

## Legislation To Preserve Tesla Park Moves Ahead

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — The latest legislative attempt to preserve the 3,100-acre Tesla Park site near Livermore from use as an off-road vehicle park has moved forward in the California Assembly.

Lawmakers on the Assembly's Water, Parks and Wildlife committee voted 11-4 April 26 to send Democratic Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's bill to protect the land from motorized vehicles, AB1512, to the body's Appropriations Committee.

The vote with all Democrats voting for the bill and all Republicans against followed testimony from representatives of Sierra Club California, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), and the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA).

"Tesla Park's rugged terrain provides an unusual crossroad for a wide range of sensitive species who rely on this protective habitat as a wildlife corridor," EBRPD Board President Dee Rosario told the committee. "The beautiful biodiversity of this land implores us to save it to honor the heritage of the Native American Yokuts and Ohlone/Costanoan peoples who lived on and cared for their families

(See TESLA, page 10)

## Laura Mercier Resigning from The Tri-Valley Conservancy

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — After spending nearly two decades at the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC), including the last 10 as its executive director, Laura Mercier has announced she is leaving her position on June 30. She plans to seek new adventures closer to family and friends in Wisconsin.



Laura Mercier

Mercier, 60, submitted her resignation last week to the TVC's Board of Directors.

"It has been a fantastic ride with TVC," Mercier wrote in her letter. "I cannot believe that it will have been for almost 18 years! When I moved to Livermore, I had no idea of what an opportunity was to come my way. I am always grateful and feel blessed to be able to be a part of Tri-Valley Conservancy."

(See MERCIER, page 6)

## Restoration Work Underway In the Arroyos

By Tony Kukulich

LIVERMORE — The City of Livermore is nearing completion on a multi-agency project to restore 10 acres of riparian habitat along Arroyo Mocho in Robertson Park and Arroyo Las Positas in Springtown.

"We've done maintenance work on the creeks, and we've done some bank repair from storm damage that we had in

(See ARROYOS, page 6)



Three-year-old Norah points out her favorite painting while touring the Harrington Gallery at Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Saturday. The Firehouse Arts Center recently reopened to the public May 1. (Photo - Stephanie Mollenhauer)

## Two Arrested in Connection to the Killing of Bay Area Rapper Lil Yase

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A man and woman allegedly linked through their daughter's DNA to the

scene, it remained unclear whether Williams or Butler pulled the trigger.

Williams and Butler remain

order to examine the child's DNA, which came back positive for what was found on the shell casing.

That evidence, Schmidt said, pushed detectives "over the finish line in order to get (arrest) warrants."

How the child's DNA got onto the shell casing is anyone's guess. The toddler possibly could have put it in her mouth or touched it before it was put in the gun, police said.

*"If there's anybody that knows something they haven't brought forward, we ask them to please contact the Dublin police."*

killing of Bay Area rapper Lil Yase in Dublin were arrested last week in connection with the crime. They were later released without charges.

Although the Dublin Police Department (DPD) announced the arrests of Jovante Deshaun Williams and Angel Darling Butler on April 27, prosecutors declined to immediately file charges within 48 hours as required by law.

"The DA decided they wanted us to continue to investigate and find some more evidence and not to charge at this time," Dublin police Capt. Nate Schmidt said. "We still have some things to look into, so hopefully we will find that next piece of evidence that will put us over the finish line."

Jovante Deshaun Williams and Angel Darling Butler, both 28, were linked to the Nov. 28 killing of 26-year-old Alexander Mark Antonyo Jr. (Lil Yase) after tests of each of their DNAs matched genetic material found on a shell casing at the crime scene, Schmidt said.

Schmidt said police had reason to arrest them and take the case to the District Attorney instead of doing the opposite, obtaining charges first and then taking them into custody.

"We took the steps we took for a certain reason," Schmidt said. "It's not over."

Working against detectives in this case were changes in California's felony murder rule in 2019. Before the change, prosecutors could charge anyone at the scene of a homicide with first-degree murder, not necessarily knowing who committed the actual offense. Although both suspects were tied through DNA to a shell casing found at the crime

scene, it remained unclear whether Williams or Butler pulled the trigger.

Williams and Butler remain

order to examine the child's DNA, which came back positive for what was found on the shell casing.

That evidence, Schmidt said, pushed detectives "over the finish line in order to get (arrest) warrants."

How the child's DNA got onto the shell casing is anyone's guess. The toddler possibly could have put it in her mouth or touched it before it was put in the gun, police said.

the suspects in the homicide, Schmidt said.

"If there's anybody that knows something they haven't brought forward, we ask them to please contact the Dublin police," Schmidt said.

Before he died at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley following the shooting, Antonyo made a "dying declaration" and provided police with information to lead them to suspects.

"He did not give us these names, but he pointed us in the right direction," Schmidt said.

Social-media posts and cell phone records also led to Williams and Butler, who live in an apartment complex near where the shooting occurred in the 5100 block of Iron Horse Parkway.

"Our two suspects have a child in common, and they live together," Schmidt said. "We also know that Angel Butler knew the victim and was in some type of relationship with him, either in the present or past. That's all we know. The victim came out to see Angel Butler on that night, and that's when the crime went down."

What transpired to lead to the shooting is unknown, including whether Antonyo was lured to the scene. The motive is not known, Schmidt said.

"Everything we've found is he was going to meet Angel, unsuspecting that anything was going to go down," he said.

After testing genetic material found on a shell casing found at the scene, detectives obtained search warrants to obtain both Williams' and Butler's DNA. Each came back positive for what was on the shell casing, police said.

Detectives then sought an



Rapper Lil Yase

The daughter, who was not believed to be at the crime scene, was placed with a relative.

Alameda County Superior Court records show Williams was sentenced to six years in prison in 2014 following a residential burglary conviction.

Lil Yase's life ended as his fame and body of work were growing. He had planned to move to Los Angeles to expand his career.

A resident of the Sunnydale Projects in San Francisco, where he lived with his mother, Antonyo began writing lyrics and rapping when he was 14. Known for his fresh delivery and a cadence fans had not heard before, Lil Yase rapped about inequality in the Bay Area, making videos that received millions of views on YouTube and the internet. He performed in the Bay Area, Seattle, Las Vegas and Los Angeles.

The night he died, Antonyo texted his business partner, Justin Miranda, that he would be in the studio but instead drove to Dublin, where his car was found.

## Council Allows Stein To Remain on the Planning Commission

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — At a special council meeting held on Monday this week, councilmembers voted 4-1 to keep Commissioner John Stein on the planning commission with certain conditions, following his comments at a recent public meeting.

With Councilmember Robert Carling opposed, the council decided to retain Stein, while requiring that he meet with the Human Services staff to visit the city's affordable housing developments. The purpose of the tour, as proposed by Councilmember Gina Bonanno, is to help Stein better understand how the low-income complexes serve residents in Livermore — unlike notorious housing projects like Cabrini-Green, which Stein had referenced

April 20.

Stein will also attend a two-day webinar training on equity and inclusion. The requirements went hand in hand with an official warning that offensive words will not be tolerated in the future.

The council decision followed an April 20 planning commission meeting, during which time Stein used the word "ghetto" — among other language — to express concerns about the Eden Housing project passed by the commission 4-1. Stein had said, "I really don't want to see the downtown become a ghetto of affordable housing, and I support inclusionary housing both on a macro and micro scale ... (but) it should be distributed throughout the city."

(See COMMISSION, page 6)

## City to Provide Free Locks for Gun Owners

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN — The police department is now offering free trigger locks to all local owners of firearms.

The city rolled out the free trigger-lock program in early April; to date, the police department has given away 35 gun locks. The locks were paid for with city funds and a donation from the National Shooting Sports Foundation's Project Child Safe.

"It's been very successful so far," said Sgt. Nate Schmidt, public information officer for the Dublin Police Department. "We bought about 200 to start and will keep moving forward with the program. I think it is an

important one."

The program is an extension of Dublin's new gun safety regulations, which the city council unanimously adopted in December. The ordinance requires all local gun owners to store their firearms in a locked container or to secure them with a trigger lock. The provision aims to prevent the unintentional or intentional injury and death of minors, while helping to stop gun suicides and deter firearm theft.

The ordinance piggybacks on the state's current laws that require gun owners to secure their weapons if they live in a household with small children or someone with a criminal

(See GUN LOCKS, page 6)

## Dr. Moss Urges Vaccinations

By Ron McNicoll

REGIONAL — Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County health officer, told participants at a Tri-Valley Chamber of Commerce webinar on April 23 that people who do not get vaccinated against COVID viruses will get the virus.

The vaccines are very safe, said Dr. Moss. They do their work by leaving material in the body that fades away from the vaccine's initial stage.

"The vaccine goes away, but the body looks for COVID," he said.

Moss encouraged listeners to urge their friends and family to get vaccinated as well. He further stated that, "Plenty of younger adults wind up in the hospital, but the older ones die more likely."

Moss addressed six known cases of women who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) one-shot vaccine and experi-

enced blood clots. The number is tiny when considering the number of J&J shots administered throughout the U.S., he said.

Looking ahead to days of fewer restrictions on group behavior, Moss talked about Gov. Gavin Newsom's planned road map to drop the state's "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." This could occur on June 15, if the coronavirus situation has improved and if vaccine supply is adequate.

"We (in Alameda County) are in the orange tier, and the situation is quite stable," said Moss. "It is still at the moderate level. There are 80 to 100 cases a day reported to the health department."

California has not seen a "spring wave" of increased cases as have some Midwestern states.

"Michigan has seen almost a winter surge," Moss contin-

(See VACCINATIONS, page 5)

## Niles Canyon 6-Mile Trail Project Gaining Momentum

By Ruth Roberts

REGIONAL — Tri-Valley residents are one step closer to enjoying the recreational beauty of Alameda County.

During a recent public forum, officials from several local and regional organizations discussed updates on the plan to link six miles of trail from the Niles District in Fremont to the unincorporated community of Sunol.

"This project (originally) became an initiative of District 2 because of a correspondence I received from someone in Newark," District 2 Supervisor Richard Valle said. "She had lost her husband

as the result of an accident on Niles Canyon ... so we kicked around some ways to prevent bikes and trucks from having up-close and deadly encounters. This idea was born out of those collaborations."

The Niles Canyon Trail will serve walkers, bikers and equestrians starting at the end of the Alameda Creek trail in Niles along six miles to the Sunol train station. The trail will wind through the canyon terrain, paralleling Alameda Creek and the Niles Canyon railway. The pathway will be 10-foot wide, paved and accessible to all abilities. A bridge

(See NILES, page 10)



Weekends on Main is back in full swing. Brunch-goers enjoyed the closed streets, dog-friendly outdoor seating options and sunny weather Saturday morning in downtown Pleasanton. To read more, see page 11. (Photo - Stephanie Mollenhauer)



EASTER

### PET OF THE WEEK

While the holiday has passed, this young adult cat is still on the hunt; she's not looking for a basket of eggs but for her forever home! Celebrate the spring season with a sweet feline companion who loves chin scratches. At this time, Valley Humane Society is coordinating adoptions by appointment only. If you are interested adopting Easter, send an email to info@valleyhumane.org for more information.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society / R. Mathers)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds.....	11	Dublin Author Publishes Poetry Book .....	2
Editorial .....	4	College Board Addresses Anti-Asian Violence .....	2
Mailbox .....	4	Local Wineries Bouncing Back .....	2
Obituaries .....	9	Community Sports .....	8
Real Estate .....	11	Axis Offers Vaccines to Ages 16 and Older .....	9
		Livermore School of Dance Takes the Stage.....	11

— VISIT WWW.INDEPENDENTNEWS.COM FOR DAILY ONLINE NEWS —

# Dublin Author Publishes First Volume of Poetry, Entitled "Canvas"

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Local poet James Morehead recently self-published his first book of poetry.

The Dublin resident has been telling stories in verse for more than 40 years and finally decided to take the plunge on his first book, dubbed "Canvas."

"I've always wanted to write a book," said Morehead. "The pandemic and working from home provided the space I needed to focus. It also made me want something, a distraction, and publishing a book has been a really powerful distraction."

Morehead completed extensive research and familiarized himself with book design, art, formatting and copyediting. He hired experts to help him obtain his goal of a clean, professional product he could leave as his legacy. Looking at the advance print copies in his home, he feels he has reached that goal.

When asked why he went to all the trouble of a printed

book, rather than maintaining his habit of publishing his poetry on his website, he said he had three reasons: permanence, beauty and reaching a new audience.

"People say when you put something on the internet, it's there forever," he said. "But really, it's only there as long as I'm paying the bills to host it on the web, and then it will vanish in a cloud of digital smoke. A physical book has a much greater probability of living on in someone's bookshelf, getting passed around, and being in libraries, so that was one of my motivators."

Making his poetry visually pleasing was another motivator. According to Morehead, web pages are poorly suited to poetic layouts, as their goal is to be formatted for whatever screen happens upon them. In his book, Morehead can lay pages out to his exact specifications. He can also spread his wings beyond his internet following.

"People aren't searching for

poems on the web, and it's not a good vehicle for getting your poetry out there," he said.

During his publishing journey over the past year, Morehead has shared the knowledge he gained about in blogposts on his website in response to many questions he received about the publishing process. He was happy to share his experience with others.

One of the experts Morehead went to was Kari Byron of "Mythbusters," a network television show documenting a team's efforts to test myths and urban legends. Byron is also an artist and Morehead already owned two of her pieces. He asked her to create the cover art for his book, and she came through in a unique way.

"She uses the black powder technique, where she makes a painting, then covers part of it with clay," Morehead said. "She then ignites gun powder on top of the art, then scrapes away the clay to reveal the painting, and you have this sort of pattern of black soot

from the gunpowder that creates these patterns and color textures that are really neat."

Morehead said his poetry has a universality to it that appeals to all ages and backgrounds. He noted that he writes his verses to be approachable, at least on the first layer. While other poetry books might require a dictionary to accompany them, Morehead said that won't be necessary with "Canvas." Many of the poems are autobiographical or inspired by everyday objects. He often connects with his audience through his verses of similar shared experiences.

Brittany Smail is a professional copyeditor in San Francisco, and it was her expertise Morehead turned to for a final clean-up of his text. Smail, who loves to dig into a text to find little details to polish, found working on a book of poems to be fun and refreshing.

"I am normally copyediting mostly nonfiction, but my degree is in poetry, so it was fun as a poet to be able to copyedit,"

Smail said. "It's a different sort of copyediting than you would do for say, nonfiction prose. In prose, I'm looking for punctuation and grammar and things that are standard, but poets play with those things — poets play with punctuation, poets play with grammar — so it was fun to understand his poetic voice and his choices as a poet and to edit with that in mind."

Though the book is only available for preorder right now, Morehead has shared it with some critics and received positive feedback.

"James Morehead's 'Canvas' opens itself to the poetry of everyday life, where stanzas are etched in sand, and poems end

in sunset," said Tom Mitchell, senior editor of Critical Inquiry and Gaylord Donnelley Distinguished Services Professor of the University of Chicago. "Combining micro-narratives of Boston bullies cornering a young boy, with minute descriptions of time in quarantine, it draws us into moving tableaux of tenacious attention to what went down, what might come up, and where we might find ourselves."

"Canvas" is currently available for preorder on www.BarnesandNoble.com or www.Amazon.com. For more information, visit www.viewlesswingspress.com/.

## Chabot, Las Positas Trustees Address Anti-Asian Violence

By Jesse Watson

Following the national focus on anti-Asian violence and targeted shootings in Atlanta, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College board of trustees unanimously passed a resolution condemning violence against Asian Americans.

The resolution, titled "Condemning The Recent Surge In Hate Crimes Targeting Asian Americans," affirms that the community college district is committed to protecting Asian American community members and speaking out against racist attacks on Asian Americans.

"I look forward to approving this particular resolution. We've been talking about this for a long time," said trustee

Dr. Hal Gin. "I appreciate the district moving forward so quickly in passing this resolution for our conservation."

Gin co-sponsored this resolution with trustee Ed Maduli. Both spoke during the board's monthly meeting on April 20 about the importance of the resolution and their appreciation for the board's support of the Asian American community. Throughout the meeting speakers made reference to the resolution, thanking the board for taking action and voicing their support.

Chabot College's director of student life, Arnold Paguio, applauded the board of trustees on behalf of the district's Asian Pacific Islander Education Association at the beginning of

the meeting.

"This is not the first resolution that has been in support of the Asian American community during these difficult times," said Paguio. "These are meaningful actions really to this community, and it shows just how meaningful it is to the community to see this and see the leadership in action."

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Rachel Ugale shared that the resolution was a source of hope in the midst of the events happening throughout the nation.

"I'm hoping there are more opportunities for us to have these kind of moments that happen within our own district, along with all the amazing work being done to support our

student (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community," said Ugale. "I hope we don't let opportunities pass for ourselves to share, to reflect, to have hope and to heal."

In the same meeting, the board also approved a program allowing National University to teach additional courses on the community college campuses. According to trustee Tim Sbranti, this program could lead to greater educational opportunities for students at the college.

"I think it's really exciting," said Sbranti. "But I think it just scratches the surface of what we could do in terms of offering bachelor's degrees opportunities on our campuses."

## Local Wineries Bouncing Back with In-Person Tasting Events

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Livermore Valley wineries have begun the process of bringing customers back to their tasting rooms for a variety of in-person experiences.

Some events are new, and some are the same as what was offered a year ago, but all have one common thread — both wineries and their patrons are excited to be tasting in person again. The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association (LVWA) is helping to spread the word about what's going on.

"Special events hosted by our local wineries are listed in the Events section of the Livermore Valley Wine Country website," said Brandi Addington, LVWA operation director. "To learn about the new experiences that many wineries are starting to offer on a regular basis, the best source is the individual winery websites. Some wineries also note these opportunities in the Wineries section of LVwine.org."

Cuda Ridge Wines, located at 2400 Arroyo Road in Livermore, has recommenced its live music on the patio and reservations can be made online. They are continuing with their reservation-based tasting experiences, begun during the pandemic and very popular. They have also added two enhanced tasting experiences.

"These include a personalized Reserved Tasting which includes some of our Reserve Wines," said Harrison Miller, marketing and operations manager for the winery. "And a Winemaker Tasting Flight that includes a reserve flight led by our winemaker, and a vineyard or barrel room tour. We have expanded our outdoor seating area and constructed a new trellis to add more shade which enhances our tasting experience."

Cuda Ridge creates old world style Bordeaux wines in small batches. They are releasing a new Rosé this spring, hosting a Mother's Day event on May 9, and a special, virtual tasting event collaboration with The Cavier Company of San Francisco on May 13. Miller is happy to welcome customers back to the winery.

"We are extremely excited to be able to welcome back our guests and provided a safe atmosphere for everyone to taste some delicious Bordeaux-style wines," he said.

For reservations and more information, visit [cudaridgewines.com](http://cudaridgewines.com) or call 510-304-0914.

Garré Vineyard and Winery is located at 7986 Tesla Road in Livermore. They are launching a vineyard tour and tasting next month called "Behind the Vines." This detailed 60- to 90-minute walking tour will take you into the vineyard and

around Garre's 14-acre property for a view of the vines, winemaking process and history of the winery. For more information, email [danielle@garrewinery.com](mailto:danielle@garrewinery.com) or call 925-371-8200, ext. 106.

Rodrigue Molyneux Winery, at 3053 Marina Ave. in Livermore, is planning "Music Month" for June, to replace last year's cancelled event. Different performers and genres will be featured on Saturdays from 12:30 to 5 p.m. For more information or to make reservations, visit [www.rmwinery.com](http://www.rmwinery.com) or email [nancy@rmwinery.com](mailto:nancy@rmwinery.com).

Fenestra Winery is located at 83 Vallecitos Road in Livermore. The winery will resume its Friday Night Music Series beginning May 21, featuring live bands performing on their lawn every other Friday from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

"We are working on food vendors and will continue to keep tables spaced out pursuant to covid restrictions," said Robin Replogle. "This is a terrific way for families and social bubble groups to enjoy some amazing wine, talented bands, and our beautiful spring and summer weather in the Livermore Valley." For more information, call 925-447-5246, visit [www.fenestrawinery.com](http://www.fenestrawinery.com) or email [robin@fenestrawinery.com](mailto:robin@fenestrawinery.com).

At Big White House Wines and John Evan Cellars — located at 6800 Greenville Road in Livermore — spokesperson Jessica Carroll said their tasting room manger has all kind of fun events planned, from Sunset Sippings featuring different food pairings to Paint and Sip nights. They have also begun to transition the Geek Out With Wine Nerds from virtual to in-person.

"We are thrilled to be welcoming club members and guests back to the winery," Carroll said. "We have missed seeing everyone's faces, and we are excited to do some little events like this."

For more information or to make reservations, call 925-449-1976 or visit [www.bigwhitehouse.com](http://www.bigwhitehouse.com).

El Sol Winery, at 8626 Lupin Way in Livermore, has resumed its beekeeping classes, with a twist: groups will be smaller, but still include the hands-on experience for those who are willing. Finish the afternoon with wine tasting and snacks. For prices and reservations, call Hal Liske at 925-437-2066 or email [hal.liske@gmail.com](mailto:hal.liske@gmail.com).

Retzlaff Vineyards and Estate Winery, at 1356 S. Livermore Ave. in Livermore, continues to offer Live music on Sundays on its expansive lawn, offering plenty of space to spread out. The winery has transitioned to a reservation system allowing for two

seatings, with the option to purchase food along with your wine. For more information, contact Salome Taylor at 208-309-0094 or email [travelwithsalome@gmail.com](mailto:travelwithsalome@gmail.com).

Rosa Fierro Cellars, located at 2245 S. Vasco Road, Suite A, Livermore, offers live music every Saturday evening from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.rosafierrocellars.com](http://www.rosafierrocellars.com).

Las Positas Vineyards — 1828 Wetmore Road in Livermore — reopened a revised tasting experience last summer and continues to offer small bites, spaced out patio seating and wine towers that allow guest to be presented with all the wines in their tasting flight at once.

Las Positas has also partnered with Livermore Wine Trolley to offer a Sip and Savor experience with outdoor seating. Their Sunday Estate

Tour and Tasting Experience is now limited to six people and includes a tour of the vineyards, winery operations and barrel room. They will also begin offering live music on Friday nights featuring local musicians. For more information, visit [www.laspositasvineyards.com](http://www.laspositasvineyards.com), email [curt@laspositasvineyards.com](mailto:curt@laspositasvineyards.com) or call 925-449-9463.

**SUNOL 4-H PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

SUNDAY, MAY 16TH  
Sunol Glen Elementary School,  
11601 Main St., Sunol  
Adult \$10 Child \$5 - Drive Thru  
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE  
<https://sunol4h.betterworld.org>

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**



**Linda Diaz Futral**  
Broker/Realtor  
925.980.3561  
[linda@lindafutral.com](mailto:linda@lindafutral.com)  
[www.lindafutral.com](http://www.lindafutral.com)  
License #01257605

**6189 Detert Court**  
Nicely tucked in the court with vineyards surrounding and privacy all around!  
6 bed 5.5 bath ~4343 Sq. Ft.  
Studio above garage \$2,188,000

**COMING SOON BROOKMEADOW TOWNHOME**



**Nicole Sweeney**  
Realtor  
925.518.2142  
[nicole@nicolesweeneyshomes.com](mailto:nicole@nicolesweeneyshomes.com)  
DRE #01965816  
Always There For You

**4787 MULQUEENEY COMMON LIVERMORE**  
3 Bedroom • 2 Bath  
1,250 Sq Ft.  
This One Won't Last!

LEGACY REAL ESTATE & ASSOCIATES

*Happy Mother's Day!*



To all mothers whether you are past, present, soon to be moms, mother figures and moms in heaven. May your Mother's Day be filled with joy and laughter.

It is on honor for me to give a tribute to my mom and grandma every year on Mother's Day. I fondly remember our annual mother daughter daughter trips together. Grandma Rae is no longer with us as she passed away at the age of 102. I wear grandma's necklace (pictured) on Mother's Day in her memory.

**Leslie FAUGHT**  
REALTOR®, CRS, SRES®  
COMPASS

Service. Experience. Results.  
**925.784.7979**  
[LeslieFaught.com](http://LeslieFaught.com)  
Selling East Bay Homes.com  
DRE#0127778

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

**BETHANY HOMES** SERVING FAMILIES SINCE 1993

**NOW OPEN!**

**ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE**



Livermore's newest and most beautiful Senior Living community, providing seniors who have a wide range of health needs individualized 24/7 care in private or shared studio apartments.

Bethany Homes staff are compassionate, experienced and offer residents home-cooked meals and activities in a warm, friendly and safe environment.

Bethany Homes is locally owned and has been caring for the needs of seniors since 1993. Now accepting waitlist reservations.

**TO LEARN MORE VISIT:**  
**BETHANYHOMECARE.COM**  
**925-443-6822**

**When is it time to consider a change?**

- Do you fall or worry about falling?
- Would you appreciate the support of a 24 hour care team?
- Are you eating poorly or living off TV dinners?
- Have you forgotten to take medication or turn off the stove?
- Is getting to the bathroom safely at night a concern?
- Are you finding it harder to keep up with housework and paying bills?
- Is your home becoming harder to maintain?
- Do you stress about transportation?
- Do you worry about being a burden on family and friends?
- Would you enjoy being around other people?

**BETHANY HOMES | 3322 EAST AVENUE, LIVERMORE, CA 94550 | LIC. 019200973**

# To Livermore with Love

Hello my wonderful Livermore family!

Oh, how far we've come together over this past year. I am so proud of the strength and endurance of our city, especially in the way you have shown so much love and support to our local businesses. **Thank you so much for doing your part.**

Now that we're heading down the home stretch, I have just one more favor to ask:

How about we **make a PROMISE**, not only to each other but to the businesses where we live. Can we make a PROMISE to **spend \$25 extra per week, outside what you would normally spend, at local businesses?** Maybe even try someplace new. It would go a long way toward helping your favorite business keep the lights on or a neighbor keep their job.



1. Visit [ToLivermoreWithLove.com](http://ToLivermoreWithLove.com) or scan the QR code
2. Sign up for the PROMISE Pass
3. Start reaping the benefits while supporting the City of Livermore

Continue saving by purchasing your [GiftLivermore.com](http://GiftLivermore.com) gift cards with your bonus spending money!

Plus, you have a chance to win a \$500 gift card to your business of choice!\*

\*See website for details.

That's YOU, making a difference, by shopping, dining and using our hometown services. Let's do it together and pledge **#ToLivermoreWithLove**.

With Love,

## Livermore

Your Hometown

P.S. Don't forget to purchase a [GiftLivermore.com](http://GiftLivermore.com) gift card to help multiply your savings.



# EDITORIAL Thank You, and Farewell

Executive Director Laura Mercier's work for the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) has had a deep impact on the preservation of land in the region during her tenure.

For nearly two decades, she was a force behind protecting thousands of acres of sensitive habitats. She worked to connect Livermore to Mission Peak and over 25,000 acres of parkland by spearheading the effort to establish the Edward R. Campbell Pedestrian Bridge — among many other projects.

The preservation of dwindling habitats is a worthy cause, and we will continue to need leaders to fight for open space. With her recent resignation, we wish the best for Mercier and hope that the TVC finds a replacement who will carry on her legacy.

Protecting what's left of the open space in the Tri-Valley ensures that our agriculture and wildlife have a chance to thrive and that our future generations have beauty at their backdoor.

## 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](mailto:letters@independentnews.com) or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Tuesday before publication.

### Veganism Requires No Certifications

Lucas Nelson, Livermore

Last night's Oscar for best documentary went to Netflix's trailblazing documentary, "My Octopus Teacher."

The documentary chronicles a complex relationship between a man and the world's most bizarre animal — an octopus. It further testifies to our highly conflicted relationship with non-human animals and the natural world.

Most of us treasure our pets, our dogs, cats, and horses. Our allegiance to them transcends that to our own species. If our dog and a Congolese child were competing for scarce funds for life-saving surgery, we know who would live. Yet, we torment, kill, and consume other animals that are similar in appearance, intelligence, and ability to suffer.

Then, we condemn Asians who do the same to animals we consider pets.

We pride ourselves on being intelligent, rational beings. We have gone to the moon, unraveled and modified genetic codes, and found cures for deadly diseases. Yet, we still have not figured out our relationship with non-human animals and the natural world.

Some of us have. Vegans profess compassion and respect for all sentient beings. Veganism requires no special courses or certifications. Every one of us can become one on our next trip to our supermarket.

### We Are for Eden Housing And Affordable Housing Units, but Ask that You Relocate Eden Housing

Mony Nop, Livermore

At the last City's Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, 04/20/21, I heard many residents speak about moving Eden Housing to the north side of Railroad Avenue or another location in Livermore, which I am in agreement with. However, there were a few comments from those in support of the current plan that stated, in error, I believe, that most of us are not in support of Eden Housing and their affordable housing units. The fact is, most of us are in fact in support of Eden Housing and the much-needed affordable housing units in Livermore. What we are against is the location of where Eden Housing will be building their housing units. We ask that Eden Housing work with the city and residents, move its current location and relocate to north of Railroad Avenue or somewhere else in Livermore. If their location is moved, there could even be a perfect opportunity to add a few more affordable housing units to their project. By relocating Eden Housing, we can have a bigger park and much more open space, bringing our residents and visitors alike together, to enjoy/visit our beautiful downtown.

At this time, I strongly encourage everyone to go to downtown Livermore, walk the property yourself and visualize the two large Eden Housing buildings at their current designated location, directly across from the Legacy project. There, you'll see that these two newly proposed Eden

Housing buildings, in addition to the large buildings at the old Groth Brother's lot, will impose on and forever change our downtown. In my opinion, it will truly change the uniqueness, charms and character of our city. Those of you who are in favor of relocating Eden Housing, please speak up and call our Mayor and City Council members to consider relocating Eden Housing. I strongly urge our Mayor and City Council members, if there is still time to make a change, to listen to our residents, work together with us, find a compromise and relocate Eden Housing!

### False Choice

Jim Lehman, Pleasanton

A false choice: industrial solar or climate change.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has framed their decision on the Aramis project as an "either-or" choice between allowing industrial solar development in agricultural "green-fields," or allowing continued anthropogenic climate change. This is a gross oversimplification and an example of binary or dichotomous thinking. We can do better.

Industrial solar in green fields is not the only option to avoid climate change. Many options exist, including rooftop solar, large-scale solar in previously developed areas ("brown fields"), wind energy and others. Mankind must take an "all of the above" approach to climate mitigation, with different solutions for different geographies.

Precious little new land capable of sustaining life on earth is being created. More and more of our earth is being covered and converted from wildlife habitat to "development" exclusively in service to mankind. We must mitigate climate change, as well as preserve what's left of our open spaces and wildlife habitat and reestablish wildlife corridors to sustain life on this planet.

Packing our few remaining open spaces with industrial-scale solar panels, batteries and above-ground transmission lines will destroy these precious areas.

Some large national environmental organizations have apparently bought-in to this false choice and myopic thinking. The people in these organizations should keep their minds open and not be so willing to sacrifice precious wildlife habitat in the name of this false choice. But I don't think society should begrudge a profit to those who provide clean and green energy. In fact, profitability will be necessary for the economic sustainability of future clean energy, though not at the price of continuing to destroy ever diminishing open spaces, for that is definitely not sustainable.

The Livermore area currently produces a great quantity of green energy, so it shouldn't be forced to sacrifice more of its precious open space and ignore urban growth boundaries to power its neighbors. It makes little sense to further degrade the environment in the name of saving it. Let's consider all the options, impacts and tradeoffs.

The energy transition must continue to minimize the worst effects of climate change, and we have a long way to go, but sacrificing green-fields and destroying rural open space and precious wildlife habitat for what looks like a quick fix is not a sound long-term choice.

You may agree or disagree, but I hope you'll think carefully about this false choice.

### Checking Out Plant-based Foods

Lex Manwill, Livermore

So, I heard on Fox News that President Biden may be banning meat to combat global warming, then I remembered that Colorado Democrat Governor Jared Polis had issued a similar proclamation last month.

My first reaction was, "What kind of cockamamie idea will the Democrats cook up next?"

But then I read the article they quoted, and it made a bit more sense.

Apparently, a University of Michigan research report found that replacing 50% of animal products with plant-based foods would prevent more than 1.6 billion tons of greenhouse gases by 2030, which is Biden's target date for a 50% reduction in emissions.

Another article I found in "The Guardian," argues that animal farming is a major driver of

climate change, as well as air and water pollution, soil depletion, and destruction of wildlife habitats. It's possible that, in an environmentally sustainable world, we may eventually need to replace meat and other animal products with vegetables, fruits, and grains, just as we replace fossil fuels with wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources.

I may look and see what the internet and my local supermarket have to offer in terms of plant-based meat products.

### John Stein Should Resign

Alan Marling, Livermore

I join Tri-Valley for Black Lives in calling for his resignation, after his racist comments in the April 20 Livermore Planning Meeting.

His were not the only ones with an undertone of racism, but they were the worst, comparing affordable housing to a ghetto. In times like these, white people will often chime in and say, "I know him, and he's not a racist."

That's irrelevant. I'm speaking not to who he is, but to his actions. They were demeaning and unbefitting of a Livermore official.

On the face of it, denying affordable housing to Livermore's workers is cruel. People should have the opportunity to live where they work. Add the selective exploitation and impoverishment of people of color over generations, and denying affordable housing is not only classist but racist.

And for his racist comments, Commission John Stein should resign.

### Discuss, Not Dismiss

Maryann Brent, Livermore

The word 'ghetto' evokes images of a slum. The residents of urban slums - ghettos - live in humiliating conditions, and residents who live more comfortably avoid these places. However, on April 20, 2021, I believe that John Stein never meant that the Eden Housing project would be a ghetto.

Most likely he meant that concentrated affordable housing in the city core should be avoided for two reasons. Increased parking-congestion pressure is one reason. Secondly, dispersed affordable housing is healthier for the community. Sprinkling smaller affordable housing projects among market rate housing creates diverse neighborhoods. Livermore celebrates diversity.

The City Council's Pavlovian response to a single word has created a kerfuffle that evolved into a firestorm. This was unnecessary, and has caused outrage and pain in the community. The idea of dismissing John Stein is appalling. He served on the City Council for 16 years and twice on the Planning Commission. He obviously cares about the city and its future. True to his nature, he spoke his truth.

I wonder if the City Council would consider using the special meeting on Monday, May 3 as an opportunity to engage the community. Discuss, not dismiss!

### I Am Dismayed

David Yaffe, Livermore

I read with dismay the summary notes from the Livermore Equity and Inclusion Working Group, Subgroup B: Policing and Human Services, March 4, 2021.

The notes state that the policy subcommittee met four times with Livermore Police Department staff regarding implementation of the 8 Can't Wait guidelines into the department's procedures.

These concerns are obvious: 1. 8 Can't Wait is a program written by radical anti-police members of the group Campaign Zero. Many of their sentiments do not align with the majority of the citizens of Livermore or good law enforcement. While various aspects of the 8 Can't Wait program are just good policing policy and were previously implemented into Livermore's policing guidelines, some of the provisions are nonsensical and even dangerous to the safety of the public and our police officers. Those would include the use of force in subduing a violent suspect, warning before shooting and shooting into moving vehicles. All of these matters call for practical and well thought out policies that differ from 8 Can't Wait.

2. Have the California or U.S. Departments of Justice evaluated 8 Can't Wait and found it suitable for adoption? If not, what other non-political evaluations have been conducted and published? 3. Who has made the Equity and Inclusion Committee the de facto police oversight group for Livermore? If we need an oversight group, this should be taken up officially by the council and a clear policy established. This should not be the undertaking of a committee that has in their previous actions demonstrated bias and poor judgment in dealing with public policy.

Once again, the Equity and Inclusion Committee is carrying out an agenda that does not align with the sentiment of the majority of Livermore citizens. This group has once more overstepped their

authority and placed their political ideology ahead of the good of our city. The Livermore City Council and mayor should be guiding the activities and goals of the Equity and Inclusion Committee in a way that benefits all of our citizens, not just the ones that would like to align our city with radical political organizations.

### Native Garden Open in Livermore

Jim Adams, Livermore

Livermore's best kept secret is quickly becoming "The Garden," as more people learn about the Granada Native Garden near downtown.

The Garden is dedicated to drought-tolerant California native plants, the same plants that Native Americans depended on for many centuries for their food, shelter, medicine, tools, toys, weapons and religious purposes. The Garden is always open to the public, but volunteers will be on hand on Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to noon, to answer questions and provide more information. Many plants are identified by name and accompanied by information about their importance to the environment and to the Native Americans.

More information about the garden can be found online by visiting the Granada Native Garden Newsletter at [granadanativegarden.org](http://granadanativegarden.org) or by sending an email to [jimatgng@gmail.com](mailto:jimatgng@gmail.com). We welcome your interest and inquiries.

### In Defense of John Stein

Ruth Ann Hunt, Livermore

I watched in dismay as members of the Livermore City Council conducted a public shaming of Planning Commissioner John Stein on the basis of his use of a word they purported to find offensive and that others may or may not find offensive. John Stein has been active in the civic affairs of Livermore for many years; his positions have been based on intelligent analysis and grounded in the best interests of the community. I believe that is also the case with his vote against approval of the controversial and hugely unpopular proposed location of the Eden Housing Development. Rather than making a cogent rebuttal to Stein's arguments, Council Members resorted to an ad hominem attack, dismissing and, even worse, distorting his points. That relative newcomers to Livermore politics, which compared to John Stein the current mayor and council members are, would impugn the integrity of a long-time public servant, thereby punishing him for disagreeing with them, is a disservice to Livermore. In fact, even a suggestion that Stein is unfit to serve is in itself shameful.

### A Crown Jewel For Our City

Mary Anne Rozsa, Livermore

I am totally in agreement that we need more affordable housing units in Livermore as I see many of our younger residents and seniors needing to move out of the area for housing. However, our downtown core should be a destination for our residents and visitors to enjoy a significant park site for playing, picnicking, strolling, sitting and just enjoying the surroundings. The housing plan now will not afford that with minimalizing the park footprint, which will now be surrounded by excessively tall buildings with walkways and concrete instead of an extensive park environment. The Eden Housing needs to be relocated north of the downtown core, which would result in more housing and sufficient parking for the Eden residents. Please City Council and Mayor have the forethought that this is the last chance to have a destination downtown park—a crown jewel for our City and its citizens for the future.

### Govern the Airport As a Democracy

David Fetting, Livermore

Let's kill the 737 idea. Let's send KaiserAir packing. We don't need that kind of noise, pollution, increased risks and property devaluation. I am opposed to the expansion of the Livermore airport to include Boeing 737's operated by KaiserAir. I am a private pilot who flies in and out from KLVK airport. I love Livermore, and I love KLVK just as it is. Whatever revenue KaiserAir brings in, it isn't worth it economically.

The combined population of Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin is 237,000. If each home's value drops by just \$10,000, that's \$2.37 billion. Where's the economic benefit? Noise, pollution, added risk and declining property values. No thanks.

Livermore Airport began as a private airfield in 1929, and in 1942, the airfield was taken over by the federal government for use as a Naval Auxiliary Airfield. It has been open to the public since 1965.

The government embraces General Aviation and encourages members of the population to become pilots for the advancement of technology in our country. It

is another form of transportation just as our automobiles and highways. Also, in times of disasters, these airports are essential for government operations.

Let's govern our airport as a democracy and petition for change. Write to the following persons and agencies: Mayor Bob Woerner, (925) 960-4020, [mayorwoerner@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:mayorwoerner@cityoflivermore.net); Vice Mayor Trish Munro, (925) 960-4016, [plkmunro@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:plkmunro@cityoflivermore.net); and Council Member Gina Bonanno, (925) 960-4013, [rebonanno@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:rebonanno@cityoflivermore.net).

### Do Not Dismiss Stein

Ralph Moir, Livermore

John Stein has a long record of service to the city - twice on the Planning Commission and 16 years on the City Council. He has complete absence of mal-intent in his words. I fully support him and completely disagree with the City's intention of dismissing him from the Planning Commission.

### Access to Vaccines Worldwide

Mohammad Abri, Livermore

As we are watching India's Covid 19 infections increase dramatically and countries try to help and close their borders to Indians simultaneously, the question becomes, "What are we going to do as this scenario is repeated all over the developing world?"

As the wealthy nations commit to sending materials to help, we know that it will take time to get the help to individuals who need it. We also know how this disease spreads and kills people; those who are affected do not have the time to wait. The U.S. has pledged to send millions of vaccines to India, this help is not going to arrive for weeks and possibly months.

Is this the best way to deal with this crisis? Are we going to wait and see for the next spot, the disease spikes and try to 'rush' help, which will never be fast enough? What if the next spot is not a 'friendly' nation? What if the next spot is Syria?

Are the wealthy nations going to be as willing to help because of the nature of their government? There are many ethical questions that we need to answer. This crisis compels us to act for others, but it is in our own self-interest as well. This pandemic is not over anywhere until it is over everywhere. The solution is to waive patents for the viruses that have been shown to be effective. We need to produce as many vaccines as possible and other countries have the capacity to do so. The government has many ways to do this and be fair to the companies that have developed the vaccines.

If not just for common decency, for our own sake, let's give the government the mandate to suspend the patents and implement what works everywhere.

### Rethink Your Plans

Monica Kulander, Livermore

Please consider moving your housing to an area that will help Livermore look and feel better about itself. In the heart of town is not the place and will make us sad. Please rethink your plans for all our sakes. We want our lovely city to stay that way and you can help. Please do so.

### Stein A Tireless Servant

Janet Buckley, Livermore

I was saddened to read the Times article on John Stein and his misconstrued remark about downtown Livermore. I have known the family, Lynn and the children for many, many years. They have been tireless servants to the city and the city causes. To slander such a person in my opinion is almost scary to see that the: "thought police are here"; "we must be on alert"; "don't dare step out of line, especially not agreeing with the powers that be!!!"

### Grandchildren's Songs

Greg Scott, Livermore

"A better future is up to each and every one of us." ("Extinction: The Facts", David Attenborough). What are we doing if the cultural and physical changes we think we need to address our causality of climate disruption further destroys or degrades biodiversity in ecosystems?

We depend on biodiversity for the oxygen we breathe, the shelters we live in, the availability of clean and safe water, the fire (fuel) we require to function, and the food we eat. Diminished biodiversity and ecosystems makes for diminished futures for us all. We need to stop both our deleterious effects on biodiversity in ecosystems and greatly reduce our emissions that cause climate disruption.

This is a lofty goal. We tend to resist changes. Most rational, compassionate individuals would like their grandchildren to have happy, joyous lives and productive, thriving lives, yet most of us live counter to this.

I do not think this is because we are sadistic or malicious. I think it is more a warp of human evolution that we feel somehow powerless to change the problems we've created. Changes require

efforts which are not comfortable - habitually, economically and politically.

The necessary changes for a better fate are not any easier in a culture that has gone global largely through the availabilities, the technologies and the social structures surrounding fossil fuels. The land, and specifically local land, becomes a certain abstract. We generally do not make shelter, obtain water and fuel, hunt and grow food from local lands. This is a disconnection for us. We are much more steeped in distractions than in essential understanding of what is under our feet.

Calamities make impetus for interruptions to the status quo. Is the pain and tragedy involved in the ensuing chaos the only rational way to achieve the imperative of changes?

Change requires careful thought, yet deliberation is time-bound given where we are in the course of human history and attendant events. Why and how did things get the way they are? What are we going to do about our situation?

Science helps us in the predictability and understanding here. Thomas Malthus erred in his incorrect, dreadful forecasts; however, he did not have the availability of data from satellites taking daily "selfies" of the entire surface of the Earth.

We do. And we have highly reliable prognostications to know whether our grandchildren will sing dirges or enlightened anthems.

### John Stein

Ken Bradley, Livermore

Mr. Stein has a long history of public service for the City of Livermore. He has always tried to improve the city. It is amazing that members of the city council, who skim 11 % off your trash bill, would have grounds to reject his community efforts and consider his dismissal.

### Other Locations for Eden Housing

Thomas Soules, Livermore

My opinion and an opinion shared by everyone I have discussed this with is that the residential buildings presently under construction on the Groth Brother's site have already significantly impacted the character of downtown. The Eden housing residential buildings being planned for the Lucky site downtown across L street will finish it, completely destroying the character of Livermore.

Downtown will no longer be a place that attracts folks to visit and stroll around and go to restaurants, cinemas or the Bankhead, but will be dominated by these large buildings and the accompanying traffic and parking problems not unlike some other big cities.

There must be a solution. City council members have told me they respect their agreement to provide low income housing on this site. Surely the spirit of that agreement is to provide low income housing - as much and as quickly as possible, not that it has to be on that site.

How about subsidizing rent in the Legacy apartments on the Groth Brothers site right across the street? These buildings are already being built and could provide housing for lower income folks quickly.

There may be other alternatives as well, such as, more housing on Pacifica Avenue, building north of Railroad Avenue, housing on near vacant lots on Chestnut, housing on a portion of Robertson Park, etc. All these options come with costs and other issues. However, the cost incurred by building these large residential buildings proposed by Eden housing on the Lucky site downtown is immeasurable. It will destroy the Livermore we know and love for decades, possibly forever.

### Critical Race Theory, Part I

Owen Brovont, Livermore

This essay is a response to the government's coercive support of Critical Race Theory (CRT). It is currently being used to club American society into insensibility and chaos, leading to its collapse so it can be reconstructed using a socialist model.

The proponents of CRT are attempting to permeate American society with distorted perspectives of American and Western culture. A key to understanding the proposed social theory is to compare its claims against the reality of current American society. No society functions completely free of mistakes and occasional conflicts. Because societies are made up of individuals, and individuals typically define their reality through their own values, experiences, and perceptions, that process is critical and is easily illustrated by recalling that different people like different colors, different pets, different cars, different hobbies, different foods — some like eggs sunny side up and others over easy or scrambled. Some

**THE Independent**

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

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

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

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

[www.independentnews.com](http://www.independentnews.com)



Pleasanton Unified School District's Hart Middle School broke ground on its new science classroom building, April 27. The building, covered by Measure 1 funds, will bring modern science labs to campus. (Photo courtesy of PUSD)

### PG&E Names Executive VP for Corporate Affairs

Carla J. Peterman, who chaired the state's Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery in 2019, will join the Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) as executive vice president for corporate affairs.

PG&E also announced the promotions of Margaret Becker to vice president and treasurer and Christopher Patterson to vice president for state legislative affairs.

Peterman was appointed to the wildfire commission in early 2019, after two of the most destructive wildfire seasons on record. The commission's final report, issued in June 2019, led to the state legislature approving several recommendations

to hold utilities accountable for reducing the risk of wildfires and encourage a financially stable electric industry.

At PG&E, Peterman will be responsible for corporate affairs, including regulatory affairs, government relations, public policy, and charitable giving. She will report to PG&E Chief Executive Patti Poppe.

Peterman joins PG&E from Southern California Edison (SCE), where she had served as senior vice president for strategy and regulatory affairs since October 2019.

Earlier in her career, Peterman conducted energy policy research at the University of California Energy Institute

and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and she served on the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission.

She currently serves on the external advisory board for Sandia National Laboratories' Energy and Homeland Security Portfolio and as a member of the Federal Reserve of San Francisco Economic Advisory Council. Peterman holds a bachelor's degree from Howard University, a PhD in energy and resources from the University of California, Berkeley, and both a master's degree in science and a master's in business administration from Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar.

### VACCINATIONS

(Continued from first page)

ued. "Most states did not get to numbers as bad. California had the second lowest rates behind Hawaii."

The virus hit Southern California hard, but because of a strong vaccine campaign, there might not be a lot of resurgence there. In Europe, the United Kingdom avoided an early spring wave with a campaign that prevented it.

After the county's current orange tier, comes the even less restrictive yellow tier, but Moss said he is cautious about that.

"It may be hard for us to get much lower, faster," he said. "Maybe vaccination will help with that."

Moss believes there still will be limits to gatherings. He cited the all-day car show in downtown Livermore held annually in the fall by the Altamont Cruisers, a car club that donates to a variety of Tri-Valley charities. He predicted that the event would still occur, but it will likely adhere to mask guidance.

Face coverings will still be part of fighting off COVID, but Moss said, "It could be with us for a long time. Some 40% of people (in the county) have been vaccinated. Almost two-thirds have at least one shot. We need a couple of weeks after people get a second dose, but we are getting a very high level."

Moss said he thinks Cali-

ornia will get "huge numbers" of people vaccinated. The demand for it has been robust. The only problem is the "long tail" of people who have stayed away from vaccination, because of their fear of what might it do to them, but it is a relatively small number.

The health officer further explored myths pertaining to DNA changes and effects on pregnancy. The viruses have no effect on DNA. Some women don't want to get pregnant, because they think the virus will interfere with the child's health. There is no scientific basis about this reproductive fear, said Dr. Moss.

The video is available to the public online on the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce's Youtube channel at bit.ly/Indy\_MossTalk.

### Bay Area Microbiologist Responds to New CDC Guidance

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released new guidelines about how and when to wear a mask, but not all of the specifics have been nailed down yet.

Dr. John Swartzberg, a microbiologist at UC Berkeley who studies epidemics, said that The CDC states that it's all right for vaccinated people to be in small groups and not wear a mask, but the CDC does not define what a small group is.

Swartzberg said he would feel comfortable visiting his adult children, who have been vaccinated and might not be wearing masks. But around people who are not known to him, he said he prefers to carry masks and offer them one. At 76, he is at the age where there can be more difficulty in treating a COVID infection, if one does occur.

Swartzberg appeared recently on FM station KPFA in Berkeley, where he fielded calls from many UC students. They asked why should they care about COVID. His answer was that they should stop to think of the vulnerability of their parents and grandparents, whom they see from time to time.

The numbers in California, including the Bay Area, have improved compared to the level of cases reported last September, which is a good sign of a lowering rate, said Swartzberg. However, he stressed that it's dangerous to be indoors instead of outside, and incredibly important to be masked inside.

The next big improvement in fighting coronavirus will be a vaccine for youths from ages 12 to 16, which Swartzberg said might be approved soon by the Federal Drug Administration. It would have an Emergency Use Authorization, the same status that the Moderna, Pfizer and J&J vaccines have.

## As the flawed Eden Housing plan becomes more and more controversial, Save Livermore Downtown's alternative plan is a win-win solution.



### It's time for the Downtown Alternative: MORE affordable housing, but NOT in the city center

- 100 more units of affordable housing, but moved across Railroad Avenue
- Removal of the massive residential buildings 4-stories high and up to a block long in the city center
- A welcoming park to take their place in the heart of the community
- Workforce housing for teachers would be included
- More parking for both new tenants and the public
- Traffic jams caused by the Eden project on nearby streets would be avoided



Paid For By Save Livermore Downtown

**SPEAK UP TO SAVE LIVERMORE'S DOWNTOWN!**

**SIGN THE PETITION AT [SAVELIVERMOREDOWNTOWN.COM](http://SAVELIVERMOREDOWNTOWN.COM)**



In celebration of Arbor Day, April 30, residents planted a tree by the Duarte Garage in Livermore. (Photo – City of Livermore)

## Dublin Parks to Explain Safety Guidelines Trips

Dublin and TravelCenter Tours and Travel will host an online meeting on Wednesday, May 12, to discuss safety guidelines that will be in place for upcoming trips offered by the city's Parks and Services Department.

The Zoom-based meeting will run from 10-11 a.m. To register and receive the meeting ID and password, go to [www.DublinRecGuide.com](http://www.DublinRecGuide.com).

## GUN LOCKS

(Continued from first page)

record. Peace officers and those in compliance with all applicable state laws are exempt from the ordinance. Dublin joins 22 other California cities that have initiated the gun ordinance in recent years, including Oakland, Berkeley, San Francisco and Moraga.

"We are just expanding this (current) law and applying it to all households," said Dublin City Manager Linda Wilson during the council's Dec. 1 meeting.

At the same meeting, Mayor Melissa Hernandez—who was a councilmember at the time—suggested the council take the initiative one step

further by acquiring trigger locks for free distribution to those who need them.

"I feel we should move a little bit more toward not just saying it, but doing something," said Hernandez.

A 2016 study of gun owners published in the American Journal of Public Health found that an estimated 54% of gun owners do not lock up all their firearms or store them trigger-locked, unloaded and separate from ammunition. In 2020, there were 236 unintentional shootings by children, resulting in 102 deaths and 141 injuries nationally and seven unintentional shootings. A 2010 study in the

## COMMISSION

(Continued from first page)

The Eden Housing project is proposed for the old Lucky site in the downtown core; its current plans involve the development of a 130-unit, four-story affordable housing complex. Stein was the dissenting vote at that meeting. According to Stein, his reason for voting "no" was the inadequacy of the plan's proposed parking.

At an April 26 city council meeting, Stein apologized for the way in which he worded his concerns about the Eden plan; he issued another statement May 3 before the council made its decision.

"A number of people were hurt by my offensive comments during the last planning commission (meeting). To all of them, I say I am truly sorry, and I will do my best to see that it never happens again," Stein said. "Some individuals have tried to put words in my mouth and say what I believe and what my motives are. I would like to state my beliefs. People of all racial, ethnic, income level, sexual orientation and religion and any background are welcome in Livermore. Livermore needs a balanced mix of housing types spread throughout the city. Service workers are a valued part of the community, and people of all income levels are entitled to live in decent housing close to where they work. This issue is about my words and not my vote. This council and staff, I believe, are honestly working to do what's best for Livermore."

From the community,

those upset with Stein said he spoke disparagingly of low-income or homeless individuals, while insensitively using a racially loaded word.

"Part of our mission is to hold our public officials accountable," said public speaker Emily Wilson, resident and co-founder of Tri-Valley for Black Lives. "This behavior from someone from a position of power perpetuates systemic racism. Real harm was caused by Stein to low-income, unhoused and Black, Indigenous and people of color ... I am here to demand that we hold John Stein and the City of Livermore accountable. There is a difference between 'cancel culture' and accountability."

Others claimed his comments were taken out of context and used as a catalyst to punish the commissioner for his April 20 vote.

"The commissioner is here on trial for the discussion about the dynamics involved in the downtown housing projects," said speaker James Hutchins. "He stated multiple times that he is for affordable, inclusive housing, but was concerned that, by putting all of the low-income housing together — namely segregated — that would cause stigma ... This man, who grew up in a low economic situation himself, is now being called classist, because based on his lived experience, he wanted to avoid that."

Mayor Bob Woerner addressed the public concerns that the consideration to re-

move Stein from the planning commission stemmed from retaliation for his vote.

"Our deliberations are about Commissioner Stein's comments, not about the technical decision-making regarding the Eden project," Woerner said.

Prior to casting his vote of dissent to retain Stein with conditions, Carling said that many people had focused on the use of the word "ghetto," but he took issue with the whole of Stein's comments at the April 20 meeting.

"His remarks before (saying 'ghetto') were equally offensive, if not more," Carling said.

He pointed out Stein's statements about Livermore becoming the "go-to place for homelessness" or that he didn't want the city to provide more than its "fair share" of affordable housing in the county.

"To me, his comments taken in full — I will emphasize taken in full — are insensitive, inexcusable and inconsistent with our values," Carling said.

Councilmember Brittni Kiick proposed the concept of providing Stein with training, paired with a formal warning.

"It's hard to hold someone accountable, when you don't set clear expectations," she said. "I believe in systems of policy to prepare people for success."

Vice Mayor Trish Munro said that since the April 26 meeting, she had spoken to various individuals, includ-

ing Stein, and sought a path forward, while addressing the mistake.

"I believe that everyone does deserve a second chance, but it also means action, and I think Mr. Stein is moving in that direction," Munro said.

Bonanno detailed the evolution of language and how what's considered acceptable changes over time.

"I believe it's on us, as empathic, sensitive human beings to learn when things change — to be aware — and that's not just political correctness. It's about caring about what people find offensive and changing the words we use, because they're hurtful," Bonanno said. "As I said on April 26, I strongly objected to what Mr. Stein's words reflected about his viewpoint."

She also believed that, based on what Stein has said since then, he's beginning to understand the impact of his words and willing to learn from the experience.

Woerner had said at the April 26 meeting that Stein's comments were "beyond intemperate" and his first apology was lacking. At the May 3 meeting, he stated that the council acted with compassion and the understanding that people get a second chance.

"And I'll just say that that's consistent with my own life experience," he said right before the meeting adjourned. "However, there aren't more chances after something like that."

## MERCIER

(Continued from first page)

Mercier's departure comes months after the TVC renewed its accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, and just after preserving another 425 acres of sensitive habitat land in the region, which protect lands for endangered species and connect wildlife corridors.

The nonprofit conservancy — which protects open space for parks, farms, trails, ranches and wildlife habitat in Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore, San Ramon and Sunol — has not selected a new director.

Born in Colorado, Mercier moved to Livermore with her family in 1978 and spent much of her life in the community. An engineer, she worked for 15 years for Boeing, including 10 on the C17 Airlift System in Long Beach. In 2002, after moving back to the city, she joined the TVC as stewardship director, focusing on land stewardship, and became executive in 2011.

During her time, TVC acquired 3,500 acres of conservation easements, she said. Mercier called her "proudest contribution" the Edward R. Campbell Pedestrian Bridge, which "provides our community with access to a 44-mile trail that takes you from Livermore to Mission Peak and connects over 25,000 acres of parkland." As executive director, Mercier served as project manager for the construction.

"This project really pushed me to apply all of the skills I gained throughout my career, including my previous profession as an engineer, and to collaborate with the community stakeholders who I have spent years fostering relationships with," she said.

Mercier said she has "special appreciation" for donors, volunteers, property owners and community leaders. She worked with more than 30 members on the board of directors.

"I truly appreciate each of them for their time and dedication to TVC," she said. "I

do want to say special thanks to the chairs that I was given the opportunity to work with as the executive director: Jean King, Rik Hansen, Jeff Williams, Norm Petermeier, Ryan Callahan and David Kent."

Mercier said she will be sad to leave Charlene Anderson, TVC associate director, and Diana Roberts, the group's land and media specialist.

"I have absolute faith in them and their skills," Mercier said. "Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work with amazing people who had passion about TVC's work. It humbles me to realize how much I learned from them."

Mercier will be leaving plenty of projects for her successor. She said multiple mitigation conservation easements are in the works. The TVC executive director also makes annual stewardship visits to all the properties under TVC conservation easements, where current programs serve the community.

"Those programs span from celebrating our bountiful agriculture and vineyards by hosting the Livermore Valley Uncorked Wine Competition to our Discovery: Youth-in-Nature program, which provides outdoor education and stewardship lessons to our local fourth-graders in the Tri-Valley," Mercier said. "TVC is also focusing on the economic sustainability of the South Livermore Valley Area Plan (SLVAP). We are leading efforts and collaborating

with community stakeholders to support vineyards and local agriculture to be viable and flourish in the Tri-Valley. Success of agriculture is a key component of fulfilling the SLVAP, which is a pillar of our organization's mission."

Mercier said she has wanted to move to Wisconsin for the past few years. She will be joined by her 78-year-old "mum," Sybil Mercier.

"As much as I would like to ignore that I am getting older, I decided there is no better time to prioritize time with my loved ones and experience new adventures," Mercier said. "My plan is to rest, reenergize, and explore our new surroundings. Knowing my personality, I do believe at some point I will pursue volunteering and perhaps even a part-time position. I have many interests, and one of the best ways to get acquainted with my new city is to contribute within the community."

Mercier said Livermore will always be a special place for her.

"I will always be grateful and feel blessed to have been a part of TVC and, more importantly, the Tri-Valley community," she said. "In the end, it always comes down to the people. I could spend hours telling you about the amazing people in this community — our local activists, elected officials, public agencies, residents, donors, volunteers, property owners, staff and many more. I truly have been the lucky one."

## ARROYOS

(Continued from first page)

2017," said Pam Lung, senior civil engineer with the City of Livermore. "So these sites are meant to compensate for the impacts that we have (had) during maintenance or stream bank repair projects. The Living Arroyos program is helping us. They have helped us plant along the creek since 2017."

Living Arroyos was formed in 2013 as a partnership between the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD), the Zone 7 Water Agency and the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin. The groups aim to enhance urban streams and riparian habitats — which exist along water banks — in the Livermore-Amador Valley. The organization also hopes to reestablish the connection between people and the arroyos in their backyards.

One of the primary roles of Living Arroyos is to provide the muscle for restoration projects. Pandemic-related restrictions have kept the organization from running large volunteer initiatives, as they've done in the past. Interns hired by the LARPD provide labor, but plans are in place to engage the public as soon as it is safe to do so again.

"In the future, our hope is that we'll be able to bring members of the public (to the restoration sites) to learn about the restoration and to help with some of the management and care," said Carol Mahoney, manager of integrated water resources with Zone 7 Water Agency. "That's going to be managing the invasive weeds and doing things like picking up trash. But we can't do that yet."

Arroyos are a particular type of creek bed common in the arid and semi-arid regions of the western and southwestern United States. In parts of the country where rain falls throughout the year, creeks rarely run dry. Arroyos differ from creeks in that they are often dry for much of the year. In addition to providing habitat for a wide variety of plant and animal species, arroyos play an important role in flood control.

The 10-acre project is comprised of several different plots of land. Most of the project to date has focused on replanting native vegetation in areas disturbed by stream management projects.

"The impacts to the streams under the (City of Livermore's) Stream Maintenance Program are pretty minimal, really," explained Drew Engstrom, a stream restoration specialist with the Alameda County Resource Conservation District. "They're just to remove sediment or remove invasive vegetation that improves the streams. The way the permits are written, for any kind of impact like that you still have to mitigate. The projects have that in mind — to accommodate those requirements from the state and federal agencies. They also have a lot of restoration components. It's kind of a joint effort between the stream management projects and the mitigation sites."

In Springtown, stream management project mitigation has required replanting of native vegetation along 2,500 feet of Arroyo Las Positas. Additionally, thick stands of cattails were removed to improve water flow through the area.

"That's where the old golf course is," said Engstrom. "The plan is to restore that riparian area along the golf course. It coincides with the overall plan for that golf course in the future. Robertson Park is the biggest (plot). It's about six acres. There are some other ones

journal "Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior" found that over 80% of children (18 years or younger) who died by gun suicide used a gun belonging to a family member. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 637 children die by gun suicide each year on average.

"It's not about taking gun rights away from people," said Hernandez of the storage ordinance. "It's about educating and making sure we do our part by having awareness out there."

Residents can pick up a free trigger lock at the Dublin Police Services, 6361 Clark Ave.

here and there. Those are the main ones that the public will notice."

The final phase of this project will focus more on the removal of invasive vegetation as opposed to the planting efforts in the earlier phases. Invasive plants like mustard, blackberry bushes and eucalyptus trees not only push out native plants, but also create other issues, like increased fire hazards and allergy problems for local residents.

"We're doing some vegetation management in the next two years in the Springtown area," Lung said. "We're looking to do invasive removal instead of planting new areas. It's less onerous of our time and less expensive. We're looking for ways to make things simpler and easier."

The full results of restoration efforts can easily take years, sometimes more than a decade. Trees grow and create shade on the water. Thick stands of cattails start to thin as they only grow well in full sun. Water starts to flow more freely, and birds, reptiles and amphibians return to the area. Change comes slowly, but inexorably.

"(The restoration) creates a lot of value for people looking to recreate in the area," Engstrom said. "Over time, it will improve habitat as well. There'll be more wildlife to see. It's not going to just be a sun-drenched, flat area of dead weeds. It's going to be more pleasant for everyone."



**RETZLAFF**  
Estate Wines

NOW OPEN FOR WINE TASTING AND  
PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND  
MONDAYS 11:30 – 5 THRU SEPTEMBER 30.

LIVE MUSIC EVERY SUNDAY  
FOOD FOR PURCHASE EVERY WEEKEND.

Make your online reservation at  
[RetzlaffVineyards.com](http://RetzlaffVineyards.com)



**CALIFORNIA DERMATOLOGY CARE**  
*Advanced Care with a Personal Touch*



Center of Excellence for  
skin cancer, acne and psoriasis

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

**A place where beauty and healthy skin meet.**

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

[www.DrWilliamTing.com](http://www.DrWilliamTing.com) Schedule your consultation appointment today!



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

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

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

Email: [staff@CalDermCare.com](mailto:staff@CalDermCare.com) | [www.DrWilliamTing.com](http://www.DrWilliamTing.com)

## MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

people prefer blonde hair, others prefer brunettes; some like blue eyes and others find brown eyes preferable. There are people who like mountains, others the ocean; some like cities, and others prefer the rural countryside. There are people who feel they must live in a spacious home on a large lot while others are quite content with the freedom provided by not being tied down by a mortgage and so prefer renting an apartment in town. The point is that people prefer different things, and their differences do not make them enemies. Most people are comfortable recognizing that people like different things and as long as those differences do not intrude on their lives in a negative way, few expectations of problems arise.

Problems, however, do begin to occur when some typically arrogant academicians insist that reality should be molded to conform to a theory that defines what they think reality should consist of – unsurprisingly it is often their "vision." Forcing society to conform to a specific vision that is not a product of society's natural evolution is oppression. CRT is a concerted attempt to force society to conform to a manufactured vision of how society should be structured, organized, and how its members must behave – it is a clear case of oppression when the government is an agent. To achieve its goals, CRT seeks to sever society's connection with its moral standards, behavioral norms, and spiritual beliefs primarily by asserting that white America is and always has been a racist society.

### No Freedom of Speech for Stein!

Carla Biermann, Livermore

I am writing in support of Planning Commissioner John Stein. The First Amendment protects our freedom of speech. I have known of John Stein since I moved here in 1976. During this time, he has served our Livermore City by being on the City Council for 16 years and twice on the Planning Commission. I have attended City Council meetings and found him to be an independent thinker. He asks good and thoughtful questions when discussing new ideas for our town. I admire his input and our town has turned out pretty great! I am appalled that the Council is thinking of dismissing him for clearly explaining how his thoughts are concerning the Eden Downtown Project. Many townspeople feel the way he does. I do not think an apology was in order. To quote Winston Churchill, "Everyone is in favor of free speech. Hardly a day passes without its being extolled, but some people's idea of it is that they are free to say what they like, but if anyone else says anything back, that is an outrage."

ity is too precious not to track.

### An End Unto Itself

Russ Greenlaw, Livermore

I am not surprised at the opposition to a proposed solar farm on the outskirts of Livermore, out-of-sight north of the freeway.

Nimbyism is a well-known affliction among environmentalists.

"We need to be all-solar-and-wind-powered," they say until such is proposed for any specific location. Other renewables are disfavored - nuclear (obviously), and geothermal needs recharge water and makes earthquakes. Hydro, the most beneficial source - providing both electricity and water - was declared 'not a renewable.' Pump-storage hydro as a storage battery for wind and solar power makes sense, but it will certainly be opposed by the self-styled greens. Might scare the fish, dontchaknow.

All know wind is unreliable, but few realize that solar power is available less than half the time - even a thin overcast reduces solar harvest greatly, and a solid overcast reduces wattage to less than 10% of normal, a personally observed value from an off-grid installation.

Worse, many solar panels are aimed badly: some on the north side of a roof, some facing east and others west, such as west-facing at several Livermore schools (even if a parking lot runs north-south, the panels could have been cleverly aimed south in chevron fashion to catch multiples the annual yield of west-facing panels).

So, with the solar available less than half the time and generally mal-aimed, and wind unreliable, why are the greens opposing a solar farm that would be well aimed, exceptionally productive, and out of sight for all but a few persons each day? Because they can, of course. Stopping projects is an end unto itself.

An unfortunate joke is the very stupid effort by some towns to end natural gas for cooking and heating. Tell the so-called planners in those burghs that natural gas has the least carbon of all naturally occurring fuels and electric heat uses much more energy than using gas directly. Favored 'renewables' aren't and never will be in sufficient quantity, the shortage gets made up by gas and coal. California lacks sufficient electricity for summer now; worsening if electricity replaces clean, low carbon fuels. How are you going to charge your Tesla when the lights go out? The carbon footprint of all California being barely measurable, what Livermore does isn't measurable. Why waste effort on a 'climate action plan?' Because wasting public money is an end unto itself.

### I Simply Ask Why

Don Maroney, Livermore

After several years of public debate, there has been a sizeable opposition to the placement of the east side hotel, building of 4-story housing in the heart of the downtown plan, and the Aramis and SunWalker solar farms. And every single time, the Livermore City Council has supposedly listened to this dissent and went ahead on what surely seems to be foregone

conclusions. The question is why? 1) The west side hotel made immensely more logistical sense, 2) the solar projects run directly in opposition to Measure D and most of the renewable energy does not directly benefit Alameda County, much less Livermore. (In all fairness, the Council has referred these solar projects back to the County for consideration to be included in an overall county plan, but it did not listen to the wishes of the people to have them stopped.) and 3) the downtown housing plan has very achievable alternatives. The sad part of these public debates has been the opposition being framed by the City Council and the supporters of these four initiatives as being anti-growth, against renewable energy, affordable housing and a unique wine country themed hotel. Nothing could be further from the truth. Many of us believe the majority of Livermore residents are on the side of the opposition and simply want an honest consideration of the positions. And yet we are 0-4 in this public debate. There are unquestionably many fine people on both sides of these debates with passionate views on the future of Livermore. Everyone is to be respected. For someone who has called Livermore home for more than 3 decades, I simply reject the notion that the City Council has adequately taken this opposition against fundamentally changing the unique and admirable charm of Livermore into consideration. I simply ask why?

### LVCC Here for The Long Run

Dawn P. Argula, Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce

I am responding to the comments published in the April 1 issue of The Independent, regarding the LVCC Chairman's Circle member sponsors - Intersect Power, Chevron and PG&E - businesses that play a key role in our past, present and future economy.

They power our homes, equipment, and vehicles, helping to keep the economy moving. These businesses represent infrastructure, an LVCC policy priority - sufficient, sound, enhanced or expanded infrastructure is the backbone to a strong economy and community. Other policy priorities include - membership, economic development, housing, and Livermore Downtown revitalization. LVCC Chairman's Circle members find value in supporting LVCC in this effort.

During the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, LVCC was able to sustain its operations due in great part to the support of our Chairman's Circle members. The revenues of so many LVCC member businesses were impacted, and as a result, they were unable to pay their annual dues at a time when they most needed support. It is our belief that success or failure is affected by our collective economic prosperity. And while LVCC too experienced the economic effects of the pandemic, which affected its professional staff, from day one of the shelter-in-place order, LVCC continued to operate, pivoting, and leaning in to expand its reach beyond its membership, supporting any business seeking information, access, and resources during this collectively painful economic period of time.

LVCC set up a second website, livermoreupdates.com, which is open to any area business, and published a weekly e-newsletter, The SIP (shelter in place), focused on COVID-19-related information. We strengthened our relationships with other business organizations and government partners in the effort to influence, obtain and effectively distribute relevant information and resources from official and credible sources.

Today, LVCC continues to meet our core mission as the economy transitions through a recovery from this pandemic. LVCC is no secret - it's been operating in the Livermore Valley since at least the 1920s and was incorporated in 1937. I invite and welcome anyone interested in learning more about this distinguished and amazing organization to visit www.livermorechamber.org.

Indeed, business is at the table and a part of this community. Recognizing our economic heritage, supporting a responsible economic environment, and planning for a sustainable and vibrant economy for future generations, LVCC is here for the long-run, and we intend to continue our support of business and the greater Livermore Valley community.

### East County Board of Zoning Adjustments Replacements

Susan Springer, Livermore

Supervisor David Haubert and the other Alameda County Board of Supervisors must promptly replace East County Board of Zoning Adjustments members Frank Imhof, Derek Eddy and Scott Beyer with members who are not rubber stamps of County planning staff or developers.

This three-member, appointed board has great power over the future of unincorporated East Alameda County, directly impacting the lives of residents and the ecosystems. Beyer, whose term expired a year ago, missed critical decision meetings during the past year. Eddy and Imhof have less than a year remaining on their terms, but they too should be replaced now.

The public has the right to expect that at a minimum the members on the Board will attend meetings, carefully study proposals, understand the legal standards for evaluating developments, and be familiar other applicable laws. Members must ask demanding questions and insist upon receiving honest answers.

Neither Eddy nor Imhof met this minimum performance standard as ECBZA Members to make an educated decision when they approved two industrial solar power plants in North Livermore Valley last Fall. Eddy and Imhof displayed a glaring lack of

knowledge of the voter-approved Measure D initiative that preserves open space and agricultural land in the East County. They demonstrated unawareness with respect to Alameda County's General Plan and zoning code, as well as the Williamson Act that also preserves agricultural land when making their decision. They ignored the numerous and sound objections made by residents of Livermore, the City of Livermore and representatives of local environmental organizations, and especially the will of the voters, and instead inserted their personal opinions and emotions to make an irreversible damaging decision on the future of our valley.

Beyer, Eddy, and Imhof should be replaced with knowledgeable individuals who can make informed educated decisions without personal bias and with a commitment to advancing the public interest. The new appointments should understand zoning laws and be competent to make independent judgments. They should come to meetings having independently reviewed projects, stick to the facts, understand the law, and serve in the public's best interest, not their personal emotions or be swayed by false claims.

The public is owed a competent board before any further damage is done. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors need to act now.

### Keep City Space More Available

Victoria Whyte Ball, Livermore

As a longtime resident of Livermore, I feel a distinct responsibility to stand up right now for our city center's renovation. The result will really be important to the overall well-being of us all now and in the future.

I remember when, as a child, we traveled through Livermore from Twain Harte where we lived, to visit relatives in San Francisco and the Peninsula, and I was always struck by the city's unique situation. Over time, I witnessed the area's development, and small cities emerged nearby. I could never figure out where their city centers were, mainly because they really didn't have a downtown defined.

Here in Livermore, we already have a lovely long-established downtown with lots of character. We also have Lawrence Livermore Lab, the Bankhead, the Bothwell, the Rodeo, our distinguished world-re-known Vintner culture, Science, Opera and Theater. With the re-working of the land in our center, we have an amazing opportunity to expand our city's heart for people who come here from all over the world to experience our science and culture.

We all whole-heartedly approve of affordable housing; some of my own grown kids would love to be able to afford to buy a house here, too. But I don't see why that means we should build more housing in the heart of the city. With the current plan to add more units, it will create a dark canyon four stories high. There are undoubtedly other lots where housing can be built near downtown that will achieve the same goal. Let's continue to expand and create a feeling of openness, welcomeness and culture downtown to keep the center of our city space more available for all our inhabitants and visitors to enjoy.

### Happy Mother's Day, But Not for Cows

Lucas Nelson, Livermore

This Sunday, May 9, we celebrate Mother's Day and the cherished bond between mother and child.

Tragically, our dairy cows, world-wide icons of motherhood, never get to see or nurture their babies. Newborn calves are torn from their mothers at birth and turned into veal cutlets, so we can drink their milk. The grief-stricken mother cows bellow for days, calling in vain for their babies' return.

Dairy cows spend their lives chained to concrete floors, with no access to the outdoors. Each year, they are impregnated artificially to maintain their milk production, then milked by machines twice a day. When production drops, around four years of age, they are ground into hamburgers.

Dairy products are laden with cholesterol, saturated fats, hormones, pathogens, and antibiotics, leading to obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. Many people lack the enzyme for digesting dairy products.

This Mother's Day let's honor motherhood and compassion. Let's replace the products of cow cruelty with delicious, healthful, eco-friendly nut and grain-based milk, cheese, and ice cream products offered by our supermarket.

### Changes in the Livermore Downtown Plan

Carol Chargin, Livermore

In my naiveté, I believed the plans Livermore City Council put forth for its Downtown Plan included all of the areas described, not just the placement of the hotel. So many of the areas, and I am thinking particularly of the open space areas with walking paths and playground areas, will now be drastically reduced in size if the Eden Housing Development is allowed to proceed as currently proposed. I and many of my friends thought this development was to be an attractive pleasant place to enjoy downtown Livermore. We thought we could enjoy lunch, or buy an ice cream, and stroll the projected walking paths. Now with the proposed increased population density, bigger and taller buildings, that section of Livermore will just be a crowded area. I doubt many children not living in the housing units will enter the playground area to play. And, with the increased numbers of people now projected to be living in the area and with less available parking, other local people may not want to fight the congestion to visit. The shining jewel of the Downtown Plan is losing some of its luster.

### Two Sides to One Coin

Patrick Whipple, Livermore

For the past few months, I have read a collective of people from Livermore discuss, rant, and sometimes praise the downtown plan. However, something interesting to note and keep in mind was my attention by the town survey. In some of the questions on the survey, some rather crucial information is written within them. If the downtown is not finished, then the 14.2 million dollars in allocated funds will no longer be available. Instead, it will be up to the taxpayers to pay off those funds over the next ten years. That was voted on years ago to make the downtown more pleasant.

Remember that every major city in California must have affordable housing to get funding for such things as downtown plans. Over the past decade, with an influx of people coming from other parts of the bay area looking for better affordable housing or people trying to live closer to their jobs in the valley, it's clear that Livermore is spread pretty thin on the matters of having affordable housing.

In comparison, the Eden housing project is not a perfect plan by any stretch of the imagination. One could say that it was evidently one in which the city council was trying to kill two birds with one stone type of deal. The problem is that no matter what, it was always destined to fail, but it's clear to me that people's voices are not being heard much at the end of the day. The editorial section seems to be a last-ditch effort to have a say in the plan, but it seems to fly on deaf ears as everything keeps moving forward.

### Action Alert

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Ask the Valley Link Rail Authority Board to postpone certification of the final EIR.

The staff will present its preferred alternative project at a Zoom hearing on May 12, starting

at 2 pm. The authority staff will also be asking the board to certify the final EIR only released April 30. Unfortunately, the final EIR is too vague and lacking critical data. This new project alternative contains many elements not presented in the draft EIR, including the removal of the Greenville Station in Livermore, replacing the Mountain House Station, and several major rail-line changes.

Furthermore, the final EIR fails to adequately explain how the project will fund the \$1.2 billion price tag for the extension from Pleasanton to Isabel. So far, only 700 million has been allocated, including the 400 million transferred from Livermore BART to the authority. The financial data does not add up!

Besides incomplete financial accountability, the final EIR fails to provide adequate noise, air quality, biological, agriculture, hydrology, and cumulative mitigations. Many endangered species are at risk. The final EIR does not answer concerns raised by outside agencies and the public.

Given the fact that three counties and over 30 agencies are involved, the public and the board need more time to review new changes ... 10 days is not enough. Please email or call the following board members and ask for a 45-day minimum comment period to evaluate the new preferred project.

Contact Supervisor Haubert, Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner, Livermore Councilmember Krick, Chairs Veronica Vargas and Tracy Mayor, Vice-Chair Melissa Hernandez, Dublin mayor, San Ramon Mayor Hudson, Danville Mayor Karen Stepper, and Bernice Tingle of Mountain House Community Services. This may be our last chance to request concrete data and details missing from the final EIR.

Certification of the final EIR is not appropriate without further concrete information.

### What's A Better Word?

Rich Buckley, Livermore

We are lucky to have John Stein on the Livermore Planning

Commission. The over-reactive, emotional, politically correct class serving on the planning commission needs to take a deep breath or two, and reset their independence meters. I'm slowly learning, we need more people like John on the City Council or running the city as Mayor. John's point is very relevant.... what's a better term than the offensive "G" word? How about these 3-words: "bait and switch" Even Eden Housing architect apologized for not being able to deliver as promised.

There is evidence they all new from the get-go. Inadequate parking of the magnitude associated with the existing Eden Housing plan is a terrible design experiment to foist on our downtown. There are two alternative projects not being helpfully analyzed in public by the city as promised by the mayor during his election campaign. One project located on the West 150-foot, the other project on the North 150-foot. TO THE WEST: Just condemn the bedrooms and units and space needed out of the new rental project being developed on the old Groth Bros. site. It has sufficient parking, setbacks, designs, fixed cost (not subject to runaway inflation) and satisfies other environmental concerns. Rough order of magnitude of costs savings over the current Eden Housing project should be at least equal to the additional costs of the acquisition and provide open space of a 2 to 1 wanted larger city park on the old Lucky Store super block that can be used by everyone. ON THE NORTH: Save Downtown Livermore contingency www.savelifivermore.com has worked up a development scenario, perhaps even more attractive than my preferred idea on the West Side. During his election our current mayor promised us a serious look at alternatives, yet fails to do so. He's leaving a few thousand of us feeling like no one is listening, or worse, treating us like chumps. Worse yet, if John is right about the parking, we may need to find a new word to replace the dreaded "G" word in order to discuss what we're creating.



The Granada Matadors hosted the San Ramon Wolves on Thursday, April 29. San Ramon won 3-2. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Granada Takes Two From Amador Valley High School

The Granada High School boys' varsity basketball team won its first two games of the delayed 2021 season last weekend in a home-and-home series against Amador Valley High School.

The Granada Matador's took an early lead at home on Friday, with a 15-8 advantage after the first quarter and 29-24 at the half. The Matadors then took command in the second half, stretching the lead to 54-35 after three quarters and finishing at 71-47.

Kevin Gad led the way for the Matadors with 19 points, including three three-pointers, followed by Landon Weidenfeld with 10, Yanik Anderson with nine, and Andrew McKeever with seven points.

At Amador Valley on Saturday, the Dons managed to stay with the Matadors all the way to the finish. The teams were tied after the first quarter, 15-15, with Granada holding a three-point lead at the half, 36-33. Amador Valley cut Granada's lead to two, 53-51, after three quarters, which proved to be the final margin as the Matadors held on to win 65-63.

Kevin Gad again led the way for Granada with 14 points, followed by Eric Halsch with 13, McKeever with 10, and Weidenfeld with eight. John Mitchel added seven points and had a steal with less than a minute to play that ended a late-game push by Amador Valley.



The Amador Dons' JV basketball team faced off against Granada, Friday, April 30. Amador won 56-49. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Tri-Valley Leadership Group Honors Student Innovators

The Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group this week awarded its annual 10th annual Dreammakers and Risktakers Awards to 20 local students.

According to the organization, the awards recognize "student innovators from the Tri-Valley region whose ideas hold the promise to change the world. It showcases the talent and bravery of the next generation and gives the opportunity for civic leaders to recognize them."

"During a year in lockdown our youngest innovators broke-out with empathy, equity and boundless spirit," said Lynn Naylor, CEO of the business-led organization. "Our community is inspired by student leaders all across the Tri-Valley who even in tough times lead with grit, technical competence, and the heartfelt desire to make the world a better place."

### 2021 Award Recipients

Alexis Bondarenko, a Foothill High School student, and Megan Mehta, a student at the University of California, Berkeley, were honored for creating a podcast, "Think Scope," to engage teens in conversations about uncomfortable issues, such as fear, death, motivation for success, racism, and social equity.

A student group called the Culture Keepers at Livermore High School was recognized for establishing a Wellness Center for students to find help in difficult times. In addition to providing access to mental

health resources, the wellness center now offers peer mediation and behavior intervention. Members of the group include Tatiana Amador, Ana Martinez Galindo, Emma Goulart, Rachel Hendry, Ashley Messing, Rebecca Sandoval Clappitt, and Kassandra Torres.

A group of students at Dublin High School were honored for creating Youth Coding Workshops and online videos to teach programming computer to middle school students. Members of the group include Kaif Jeelani, Shreyas Lad, Nishad Chavan, Mannat Dhoot, Aditya Mahajan, Harun Momin, Shriya Rudrashetty, and Samarth Shastry.

Amaya Ghoshal, a graduate of Monte Vista High School in Danville, was recognized for founding a nonprofit organization, Learning Outreach, to improve STEM education opportunities for students in underserved areas of Kenya, India, and Peru, as well as the Bay Area.

Chandrika Narayan, from Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, was honored for her involvement in Aarti for Girls, Providing Possibilities Foundation, and the Banyan Tree Wellness Center.

Las Positas College student Esmay Elgarguri was recognized for her role as executive director of Events for the Teen Advisory Group at the Tracy Public Library, where she plans events for disadvantaged youth to explore STEM learning.

## Ballistic United Graduates Making Mark in MLS

By Matt Schwab

Things are moving quickly for Ballistic United Soccer Club, a storied Pleasanton organization and a takeoff point for highly skilled young players.

Four former Ballistic United Developmental Academy stars opened the 2021 season on Major League Soccer rosters.

San Jose Earthquakes sensation Cade Cowell, 17, who once topped the nation in scoring with Ballistic United U-15s, leads the way. The Ballistic alumni group also includes Earthquakes' center back Jacob Akanyirige, 19; Houston Dynamo midfielder Nico Lemoine, 21; and Gilbert Fuentes, 19, currently on loan from the Earthquakes with Austin Bold FC of the USL Championship.

Akanyirige gives his ex-Ballistic teammates/current pros high marks as players and people. Cowell is turning heads as he attacks seemingly without fear in head coach Matias Almeyda's aggressive system.

"Cade's great. That kid. He's like a kid in a man's body. Speed, power ... I saw him come into the Quakes to now; his technical skills have improved overall," said the 5-foot-11 Akanyirige, who showed promise in his first MLS start against Portland last season. He has not played this season on a deep squad.

Fuentes, a Tracy native, is of both Salvadoran and Guatemalan descent which means he can play for those two national teams along with the U.S. national team.

"I played with Gilbert for a while," Akanyirige said. "He's smaller, but the way he uses his body, like his technical skills, he makes up for being smaller. You don't really notice it because with his skills he can get around it."

Lemoine is "amazing as well," the Quakes defender said. "His skills are crazy. He's super quick, super-fast

feet. Good shot as well."

A part of the MLS youth movement, Cowell, Fuentes and Akanyirige are Homegrown Players out of the Quakes Academy, but Lemoine signed with Houston in 2020 out of its USL affiliate Rio Grande Valley FC. He landed on the field quickly for the Dynamo and excelled in the MLS is Back tourney in Orlando.

Another former Ballistic United player, Travian Sousa, a 19-year-old left back, recently signed with the Sporting Kansas City II after competing in Germany.

Talk about a wealth of riches from a 53-year-old Pleasanton soccer club.

"It's definitely showing the value of an elite youth Development Academy system that iron sharpens iron," said Jerry Losson, director of coaching for Ballistic United's MLS Next Developmental Academy, of the club's wealth of talented graduates. "It's certainly working, and of course, the growth of MLS on an international level is certainly helpful. For them to be a part of that too says a whole lot, I think."

Losson said Ballistic United built its academy slowly; the goal has always been to find the right pathway for players whether it be in col-

lege, professional or with other Developmental Academy programs back when Ballistic did not have that age group.

At Ballistic, Akanyirige of Pleasanton learned from the likes of former U.S. national team defender Kevin Crow, an ex-Amador Valley High star and the current Ballistic Executive Director of Playing and Coaching Development, along with Sonoma State Hall of Famer Andrew Ziemer.

Akanyirige's first Ballistic coach was Tony Chavarria. He also played for Johnny Kinnear, among others. He competed on a team coached by Nico Lemoine's dad, Sean, although the two players were in different age groups at the time. Nico Lemoine and Akanyirige later played together in the Quakes Academy and are close friends.

Cowell has taken MLS by storm this season. He was recently named MLS Player of the Week for Week 3 and to the MLS Team of the Week. In the Quakes' 4-1 win over D.C. United on May 1 at PayPal Park in San Jose, Cowell became the youngest MLS player to have a goal and an assist in consecutive matches. He had the winning goal and two assists, upping his league-leading assist total to three.

With a bright cast of young talent, the Quakes (2-1-0, 6

points) entered the week tied for second place in the MLS Western Conference, a point behind Seattle.

Cowell began to really hit his stride in U-15s with Ballistic when he dominated on the attack against MLS Academy sides and others.

"That was the year Cade came into his own," Losson said. "All of the things that he had been doing fell into place, with his athleticism and his ability to score goals and impact games singlehandedly. There's tons and tons of great teams out there, but the ones that really separate themselves are the ones that have that differentiator, that player that just ... he scores."

Akanyirige credits the Quakes veterans such as MLS All-time leading scorer Chris Wondolowski and Shea Salinas with helping the young guys develop and "giving us the inspiration to go out and show off our talent. They're just great guys overall."

He has fond memories of his time at Ballistic.

"Oh, it was a great club. I had the best time playing there," Akanyirige said. "I met some of my best friends to this day playing there when I was little. It was a fun time. We had a great team each year as well. Great coaches; just a great environment overall."

# NEW PATIENT SPECIAL

## EXAM, X-RAYS & CLEANING

Only \$29

(925) 443-4182

SMILES

by Design

RICHARD D. HOWES, D.D.S.

SMILESByDesignInLivermore.com

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Now Until Saturday, May 8 Livermore Valley Opera Presents "Triple Treat 2021"

Livermore Valley Opera will again offer an operatic treat with a series of free online concerts on LVOpera Channel on YouTube. "Triple Treat 2021" features professional opera singers performing in three concerts premiering March 13, April 10, and May 8. All concerts begin at 6 p.m. and accompanied by LVO Music Director Alexander Katsman. English subtitles provided. Following each premiere, the concerts will be available on-demand on the LVOpera Channel so you can watch each any time. Though the Triple Treat virtual opera concerts are free, donations are always welcome. For more information, visit [www.livermorevalleyopera.com](http://www.livermorevalleyopera.com).

### Now on Thursday, May 13 Shaping Tomorrow's Visionaries

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

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

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

### Now to Saturday, May 22 Drawing Nature with Pen and Ink

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

### Now Until Friday, July 23 Art History in Action

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

### Saturday, May 8 Native Garden Open in Livermore

Livermore's best kept secret is quickly becoming The Garden, as more people learn about the Granada Native Garden near downtown. The Garden is dedicated to drought-tolerant California native plants and is always open to the public. Volunteers will be on hand from 10 a.m. to noon to answer questions and provide more information. For more information, visit [granadanativegarden.org](http://granadanativegarden.org) or email [jimatng@gmail.com](mailto:jimatng@gmail.com).

### Monday, May 10 Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Presents Thomas MacEntee

The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will host a free event featuring Thomas MacEntee on Monday, May 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., on Zoom. MacEntee, a genealogy professional based in the United States, is also a blogger, educator, author, social media connector, online community builder, and more. He describes himself as a lifelong learner, with a background in a multitude of topics, who has finally figured out what he does best: teach, inspire, instigate, and serve as a curator and go-to-guy for concept nurturing and inspiration. Access the Zoom event at <https://bit.ly/32KQ7NI>. For more information, email [program@L-AGS.org](mailto:program@L-AGS.org).

### Wednesday, May 12 NAMI Tri-Valley Connections Mental Health Support Group

The NAMI Tri-Valley Connections Mental Health Support Group is a weekly, free, online, peer-run, mental-health recovery support group for people with mental illness by people with mental illness. The

group meets weekly, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and those over 18 are invited to join. Email [namitri-valleyconnections@gmail.com](mailto:namitri-valleyconnections@gmail.com) or [ballewis@comcast.net](mailto:ballewis@comcast.net) for the Zoom link. For more information, visit [NAMI-TriValley.org](http://NAMI-TriValley.org).

### Thursday, May 13 to Thursday, Aug. 19 Twilight League

Join other Dublin Chamber members for some fresh air, exercise and friendly competition. Chamber Board of Director, Les Jacob, with Select Imaging, is looking for interested golfers to form a team to play in the Twilight Golf League at Dublin Ranch Golf Course on Thursday evenings. Shotgun start goes at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jeff Hazelwood, director of golf, Dublin Ranch Golf Course.

### Saturday, May 15 Hang Your Quilts Day

Hang your love-themed quilts from your balcony, porch railings, fence, tree, or car from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to bring cheer and brighten up local neighborhoods. The Amador Valley Quilters initiated "Hang Your Quilts Day" in April 2020 and will continue to celebrate this day on the third Saturday of each month until the Covid-19 pandemic comes to a close. For more information, visit [www.amadorvalleyquilters.org](http://www.amadorvalleyquilters.org).

### Thursday, May 20 Virtual Trivia Night

Livermore Shakespeare Festival presents a Virtual Trivia Night at 6 p.m. Sign up as a team of up to 10 people, or as an individual and organizers will form a team for you. You can even play with friends and family from out of state. The event is \$10 and will be approximately 90 minutes of brain bending fun and engagement. A link will be sent out on the day of the event. For more information, visit [livermoreshakes.org/virtualtrivianight](http://livermoreshakes.org/virtualtrivianight).

### ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Dublin Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

#### Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

#### Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

#### Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

#### Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

#### VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME

#### Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring everyone beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcasts of musician interviews and conversations about the music. Subscribe to listen at [www.pacificchamberorchestra.org](http://www.pacificchamberorchestra.org).

#### Sunflower Hill Online Activities

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

## MILLER'S

SERVING TRIVALLEY SINCE 1960

AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING

925-447-3000

www.millersacandheating.com

License #253756

Enter events online at [www.independentnews.com/calendar](http://www.independentnews.com/calendar) or email [calendar@independentnews.com](mailto:calendar@independentnews.com) for print.

## Knights to Hold Virtual Charity Auction

The Livermore Knights of Columbus will hold a virtual annual charity auction from 6:30-9 p.m. on Thursday, May 13.

Registration is free at [trelis.org/livermore-knights-of-columbus-48th-annual](https://trelis.org/livermore-knights-of-columbus-48th-annual)

virtual-charity-auction-and-showdown, although chances to win a one-week stay at a WorldMark Club, along with donor recognition, are available for purchase.

All proceeds will go to support the Knights charitable

work in the community.

The five charities included in this year's showdown are Open Heart Kitchen, Shepherd's Gate, Goodness Village, One More Wave, and the Association of African American Vintners.

## OBITUARIES

### Joseph Victor Alfano Sept. 22, 1942 – April 22, 2021



Joseph Victor Alfano was born Sept. 22, 1942, in Pittston, Pennsylvania, to Joseph Angelo Alfano and Josephine Madelena Barberis.

He had one brother (Phil), and the family's princess was his little sister (Marie). Joe loved calling his sister Marie daily, and they often talked about the good of days. Joe always ended those phone calls with "Love you madly. Ciao! Ciao!"

He was preceded in death by his parents (Joe and Josie), Nona, and Uncle Mondo.

At age 3, he and his family moved to sunny California. He was born with a talent for music. His parents nurtured that love of music by buying him his first saxophone and upright string bass (which he still owned and played). He earned a master's in music from San Jose State University. He taught instrumental music classes to a range of students from young kindergartners to college undergraduates.

He really enjoyed teaching guitar classes at Cal State Hayward and opening up Cal High's music department, but his favorite students to teach were in elementary school, where he often had 60 students in each class. Joe retired after teaching music for 46 years in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District (from 1966 to 2012).

He met the love of his life (Sharon Reeve) when he needed a last-minute substitute piano player for a talent show. They were married on August 17, 1968, and have been married for 52 years. He loved the Reeve family and said they brought much happiness into his life.

Joe and Sharon raised their family in Pleasanton, California. He made it known that his 'pride and joy' was not only his black VW Bug and dog Bocce, but his three children. He recently said, "My three kids were the kind of children where I liked to show them off to my friends and fellow teachers. And all these years later, I am still proud of them!"

Happiness for Joe was being a father and a grandfather. He loved making pizza (the way his Italian grandmother taught him) and made sure all his grandchildren could carry on this tradition of pizza making and delivering whole pizzas to friends and neighbors.

He loved being a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and serving in various callings. Highlights included serving in the Pleasanton 1st Ward bishopric with Bruce McLeod, Brent Cromar, Fred Wolters, and Tim Bean; being the ward choir director, ward missionary, and home teacher; and volunteering at Bishop's storehouse with Don Anderson, where he got to drive a forklift. He loved making his homemade dough to fry up for scones at P1's Chili Cook-Off's yearly fundraiser supporting the youth's summer activities.

If there was music, Joe was there. Church service isn't always a calling. He played for countless stake and ward activities. He supported the youth choir, roadshows, dance festivals and helped other activities whenever asked. He also loved being part of the Bell Choir every Christmas. He was a great supporter of all musical events!

For decades, the core members of his band, All Of A Kind, consisted of Joe on saxophone, Al Cottrell on keyboards and vocals, Bob Erickson on drums, and Neil Underwood on trumpet. They played at countless wedding receptions, New Year's

Eve celebrations, and even for the Hells Angels. Joe's parents (Joe and Josie) loved dancing to his band's rendition of "Spanish Eyes." We will never be able to hear "Celebrate," "Brick House," or "Unforgettable" without thinking about our Dad (aka Papa Joe) and his band. His last gig was a saxophone solo "When I Fall In Love," at his grandson Tyler's wedding reception for their first dance.

He and Sharon retired to Southern Utah, where they moved across the street from their favorite son and his family. Joe loved sitting outside while waving to all his neighbors; going on adventures with his buddy, Dale; and the opportunities he had to DJ their neighborhood's Monday Night Concerts in the park.

Joe is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughter, Christine (Devin) Fisher; son, Michael (Nicole); daughter, Elizabeth (Steve) Marino; granddaughter, Emily; grandsons, Tyler (Jocelyn), Jake (Shelby), Joey, Matty, and Luke; sister, Marie (Al) Leveseur; brother, Phil Alfano; and numerous nephews, nieces and extended family members whom he loved dearly. His entire family will miss him greatly, but find peace in knowing he has reunited with many beloved family members, friends, and his best friend - Uncle Mondo.

As a family, we would like to thank all the wonderful caregivers - Patty, Cindy, Sierra, Ellie, and Laura. We will always be grateful for them and their helping hands. Until we meet again, "Love you madly. Ciao! Ciao!"

The graveside service is on Saturday, May 1, 2021, at noon, at Tonaquint Cemetery, 1777 S. Dixie Drive, in St. George, Utah. Arrangements are made under the direction of Spilsbury Mortuary, 110 S. Bluff St., St. George, Utah, 435-673-2454. Friends and family are invited to sign his online guest book at [www.spilsburymortuary.com](https://www.spilsburymortuary.com).

### Donald H. Dreyer June 3, 1937 – April 22, 2021



Donald H. Dreyer, a resident of Pleasanton, passed away early Thursday morning.

He was 83 years old and touched so many lives with his big heart and personality.

Donald was born in the hills of Oakland, California, to Ted and Grace Dreyer, where he lived along with his brother, Leo Dreyer, and sister, Barbara Dreyer. Don graduated from Oakland High School, then went on to become a member of the United States Air Force RegAF, where he served from 1955 to 1959. He was an ART of the Squadron 42D Combat Support Group.

Donald went on to enjoy a career in business, where he worked as a corporation credit manager for DeGorgio Corporation, then going into business for himself at Dreyer and Company.

Don spent many years enjoying his love of horses, announcing shows at the Metropolitan Horseman's Arena all the way to the California State Fair, and spending time in Capitola at his family's beach house with family and friends. He was the president of NorCal Western Association, The Venitian Court Homeown-



ers, and the California Credit Management Association over the years.

Donald married the love of his life, Barbara Dreyer, on April

19, 1969, at the Holy Names Church in San Francisco. They met and shared a love of horses that still holds true today

Along with his loving wife, Barbara, Donald is survived by his two children, Danielle Wagner of Folsom, and Scott Dreyer of Alpine; son-in-law, Michael Wagner, and daughter-in-law Andria Dreyer; and grandchildren, Holly and Katie Wagner and Natalie and Logan Dreyer. He also leaves behind his brother, Leo Dreyer of Atherton, and sister, Barbara Dreyer of Massachusetts.

Friends and family are invited to the Celebration of Life that will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, 2021, at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore. A live stream is also available at <https://bit.ly/3biGcUf>. Donald will be laid to rest on Monday, May 17, 2021, at the San Joaquin National Cemetery, at 1:30 p.m., where any friends or family are welcome to join as well.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Dreyer family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](https://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Linda Marie Stewart March 6, 1957 – April 28, 2021



Linda Marie Stewart, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, passed away with her family by her side on Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

Her long and courageous battle with cancer claimed her body, but not her spirit.

Linda was born in Sacramento on March 6, 1957, to Ron Sizelove and Eleanor Ekdahl. She started dating her husband, Rich Stewart, while working at National Semiconductor in 1980, and moved to Livermore to be with him. They married in 1983 and welcomed their first daughter, Sheena, in 1984, followed by their second daughter, Javonna, in 1989.

Linda was a graduate of Las Positas College and worked as a mechanical drafter for over 20 years. She gave her life to God in 1991 and attended Trinity Church for 30 years. She was the embodiment of hospitality and spent her life joyfully putting the needs of others above her own.

As an artist, mentor, counselor, teacher, writer, and poet, she applied her talents passionately to her volunteer work. She painted the sets for her church's Live Drive-Thru Nativity; she helped run the Christ-Centered Art Show, and she had a heart for the homeless and served them tirelessly. She was devoted to F.A.I.T.H., her church's outreach program; she organized annual group trips to volunteer for Operation Christmas Child; she held



a young women's Bible study in her home; she taught Sunday school at her church and art classes at Shepherd's Gate; and so much more. If anyone needed her, she was there for them.

Linda was full of beauty, compassion, humor, and motherly love. She took joy in simple experiences and scenes of life, and was in constant awe and wonder at the beauty of God's creation which inspired her art. She used her life to shine God's love on others and did so with a sense of humor that could put anyone at ease. She was a brilliant

of wisdom and a soft place to fall for many. Her home was a place where anyone could come and share their story with her, and no one would leave without food if she could help it.

Some of her favorite things were going on trips with her family, especially to Disneyland, attending family reunions, making dozens of plates of Christmas cookies to hand out every year, cooking for crowds, going out to breakfast, drawing with charcoal, painting, watching old mystery movies, writing lyrics to her husband's music, writing in her journal, reading to her grandson, and spending time with anyone she held dear.

Aside from her family, studying the Bible was her greatest passion. She was a lover of literature, music, space, and science, and education was very important to her. She adored children and nurtured their creativity and curiosity. She loved unconditionally.

Linda's beautiful life will be cherished by her husband of 37 years, Rich; daughters, Sheena and Javonna; son-in-law, Ian; and grandson, Ezra; as well as countless relatives and friends. She will be deeply missed by every life she touched.

A memorial service will be held at a later date at Trinity Church in Livermore. For more information, contact Rich at [rich.stewart1@comcast.net](mailto:rich.stewart1@comcast.net).

## Axis Offers Vaccines to Ages 16 and Older

Axis Community Health is now offering COVID-19 vaccination for anyone 16 and older at its Livermore and Pleasanton clinics.

The clinics offer the Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

To schedule as appointment, call (925) 462-1755

### Scott Arthur Fitzgerald June 24, 1981 – April 15, 2021



On Thursday, April 15, 2021, Scott Arthur Fitzgerald, a loving son, brother, uncle, nephew, and friend, passed away at the age of 39.

Scott was born in Concord, California, on June 24, 1981, to parents, Dave and Leslie Fitzgerald, and older brother, Bryan. He moved to Livermore at the age of 1, where he attended local schools and went on to graduate from Granada High School in 1999. He then attended Las Positas College, where he studied graphic design and obtained his associate of arts degree in 2002.

Scott channeled his inner creativity through creating music and in his graphic design work. He had an extraordinary passion for music and art. He began teaching himself to play the guitar when he was in high school. Starting with the acoustic guitar, his passion then quickly became the bass, which he fell in love with and played in the years to follow. Along with the acoustic and bass guitar, Scott also taught himself to play the drums, violin and the cello.

His favorite musicians growing up were Cliff Burton from

Metallica, Les Claypool from Primus, and Ryan Martinie from Mud Vein. He was a member of several bands throughout his life, beginning in high school. His favorite bands included Slayer, The Misfits and Metallica.

He began his graphic design career in 2004, working at RMJ Graphics in Livermore. Eventually, he started his own graphic design company, Bottom Ink which transformed into Loyaldesign that was patented in 2015. He went on to create custom banners, t-shirts, car wraps, and any kind of custom graphic work one could think of.

### Stephen Anthony Kalthoff June 29, 1940 – March 31, 2021



Stephen was born in San Francisco during the summer of 1940 to parents Hazel Garatti Kalthoff and Herbert Kalthoff.

Stephen's family eventually moved to San Leandro to be closer to his extended Italian-American family in Pleasanton and Livermore. He grew up largely in the vineyards and wineries of Pleasanton, including his grandfather Frank's eponymous Garatti winery. A curly haired young boy, Stephen was adored by his family for his boundless energy, sharp intelligence, and sense of humor.

He graduated from St. Joseph's High School in Alameda and received his bachelor's degree from USF and MBA from UC Berkeley. During his college years, he worked for Southern Pacific Railroad, where he developed a lifelong love affair with trains. As children, he would take us to watch trains at all hours of the day and night. He knew every schedule. He even planned trips along rail lines throughout the U.S. and the world; taking the Trans-Siberian Railroad with his brother Phil and nephew Brian in 1993, and most recently, with his daughters through Texas in 2018.

Stephen married Alice Painter in 1964 and moved to San Antonio, Texas, to join the Air Force. When he returned, he accepted a position with Con-

solidated Freightways in Menlo Park and remained there for over 25 years. During this period, he also developed his grandfather's "Escondido Vineyard" into a successful business, selling grapes to Wente and several smaller wineries in the area for decades. As family business, we spent many weekends and summers working the land; we camped, hunted, moved irrigation pipe, and picked grapes. He instilled an unshakable work ethic in us, for which we are so grateful.

As a third-generation vintner in the Livermore Valley, Stephen served as president of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, chaired the South Livermore Valley Development Planning Committee, and was elected to the Board of Directors of the Alameda County Water and Conservation District (Zone 7). He was very active socially and politically in the Tri-Valley

and San Francisco, where he was a deacon at Saint Peter and Paul Church in North Beach.

Stephen had an amazing life. He was a renaissance man in every sense of the word. He could be the executive in a suit one moment and in overalls working on a tractor the next. He was an avid reader, hunter, farmer, historian, and traveler. He was member of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco and an Eastern European history buff.

He lived life to its fullest and never succumbed to fear. As a father he taught us to work hard, dream big, and be brave. We will always remember him as bigger than life, both in stature and personality, and completely irreplaceable. He was truly one in a million.

He is survived by his beloved daughters, Katherine (Scott) Kalthoff Eby and Janet Toliver; grandchildren, Steven, Sofia, Julia, Ava, and Scotty (Calica); dear friend, Mary; ex-wife and good friend, Alice; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hazel and Herbert; his dear brother, Philip; and his daughter, Lisa.

The family is grateful for all the condolences and remembrances. Donations can be sent to Tri-Valley Conservancy. Love you, Dad!

### Lawrence (Larry) A. Troen



Lawrence (Larry) A. Troen, of Livermore, passed away peacefully at home on April 23, 2021, surrounded by loved ones, after complications from congestive heart failure; he was 77 years old.

Larry was born on March 9, 1944, to George and Betty Troen in the city of San Angelo, Texas. He graduated from Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo, California, in 1961. Larry served in the Army for three years and was stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, where he met his wife, Linda. After getting married, Larry and Linda moved out to California in 1965 to be closer to Larry's family. Larry and Linda went on to have two children, Kenneth and Kathleen.

Larry worked for United Parcel Service (UPS) as a delivery driver for 28 years and retired in 2001. While retired, Larry took on part time work to fund his love of golf. First, as a driver with

Rock n' Roll Auto Recycling, and then later at Poppy Ridge Golf Course.

While retired, he also had time to focus on his many other hobbies, including his bowling league and scheduling social events for UPS retirees. He loved spending time with his family and friends and seemed to make new friends everywhere he went.

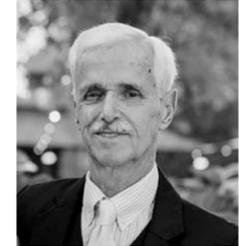
Larry was predeceased by his father, George; his mother, Betty; and his niece, Megan Troen. He is

survived by his wife of 55 years, Linda Troen; son, Kenneth Troen of Livermore; daughter, Kathleen Engel of San Diego; son-in-law, Duncan Engel; grandchildren, Sierra Metcalf-Rotolo and Breanna Troen of Antioch, and Duncan and Lilianna Engel of San Diego; and great-granddaughter, Kinsley McAllister. He also leaves behind his sisters Barbara Troen of Tracy, Patricia Freitas of Castro Valley, and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life will be scheduled at a later date after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Heart Association ([www2.heart.org](https://www2.heart.org)) or the National Kidney Foundation ([www.kidney.org/donation](https://www.kidney.org/donation)) in honor of Larry Troen.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Troen family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](https://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Tom James Silva Jan. 9, 1942 – March 26, 2021



Tom James Silva, retired public utility serviceman and lifelong resident of Alameda County, died March 26, 2021.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Sharon Silva; daughter and daughter-in-law Amy and Erin McCann; 1-year-old granddaughter Piper James McCann; brother and sister-in-law Allen and Sandy Silva; and nephews, Todd and Jim Silva.

Tom was born Jan. 9, 1942, in Oakland, California. He was the youngest son born to Elizabeth and Joseph Silva. As a young man, Tommy completed carpentry school and worked in truck and brake sales at Friction Materials. He drove across the country and coached basketball. Tommy enjoyed bowling, water skiing, and seeing Broadway plays.

In 1975, he married his beloved, Sharon, a bookkeeper at a local electrical supply house. He became a father in 1979. Tommy retired from PG&E in 2003 after 27 years of service. He was

promoted to grandfather in 2020 and was affectionately know, as Papa Beep Beep.

Tommy enjoyed being someone others could depend on. He frequently donated his time, labor and knowledge of trades to family and friends. Tommy continued coaching basketball for many years with Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and Pleasanton Middle School. He regularly attended his daughter's high school sporting events and donated his backyard as a space for the homecoming float to be

built.

Tommy enjoyed shopping, driving, photography and videography. He loved to make others laugh with his quick witted one-line comments. Tommy never missed an opportunity to demonstrate the value of perseverance, punctuality, and routine.

In his retirement, Tommy was a regular among the monthly ROMEOs lunch crew. He was proud to have participated in the Bay-to-Breakers three times, worked on the pit crew for Gilbert Motorsports, and to have become an amateur gardener.

Tommy was a devoted son, brother, uncle, and husband, a supportive father and grandfather. He was a loyal neighbor, friend, and family man. Tommy is deeply, deeply missed by all who knew him.

The family requests those who wish to express sympathy to consider making a donation to Suncrest Home Hospice, 42808 Christy St., #216, Fremont, CA, 94538, in his name.

## LLNL Looks to Integrate Supercomputing

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) has teamed up with Red Hat, a software developer subsidiary of IBM, to investigate ways for supercomputers to take advantage of cloud technology.

Researchers will initially look to integrate the way LLNL now schedules workloads for its high-performance computer (HPC) systems through its open-source Flux framework with Red Hat's OpenShift, a cloud computing platform that supports applications in several programming languages.

"Cloud systems are increasingly setting the direc-

tions of the broader computing ecosystem, and economics are a primary driver," said Bronis R. de Supinski, chief technology officer of Livermore Computing at LLNL.

"With the growing prevalence of cloud-based systems, we must align our HPC strategy with cloud technologies, particularly in terms of their software environments, to ensure the long-term sustainability and affordability of our mission-critical HPC systems," de Supinski said.

Red Hat would like to make OpenShift a common platform for a range of computing infrastructures, including large-scale HPC

systems and public cloud offerings, starting with commercial HPC workloads.

"We would love to see a platform like Red Hat OpenShift be able to run a wide range of workloads on a wide range of platforms, from supercomputers to clusters," said IBM researcher Claudia Misale.

"We see difficulties in the HPC world from having many different types of HPC software stacks, and container platforms like OpenShift can address these difficulties," Misale said. "We believe OpenShift can be the common denominator."

## Stanford Professor to Discuss Impact of Trauma

Dr. Victor G. Carrion, professor of child and adolescent psychology at Stanford University, will discuss the impact of traumatic stress on mental health, including the COVID-19 pandemic and recent political and social conflicts, during a free online seminar on Tuesday, May 11.

The webinar is sponsored by the Pleasanton-based Alan Hu Foundation, created by Xiaofang Chen and Chih-Ching Hu in memory of their son, who committed suicide in 2018 at the age of 15, after struggling with mental illness.

Carrion is the John A. Turner Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Stanford University School of Medicine and vice-chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Since joining the faculty at Stanford 25 years ago, Carrion's research has focused on understanding how early life stress can alter behavior and emotions, and the role of brain structure and function in these findings.

Carrion has also published a guide for therapists treating youths with symptoms of post-traumatic stress

and currently directs the Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program. He chaired the California Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission from 2014-2016, and has received awards from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and the National Institute of Health.

His presentation, "Harnessing Brain Adaptability," will run from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and include time for questions. To register for the Zoom-based webinar, go to [www.alanhufoundation.org](http://www.alanhufoundation.org).

## Museum Challenges Visitors to Identify Objects

Pleasanton's Museum on Main has opened an interactive exhibit that challenges visitors to figure out the purpose of 20 obscure or obsolete items the museum has collected over the decades.

"Some of these pieces are specialized tools that would be hard to recognize if you didn't work with them," said curator Ken MacLennan. "Others have more general use functions, but they've been overtaken by new technologies or better designs. And some were made to do things that we just don't need anymore."

Each item in the exhibit, "What in the World? Unusual Objects from the Museum on Main Collections," is labeled

with a clue to its function. Visitors will be able to check their guesses against the museum's research.

The exhibit will run through June 19 in the museum's Phoebe Hearst Gallery. A digital version of the exhibit is also available on the museum's website, [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

The museum, at 603 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton, is open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the museum currently requires all staff and visitors to wear facemasks and no more than 10 visitors are allowed in the museum at a time.



The Museum on Main has opened a new interactive exhibit that challenges visitors to guess the purpose of 20 obscure or obsolete items. (Photo - Museum on Main)

## Homeland Security Extends Real ID Compliance Date

By Eli Walsh, Bay City News Foundation

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended its full enforcement of Real ID-compliant driver's licenses from Oct. 1, 2021 to 2023 due to the pandemic, DHS officials announced Tuesday.

The Real ID will be required for everyone age 18 and older who is passing through an airport security checkpoint prior to a domestic flight, according to the DHS.

DHS officials said all U.S. travelers will be required to have a Real ID by May 3, 2023, arguing that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it harder for states to issue driver's licenses that are Real ID-compliant as many licensing agencies are still

not operating at full capacity. "Protecting the health, safety, and security of our communities is our top pri-

ority," DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said. "As our country continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the Real ID full enforcement deadline will give states needed time to reopen their driver's licensing operations and ensure their residents can obtain a REAL ID-compliant license or identification card."

*The Real ID will be required for everyone age 18 and older who is passing through an airport security checkpoint prior to a domestic flight, according to the DHS.*

The Real ID is intended to streamline the requirements

for driver's licenses as identification, which are issued via state governments. All 50 states, Washington, D.C., and four of the five U.S. territories are now issuing Real ID-compliant licenses, with American Samoa the only exception. However, due to delays caused in part by the pandemic, just 43 percent of state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards are currently Real ID-compliant.

More information on the Real ID and its requirements can be found at [www.dhs.gov/real-id](http://www.dhs.gov/real-id).

## Dublin Announces Citizen, Business of the Year

Dublin has named Michael D'Ambrosio, a teacher at Dublin High School, as Citizen of the Year and Anya Sengupta, a Dublin High School student, as Young Citizen of the Year for 2020.

The award winners were announced last week during an evening ceremony broadcast live on Tri-Valley Community Television.

Breaking BEARriers was also named Dublin Organization of the Year, while the Mayor's Award went to Open Heart Kitchen and the Mayor's Legacy Award for long-term dedication to the Dublin community went to Connie Mack.

D'Ambrosio, who teaches video production, was cited for creating a Facebook group, Tri-Valley Community Help During Shelter in Place, which eventually grew to include more than 2,100 members.

"It started early in the pandemic with a plea to check on neighbors and friends and make sure that their needs were being met during the stay-at-home order," said Catherine Brown, a teacher at Frederiksen Elementary School teacher, who nominated D'Ambrosio for the award. "It was a scary time and people wanted to band together."

Brown, who was herself nominated for Citizen of the Year, said D'Ambrosio became a "project manager and a cheerleader," working with local hospitals, healthcare workers, nonprofit organizations, restaurants, pharmacies, donors, and volunteers to help meet the needs of hundreds affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

"He made amazing things happen all while getting online every day to teach his students at Dublin High School in distance learning," Brown said in her nominating letter.

Sengupta was cited for turning her hobby garden into a source of fresh food for local food banks during the pandemic.

According to her multiple nominations - submitted by Shay Debnath, Bob Kaehms, Vijji Suryadevara, and Vijay Ramalingam - Sengupta started by donating produce from her garden to her neighbors when online groceries were slow to deliver. That inspired her to organize weekly food drives for a local community pantry in Pleasanton. She also started a blog on gardening and taught several of her neighbors to grow food.

Breaking BEARriers, which won the 2020 award

for organization of the year, was formed in 2019 by six eighth graders from Dublin and Pleasanton to promote teamwork and develop leadership skills. Registered as a nonprofit organization, the student-led club has since grown to more than 30 members.

During the pandemic, the club created more than 3,000 face shields for local hospitals and healthcare centers. Club members also collaborated with Fertile Groundwork, a nonprofit organization that encourages members of the community to grow food for themselves, and they helped create, a mural at the Garden of Grace at Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore.

The club also participated in efforts to promote distance learning, a toy drive for children in need, a project to provide school supplies, and Socks for Seniors, which provided blankets, thermal socks, hats and gloves for senior residents in Pleasanton.

The broadcast of the awards ceremony will be shown throughout May on Comcast TV28 and will be streamed at [www.tri-valleytv.org](http://www.tri-valleytv.org). Scheduled dates and times can be found at [tv30.org](http://tv30.org) or on the Comcast guide.

## Controlled Burns Planned for Fire Training at Camp Parks

On Sunday, May 2, and Thursday, May 6, San Ramon Valley firefighters will be conducting small, controlled burns for wildland fire training purposes at Camp Parks. Be advised that some smoke may be visible from local neighborhoods. Firefighters will be present to quickly extinguish each small fire.

## NILES

(Continued from first page)

will also link the trail to Palomares Road, creating a safe crossing of State Route 84. To accommodate user parking, the project features staging areas in downtown Niles, Palomares Road and a new parking area to be constructed by the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) in Sunol.

Community input for the project was positive. Speakers weighed in during the meeting on the design and potential features, calling for increased parking and access to expanded trails, as well as nearby commercial establishments.

"I just wanted to endorse the concept of a distributed access at either end of the trail," said speaker Derek Johnson. "I also just wanted to express my support and that I'm super excited."

Phase one of the project, which is expected to cost

around \$29 million, will include the development of the environmental impact report (EIR) along with the construction of the bridge to Palomares Road.

"The EIR allows us to get funding," said Robert Stevens, principal with CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group Inc. "This is not a pie-in-the-sky idea anymore; it is really something the county and our partners are working toward getting implemented."

Phase two will go from Palomares Road to the Niles Canyon Railway Yard near Brightside, where approximately 25% of the aqueduct will be reconfigured as part of the trail. Phase three will include the construction of a new trail from Niles Canyon Railway to Sunol.

The Alameda County Public Works Agency (ACPWA)

and its project partners, including the Cities of Fremont and Union City, as well as the EBRPD, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and the Alameda County Water District are collaborating on the project and helping to secure funding.

"When I think of Niles Canyon, I think of this as an iconic trail - one of the great trails of California," said Stevens. "The trail is disconnected from the road and separate from traffic and really snakes its way through the canyon to get folks out into the open space. It's a wonderful project."

A scoping session, which explores the needs of the project and ongoing planning, will be held this summer; public input will be solicited.

For more information on the project, visit [www.acwa.org](http://www.acwa.org)

## TESLA

(Continued from first page)

in the South Livermore Valley and atop the ridge."

Diana Mead, assistant Northern regional director for legislation for CORVA, countered that the controversy was not about the environment, facts or science.

"It is about money, political power, the stature of State Parks and the incredibly successful conservation efforts that have been completely ignored," Mead said. "It is easier to paint this as a good conservation vs. bad off-roaders, because most of us can only take an action we know is inherently wrong if we can somehow demonize the other side."

Bauer-Kahan's bill is one of two currently in the state legislature aiming to keep the land about 15 miles east of Livermore as open space. Tri-Valley Sen. Steve Glazer has authored similar legislation in the Senate.

AB 1512 would require the California Parks and Recreation department to "preserve, in perpetuity" the portion of the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area known as the Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area for conservation purposes, including non-motorized public recreation. The bill would put \$9 million in the Off-Highway Motorized Vehicle Trust Fund.

The bill would not touch the Carnegie site where off-roading is currently allowed.

For decades, the status of Tesla Park has remained controversial and the subject of lawsuits. The state's Parks department owns both sites and has planned to expand the Carnegie site's off-roading into the Tesla area.

Environmental groups and Alameda County sued to stop it in 2016. Opponents of off-roading contend the land located about 15 miles east of Livermore along Tesla Road is home to native plants, threatened and endangered species, protected birds, and a critical wildlife habitat. They contend motorized vehicles will scar the land once inhabited by Native Americans and destroy sacred sites. Proponents for expanding off-roading say that while the Carnegie site is excellent for motorcycle riders, there is no motorized access on trails for the disabled, and no place for four-wheel drive utility task vehicles to operate.

The off-road expansion seemed headed to reality in

2019 when Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed the most recent attempt by Bauer-Kahan and Glazer to stop it. That legislation would have required the EBRPD to sell the Tesla site for conservation purposes. Newsom said it should remain a state park.

That decision pleased Mead's organization and the American Motorcycle Association, which were looking for more places to ride off highway.

"Denying children and families opportunities to enjoy and have fun should not be politically correct in California," Amy Granat, CORVA's managing director, said in an interview.

Alameda County and other organizations including the Friends of Tesla Park, filed suit and, in January, a Sacramento judge ruled that the environmental impact report and general plan that supported the expanded off-road area violated the California Environmental Quality Act. She declared them invalid.

The ruling opened it up for Bauer-Kahan and Glazer to again file legislation.

During AB1512's first committee hearing, Bauer-Kahan said scientific studies have "long documented the rare ecological value of the area," and that saving it will contribute to Newsom's goal to preserve 30 percent of California land by 2030.

"It's essential to preserve this precious, natural resource and wildlife, who call the park home," Bauer-Kahan said. "I also want to point out the amount that the state has spent in legal fees since this started being disputed over a decade ago, and it will only start over, given the recent judicial decision. So, we need to stop this and make a decision that is in the best interest of the community."

Brandon Dawson, acting director of Sierra Club California, told the committee that preserving the land has "overwhelming support" from university professors and scientists, Native American leaders, ranchers and conservation groups, along with support from government agencies including Alameda County, the City of Livermore and EBRPD.

"Permanent preservation of Tesla Park is directly in line with the governor's 30 by 30 executive order issued

last fall," Dawson said. "It protects biodiversity, provides climate change resiliency, protects wildlife corridors and increases access to nature."

Eighteen representatives from a variety of environmental, preservation and Native American groups, called into the hearing to voice their support.

One organization, the San Diego Off Road Coalition, called in opposition to the bill.

In opposing the measure, Mead said the Park's department's Off-Highway Motorized Vehicle Trust Fund has already committed funding to preserve and protect the area "while responsibly developing multiple use access." The Carnegie site already is an existing conversation area considered eligible to meet Newsom's order, she said.

"The current park is amazing for experienced motorcycle riders," Mead said. "There is no opportunity for the largest growing segment of OHVs, the family oriented UTVs. Nor is there motorized access to wooded trails for mobility limited disabled, a protected class. The expansion will offer both and one-third of the area is dedicated to buffer zones. None of the meandering trails will be visible to neighboring properties."

Mead said there was nowhere else in the Greater Bay Area for the park.

"This parcel was purchased and mitigated expressly to sustainably provide opportunity for what is not available at the existing park," Mead said.

In her remarks, Mead said the legal battle will continue if the bill is approved.

"The end of the lawsuits will come when you allow State Parks to do the job Californians have entrusted them to do, and end this attempt at legislative NIMBYism," she said.

**Reed Plumbing Company**  
Livermore, CA  
(925) 371-5671  
[davidreed@dareedplumbing.com](mailto:davidreed@dareedplumbing.com)  
LIC #601931

**TIRED OF NO BURN DAYS?**

**BurnGreen**

**MENIOTA**

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

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

\*Gas, Wood and Pellet

23585 CONNECTICUT ST # 15, HAYWARD  
510.471.5601 [www.jerrysfireplaces.com](http://www.jerrysfireplaces.com)

## Weekend on Main Returns

Starting April 30, Main Street will be closed to vehicle traffic each weekend beginning Fridays at 3 p.m. and will remain closed through 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Main Street will be open to the public and ready for you to stroll, shop, and dine beginning at 5 p.m. on Fridays and ending at 8 p.m. on Sundays. The street closure will continue in this format every weekend through Labor Day. For Memorial Day on May 31 and Labor Day on Sept. 6, the street closure will extend through Monday evening.

If you plan to join downtown, be mindful of the health and safety of yourself and your community members. Please be sure to follow all safety protocols put in place by the Alameda County Public Health Department and State of California.

Remember:  
- Masks must be worn at all times (the only exception being when you are seated for dining).

- At least 6 feet of physical distance must be maintained with others around you.

- Watch for nearby

cyclists, motorists, and traffic at cross streets. While bikers are permitted to ride during the closure, event organizers ask that riders be mindful of pedestrians and proceed slowly and cautiously down Main Street. If you wish to cycle at a faster pace, please utilize First Street or Peters Avenue to do so.

Please remember that you are also required to abide by all rules and regulations implemented by businesses prior to entering their establishments. Our downtown businesses have been working hard to implement best practices that will keep you and their employees safe throughout your shopping or dining experience.

The following lots are open to the public for parking from Friday at 2 p.m. through Sunday at 8 p.m.

- Library Lot: 400 Old Bernal Ave.
- Civic Center Lot: 200 Old Bernal Ave.
- Public Lot at Firehouse Arts Center: 4444 Railroad Ave.
- Public Lot: 500 St. Mary St.



Livermore School Dance Jazz Company dancers were among the first to perform on stage at the Bankhead since the start of the pandemic. The show was not held in front of a live audience, but filmed for later viewing. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Residents, Visitors Urged to Shop Locally in the Tri-Valley

Visit Tri-Valley is partnering with several East Bay cities -- including Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin -- to encourage residents and visitors to forego shopping online or at big-box stores and spend at least \$25 per week with local businesses.

The regional "To Tri-Valley with Love" promotion includes a "Promise Pass" that can be downloaded to mobile devices and includes discounts at nearly 100 stores.

In addition to the three Tri-Valley cities, the campaign includes Danville and San Ramon in Contra Costa County.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic is easing, Visit Tri-Valley, a destination market-

ing organization, said many local businesses are still struggling to recover.

"The beauty of this campaign is that it connects people," said Visit Tri-Valley President Tracy Farhad. "As a community, we are all intimately connected and equally responsible for maintaining this region's vibrancy and quality of life, of which our local shops, restaurants and cultural institutions are an indelible part. It's time to step away from our internet devices, get outside and reconnect with each other."

The Promise Pass is free and available to download at [www.ToTriValleyWithLove.com](http://www.ToTriValleyWithLove.com).

## Agency Offers Free Shredding

The Gene Morgan Insurance Agency in Livermore is offering to shred personal paper documents for free on Saturday, May 22, in an effort to help prevent identity theft.

Area residents may bring up to five boxes of documents for shredding to the agency's

office at 2020 Fourth Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The agency will also offer light refreshments.

For more information, contact Michelle Morgan at 925-447-2565 or email at [michelle@genemorganinsurance.com](mailto:michelle@genemorganinsurance.com).

## LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



### LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 577347

The following person(s) doing business as: D.L. Marketing, 167 South Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): All Pro Mortgage Inc., 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2011. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lori Porter, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2021. Expires March 18, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4848. Published April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 577342

The following person(s) doing business as: Tesla Real Estate Group, 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): All Pro Mortgage Inc., 167 South P Street, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2011. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lori Porter, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2021. Expires March 18, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4849. Published April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 577568

The following person(s) doing business as: Lahless Creations, 7792 Coolidge Court, Castro Valley, CA 94552, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Laura Ma, 7792 Coolidge Court, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/1/2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Laura Ma, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 25, 2021. Expires March 25, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4850. Published April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578130

The following person(s) doing business as: Golden Thread Alterations, 2222 2nd Street, Suite #4, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Seul Han, 2745 Vista Diablo Ct. Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Seuk Han, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2021. Expires March 14, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4851. Published April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 577531

The following person(s) doing business as: Dooley Notary, 48 Glacier Place, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sandra Mary Dooley, 48 Glacier Place,

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/: Sandra Mary Dooley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2021. Expires March 24, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4852. Published April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578004

The following person(s) doing business as: Oasis Nails & Spa, 4427 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oasis Nails Livermore, LLC, 4427 1st 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Truc Nha Zizileuskas, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2021. Expires April 7, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4853. Published April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2021.

#### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. HG 20083199

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

#### TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Linnea Lee Ball 1716 Montecito Circle Livermore, CA 94551 (925) 321-8098 [peetandpeanut@yahoo.com](mailto:peetandpeanut@yahoo.com) filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows  
Present Name: Linnea Lee Ball  
Proposed Name: Linnea Lee Palmer-Ball  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
Date: 6/11/2021  
Time: 11:00 AM  
Dept: 17  
The address of the court is:

Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612  
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550  
Dated: April 12, 2021 /s/ Judge Tara M. Desautels.  
The Independent Legal No. 4854 Published April 22, 29, May 6, 13 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578119

The following person(s) doing business as: FancySchmancy, 525 63rd St, Oakland, CA 94609, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tabitha Brown, 525 63rd St, Oakland, CA 94609. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 03/01/21. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tabitha Brown, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 13, 2021. Expires April 13, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4856. Published April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Celco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 50-foot broadcast tree monopole communications tower. Anticipated lighting application is a medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The site location is El Charro Road, Livermore, Alameda County, California, 94550, (37 41 34.1 N / 121 50 38.9 W). The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1192081. ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: Interested persons may review the application ([www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications)) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review ([www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest)) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554. HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS: Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Stefanie Turner (RE: EBI #6121002661), 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403 (248) 390-9151, [sturner@ebiconsulting.com](mailto:sturner@ebiconsulting.com). The Independent Legal No.

4857. Published May 6, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578341

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

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578262

The following person(s) doing business as: Simple Machining, 2681 Vernazza Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aneet Singh, 2681 Vernazza Dr., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/4/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Aneet Singh, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2021. Expires April 20, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4859. Published May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578345

The following person(s) doing business as: Warrior Wellness, 300 Lee Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Erin Elizabeth Chandler, 300 Lee Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erin Chandler, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2021. Expires April 22, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4860. Published May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 578375

The following person(s) doing business as: Tay's Cookie Co., 513 Regulus Rd., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Taylor Matthews, 513 Regulus Rd., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an

individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Taylor Matthews, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2021. Expires April 23, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4861. Published May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### ANIMALS

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



Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION

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

#### EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

#### 57) SERVICES

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

#### TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD

Call (925)243-8000

#### MERCHANDISE

114) FOR SALE

#### 115) ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

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

#### 127) LOST/ FOUND

#### NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 155) NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or (800)321-CSLB

(2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

#### REAL ESTATE

#### 170) LAND FOR RENT

#### 157) OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

#### 165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

#### 160) BOAT / RV / RENTAL

Inland Valley Publishing Co. Client Code:04126-00001  
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads  
The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

## DON'T CONDUCT YOUR JOB SEARCH ALONE. LET US HELP.

We have workshops, peer support and career coaches to assist you.

**FOR FREE.**  
925.416.5100

**TRI-VALLEY CareerCenter**  
[trivalleycareercenter.org](http://trivalleycareercenter.org)

## Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

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

**MIKE FRACISCO**  
(925) 998-8131  
Fracisco Realty  
Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt  
[MikeFracisco.com](http://MikeFracisco.com)  
DRE #01378428 REALTOR®

**Sandee Utterback**  
(925) 487-0524  
www.SANDEE.COM  
Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes

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

**Dominic Greci**  
(925) 525-0864  
www.GreciGroup.com

**DENNIS SERRA**  
Broker Associate /REALTOR  
Serving Livermore & Tri-Valley since 1999  
[dennis.rebroker@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.rebroker@gmail.com)  
TriValleyHomeSellers.com  
(925) 876-3756

**Linda Newton**  
REALTOR® GRI, SRES  
(925) 216-2015  
[Linda@ElationRE.com](mailto:Linda@ElationRE.com)  
Elation REAL ESTATE

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

**CHASE** Mortgage Banking  
Serving Livermore and Danville areas  
**Michelle Elliott**  
Senior Home Lending Advisor  
925-212-6907 | Fax: 866-378-1616  
[michelle.d.elliott@chase.com](mailto:michelle.d.elliott@chase.com)  
[home.loan.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott](http://home.loan.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott)  
NMLS ID: 694685

**Gail Henderson**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL  
(925) 980-5648  
[homes@gailhenderson.com](mailto:homes@gailhenderson.com)  
[www.gailhenderson.com](http://www.gailhenderson.com)

**Gordon Corsie**  
Real Estate Broker  
Scotsman Realty Group  
CA DRE Lic # 0091100  
Call/Text: 925.202.5497  
[www.thescotsman.com](http://www.thescotsman.com)

**TO PLACE YOUR AD, PLEASE CONTACT:**  
925.243.8010  
[kim@independentnews.com](mailto:kim@independentnews.com)

**To Place Your Ad, Call or Email:**  
925.243.8010 [kim@independentnews.com](mailto:kim@independentnews.com)

**Your local news source is delivered free to readers in the Tri-Valley.**

We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary contribution of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.

You can sign up online at [www.independentnews.com/contribute/](http://www.independentnews.com/contribute/) or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550

**THE Independent**  
independentnews.com | 925.243.8000



# exceptional

# health care in the new normal



*Awarded the highest quality ranking by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)*



**Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare is ready to care for you, now and always.** We continue to adapt and adhere to the most up-to-date safety guidelines, so you can feel confident getting the care you need.

To ensure your safety, we are:

- Screening both staff and patients for COVID-19
- Requiring and providing masks for all
- Staggering visits to allow for physical distancing in common areas
- Ensuring separate screening areas for symptomatic patients
- Sanitizing exam rooms after every patient
- Scheduling urgent care video visits in addition to in-person care

Don't delay your care. Appointments are available at our locations across the Tri-Valley and remotely by video visit.



[stanfordhealthcare.org/resumingcare](https://stanfordhealthcare.org/resumingcare)

**ValleyCare**