

On East Bay Freeways

\$7M Grant To Support 3 Wildlife Crossings

By Jeff Garberson

REGIONAL — The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) and several partners will soon begin work on a multi-year project to build three wildlife crossings for East Bay freeways.

Starting October 1, a \$7,094,000 grant from the State Wildlife Conservation Board will support the first, 3-year phase of the project, which includes choosing crossing sites as well as planning and engineering the crossing structures themselves.

The entire effort, including building the crossings, may take as long as 10 years, according to Katherine Boxer, ACRCD chief executive officer.

Mountain lions, elk, deer, bobcats and smaller mammals like badgers are expected to make use of the crossings, according to previous studies.

The studies, conducted by CalTrans, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, UC Davis and others, suggest four possible crossing areas: I-580 has two, on the Dublin grade and in the Altamont region, with one each on I-680 near Fremont and State Route 84 near Sunol.

Final site decisions won't be made until topographic and geologic studies are completed, according to an email from Boxer. "Soils make a difference!" she wrote.

In an interview, Boxer said that the purpose of the crossings is to restore some of the ability of East Bay wildlife to move freely across the East Bay Hills and the Diablo mountain range.

For countless millennia, before high speed roadways created deadly barriers, wildlife movement was part of the natural landscape.

The barriers have both near and long term consequences for wildlife, Boxer said.

Roadkill is the most obvious. Vehicle collisions can kill an individual animal but sometimes destroy an entire family when the

(See GRANT, page 7)



Fans of inflatable jump houses enjoyed the opening of Pleasanton's FunBox at the Stoneridge Mall Shopping Center on Saturday, Aug. 26. The FunBox boasts 25,000 square feet of inflatable structures and games. Open for 12 weeks, the FunBox offers 90-minute sessions for \$28. It is open from 3-7:30 p.m. on Friday and 10:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Montessori-Inspired School Gets Green Light from Planning Commission

By David Jen

DUBLIN — A new private school will provide students with large classrooms and a high degree of individualized teacher attention when it opens in western Dublin this fall.

Enlight Academy, a K-5 Montessori-inspired private school, received planning commission approval last week to operate a private elementary school at the former Nielsen Elementary School site at 7500 Amarillo Road.

"(The Montessori system

is) is a very hands-on way of teaching kids with some tools and apparatus," said Aamir Mir, an Enlight Academy board member. "The student-teacher ratio is very low

"(The Montessori system is) a very hands-on way of teaching kids with some tools and apparatus."

— Aamir Mir, Enlight Academy board member

as well. It's very applicative and it's designed to inculcate independence and a form of learning in kids which, we believe, lasts for a long period of time."

The commission voted unanimously at its meeting last week to approve the conditional use permit for the project.

While Nielsen Elementary was designed for more than 300 students, and served 312 students before it closed in 2008, the new permit allows for only 20 students across K-5 grades.

"And the new school expects a total of only 10 to 15 students in its inaugural year," said Assistant Planner Allison Schuster.

The new school will

(See SCHOOL, page 10)

Piano Tuning Program Hits the Right Notes

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — Las Positas College is offering a certificate program in the fine art of tuning pianos when classes start Friday.

The LPC Institute of Piano Technology will train new people and experienced piano technicians to tune, voice, regulate, repair and maintain pianos.

Piano tuning holds potential for a competitive income.

According to Thumbtack.com, tuners start around \$100 per hour, and that rate increases with the size and complexity of the piano.

Peter Acronico, a registered piano technician and instructor for the new course, said new technicians wouldn't be able to work full time until they built a clientele, but could eventually earn an independent income.

"A person could walk out of this program, if they were diligent and had a talent, and could start making a supporting income pretty quickly," he said. "Las Positas College has programs no other colleges offer, like this one. This class is hands-on and Immersive, and that's important."

Acronico has more than

25 years' experience in the field of piano tuning and has maintained the college's fleet of pianos for eight years. He was instrumental in the school being designated an All-Steinway School by ensuring all music students are provided with Steinway & Sons pianos on campus.

The technician program is partially funded by \$15,000 from the Perkins Grant, a federal grant designed to encourage colleges to offer vocational training programs.

Students are required to pay approximately \$500 in

(See PIANO, page 10)

BART Bailout Bill Put on Hold

SB 532 Covers Regional Transit Agencies

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — A bill that would have raised bridge tolls by \$1.50 to ease BART's looming massive budget deficits was placed on pause last week amid a lack of support in the California legislature.

State Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, who authored SB 532, said he would work with other state legislators to try to find another solution to fund BART and the region's transit agencies.

"It has become apparent that there is significant support for the bill among the Bay Area legislative delegation but also significant opposition," Wiener's office said in a statement. "Given this division among Bay Area legislators, Senator Wiener and Assemblymember (Lori) Wilson have determined that the best course is to pause the process and engage in dialogue over the fall, so that when

the Legislature reconvenes in January, the Bay Area delegation has agreed upon goals and strategies."

Tri-Valley State Sen. Steve Glazer, D-Orinda, said he was "glad that the plan to increase bridge toll fees has been put on hold."

"Before we spend more taxpayer dollars on public transit, we must ensure that the systems are run safely, efficiently and honestly," Glazer said. "And we can only do that with adequate oversight and accountability. BART is a transit agency poster child for stonewalling oversight and refusing to right-size revenue shortfalls with operational efficiency."

Wiener's bill, which would have raised tolls from 2024 to 2028, also faced a wave of opposition in the U.S. Congress after he proposed it in July. U.S. Reps. Mark

DeSaulnier, whose dis-

(See BART, page 9)



For the first time in Tri-Valley sports history, a new girl's flag football competitive team has been formed. The team debuted Saturday, Aug. 26, during a scrimmage at Granada High School in Livermore. See additional photos on page 7. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Dublin CEO Convicted of Fraud

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A Dublin resident who ran four Bay Area software companies has been sentenced to two years in prison for fraudulently obtaining \$3.1 million in pandemic relief loans and for failing to pay more than \$2 million in employment taxes, prosecutors said.

Kishore Kethineni, 50, admitted in U.S. District Court in San Jose last February that he and his two brothers engaged in a scheme to secure the forgivable loans under the federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), a COVID-19 plan to help small businesses stay afloat.

Kethineni also admitted to withholding taxes from his employees' paychecks from 2014 to 2018, and failing to send the money to the IRS, prosecutors said.

That resulted in many of his employees facing audits and investigations after they filed their personal tax returns.

"I express my profound remorse for my actions and the harm I have caused to the victims," Kethineni wrote in a letter to Judge Edward Davila before his sentencing last Friday. "I understand that my behavior was unac-

ceptable and that it has had a significant impact on their lives. I take full responsibility for my actions and am committed to making amends."

Prosecutors said Kethineni — owner of BiteGate Inc. in San Ramon; Dinamics Inc. in Santa Clara; Neelinfo Inc. in Santa Clara; and TechPMC Inc. in San Jose — and his brothers submitted at least 12 PPP loan applications from April 2020 to May 2021 on behalf of their companies, making false representations and providing bogus payroll data.

Kethineni's brothers owned Boxstertech Inc. in Santa Clara; Hiretechforce Inc. in Sunnyvale; and TechGlobalSystems Inc. in Milpitas.

Prosecutors said the applications, sometimes virtually identical, resulted in the approval of nine loans totaling more than \$3.1 million. PPP loans were primarily made available to business owners to pay their employees during COVID-19 shutdowns.

"Upon receipt of the PPP loans, Kethineni redirected significant amounts to him-

(See FRAUD, page 9)



Conner Close, manager of Gay 90's Pizza Company in Pleasanton, has added his spicy hot sauce to the pizza parlor's menu. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Pizza Pioneer Bottles And Sells New Hot Sauce

By Christina Cavallaro

PLEASANTON — Gay Nineties Pizza Company General Manager Conner Close remembers the moment he came up with the idea for his Green Gas Hot Sauce, which is now on the menu at the Pleasanton restaurant and has developed somewhat of a cult following.

Close was having breakfast at Vic's in Pleasanton and had doused his food with Tabasco sauce.

"I thought, 'wow, this is in every kitchen and almost every country. These guys must be totally crushing it,'"

he said. "How awesome to start a business with that as your product and to be as big as they are."

Close's fiery hot green pepper sauce is now a chicken wings appetizer dunkable and being distributed to area retailers, but it took a lot of work to get to that point.

With the idea firm in his head, he went to the grocery store where he gathered an array of fresh green pepper varieties to add to the salts, vinegars and spices he already had on hand for his first prototype—concocted in a small bullet blender that

(See PIZZA, page 9)

PET OF THE WEEK



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Butch is a hiking hound with a heart of gold! Overflowing with affection, he's a tranquil trailblazer who loves to wander with whimsy and comfort with cuddles. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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Seinfeld Star Jason Alexander Headlines Livermore Valley Arts' Fundraiser



Jason Alexander

Tony Award-winning actor and comedian Jason Alexander will headline Livermore Valley Arts' annual Brilliance at the Bankhead fundraising gala on Saturday, Sept. 9.

Best known for his nine-year stint as George Costanza in the television series "Seinfeld," Alexander has also appeared in several Broadway plays and won a Tony for the lead role in "Jerome Robbins' Broadway," an anthology

of musical numbers from shows directed or choreographed by Robbins, including "The King and I," "On the Town," and "West Side Story."

Alexander also had roles in several Hollywood movies, including "Pretty Woman" and "Shallow Hal," and voiced characters in several Disney Studio's animated films, including the gargoyle in "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." More recently, he has had a recurring

role as Mr. Lundy in the hit TV comedy "Young Sheldon."

Livermore Valley Arts (LVA), the nonprofit organization that operates the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center, said Alexander would "bring comedy and a whimsical salute to Broadway musicals" to the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, accompanied by the Livermore-Amador Symphony. The fundraiser will also

offer silent and live auctions and the chance to win a 14K white gold diamond bracelet courtesy, valued at \$17,000 and donated by Lance Cavalieri Jewelers. Raffle tickets for the bracelet begin at \$50.

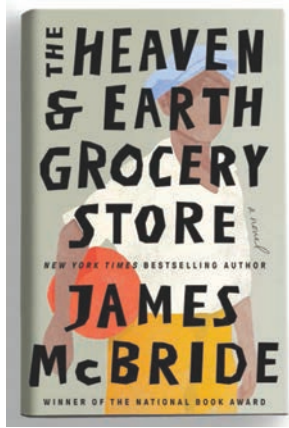
Raffle tickets are available by calling the Bankhead box office, 925.373.6800. The drawing will be announced at the fundraiser, but the winner does not need to be present. Tickets to the fundraiser

begin at \$195 and include dinner provided by On the Vine Catering in Livermore and live music provided by Matt Finders and Friends and East Bay Jazz. Tickets are available at livermorearts.org.

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Towne Center Books to Host Best-Selling Author James McBride

Towne Center Books will host best-selling author



James McBride for its Read It and Eat luncheon series at the Lucky Supermarket in Pleasanton on Monday, Sept. 11.

McBride is the author of the 1995 memoir "The Color of Water," which describes growing up in a large African American family in the projects of Red Hook, Brooklyn, led by his light-skinned, Polish-born Jewish mother.

The full title of McBride's book, which spent more two years on the New York Times best-seller list, is "The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His

White Mother."

McBride is also the author of "Miracle at St. Anna," about the mostly African American 92nd Infantry Division during World War II. Published in 2002, the book was adapted for a movie of the same name, directed by Spike Lee, in 2008. His other works include "The Good Lord Bird" and "Song Yet Sung."

McBride's latest novel, "The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store," tells the story of Black and Jewish residents in the Chicken Hill neighborhood of Pott-

stown, Pennsylvania, and their overlapping lives in the 1920s and 30s.

Towne Center Books said it moved its luncheon presentation to the patio at the Lucky Supermarket, 6155 Las Positas Blvd., to accommodate more people than its usual store presentations. The program begins at noon.

Tickets are \$35 and include lunch, the presentation by McBride, and an autographed copy of his latest book. For those who already have a copy of his book, the cost is \$15.

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Childrens Chorus Accepting Students for Fall Classes

The award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus is accepting registrations for its fall training classes in Livermore and Pleasanton now through Sept. 15.

To register, go to cantabella.org

The chorus, for youths in pre-K through 12th grade, has also started rehearsals for its annual December concert.

This summer, the chorus, directed by artistic director Clem Cano, took second

place at the 12th annual Golden Gate International Choral Festival in the Youth Historical and Youth Folk categories.

Chorister Renna Popli, who attends Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton,

took first place in the Youth Solo competition, while Pleasanton chorister Helen Li, who attends the Dorris-Eaton School in San Ramon, took third in the Children's Solo competition.



Registration is open now through Sept. 15 for the Cantabella Children's Chorus. Under the direction of Artistic Director Clem Cano, the fall classes will be offered in Livermore and Pleasanton. (Photocourtesy of Cantabella Children's Chorus)

Livermore Library to Host Medical Providers for Veterans

Medical providers will be at the Livermore Civic Center Library from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28, to provide examinations, consultations,

and referrals for veterans enrolled in the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System.

The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's outreach

team will also be on hand to answer questions for veterans who have not yet enrolled or who are uncertain about their eligibility. Veterans who are not yet

enrolled should bring a copy of their DD-214.

For more information, go to library.livermore.gov or call 925-373-5500.

Dublin Boulevard to Close Briefly for Trail Bridge Installation

Dublin will close Dublin Boulevard from Dougherty Road to Hacienda Drive from 11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 9, to 11 p.m. the following day, Sunday, Sept. 10, for installation of the Iron Horse Trail Bridge.

Dublin Boulevard is scheduled to be closed a second time, from 11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23, to 7 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 24, for construction of concrete walkways leading to the

pedestrian and bicycle crossover, according to an announcement from the city.

The Iron Horse Regional Trail generally follows a Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way that was abandoned in 1977.

It extends through Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and other towns in Alameda and Contra Costa counties and connects directly to both the Dublin/Pleasanton and Pleasant Hill BART

stations.

The trail, maintained by the East Bay Regional Park District, intersects Dublin Boulevard at an angle, forcing hikers and bicyclists to use the sidewalk and cross the road at the Scarlett Drive traffic light. The new 230-foot arch truss bridge is expected to provide for a safer and quicker crossing.

The \$14 million bridge project is being paid for with funds from Alameda

County Measure BB, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Measure RR, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Transportation Fund for Clean Air.

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PREFERRED BROKERS

Dublin Sets Blood Drive for Oct. 6

Dublin will host an American Red Cross blood drive at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 6.

To schedule a donation, call 800-733-2767 or go to RedCrossBlood.org and use the sponsor code "DublinCommunity" or zip code 94568.

Donors can streamline the process by going to redcrossblood.org/rapidpass on the day of the blood drive to complete the pre-donation reading and health history questions.



The Pleasanton Cat Extravaganza & Rescue Awareness event is back for another year at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Sept. 9-10. The show is hosted by Loving Cats Worldwide, and features cat competitions for Best of Show and other titles. (Photo courtesy of Loving Cats Worldwide)

Fairgrounds to Host Cat Extravaganza

The Alameda County Fairgrounds will host the Pleasanton Cat Extravaganza & Rescue Awareness Event, sponsored by Loving Cats Worldwide, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, and Sunday, Sept. 10.

The event will feature an International Cat Competition for Best of Show, along with an opportunity

for local cat owners to enter their pets in competitions for Best Kitten, Best Cat, Best Alter, and Best Household Pet. Judges explain the history and characteristics of different breeds.

A portion of the proceeds from the show will go to the Tampa-based Steven Meserve Foundation. Meserve is the founder of Loving Cats Worldwide.

In addition to breeders and product exhibitors, local rescue organizations will be on hand to help those interested in adopting a cat.

Two-day tickets for the show are \$25 for adults, \$22 for students and seniors, and \$16 for children from 5 to 12. They are available online at lcwwgroup.com/events/pleasanton-wtgdg.

Developer of Siri to Speak at Amador High

Adam Cheyer, who helped create the natural language technology that led development of Apple's voice-recognition digital assistance program, Siri, will be the guest speaker for the first in a series of "Futurescape Talks" planned by the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) and the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation (PPIE).

Cheyer co-founded Siri Inc. after working on artificial intelligence programming at SRI International, a nonprofit research center in Menlo, California, originally started by Sanford

University.

He left Siri in 2012 and later co-founded both Sentient Technologies, an artificial intelligence company in San Francisco, and Viv Labs, which developed the open-platform personal assistant program, Viv. In 2016, Viv Labs was acquired by Samsung.

Cheyer will speak at Amador Valley High School at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31.

The sponsoring organizations, PUSD and PPIE, said the "FutureScape" series would invite "seasoned professionals from Pleasanton, Tri-Valley, and the Bay

Area to provide high school students, educators, and parents with insights into diverse careers."

"By fostering a connection between these experts and the student community, we aspire to provide a rich and localized learning experience that not only imparts knowledge, but also nurtures a deeper understanding of the industries and fields that shape their immediate environment," according to a joint announcement.

The program is free, but reservations are required. To register, go to tinyurl.com/5h47hn7v.

Huge Turnout for Summer Health Fiesta

More than 700 area residents attended the Salud Y Sol (End of Summer) Health Fiesta last week, hosted by a coalition of Tri-Valley nonprofit agencies under the banner of Livermore Connects.

Held at May Nissen Community Park in Livermore and funded by a grant from Alameda County, the four-hour event focused on health-related activities, along with a backpack giveaway for students.

In June, the county awarded a two-year grant to the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance (TVNP), which coordinates activities among other nonprofit organizations, to expand community outreach in north Livermore. Other members of the sponsoring coalition included Axis Community Health, City Serve of the Tri-Valley, Tri-Valley Haven, and Open Heart Kitchen.

Open Heart Kitchen, which provides hot meals at locations in Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin, also fed members of the community who attended the Salud Y Sol Fiesta, while Axis Community Health, which operates healthcare facilities in all three cities provided free dental care kits.

CityServe, which offers crisis intervention services, sponsored care-based games for kids, while Tri-Valley Haven, which provides housing and support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, gave out 230 backpacks filled with school supplies.

Other nonprofits also joined in the festival.

La Familia, which provides health services in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, offered free vaccinations and health screenings. The Tri-Valley Air Quality Alliance, managed by TVNP, handed out fans. Quest Science Center entertained the kids with a hands-on demonstration of

rocketry and Holy Cross Lutheran Church gave away 500 books.

The goal of Livermore Connects, according to its website, is "to improve health and economic outcomes for vulnerable populations, including Black, African American, Latinx, LGBT+, formerly incarcerated,

survivors of trauma and violence, and those experiencing housing insecurity/homelessness. Services will include mental health, healthcare, emergency financial assistance, temporary and permanent housing, food distribution, and domestic violence support."

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EDITORIAL

BART Must Get Fiscal House Under Control Before Toll Increases

Lacking support from his colleagues, state Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, acted properly last week when he paused his bill to raise bridge tolls by \$1.50 to alleviate the financial mess that BART created for itself.

We agree with a comment from Tri-Valley State Sen. Steve Glazer that BART doesn't deserve a bailout until it can get its act together.

It shouldn't be up to commuters to make up for the blatant mismanagement at BART that has resulted in massive deficits — \$93 million by 2025 and \$1.2 billion by 2032 — that could lead to severe cuts in service. For years, BART has needed to get its house in order before pleading for financial help.

Wiener said he knew toll hikes might be a tough sell when he proposed SB 532 in July to fund transit agencies, particularly BART. But, he said, robust public transit was necessary for San Francisco's beleaguered downtown to recover, and that would not happen if BART, and fellow transit agencies, Muni and Caltrain, unraveled.

"I understand that many people

aren't fans of bridge tolls," Wiener wrote July 28 on X, formerly known as Twitter. "No one likes paying them and for lower income drivers, they can be a hardship."

Seven Bay Area congress members, including the Tri-Valley's Eric Swalwell and Mark DeSaulnier, wrote to Gov. Gavin Newsom and top state legislators in early August to express their opposition to the bill.

The \$1.50 toll increase from 2024-2028 was to be added on top of an already approved \$1 toll increase set to take effect in 2025. Drivers currently pay \$7 to drive over most Bay Area bridges, including the Hayward-San Mateo Bridge and San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. (Driving over the Golden Gate Bridge costs \$8.75.)

The federal lawmakers said the increases would have a disproportionate impact on low- and moderate-income residents and be borne most by workers who have no choice but to commute. In addition, the payments would mostly be paid by East Bay residents for the benefit of San Francisco residents.

We agree that something needs to be done to improve the financial uncertainty facing BART, which must survive without severe service cuts at a time when climate change requires taking more gasoline-fueled vehicles off our roadways.

BART officials expect a \$93 million deficit by Fiscal Year 2025, and a potential \$1.2 billion debt by 2032. Ridership has been improving since the COVID-19 outbreak but has not reached pre-pandemic levels.

BART needs to allow Inspector General Claudette Biemeret to do her job to identify wasteful spending, fraud and ways to reduce costs. Her predecessor, Harriet Richardson, quit her post in March, saying BART officials and unions didn't allow her to provide oversight of the agency. That can no longer be the case.

BART's board must figure out how to lower expenses, make the system's stations and trains safe and clean, and entice more commuters to use their trains before passing the burden to commuters.

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 Monday before publication.

Corrections Needed

David Furst, Livermore

In the Thursday, August 17 edition of The Independent, Larry Altman wrote about the Funeral Home approved by the Board of Supervisors to be built outside of the Urban Growth Boundary. While the article was, in general, very well written, there were two

misstatements that needed to be corrected. First, and most importantly, he stated that some of the members of Friends of Open Space and Vineyards (FOV) were also involved in litigation to relocate Eden Housing. FOV has not taken a position on Eden Housing. Any member of FOV is free to take a position on this issue, but they do so as individuals and do not represent FOV. Less important, he again erroneously stated that this project, "will be the first cemetery established in Alameda County in 100 years". The Five Pillars Cemetery near Laughlin Road was established in the 1990's.

Aramis Project Tyler O'Brien, Livermore

Intersect Power's 347-acre Aramis Solar project has cleared its legal hurdles and stands ready for development. Now the question is: will the project conform to the myriad of conditions set upon it by the county, and will Intersect Power live up to its many promises?

During the lengthy approval process, Intersect Power's representative Marissa Mitchel made many claims: that Intersect has no intention of seeking additional lands in the North Livermore Valley upon this project approval, that the project would have no negative impact on the natural habitat and environment of local species, that they would bring in sheep to graze — chickens to lay eggs — and bees for

honey to keep the agricultural nature of the valley alive amongst their industrial scale project. We will have to wait and see if these claims prove true or if, as many residents have assumed, Intersect's appetite for the North Livermore Valley extends well beyond a small 347-acre project bogged down with numerous conditions and mitigations. I cannot fathom how this project is economically feasible without securing further acreage. If Intersect ever hopes to sell this project, it must be bundled with additional local projects.

Additionally, the county instituted harsh conditions that Intersect might find hard to contend with. The most difficult of these is the requirement to screen the property from the public roadways by maintaining agricultural plantings combined with ornamental plantings to achieve said screening. Intersect itself felt this condition was too challenging, so they filed an appeal of their own to be rid of it — an appeal they lost. They will also have to plant and maintain honey-bee forage to support the apiary they promised to include with the project. Finally, they must work with the O'Brien family (the most impacted property owners) to agree to a landscaping plan to screen the project from their view. These conditions place a heavy water burden on a project in a Valley often beset with water supply issues.

These are just a few of the conditions. The project has numerous conditions of approval that must be adhered to that will prove burdensome. Should they fail to keep to these conditions, local property owners will be watching very closely for any opportunity to point out the project's failings and bring the county into another lawsuit should they fail to hold the project and Intersect Power account-

able for any missteps.

Dublin City Council and the Mayor are Hiding the Truth Mike Grant, Dublin

Dublin Citizens, the council and Mayor are up to no good again and want to put a ballot measure in the March 2024 primary to extend term limits for each of them. The reason for this urgency on this issue is because most people don't turn out to vote in the primary and they wait for the general election in November. They say the reason for this is because we, the voters, are ignorant of the new districts we live in. That is all BS!! The mayor wants to extend her term so she can wait for another seat to open up at the state level so she can run for it. When you are in office and wanting to run for another seat, you have a better chance to win that election than being on the sideline for years. The council made a comment about how we, the citizens, are uneducated about districts that are in Dublin. If this is true, then the city is not doing their job to educate the citizens. Or is this a master plan not to educate the citizens so they can keep all of us in the dark and continue to keep promises to the builders? The City Manager Linda Smith even made a comment that Staff is concerned that the citizens will not know what District they are in and who their council member is. This is another scare tactic that Linda Smith puts out to citizens, so they are confused. Why would she say this? Could it be because without the support from the council and mayor that we have in place today, she will not be able to cover up the mistakes the city staff have made? Vice Mayor Michael McCorriston even made a comment that the cost of this ballot is not a big issue and it's not about money! The staff wrote the

cost could be \$300,000 dollars. So, I ask each citizen in Dublin, is \$300,000 dollars a lot of money to you? Please watch for this item to come back on the agenda for a vote at the council meeting and tell them NO to an extension of term limits. Don't forget that we own this city, not five members on the council!

God bless each of you.

The Monied Culture Of Death and Forsaken Living Greg Scott, Livermore

The better choice: "...[A]n intertwining of science, spirit, and story-old stories and new ones that can be medicine for our broken relationship with earth, a pharmacopoeia of healing stories that allow us to imagine a different relationship, in which people and land are good medicine for each other." (Kimmerer, "Braiding Sweetgrass," 2013)

The tragic reality: The hills are called "Las Colinas," from the Spanish.

They, and the woolly mammoth bones they held, have been bulldozed through for Interstate 580. The drivers scurry by, without a sense of place, trying to outpace the cost of living, debts, and artificial intelligence replacement.

One-hundred eighty years ago, the hills were covered in oaks that provided acorns, a staple. The indigenous people leached out the tannins with the waters of the nearby Arroyo Seco, Arroyo Las Positas, and the watering holes of the low-lying floodplain. This is evidenced by the many grinding rocks ("manos") that are buried under the soil fill of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors-approved Monte Vista Memorial Cemetery property. The archaeology "consultants" walked less of this land than have the homeless that have taken refuge under the nearby I-580 bridge over Arroyo Las Positas. The bought-and-paid-for-politi-

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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Cynthia Lagodzinski, aka Gertrude Ellis the spirit of the Rose Hotel, may make a ghostly appearance during the upcoming Museum on Main annual Ghost Walk in Pleasanton. (Photo courtesy of the Museum on Main)

Museum to Host 15th Annual Ghost Walk

The Museum on Main will host its 15th annual Ghost Walk, four nights of storytelling as the curious visit nine “haunted” sites in downtown Pleasanton, on two weekends in October.

The family-friendly tours will leave from the museum, 603 Main St., every 30 minutes between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13 and Saturday, Oct. 14, and again on Friday, Oct. 20, and Saturday, Oct. 21.

Those taking the Halloween-season tours will be accompanied by a museum host carrying an electromagnetic flow meter to detect possible communications “from the other side,” according to Ghost Walk planners.

They will be met at each location by reenactors por-

traying various “ghosts” from the past, bringing their stories and Pleasanton history to life. The Pleasanton teen improv group, Creatures of Impulse, will provide several of the reenactors.

“Ghost Walk has successfully brought the haunted side of Pleasanton to life through the stories collected over the years from psychics, ghost hunters, and downtown merchants and workers,” noted Rachel Brickell, the museum’s director of education. “It’s a unique experience, more spooky than scary, with lots of atmosphere and no jump scares.”

In addition to in-person tours, the museum will offer an online virtual tour for those unable to make the

walk or may have moved away from Pleasanton but are still curious about the city’s haunted history.

The virtual Ghost Walk will be offered at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, just a few days before Halloween, over the BigMarker online platform. It will also include any evidence of the paranormal captured on recent in-person Ghost Walks and paranormal investigations.

Tickets for the Ghost Walk are now on sale and can be purchased at museumonmain.org, by phone at 925-462-2766, or in person at the museum. Tickets for the in-person walks are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under. Tickets for the virtual experience are \$25 per screen.

Park District to Host Rail Fair at Ardenwood Historic Farm this Weekend

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) will host the Ardenwood Rail Fair at the Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont over the Labor Day weekend, Saturday, Sept. 2, through Monday, Sept. 2.

The fair is a fundraiser for the nonprofit Railroad Museum, operated by the Society for the Preservation of Carter Railroad Resources, at Ardenwood Historic Farm, 34600 Ardenwood Blvd.

The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, and will include train rides, operating model trains, displays of historic railroad equipment, and

live music.

Entrance fee is \$15 for adults, with discounts for children and seniors. Ages 3 and under are free.

EBRPD will also celebrate the International Day of Peace, also known as World Peace Day, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16, at Lake Chabot Regional Park in Castro Valley.

The International Day of Peace, officially Sept. 21, was created by the United Nations in 1981 to encourage 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire around the world. This year’s theme is Actions for Peace, which encourages

both the individual and collective responsibility to foster peace.

EBRPD will also participate in California’s 39th annual Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, Sept. 23.

The park district has identified 10 cleanup sites at the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline, Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, Robert W. Crown Regional Shoreline, Point Isabel Regional Shoreline, Radke Martinez Regional Shoreline, Del Valle Regional Park, Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, and Hayward Regional Shoreline.

To volunteer, or for more information, go to

ebparks.org.

EBRPD will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month from Friday, Sept. 15, through Sunday, Oct. 15.

For information about Hispanic Heritage Month activities, go to ebparks.org/hispanic-heritage-month.

This is also calving season for cattle grazing in EBRPD parks, and the district is cautioning visitors to avoid interactions that can create a danger to both calves and people.

Calving season runs from August to October. Cattle grazing helps reduce flammable vegetation and fire risks in the parks.

EBRPD is the largest regional park system in the nation, with 73 parks in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, and includes 55 miles of shoreline, and over 1,300 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback trails.

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

cian Supervisor Haubert is continuing his destructive trend by voting against the preservation of the Livermore Scenic Corridor. He did the same to the heritage and aesthetics of Dublin (See: David Yaffe, “Thank You Supervisors,” Mailbox, 8/24/2023).

This project is more about profiteering by investors than it is about honoring the dead. The irony is that this land is going to flood. The confluence of Arroyo Las Positas and Arroyo Seco is just upstream and Robert Livermore, Jr. knew exactly what rose off the floodplain to build his house on after the

atmospheric river flooding of December 1861 through January 1862. It rained ten feet in much of Northern California.

From the mid-1800s, this land became agricultural and provided food for people. Down Las Colinas Road currently, young people raise animals for the county fair. Little do they realize that they are in competition with the usury of the dead.

A community and its culture that values death over life and the land that can sustain life, long-term, is in big trouble. It is as if our elders have no wisdom. This is an atrocity.

Goebbels Is a MAGA Prophet

Richard Andrews, Livermore

The Spokesman of the Third Reich had a way with words, as does the cult leader DJ Trump:

“If you tell a lie often enough, people will come to think it is the truth. Even you will start to believe it.” Joseph Goebbels

“The election was stolen.” Donald J. Trump

“Accuse the other side of that which you are guilty.” Joseph Goebbels.

“Biden has weaponized the DOJ.” Donald J. Trump

The “shameless one” is the reincarnation of the Prophet Goebbels. There are too many more parallels to quote here; But both of #45’s quotes tell it all.

Pray for America. We need it.

Celebration and Belonging

Trish Munro, Livermore

Back in the day, Livermore was known for its labs, for its ranchers and rodeos, and for its vineyards. The word of the day was “tolerance,” which implies allowing the other to exist without harassment, but not much more.

I can remember one year in December, with my daughter, then a preschooler clutching a tiny hanukkah, the eight-branched candleholder for Hanukkah. A well-meaning passerby asked, “Oh, is that for the twelve days of Christmas?” Tolerance: the assumption that everyone celebrates the same holiday that you do, but hey, if you don’t, that’s okay. Except it didn’t feel very welcoming. Or inclusive.

Even now, tolerance can be a stretch. In 2020, the council’s Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee heard stories of Livermore residents of color being questioned by their neighbors or by store owners for simply going about their business.

Livermore still has LLNL and Sandia—along with Livermorium Plaza and national interest in achieving fusion ignition. It still has ranchers and the World’s Fastest Rodeo—along with Stockmen’s Park and Livermore’s cultural core. Livermore still has vineyards and wineries and is working to make that industry sustainable. And Livermore still celebrates Christmas with lights and, of course, Deacon Dave’s.

But in the last few years, the words of the days are becoming “inclusion” and “belonging,” with celebrations of the many different groups that make up our quilt of a community in Livermore Valley Arts’ Cultural Celebration Series, with events taking place at Shea Plaza in front of the Bankhead Theater, celebrating with music, dancing, arts and clothing, and—of course—food.

The list begins with Indigenous People’s Day on Sept. 23. Then comes Taste of Africa on October 7, followed by the Filipino Barrio Fiesta on Oct. 8, and

PrideFest on Oct. 21. There is more throughout the year: Diwali in November, Lunar New Year in February, an AANHPI celebration in May, and Juneteenth in—of course—June. There are many other cultural celebrations that could be added to this calendar and likely will be in future years. But for now, Livermore has a set of cultural celebrations worth, well, celebrating. All these events are free and open to all. Details are on the Livermore Valley Arts calendar.

Lahaina - An Act of 5th Dimensional Informational War

Rich Buckley, Livermore

A spaced based - or low atmosphere (weaponized aircraft) energy beam (Wep-eBeam) targeted Lahaina to trigger a series of events that will lead to a former President taking over Lahaina ... filtered through a non-profit. Why? ... A very powerful positive soul living near Lahaina was targeted by negative entities who started the fires. It’ll take decades to untangle but frustrations will mount, and emotional pressures will peak in a few months leading to disclosure and equitable treatment.

Even the weather is controlled through HARRP to move the jet stream to cause maximum winds. A Wep-eBeam was fired to pinpoint the start of the fire. The winds took it from there.

Lahaina is a Gordian Knot complexity. We are fighting a 5th Generation - Information War. Insurance underwriters are not required to pay for war losses. Just as the missile attack 2 years ago was suddenly reversed by superiors saying the new guy “didn’t know” what to do and had pushed the wrong button, the same pretext is being done in Lahaina again. The insurance underwriters know what’s really going on but keep it secret while local power companies take the fall ... and why shouldn’t they take the fall after all is said and done? ... We need an Alexander the Great to slice a bold and equitable solution.

(Tom Cruise...“I want the truth” fist clenched and shaking ... “You can’t handle the truth” retorts a stern Jack Nicholson)



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Rough Season Opener for Granada Football

By Phil Jensen

The first game of 2023 was a learning experience for the Granada High School football team, which fell 42-3 to visiting Monte Vista on Aug. 25.

“It’s the first real game that we played, so, hey, we’ve just got to learn from this,” said Granada coach Marc Moses, who said the team’s effort was good. “We’re young, especially on the defensive side of the ball. ... It’s a long season and that’s why it’s a grind, and we’ve got to put this one behind us and get ready to play Heritage.”

The Matadors travel to face Heritage-Brentwood on Friday at 7 p.m. Heritage won its opener 28-25 over Foothill on Aug. 25.

In its opener, Granada was outgained 392-228 by

Monte Vista, which never trailed. Mustangs quarterback Brayden Turner completed 15 of his 18 pass attempts for 207 yards and three touchdowns. Teammate Julian McMahan rushed for a game-high 160 yards and the final two touchdowns of the game, both in the second half.

Granada’s points were achieved by Brandon Niemeyer, who nailed a 39-yard field goal with seven minutes, 45 seconds left in the second quarter to narrow Monte Vista’s lead to 14-3. It concluded a 56-yard drive by the Matadors that took nearly six minutes off the clock. Granada’s Quinn Boyd rushed for a first down on a fourth-and-one play on the Matadors’ 31-yard-line to keep the drive alive, and he also completed three passes for

34 yards on the drive.

But Monte Vista immediately answered with a 90-yard kickoff return by Brayden Breedlove for a touchdown, and the Mustangs scored again four plays later and led 28-3 at halftime.

The Matadors rushed for 118 yards in the game, led by Estevan Duarte (57 yards) and Boyd (50 yards). But Monte Vista limited Granada’s passing attack to 100 yards. Mikey Boyd had a team-high five catches for 40 yards for the Matadors, and teammate Peyton Richards had four catches for 34 yards. Niemeyer recovered a Monte Vista fumbled punt return in the second quarter, and Riley Winchell and Viliami Fisiiahi produced sacks in the game for the Matadors.



The Livermore Fuzion soccer team kicked off a new season last weekend. The girls U10 division, the Swarming Bees, above, picked up their first win on Sunday, bouncing back from a tough loss on Saturday. Goals were scored by Sienna, Abi, Clara and Caroline. Laneah came up with an amazing throw-in assist. The defense and goalies were impenetrable; great job to Lily, Lucy, Ella, Brooklyn, Valentina, Lucy and Claire. (Photo courtesy of Doug Blanchard)



Granada High School quarterback Quinn Boyd works his way through the Monte Vista High School defense for a gain on Friday, Aug. 25. Monte Vista won 42-3. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Las Positas Soccer Men Young, Strong in Spirit

By Matt Schwab

The Las Positas College men’s soccer team has just eight returners among 28 players, but it’s a high-character bunch that figures to improve as the year unfolds.

The Hawks (1-0) opened the season with a 9-1 blow-out of visiting Mendocino on Aug. 25.

The squad has a ton of homegrown talent, topped by seven Dublin High graduates, five from Granada and three from Monte Vista, which helps explain the strong team bond in college.

“One thing that I like about this group a lot is they’re all good teammates, they’re coachable, they’re good student-athletes,” says head coach Andy Cumbo, who also coaches the Las Positas women’s team. “We spend a lot of time trying to bring in the best student-athletes we can, but we really focus on character too, so we’ve been having a good time with them.”

Las Positas boasts three capable captains in returning midfielder Adrian Denoncourt, a Dublin High graduate, returning forward Edwin Zabala (Granada) and defender Luis Castillo (Hayward), a newcomer.

“All three of them, they lead in different ways, but in the end they’re all really good players and good teammates,” Cumbo said of his captains.

The Hawks expect Zabala to create a bunch of scoring chances. Denoncourt and Parker Moore (Granada), another returner, will play key roles in the midfield. Newcomers Ryan Hoopes (Granada), Eduardo Angeles (Granada) and Jayden Nguyen (Dublin) are looking solid on the back line.

Freshman goalkeeper Manny Betancourt, out of Livermore High, is looking good.

Cumbo has guided the LPC men to the playoffs four times since he took over the program in 2016; he’s also led the LPC women’s team to the playoffs every year since 2019. He also coached at Cal State East Bay and Humboldt State.

In terms of a season outlook, Cumbo said “we definitely want to be in the playoffs again, and then we’re always competing for a conference championship too. It’s still real early and we’re real young, but we’ve got that on the whiteboard.”

The Hawks play in a tough Coast-South conference that is annually loaded



Ryland Stowell is one of Las Positas’ newest members of the men’s soccer team. (Photo courtesy of Alan Lewis)

with playoff qualifiers, so the difficult nonconference schedule could help sharpen them for the stretch drive.

Las Positas Women Primed for More Success

By Matt Schwab

Las Positas, which has made the playoffs four straight times under head coach Andy Cumbo, has a lot of fresh faces and positive vibes this season.

Las Positas has 22 players, among them 12 newcomers and 10 returners.

The Hawks will be tested during a demanding schedule that kicked off on Aug. 25 with a 4-0 loss to visiting Chaffey (Rancho Cucamonga), ranked No. 3 in the Junior College National Division III Preseason Poll.

Despite the tough loss,

Cumbo described the experience as “very positive, and this young group has a better idea now of what the level is like at the top.”

He says his players welcome the challenge of facing the best.

“In the end these players just want to compete, they want to play the best players,” Cumbo said.

The Hawks’ captains are Danielle Castro (Granada), Judith Orozco (San Leandro HS) and Kim Granados (San Leandro HS).

“Those three should all be solid contributors on the field and then also in

terms of their leadership and support for the team,” Cumbo said.

Castro and Granados will bring plenty of scoring punch up top, along with Nadia Barron Santiago, a freshman from American Indian High. Key players in the midfield are returners Irie O’Donnell (Dougherty Valley) and McKenna Masinter (Dublin), along with newcomer Kaitlyn Lemus (Foothill).

Looking solid on the back line are Grace Toney (Dublin), Kailey Matta (Dublin), Kendall Cornwell (Cal HS), Brittany Truscott (Redwood) and returner Lisette Contreras (Cal HS). “Those five players should help us defensively on a regular basis,” Cumbo said.

Freshman Mia Lemus (San Leandro), the new goalkeeper, held up well against Chaffey’s pressure, along with the Hawks’ back line.

Cumbo expects the team to be a bit more technical this season, but traditionally the Hawks are defensively disciplined, hardworking and very organized, just like the Las Positas men’s team.

The Hawks are facing some state powers and conference champions early this season, so they are going for the gusto.

“Our women’s team also has the same goals (as the men’s team) of making the postseason and competing for a conference championship,” Cumbo said. “This is probably one of strongest strength of schedules that we’ve had here and probably one the toughest schedules that anybody has.”



From left: Las Positas players Alyssa Trujillo, Lissy Fitting and Lisette Contreras are some of the key players this season for the Las Positas women’s soccer team. (Photo courtesy of Alan Lewis)



Livermore High School’s Chloe Lim jumps for a spike during the girls’ varsity match against Oakley’s Freedom High School on Thursday, Aug. 24. Freedom won 3 matches to 0. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Davises Endow New Pedrozzi Scholarships

The Pedrozzi Foundation has announced two new scholarships to be awarded next spring to graduates of the Livermore Joint Unified School District.

The Amanda Cleveland and Matthew Clifton scholarships, recognizing two teachers at Granada High School, were established by Jay and Mary Davis, Livermore residents who have been funding scholarships through the Pedrozzi Foundation since 2015.

The amount of the scholarships was not announced. The Davises' allowed

their grandchildren, Melinda and Jack, who both graduated from Granada, to select two teachers to honor with the scholarships.

Melinda, now a senior at Azusa Pacific University, chose Cleveland, her former chemistry teacher, while Jack selected Clifton, his former mathematics instructor.

The Davises also endowed a pair of scholarships in 2015 and allowed their children, Kathy and Rob, to select two Livermore teachers to be honored.

The Nelson Fong and George Kerr Undergraduate Scholarships were named for a former instructor at Livermore High School teacher and a former teacher at Portola Elementary School.

The Pedrozzi Foundation was established by Mario Pedrozzi, a Livermore businessman, who left his estate as a gift to the community. It provides college and vocational scholarships and resources to Livermore students and administers scholarships established by others.



Melinda and Jack Davis, above, were invited by their grandparents, Jay and Mary Davis, to honor two of their Granada High School teachers. (Photo courtesy of Jay Davis)

Mental Health Webinar Open to the Public

On Tuesday, Sept. 26, Dr. John J. Ratey will present "The Positive Impact of Exercise on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention" offered as part of the Alan Hu Foundation Mental Health Lecture Series of webinars that are free and open to the public.

"Over the span of many years, it has been firmly established that exercise serves as a valuable avenue for both treating existing depression and averting its onset," said Ratey.

He will discuss the positive effects of incorporating exercise into a comprehensive mental health treatment plan, with help from mental health providers, such as therapists, psychiatrists, or counselors. The free webinar will be held from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. It will include 15 minutes for questions and answers following Ratey's presentation

RSVP by Sep. 25, at: <https://alanhufoundation.org/mental-health-lecture-series/>

to receive the Zoom meeting link. Participants may join beginning at 5:15 pm. The Mental Health Association for Chinese Communities at <https://www.mhacc-usa.org> will provide simultaneous Chinese interpretation. For further information and to support the Alan Hu Foundation, visit the website: <https://alanhufoundation.org/helping>. (Submitted by John Ratey, MD)



High school girls from the Tri-Valley participated in the recent scrimmage at Granada High School in Livermore. This is the first season of EBAL league play for the girls' flag football program. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

CHP Requesting Assistance of Witnesses of Fatal Crash

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is seeking help from the public to identify additional witnesses to a fatal crash that occurred on Sunday, Aug. 27, at approximately 2:35 a.m.

The crash occurred on Interstate 580 westbound, just east of Eden Canyon Road near Castro valley. At approximately 2:36 a.m., the

CHP Golden Gate Communications Center began receiving reports of a two-vehicle crash on the right shoulder of Interstate 580 westbound, east of Eden Canyon Road. A white 2021 Chevrolet trailblazer veered into the right shoulder and struck a 2021 Ford E-Transit van and its occupant as he stood outside the vehicle. Dublin

area units arrived on scene, and the occupant of the Ford was pronounced deceased.

The CHP is asking for help with any information regarding the circumstances leading up to this crash and the crash itself. If you or someone you know has information regarding this incident, call the Dublin CHP office at 925-828-0466.

GRANT

(Continued from first page)

dead animal is a mother with cubs.

In the longer term, blocking animal movement leads to isolated population clusters, limited gene pools and declining wildlife health, she said.

Boxer's personal interest in wildlife goes back to her undergraduate studies at UC Santa Cruz in the 1970s. At one point she studied in Europe under famed British naturalist and conservationist Gerald Durrell.

Today, she would love to see freer wildlife movement not only in the East Bay, but also on a far greater scale

that she calls "connectivity": unobstructed pathways allowing animals to wander naturally throughout the state and beyond.

As for the freeway crossing effort, she is excited by and grateful for the Wildlife Conservation Board's grant. She thanked Prof. Fraser Shilling of the UC Davis

Road Ecology Center for his past help, and expressed gratitude to the Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee for supporting earlier animal movement studies along I-580.

Other partners in the project include CalTrans, Mark Thomas Engineering and Dudek Consulting.

Dr. and Mrs. William E. Loewe celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary with their family at home on Xavier Way in Livermore this month. Bill and Virginia met as high school freshmen and were sweethearts through high school and college, marrying Aug. 22, 1953, in Chicago, Illinois. They have made their home in Livermore since 1967. Their family includes daughters Nancy Jean Becker, Mary Ellen Miller, and son William Edward III, as well as son-in-law Matthias Miller, daughter-in-law Nadia Loewe, and granddaughter Isabella Jolie Miller. (Photo courtesy of Virginia Lowe)

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TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Tuesday, Sept. 26 HOPE HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUPS

Hope Hospice's grief support services help adults and youth learn to process these feelings and find ways to move forward in a positive direction. The services are offered at no charge to the local community, even if your loved one was not on the hospice service. Hope's grief support services are free of charge, but registration in advance is suggested by phone at 925-829-8770 on weekdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A brief assessment is required. Support groups are currently being conducted online by Zoom video conference. Services for young children are temporarily paused until in-person group gatherings can be resumed. General Grief runs from Aug. 7 to Sept. 25, on Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Spousal and Partner Loss runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 26, on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Single-Day Class takes place on Monday, July 10, from 2 to 3 p.m. Introduction to Grief and Loss is a short program open to both the bereaved and friends of a grieving person who want to learn about the grief process. Loss of a Child support group runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 26, on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Teens Group attendees are asked to call for dates. These groups are offered once per quarter. For those who cannot make these dates, call 925) 829-8770 to be placed on the interest list for the following quarter.

Now to Oct. 6 JOYFUL CANVAS SHOW

Together with the John Muir Auxiliary and the Livermore Art Association present Joyful Canvas, a juried show open to all. Art will be on show at the gallery at John Muir Health Auxiliary, Aspen Gallery, Walnut Creek. For more information or to register, visit livermoreartassociation.org. Participants are asked to register by Aug. 1.

Thursday, Aug. 24 DEALING WITH LOSS

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was sudden and tragic or one with warning and preparations, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion, and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when our loved one is gone. Join in at St Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, in Pleasanton, on Thursday evening, Aug. 24, at 7 p.m. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. For more information, call 925-846-3904.

Saturday, Aug. 26 FREE YOGA SESSION

The Rotary Club of Dublin and Yog Sadhana is hosting a free yoga session at Don Biddle Park in Dublin at 8 a.m. To RSVP, visit evite.me/ctQZnSxY4C. Donations are appreciated, and all proceeds go to support Rotary District 5000, which was impacted by devastating fires in Maui. To donate, visit rb.gy/mhxcn.

Saturday, Aug. 26 BALLET ROOTS DANCE COMPANY

Pleasanton's first and only professional ballet company, Ballet Roots Dance Company, presents "Mystery, Mystique, and Magic" at 3 and 6 p.m., at Livermore High School Theater. Tickets are available at balletroots.org.

**Saturday, Aug. 26
SCIENCE@STOCKMEN'S PARK: WEATHER WONDERS**
From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will explore the science related to weather and climate. There will be something for everyone, including exciting activities hosted by many other community organizations! Stockmen's Park is located at 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For more information or optional registration, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

**Saturday, Aug. 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27
2023 DEL VALLE OPEN WATER FESTIVAL**
This festival is a two-day event with 10k, 5k, 1.2k and 2.5k swims, held in the scenic Lake Del Valle nestled in the heart of the Livermore Valley Wine country. The water temperature is expected to range from 70 to 75 degrees, with a huge grassy park and beach for spectators and participants. Participation will be limited to 350 participants on Saturday and 400 to 450 on Sunday. The event will feature a "Just for Fun" division of the 1.2k and 2.5k allowing fins and pull buoys to raise funds for community relief efforts. For more information or to register, visit team/dvowf/page/home.

**Sunday, Aug. 27
BRIGHT STAR**
Castro Valley Arts Foundation is happy to partner with TMC Arts to bring Bright Star to Castro Valley. Bright Star, set in the 1920s and 1940s, tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption. Inspired by a true story and featuring the Tony-nominated score by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, the Bluegrass music soars. Performances are at Castro Valley Center for the Arts, 19501 Redwood Road, in Castro Valley. Saturday performances take place at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday performances at 2 p.m. For tickets, visit cvarfs-foundation.org/shows.

**Sunday, Aug. 27
TOUR HAGEMANN RANCH**
Take a self-guided walking tour of historic Hagemann Ranch at your own pace, without the crowds, and view the renovated buildings dating from 1869. During the tour, attendees can speak with knowledgeable docents and learn the history of this unique historic site. The horses and goats will be available for visits from 2 to 5 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 8
LAHAINA STRONG FUNDRAISER**
3 Steves Winery in Livermore will host a fundraiser for Lahaina from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and include Lahaina Strong glass and Hawaiian dinner. Advance ticket sales are available only at 3steveswinery.com/events/lahaina-strong. Livermore wines will be for sale by the glass and bottle, as well as Altamont Beer. 100% of proceeds will be donated to Lahaina.

**Sunday, Sept. 10
INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT
OBSERVANCE OF UN PEACE DAY**
All are welcome to join in for an ice cream social and

conversation in observance of UN International Day of Peace from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The event is on the lawn west of the building at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. Ample parking is available in the adjoining lot. There will be a short program at 3:30, and time for attendees to converse with one another before and after the program. Tim Barry and Brad Herbert will provide music during the event. For more information, visit Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com or facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect.

Monday, Sept. 11 and 18 AUDITIONS FOR VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE'S 2023-2024 SEASON

The Valley Concert Chorale is seeking new singers for its upcoming 2023 to 2024 season of "Music to Soothe Your Soul." Auditions are available by appointment at 925-866-4003. Rehearsals and auditions will take place at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. The 15-minute appointment will include vocalizing (to determine range), reading from one page of a motet, and a clapping exercise. Singers must commit to the season with Monday evening rehearsals held at the church. For more information, visit valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003.

Saturday, Sept. 16 AMADOR CLASS OF '73 REUNION

Amador's Class of '73 will celebrate their 50th reunion from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Amador Recreation Center, behind the Aquatic Center, at 4333 Black Ave., in Pleasanton. There will be an all-you-can-eat authentic taco-bar picnic, games, music and more. Cost is \$55 per person via Venmo to [lordavispavich](https://www.venmo.com/lordavispavich), or write and mail checks to Lori Pavich ~ '73 Reunion, 640 Ruth Way, Livermore, CA, 94550. Include maiden name and guest's name if applicable. This event is limited to classmates only and one guest per classmate. For more information, contact Lori Davis Pavich at lpavich@aol.com; Maureen Morley at mhmcllover@aol.com; or Monica Mitchell at Monsub@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Sept. 16 TRI-VALLEY WRITERS CHAPTER OF THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB

A. L. Kucherenko will present "Crotches, Crucks, and Crutches" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting. Learn how to entice readers to linger in your fictional world with your imaginary characters. Kucherenko will use examples from her work to illustrate the delicate balance between authenticity and accuracy and how character and reader world-views mesh to create an environment for her characters that her readers embrace. At 2 p.m., the Tri-Valley Writers will meet in room 2470 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Sept. 14, then register at trivalleywriters.org/speaker-meeting-registration-and-payment. The price for CWC adult members is \$10; for nonmembers is \$12; for CWC student members ages 14 to 22 is \$5; and for student nonmembers is \$8.

Saturday, September 16 LIVERMORE EAGLES #609

Livermore Eagles #609 will be having a fundraiser for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson Research starting at 3 p.m. Bar-B-Que Tri Tip Dinner will be served between 5:30 and 6 p.m. Raffle and games will be featured, and tickets can be purchased at the Livermore Eagles 527, N. Livermore Ave., between 3 and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$25 for dinner. Tickets must be purchased before Sept. 9.

Thursday, Sept. 21 NEXT STEP FALL FUNDRAISER

Next Step is a nonprofit organization that serves the Tri-Valley community with free services to individuals facing unexpected pregnancy, including free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, along with a variety of support services and resources to ensure clients are thriving. Next Step has been in operation for 35 years and will be holding their annual fall fundraiser at Del Valle Winery. The special guest for the evening will be comedian Kerri Pomaroli. To purchase advanced tickets, visit next-step.org/fundraiser or call 925-425-0414.

Thursday, Sept. 21 and Thursday, Sept. 28 CACTUS CORNERS SQUARE-DANCING LESSONS

Cactus Corners is a local nonprofit offering free square-dancing lessons on Sept. 21 and 28 to new dancers. Then, they continue with learning new steps through the rest of the year. Anyone age 8 and up is invited to this great activity for the entire family, where they can have fun and make new friends. The meets take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 2253 5th St., in Livermore. For more information or to be placed on the class notification list, email mmiller1435@gmail.com or call 925-447-6980.

Saturday, Sept. 23 EAGLES FLEA MARKET

The Eagles Flea Market will take place from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 527 N. Livermore Ave. Vendors are welcome. The cost is \$20 for a 15x15 foot space and \$5 for a table rental. For more information, contact Val Olson at 925-449-5807 or volson582003@yahoo.com or call the Eagles Hall at 925-449-6281.

Sunday, Sept. 24 LITHIUM-ION BATTERY, DEVICE RECYCLING

All community members are invited to drop off their used lithium-ion batteries or their devices that contain lithium-ion batteries for free recycling. Rotary club members will be at Tri-Valley Car Care, 1937 First St., in Livermore, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., to accept items and have them safely recycled to help the environment. For more information or a list of recyclable items, visit livermorevalleyrotary.org or email livermorevalleyrotaryclub@gmail.com.

Saturday, Sept. 30 QUILTS OF VALOR FABRIC SALE

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Livermore Veterans' Hall, 522 So. L St. at 5th St., the Amador Valley Quilters Quilts of Valor's fabric sale is being held to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing quilts. All proceeds of the sale go to Amador Valley Quilters Quilts of Valor. All fabric is \$3 per yard, plus notions and thread. Attendees are asked to enter at 5th Street using the ramp.

Sunday, Oct. 1 FERTILE GROUNDWORKS ANNUAL TASTE FOR GIVING GALA

Fertile Groundworks will host an evening of food, fun, and festivities at Retzlaff Vineyards from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Early-bird tickets are on sale until Aug. 31, for \$80 per person, \$320 per group of four, and \$400 per table (up to six people). Tickets cover dinner by Tasteful Catering & Events; an assortment of wine and beverages by Retzlaff; music; door prize drawings; and participation in silent and live auctions featuring nearly 100 different items. Organizers are limited to 125 total tickets.

Saturday, October 7 3RD ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF AT CARNEGIE PARK

Everyone is invited to the 3rd annual Chili Cook Off at Carnegie Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is a community festival of food, activities, booth vendors, live music, and, of course, the best chili in town. Admission to the park is free. Chili tasting, beer, and wine tickets will be sold at the event. This event is the main fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley and supports grants and projects that improve our community. Visit livermorevalleyrotary.org for more information.

Saturday, Oct. 7 to Sunday, Oct. 15 LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA PRESENTS "OF MICE AND MEN"

Stage Director Marc Jacobs will bring the forceful tale of two depression-era farm workers whose dream of owning their own land one day ends in tragedy. Carlisle Floyd, arguably the greatest of America's 20th Century opera composers, adapts to the operatic stage a vivid representation of John Steinbeck's story that will grip audiences with its powerful music and timeless themes. In addition, LVO is thrilled to be partnering with the National Steinbeck Center located in Salinas, with the mutual goal of building community bridges and forging connections between arts and cultural organizations. Performances takes place on Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 8, at 2 p.m.; Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Oct. 15, at 2 p.m. An opening-night dinner will be held at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard at 4 p.m., with a separate ticket purchase required. Tickets are on sale now at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, and ticket buyers who purchase both operas together will receive the best seats at a 10% discount. Both operas will be sung in English and expertly accompanied by the LVO orchestra, conducted by maestro Alexander Katsman.

Saturday, Oct. 7 SCIENCE@STOCKMEN'S PARK: ENGINEERING ENCOUNTERS

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will design, build, and test everyone's creations. There will be something for everyone, including lots of hands-on activities for all ages. Engineering Encounters will take place at Stockmen's Park, 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

October 21 TRIVALLEY WRITERS' SPEAKER

Chris Hennessy, an independent filmmaker, author, and speaker, will explain how to promote a book, social media marketing, and more at 2 p.m. at Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Las Positas College, Room 2470 at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Oct. 19, and make payment. Tickets are \$10 for CWC adult members; \$12 for nonmembers; \$5 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and \$8 for student nonmembers.

Saturday, Oct. 28 SCIENCE@STOCKMEN'S PARK: HALLOWEEN HIJINKS

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will learn about the science behind Halloween tricks and treats. There will be something for everyone, and this is a great way to start the Halloween celebration. Stockmen's Park is located at 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TOPSCIENCE

TOPScience is a group that partners with elementary school science teachers to enhance learning for both students and teachers. It is an opportunity to pass on skills and knowledge while having fun and contributing to schools in Livermore. For more information or to volunteer, contact Art Krakowsky at artkr@sbcglobal.net or 925-455-0486.

ONGOING EVENTS PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

The Unitarian Universalist Church is welcoming to all. Join in on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for music, singing, and conversation. The church is located at 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore CA 94551. For more information, visit uucil.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING.

The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from September to May, with a short business meeting and a program. The DAR was founded in 1890 and is headquartered in Washington, DC. DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. Its members are descended from the Patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. For more information, visit JHL.California.org or contact jane.everett@sbcglobal.net.

OBITUARIES

Diane Elaine Diemer



Diane Elaine Diemer of Dublin passed away on Aug. 14, 2023, at age 77. She is survived by Ed, her husband of 57 years. Both Diane and Ed retired from Sandia National Laboratories.

Diane is also survived by children Brad (Shelly) Diemer, Mindy Diemer, Brian (Lisa) Diemer and Charissa (Ron) Pedro. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, two sisters, and a brother.

Diane was born in Waco, Texas. She was a technical editor and project manager at Sandia.

Family and children were Diane's passion in life. She always remembered birth-

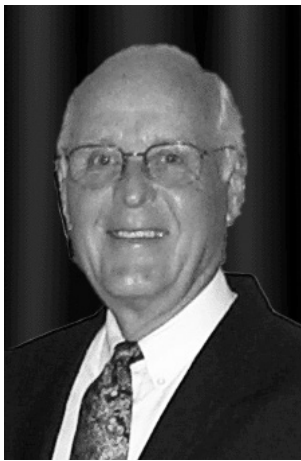
days and other important dates and made Christmas a very special event. She lived to celebrate children, loving each one openly and unconditionally. Diane put others

above herself, spending her final years caring for family who could no longer care for themselves. Her love and generosity will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Visitation was held at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore on Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023, at Callaghan's. Interment was at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore followed by a reception at Callaghan's.

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

John Jacob Sailors Oct. 17, 1929 – July 26, 2023



John Jacob Sailors passed away peacefully at age 93 on July 26, 2023.

John was born in 1929 in Kokomo, Indiana, to John Jacob Sailors and Johanna Voncannon Sailors, and the family later settled in Newport Beach, California. John attended Newport Harbor High School and then Orange Coast College and San Diego State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business and the rank of Lieutenant through ROTC.

After graduating, John began a 37-year career as a marketing executive for IBM ("I've Been Moved"), which relocated him every few years, including overseas. That followed his childhood as the son of a very mobile military officer.

In the United States, John lived as a kid in Kokomo; Elkins, West Virginia; Selfridge Field, Michigan; Charleston, South Carolina; and Newport Beach; and as an adult Lackland Air Force Base; Sheppard Air Force

Base; Lowry Field; San Diego; Los Angeles; Phoenix; Seattle; Denver; Boise; Danbury, Connecticut; and Morgan Hill, Livermore and Modesto, California.

John was most proud of his time living and working in Asia, where he made many life-long friends. He was sent on "four tours to Asia, three by IBM and one by Harry Truman." That first tour had him working at the Koganei Country Club golf course west of Tokyo during the Korean War. Later for

IBM, John lived in Tokyo (twice), Hong Kong (twice), Singapore, and Jakarta, Indonesia, and he traveled widely around Asia and the world for IBM. Much of that time he spent working with foreign government and university mainframe customers.

John retired from IBM as a community relations director in San Jose and then moved to Livermore to head the Pleasanton-based Tri-Valley Business Council for a time before fully retiring. After that, he remained active in Pleasanton and then Livermore Rotary clubs and was enthusiastically active on the golf course.

John was preceded in death by his first wife, Charlene Six Sailors, and his second wife, Linda Jeffery Sailors. He leaves behind his daughter, Debby Sailors Judd; his son-in-law, Thomas Judd; his son David Sailors; his son John Jay Sailors; his daughter-in-law, Jessie Chiu Sailors; and his grandson, John Jacob Sailors.

Carlos A. Lopez Sr. Dec. 9, 1945 – Aug. 18, 2023



Carlos A. Lopez Sr. attended Monserrat college prep in Cordoba, Argentina. He visited the US in September 1965 on a student visa. Then along with his parents, Antonio and Minerva, Carlos traveled to Canada and they each obtained a resident visa. In October of 1965 he met his intended, Helen Apodaca. In April 1967 Carlos and Helen married. Years later he obtained his US citizenship in 1976.

Carlos Sr. is survived by his wife Helen, daughter Cristina and husband Brian Bukus; son Carlos Lopez Jr. and his wife Melina, five grandchildren: James, Elizabeth, Sandra "Nix", Celina and Annalise. He leaves behind his sister Marta and husband Felipe Gomez and family; six sisters-in-law; Margaret Gonzalez and family, Jenny Campbell and family, Pauline Dominguez and family, Mary Apodaca, Vicki and spouse Curtis Lindeman and family, and Diana and spouse Len Neuton and family. He is also

survived by the families of deceased brothers-in-law Frank Apodaca, Paul Apodaca, Pete Apodaca and Ralph Apodaca, and sisters-in-law Josie Avila and Susie Cruz.

For several years, Carlos volunteered as a coach for PAL football and little league in Evergreen in San Jose. He was employed at Canteen Co. as a warehouse supervisor for 13 years. In the early 80s at San Jose City College, he received certification in LaserSonics

and refrigeration. He later obtained a level 5 status as a security officer. He worked for Alie Barton securities and remained employed with UPS until he retired.

Carlos Sr. And his wife became joint operators of Baskin Robbins for 22 years. They established ownership of two Baskin Robbins: one in Evergreen and one in Willow Glen. They left the business in 2000. He returned to security for five more years and then retired.

Carlos Sr. has proudly served on the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic men's association; highly serving the Catholic community in the charity capacity. He held a 4th degree level and was titled a Sr. Knight. Carlos lived a full life and is loved and will be remembered for his sense of humor and always having a big smile on his face. His niece Paula mentioned his big smile in her family's condolence card.

May Carlos Sr. be at peace with the Lord.

Earl Eugene Nokes Jr. July 30, 1944 – Aug. 17, 2023



The Nokes Family of Dublin, California is heartbroken to announce the passing of Earl Eugene Nokes Jr., best known as Gene Nokes, on Aug. 17, 2023.

Gene, beloved husband and father, left this world at the age of 79. He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Paula Dolores (Nicholson) Nokes, and grateful daughters: Kerry Page, Gwen Crane, Erin Spence as well as their spouses and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his

son Byron Philip Nokes in December 2022.

He was a man of great faith and a friend to many. To honor Gene's memory, services will be held on Oct. 5, at St. Raymond Church in Dublin, California beginning at 10 a.m. A reception is to follow promptly after. We invite all those who knew him or knew our family to join us in commemorating his life. He was loved beyond this world and his legacy will be carried in our hearts forever.

BART

(Continued from first page)

tract includes a portion of Dublin, and Eric Swalwell, who represents Livermore and Pleasanton, were among seven Bay Area representatives who wrote to Gov. Gavin Newsom, Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas in early August, to express their opposition to the toll increase.

The Congress members said another toll increase on top of a \$1 increase already set to take effect in 2025 would "have a disproportionate impact on low- and moderate-income residents in the Bay and would be borne most significantly by workers who have to commute for their work." They added that the data shows the toll would dispropor-

tionately affect residents in Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties, while benefiting San Francisco.

Drivers currently pay \$7 to drive over most area bridges, including the Hayward-San Mateo Bridge and San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. The Golden Gate Bridge's toll is \$8.75.

DeSaulnier told The Independent that more attention needed to be placed on how BART operates.

"I raised concerns about SB532 as I believe before the bill is considered, we need further analysis, including a cost-benefit analysis of the impact of the proposed increase in bridge tolls on the average daily driver of the affected Bay Area bridges, as well as the plan for independent

oversight of both the distribution of funds by MTC and the usage of funds by Bay Area transit agencies," DeSaulnier said. "Rather than expecting Bay Area residents to pay more in tolls, the focus should be on reforming BART to ensure that the trains are safe and reliable and by increasing ridership through demonstrated improvements."

Wiener said in July that he knew his bill might be a tough sell, but said San Francisco's downtown recovery was tied to robust public transit, and that would not happen if BART, Muni and Caltrain were allowed to unravel.

"I understand that many people aren't fans of bridge tolls," Wiener said in a July 28 Tweet. "No one likes

paying them and for lower income drivers, they can be a hardship."

The bill would have required two-thirds of legislators to pass it.

Earlier this year, BART officials said they expected a \$93 million budget deficit by 2025, and a potential \$1.2 billion debt by 2032. Ridership is improving but has not reached pre-pandemic levels.

State funding in this year's budget will help BART balance its budget to avoid an immediate fiscal cliff. Gov. Gavin Newsom in June included \$5.1 billion in his budget for public transit statewide.

In March, former BART Inspector General (IG) Harriet Richardson quit her post, saying BART's

board and officials would not allow her to do her job providing oversight of the agency. Her deputy, Claudette Biemeret, took over and received a \$1.7 million budget increase.

Glazer, who was instrumental in a ballot measure that created the IG's office, was critical of BART's treatment of Richardson. He also quit a post on the Senate Select Committee on BART, saying Bay Area leaders had not properly addressed fiscal oversight of the agency.

Following the decision to put SB 532 on hold, Glazer reiterated that BART's IG's office must have the full powers and authority to do its job.

"The appointment of the IG should be modified to en-

sure true independence and not under the thumb of the BART Board," Glazer said. "BART doesn't deserve a bailout until they can get their act together."

BART spokesman James Allison said that while BART's budget is balanced through the end of the fiscal year in June, the deficit will be \$93 million with \$300 million deficits in the following fiscal years.

"The BART Board voted to support SB 532 and BART will continue to work with legislators on accountability measures in the future," Allison said. "BART staff will continue to offer our assistance to the Senator and other lawmakers as they work to find a consensus solution to this regional issue."

PIZZA

(Continued from first page)

produced a few bottles.

On a whim, he let a customer try it and to his surprise, the guy loved it and asked to purchase it on the spot. That first bottle sold for \$5 and snowballed with other customers asking for it.

"I made \$100," Close remembers, "and took all the money and bought a bigger blender. Five bottles turned to 12 to 24 and I started buying cases."

He eventually purchased a bottle-filling machine with a 7 1/2 gallon heated hopper and got permission from the restaurant's owner to use the restaurant's kitchen to make his batches. He and a fellow employee cooked the sauce in a giant pot.

"We'd be cutting peppers here till 3 in the morning." Full steam ahead, he now has a co-packer so he can focus on the growth of the

business.

Close credits Gay Nineties' owner Robert Earnest as a mentor.

"He's a great guy. He's taught me everything I know." He's also been hugely supportive, Close explained, adding that Earnest allowed him to use Gay Nineties as his business address for his hot sauce's LLC.

Close's journey at Gay Nineties actually started

when he was 15 and asked his mom for \$10 to go to the movies. As one of five kids, money was tight, he said, remembering what she told him, "No Conner, you can go get a job and somebody will pay you to work."

So he headed to one of his favorite places, Gay Nineties, and asked for a job. That was a Friday and by Monday, he was dressed in black pants and a white

shirt and ready for his first day of work.

He started with cleaning tables, eventually moving on to serving at 17 years old, although he was too young to run liquor to his tables.

About three years later, the general manager's job opened, and the employees banded together with support for Close.

"All the other employees said, 'let's let Conner try

it, we think he can do it," Close said.

He did not apply for the job, but he was given it.

"I was given a little bit of responsibility and when I handled it, I was given more," he said.

Eventually, the owner moved and has been out of state for the past 8 years, leaving all the day-to-day operations to Close. "And the rest is history," he said.

FRAUD

(Continued from first page)

self and his family members instead of using the funds for payroll and other authorized business expenses under the program," the U.S. Attorney's Office said in a statement.

Kethineni pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bank fraud, along with charges related to the failure to account for and pay employment taxes for Neelinfo

employees.

According to prosecutors, Kethineni acknowledged using the ADT payroll service to pay his employees and track his tax obligations. The service provided him with documents to reflect the taxes withheld and what he was required to send to the IRS.

"Despite receiving these prepared tax forms each

quarter, Kethineni did not file them with the IRS, nor did he pay any employment taxes on behalf of Neelinfo, while still causing Neelinfo to make thousands of dollars in other expenditures," the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

As a result, employee W-2s provided by the payroll service didn't match when they filed their taxes.

In his statement to the

court, Kethineni described himself as an entrepreneur who developed businesses after losing his job in 2002.

Among his products was an iOS mobile application for the restaurant industry. He described his success as a roller-coaster ride full of many sleepless nights, setbacks and road bumps.

Kethineni wrote that he was shocked when IRS

agents showed up at his door. He said he borrowed money to try to pay some of what he owed. Then the pandemic hit.

"My sincere apologies for depleting the loan funds," he said. "Those funds should have helped other companies in a similar state. Misrepresentation and manipulation are not the foundation of innovation and investment."

In addition to sending Kethineni to prison, the judge ordered him to pay nearly \$3.3 million in restitution and a \$15,000 fine; and repay \$3.2 million that he fraudulently obtained.

The U.S. Attorney's Office did not reveal whether Kethineni's brothers also faced charges. No cases appear in a federal court database.

Reserve a Spot at the Splatter Tasting Pavilion

This year's Splatter event will feature a Tasting Pavilion, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., showcasing the culturally diverse cuisine of the Tri-Valley region. The menu will feature small-bite selections paired with select beer and wines from the Livermore Valley.

While admission to the festival is free, Tasting Pavilion Passports are \$50 per person. Attendees are encouraged to get passports in advance of the event, as a limited number of Tasting Passports will be available for purchase at Splatter. For more information, visit <http://dublin.ca.gov>. The Tasting Pavilion is a 21+ event.

PIANO

(Continued from first page)

fees, but the cost could be quickly recovered, said Dan Marschak, college music department coordinator.

"It's expensive for a community college class," Marschak said. "But if you tune about three pianos professionally, you will recoup that."

Marschak said piano technicians are in high demand, and piano owners in the Bay Area say they often must book a month in advance for piano tuning services.

Students will not earn college credits in the program this year, but college officials said they are working to get the program accredited next year.

"We have these amazing pianos on campus, and I have this vision of seeing our own students in practice rooms, tuning our own

pianos and how cool would that be," Marschak said. "So, we applied for and received the grant to create this pilot program."

Dean of Arts and Humanities Amy Mattern said the program will train people for an industry with high demand and add to the school's already innovative list of programs.

"We offer extremely high-quality music programs here at Las Positas College," Mattern said. "Piano technology is a great skill for students to learn and even students who may not do this as their ongoing profession."

Mattern continued. "If they are musicians, pianists or teachers, for them to know how to work on their own pianos and have that skill set is (a) really high value for them."

SCHOOL

(Continued from first page)

hire a school principal, two teachers, and one administrative assistant to assist students.

Enlight's website is already advertising the Dublin campus and describes the school as having "large classrooms, three playgrounds for different age groups, a fenced play area with shaded sandbox, basketball courts, gardening area, and a large grass field."

The Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) owns the Nielsen property and has used some buildings for childcare and furniture storage over the past 15

years...

No other businesses currently use the site.

Planning Commissioner Stephen Wright said the buildings may need some work before the new school opens. "These particular units have been freshened up, but I would like to know more about the integrity of that building," he said.

Schuster said any building improvements would require approval from the Division of the State Architects, and that the fire department has already completed their inspection of the property for fire safety.

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

Alan Hu Foundation
P.O. Box 762
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-352-6844
Alanhufoundation.org

Allie's Pals Cat Rescue
PO Box 1835
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-226-8637
AlliesPals.org

Amador Questers
1089 Geneva Street
Livermore, CA 94550-5661
925-292-8123
CalQuest.org
questers1944.org

Amador Valley Lions Club
P. O. Box 1764
Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925) 290-7592
Amadorvalley.lions@gmail.com

Amador Valley Quilters
P.O. Box 955
Pleasanton, CA 94566
AmadorValleyQuilters.org

Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc.
4764 Harrison St.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org

Assistance League Amador Valley
P.O. Box 11843
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-461-6401
AssistanceLeague.org/Amador-valley

Axis Community Health
5925 W. Las Positas Blvd.
Suite 100
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
cytrivalley.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
cityservetrialley.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

Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club
PO Box 2443
Dublin CA 94568
gfwcdsr.org

Encore Players of Livermore
PO Box 3362
Livermore, CA 94551-3361
Encoreplayers.net

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

Feral Cat Foundation
P.O. Box 1173
Alamo, CA 94507
925-829-9098
Feralcatfoundation.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
friendsoflivermorelibrary.org

Friends of Open Space and Vineyards
P.O. Box 1191
Livermore, CA 94551
fov.org

Friends of Pleasanton Senior Center
5353 Sunol Blvd.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
935-931-5365
seniorcenterfriends.org

Girls Soccer Worldwide
P.O. Box 219
Livermore, CA 94551
925-200-4457
GirlsSoccerWorldWide.com

Goodness Village
1660 Freisman Rd.
Livermore, Ca 94551
GVLivermore.org

Hively
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

Little Miracles Inc.
5424 Sunol Blvd. 10-184
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-623-5407
Littlemiraclespleasanton.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 & 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-Granad Boosters
2117 Fourth St.
Livermore, CA 94550
livermoregranadaboosters.org

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

Livermore Homeless Refuge
4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-895-4167
livermorehomelessrefuge.org

Livermore Jazz Society
info@livermorejazzsociety.org
503-459-2530
livermorejazzsociety.org

Livermore K9 Foundation
PO Box 1064
Livermore, CA. 94551
(925) 209-1029
livermorek9.org

Livermore Lab Foundation
c/o UC Office of National Labs
7000 East Avenue, B661/L-794
Livermore, CA 94550
925-453-9382
Livermorelabfoundation.org

Livermore Lions Club
P.O. Box 975
Livermore, CA 94551
805-405-8743

Livermore Pleasanton Fire Fighters Foundation
4847 Hopyard Road
Suite 4, PMB 303
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Livermore Valley Education Foundation
849 East Stanley Boulevard
PMB Box 143
Livermore, CA 94550
LVEF.org

Livermore Valley Opera
P.O. Box 1002
Livermore, CA 94551
925-373-6964
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
MovementsForTheMind.com
movementsforthemind@gmail.com

Museum on Main
603 Main Street
Pleasanton, CA 94566
902-462-2766
Museumonmain.org

NAMI Tri-Valley
164 N. L St., Suite 104,
Livermore, CA 94550
925-344-4480
nami-trivalley.org

Open Heart Kitchen
1141 Catalina Dr. # 137,
Livermore CA 9 4550
(mailing address only)
925-580-1616
OpenHeartKitchen.org

Pacific Chamber Orchestra
PO Box 3134
Livermore, CA 94551
925-324-2775
www.pacificchamberorchestra.org

Pacific Locomotive Assoc., Inc. Operators of Niles Canyon Railway
P.O. Box 515
Sunol, CA 94586-0515
910-996-8420
NCRY.ORG

Parkinson's Network of Mount Diablo / Tri Valley PD Support
PNMD.net
trivalley@pnmd.net

Partners for Change Tri-Valley
4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
510-773-6356
pftv.org

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

Pedrozzi Foundation
1141 Catalina Drive, #170
Livermore, CA 94550
925-456-3700
Pedrozzi.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

Pleasanton Military Families
3111 Half Dome Dr.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
PleasantonMilitaryFamilies.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

Robot Garden Makerspace
700 Terminal Circle
Livermore, CA 94551
RobotGarden.org

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore
P.O. Box 2181
Livermore, CA 94551-2181
rotarianfoundationlivermore.org

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
SpectrumCS.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
c/o St. Michael Church
458 Maple St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-758-0126

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

The Blankenship Program - AEMTAC
1863 Altair Ave.
Livermore, CA.
925-895-7059
mtac-alamedaast.org/blankenship-project

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

Three Valleys Community Foundation
5960 Inglewood Drive, Suite 201
Pleasanton, CA 94588
info@3vcf.org
www.3vcf.org

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue
P.O. Box 11143
Pleasanton, CA 94588
TVAR.org

Tri-Valley Conservancy
1457 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-449-8706
Trivalleyconservancy.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
TriValleyReach.org

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

Tri-Valley Seek and Save
P.O. Box 701
Livermore, CA 94551-0701
(925) 895-1041
TriValleySeekandSave.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

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599769

The following person(s) doing business as: B5 Soccer Academy, 4463 Bush Circle, Fremont, CA 94538-5993 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alessandro Mikael Bischoch, 4463 Bush Circle, Fremont, CA 94538-5993. 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alessandro Mikael Bischoch, Owner. This statement was filed with the

County Clerk of Alameda on August 2, 2023. Expires August 1, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5566. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599673

The following person(s) doing business as: Hearts and Horses Riding and Rescue, 455 Olivina Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donna Costa, 1001 Goecken Road, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2023. Signature

of Registrant/s/: Donna Costa, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July, 28, 2023. Expires July 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5567. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599715

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Aiden by Best Western@Berkeley; 2. Aiden @Berkeley, 1499 University Ave, Berkeley, CA 94702 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Berkeley Hospitality, LLC, 109 John ST., Sallinas, CA 93901, CA. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which

the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/8/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alessandro Jiten Jadav, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 31, 2023. Expires July 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5568. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599759

The following person(s) doing business as: KLHB Boutique Psychotherapy, 1311 Park ST #1161, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kamila Hous-

ton Baker, 2215 Santa Rita ST., Oakland, CA 94601. 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kamila Houston Baker, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2023. Expires July 31, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5569. Published August 10, 17, 24,

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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CASE NUMBER: RP23141030

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **JANNE TURNER**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **LAVAUGHN HART** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that **LAVAUGHN HART** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: 09/11/2023

Time: 9:45 AM

Dept.: 201

Address of court:

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Berkeley, CA 94704

Berkeley Courthouse.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

LaVaughn Hart

5351 Superstition Drive, Las Cruces, NM, 88011.

The Independent, Legal No. 5573. Published August 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599813

The following person(s) doing business as: Handy Tool, 7920 Wentworth PL., Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Handy Tool, 7920 Wentworth PL., Newark, CA 94560. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emma Lara, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 3, 2023. Expires August 2, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 55774. Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599909

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Riffing.ai; 2. Riffing; 3. Riffing AI, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AgentOmni Insurance Services LLC, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Patrick Cross, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. Expires August 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5579. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599909

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Riffing.ai; 2. Riffing; 3. Riffing AI, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AgentOmni Insurance Services LLC, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Patrick Cross, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. Expires August 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5579. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599765

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Aqua Angels Restoration; 2. Gerois & Boni Global, 1281 61st Ave, Oakland, CA 94621. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gerois Lewis, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2023. Expires July 31, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5580. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599974

The following person(s) doing business as: Royal HR Services, 631 Everglades Lane, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Linda Franklin, 631 Everglades Lane, 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/: Linda Franklin, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5576. Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600050

The following person(s) doing business as: Hyperion Legal, APC, 5557 Avellina Dr., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hyperion Legal, APC, 5557 Avellina Dr., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/2/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pavan Singh Athwal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 11, 2023. Expires August 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5577. Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599857

The following person(s) doing business as: BODYBAR Pilates, 3910 Fallong Road, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SGC Project One, Inc., 1717 Webster Street, Unit 915, Oakland, CA 94612. 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/: Shawn Cousins, President/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 4, 2023. Expires August 3, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5578. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600073

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Riffing.ai; 2. Riffing; 3. Riffing AI, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AgentOmni Insurance Services LLC, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Patrick Cross, CEO. This statement

The following person(s) doing business as: Jafran Services, 1545 165th Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kevin Valderrama, 1545 165th Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578. 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: 8/14/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kevin Valderrama, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 14, 2023. Expires August 13, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5579. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600193

The following person(s) doing business as: Hi and Hello Photography, 9916 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maryam Salassi, 9916 Golf Links Rd, Oakland, CA 94605. 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: 8/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maryam Salassi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2023. Expires August 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5584. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600124

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. J&B Corporate Lodging Solutions; 2. J&B Global enterprises Limited Liability Co., 11501 Dublin Blvd, Suite 200, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J&B Global Enterprises limited Liability, 11501 Dublin Blvd, Suite 200, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Britney Bautista, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2023. Expires August 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5585. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600155

The following person(s) doing business as: Creature Comforts Therapy, 7900 Earl St., Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Creature Comfort Therapy Inc.; Jayme Frihart Licensed Clinical Social Worker 7900 Earl St., Oakland, CA 94605. 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: 8/13/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jayme Frihart, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 16, 2023. Expires August 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 55806. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599971

The following person(s) doing business as: The PJF Group, 2942 Harewood Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): P.J. Funnybunny, LLC, 2942 Harewood Dr., Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: June 12, 2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Julie Lynn Fleury, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5587. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 589992

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Sunkissed Bath and Body, LLC, 5595 Sonoma Drive Apt B, Pleasanton, CA 94566. The fictitious business name statement was filed on June 24, 2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Rachel Solis, Owner/Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. The Independent, Legal No. 5588. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600104

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Skylark Properties; 2. Ensign-Homes; 3. Ensign Properties, 2351 Bartlett Street, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ensign Pictures, Inc., 2351 Bartlett Street, Oakland, CA 94601. 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: 7/15/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Bryce Gubler, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2023. Expires August 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5589. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600063

The following person(s) doing business as: Banana Oil, 4303 Trolan Lane, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kristy Eng, 4303 Trolan Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/14/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kristy Eng, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 16, 2023. Expires August 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 55806. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599726

The following person(s) doing business as: Glow Atelier, 2282 Fourth Street, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: June 12, 2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Julie Lynn Fleury, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5587. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

ermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: June 12, 2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Julie Lynn Fleury, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5587. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600248

The following person(s) doing business as: Therapy with Dr. David, 4900 Shattuck Ave #3154, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Dewy Shepard II, 4900 Shattuck Ave #3154, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Dewy Shepard II, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 22, 2023. Expires August 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5591. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599611

The following person(s) doing business as: Cholita Linda, 4923 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CL Management Company, LLC, 4923 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609. 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: 1/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Murat Sozeri, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 26, 2023. Expires July 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5592. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600170

The following person(s) doing business as: Maas Brothers Powder Coating, 285 S. Vasco Rd., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maas Brothers, Inc., 6152 Amber Ln., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/14/1998. Signature of Registrant/s/: BKevin Maas, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 17, 2023. Expires August 16, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5593. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599726

The following person(s) doing business as: Glow Atelier, 2282 Fourth Street, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: June 12, 2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Julie Lynn Fleury, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5587. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600248

The following person(s) doing business as: Therapy with Dr. David, 4900 Shattuck Ave #3154, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Dewy Shepard II, 4900 Shattuck Ave #3154, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Dewy Shepard II, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 22, 2023. Expires August 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5591. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600342

The following person(s) doing business as: Building Kidz of Dublin West, 7421 Amarillo Rd, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shivaaya Schools LLC, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kash Mittal, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 25, 2023. Expires August 44, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5590. Published August 31, September 7, 14, 21, 2023.

CLASIFIEDS

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Our current weekly adoption events include:

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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. IPV does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

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NOTICES

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Handel's "Messiah" will kick off the Valley Concert Chorale's annual sing along on Friday, Dec. 1 at the Ashbury United Methodist Church in Livermore. (Photo courtesy of the Valley Concert Chorale)

Valley Concert Chorale Sets Messiah Singalong for Dec. 1

The Valley Concert Chorale will stage its annual Sing-It-Yourself performance of Handel's "Messiah," with the audience invited to sing along with the choir, at the Ashbury United Methodist Church in Livermore at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1. Tickets are \$15.

The nonprofit chorale, under the direction of John Emory Bush, also announced last week that its traditional Christmas performances will be 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore and 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 10, at Trinity Lutheran Church in

Pleasanton.

The "Miracle of Christmas" concerts will feature Italian composer Ottorino Respighi's cantata "Laud to the Nativity," along with traditional carols such as "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Pat-A-Pan," with new arrangements for the choir.

The Christmas performances will also include the "Carol of the Bells," which is based on a melody by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych in 1914 for a New Year's song called "Shchedryk," or "The Little Swallow." The song was translated into English by Peter Wil-

housky, an American composer of Ukrainian descent, in 1922, after the Ukrainian National Chorus sang it at Carnegie Hall in 1922.

The audience will be invited to sing along on selected carols.

The 2023-2024 Valley Concert Chorale season will also include "In Paradisum - Music to Soothe Your Soul" at the First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 16, and Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 17.

The concert will include selections arranged for choir from Italian composer Tomaso Albinoni's "Adagio for Strings," along

with Mozart's "Ave Verum" and Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo's "The Ground."

In May, the chorale will present a salute to Nat King Cole at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Dublin, with additional selections from Billy Joel, Simon and Garfunkel, the Beatles, Elton John, and Disney Studios.

Except for the singalong "Messiah," tickets for all performances are \$30 in advance and \$25 at the door, with discounts for high school and college students. Children are free.

Tickets are available at valleyconcertchorale.org, or by calling 925-866-4003.

Rincon Library to Resume Homework Help Program

The Livermore Public Library's Rincon Branch will resume its free Homework Help program on Monday, Sept. 11.

Adult volunteer "homework coaches" will be available to help students of all ages with math and reading from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, and on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Students are also able to study independently in the library's homework help area, which is equipped with computers and printers for their use only. Students may print school assignments in color or black and white, free of charge.

The homework area is also stocked with pencils,

pens, paper, highlighters, markers, calculators, rulers, glue, flash cards, and resource books.

The Rincon branch library is in May Nissen Park at 725 Rincon Ave. For more information, call 925-373-5540 or go to library.livermoreca.gov.

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SPARC Offers After-School Theater Programs

The Shakespeare & Performing Arts Regional Company in Livermore, known as SPARC, will offer two after-school programs this fall.

The theater program for elementary students in grades 3 through 5 will involve "The Not So Mysterious Disappearance of Cinderella," an updated version of the classic fairy tale with fairy godmothers, 911 operators, Detective Bob, and Prince Charming.

When Cinderella vanishes, it is up to the colorful cast, including characters who wander in from other fairy tales, to unravel the mystery.

Through ensemble-based exercises, SPARC said students will explore character development, physical comedy, and theater games, leading to a final 30-minute performance.

Classes for elementary students will meet from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Sept. 14 through Dec. 7, with performances set for Sunday, Dec. 10.

Middle schoolers in grades 6 through 8 will meet from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Sept. 10 through Dec. 4.

They will tackle a fresh narrative of Shakespeare's classic, "The Taming of

the Shrew," with genders of the playwright's main protagonists reversed. SPARC said the role reversal would require students to explore social norms and perceptions, while learning about acting and stage combat.

The middle schoolers will present their production on Saturday, Dec. 10.

The after-school programs and the final productions will be held at the SPARC studio, 2172 Railroad Ave. The cost is \$499 for each program.

For more information, or to register, go to sparctheater.org and click on "Fall Classes." No prior acting experience is required.

LLNL Develops Portable Thomson Scattering Diagnostic to Support Energy Ventures

Scientists at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) collaborated with University of California San Diego (UCSD) to design, assemble, and field a portable optical Thomson scattering diagnostic system for the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)—a Department of Energy agency which supports private companies that are developing new ways to generate, store and use energy. The diagnostic was implemented at Zap Energy, Inc., a private-sector fusion company based in Everett, Washington.

The team consisted of experts across LLNL, including Clément Goyon, George Swadlow, Philip Datte, Steven Ross and Harry McLean, as well as Simon Bott-Suzuki at UCSD and Jacob Banasek at Sandia National Laboratories. The researchers developed the plasma diagnostic system to be transported to and shared among different

fusion energy experiments supported by ARPA-E.

The team detailed their research in Review of Scientific Instruments.

ARPA-E aims to leverage the diagnostic expertise of the entire fusion R&D community and develop the teams and experience necessary to support an expanding role for public-private partnerships in nuclear fusion, said Clément Goyon, the project's research lead.

"Optical Thomson scattering is viewed as the gold standard for diagnosing the electron density and temperature inside plasmas," Goyon explained. "With this data, we can better understand the underlying physics of each fusion concept by providing local, time-resolved measurements of plasma conditions in the experiment."

Early-stage fusion experiments, like those supported by ARPA-E, can

broadly benefit from state-of-the-art diagnostic systems and measurements, Goyon said. However, these diagnostics can be costly and time-consuming to deploy and analyze. Typically, such experiments and projects do not have access to the types of measurements the portable system will enable.

The design of the transportable Thomson scattering diagnostic is highly modular, where each part can be adapted to meet the need and budget of the targeted experiments.

"The system's portable design and collaborative potential can help to transform early-stage fusion experiments, expanding our understanding of fusion physics," Goyon said. "For instance, the Zap results allowed to estimate the plasma pressure inside the sheared-flow stabilized Z-pinch and guide the experiment towards more efficient confinement."

Splatter

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