Area, for fighting alongside Stanford Medicine. For meeting this challenge, and all those to come, together.

Today. Tomorrow. Always.



Health Care

EDITORIAL How Should Cities Use COVID-19 Federal Funds?

As funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) comes in, the discussion around how to spend the money is on the minds of municipal leaders across the nation, including here in the Tri-Valley.

The immediate focus will likely revolve around stabilizing operating budgets, as cities work to identify projects that can be postponed in the coming years to account for loss in revenue and increased demand for services. It's an understatement to say that shorthanded city staffs have been working overtime with less funding. When it comes to providing aid to those in distress, we've seen a small business- and people-first approach from Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton, which is commendable. We hope to see this continue to drive the strategy in the years to come, as we work to recover.

A report by Brookings, a nonprofit public policy organization, noted that inclusivity should be one of the focuses in that strategy. "An important lesson from last year's CARES Act is that moving resources very people and businesses will in turn feed a city's economy.

quickly through existing systems can exacerbate economic and racial inequality. Many minority-owned microbusinesses did not access loans through the federal government's Paycheck Protection Program due to lack of awareness, lack of connectivity, and outright discrimination."

Identifying where these issues exist in the Tri-Valley will further the discussion on how to address them.

When it comes to spending the funds, Civilytics Consulting — which provides data science in the education, criminal justice and public finance sectors — reported five impactful ways cities can use their ARPA funding. That includes offering bonuses to essential workers, preventing evictions, supporting at-risk students, wiping out water debt, and providing trauma and grief counseling to constituents.

In the Tri-Valley, the needs of each city will vary, as will the way they decide to distribute the funds. Addressing the urgent need of hurting

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.

Livermore Airport Complaint Line Is Worthless Vishal Soni, Pleasanton

What is the use of a complaint system when there is no tangible action taken on offending aircrafts, pilots, or

All the airport is doing right now is collecting statistics on pain and sufferings of the residents of surrounding communities. Here is the actual response to one of the complaints of an aircraft flying too low over residential neighborhoods of Pleasanton.

The aircraft departed 25R, passing over Meadows Park at 900 ft MSL and crossing 580 over Hacienda exit at 1300 ft MSL. Your complaint has been logged."

In this instance, plane flew at about 500 ft (900ft mean sea level minus elevation of Pleasanton, which is around 400 ft) over residential neighborhoods. This is too low and too loud. This neighborhood is marked as 'avoid' in the Livermore Airport guidelines, which aircrafts, pilots, and operators are blatantly defying every single day, multiple number of times

Another question to Livermore Airport commission:

"Anyone can easily find out using third party apps like FlightAware about the planned landing takeoff about to happen during curfew / voluntary restraints hours. Can Livermore airport not get this information and proactively discourage such night time takeoff/landings?"

Answer received:

"LVK is federally funded airport and any aircraft is free to fly anytime of the day as many number of times it wants".

Given the apathy shown by Livermore Airport towards the pain and sufferings of neighboring communities does anyone think that expanding airport and allowing new Kaiser FBO is a sane move? Is Livermore City Council not seeing what Livermore city residents and neighboring communities are going through?

Eden Housing Project Is Ugly... Doug Horner, Livermore

. and does not complement the existing architecture of Livermore's downtown.

A block-long, four-story tall, vertical, stucco wall does not respect the existing downtown's attention to beautiful storefronts, window details, and use of materials that city government has treasured, demanded, and guarded for

I hope, for Livermore's sake, that the city council listens to their conscience and admits that this project is substandard in its design and does not reflect the quality present in the rest of the Livermore core.

I recommend that we take a pause and develop a new option that avoids building this bland behemoth in the center of our downtown.

This may involve moving some of the housing to nearby sites to lessen this project's density and sheer size. We can build better housing than this for our workforce. The proposed project would be an embarrassment to the downtown. I'm tired of the city's argument that their "hands are tied." The city has some of the best and brightest staff in California – we certainly have the wherewithal to develop a better plan if the council makes it a priority.

Shortcomings must be addressed:

Scale: During Measure P the city proposed four separate buildings of alternating heights. We now have two gargantuan buildings, all four stories tall. Break down the

Pedestrian Level: No attention has been given to the ground floor. We all love the current downtown for its lovely walkability and human-scale feeling. This project feels op-

Materials: Bland stucco walls with punched windows is not an appropriate level of quality for the exterior of new buildings in the downtown.

Design: I've heard the project called, "Santa Barbara Style," but it contains none of the delightful attention to details of that style. The ground level of the development should not be residential. Or if it must be - it should be constructed with quality materials like brick and with features like porches and balconies. The current design of the ground floor has us looking

into people's rooms. The housing project should relate comfortably with the existing downtown. It should not be a shoddy second rate development the city council feels it "needs to do." Great downtowns are a rarity and are precious. Let's hope that our city council agrees and is willing to put in the work to develop a better suiting project.

Stoneridge Drive Fatality Anne Fox, Pleasanton

This week, my Pleasanton neighborhood is mourning the senseless death of our one of our neighbors, Mark Fiala, a respected realtor well-known in town, who was tragically struck down this week in the crosswalk on Stoneridge Drive at Newton Way in Pleasanton.

This happened a few months after the city manager Nelson Fialho chose to place an agenda item to raise the speed limit between Kamp Drive to Trevor Parkway from 35 mph to 40 mph on a consent cal-

endar item, not a public hearing item, without informing elected officials that a previous city council had unanimously adopted ordinances, including Ordinance 1882, which made the stretch of road 35 mph. Furthermore, even though raising the speed limit near Mohr Elementary would affect the safety of students, elected school board members were kept in the dark.

The city's justification perhaps was a flawed report called "Segment 795," where Pleasanton traffic engineer Mike Tassano mislabeled the Hacienda School and Stratford School, a private school fronting Stoneridge that was one of the justifications for the original 35 mph speed limit ordinance, as a home-based family daycare called Garden Creek Preschool, which isn't located there at all.

A previous city council unanimously made the residential area east of Stoneridge Drive speed limit 35 mph for many reasons. Blindsiding the public by placing items that can seriously impact public safety such as raising speed limits to 40 mph on thoroughfares through residential neighborhoods and school zones as 'consent' items rather than 'public hearing' items recklessly endangers the public.

When local governments purposely exclude the public from the ability to participate in decisions that affect their safety through bypassing the public hearing process, it is not only irresponsible, but it seriously undermines any trust the public has for government whatsoever. Recklessly endangering residents that results in the loss of life is inexcusable.

Along with Fialho, the city council must put Ellen Clark, director of Community opment co-signer of the flawed staff report and the traffic engineer on administrative leave while they thoroughly investigate this bureaucratic blunder and the resulting tragedy that has shocked the entire community.

Safety Must Remain a Priority Donna Cabanne, Livermore

What is the most critical issue Eden Housing needs to answer? Possible contamination on

their site. The Regional Water Quality Board and the city are investigating contamination in the soil and the groundwater located on the property. The chemicals of concern include arsenic, lead, petroleum hydrocarbons, and volatile organic compounds. These chemicals can cause cancer, learning disabilities, and other serious health issues. The public and future residents have a right to know the level of contamination before the site is approved for housing.

Has the site also been checked for PFAs??? PFAs, or teflon contamination, has been found in soil and water in the Tri-Valley in high numbers, much higher than national averages. It is especially dangerous because its contamination half-life effects can last for hundreds of years. ("Tri-Valley in the top 10 to 15 percent for PFAs nationwide in 120 samples collected." Consumer Reports/Guardian March 2021) Contamination is measured using one part per trillion (ppt). This is equivalent to one drop of water in 20 Olympic-sized swimming pools. A common source of contamination is fire-retarding foam.

Livermore is particularly at risk, because for years, fire departments practiced putting out fires using fire-retarding foam at the Livermore Airport. Pleasanton has removed its well #8 from its water sources, because its PFAs readings are far above response reporting

The removal of this well represents 10% of their water supply. Cost to clean up three wells is \$40 million.

Why would the city move forward on a residential project at this site before the extent of the contamination has been verified and the site cleaned up? Why would the city allow housing to be constructed on a contaminated site?

Eden Housing must explain to the city and the residents how it will address these concerns and the cleanup. Any Eden Housing on this site must be delayed until the contamination issues have been fully evaluated and the results shared with the public.

The safest solution would be to move Eden Housing off the former Lucky site. We must have a safe downtown, free of contamination.

Email all city council members and ask them to move housing off this site. Attend the city council meeting on May 24, and request housing be placed elsewhere. Health and safety must remain our top priorities for the downtown.

Fix Downtown Plan! Ellen Raber, Livermore

I am extremely dismayed by the actions of the Livermore Planning Commission and the City Council concerning the downtown development plan.

Unfortunately, the decisions being made are not in keeping with the majority input from Livermore residents, respecting the desires of an open downtown area. The Eden Development plans have changed numerous times and our governing organizations seem more inclined to appease Eden rather than to be proactive in pushing back, coming up with reasonable options and alternatives and/or even another contractor that would satisfy the true goals for our desired downtown improvements. This is extremely unfortunate, and I am personally quite upset that our downtown will be a major disaster, and erhaps, worse than it would have been with no additional improvements.

Adding 4 story buildings and limiting open space is a city-planning mistake. It is also a well-known mistake to include low-income housing in one area. Most successful lowincome housing is integrated throughout the community, as John Stein tried to discuss. He may not have used the correct words for you all. I can use the word "projects" from the NYC area, or the planning commission can contact the Webster Dictionary and come up with a brand-new word if other words are so disturbing to you. Frankly, this is just another

diversion from the facts. As originally planned, we had all been told that this housing was going to be for lower income city workers, teachers, etc., and that made sense to me if the open space requirements could be maintained. I was hopeful that this would be sited north of Railroad Avenue, as it is a much better location.

This new plan is a "project" that does not belong downtown. The limitations in parking and the visual aspect of this new "project" does not suit the downtown vision as originally conceived. Please redesign and/or move this to north of Railroad, or better yet, integrate throughout the community, to allow for more open space as originally planned and approved by the majority of the community.

We have the opportunity to make downtown Livermore an outstanding plan for our community, and I am still hoping that this can happen. We have waited a long time for a great, open-space concept, which is not at all what we are currently going to see. This current plan is terrible and does not show any vision for a long-term concept that will promote a positive, sustaining community.

Consider My Voice Scott Lo, Livermore

I hope that City of Livermore can give every resident, not a specific group, a chance to express their opinion and viewpoint on "Kaiser Air to Livermore Airport," i.e., let every single Livermore residence has voting opportunity.

We have to avoid the possible skew problem. every voice puts together means the real voice of the whole Livermore, not a specific group's voice. Thanks in advance to City of Livermore for the consideration for my voice!

Falsehoods Lack Facts Glenn White, Dublin

I often read with amazement the false accusations without evidence that are made in the Independent's Mailbox.

One letter claimed the Biden Administration systematically bulldozed aspects of the U.S. economy and culture but provides no examples. This is similar to saying eliminating regulations creates jobs but never tying the number of jobs created to any regulation eliminated

The Big Lie technique, developed by Joseph Goebbels in the 1920s and 30s, is to repeat lies over and over again until people believe them. No evidence or examples is ever required by the proponents of this technique.

Another example of this technique was provided in the claim that inflation, wars in the Middle East and Africa and taxes to pay for them will come only from the middle class is implied to be only Biden's fault and not W Bush Administration for invading Iraq to advance the causes of al Qaida, ISIS and Iran because Bush had to lie about WMDs and protecting us from terrorism (not on 9-11) as he reversed Clinton's policies of fiscal accountability for unnecessary tax cuts for the rich, nor Trump's fault who further aggravated the situation by demonstrating that the U.S. will throw Kurds and other long standing allies under the bus and passed additional unnecessary tax cuts for the rich designed to drive up the debt.

I then saw in the same letter that Eric Swalwell was supposed to somehow react to these false accusations. Perhaps he was supposed to react in the same way the GOP reacted to the truth spoken by Liz Cheney. It's telling how the GOP proclaims Russian propaganda, falsely claiming that American elections are fraudulent, and other divisive lies designed to undermine our democracy in support of a twice impeached president who never won the popular

The recent GOP vote against Cheney shows that all Republicans have to be liars and proponents of Russian propaganda denigrating our constitutional republic and its representative democracy or they will be censured and attacked by Matt Gaetz, Donald Trump and their moral equivalents.

Simply stating the lie over and over again with any evidence is how right-wing nationalists from Mussolini to Vladimir Putin successfully undermined democratic institutions. Fascists, autocrats, and royalists believe in a leader who can do no wrong. So, whatever he says must be true whether it is or not.

Preserve Our Downtown James Hutchins, Livermore

In September 2020, when running for mayor, Bob Woerner addressed people's concerns about the housing downtown saying, "I believe it is still possible in principle to relocate the housing element ... The objective is to figure out the best feasible location by carefully evaluating all the factors."

He promised there would "be plenty of opportunity for public input and reasoned discussion of the potential benefits," saying, "I am sure there is a way to help the community come together.'

Fast-forward to after he won the election for mayor, and his promises all vanished. He has indicated that looking at alternatives is no longer "feasible" and is pushing forward each new Eden Housing proposal.

Since September, what the public has been shown has bigger buildings, inadequate parking, almost double the number of people in the same area, and now excludes the promised housing for police officers, firefighters, and seasoned teachers.

What changed? Woerner won the election and now doesn't need to care what the people say, at least until he is up for re-election in two years. What happened to the win-win" he promised to seek "to help the community come together"?

The fact is Mayor Woerner isn't a public servant. He is a politician, with all the baggage that entails. Politicians only act when they think it benefits themselves, not when it helps the people they were elected to serve.

Consider the recent issue raised by Commissioner Stein regarding Livermore's segregating of low-income housing into discrete projects, separate from market-rate apartments. Stein advocated for affordable units to be integrated into new projects, and was attacked for such comments. But he was right, and his comments resonated with many, and this became a problem.

So, at the next planning commission meeting, the ability for apartment developers to buy out of including lowincome units by paying an "in lieu fee" was quietly rescinded. It is only when politicians fear a backlash that they act in the people's interest instead of their own.

Seeking a "win-win" for our downtown is in everyone's interest, and our politicians need to be told that. The center of downtown should be a beautiful park for all to enjoy, not a series of housing units that will forever overshadow it. There are alternatives. People need to speak up for what they want and protect what they have.

Once it's gone, it's gone. A Crown Jewel for Our City

Mary Anne Rozsa, Livermore Next week, the city council will be voting on the Downtown Plan that will define our downtown for the future, and I am very concerned that the plan will be endorsed with no serious consideration of exploring moving housing north of Railroad Avenue.

Our downtown should be a destination for our residents and visitors to enjoy a significant park site for playing, picnicking, strolling, sitting, and just enjoying the surroundings. The plan now will not afford that with minimalizing the central park footprint, which will now be surrounded by excessively tall buildings with walkways and concrete, instead of an extensive park environment.

The Eden Housing needs to be relocated north of the downtown core, which would result in more housing and sufficient parking for the Eden residents.

Please Mr. Mayor and city council, have the forethought that this is the last chance to plan a destination downtown park, a crown jewel for our city and its citizens for the future.

The Fantasy Alternative Mark Palajac, Livermore

About me: I'm a retired finance guy. I worked with Joan Seppala and Ruth Gasten in 2020 to promote an alternative plan. I've been a commissioner for the Livermore Housing Authority since 2017.

The following are some data points regarding the viability of the alternative to the Eden Downtown Housing Plan:

· The Eden Plan has 130 units on 2.5 acres for a density of 52 units per acre, which is the zoning max. The alternative proposes 230 units on 2 acres, which is 116 units per acre, more than double the limit. That means there is less than half the living space per person.

The County A1 funding of \$14.4 million requires the land for housing be controlled

(See MAILBOX, page 5)



THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St. Livermore, CA 94550; (925)243-8000. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. For more information or to sign up visit www.independentnews.com. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The programment of the programment Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

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

www.independentnews.com

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

(owned) before award. The alternative location has several owners, none of them being the city, and cannot be purchased before funding expires.

The county informed the city that moving the approved plan to another site will trigger a new competitive award

Eden used unit sizes to be competitive for County A1 and federal funding. The alternative plan will have units half the size and has no chance of funding being awarded from county and/or federal sources.

The 100 incremental living units and double the parking ratio (two per unit) will drive up construction costs considerably and will make the per-unit cost exceed the statutory limit allowed for affordable projects. Without the possibility of affordable funding sources, the alternate plan will need additional funding of \$30 to \$70 million, or more, from non-government sources (\$10 to \$12 million to buy property; \$14.4 million to replace A1 funding; \$10 to reimburse the city fund for former Lucky site, plus funds to replace federally subsidized loans). These exclude provisions for the cost of a park.

· There is no funding source for the alternative plan.

There is no building partner for the alternative plan.

While I understand the desire to have a larger greenspace downtown, (I would like that too), there has never been a viable plan put forward as an alternative. The 'win-win' idea is an idea created by The Independent without any meaningful planning and no funding. The alternative plan is as real as the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy. Continuing to promote it only serves to provide another source of division in our community.

Seeking New **Council Members** Ann S. Lopez, Livermore

How disappointed I am with the elected officials of Livermore who don't, or won't, follow the wishes of the people who elected them!

Years ago, when the downtown project started, you let the residents of Livermore choose which of three plans they desired. Then, you proceeded to dramatically alter the most popular plan into what you now call the "Eden" plan.

If you go through with these drastic alterations, I, for one, will be seeking new council members when the next election rolls around.

Oppose This Project Anne Marie Etesse, Livermore

Why is our mayor not keeping his promises??

We all would benefit from a real park downtown. It would draw people, would be profitable for businesses and would benefit the environment.

This could be accomplished if the location of Eden Housing Project could be amended and moved across the street to the North. People are naturally attracted to nature and this park would illustrate Livermore citizens' priorities which are to value nature, for us, our children and our pets.

Please, I am urging you, oppose this project and do what is best for Livermore's future!

AB 1139 is a Money Grab Alan Marling, Livermore

Utility companies are trying to stop you from getting home solar.

In the California State Legislature, AB 1139 would allow utilities to charge a \$50 monthly fee on all low-income solar users. It would also slash the value of solar exported to the grid by 80%. This would make buying solar panels on your roof impractical, especially for communities that need clean energy the most.

When Friends of Livermore opposed the Aramis solar farm, they said we should instead rely on rooftop solar. While I disagree that smaller-scale projects can fulfill all our energy needs, they are part of the solution.

Call Livermore's State Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan and tell her you oppose AB1139. The bill is an unethical money-grab by utilities. Bauer-Kahan's office phone is 925-328-1515.

What People in Livermore **Really Want: Relocate Eden Housing** Mony Nop, Livermore

I often meet about five to ten people per week during my walk in downtown Livermore.

During the past few months of running into people in Livermore, they often asked me about what is going on in downtown Livermore. Our conversations often lead to Eden Housing and its current location. Most of course, do not know all of the many changes that come with the magnitude of this project. However, we always speak about our love for Livermore and what we would like to see happen in our downtown Livermore. I have now spoken to over 100 people during the past few months about our downtown and Eden Housing. can honestly say that 100% of the people I spoke with would like to see the city and Eden Housing work together and move Eden Housing to another location.

Seeing what is happening on the current Groth Brother's lot, everyone wanted more open space with a larger park in downtown Livermore, helping us to secure the uniqueness, charms and characters of downtown Livermore.

It is my hope that our mayor and city council members will listen to our residents and make the necessary changes to preserve our charms and characters of downtown by relocating Eden Housing.

Keep Small **Downtown Experience** Linda Newton, Livermore

As a longtime Livermore resident, my family and I have always enjoyed the unique character of our small downtown.

It has grown to be the "goto" place for residents and visitors. Yes, we need more affordable housing, but it should not have an overwhelming impact on our small downtown experience by creating excessive traffic and parking.

If the city wants to revise its original plans for additional Eden Housing, then the Eden Housing should be relocated where it could result in more affordable housing and parking, and not take away from Livermore's small downtown experience, character, or charm. When it comes to 'open green space' in downtown, we should have more, not less, where families and groups can gather safely outside and enjoy Livermore's unique small downtown experience.

More Elbow Room

Ben Barrientos, Livermore Math is simple.

100 more units just across the street. This will give the good people more elbow room around Veteran's Park.

AB1512-A Move to Steal the Alameda-Tesla Park **Expansion Area** Estelle Miller, Livermore

We have owned a Jeep

Wrangler for the past 10 years. I was happy to see that the SVRA is planning to allow 4x4s and UTVs on their expansion property. There are no other similar motorized recreational opportunities for us in the immediate area. The headline of your article, "Legislation to Preserve Tesla Park Moves Ahead," should have correctly read, "Legislation to Steal the Alameda-Tesla Park Expansion Area Moves

Assembly Bill 1512 includes a summary of a court ruling of Jan. 12, 2021, involving the environmental impact report and general plan submitted by Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area. SVRA was "directed to support both motorized recreation and motorized Off-Highway access to nonmotorized recreation.' The Court also directed the SVRA to "strike a balance to support both activities."

Ī believe AB1512 is a way to circumvent the courts because it only allows nonmotorized recreation. Governor Newsom in his 30/30 plan wants to expand "equitable reation. I believe that it is possible for the governor's goal of "sustainably managed landscapes and other conservation outcomes" to be achieved by working cooperatively and by both parties collaborating in the planning for this area.

The second part of AB1512 "The department shall work with other entities to have nine million dollars (\$9,000,000) appropriated, donated, or transferred to the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund ... by Jan. 1. 2025.

My father used to say, "I'd rather owe it to you than cheat you out of it.'

I think it applies here. The words "shall work" deliver nothing, and they want to deliver nothing by Jan. 1, 2025, which is four and a half years down the road.

AB1512 is a blatant attempt to by-pass the judicial system and deny the SVRA their right to resubmit the environmental impact report and general plan. AB1512 is not fair to those of us who love nature and drive motorized recreation vehicles, like UTVs and Jeeps. AB1512 is untruthful because conservation and off-highway motorized recreation can co-exist, and lastly, AB1512's plan to provide funds to the Trust Fund is vague and does not promise

This legislation should be taken off the table.

Own Your Past Tony Green, Livermore

I was reading the OPED section of this newspaper when I came across a posting titled "Critical Race Theory" written by Owen Brovant. As an educated person of color, I figured I should have come across this term at least once before.

There were quite a few noteworthy things the author noted. The article said that CRT is a dagger aimed at the heart of the American culture. Furthermore, he disputed racism is an underlying principle of social organization in America and that it shapes all relationships and institutions, including family structure, the constitute application of the Law, in the content of education and that "White Privilege" does not reign in America and the

western world. The reality is this country was founded based on colonialism and exploitation. The idea of the free labor provided by slavery whose profit drove the European concept of the manifest destiny using racism as a iustification prove these are the true tenets of an American culture vou claim to say CRT is driving a dagger through.

Finally, it stated that until the middle of the 60s, we lived in peace and harmony. Maybe for you and people like you, but not for people like me. Jim Crow laws and institutionalized racism have ept minorities from living in peace and harmony. How does the author define peace and harmony? As if his definition is relevant to me.

In short, this is a denial of the history which shapes what life is like for minorities in Livermore and through the country. Your description of CRT is reactionary and dismisses the question why scholars of color would derive such a concept if everyone was thriving in a political system which everyone, regardless of race, are experiencing success-

ful outcomes? The history of this country since its start has been dark, foul and ugly. It would be unfair to ask you and people like you to undo 400 years of turmoil since my people were brought here against our will. But I do not think it is unreasonable to ask you to acknowledge the past. What is so hard about owning our history? Denying the events which shape us today prevents us going forward and healing as a diverse nation which this country is moving toward as each day passes.

I beg you - Own our past! That is the only way we can move forward as a people.

No High-Density Housing Peter Buckley, Livermore

What is a downtown dis-

speakers to refer to a city's commercial, cultural and often the historical, political and geographic heart, and is often synonymous with its central business district.'

Meriam-Webster further simplifies it as, "Of, relating to, or located in the lower part or business center of a city or

Notice, there is no mention of high-density residential housing, but we'll get back to that.

Now, that's all fine and dandy for the universally acknowledged definitions, but what truly makes a downtown work? What is the human experience? The range of emotions we go through? The life events we share with longtime friends, and strangers alike, while participating in, and being part of our local downtown?

A downtown is a communal space, which celebrates not only the history of the town itself, but is a physical expression of a city's identity, the people who reside here, and most importantly, it's continued growth. From the public displays of art revealing the very soul of our city's residents, to the local business owners, of all ethnicities and life experiences, who excitedly share their passions, expertise and hobbies with anyone who cares to walk through their doors; it is a communal space of peace and friendship, as well as a place of business. entertainment and relaxation. A place to meet your future spouse, a place to bump in to an old schoolyard friend, a place to learn about another culture through experiencing their delicious food, art and music, a place to take your kids to catch a show, grab some ice cream or splash in a fountain, a place to take grandma out for her birthday, a place to enjoy a city sponsored festival, and most importantly, a place to make new friends, whether in

business or your personal life. Livermore residents have always fought for and prioritized their open space, a distinguishing feature that draws people to our little town; especially during this pandemic, where property prices continued to soar from people fleeing high-density areas of the inner Bay Area, showing how much they, too, value our open space. Our downtown, the heart and soul of our little semi-rural community, deserves open space for our ever-growing population to enjoy, not highdensity housing, chaotic traffic, and parking nightmares.

Is it Treason? Owen Brovont, Livermore

It would seem that our federal government, currently residing in Washington DC, is deservedly held in low esteem, a status it worked hard to achieve - especially the dismal performance of the United States Congress. Throughout the Trump administration, the Congress not only refused to undertake the business of resolving the many problems burdening the American people, but rather chose to spend its time in placing as many obstructions as they could devise, including concocting two unsupportable impeachments designed solely to distract and impede the President's effectiveness both domestically and internationally. It was an unvarnished example of a conspiratorial effort teetering on the ragged edge of treason - coincidentally, that is just exactly where our present administration remains today! In addition, the use of Presidential Executive Orders has evolved into rule by decree - a characteristic typical of tyrants. Executive Orders are now unnecessary because the democrats own control of both houses of Congress and could pass any legislation that is broadly agreed to be in the best interests of the country.

The deplorable truth is that the democrats are more interested in solidifying their control of the government for the foreseeable future by undermining the foundation of America's Constitution than it is in supporting and strengthening America's security in a world that appears to grow more unstable daily. Its failure to implement immigration management in conformity with immigration laws is a major item in its strategy to maintain control. By creating millions of new citizens who are unschooled in American history and the idea of limited government, they will be vulnerable targets of deceit and propaganda of the leftist factions in control – as documented history has revealed of all communist governments.

The talk of making Washington DC into a state is a wonderfully obvious example of the arguments above. Washington DC is 61.05 miles2 in area with a population of 689,545 according to the 2020 census. To give a state of 61.05 square miles influence in the senate equal to California, a state of 163,696 miles2 with a population of 39,512,223 effectively gives one vote of a citizen of DC the same value as the votes of 57 citizens of California! The disparity of influence would violate the principle of each citizen having one-vote and would give the powerful tool of obstructionism in the senate to the population of one city! The country has suffered enough congressional gridlock, don't make it permanent.

Livermore Downtown Specific Plan Jean King, Livermore

The Livermore Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) in its 13 chapters, sets the standards, rules, strategies, and policies for Livermore downtown's parking, transit, streets, housing density and design, historic structures, lighting, landscaping, signage, dining, financing,

Most importantly was the stated purpose or goal of the adopted DSP:

town Core is to revitalize the City's historic core area as the center of the City of Livermore. The primary intent of this Plan Area is to promote the continued development and revitalization of the City's pedestrian-oriented Downtown district that serves as the center of the Livermore Community, its most unique shopping district, and as a neighborhood hub for the residences within and surrounding it. Its shopping areas will provide high quality specialty sales and services that are in keeping with the distinctive character of Downtown; discount stores are not intended for this district. Development Standards for the Downtown Core are targeted towards re-establishing Downtown's identity as a compelling place for shoppers, investors, residents and visitors, requiring development that is in line with Downtown's traditions and preserves its historic heritage. They require a mix of stores intended to draw people down-

"The purpose of the Down-

together downtown." Since its adoption in 2004, after three years of a vision process, including public workshops and hearings, city councils followed those goals and produced the successful downtown that we have now. Can it be made better by following these goals? YES!

town during the day, evenings,

and on weekends, an improved

streetscape to provide down-

town visitors with a pleasant

pedestrian experience, and a

series of public spaces to pro-

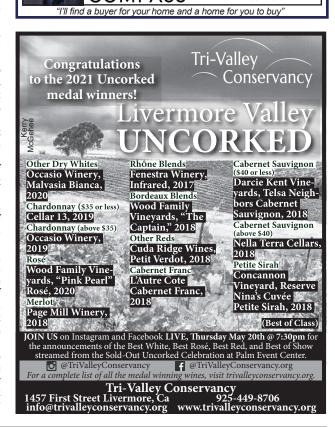
vide places for citizens to come

The present city council seems determined to violate the standards and goals of the DSP and the community. Our present council has the opportunity to add a public, activated park to enrich and compliment the amenities of the area.

Instead, it is moving forward with more massive, 4-story housing units to dominate our downtown. Was that

(See MAILBOX, page 8)







EDEN

(Continued from first page)

poverty and environmental organizations, including the Livermore Housing Authority, East Bay Housing Organizations, the Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative and Greenbelt Alliance. Speakers from the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, along with business owners in Wine Country, have tuned into meetings on the topic to also show support.

"While it's easy for well-off residents to sit in their \$800,000 homes and furiously write about how terrible the downtown plan is, others in our community are in desperate need of affordable housing," wrote Livermore resident Meredith Hendrix in a recent letter to the editor. "I'm 29 years old, work full-time as a manager at a local nonprofit, have a bachelor's degree from a prestigious university, and I struggle to live in Livermore. The only way I have been able to afford to live here on my \$45,000-a-year salary is by living with three other roommates in the cheapest apartment we could find. Every year the rent increases, further pushing us out of the Tri-Valley."

The project, however, faces stiff opposition from those who say the proposal would destroy the downtown's character and create more traffic and parking problems in the area — thereby harming local businesses. Many have called for the housing complex to be moved across Railroad Avenue to both increase the number of affordable units made available to low-income residents, while leaving the space open for a community park.

Former Livermore Councilmember Doug Horner called for the city to build "better housing than this for our workforce." Horner was a strong supporter of Measure P, which passed in March 2020.

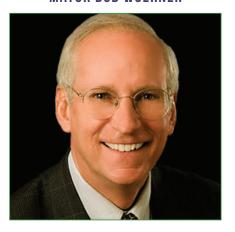
"I hope, for Livermore's sake, that the city council listens to their conscience and admits that this project is substandard in its design and does not reflect the quality present in the rest of the Livermore core," wrote Hoerner in a letter to the editor. "I recommend that we take a pause and develop a new option that avoids building this bland behemoth in the center of our downtown."

One community group — Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) — has alleged that the project doesn't adhere to the city's established laws, which should have prohibited the planning commission from recommending approval of the project to the council on April 20.

Ruth Gasten, the spokesperson for SLD, said her group has received legal advice from Latham & Watkins, a law firm that practices land-use law. The group issued a statement concluding that the current Eden plan does not satisfy the Specific Plan's density requirements and needed several density bonus incentives to obtain relief from parking, setbacks, massing, and design standards. These points are issued in detail at http://bit.ly/Indy_CommissionMeeting.

Last Tuesday, Livermore City Attorney Jason Alcala responded by saying that he has not been provided with any legal analysis or opinion from Latham & Watkins regarding the project.

"It is the position of the Livermore City Attorney's Office that the planning commission's recommen**MAYOR BOB WOERNER**



VICE MAYOR TRISH MUNRO



COUNCILMEMBEI



Save Liverno

On May 24th, sp the Bait and Switch



The flawed Eden Housing plan that will be considered by charming and unique downtown for generations to co

- This is not the plan that was promised to Livermore voters. Significant changes with serious negative impacts have been made without the approval of residents.
- A 4 to 1 majority of Livermore residents oppose the plan. This scientific survey by a nationally-respected polling firm showed strong opposition to the Eden Housing Plan.
- The Eden Plan wrongly puts two 4-story residential buildings in the heart of downtown. These will ruin the unique charm of our downtown, and include one building that will be massed along the entire block of Railroad Avenue from L Street to the new K Street extension (see drawing above).
- The open space is squeezed between the 4-story affordable housing buildings, making it look like it is not meant for the public.



The May 24th virtual City Council to make your elected officials li

- 1. Attend the meeting via zoom: https://us
- 2. Email the City Council your comments: L
- 3. Sign the Petition: www.SaveLivermore

GINA BONANNO



COUNCILMEMBER BOB CARLING



COUNCILMEMBER BRITTNI KIICK



re Downtown

beak up to stop Eden Housing Plan



by the City Council on May 24th will degrade Livermore's ome. Here's why the City Council should NOT approve it.

- Teachers, firefighters and police will not be able to live in the housing.

 Despite promises by city officials, only low income, very low income and homeless people will qualify. Teachers, firefighters and police will not qualify to live there.
- There is inadequate parking, at least 113 spaces less than current city standards require. This means that residents of the affordable housing will need to use public parking spaces instead.
- Lack of parking will cause greater traffic congestion as motorists circle the downtown looking for a parking space.
- A superior Downtown Alternative could be adopted instead. One option would be to move Eden Housing north of Railroad Avenue. Then, a community park would be added to the heart of downtown Livermore. There would be more parking, less traffic, and 100 more affordable housing could be provided, including some for teachers. Altogether, 230 units could be developed.



l meeting at 7 pm is your chance sten to Livermore. Don't miss it!

302web.zoom.us/j/88699480798

.ivermoreCityCouncil@cityoflivermore.net

Downtown

EDEN

(Continued from page 6)

dation on the project is consistent with the state's housing laws and the city's land-use regulations," Alcala continued.

Councilmembers Robert Carling and Brittni Kiick said this week that their comments regarding the project or SLD's claims will be made public at the May 24 meeting.

In city documents submitted ahead of the May 24 meeting, staff wrote "local governments are required to approve requests pursuant to the State Density Bonus Law if the project applicant (Eden) requests relief under these provisions, unless specific conditions not applicable here occur.

The report goes on to state that as a 100% affordable project within one-half mile of a major transit stop, Eden qualifies for the following Density Bonus benefits: 1) a density bonus that prohibits the City imposing any maximum limit on density; 2) an increase of up to three stories or 33 feet in building height standards; 3) four incentives or concessions to modify development standards (Eden has requested just one incentive to waive setback requirements); and 4) relief from all required parking standards.

"No physical changes have been made to the project since review by the planning commission: the applicant still proposes the same density, height, setbacks and parking that the planning commission determined to be in compliance with city standards," the staff report stated. "However, in response to community comments, the applicant submitted a density bonus application to provide an additional basis for the city to approve the project as proposed."

The staff report further stated that the council has determined the proposed project is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

As the May 24 date draws closer, the community continues to see its share of conversation around the topic. Memes have cropped up around social media and physical signs have appeared throughout the city — both for and against the project's current plans.

In regard to Woerner's statement that the meeting could take more than one day because of the number of speakers, resident Jim Hutchins expressed his own concerns. Vice Mayor Trish Munro and Carling confirmed this week that speakers are not required to announce in which city they reside. Hutchins said this presents a problem.

"Until last year, if someone wanted to flood comments, they would have needed to get warm bodies physically into the council chamber," Hutchins said. "Today, we have a multimillion-dollar corporation who has tens of thousands of people in their properties in multiple states directly lobbying them through their systems and through social media to participate virtually in a meeting where no one will be able to see them or know where they are, and if they have any more connection to Livermore than their landlord told them to Zoom in and talk."

The meeting is set for Monday, May 24, at 7 p.m. For instructions on how to participate, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_CouncilMeetings. For viewing only, visit https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofLivermore-California.

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

mentioned as a primary purpose in the DSP? Is that the "traditions" and "historic character" that we want for our downtown?

What we have wanted and continue to want for the "heart" of Livermore is space for the public to gather, parks, shopping, dining, cultural, and entertainment areas - a "vibrant, active, exciting downtown."

On May 24, let your city council know what you want in your downtown.

Project is Not Adequate Carol and Jeff Garberson, Livermore

We would like to voice our objections to the revised Eden Housing plan for downtown Livermore and our support for the alternative plan put forward by the Save Livermore Downtown group.

The housing element was revised to include fewer parking spaces, taller buildings, and less open space than the original plan that was voted on by our residents. The area in question is in the core of downtown. Development will be permanent and should not be rushed. It should be something that the community can be proud of for decades to come.

We agree that affordable housing is very important. The Alternative Plan provides 100 more affordable housing units than the current Eden Housing plan. It just moves it across Railroad Avenue. It also provides more parking with better traffic flow and less traffic impact on the downtown both key issues emphasized by Livermore residents in opinion surveys and workshops. It provides open space that can be enjoyed by all Livermore residents, as well as by visitors attracted to town by such a feature. The current Stockmen's Park is not really a park, but a small patch of grass, too small to be a serious community gathering and recreation space.

The Livermore Downtown group has a very viable plan that takes into account financing and legal issues and a well thought-out roadmap for how to move forward with the Alternate Plan. If the city is really serious about increasing available affordable housing, the Alternate Plan is clearly a better choice, as it provides for an additional 100 units.

This development will define our community for decades to come. Do we want our downtown to be closed in by tall apartment buildings with insufficient and cramped parking, traffic congestion and little open community space? Or would we rather have a well thought out downtown with plenty of affordable housing and parking, good traffic flow and a wonderful open green park for all to enjoy? We believe the city council needs to take a step back and re-examine the issues at stake. The Alternative Plan more than meets the affordable housing goal while providing the priorities the Livermore community expressed throughout public input workshops and surveys. This needs to be done right and that means looking at all possibilities and not rushing into a cramped project that is not adequate for our community's future needs.

Keeping Showing Courage Tom Ramos, Livermore

How many of us were around in the 1980s when the good citizens of Livermore had to fend off an aggressive effort led by, among others, the city's Chamber of Commerce, to build a community on the fields north of Interstate 580?

We went through two referendums, one of them involving citizens throughout the County of Alameda, including Oakland, San Leandro, and

Hayward. After we successfully fended off that attempt to change the nature of Livermore, we built a rejuvenated downtown and changed the general plan that saw the establishment of dozens of wineries south of the city.

Well, 40 years later, the city council looks like it's teaming up with the city's Chamber of Commerce, among others, and is set to construct a housing complex smack dab in the middle of our hard-earned, commercially vibrant downtown. We're not against new housing, but in the middle of downtown?

Wake up citizens and show the courage we displayed de-

A Lawsuit is the Only Way Merlin Newton, Sr., Livermore

Seth Adams, the conservation director at Save Mount Diablo, recently was quoted in the magazine Bay Nature on the massive Aramis industrial solar project approved for North Livermore Valley.

Adams said it's nonsense when solar developers "come in and try to act like their project is benign." Even after construction is finished, the Aramis project will provide almost no habitat for local wildlife. "It's gonna take a piece of upland habitat which is grassland and convert it to a different use,' Adams explained. "There are gonna be trucks, and people, and effects on all kinds of different things. This is not a solar panel in a field, it's an industrial energy facility.'

The scenic vistas, natural habitat and open space of the North Livermore Valley belong to all of us. They are in immediate danger of destruction because our new Supervisor David Haubert broke his promise to the voters and joined with the other supervisors in approving the conversion of the northern portion of North Livermore Valley into a barren landscape of silicon, glass, and steel. In addition to 300,000 solar panels, the Aramis plant will include a 5-acre, lithiumion battery station complex and overhead transmission lines next to the PG&E substation and across Cayetano Creek and Manning Road (some up to 10 stories tall), all creating new fire hazards for residents of the valley and City of Livermore.

Save North Livermore Valley, joined by the Ohlone Audubon Society and Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, filed a lawsuit against the county to save our valley. The lawsuit alleges the county's approval of the Aramis Solar Facility violates voter-approved Measure D, which restricts the land in North Livermore Valley to agricultural uses.

At this point, a lawsuit is the only way to stop the destruction of our valley. Please join the effort to save North Livermore Valley and safeguard it for future generations by donating to the GoFundMe campaign to fund the lawsuit. You can find the link to the GoFundMe campaign at www. savenorthlivermorevalley.com.

Restore the Public Park Deborah McQueen, Livermore

Livermore residents should attend the city council meeting on May 24 to express their opposition to the Eden Housing project expected to be built on the last remaining parcel of open space in downtown.

What's desired is an inspired park for all residents that honors the land and those who came before us, including indigenous peoples and the Spanish. Instead of moving ahead with the most expedient objectives, why not engage in thoughtful visionary planning? But the city council and Mayor Woerner are not listening to the public. Over 80% of polled residents don't want housing in the downtown super block.

City council and Mayor Woerner have made serious missteps as well in their recent mishandling of Commissioner Stein. All too ready to cut down a 43-year public servant over a poorly chosen use of the word "ghetto," they subjected Stein to a miserable virtual meeting that proceeded more like an inquisition than a civil discussion. Humbly, Stein prostrated himself before the council like the towns scapegoat as they derided him. Only after vocal public outcry in support of Stein did council recognize his nearly half century of volunteerism on behalf of Livermore and accept his apologies.

Lost in the melodrama of the April meetings were the very real and valid points Stein brought up about the continued practice of segregation in Livermore. When you construct enormous buildings and exclusively populate them with low-income residents, or immigrants, or retirement age adults, or affluent members of the population, you're still engaged in segregation. Stein was merely attempting to illuminate that healthy communities are socially and racially integrated.

Prior to their approval of Eden Housing, the city had slated the project to include up to 120% AMI. But by choosing Eden, an 'affordable housing' developer, they were locked into homeless, very low, and low-income units or Eden would lose the necessary grants and tax credits to build. The city is unfortunately wedged into an agreement with a developer that can't build up to 120% AMI and can't break the agreement without suffering a lawsuit.

As a result, the public risks losing their park, segregation of low-income is perpetuated, and democracy is muzzled. The council should do the right thing and combine affordable with market-rate housing together and increase the number of units on nearby parcels a block away. This restores the public park and everyone benefits.

Temper the Carbon Action Recommendations Rich Buckley, Livermore

I urge city council to wait 24 months, that climatic influencers of solar forcing events are changing the context of our understanding of global warming.

Yes, it is agreed, what matters is clean air and clean water. I share this goal. Getting there requires we first speak truth to each other.

In the interim, carbon footprint estimates are incomplete novelty conjectures based on agendized (sic) outcomes desired by scientism's high priests. Its daily recited cannon calls upon all truth seekers to yield to the priestly higher authority or watch as their budding scientific careers are destroyed. There is a difference between being nurtured and being threatened. There is a difference between the scientific method and scientism. We are just emerging from an era of group-think scientism.

Year after year and decade after decade, truth inquiry is denied. Geoengineering (chemtrails) is forbidden to be discussed, as well as exempt from global accountability. This era is ending soon.

Just go outside and look skyward. Those are manufactured cloud bases seen most days from around 15,000 feet and higher, condensed from fuel additives and directed aerial sprays, primarily with toxic chemicals used to condense clouds. Until these atmospheric secret government agency stunts are eliminated, we are feeding each other unreliable bogus atmospheric data and now attempting to base critical economic household decisions on our residents.

I do not deny the intent, I resist the bogus process.

Worst of all, climate activists cannot give an accurate assessment of whether we should be preparing for the intensification of an ice-age, as long-term trends indicate, or an intensification of global warming onset which their agendized (sic) religion of

Warming cycles seem to

self-correct quickly, (while) ice ages seem to self-correct over longer geologic time frames. Tipping points have a preponderance of evidence the ice ages set-in instantly (mere days). There are too many errors in our climate models.

It's clearly apparent climate activism is mostly a group who want to do good but seem to have little regard for scientific discernment of others when it does not support the outcome they want scientifically. They default to the most dangerous tactic of wanting to control everyone else. Dangerous in the sense that they align with scientism and reject the scientific method.

Climate committee activists have become driven by agendized group think, and that never ends well.

Save Livermore Downtown Rob Blum, Livermore

It is time that the city council and the planning commission make the right decision and save the downtown of Livermore with a great openspace public park.

The alternative plan is what the citizens of Livermore want; a large, well-designed park done by a landscape architect with a creative thought process,

and not done by developers for housing. Yes, we need affordable housing, but not smack in the middle of the downtown.

Relocate the Eden Housing across the street on Railroad Avenue. It is already a disgrace that the city council and planning commission allowed the gross concrete monstrosity at the Groth Bros. site. Move the Eden Housing to the other side, opposite of the open-space area across Railroad Avenue. We do not need massive buildings in the city center, we need open space, a once in a lifetime for a city to have an opportunity to create a welcoming, grand park, making Livermore spe-

Save the Livermore Downtown.

Reed **Plumbing** Company

Livermore, CA

(925) 371-5671 davidreed@dareedplumbing.com LIC #601931







TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now Until Saturday, May 8 **Livermore Valley Opera Pres**ents "Triple Treat 2021"

Livermore Valley Opera will again offer an operatic treat with a series of free online concerts on LVOpera Channel on YouTube. Triple Treat 2021" features professional opera singers performing in three concerts premiering March 13, April 10, and May 8. All concerts accompanied by LVO Music Director Alexander Katsman. English subtitles provided. Following each premiere, the concerts will be available on-demand on the LVOpera Channel so you can watch each any time. Though the Triple Treat virtual opera concerts are free. donations are always welcome. For more information, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

Now Until Wednesday, May 19 **Coffee Hour for Seniors**

Zoom "Coffee Hour for Seniors" will resume once a month, on Wednesday mornings, beginning in January. The Zoom get-togethers will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Feb. 17, March 17, April 14 and May 19. For more information, visit dublin.ca.gov/380/ Special-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.

Saturday, April 10 **Granada Native Garden Open** House

Livermore's best-kept secret, the Granada Native Garden is hosting a special viewing from 10 a.m. until noon or afterward. The event will feature native Californian plants. The garden is located near downtown Livermore, off Murrieta Boulevard. For precise directions on how to get there and parking options, visit granadanativegarden. org or email Jim at JIMatGNG@ gmail.com. Volunteers will be available to chat about the plants and answer questions.

Sunday, April 11 **Livermore Road Rally**

Join Livermore Inner Wheel for an historic Livermore Road Rally. Get out of your homes and away from your screens for a day of explorationPick up your clues and start times at 1024 E. Stanley Blvd., in the front parking lot. Registration begins at 1 p.m. All cars need to be on the road by 2. Preregistration at ebell4830@ sbcglobal.net is encouraged. Cost is \$25 (cash or check) per vehicle, and prizes will be awarded to the first three returning vehicles with one prize per vehicle. All proceeds benefit the Inner Wheel USA Myoelectric Limb Project for children. Masks will be worn, and social distancing will be practiced. For questions and preregistration, email ebell4830@sbcglobal.net. Monday, April 12

Genealogical Society Hosts Speaker

The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society presents Gena Philibert-Ortega, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. She will be speaking about the little-known databases found on ancestry.com, including images, digitized books, and indexes. Philibert-Ortega holds a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies (psychology and women's studies) and a master's degree in religion. The event is free and will be hosted on Zoom. To register, visit http://bit. ly/3cXQ0b1.

Tuesday, April 13 EarthWeek Tri-Valley 2021 **Planning Meeting**

Organizers are inviting the public to a planning meeting, from 7 to 8 p.m., to coordinate events across the Tri-Valley region in recognition of EarthWeek Tri-Valley 2021. They will be building on their two-year history of hosting workshops, tours, arts, and films. As last year, most of these events will be virtual. To attend, visit citizensclimate.zoom.us/j/2520462079 and use passcode 123; or call in at 408-638-0968 with meeting ID 2520462079.

Wednesday, April 14 Choral Treats & Trivia Online Series

Each month, the Valley Concert Chorale will share a pair of their recordings - some will complement each other, some will contrast - but all are beloved choral music from classical to contemporary. Plus, they will share interesting snippets about the songs and the composers. Watch your inbox for our Choral Treats & Trivia emails every second Wednesday of the month: April 14: Carl Orff's "O Fortuna" from Carmina Burana: May 12: A bit of Rossini and Anders Paulsson; June 9: Morten Lauridsen and more; July 14: Duruflé and more; and Aug. 11: A Mozart favorite or two. For more information, visit www. valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003.

Wednesday, April 14 **Senior Zoom Coffee Hour**

Dublin Seniors are invited to a Zoom Coffee Hour at 10 a.m. The meetings will continue monthly through May. Seniors are encouraged to grab a cup of coffee and join friends for fun activities online. This activity will be led by Dublin Senior Center volunteers, and next month's meeting is scheduled for May 19. For more information, visit dublin.ca.gov/380/Special-Events.

Wednesday, April 14 Virtual Religion Chat

All are invited to attend the virtual April Religion Chat, which will be held on April 14, from 5 to 6:15 p.m. The discussion topic will be 'How Does Your Community Provide for Those Who Come in Need ff Forgiveness?' Scheduled speakers are Reverend Elli Kilpatrick, who will give the Unitarian Universalist perspective, and Bishop Roger Persson, who will speak about the position of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on the subject of forgiveness. Religion Chat is a free, monthly, interfaith forum held on the second Wednesday of the month by Interfaith Interconnect. The group's mission statement reads, "To enrich, educate, and inform ourselves and others about the great diversity of faiths and cultures in our Valley." In order to accomplish this mission, a variety of events are held each year. April's event will be a Zoom event, with the room opening at 4:45 p.m. For more information or the Zoom link, email interfaith. interconnect@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 15 to Thursday, May 13 **Shaping Tomorrow's** Visionaries

This art-infused multimedia adventure for students 13 and older will inspire them to examine and appreciate issues surrounding diversity, community, humanity, and the environment, and develop their own roadmap and action plan for the future. The curriculum was developed by artist Nova Starling, Instructor Anne Giancola. Visual Arts Manager. To register, visit https:// sforce.co/3uFdkNR.

Saturday, April 17 to Saturday, May 22 Drawing Nature with Pen and Ink

Using pen and ink, discover the pleasure of rendering objects from nature, learn techniques and employ your unique way of seeing. This will be a virtual class with Instructor Nancy Saltsman. To register, visit https://sforce.co/3p-

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 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.pacificchamberorchestra.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

Your Daily Online Local News.

independentnews.com





Enter events online at www.independentnews.com/calendar or email calendar@independentnews.com for print.

LLNL-Developed Electrodes Produce View of Brain Activity Never Seen Before

Thin-film electrodes developed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) have been used in human patients at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), to generate never-before-seen recordings of brain activity in the hippocampus, a region responsible for memory and other cognitive functions.

In a study published in the journal Nature Communications, surgeons at UCSF placed the flexible arrays on the brains of patients who were undergoing epilepsyrelated surgery.

The electrodes recorded electrical signals across the exposed hippocampus while some patients were under anesthesia and others were awake. Conscious patients were given visual cues and spoke words while their neural activity was re-

This approach allowed researchers to detect traveling waves moving across the surface of the brain and identify new properties, including how they may contribute to human cognition.

"We've developed an enabling technology for demonstrating a phenomenon that wasn't really possible before," said LLNL's Implantable Microsystems Group leader Razi Haque. "This challenge required creation of novel, conformable and higher-density electrodes that allows them to be more flexible and wrap around specific, deep regions of the brain. That's the driver for us as engineers, to be able to build the tools that scientists can use to do new science.'

The research was funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and the federal Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) with the goal of improving treatments for neuropsychiatric illnesses in military service members.

UCSF neurosurgeon and scientist Edward Chang said the 32-channel, multielectrode arrays could also benefit a separate study examining the role of the hippocampus in memory func-

By recording neural activity on the exposed hippocampal surface while patients were undergoing surgery, researchers could potentially confirm the existence of traveling waves, which scientists have long theorized play an important role in routing information used to form memories and perform other cognitive pro-

Previously, the nature of traveling waves in the human hippocampus has been controversial because previous in vivo studies have relied on penetrating depth electrode recordings. Those electrodes have provided researchers with only a few single-file recording sites in various layers of the hippocampus, making it nearly impossible to understand how the waves are moving across the structure, according to the paper's lead author and UCSF neurologist Jonathan Kleen.

However, due to their high-density grid layout, small size (smaller than a dime) and their ability to conform to the hippocampal surface, the LLNLdeveloped electrode arrays provided researchers with a critical "birds-eye-view" of how the signals moved and reversed over the surface, like waves in water, Kleen said.

"This new perspective helped us discover that traveling waves move both up and down the hippocampus," Kleen said. "This 'two-way street' contrasts with the 'one-way street' [identified by] previous neuroscience research.'

Kleen said the discovery is "a big deal because we believe this may be a fundamental mechanism of how the hippocampus acts as a major hub of information and memory processing for many other brain regions. In other words, the direction the wave is moving across the hippocampus may be a biomarker reflecting distinct neural processes as different circuits engage and disengage."

The research team employed a machine-learning approach to reveal that certain areas of the hippocampal surface were more strongly activated depending on the direction the waves were moving.

"This was further evidence that the route a wave is traveling may hint at what the hippocampus is up to at that moment," Kleen said.

Researchers noted that when one conscious patient tried to think of the name of a picture, traveling waves at one frequency consistently flowed toward the front of the structure. When the patient was awaiting the next trial, the waves reversed direction and flowed toward the back of the structure.

Kleen said that suggests that the direction of wave travel may reflect distinct cognitive processes when they occur, and potentially where information is flowing to support those processes.

Since the UCSF study concluded, engineers at LLNL have doubled the number of electrodes on the flexible thin-film devices to 64 channels, enabling higher resolution sense and stimulation, and created penetrating (or depth) probes.

Engineers now want to increase the channel count and density to hundreds, or even thousands, of electrodes per device.

"The combination of precision data from these devices with next-generation data analytics promises to not only further our understanding of the inner workings of the brain, but also lead to transformative cures for neurological disorders,' said Shankar Sundaram, director of LLNL's Center for Bioengineering.

Dublin Invites Proposals for Turning Downed Oak into Public Art

Dublin is inviting artists to submit proposals for creating public works of art from a fallen oak tree. Proposals must come from professional artists or high school students working under the supervision of an art teacher or professional.

The tree has already been cut into pieces of various sizes and proposals may include one or more pieces. The pieces can be inspected at Emerald Glen Park prior to submitting a proposal.

The city has budgeted \$20,000 for the project and may select one large project or multiple

Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 15, with inspection meetings scheduled for 4 p.m. on May 28 and June 16. The city's Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission will review the proposals and recommend designs to the Dublin City Council, which expects to award

Applications and instructions are available online at www.dublin.ca.gov/bids.aspx?bidID=241. For more information, contact Tyler Phillips at Tyler. Phillips @ dublin.ca.gov or call (925) 556-4500.

ivermore Statue Removed for Maintenance.

Visitors to Livermore's downtown may have noticed someone missing -Jesse, the small bronze boy enjoying an ice cream cone with a four-legged friend.

The dog is still there, but Jesse and his ice cream cone have been removed by the city's maintenance department for restoration.

"It has not been stolen," said Jeff Shafer, Livermore's maintenance manager. "The maintenance dept removed it because the little boy's face and his body has had deterioration from weather and other things and so we removed it

and the city is attempting to find an artist or somebody who can restore it.'

The city has received multiple inquiries from residents asking what had happened to "Sunday with Jesse," located on the 2300 block of Railroad Avenue. The sculpture is bronze painted with acrylic resin and Adam Van de Water, director of innovation and economic development, said the paint had simply worn away over time.

"Color had been wiped away with fingerprints and everything else and had gone to not even a bronze, but a dark color that some people were interpreting as blackface, so it's a maintenance issue," Van de Water said. "So public works removed it and is evaluating ways to restore it and improve it from a maintenance perspective and whether they can perform that work themselves or they needed an art conservator to do so."

Shafer said funding for the project would come from the city's maintenance fund. The timeline is still uncertain, but he hopes to see the statue back in place before the end of the year.

Retiree Community Plans 'Celebrity' Photo Shoot

A group of Bay Area seniors recently explored their theatrical side, portraying some of the most well-known film and fashion icons in history.

Frank Sinatra, Liza Minelli, Charlie Chaplin and others came to life at Stoneridge Creek senior living community during a two-day resident-run, celebrity-inspired photo shoot on Thursday, May 13, and Friday, May 14. The photos will become part of a 2022 calendar, which all 565 resident homes will receive.

"Creativity has always been an important aspect of life at Stoneridge Creek," said Susan Filice, the community's Life Enrichment

director. "Residents are stepping out of the box and re-creating these characters." Cossette Sun, 83, dressed

up as one of her icons, Audrey Hepburn. "I've always loved Au-

drey's movies and admired her for the charitable work she did," said Sun.

The photo shoot occurred after 99% of the Stoneridge Creek residents received their COVID-19 vaccinations. Organizers said the details of the photo shoot took months to plan. Once each resident actor volunteer was selected, Filice took headshots of each and compared the photo to the celebrity.

"So many of these resi-

dents are so easy to mold into the character we picked for them," said Filice. "We could see similarities in some folks that made them a great cast for a particular character."

Along with the character, Filice and her team decided on costumes, backgrounds, props and set design. Professional hair and makeup stylists were on hand to prepare the residents for their big scenes.

"This has been so much fun to put together," claims Filice. "It's wonderful to be together again. At the end of this year, I know these residents will look at these calendars and remember what a great year it was and look forward to 2022."

Frank Albert Sposeto Jr. April 7, 1965 - May 10, 2021

Corinne Rae (Greaves) Aguilar

June 10, 1943 - April 12, 2021

Frank Albert Sposeto Jr. passed away on May 10, 2021, after a lengthy illness.

Born in Alameda, Californiam on April 7, 1965, Frankie was raised in Salinas and Livermore, graduating from Livermore High School and attending the University of California in Santa Barbara. An accomplished stone mason, Frank installed many a beautiful walk way and patio with his own ideas for the designs and continued the art until his illness.

On New Year's Eve 1994, Frank married Heather Grimes and had two beautiful children, Nicholas Ryan, born Dec. 7, 1996 (yep Pearl Harbor Day), and Katherine Florence, born Sept. 26, 2000. Frank was outgoing and charming, and he loved spending time with his family and friends. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

Predeceased by his father, Frank Sposeto Sr., he is survived by his two moms, Margaret Nicklaus of Salinas and Billie Ann Sposeto of

Corinne was born on June 10,

She attended St. Anthony's

1943, in San Francisco, to Raymond

and graduated from Immaculate

Conception Academy, Corinne grew

up in the Mission District, where

her parents own a sandwich shop

called Cogswell's. She had numer-

ous cousins, aunts and uncles who

were all very close and would have

weekly Sunday get togethers. Later in life, Corinne continued

to maintain close bonds with her

cousins by going on yearly trips out

of town, where they loved to sing,

play games, swim, eat, and enjoy

Ricardo Aguilar. They moved out

to the "country" in 1971, where the

two of them lived out the remainder

of their lives in Livermore. They

were married for 49 years, as Ri-

cardo passed in 2019. They raised

their three children in the same

house that continues to remain in

ing her three children. She was the

type of mother that always put her

children needs before her own. She

was open minded and allowed her

children to learn life lessons while

providing guidance and support. Be-

sides her children. Corinne's biggest

joys in life were her grandchildren.

beyond her own family, as she vol-

unteered for Livermore School Dis-

trict and was a preschool teacher at

KinderKirk Preschool for 24 years.

Corinne was a lover of life, family,

and friends. Her friendship em-

Her love for children went

She dedicated her time to rais-

the family after 51 years.

In 1970, Corinne got married to

a cocktail.

and Margaret Greaves.



Livermore; stepfather, Gary Nicklaus; son, Nicholas; daughter; three brothers, Angelo, John, and Dominic; two sisters, Barbara and Lesa-Renay; and a host of aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins.

The family would like to express their gratitude to his caregivers at Walnut Creek Skilled Nursing Facility for their many acts of kindness during this time of deep sorrow and sadness. Donations in Franks name can be made to the facility or The Steinbeck House in Salinas. Services are pending.

bodied her character, integrity and

unconditional love to friends of 70

years or newly formed friendships.

compassion and provided trust

for friends to learn understanding,

acceptance and tolerance in their

differences. Corinne provided her

friends with a nest of belonging.

Whether you were her neighbor or

lived 3,000 miles away, she was

her family and friends, she also

loved the San Francisco Giants.

Baseball was natural to Corinne

from the day her dad took her to

the SF Seals stadium for Giants

Opening Day in 1958. Celebrating

the Giants first World Series Cham-

pionship was well worth her 50-year

Livermore. She is survived by her

children, Tony (Shauna), Andrew

(Candy), and Annie; and her grand-

children, Malia, Isaac, Anthony, and

Adam. Due to Covid, a private cel-

ebration of life with be held. In lieu

of flowers, please consider donating

to Parkinson Voice Project.

Corinne passed on April 12, in

loyalty to her hometown team.

Besides Corinne's passion for

always there for her friends.

She cultivated connections with

Dorothy Monreal Dec. 13, 1934 - April 29, 2021

lock, left us while surrounded by friends and family on April 29, 2021, from Alzheimer's.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Edward Duarte Monreal; her daughter, Jannie Brooks; and son, Bruce Monreal. She is survived by her grandchildren, Geoffrey Brooks and Elias Monreal; daughter-in-law, Alice Monreal; grand daughter-

Dorothy Monreal, 87, of Tur- in-law, JoEllen Brooks; her great grandchildren, Giuliana and Colton Brooks; three step-great grand-children, Justin, Jacob and Justus Meno; sisters, Margie and Billie; and brother, Thomas.

Services will be held on May 21, with a Celebration of Life starting at 11 a.m., in the Chapel of Callaghan Mortuary. Reception is to follow at 1: 15 p.m., at El Charro, 168 Maple St., in Livermore.

Brian Garth Tavasci July 4, 1957 - May 9,2021

Love the people that God gives you, cause one day he'll want them

Brian Garth Tavasci, loved by many, passed away at the age of 63 after a long battle with cancer, at his Livermore, California, home on Sunday, May 9, 2021.

Brian was born in Fortuna, California, on July 4, 1957. Over the years, he and his family lived in various cities between Eureka and

Union City, California. Brian was a curious and in-dustrious child. At the age of 2, he escaped from his backyard by stacking boxes and using a stick to open the latched gate. He was found safe, walking on Highway 101 in Santa Rosa. When a kind soul offered a free puppy to Brian at a service station across the street, Brian waited until the owner was gone to take his new friend home. Cassius, a German shepherd and Whippet mix, was the family dog for years.

Brian secured his first job at age working at the liquor and candy department in the P&X Market right in front of his home in Hayward. He asked for the job, they said yes, and he was paid in candy and Slurpees. He also managed to get free watermelons in season from

Early on, he worked as a dishwasher at Stella D'Oro. He was a butcher. He learned plumbing and carpentry in Eureka from Terry Ford and his uncle, Gino Birindelli. He used those skills helping family and friends with plumbing, building backyard structures, fences and whatever he could to help. He eventually went to work for Atari and various companies in the Silicon Valley, ending up as a warehouse manager at Asteelflash, where he excelled.

If you needed something, Brian would make it happen. He took care of his people and they loved him.

He continued working while under chemotherapy, and his workers took care of him by bringing



homemade lunches for him. Brian loved to have fun, with motorcycle racing, men's softball, swimming, boating, camping, golfing, family trips to Disneyland and Hawaii, family reunions, entertaining, and occasional trips to Reno or Las Vegas for roulette. He enjoyed watching NASCAR and hard-top racing. He was a longtime fan of the Oakland A's and The San Francisco 49ers. Brian was a great cook. His Papa T's pancakes and Sunday pot roast as well as his Martha Stewart Thanksgiving meal were legendary.

Brian lived life and stories about those adventures kept everyone entertained and laughing.

Brian was preceded in death

by his beloved parents, Byron and Miriam Tavasci. He is survived by his wife, Donna McCall Tavasci; his children, Nicholas Tavasci, Kristina Jaimes (Nate), and Steven Tavasci (Laurie Bell); and grandchildren, Faith Tavasci, Isaiah Tavasci, and Alexis Jaimes. He also leaves behind a sister, Karen Johnson (Veit); brother, Lane Tavasci; and sister, Jeanne Demote (Rick): as well as many beloved nieces, nephews and cousins.

Special thanks to Vitas Hospice for their care and the exceptional love and care from Steven, Kristina, Donna and Laurie, as well as Bob Angelo, who organized a beautiful reunion of family and friends who got to celebrate Brian before he

Nancy S. Stites Nov. 3, 1933 - July 2, 2020

Nancy Sue Morrow was born in Quincy, California, to Earl and Vie Morrow, on Nov. 3, 1933, the voungest of six girls. A added years later.

She was the pitcher on the baseball team and played the bass drum in the marching band. She married David R. Strong, Jr. of Crescent Mills, California, in 1951. Together, they had three children, Linda, Dennis and Brad, settling in the area and eventually in the Bay Area.

In 1979, she remarried Charles Stites, settling in Arroyo Grande, California. She moved to Livermore in 2019 to be closer to her children.

She was predeceased by her parents; four sisters; her husband; and son, Dennis. She is survived by her children (spouse), Linda (David) Timmons; (Kim) Strong; and Brad (Kim) Strong. Her seven grandchildren surviving are Renee Dangler, Angie Bolla, Jon Timmons, Jessica Garcia, Robert Strong, Billy Strong and Kyle Strong. She had 10 great grandchildren. She leaves behind her sister, Margaret; and brother, Mike; and several nieces and nephews; as well as several Stites relatives and many friends.

She was well taken care of during her last year of life by the staff at Rosewood Watermark with



assistance by Hope Hospice. She will be remembered as a woman who was handed great challenges and met them with determination, strength, and humor.

She started working as a teller in 1959, after passing the interview and math test (2+2=4) at a time when most women stayed at home. After 25 years, she retired as an escrow officer, having worked in California, Arizona, and Hawaii. She loved being outside in nature, in pine forests, at the beach and in her flower garden. She was a friend to many and always willing to help others in her world. Our motto we shared was "One Day At A Time." Love you, Mom, Grandma, and Greatest Grandma.

A Celebration of Life will be held on July 10, 2021. Please email lindactimmons11@yahoo.com for

Nino Pompilio June 20, 1933 - May 2, 2021

Nino Pompilio passed away on

While he primarily served stateside, he attended a multitude of Army Schools, where he met his wife-to-be, Rose. After he was honorably discharged from the Army in 1955, he returned to NYU, graduating in 1956. He and Rose were married on Sept. 2, 1956. He worked as a chief welding engineer in nuclear technology, first in the construction of nuclear submarines, culminating with construction of nuclear power

Nino and his family moved to Pleasanton in 1968, where he resided for the past 53 years. He was active in the community, particularly in youth sports. He was a coach and served on the boards of PJFL, and competitive girls' soccer for over a decade. He became a licensed soccer referee and was



involved in the formation of girls' softball in Pleasanton.

After his retirement, Nino became a member of the Sons in Retirement organization. He served on both the state and local levels of Branch 34.

Nino is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Rose; his three children, Terri, Maria, and Chris and their families; their six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. His younger sister, Virginia, and her family live in Florida. He was predeceased by his parents, Theresa and Cesare; and younger brother,

Memorial Mass will be held May 21. at 9:30 a.m., at St. Augustine's Catholic Church, in Pleasanton. If you wish to make a donation in his name, the family asks that it be made to Wounded Warriors, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Salvation Army, or any charity of your

May 2, 2021, at the age of 87. Nino was born June 20, 1933.

in the Bronx, New York City, to parents who had immigrated from Italy. He lived in "Little Italy" and immediately after WWII ended moved to Queens, NYC, where he attended middle school and graduated from Richmond Hill High School. He attended The College of Engineering at NYU in pursuit of a Metallurgical Engineering Degree. After three years, he enlisted and served in the Army during the Korean War.

plants. He retired in 1993.

Nonprofits to Offer Grants for Local Projects

Forty nonprofit organizations will receive \$25,000 grants next fall for neighborhood improvement project chosen, in part, through online voting.

State Farm Insurance will accept the first 2,000 entries submitted nationwide, beginning June 2. The company will winnow the number down to 200 finalists before allowing the public to vote for its favorite projects from Aug. 18-27.

Members of the public will be able to vote up to 10 times per day during the 10-day period, with the winning entries announced in September.

Nonprofit organizations can download submission guidelines at www.neigh-

Last year, 145,000 people cast 3.9 million votes in support of their favorite causes in the State Farm Neighborhood Assist program.

Rotary Club Names Dublin's Educators of the Year

The Rotary Club of Dublin has recognized one teacher from each of the Dublin Unified School District's 12 schools as

nounced the winners last week, said the awards recognize educators who exemplify the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," and the mission of the school district to encourage students to become lifelong learners.

"The pandemic has tested all of us over the past year," said Megan Rouse, president of the Rotary Club of Dublin. "One group that has been tested more than most is our educators.

"Tasked with one of the most complicated and im-

they were asked to reinvent the role of educator, without the daily in-person contact that is so critical to their success," she added. "While I want to thank all our educators for the heroic work they have done this year, it's the Rotary Club's pleasure to recognize a select few who stood out,

Erin Jones,

Cynthia West,

Dublin Elementary

borhoodassist.com.

Library Summer Reading Program Begins May 29

Art Association to Sponsor Plein Air 'Paint Livermore' Contest

The Livermore Art Association (LAA) will sponsor an outdoor painting competition the weekend of

The annual plein air "Paint Livermore" competition will focus on the city's historic homes and buildings,

Artists will be allowed to enter up to four paintings, each of which must have been created in the

Livermore area during the competition. Artists have until May 27 to register with the arts association.

There is a \$20 registration fee for LAA or Pleasanton Art League members and a \$30 fee for

June 4-6, with judging and sales at the Carnegie Park Bandstand at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The Pleasanton Library will kick off its annual summer reading program on Saturday, May 29, with the theme "Reading Colors Your World."

vineyards, and natural landscape.

The library said the theme provides context for exploring humanity, nature, culture, and science through reading, and encourages readers to be creative, try new things, explore art, and find beauty in

nonmembers. For more information, go to www.livermoreartassociation.org.

Children will have an opportunity to earn virtual badges by tracking their reading during the summer, while teens and adults will also have an opportunity to receives prizes sponsored by the Friends of the Pleasanton Library.

participants Program may also submit drawings of their favorite book cover to be featured on the Library and Recreation Department's social media. Entries should be no bigger than a standard sheet of paper, done by hand, and include the names of the author and publisher. Drawings can be dropped off at the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., or sent by email attachment to KDelang@ cityofpleasantonca.gov.

The program will run through Aug. 8.

portant jobs in our society. Educator of the Year. The club, which an-

even among their peers." Receiving the award this year were:

Chris Sadler, Amador Elementary

Cottonwood Creek

Dougherty Elementary

Lisa Silva,

Jennifer McCort, Dublin High School Minica Lewis,

Fallon Middle School

Joy Maglalang-Young, Frederiksen Elementary Laura Kim Matsumoto, Green Elementary

Jessica Freyler, Kolb Elementary

Elizabeth Harvey, Murray Elementary

Laura Droppo, Valley High School

Marianne Tirnetta, Wells Middle School

Each of the winners was selected by teachers and staff at their school.

Recreational Swimming to Resume at The Wave in Dublin

Although the waterpark will remain closed, Dublin announced last week that recreational swimming will resume Saturday, May 29, at the outdoor and indoor pools at the city-run The Wave aquatics center.

The pools will be open daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Capacity will be limited and swimmers must register in advance at www.Dublin-RecGuide.com. The cost is \$6 per person.

The city has also relaunched its birthday party program at The Wave, with attendance based on social bubble guidelines and the state's tiered blueprint for reopening.

The city said the Wave Waterpark, which includes the Splash Zone and the Waterslide Tower, could reopen in mid-June with reduced capacity, cashless advance ticket sales, social distancing. Waterpark hours will be 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Library to Host Harry Potter Book Night

The Livermore Public Library will host its the seventh annual Harry Potter Book Night on Thursday, June 24, with the focus on Diagon Alley.

The library is offering free kits with everything Harry Potter fans need to participate in the online celebration, including the Zoom link, which can be picked up at any open branch.

The online event will run from 6:30-8 p.m. and include games, crafts, costume parade, and trivia celebrating the wizarding world created by author J.K. Rowling.

For more information, go to www.livermorelibrary.net or call 925-373-5505.

Pleasanton Chamber Set to Celebrate 75th Anniversary

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and will be commemorating the occasion with a variety of captivating stories, news articles, and reflections from community leaders.

"This gives us the opportunity to thank and remember our past leaders

community, because of the work of the chamber for the past 75 years."

The chamber takes great pride in helping Pleasanton remain among the very best cities in the country in which to live, work and raise a family while providing support, services, and value to its member organizations. Programs such

"Our strong local economy and extraordinary quality of life happen by design, not by accident."

that were instrumental in as Leadership Pleasanton guiding the chamber to continued success," said Steve Van Dorn, president and CEO of the Pleasanton chamber. "After all, the chamber would not be where it is today without the support of our members and our awesome commu-

The Pleasanton chamber is a nonprofit, voluntary organization currently made up of roughly 700 members ranging from small momand-pop type businesses to major corporations located in the Tri-Valley. Each member organization pays annual dues based on the type of business and the number of employees.

It all started in 1907 when a small group of Pleasanton's influential citizens met at city hall to organize a civic body that would work to further the progress of Pleasanton and to communicate to the residents and businesses of Pleasanton their ambition to enhance and grow the town.

This was the genesis of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce as it is today. The formal incorporation was completed Sept. 30, 1946, and is why the chamber is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2021.

"Great communities have great chambers," said Dave Kilby, president and CEO of the Western Association of Chamber Executives and executive vice president of corporate affairs at the California Chamber. "I think a case could definitely be made that Pleasanton is what it is today, a great

and committees within the chamber, including Economic Development, the Ambassadors, and the Pleasanton Young Professionals, all involve working together for the betterment of the Pleasanton commu-

As it says in "Pleasanton 2025: A Community Vision," "Our strong local economy and extraordinary quality of life happen by design, not by accident."

As the chamber looks back on its rich history over the last 75 years, the business climate is a key driver of the community's success.

"Of all the chamber's most memorable accomplishments, most significant to me these many years is its enduring success with people," said Scott Raty, who served as the chamber's CEO for 16 years. "Pleasanton is blessed with a richly diverse business community that contributes enormously to the economic success and quality of life we enjoy."

"The chamber provides many with the opportunity to lead from the front, to actively serve our community and to leave Pleasanton a little bit better than when we found it," said Laura (Olson) Brooks, former chamber board chair. "While the chamber is an amazing business organization, it is also a community organization filled with people who are passionate about our city and our residents."

— Courtesy of Susie Weiss

OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS NEED YOUR SUPPORT, PLEASE DONATE IF YOU ARE ABLE!

Amador Questers 1089 Geneva Street Livermore, CA 94550-5661 925-292-8123

www.CalQuest.org www.questers1944.org **Amador Valley Lions Club** P. O. Box 1764

Pleasanton, CA 94566 (925) 290-7592 Amador.valley.lions@gmail.com **Assistance League**

Amador Valley P.O. Box 11843 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925-461-6401 Assistanceleague.org/Ama-

Axis Community Health 5925 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94588 925-201-6068 Axishealth.org

Big Bay Ray, Inc. Bigbayray16@gmail.com 925-523-3133

Bigbayray.com **Blankets For Kids** 7580 Driftwood Way

Pleasanton, CA 94588 925-846-6155 Cantabella Children's Chorus

P.O. Box 131 Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-292-2663 Cantabella.org

Cheza Nami 5424 Sunol Blvd. Suite 10-15 Pleasanton, CA 94566 chezanami.org **Christian Youth Theater**

Tri-Valley P.O. Box 1586 Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-421-1351 cyttrivalley.org

Citizens for Balanced Growth 661 S. N St. Livermore, CA 94550 CitizensForBalancedGrowth.org

CityServe of Tri-Valley P.O. Box 1613 Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-223-6947 cityservetrivalley.org

Community Health Education Fund CHEF/TVNF C/O Maria Mancini P.O. Box is 420 Livermore, CA 94551

Culinary Angels 4435 First St., #142 Livermore, CA 94550 CulinaryAngels.org

Exceptional Needs Network P.O. Box 3149 Livermore, CA 94551 925-215-2281 ennetwork.org

Fertile GroundWorks 4743 East Avenue Livermore, CA 94550 925-344-9090 Fertilegroundworks.org Friends of the Livermore

Library P.O. Box 2483 Livermore, CA 94551 www.friendsoflivermoreli-

Friends of Open Space

and Vineyards P.O. Box 1191 Livermore, CA 94551 fov.org

Goodness Village 1660 Freisman Rd. Livermore, Ca 94551 Goodnessvillage.community

6601 Owens Drive, Suite 100 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925-417-8733

BeHively.org **Hope Hospice** 6377 Clark Ave. Dublin, CA 94568 925-829-8770

HopeHospice.com/donate Interfaith Sharing Inc. 678 Enos Way Livermore, CA 94551 925-366-5567

saintbartslivermore.com Las Positas College Foundation 3000 Campus Hill Drive Livermore, CA 94551 925-424-1010

LPCFoundation.org Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society P. O. Box 901 Livermore, CA 94551 l-ags.org

Livermore-Amador **Symphony Guild** P.O. Box 1049 Livermore, CA 94551 925-447-6454 Livermoreamadorsymphony. org/guild

Livermore Area Recreation and **Park District Foundation** P.O. Box 3403 Livermore, CA 94551 925-373-5730 Larpd.org/larpd-foundation

Livermore Art Association P.O. Box 216 Livermore, CA 94551 925-449-9927 Livermoreartassociation.org

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Inc. P.O. Box 172 Livermore, CA 94551 Livermorefilam.org

Livermore-Granada **Boosters** 2117 Fourth St. Livermore, CA 94550 livermoregranadaboosters.org

Livermore Heritage Guild P.O. Box 961 Livermore, CA 94551 925-449-9927 Lhg.org

Refuge 4743 East Ave. Livermore, CA 94550 925-895-4167 HomelessRefugeLivermore.com

Livermore Homeless

Livermore Lab Foundation c/o UC Office of National Labs 1111 Broadway, Suite 2130 Oakland, CA 94607 Livermorelabfoundation.org

P.O. Box 975 Livermore, CA 94551 805-405-8743 Livermore Pleasanton Fire Fighters Foundation

4847 Hopyard Road

Suite 4, PMB 303

Livermore Lions Club

Pleasanton, CA 94588 Livermore Valley **Education Foundation** 849 East Stanley Boulevard PMB Box 143 Livermore, CA 94550

Livermore Valley Opera P.O. Box 1002 Livermore, CA 94551 925-321-6964 Livermorevalleyopera.com

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center 2400 First St. Livermore, CA 94550 925-373-6100 LivermoreArts.com

Monthly Miracles 5211 Demarcus Blvd Dublin, CA 94568 Monthlymiracles.org

Movements For The Mind Movements For The Mind.com movements for the mind @ Museum on Main

603 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566 902-462-2766 Museumonmain.org **NAMI Tri-Valley** P.O. Box 5563

Pleasanton CA 94566 925-980-5331 www.nami-trivalley.org Open Heart Kitchen 1141 Catalina Dr. # 137, Livermore CA 9 4550

(mailing address only) 925-580-1616 OpenHeartKitchen.org **Pacific Locomotive** Assoc., Inc. Operators of Niles Canyon Railway

P.O. Box 515 Sunol, CA 94586-0515 (510) 996-8420 NCRY.ORG **Partners for Change** Tri-Valley

4743 East Ave. Livermore, CA 94550 650-474-9962 pfctv.org Paws In Need

Info@Paws-In-Need.org 925-551-1877 Paws-In-Need.org

Pleasanton Art League P.O. Box 23 Pleasanton, CA 94566 Pal-art.com

Pleasanton Community **Concert Band** P.O. Box 135 Pleasanton, CA 94566 info@pleasantonband.org PleasantonBand.org

Quest Science Center P.O. Box 2129 Livermore, CA 94551 925-292-8099 Quest-Science.org

Reins In Motion Therapeutic Riding Program P.O. Box 1001 Livermore, CA 94551 reinsinmotionca.com

Livermore P.O. Box 2181 Livermore, CA 94551-2181 http://www.rotarianfoundationlivermore.org

Rotarian Foundation of

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation 5890 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 104 Pleasanton, CA 94588 866-862-7270 HealingTherapiesFoundation.org

School Of Imagination & **Happy Talkers** 9801 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568 925-829-9555 Schoolofimagination.org

Senior Support Program of The Tri-Valley 5353 Sunol Blvd. Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-931-5378 SSPTV.org

Shakespeare's Associates, dba Livermore Shakespeare Festival P.O. Box 2616 Livermore, CA 94551 (925) 443-2273 LivermoreShakes.org

Shepherds Gate 1660 Portola Ave. Livermore, CA 94550 925-443-4283 ShepherdsGate.org

Sleep In Heavenly Peace Alameda Co. Daniel.curtis@shpbeds.org 510-827-7033 Shpbeds.org

SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc/Meals on Wheels 2621 Barrington Ct. Hayward, CA 94545 510-881-0300

Sunflower Hill info@sunflowerhill.org 925-800-1042 SunFlowerhill.org

The Taylor Family Foundation P.O. Box 2450 Livermore CA, 94551 925-455-5118 TTIF.org

P.O. Box 11143

Pleasanton, CA 94588 TVAR.org **Tri-Valley Conservancy** 1457 First St. Livermore, CA 94550 925-449-8706

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Trivalleyconservnacy.org Tri-Valley Haven 3663 Pacific Ave. Livermore, CA 94551 925-449-5842 TriValleyHaven.org

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance P.O. Box 2467 Livermore, CA 94550

TVNPA.org

Tri Valley Reach P.O. Box 5564 Pleasanton, CA 94566 TriVallyReach.Org

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre P.O. Box 1445 Pleasanton, CA 94566 info@trivalleyrep.com Trivalleyrep.org

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare 1111 E. Stanley Blvd. Livermore, CA 94550 925-373-4560 GiveValleyCare.org

Valley Concert Chorale P.O. Box 286 Livermore, CA 94551 Valleyconcertchorale.org Valley Dance Theatre

2247-B Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925-243-0925 Valleydancetheatre.com

Valley Humane Society 3670 Nevada St. Pleasanton, CA 94566 925-426-8656 ValleyHumane.org

FREE NONPROFIT LISTING FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS. If you would like to be added please email kim@independentnews.com



Granada High School hosted a varsity boys' soccer game against Amador Valley May 12. The score was unavailable at **press time.** (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Granada Lefty Pitches No Hitter

Granada High School sophomore Joshua Morano pitched a no-hitter on the road in Danville last Friday as the Matadors defeated Monte Vista Mustangs 4-1.

Granada also defeated Monte Vista at home on Saturday, scoring eight runs in the bottom of the sixth inning in the 10-5 win.

Morano, a lefty who has already committed to the University of Arizona, struck out nine and walked three in seven innings on Friday. He also singled, walked, and a stole a base in the game.

Monte Vista took a 1-0 lead on an unearned run in the fourth inning, but Granada evened the score in the fifth and added three more runs in the seventh in-

The Matadors finished with 10 hits, including two each from Will Wentworth, Xavier Lortie, and Logan Mock.

On Saturday, Monte Vista took a 3-1 lead against Granada into bottom of the sixth inning, when the Matadors rallied for eight runs. Monte Vista scored two in the top of the seventh.

Granada (9-8) had homeand-away games scheduled this week against Liver-

Livermore (2-18) lost two before picking up a win against Amador Valley in a three-game series last week. The Amador Valley Dons defeated Livermore 7-3 on Monday and 12-0 on Wednesday, before the Cowboys notched a win on Friday, 3-0.

Amador Valley (7-8) will face Foothill High School three times this week. Foothill moved to 12-7 after defeating Dublin twice last week, 11-4 and 12-1.

Dublin (5-11) has a home-and-away series with Dougherty Valley (9-13).



The Livermore Cowboys' varsity lacrosse team hosted the Foothill Falcons May 14. Livermore won 12-11. (Photo - Doug

Pleasanton Soccer Fields Gain First Aid Equipment

On April 27, Gable Heart Beats teamed up with City of Pleasanton and Pleasanton RAGE Girls Soccer Club to place an automated external defibrillator (AED) at Val Vista soccer fields and another for Pleasanton Rage to have at Ken Mercer Sports Park. The Gable Heart Beats Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3)organization

whose mission is to save lives by early detection of heart issues through heart screenings and by placing defibrillators in places where kids are present. The organization sends a thank vou Mayor Karla Brown, Pleasanton Rage, and Erin Sharpe for accepting the AEDs. Together, they are making soccer fields a safer place to play.

Pleasanton Seeks Input on Future Skatepark

Pleasanton will hold a virtual meeting on Wednesday, May 26, to solicit feedback on design features for a possible skatepark at Ken Mercer Sports Park.

To participate in the Zoom-based meeting, scheduled for 6-7:30 p.m., go to www.pleasantonskatepark.com.

Amador Valley Students Awarded For Aspirations in Computing

High School students have received Bay Area NCWIT awards for Aspirations in Computing (AiC).

Nitya Ayyagari, Hiya Shah, Suhani Singhal, and Deanna Wood are all Bay Area affiliate winners. Singhal also received a national honorable mention.

Sponsored by the National Center for Women & Information Technology, the award recognizes high school students who identify as women, genderqueer,

Four Amador Valley or non-binary for their computing-related achievements and aspirations as part of an effort to encourage a diverse range of students to pursue careers in technology.

'Encouraging young women's interest in technology careers is critical," said NCWIT co-founder Lucy Sanders. "Our workforce needs their creativity and unique perspectives to produce technology that is as broad and innovative as the population it serves."

Retired Coach Stays Connected, Offers Support

By Mike Wood

When Ken Grace officially retired from Chabot College more than a year ago, by no means was anyone expecting the energetic, legendary coach and teacher to slow things down.

True to form, the longtime track and field coach keeps his ties with Chabot through his regular update posts on the Chabot Track and Field Alumni page on Facebook. He's volunteering as an assistant coach at Dublin High, and he remains close with current Gladiators track and crosscountry coach Kyle Robinson, who runs the programs he once competed in as an athlete and later as an assistant to his mentor.

These are all great ways for Grace to stay connected to the sports he's spent a lifetime involved with and to Chabot, where his coaching and teaching careers spanned over a quarter of a century. He can enjoy the competition, training, dispensing advice and developing and renewing relationships without having to deal with the not-so-fun forms and paperwork. He enjoys providing updates on the impact his former athletes are making in the world today.

"We have a few doctors and teachers who are now principals, and one guy

back to the 1960s.

who started his own business working with special needs kids," Grace said. "It all started with track and field and went way beyond that."

The digital media world has created a great avenue to keep this huge, extended Gladiators family close.

"God only gave me one kid biologically, but gave me hundreds through track and field," Grace said. "It's so important to keep the connection ... I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for Chabot College."

Grace presented his final USATF Level 1 track and field clinic to area coaches in January 2020, anticipating a logical winnowing down in his retirement. Then the unexpected happened with the COVID-19 pandemic. Always eager to share words of advice and wisdom as a coach and instructor in health, kinesiology and physical education, Grace has a simple message that he imparts to Dublin High athletes but is relevant to all in these trying times as we emerge from the pandemic.

"The biggest thing is, enjoy the moment," Grace said. "That really strikes it home for me ... let's enjoy the moment."

While renowned for his long tenure at Chabot, Grace is no stranger to

Even in an abbreviated scrimmage-based format this

spring, Chabot track and field is still seeing athletes

producing exceptional marks, and even more signifi-

cantly, having several student-athletes turn their ac-

complishments, drive and desire into rewards at the

four-year level. In this season, marks are considered

unofficial but times are of the caliber to break into

Chabot's prestigious all-time record book that dates

Johnson from De Anza High in Richmond. Johnson

ranks fourth all-time in the 200 and fifth in the 200.

Jaelen Craft, who specializes in the 400 hurdles, will

be headed to Cal Poly Ponoma. Craft's father, Jerry, has

the 200, which would tie the school record and has recorded a second-best all-time in the 100 with a 10.46.

Floriolli's opportunities include UCLA and Academy

of Art in San Francisco, Robinson said. Decision time

is coming soon for Floriolli, who also has made a name

for himself with his "The Flo Fam" YouTube channel.

dividually, unattached, so that they must provide their

own entry fees and their own transportation.

During the spring, Chabot athletes can participate in-

"She has been killing it for us," Robinson said.

been Chabot's sprints coach the past seven years. Then there is Alonzo Floriolli, who has run 21.00 in

Heading off to Sacramento State is sophomore Daja

Dublin, having coached there from 2006 to 2007, when his nephew, Jeremy,

competed there. "It's nice, because I can be the fill-in guy," Grace said. "Chris Williams has a lot of good assistants, so I help him where I'm needed and float most of the time. Lately, I've been hanging

with the pole vault group.' Several of the current group of Dublin track athletes have opted to compete in a late May unofficial East Bay Athletic League championship meet, even though it is the day after graduation.

"A bunch of seniors are going to do that the day after graduation, and that's so impressive," Grace said.

Robinson also competed at Chabot for Grace before moving on to Chico State. At that time, Robinson lost his father, and the bond grew with his former coach after that tough loss.

"Ken has been such an active part of my life, and we have built a strong relationship," Robinson said. "Our relationship goes way beyond sports, and he is like a second father to me."

Nowadays, Robinson enjoys the friendship and having someone who is "always a great resource" a phone call away.

"He is such a perfect example of what coaching at the JC level is about, or coaching at any level," Robinson said. "I don't think there's anyone better at being there and support-

ing you than Ken." Though Grace enjoys the competitive aspect, his

drive goes beyond that. "He cares about all that stuff, but he cares about people more than anything else," Robinson said.



Coach Ken Grace

Grace brought along Robinson as an assistant and protege, encouraging him to get his master's degree. He prepared Robinson to eventually take over the programs in 2013, with Grace moving to an assistant role and gradually stepping away as an assistant, then retiring from fulltime teaching in December

"It was a good handoff - just like a relay — a good handoff," Grace said.

At a recent event co-hosted with Las Positas at Saint Mary's College, there were some nice performances from Chabot athletes. The event included over 250 athletes, though with social distancing protocols, the athletes were not all present at the same time.

Chabot freshman Jacob Lawrence from Amador Valley in Pleasanton ran a 3:55 in the 1,500, with his 4.12 mile a "huge improvement," Robinson noted.

Nico Melendres from Moreau Catholic in Hayward won his 800 heat with a 1:56, competing in the secondfastest heat of the event.

Athletes have traveled as far as Southern California to compete unattached. Chabot has only had two scrimmages, both with Diablo Valley College, saving a year of eligibility from what would have been a very short

"One positive thing is our freshmen will still have four years of eligibility, so they can compete here next year for one year of eligibility and then three years at a university, which is a good marketing pitch.'

With things looking up for a return to normal, Robinson is looking forward later this year to what is expected to be a full fall season in cross country followed by a full track and field season.

"We have a really good recruiting class, so we're looking pretty strong for both sports."

Booster Club Announces Finalists for Olympian Awards

The Livermore-Granada Boosters Club has selected 12 finalists for its annual Olympian Awards, three boys and three girls from each of the city's compre-

hensive high schools. Four winners, a boy and girl from each school, will be announced later at the Olympian Scholarship Awards banquet. Each winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship, while the other eight finalists will each re-

The finalists from Granada High School are:

ceive \$750.

Sophia Anderson – With a grade point average of 4.4, Anderson also earned four varsity letters and was captain of the water polo team. She also volunteers with the Granada Little League Challengers Baseball program and is on the Teen Advisory Board for the Livermore Public Library. She plans to major in biochemistry in college.

Hannah Callahan – With a GPA of 4.16, Callahan also earned three varsity letters and was captain of the Granada volleyball team. She plans to study business administration at Chapman University while competing on the school's volleyball team.

Shea Hill - Hill, with a GPA of 4.38, competed in both track and cross country, earning eight varsity letters. She plans to run track and cross country at the University of California, Davis, while majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology.

Carter Bailey -- With a GPA of 3.32, Bailey also earned four varsity letters in wrestling and is currently ranked 14th in the nation among high school wrestlers at 126 pounds. He plans to continue wrestling at Lehigh University while majoring in business.

Wesley Chiba -- With a GPA of 4.43, Chiba was a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student. He also earned six varsity letters in track and cross country and was captain of the cross country team. He plans to major in computer science at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Anthony Molleson --Molleson, with a GPA or 4.13, was named to the honor roll every semester at Granada and received the school's Scholar Athlete Award. He also earned five varsity letters in football, baseball, and track and field, and was captain of the football team. He plans to major in journalism at California Polytechnic State University at San Louis Obispo.

The finalists from Livermore High School are:

Kinsey Claudino - With a GPA of 4.16, Claudino also earned four varsity letters in lacrosse and two in basketball. She participated in the school's marching band, Winter Drumline,



Sophia Anderson

Concert Choir, Symphony Orchestra, and Jazz Labb. She was a member of the All-Northern California Honor Band. Claudino plans to attend San Diego State University.

Cameron Ho - With a GPA of 4.12, Ho received seven varsity letters while a member of the school's stunt and cheer teams. She plans to major in business management at Arizona State University.

Viviana Valenton -- Valenton, with a GPA of 4.43, earned seven varsity letters in cross country and track. She also participated in the Green Engineering Academy, Girls Exploring Technology, Science, and Engineering Together, and the Society of Women Engineers. Plans to continue running track at California State University, Sacramento, while majoring in civil engineering.



Carter Bailey

Tyler Martin - With a GPA of 3.15, Martin earned six varsity letters in football, basketball, and track. He is also active in Boy Scouts and is working on his Eagle Award. Martin plans to attend Las Positas College.

Jaxson Mosby - Mosby earned six varsity letters in football and volleyball, while maintaining a GPA of 3.65. He was president of the Associated Student Body. has served as ASB Leadership President and has been involved with numerous school events. Jaxson plans to major in psychology at Arizona State University.

Shaun Smith - With a GPA of 3.69, Smith also earned four varsity letters in football and basketball. He plans to major in business and play football at Santa Barbara City College.

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

Local Students Inducted Into Phi Kappa Phi

Two students from Pleasanton and one from Dublin were inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society at the University of California, Davis this spring.

Inducted into the nation's oldest collegiate honor society were Cliff Moran and Valeria Blanco, from Pleasanton, and Michelle Lee, from Dublin.

Pleasanton Students Named to Belmont Dean's List

Four students from Pleasanton were named to the Dean's List at Belmont University for the spring semester.

Lauryn Hedges, Garret Newman, Haley Segundo, and Isabella Segundo all earned a grade point average of 3.5 or better at the private, Christian university in Nashville, Tennessee.

Aviation Company Awards Flight Scholarship

Five Rivers Aviation, a fixed-based operator at the Livermore Airport, has awarded a flight scholarship to Bae Son, a sophomore at the University of California,

Son, from Fremont, will receive 50 hours of flight time in a Cessna 172, including fuel, during which he plans to earn his license as an FAA-certified flight in-

Son started an aviation club at Washington High School in Fremont and was a volunteer at the Oakland Aviation Museum, where he was a docent and helped clean the aircraft.

The summer before his senior year of high school, Son earned his pilot's license after receiving a scholarship from the Upwind Foundation that included nine weeks of ground school and nine weeks of flight instruction.



Bae Son, left, recently received a flight scholarship from Five **Rivers Aviation.** (Photo - Pete Sandu)

AIRPORT

(Continued from first page)

munity, representing 4.1% of the month's operations. That number is drastically higher than March 2020, which saw only 13, and February of this year, which saw 141. Moran speculated the cause could be related to higher interest in the airport.

"A lot of the complaints, when we looked back, are related to when we had KaiserAir brought forth by the airport commission," he said. "We noticed that when there are certain items of any hot button issues toward the airport, we generally do see an increase in complaints . . . also, people are home a lot more. So, they are hearing things all day they didn't hear in 2019, when they were in the city working.

Moran said the KaiserAir proposal is a building project intended for the south side of the airfield. Residents were concerned KaiserAir would be flying large jets, like the Boeing 737, on a regular schedule, but Moran said this would not be the case.

"The Livermore Municipal Airport is classified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a general aviation airport, so we are an airport that will accept all types of general single engine piston all the way to corporate charter aircraft, as well as possibly any military visitations we may have," Moran said. "We are not a commercial service airport or what is also known as a part 139

O'MALLEY

crime."

(Continued from first page)

Under her leadership, the

office expanded the victim/

witness division to 40 vic-

tim advocates and opened

the Family Justice Center,

the second of its kind in the

country. The Federal Judi-

cial Center provides servic-

es primarily to women and

children who are victims of

domestic violence, sex as-

sault or human trafficking,

or elder/dependent care

a leader in combating hu-

man trafficking. In 2009,

H.E.A.T Watch (Human

Exploitation and Traffick-

The office has become

introduced

abuse or child abuse.

O'Malley

airport, like San Francisco, Oakland or San Jose, where they meet specific FAA requirements to accept and receive scheduled air carrier aircrafts. such as Southwest, United, American or Alaska Airlines."

Moran noted the four requirements for accepting large air carriers — dedicated firefighting apparatus, specific pavement markings, lighting and signage — aren't met by the Livermore Airport. He explained the types of planes normally seen there are smaller aircrafts, functioning as on-demand charter planes.

One topic covered in complaints submitted in public comments addressed planes flying outside of curfew hours.

"Third-party apps like 'Flight Aware' show that a flight is scheduled to fly in way before curfew hours actually end," wrote the commenter, whose name was not shared. "What is the airport doing to reign in such pre-planned curfew violations?

Moran explained that the airport is federally funded and open 24 hours a day; it is, therefore, unable to restrict aircraft coming in at cured approximately 500 any time of the day or night. tenants, most of whom are Staff can only ask pilots to voluntarily restrain flying during nighttime hours, with no recourse to punishment.

"What we do have is the voluntary refraining from night flying, and it is in all of our best interest as pilots to the greatest extent pos-

100% have gone off to col-

O'Malley led an initia-

tive on both a national and

statewide level to test fo-

rensic sexual assault kits.

After discovering the crisis

of untested sexual assault

kits in police evidence,

O'Malley took the issue to

the White House. During

his term, President Barack

Obama signed into law the

Sexual Assault Kit Initia-

ten, sponsored and advo-

cated for more than 61 bills

that have become law in the

State of California. Since

the beginning of her district

attorney career, she has

fought for the appropriate

treatment of inmates; Indi-

viduals sentenced to State

Prison for the most serious

crimes committed in Alam-

eda County make up less

than 3% of the total prison

alternative courts to in-

carceration than any other

O'Malley has also writ-

sible ... to be good neighbors and work with our community," Commissioner Adam Bertsch said. "But we don't have any teeth, we can't physically stop people from flying in.'

The commission also welcomed newly appointed member Victoria Schellenberger. She filled a vacancy left earlier this year when a commissioner left the board. The airport commission is composed of five members appointed by the city council. Per requirements, three members must be amateur or commercial pilots. Commission members are meant to represent and further the interest of the aviation industry to serve public interest, advise city council and the planning commission on development and zoning, and manage other matters related to the airport.

The Livermore Municipal Airport is owned by the City of Livermore and operates as a division of the public works department. The airport is a general aviation reliever airport, capable of serving private business, corporate tenants and customers primarily in the Tri-Valley. It has se-Livermore and Pleasanton

The Livermore Municipal Airport is located at 680 Terminal Circle in Livermore. For more information on the Airport Commission, visit www. cityoflivermore.net/citygov/clerk/comms/aac.htm.

county in the State and per-

haps the country, per capi-

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA

– 15) said he was saddened

to hear that O'Malley will

no longer serve as district

for the commitment she's

made throughout her career

to help victims of domestic

violence, human trafficking

and sexual assault," Swal-

well said. "For me, Nancy

has played many roles: hir-

ing attorney, boss, mentor,

friend and, most recently,

wedding officiant. As Nan-

cy's service to the office

comes to an end next year,

her work to serve justice

will go on. I'm excited for

grateful to those who of-

fered support over the

tributed to the success and

progress of the office and

to the safety of our commu-

course of her career.

nity," she concluded.

O'Malley said she was

"Your voices have con-

what's next."

"But we are so fortunate

ta," O'Malley added.

attorney.

FIRE

(Continued from first page)

south part of Livermore, if we had to," Testa said. "Fortunately, it never came to that.'

predictions Making about the severity of any fire season is always tricky business. This year's outlook is complicated by two opposing conditions both related to the relative lack of rain in the region this past winter. The scarcity of rain resulted in less growth of grasses and other vegetation that can feed wildland fires, potentially minimizing the amount of fuel available to any fire that is ignited. However, the fuel that is available is extraordinarily dry, particularly for this time of year. "That's what makes it

difficult to predict what this fire season will look like," said Joanna Leal, Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) public affairs manager. "Last year in Alameda County, we had the SCU Lightning Complex, which originated in Alameda County. It was a unique situation that we don't regularly see, so it's hard to predict what we'll see if you look at years past. For the Alameda County Fire Department, we're focusing on preparedness rather than predicting what the season will look like."

As of the May 10 fire season start date, operational changes went into effect at the LPFD and the ACFD. They are intended to help both agencies get more resources fighting vegetation fires more quickly. Both agencies have increased their staffing and added a specialized wildland response engine called a Type 6 to many regular calls.

"A regular engine can't go out to a wildland response," Leal explained. "(With the Type 6), we can respond to something if it comes up while we're out and about. We are well prepared to respond regardless of the situation. We're prepared to go as soon as that call comes in."

Now is the time for homeowners to prepare for the wildland fire season, particularly those who live in urban-rural interface zones, said Testa. Fires that devastated Santa Rosa in 2017; Vacaville last year starkly illustrated how vulnerable homes in those zones can be to wildfire.

"There's a really great website – readyforwildfire. org - that has really userfriendly information for folks that don't necessarily know all of the lingo," Leal said. "It's really simplified to the amount of defensible space you should have around your home or other structures; building materials that you can use to protect your home; and some of the things to be aware of where fire can get in, like a laundry vent. It has a ton of information. They also have resources in Spanish. It also goes into how to be prepared if you have to be evacuated, and some of the things to think about in those situations."

Cal Fire reports that as of May 9 there have been 1,812 reported fires in California that have burned 9,392 acres in the state this year. That represents 653 more fires and 7,736 more acres that burned over the same period last year.

"We've seen increasingly devastating fires over the last several years, which are likely to only continue to worsen," said Alameda County District 4 Supervisor Nate Milev. "We all need to do our part and I encourage residents to clear brush and potential fire hazards from your property, have an evacuation plan in place, and remember to check in on those vulnerable members of our community should disaster strike.'



Following historic state fires and worsening drought conditions, officials urge residents to prepare for the 2021 fire season. Seen here in August 2020, firefighters battle flames that scorched Del Valle. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

SCHOOLS

(Continued from first page)

virtual education while remaining part of the school district.

"Our plan is next year, we are back in it," said Philomena Rambo, for the spokesperson Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). "It will be the usual bell schedule . . . the alternative will be the virtual academy, so students can either be in school or they can enroll in the virtual academy."

Livermore's virtual options will entail the K-8 Virtual Learning Academy and the Virtual Learning 9-12 Program. Fully credentialed LVJUSD teachers will teach both courses, and students will be able to participate in extracurriculars like sports and dances at their local school site.

Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) also announced its virtual option for next year, called the Pleasanton Virtual Academy. The district has stated publicly it is committed to providing for a full-time, in-person return, but also wanted to offer a flexible, tuition-free remote learning option for all students.

'We do have students who are thriving in the remote learning environment for a variety of reasons, including the flexibility that's offered through asynchronous learning," Patrick Gannon, said PUSD spokesperson. "Our district will continue to provide a remote learning option that offers students the same flexibility over their learning through our new Pleasanton Virtual Academy on an ongoing basis beginning next year."

Students in the virtual academy will also have the option to participate in activities at their local school sites.

Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) has announced it intends to open full-time, five days each week in the new school year. The board also recently voted to include a virtual option for the district, though details haven't been ironed out.

"We held a virtual town hall and talked about the virtual academy and fielded questions from the community," said DUSD public information officer Chip Dehnert. "So we are in the process of incorporating some of their thoughts and concerns as we pull together specifics on the program and some

of that is dependent on some legislation going on in the capital."

Schools reopening fully raises the question of what could happen next winter, when cold and flu season once more strikes in tandem with an increase in COVID-19 cases. Rambo thinks campus closures are unlikely.

"Closing campuses is not our call — that is the county health department's call - and right now they are averse to closing schools," she said. "We might close a classroom if there is an outbreak, but districts do not have the wherewithal to close the schools."

Rambo speculated things might be done differently in future, based on the hindsight of 2020. She pointed out that research has shown children are not as vulnerable as originally believed. All districts continue to remind families to keep sick students at home and monitor symptoms.

For more information on LVJUSD's virtual options, visit livermoreschools. org/virtuallearning.

For more information on PUSD's virtual option, visit www.pleasantonvirtualacademy.com/.

ing), a blueprint for all communities to build their anti-trafficking initiatives. H.E.A.T. Watch is now a national model. In 2011, O'Malley cre-

ated the District Attorney Justice Academy (DAJA) for juniors and seniors in high school. More than 1,000 students have participated in the program, and

population. 'We have created more

PANDEMIC (Continued from first page)

He further added that the city will hold off on a number of smaller projects. Alessio spelled out the long-term concerns in need of monitoring to be stormwater mandates, infrastruc-

ture and pension costs. Bob Vinn, city engineer, then led the presentation on the proposed capital improvement plan (CIP) for FY 2021-23. Of the recommended projects, 42% of the \$152.5 million in the CIP would go toward downtown revitalization, with the next largest chunk (19%) going toward wastewater. Other CIP projects include water, airport, transportation and infrastructure, trails, traffic control, street maintenance, storm drains, public safety, public buildings, and parks

and beautification. The council directed staff

to bring back the final operating budget and final CIP for consideration at a June meeting.

"The pandemic was a major hit to us," said Woerner. "And I want to thank staff and everyone for responding well and for figuring out how we can manage going forward."

BROTHEL

(Continued from first page)

rented.

Detectives served search warrants at the Park Sierra apartment and Liu's Hayward home on May 24, 2017. Officers located the female victims and "evidence related to prostitution," the report said.

A detective wrote in his report that he believed Liu rented apartments "for the sole purpose of procuring residences to operate brothels."

Prosecutors allege in a criminal complaint filed against the men that in addition to leasing the apartments and paying

for utilities where the alleged prostitution crimes occurred, they allegedly laundered more than \$362,000.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Offices suspects the men furnished the apartments, including the mattresses; provided condoms, food and shelter to the sex workers; and drove them to and from the apartment. In addition, Liu and Xu allegedly advertised the services on backpage.com, a website that was shut down by the FBI, U.S. Postal Inspection Service and Internal Revenue Service in 2018.

In addition to depositing and withdrawing tens of thousands of dollars into and from their own bank accounts, the men allegedly used their profits to "fund extravagant shopping sprees in Las Vegas" and purchase luxury items. They also made investments and acquired real estate, prosecutors charge.

Illegal proceeds were used to establish local and overseas Shell businesses, including Paxino, Yuman Kitchen and Jason Electronics, prosecutors allege.

In partnership with the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC), Kaiser Permanente will offer a tuition-free, mini-MBA program to Northern California businesses in underserved communities.

The ICIC's Inner City Capital Connections program is designed to help small businesses develop the capabilities needed to grow and create new jobs. The 40-hour program includes executive education, webinars, coaching, and connection to capital resources.

Since 2016, Kaiser, which operates several healthcare facilities in the TriValley, and the ICIC have collaborated to help more than 1,700 Northern California business in creating more than 2,000 jobs. Two-thirds of those businesses were minority owned.

"Kaiser Permanente recognizes how difficult the COVID-19 pandemic has been for many of the small businesses in our communities that struggled over the past year," said Carrie Owen Plietz, president of Kaiser Permanente's Northern California region. "Economic opportunity is a key driver of health. Our communities must be economically vibrant to improve indi-

Kaiser Permanente to Sponsor Mini-MBA for Small Businesses viduals' health outcomes and reduce health disparities for all residents, including our members.'

> The two-day, virtual mini-MBA program will be offered in July, and it is open to businesses throughout Northern Califor-

To apply, go to https://survey.alchemer. com/s3/6157904/2021-ICCC-Application-Form. To nominate a small business, go to www.survey.alchemer.com/ s3/6157424/2021-ICCC-Nomination-Form. The deadline to apply or to nominate a small business is May 28.

www.independentnews.com

Dublin Blood Drive Set

The American Red Cross will conduct a blood drive at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 4.

Donors will have their temperature checked and everyone must wear a mask. In addition, all blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies, with the results available to donors within 7-10 days on the Red Cross website or by using the Red Cross donor app.

To schedule a blood donation, go to www. redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code, DublinCommunity, or call 800-733-2767.

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION **PLACING LEGAL NOTICES** Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578119 The following person(s) doing business as: FancySchmancy 525 63rd ST, Oakland, CA 94609, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tabitha Brown, 525 63rd ST, Oakland, CA 94609, 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: 03/01/21 Signature of Registrant/s/ Tabitha Brown, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 13, 2021. Expires April 13, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4856. Published April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578341 The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Theorem. 2. FM Associates, 462 Hamilton Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Forrest L. Sass. 462 Hamilton Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) 2/9/1995 Signature of Registrant/s/: Forrest L. Sass. Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2021. Expires April 22, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4858. Published May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578262 The following person(s) doing business as: Simple Machining, 2681 Vernazza Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Avneet

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

Singh, 2681 Vernazza Dr., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact tious business name(s) listed above: 4/4/2021. Signature Registrant/s/: Avneet Singh, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2021, Expires April 20, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4859. Published

May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578345 The following person(s) doing business as: Warrior Wellness, 300 Lee Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Erin Elizabeth Chandler, 300 Lee Avenue. Livermore, CA 94551, This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erin Chandler, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2021. Expires April 22, 2026. The Independent

Legal No. 4860. Published

May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578375 following person(s) doing business as: Tay's Cookie Co., 513 Regulus Rd., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Taylor Matthews.513 Regulus Rd., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Taylor Matthews, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2021. Expires April 23, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4861. Published May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 478448 The following person(s) doing business as: Fullfeel, 8048 Golden Eagle Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Zoomifier Corporation, 8048 Golden Eagle Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588 This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date

on which the registrant first business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/1/2021. Signature Registrant/s/: Chetan Saiya, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 27. 2021. Expires April 27. 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4862. Published May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 578506 following person(s) doing business as: Andersen Bakery, 31097 Courthouse Dr., Union City, CA 94587, is hereby regis tered by the following owner(s): Hans Bakery, Inc., 30703 San Clemente Street, Hayward. CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) above: 10/15/20. Signature of Registrant/s/: Arthur Kao, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 28, 2021. Expires April 28, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4863. Published May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN AND HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED PLANS **CALIFORNIA WATER** SERVICE LIVERMORE DISTRICT

California Water Code (CWC)

10610 through

10656, known as the "Urban Water Management Planning Act" (Act), require all urban water suppliers that provide water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supply more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (LIWMP) at least once every five years. UWMPs support a water supplanning to ensure that adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water demands under defined conditions. The UWMP must describe and evaluate sources of sunply, reasonable and practical efficient uses, reclamation, and demand management activities. The components of the plan may vary according to an individual community or area's characteristics and its capabilities to efficiently use and conserve water. The LIWMP must also address measures for residential, commercial, governmental, and industrial water demand management. Further, Section 10632 of the CWC requires that everv urban water supplier shall prepare and adopt a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) as part of its plan (UWMP). Section 10632.2 provides that. urban water supplier

WSCP will be incorporated

shall follow, where fealisted above: 4/1/2021. sible and appropriate, the Signature of Registrant/s/: prescribed procedures and Ericka McCoy, Owner. This implement determined shortstatement was filed with the age response actions in its County Clerk of Alameda on water shortage contingency April 14, 2021. Expires April plan...or reasonable alterna-14, 2026. The Independent tive actions, provided that Legal No. 4866. Published descriptions of the alternative May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021. actions are submitted with the annual water shortage assessment report pursuant to Section 10632.1." The

as an appendix of the UWMP. One of Cal Water's service areas is the Livermore District, which is located in Alameda County, The Livermore District serves portions of the ments of unincorporated Alameda County lands. As a defined urban water supplier. Cal Water is preparing an update to its UWMP that will address the water service conditions in the Livermore District. It is Cal Water's intious business name(s) listed tent to adopt that UWMP, above: 3/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Danielle Adona. and the incorporated WSCP, and file that plan as required with the Department of Wastatement was filed with the ter Resources, the California County Clerk of Alameda on State Library, and any city or April 28, 2021. Expires April 28, 2026. The Independent county within which Cal Water provides service no later Legal No. 4867. Published than 30 days after adoption. May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021. Schedule of upcoming actions: On or about May 4, 2021, an electronic copy of the Draft

2020 UWMP and WSCP will

be available for review. After

a public review period, a pub-

lic meeting to receive com-

ments on the Draft UWMP

and WSCP Plan for the Liver-

more District will be held on-

line on June 1, 2021, at 5:00

p.m. The electronic copy of

the UWMP, WSCP, and addi-

tional information on the pub-

lic meeting, including a link to

participate, is available at the

following internet address:

https://www.calwater.com/

conservation/uwmp-review/

If you are unable to attend

the scheduled public meet-

ing but want to provide

comments regarding the pro-

posed UWMP or WSCP, you

may send your comments via

email to PlanningInfo@cal-

water.com. Cal Water will re-

2021 UWMP and WSCP from

May 4 through June 8, 2021.

Please share this notice

with others that may have

Independent

lished May 13, 20, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 578381

Cimino, Wise Choice VA,

389 Basswood Cmn. #12.

Livermore, CA 94551, is

hereby registered by the

following owner(s): Judith

Anne Cimino, 389 Bass-

wood Cmn. #12. Livermore.

CA 94551. This business is

conducted by an Individual.

The date on which the reg-

istrant first commenced to

transact business under the

fictitious business name(s)

listed above: N/A. Signature

of Registrant/s/: Judith Anne

Cimino, Owner. This state-

ment was filed with the

County Clerk of Alameda on

April 26, 2021. Expires April

26, 2026. The Independent

Legal No. 4865. Published

May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 578146

The following person(s) doing

business as: Tha Moxie, 604 E

17th ST. Oakland, CA 94606,

is hereby registered by the

following owner(s): Ericka

McCoy, 604 E 17th ST. Oak-

land, CA 94606. This business

is conducted by an Individual.

The date on which the reg-

istrant first commenced to

transact business under the

fictitious business name(s)

following person(s)

as: Judith

4864.

matter

Le-

Pub-

interest in this

5/13, 5/20/21

CNS-3468431

No.

doing business

The

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578280 The following person(s) doing business as: Crystal Smiles Dental, 3028 West Jack London Blvd. Livermore. CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Colin Young DMD, Inc., 842 31st Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121. 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/: Colin Young, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2021. Expires April 20, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4868. Published May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE T-Mobile USA is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications ity on a building located at 2388 2nd Street, Livermore Alameda County, CA 94550. Modifications include replacing existing antennas and equipment at a top height of approximately 49.7 feet above ground level on the 42.0-foot building. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6121001022 -MAB EBI Consulting, 6876

4869. Published May 2021. ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Susquehanna Trail South.

York, PA 17403, or via tele-

phone at (617) 909-9035.

The Independent Legal No.

Case No. HG 20098388 SUPERIOR COURT OF **CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF** ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED

PERSONS: Petitioner: Veronica Nubia Metante P.O. Box 2596 Dublin, CA 94568 (925) 325-4972 vmetante@ymail.com filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name Veronica Nubia Metante Proposed Name: Veronika Nubia Metante THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before

this court at the hearing in-

dicated below to show cause,

if any, why the petition for

change of name should not

be granted. Any person ob-

jecting to the name changes

described above must file

a written objection that in-

cludes 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 peti-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578531

Your local news source is delivered free

to readers in the Tri-Valley.

We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary

contribution of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.

You can sign up online at www.independentnews.com/contribute/

or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550

THE Undependent

tion should not be granted. If The following person(s) doing no written objection is timely es LLC, 16183 Ashland Avfiled, the court may grant the netition without a hearing enue #108, San Lorenzo, CA 94580, is hereby registered NOTICE OF HEARING by the following owner(s): Date: 7/2/2021 Danielle Adona, 16183 Ashland Avenue #108, San Loren-Dept: 17 zo, CA 94580. This business The address of the court is: is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first 0akland, CA 94612 commenced to transact business under the ficti-

Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street 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 Member. the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: Independent News-The 94550 CA Dated: May 7, 2021 /s/: Judge Tara M. Desautels Independent Legal No. 4870 Published May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021

> FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 578505 The following person(s) doing business as: Andersen Bakery, 2033 Stoneridge Mall is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hans Bakery, Inc., 30703 San Clemente Street, Hayward, CA 94544. 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: 11/06/20 Signature of Registrant/s/: Arthur Kao, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 28, 2021. Expires April 28. 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4871. Published May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021.

> FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578749

The following person(s) doing business as: New City Locksmith Inc., 6994 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the owner(s): New City Locksmith Inc., 6994 Parkway, Dublin. CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) nature of Registrant/s/: Kuldeep Singh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 5, 2021. Expires May 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4872. Published

May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578642

The following person(s) doing business as: WorkSHIFT. 1689 Arrowhead Avenue Livermore, CA, 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Crisabel Monterola Thomas, 1689 Arrowhead Avenue, Livermore CA, 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature Registrant/s/: Crisabe Monterola Thomas, Owner, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2021. Expires May 2026 The Independent Legal No. 4873. Published May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578321

The following person(s) doing business as: Catastrophe Cat Grooming, 383 South I Street, Livermore, CA, 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Devin Frankland, 3884 Harvard Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: April 1, 2021. Signature of Registrant/s/ Devin Frankland, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 21, 2021, Expires April 21, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4874. Published May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 579019

The following person(s) doing business as: C.P. Delivery LLC, 3541 Kings Canyon CT, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): C.P. Delivery , LLC, 3541 Kings Canyon CT Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/1/2011. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ronald N. Potter, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4875. Published May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2021.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal

Our current weekly adoption

events include: Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm. Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours:

11am to 3pm. Visit our website WWW TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportuni-

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FiV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats &

> **EMPLOYMENT** 65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

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

MERCHANDISE

114) FOR SALE

115)ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

LIVERMORE MOVING SALE 5155 LILLIAN CT. Sat. May 22nd **Everything Must Go!** No Early Birds. Please! GARAGE SALE! May 13 May 20

Moving Sale: Includes furniture, household items, clothing, books, stuffed animals, golf clubs, and more. 2424 Calderon Ct. Livermore

1 day only. 8:00 am to 3:00 pm May 22, 2021

Moving Sale! Saturday May 22 & Sunday May 23 8:00am - 4:00pm 1823 El Padro Dr. Livermore, CA 94550 (Cross street "Concannon") Office furniture. Kitchen ap-

VISA

pliances, Tools, Compressor. Books & Bookcases. Holiday & Vintage items including Princess House and other Crystal, Albums, CD's, DVD's and VHS Tapes, plus much more!

> TO PLACE **CLASSIFIED AD** Call (925)243-8000

18) FREE SECTION

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

127) LOST/ FOUND NOTICES /

ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

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

REAL ESTATE

170) LAND FOR RENT 157) OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENT-ALS TO SHARE

160) BOAT / RV

RENTAL

Inland Valley Publishing Co. Client Code:04126-00001 Re: Legal Notice for

Classified Ads The Federal Fair Housing Act Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in

violation of the law.



Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory Local guide to the Valley's Leading

Real Estate Professionals & Services

MIKE FRACISCO (925) 998-8131

Fracisco Realty Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmi MikeFracisco.com





Sandee Utterback (925) 487-0524 WWW.SANDEEU.COM

Specializing in Livermore's BERKSHIRE | Drysdale HATHAWAY | Properties Finest Homes

DENNIS SERRAO Broker Associate /REALTOR Serving Livermore & Tri-Valley since 1999 dennis.rebroker@gmail.com TriValleyHomeSellers.com (925) 876-3756

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

CHASE 🗘

Cal BRF#01251442

DRE #0131263 Mortgage Banking Serving Livermore and Danville areas Michelle Elliott

925-212-6907 | Fax: 866-378-1616 michelle.d.elliott@chase.com michelle.d.elliott@cnase.com nomeloans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott NMLS ID: 694685 **Gordon Corsie**

Senior Home Lending Advisor



Real Estate Broker Scotsman Realty Group

SCOTSMAN REALTY GROUP (925)290-8410 925.202.5497 www.thescotsman.com

To Place Your Ad, Call or Email: 925.243.8010 kim@independentnews.com



Cindy Greci

(925) 784-1243

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

Dominic Greci

(925) 525-08<u>64</u>

R GRI

TO PLACE YOUR AD. PLEASE CONTACT:

Gail Henderson

(925) 980-5648

925.243.8010 kim@independentnews.com

homes@gailhenderson.com www.gailhenderson.com DRE 01709171 Sereno

Behind the Scenes at **Uncorked Competition**

By Laura Ness

There's little doubt that the wine competition Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) Executive Director Laura Mercier started 12 years ago to spotlight the wines grown in the Tri-Valley has been a resounding success.

The organization has come a long way since the days of crowding into the Wine Steward. Year over vear, the wines get better overall, and each year, new wines and winners emerge.

This year's competition had 165 entries compared to 127 in 2020, with 28 wineries participating. In the Other Dry White category, for example, there were 28 entries compared to 11 in 2020, and 17 Chardonnays in the under \$35 category, up from eight. Having the winemakers vet the entries, selecting only the wines they feel are the best examples to go forward to the final judging is enormously instructive for all involved. It makes the medal round judging really tough.

Judges were Mercier, Jim Gordon of Wine Enthusiast and Fred Swan of NorCal Wines, and they all came away impressed. They were stoked to declare these by far the best they have judged from the region yet, from the stunning Occasio Malvasia Bianca to Rhonda Wood's Pink Pearl Rose to the impressive Nella Tella Cabernet Sauvignon, made by Collin Cranor.

"The trend has generally been upward for some time," said Swan. "The leap even from last year was very notable.'

Choosing Best of Class was really straightforward in some cases, when a wine really stood out. It was tougher when many of the contenders were equally strong, as in the over \$40 Cabernet Sauvignon and Petite Sirah categories, where all the entries received double gold medals, and among the Bordeaux Blends, where four out of six entrants were double golds.

Congratulations to the Best of Class winners:

- Dave Hendrickson, Occasio Winery 2020 Malvasia Bianca (Other Dry White)
- Darin Winton, Cellar 13 Winery 2019 Chardonnay (\$35
- Dave Hendrickson, Occasio Winery 2019 Reserve Chardonnay (over \$35)
- Rhonda Wood, Wood Family Vineyard 2020 Pink Peark Grenache Rose (Rose)
- Dane Stark and Jack Guinchard, Page Mill Winery 2018 Merlot (Merlot)
- Aaron Luna, Fenestra Winery, 2017 Infrared (Rhone
- Rhonda Wood, Wood Family Vineyards 2018 "The Cap-
- tain" (Bordeaux Blends)
- Larry Dino, Cuda Ridge 2018 Petit Verdot (Other Reds) Steven Mirassou, 2018 L'Autre Cote Cabernet Franc
- (Cabernet Franc) Darcie Kent, Darcie Kent Vineyards 2018 Tesla Neigh-
- bors Cabernet Sauvignon (\$40 or less) Collin Cranor and Griffin Beemiller, Nella Terra Cellars
- 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (over \$40) John Willumson, Concannon 2018 Nina's Reserve Cuvee

The Best White, Red and Best of Show will be announced



Some Livermore cop cars have gone on to live in England as citizens' vehicles. (Photo courtesy of Bob Kowalski)

Livermore Police Car Gets New Celebrity Life in England

In 2016, Bob Kowalski, from March, Cambridgeshire, England, imported a straight-outof-service Livermore Police Department patrol car. Old cruisers are usually repainted, reused as cabs or scrapped, but car 27 escaped that fate and ended up on the other side of the pond. There, it is legal to drive it on the public roads,

as it cannot be confused with the British police cars. According to Kowalski, there are about 30 Ford Crown Victorias in the UK, and they attract a lot of attention, as people know them from U.S. cop movies. After contacting the Livermore PD, Kowalski was able to confirm this car was in service as a pool car from 2009 to 2015.

Students Win Water Awareness Contest

tary school students were recognized last week for their winning entries in the annual Livermore Water Awareness Poster Contest.

The theme this year was Without Water, Life Would Be Pretty Dry."

Placing first in the annual contest were Sunset Elementary third-grader Stella Marcel, Rancho Las Positas fourth-grader Yul Kim, and Sunset Elementary fifthgrader Kayla Dippo.

Second place went to Altamont Creek third-grader Utsha Dey, Emma C. Smith Elementary fourth-grader Selina Sharma, and Altamont Creek fifth-grader Angeline Roy.

Third went to Emma C. Smith Elementary thirdgrader Prabveer Singh Sa-

Nine Livermore elemen- rang, Leo R. Croce Elementary fourth-grader Jacob Ryan, and Leo R. Croce Elementary fifth-grader Avery Lockhart.

The contest was open to all third, fourth and fifth grade students enrolled in a Livermore school or living in the city. It was sponsored by California Water Service, Livermore Municipal Water, and the Zone 7 Water Agency.

"We believe it's never too early to teach our students about the importance of water conservation," said Steve Aguiar, Livermore's interim water resources manager. "We have sponsored this contest for more than 20 years, and our hope is that the hundreds of Livermore students who have participated over the decades have now become water-wise adults.'



NO Industrial Solar Plants

Support our GoFundMe campaign to stop the destruction of North Livermore Valley Learn more & donate at: www.SaveNorthLivermoreValley.com

Livermore's trusted independent insurance agency since 1953!

HOME AUTO BUSINESS HEALTH LIFE



Contact us TODAY for your free quote! (925) 447-2565

or email us at: save@genemorganinsurance.com

Keep your insurance premium dollars local!

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency

(Petite Sirah) www.genemorganinsurance.com LIC#0M28209 on May 20. Welcome to a new kind of grocery store Colifornio Now Open in Pleasanton The Eatery & Drinkery Mouth-wateringly delicious and freshly made for you. Pick up tri tip BBQ, juicy burgers, noodle bowls, burritos, coffee, juice, wine and beer on tap. Take it home or enjoy here on our outdoor patio. SMOKE & FIRE BB



GRAND **OPENING** SPECIAL!

Kimchi Pulled Pork Burger or Brisket **Topped Burger**

GRAND OPENING \$ SPECIAL!

Smoked & Fire BBQ Plates



Beers on Tap

- Shadow Puppet Sierra Nevada Speakeasy
- Dust Bowl 21st Amendment • Sudwerks
- Bike Dog • Two Pitchers · High Water
- Common Cider
 Heineken
 - Modelo
 - · Coors Light
- **OPENING** SPECIAL!

Fresh Lemonade or Cold Brew Teas

ENJOY OUR OUTDOOR PATIO

Relax and unwind outside. Our patio is the perfect place to watch the game on one of our large screen TVs while enjoying a bite to eat and a refreshing drink.





All items & prices available only at Pleasanton Lucky California, 6155 W. Las Positas Blvd. Prices valid 05/19/21-05/25/21