THE Independent

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Search for Missing Woman Renewed

By Christina Carl laro

PLEASANTON — The search for a missing Pleasanton woman who was last seen on surveillance video at the Golden Gate Bridge three years ago was renewed last week when a nonprofit group combed for new evidence and reinterviewed people who knew the woman., a 19-year-old woman who had attended UC Berkeley before she vanished, was last seen at San Francisco's Crissy Field approaching the bridge before a foggy sunrise on Sept. 30, 2020.

West's disappearance case was shown on the Investigation Discovery network show, "Disappeared," that aired on Aug. 27. The show caught the attention



Sydney West

of We Are the Essentials (WATE), a Florida-based non-profit group of former law enforcement and military service members that assists with finding missing people,

"It's kind of surreal that here we are again, at the end of September," said Sydney West's mother, Kimberly West in an interview with The Independent. "It isn't my expertise, but I trust that people who do this for a living are well versed in (investigations)."

"We're just grateful for the opportunity to do this," she added.

Scott Dudek, a private investigator who was hired by the West family a few weeks after Sydney West went missing, met with WATE before their new investigation.

"They are highly professional," he said. "They are starting with fresh eyes. I don't want to steer them by saying 'I've already done that.'"

Dudek said the plan was to retrace the missing woman's last known steps, including combing the beach and rocks around Crissy

(See SEARCH,p ag 9)



Pleasanton U.S. Navy veteran Clyde Theriot, 74, took part in the Dream Flight program, an organization that provides airplane rides to veterans and seniors. Theriot rode in a restored WWII-era Spearman biplane, the same aircraft used to train aviators during World War II. Vice President of Operations Marilyn Chaffee piloted the plane.
[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

County Declares Emergency To Address Homeless Crisis

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL – The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has declared a state of emergency to deal with homelessness as the number of people without a permanent place to call home rose 73% in the last six years.

The board's declaration, approved 4-0 during a September meeting, directs the county's Health Care Services Agency Office of Homeless Care and Coordination to develop an emergency response and report back in 60 days.

"We have been working hard on this and, as hard as we've worked, we need to do better," said Supervisor David Haubert, whose district includes Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and a portion of Pleasanton.

"I think we need to really deeply investigate the things that are working well and do more of them, and the things that haven't worked and fix them."

The proclamation will give county officials the power to set aside the bureaucracy that slows them down to quicken the pace of hiring employees to address homelessness and behavioral health needs; to "expedite procurement of critical items," streamline the creation of housing; expand services; and apply for state and federal resources.

Supervisor Keith Carson said residents regularly ask him when they will see results with the county's efforts to alleviate the problem.

"For a number of years, maybe more than 10, we have invested a lot of resources and a lot of attempt and attention to this matter. The numbers have only increased, especially since the pandemic has hit us," Carson said "For those of us who've been on the board a little while, we know that we have a long-term encampment right outside the front doors of the administration building for a long time. And so, the seri-

(See COUNTY,p ag 7)

Residents Looking to Fasttrack Airport Leaded Fuel Phase Out

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — A Livermore Municipal Airport fuel provider has submitted an application to the city to sell unleaded fuel at the airport, a move that could lessen resident's concerns about air pollution.

Two months ago, Pete Sandhu, owner of Five Rivers Aviation, which sells fuel at Livermore airport, submitted an application to the city for an extensive clean-aviation project that would include emissions-free electric aircraft, solar-powered hydrogen production, and a second fuel tank dedicated to unleaded aviation gasoline.

"There's nobody (at) the airport that is defending leaded fuel; everybody hates it," said Sandhu, who explained how engine-maintenance programs would become easier with unleaded fuel, on top of its other benefits.

Livermore Mayor John Marchand told The Independent that the city will ask Five Rivers to separate out the unleaded-fuel component of the project to possibly fast-track its approval.

"Provision of unleaded fuel at the airport is a priority for the city and our community, and we hope that Five Rivers will prioritize this critical need," said Marchand.

But Sandhu did not think the new tank could stand on its own as an economically feasible project.

"The unleaded fuel station is a large capital expense that doesn't result in any additional sales of fuel," he continued. "It may convert some fuel from leaded to unleaded, but there is no financial return on investment."

As city leaders look at the application, environmental leaders met last week to redouble the push for a lead

(See AIRPORT, pag 7)

City Suspends Zoom to Halt Hate Speech

Residents Can Still View Meetings

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE --Livermore has suspended the use of Zoom for public comments during City Council meetings after two people used the virtual platform to make disparaging remarks about Jewish people, Blacks, and members of the LGBTQ community during last week's meeting.

Mayor John Marchand told The Independent that the decision to eliminate Zoom for —at least for now—was made after consulting with other Tri-Valley cities and city staff members,

"This is done in the interest of protecting the values of our community against individuals who choose to disrupt our meetings to advance their agenda of hatred," Marchand said. "These attacks over the Zoom platform are not only disruptive and disturbing, but they interfere with the ability of our residents to participate in the governance of our community."

People who want to comment on city issues can continue to speak in person, submit comments during the meetings, or provide them ahead of time through email or the e-comment feature on the city's website. People can watch the meetings on YouTube, the city's cable TV station and on the internet. It is unclear whether emails from the public will be read by the city clerk at the meetings.

The move to suspend virtual commenting indefinitely followed the Sept. 25 meeting, where Zoom users with the presumably fake names "Sarah Enwird" and "Judy Stroyer" made comments against Jews, Blacks and members of the LGBTQ community after the mayor called on them to speak.

Marchand stopped them from speaking, and after a

(See CITY,p ag 5)



Jason Edgar, left, and Joui Bennett, right, work on putting up crochet 'tree sweaters' in front of the International Oddfellows Lodge in downtown Livermore. The annual event showcases artists' work along First Street between Maple and Elm streets.
[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

City Considers New Wells

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — A first look at how to bring Pleasanton's groundwater back to full capacity suggests that drilling two new wells in the Bernal subbasin may be the city's best bet for clean water.

The city shut down one of its three groundwater wells in 2019 after testing showed that the water contained per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) concentrations above state response levels. Afterwards, evolving research and changing state advisory levels then prompted the city to take its remaining two wells offline last November. Pleasanton has since relied for its water wholly on the Zone 7 Water Agency, the region's water wholesaler.

PFAS, also known as forever chemicals, is a family of several thousand synthetic chemicals that have been tied to immune-system suppression and some cancers, according to the Environ-

(See WELLS,p ag 9)



Sarah Lee of Dublin makes art out of eggshell pieces. She recently won an award from Beautiful Bizarre Magazine for her work. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]*
(Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Artist Makes Sculptures with Eggshells

By Dawnmarie Fehr

DUBLIN – Dublin artist Sarah Lee creates unique art pieces with an unlikely medium – eggshells.

The Bay Area native was inspired by her desire to recycle something that usually ends up in the trash. Her work recently earned her first place in the Beautiful Bizarre Magazine Founders' Emerging Artist competition for 2023.

"I've won a lot of art awards before, and it's always a good feeling," she said. "I'm always being recognized when I win, and I feel very grateful having my art out there. It's just a cool feeling. I'm excited and grateful for all of that. Now I want more."

The idea to use eggshells for sculptures began 10 years ago after a conversation with her mom.

"One day, we had a family gathering and my mom asked me to help her crack some eggs," Lee remembered. "It was a lot of eggs. And then a light bulb went off in my head and the rest was history. I ... (have been) collecting eggshells ever since."

She finds the eggs at a local Asian market that has a variety of colors and sizes. After cracking the eggs, she parcels out the yolks to neighbors or makes food for her four dogs.

She then washes the shells and stores them for her projects, which begin as clay sculptures and are then covered with precisely cut eggshell pieces.

"After I sculpt with clay, I get the eggs shells and get the nail clippers and the cuticle scissors and cut them to the shape of the reptile scales or the armadillo scales, and glue each and every one so it's like the scales," she said. "So, it's like a mosaic, piece by piece."

Lee said she does not plan out the details of where the cut eggshells will go, but

(See LOCAL,p ag 9)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds 10
Editorial.....4
Mailbox 4
Obituaries 9
Sports.....10

Emerald High Opening Delayed 2
Dynamic Faye Carol to Perform in Livermore 2
Livermore Valley Opera Has New Stage Director 5
Pleasanton Slurry Project Delayed 5
Dublin to Host Floating Pumpkin Party 7
Filmmaker to Address Tri-Valley Writers Club 12

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PETS OF THE WEEK



MEET DONNA!

Treat yourself to a fluffy new friend – Donna! This little cutie is as sweet as waffles with whipped cream and as happy as Lil' Sebastian at the Harvest Festival. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

Dublin's New High School Opening Is Delayed

New Theater Coming

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Many delays have held up the opening of Emerald High School in Dublin until March, but the project is under budget, prompting the school board to set aside millions for a new 600-seat theater.

The school in west Dublin was set to open in January, but rain, supply change issues, change orders, labor shortages and a painters' strike caused delays. But board members said the two-phase project came in approximately $49 million under budget and a portion of that money will be used for the new theater.

Assistant Superintendent of Facility Planning and Construction Thomas Moore said that the first phase of EHS construction would save $37 million, while phase two was expected to save just under $12 million for a total of $49 million

He explained part of the reason for the savings was that the district budgeted 12% in extra funds to cover fees, adjustments and rising prices, but the actual additional costs were closer to 3%.



Several factors, including last season's unprecedented storms, have delayed the opening of Dublin's new Emerald High School until March 2024. (Photo Courtesy of Dublin Unified School District)

As part of his presentation, he said staff recommended the board accept a no-cost change order from BHM Construction, the company heading up the building of both phases of Emerald High. The change order protects the district from being financially responsible for the delays. That motion passed unanimously. Moore also said staff recommended that the board spend about $38 million on the theater.

The board approved the theater project 3-2, with trustees Kristin Pelham and Kristin Speck casting the dissenting votes.

During board discussions, Pelham stated she was not opposed to the theater, but wanted "to look at the needs of the district in its entirety" before deciding to fund the theater. Staff had a list of high priority projects in need of funding, but without hard costs.

The board asked staff to return to a future meeting with more concrete numbers for four projects -- Murray Elementary, Dublin Elementary, HVAC updates for three schools and a parking garage at EHS.

"I would like to get some better numbers for these and see what we can do in the district," said Speck. "We have an opportunity to fulfill some promises."

District parents expressed frustration that the board was considering spending the $49 million outside the EHS campus, and asked that it be spent on a theater, parking garage or more walking bridges between classroom buildings.

Board President Gabi Blackman said the theater was still part of the EHS project and she thought the board did the right thing to designate the preallocated funds to it.

"When it comes to allocating funds to a project or site, those funds belong to that site and that project," she said. "They are not part of a general pool …, The board voted to allocate funds to that site, and they are set there until the board votes to move them."

For now, EHS's first class will continue to attend school in its corner of Dublin High School. Even though their new campus will open before the end of their freshman year, the district felt a move in March would be too disruptive so late in the year.

EHS maintenance, operations, IT and furniture vendors will begin to access the campus in April, followed by staff in June, allowing plenty of time for preparation and training before the next school year. Athletics will also begin hosting activities over the summer. EHS freshmen and sophomores will move to the new campus in the fall.

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Dublin Hosting E-Bike Safety Workshop

For those who recently bought an e-bike, or are considering purchasing one, the City of Dublin is hosting a free, e-bike safety workshop on Oct. 14, at the Dublin Library.

Bicycling is fun and healthy way to enjoy the sights of Dublin. Before venturing out on bike, however, it is important for cyclists to learn how to bicycle safely. There are several steps cyclists can take to help avoid injuries - in some situations it is required by law. Attendees can make sure they are 'road ready' by exploring general bike safety and education resources.

This free class shares introductory knowledge around e-bike riding safety and getting the most out of an e-bike. During this one-hour workshop, a certified Bike East Bay Instructor will walk attendees through e-bike riding in an urban environment. This includes how to prepare for a ride; intro to safe riding concepts; battery and motor maintenance; commuting tips; and more. A certified Bike East Bay instructor will walk participants through e-bike riding in an urban environment.

The class is provided at no cost with funding from the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

Other bicycling resources in the Tri-Valley area include Bicycling 5-1-1 (resource guide for the San Francisco Bay Area); East Bay Bicycle Coalition; and Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club. Additionally, local transportation tax dollars support a study involving the development of Dublin's Citywide Bicycle Master Plan. The study evaluates existing bicycle conditions within the city boundaries and incorporates an integrated plan, including access to parks and open space areas. The Bicycle Master Plan is a tool that assists with the implementation of bikeway and pedestrian improvements throughout the city.

The workshop takes place on Saturday, Oct. 14, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., in the Dublin Library Community Room, 200 Civic Plaza. For more information or to register, visit shorturl.at/goSTY.



Representatives from 1st United Credit Union recently visited local schools to donate school supplies to Christensen Middle School in Livermore and Donlon Elementary School in Pleasanton, above. The company is collecting school supplies through the end of the year. Residents can join in supporting local schools by dropping off donations at bank branches. The bank will accept donations until Dec. 31, but requests no backpacks, only all-ages, in-class supplies. For more information, visit 1stunitedcu.org/schoolsupplies. (Photo courtesy of 1st United Credit Union)

Alameda County Libraries Set to Close Due to Training

All Alameda County Library branches, including the Dublin Library, will be closed on Thursday, October 12 for staff training.

The library system said book returns would remain open, along with digital access to online materials.

The library system operates eleven branches in Albany, Dublin, Newark, Union City and the unincorporated communities of Castro Valley, Cherryland, and San Lorenzo.

For more information, go to aclibrary.org.

Dynamic Faye Carol to Perform at Livermore Library Event

Bay Area jazz and blues icon Faye Carol, founder of the School of Getdown, will give a free concert at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 22, accompanied by pianist Joe Warner.

Often billed as The Dynamic Miss Faye Carol, she was born in Mississippi, but moved to Pittsburg, California, with her family as a child and sang in the Solomon Temple Baptist Church youth choir. During her early career, Carol toured with the gospel group, The Angelaires.

In the 1970s, she became a favorite of the San Francisco cabaret music scene as The Dynamic Miss Faye Carol & Her Trio. She later began teaching music and music history, working with such organizations as Urban Arts, Black Repertory Theater, and Living Jazz.

The concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Public Library. No registration is required.

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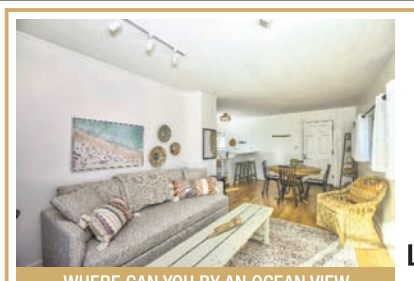
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EDITORIAL

Livermore Suspends Zoom During Public Meetings

Livermore announced this week that the public will no longer be able to submit comments to the City Council in its open forum via Zoom anymore -- at least "until further notice."

We agree that's the easiest solution to immediately deal with the deplorable comments that shocked those in the City Council chamber and those watching at home last week. Livermore unfortunately joined a growing list of cities and counties in California and nationwide targeted by extremists who have hijacked their meetings over the virtual platform, spewing messages of hate.

It happened during the Sept. 25 Livermore City Council meeting as leaders met to conduct business. After residents spoke in the chamber, a man and woman participating on Zoom used their time to broadcast disparaging comments against Jewish people, Blacks, the LGBTQ community and others.

Mayor John Marchand cut each call off and called a recess. When the council members returned to their seats, Marchand moved the open forum to the end of the meeting to finish the evening's business. When the time arrived for more calls, Councilman Ben Barrientos noticed that the next person set to speak was using a Nazi-inspired pseudonym. Barrientos stood up and left, causing the meeting to shut down for lack of a quorum, and preventing any more expressions of hate.

Public forums are specifically designed to enable residents to speak on issues they feel are important within the city. But whether we like it or not, the courts have ruled that hate speech is protected by the First Amendment.

Like so many other cities, Livermore needed to quickly find a solution to prevent this from happening again.

Public forums are specifically designed to enable residents to speak on issues they feel are important within the city. But whether we like it or not, the courts have ruled that hate speech is protected by the First Amendment.

In Livermore, the public now must attend the meetings if they wish to speak. They will also be able to watch the meetings via Zoom. Livermore's City Council meetings will remain available on YouTube, cable television and on the web.

We very much hope that the council will approve having the city clerk read any emails at the end of the meeting that have been sent to the city earlier in the day. Some have said that those out to disparage minorities won't be interested in writing comments that won't be heard at the outset.

The public's participation in meetings is vital. Community members need to be included as much as possible.

As Livermore said in a statement, "Livermore's strength is derived from its diversity and inclusiveness, from respecting one another, from welcoming all, and from collaborating with one another across differences."

MAILBOX

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Dublin Don't be Fooled!

Mike Grant, Dublin

Mayor Melissa Hernandez and council members Michael McCorriston, Jean Josey, Sherry Hu and Kashef Qaadri all want to extend the term limits for each of their seats in office. The questions should be asked what will we, the citizens, gain from this? The true answer is nothing for the taxpayers, but they will gain more power and be able to travel around spending our tax dollars on vacations -- like the Ireland vacation and more importantly look for their next political seat. Yes, 7 city officials -- 4 council members, the mayor and 2 city staff members -- took a fully funded trip to Ireland and spent over $20,000 dollars and only spent 6.5 hours in meetings. They also took family members along and it looks like we, the taxpayers, may have paid for motel rooms for them. They also spent more time at an air show than in meetings.

So just last week, I requested information from the city about the cost of the medical premiums that the taxpayers pay to cover each of the city council members and the mayor. We, as the city taxpayers, are paying over $319,259 dollars for the 5 PART TIME employees. Yes, the council and mayor are not full time employees. So, let's take that times 12 years. As the mayor and council want to do, put in place and change the ordinance. That's $3.8 million dollars for "PART TIME employees" at today's current premiums, plus 4 out of 5 members are covered by employers at their full time jobs.

So Dublin citizens., would you like the taxpayers to pay for your medical? We need fresh people in office who promise to cut spending and stop the growth in the city. Thinking about points and questions we should ask ourselves. Are these council members getting benefits from the builders? What about the property owners along the planned Dublin Blvd extension? Are they giving funds to the election campaigns for these members? Don't be fooled by these members telling all of us they watch our dollars and spend them wisely. If this is true, then each council member and the mayor should drop the city insurance plan today and reimburse the city taxpayers for the vacation to Ireland in July.

VOTE NO on changing the term limits in DUBLIN!

Implementing Authentication for City Council Zoom Meetings

Brian Arkin, Pleasanton

I write to underline the pressing need for a secure means of authenticating community members participating in city council meetings conducted via Zoom or similar online platforms. In today's increasingly digital landscape, as virtual civic engagement becomes more common, safeguarding the integrity of these meetings is crucial, especially in light of an increase of hate speech by some unidentified individuals Zooming into our local city council meetings.

City council meetings are the cornerstone of democratic governance, providing residents with a platform to voice their concerns, share ideas, and hold elected officials accountable. However, the shift to virtual meetings has exposed vulnerabilities in ensuring the authenticity of participants, particularly when it comes to the possibility that some joining may be from outside the United States with the sole intent to disrupt our democracy with hate speech.

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the freedom of speech rights for individuals within the jurisdiction of the United States. It applies to U.S. citizens and residents, but it does not apply to individuals residing outside the country. We need a means to verify those individuals Zooming into our city council meetings actually reside in the United States. This is needed to protect the integrity of our civic meetings.

Implementing a robust authentication system for Zoom city council meetings would deter individuals unwilling to authenticate that they reside in the United States from attending meetings. This will require providing a real name and real address that can be verified against an ID system, such as a driver's license or utility bill.

To implement an authentication system, city councils can explore various methods, such as online verification, including integration with municipal ID systems. The goal should be to strike a balance between security and accessibility, ensuring that the process does not create barriers to civic engagement.

In conclusion, as our civic processes adapt to the digital age, we must prioritize the security and authenticity of community engagement in city council meetings. A reliable authentication system is not only a technical requirement, but also a fundamental step in preserving the essence of democracy, ensuring that these meetings genuinely reflect the voices and concerns of our community.

Remembering Patrick Henry

Jan Brovont, Livermore

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty." Patrick Henry

Patrick Henry (May 29, 1736 – June 6, 1799) was an American politician, planter and orator who declared to the Second Virginia Convention (1775): "Give me liberty, or give me death!" A Founding Father, he served as the first and sixth post-colonial Governor of Virginia, from 1776 to 1779 and from 1784 to 1786.

A native of Hanover County, Virginia, Henry was primarily educated at home. After an unsuccessful venture running a store, and assisting his father-in-law at Hanover Tavern, he became a lawyer through self-study. Beginning his practice in 1760, Henry soon became prominent through his victory in the Parson's Cause against the Anglican clergy. He was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses, where he quickly became notable for his inflammatory rhetoric against the Stamp Act of 1765.

In 1774, Henry served as a delegate to the First Continental Congress where he signed the Petition to the King, which he helped to draft, and the Continental Association. He gained further popularity among the people of Virginia, both through his oratory at the convention and by marching troops towards the colonial capital of Williamsburg after the Gunpowder Incident until the munitions seized by the royal government were paid for. Henry urged independence, and when the Fifth Virginia Convention endorsed this in 1776, he served on the committee charged with drafting the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the original Virginia Constitution. Henry was promptly elected governor under the new charter and served a total of five one-year terms.

After leaving the governorship in 1779, Henry served in the Virginia House of Delegates until he began his last two terms as governor in 1784. The actions of the national government under the Articles of Confederation made Henry fear a strong federal government, and he declined appointment as a delegate to the 1787 Constitutional Convention. He actively opposed the ratification of the United States Constitution, both fearing a powerful central government and because there was as yet no Bill of Rights. He returned to the practice of law in his final years, declining several offices under the federal government. A slaveholder throughout his adult life, he hoped to see the institution end, but had no plan beyond ending the importation of slaves. Henry is remembered for his oratory and as an enthusiastic promoter of the fight for independence. Source: Wikipedia.

Approve Unleaded Aviation Fuel Now

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Out of the more than five thousand municipal airports across the nation, Livermore ranks as the 28th worst airport in regard to lead air pollution. Why? Livermore Airport (LVK) continues to sell only leaded aviation fuel. This practice combined with thousands of take-offs, landings, and circling planes continues to poison our air. Many other municipal airports including Hayward, San Carlos, Watsonville, and Long Beach sell approved and available unleaded aviation fuels UL94 and UL100.

The Fixed Based Operator at LVK has completed an application to install a second tank to sell unleaded aviation fuel as an option. So why the delay? Why is the city dragging its feet in approving the application?

The cost of an additional fuel tank would be approximately $200,000 (tank plus welding, installation costs) and the funds could come out of the airport budget. There is no need to take funds from the city's general funds. Again, what's holding up the installation of a second fuel tank for unleaded aviation fuel? Lead is one of the worst neurotoxins in our environment and leaded aviation fuel is the largest source of lead air pollution. In 2021, the EPA made an endangerment finding that lead aviation fuel "endangers public health and welfare." The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) sent a letter to the Livermore City Council September 8th stating, "eliminating lead air pollution from aviation gas should be treated as urgent public health priority".

Lead poisoning from aviation fuel affects children the most. Our children and Tri-Valley residents deserve better. Want to breathe cleaner air?

Want to protect our children from serious harm to their health, including damage to the brain and nervous system, slowed development, hearing and speech problems, and learning disabilities?

Here's what you can do:

Contact the Livermore City Council Members:

mayormarchand@livermoreca.gov
1925-960-4020
bkiick@livermoreca.gov
1925-460-4019
bbarrientos@livermoreca.gov
1 925-960-4016
egbranning@livermoreca.gov
1 925-960-4013
rwcarling@livermoreca.gov
925-960-4018

Ask the Livermore City Council to fast track the application to sell unleaded aviation fuel at LVK.

It's Time to Stand Against Hate

Trish Munro, Livermore

This was not a letter I ever wanted to write. Livermore is full of worthwhile activities happening all through fall—this weekend, for example, there is the Taste of Africa and Filipino Barrio Fiesta or the opportunity to remove a lawn and create a garden (https://bit.ly/RotaryParkLawn2Garden).

(See MAILBOX,p ag 6

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Livermore Valley Opera's new stage director Marc Jacobs, above with the cast of "Of Mice and Men," will make his debut this Saturday, Oct. 7 as the opera kicks off its 32nd season. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]*

(Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Valley Opera Company Welcomes New Stage Director

By Christina Carl laro

The Livermore Valley Opera is kicking off its 32nd season this week with a new stage director.

More than 50 years ago, American composer Carlisle Floyd adapted John Steinbeck's Nobel Prize-winning novella "Of Mice and Men" into an opera that has been performed in the U.S. and internationally. On Saturday, a four-show run at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore will be launched,

"There is so much about this opera that's appealing, but it's not your typical opera that we perform," said Leslie Silberman, the marketing, and communications director for the Livermore Valley Opera.

Artistic Director Erie Mills, who has been with the opera for seven years, said new Stage Director Marc Jacobs has been pushing for more progressive works for one of the two operas they perform each season.

"Obviously, it's not like going to the Magic Flute, which is what we'll do next year," said Silberman. "I feel like it's time for something a little more progressive to be front and center. The arts are so diverse. It's not just about tradition; it's about all the different things that are out there."

The "Of Mice and Men" opera tackles themes of loneliness, and the need for connection with other people.

Jacobs is new to the opera company, but not new to the stage. His career spans decades and theaters worldwide, including performances for both TV and stage, and an internship with Hal Prince, the famed Broadway director of "Phantom of the Opera."

But he's excited to be in Livermore and directing "Of Mice and Men," he said.

"The music is gorgeous," he said. "It captures these characters' souls."

Jacobs added that the upcoming opera is an American classic by one of the greatest America 20th Century composers, and yet it's rarely done.

He added that it's not the story of two displaced migrant ranch workers in California during the Great Depression that makes it tough to perform, but rather the casting demands.

"You need a huge guy for Lennie, huge, who's got the voice of an angel."

Jacobs said he wanted to create a show that grabbed people's attention from the moment the curtain rose. The first act opens with the sound of a police siren, men coming through the woods upstage and the shining of flashlights into the audience.

In early design conversations with set designer Jean-Francois Revon, Jacobs said he knew that including video and film projections would be key to making the opera a success.

"I tried to make it as much like a movie as I could. And I wanted to humanize it," he said.

In doing so, he showed that characters George and Lennie are at the bottom of the work chain, being paid almost nothing and just trying to survive, while bouncing from farm to farm and dreaming of getting back home.

"I wanted to give the feeling that these two guys in a way get smaller and smaller as the show goes on—that the universe gets bigger and bigger," Jacobs said.

At the end of scene one, the characters build a fire in the woods. They lay down under the stars and a dreamy film projection of the universe travels by during the interlude.

"Usually, they bring the curtain down for the change of set," Jacobs said. "I never stop the show on this one. So, you get the stars moving and later the sun coming up."



Mom's Haunted House is ready for Halloween. A Livermore tradition for many years, Mom's Haunted House is set to return for the first time since 2019. Admission is free and the fun is on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 7-11 p.m., at the end of Kathy Court in Livermore.

(Photo courtesy of Shannon Dunn)

City of Pleasanton's Planned Slurry Seal Work Is Being Rescheduled

The slurry seal work planned for Pleasanton is running behind schedule.

The city is working in partnership with a contractor to adjust the scheduled work to ensure a high-quality finished product and open roads and apologizes for the inconvenience for those who had already planned for the street closures. The streets not completed as previously scheduled will be rescheduled in the coming week and re-noticed. Specifically, Vineyard Heights and Heinz Ranch (part of section #4) will be rescheduled. The city will provide an updated schedule as soon as possible.

Part of the Summer 2023 Pavement Management Program, the goal is to maintain city streets and keep them in good driving condition, which requires a considerable amount of thought and effort. Streets deteriorate over time and exposure to weather and the more extreme the weather, the more quickly streets degrade. Slurry seal, a petroleum-based emulsion product mixed with sand and fine black aggregate rock, works to counter the effects of weather and extend the life of the road.

In addition to providing a new wearing surface, slurry seal will also correct minor roadway defects that have appeared over time.

According to the city's website, 48-hour notices will be sent prior to start of work and no parking signs will be installed on barricades on the street. The 48-hour notice will have the contact name and number for the city inspector if special arrangements for access need to made. All vehicles and other objects must be removed from the street. This includes trailers, garbage cans, and basketball hoops. The morning of the slurry seal, the street is swept with a mechanical street sweeper and any weeds are removed.

For more information or to view the slurry seal project daily street schedule, visit shorturl.at/AHPY2.

Celebrate Livermore Unity Day

Help unite the community to create a more kind, accepting, and inclusive world, and celebrate Unity Day on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

In coordination with National Bullying Prevention and Awareness Month, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, City of Livermore, Livermore Police Department, Livermore Public Library, and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District are coming together to support kindness, acceptance, and inclusion by wearing orange on Unity Day.

Watch for more information to come about activities for the whole family during Livermore's Unity Week, Oct. 16 to 20.

School District Announces 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School district is sending out a round of congratulations to the semifinalists in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Semifinalists are -Abraham Mercer and Zhuofan Shi of Granada High School; and Rishi Chandrasekar, Yeojun Kim, Soham Khedkar, and Michael Zhang of Livermore High School. These academically talented students have an opportunity to continue in the competition to attain finalist standing and receive a National Merit Scholarship. They were among the approximately 16,000 semifinalists named nationally, representing less than one percent of high school seniors nationwide.

The mission of National Merit Scholarship Corporation is to recognize and honor the academically talented students of the U.S. NMSC accomplishes its mission by conducting nationwide academic scholarship programs. The enduring goals of NMSC's scholarship programs are to promote a wider and deeper respect for learning in general and for exceptionally talented individuals in particular; to shine a spotlight on brilliant students and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence at all levels of education; and to stimulate increased support from individuals and organizations that wish to sponsor scholarships for outstanding scholastic talent.

High school juniors were screened for the program through the PSAT/NMSQT; semifinalists are the highest-scoring entrants in each state. For more information, visit nationalmerit.org.

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CITY

(Continued from 1p ag)

brief recess, the remainder of the open forum was postponed until the end of the meeting.

After the council wrapped up its public business, it was set to take more Zoom comments, but Councilmember Ben Barrientos said he saw the next speaker's offensive name, "Zeke Heil," waiting in the queue and chose to leave.

With Council Members Brittni Kiick and Evan Branning absent, the meeting was without a quorum and ended.

The following day, Livermore issued a statement on its website and social media "reaffirming its support of a culture of welcome, inclusion and respect for everyone."

"Livermore's strength is derived from its diversity and inclusiveness, from respecting one another, from welcoming all, and from collaborating with one another across differences," the city statement said. "The city stands against expressions of hatred and supports bringing community members together to celebrate diversity and inclusion."

Marchand said in the statement that "hatred and intolerance are not acceptable in Livermore."

"We stand by all of our community members and believe that our diversity makes us stronger as a community," Marchand said. "Livermore is not alone in dealing with how to put an end to hate speech during the public comment portion of government meetings."

Besides Livermore, Zoom callers recently spewed antisemitic, anti-LGBTQ and anti-Black comments at public meetings in Sonoma County, Atherton, El Dorado County, San Diego, Sacramento, and Walnut Creek.

"Public meetings are under attack by racists in a coordinated fashion to disrupt the public's access to government," said Marc Levine, director of the Anti-Defamation

League's office in San Francisco. "They don't want government to work, and they want to talk and offend people."

Levine said those responsible for the comments are white supremacists who sharetheir notoriety and media attention in alt-right chat rooms and websites to raise money.

"Under the court's interpretation of the First Amendment, hate speech is protected speech, so it's very difficult," Levine said.

Other municipalities also are taking definitive steps to stop hate speech.

In Sonoma County, the Board of Supervisors said they will limit public comments to those in person or through email for the remainder of the year as leaders look for a solution to prevent the racist attacks. The limitations affect all its county boards.

"This isn't as though there are a couple of racists who happen to live in a community," Levine said. "They can live anywhere, and they are picking these meetings and victimizing these meetings, purposely."

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and the Bay Area Network of Jewish

Officials (BANJO) have created a guide to teach city officials how to stop hate speech during meetings. The guide was shared with more than 400 Bay Area city council members and so far, leaders in 30 cities are using it to develop plans to stop racist, homophobic, and antisemitic comments. The guide suggested suspending Zoom comments.

"We are pushing back to demonstrate that hate has no place in our communities," JCRC spokesperson Jeremy Russell said. "We are also calling on community members to speak out, request cities adopt resolutions condemning antisemitism, and join our #HEREIAM initiative."

The initiative began in 2021 as antisemitic crimes increased significantly in the Bay Area. The initiative asks people to submit videos and stories about how they have been impacted by antisemitism. Russell said 32% of Bay Area Jewish residents surveyed last year indicated they had experienced or directly witnessed antisemitism in the past three years.

"We are determined to bring experiences of antisemitism into the light," Russell said.

"Too many don't realize how incredibly common these experiences have become, particularly online. Members of the Jewish community are dealing with everything from casual comments and microaggressions to threats, vandalism, and violence."

Levine said the ADL has also created a kit to help city leaders develop a code of conduct and denounce hate speech before public comments begin and when they are finished. The ADL is also looking to modify state public meeting laws to deal with the

The ADL reported that antisemitic incidents in the United States reached an all-time high last year with 3,697 incidents of assault, harassment, and vandalism. The 36% increase over 2021 represented the highest number of incidents against Jews in the U.S. since the group began tracking them in 1979.

California's Department of Justice released statistics in August that showed California had 518 anti-Semitic incidents in 2022, up from 367 a year earlier.

"What's concerning here is the growing normalization of hate speech," said Angela Ingel, a spokesperson with the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund in San Francisco,

"It's part of a broader campaign aimed at undermining democratic norms, enabling hate-driven individuals to inundate public discourse with their propaganda and vitriol," Ingel said. "This deliberate strategy makes it increasingly challenging for marginalized communities to engage in the public sphere. This issue represents a larger trend, and it's crucial to address it, particularly from the perspective of marginalized communities and minorities."

MAILBOX

(Continued from 4p ag)

So many good people are doing good things for our community.

And yet hate, too, is having its moment. Over the past few weeks, there have been more than thirty instances of an organized hate campaign disrupting Bay Area governmental meeting (council meetings and boards of supervisors) with hate speech—largely, but not exclusively, directed against Jews.

Livermore was hit on September 25 (coincidentally the end of Yom Kippur, a day of fasting and repentance). The city council acted swiftly and appropriately. Both council and city staff deserve thanks from everyone who stands against hate. Now it is our turn to act against hate. Here are three ways to respond:

1. Make your opinion known to city staff and council members. Though public comment is one way to do this, these acts of hate are meant to interrupt the people's business. So, if you do speak, be brief. Or simply show up wearing your message of support for building community. Or just send supportive emails to staff and council.

2. While hate groups have targeted Jews, Black people, and members of the LGBTQIA community recently, they have targeted other groups—Latine/Hispanic and AAPI people, particularly—in the past and will likely do so again in the future. We need to have each other's back and to speak out against hate, particularly when directed at others.

3. Equally as important as responding to hate is developing a culture of belonging. Build community in your social media posts, by writing op-eds (or letters!), or forms of communication. Appreciate, get to know, and respect the many kinds of people who make up Livermore.

During Yom Kippur, Jews recite an alphabet of sins using the plural first person: "We have sinned," not "I have sinned." While each person is responsible for individual actions, personal repentance is not enough. There is communal recognition that when terrible things happen, it is incumbent on all of us, on the whole community to repair the damage. Livermore has been damaged. Let us all work together to build a stronger community out of that damage.

Identity Politics Will Never Eradicate Poverty

Greg Scott, Livermore

California Governor Newsom has just picked Emily's List President Laphonza Butler to replace the late Senator Feinstein in the U.S. Senate. Ms. Butler is African American and fulfills Governor Newsom's pledge to fill Senator Feinstein's seat with an African American woman if the situation arose.

Ms. Butler is a highly accomplished 44-year-old. She has served as SEIU (Service Employees International Union) United Long Term Care Workers, SEIU Local 2015 president, along with being a very powerful political consultant, and a regent of the University of California.

"[D]espite her previous career, organized labor is likely to split on Butler." (CalMatters, 10/1/2023). Ms. Butler has not stuck to principle. She promoted Uber's objective of not having their drivers classified as employees, along with being Airbnb's director of public policy. While Ms. Butler has exhibited incredible efforts for workers, she has also succumbed to corporate power over workers and thus sacrificed principle to ambition.

This is not the case with Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-Northern Alameda County). Her principles have long been unwavering, even if she was the only one to stand for them at a particular time. That takes phenomenal human courage. One of the issues Congresswoman Lee has stood for is the eradication of poverty.

Governor Newsom picked Ms. Butler because he stated he did not want to unfairly influence the California Democratic Party U.S. Senate primary amongst Congresswoman Lee, Congresswoman Katie Porter (south-central Orange County), and Congressman Adam Schiff (San Gabriel Valley). This is mostly bunk. Governor Newsom picked Ms. Butler because he is looking out for the political prospects of Gavin Newsom. If the truth be told, Governor Newsom would probably favor the political power surrounding the centrist Democrat Congressman Schiff and not be worried about the progressive faction competition between Congresswoman Lee and Congresswoman Porter. The safe bet was not to pick any of them for the senate vacancy.

The monied oligarchs love the distraction of race from the overriding socio-economic class struggle as the major factor in eradicating poverty. Only a progressive Democrat will address this. It will be interesting to see how this plays out. The deleterious event would be if Ms. Butler decides to run in the Democratic primary for the U.S Senate.

Congresswoman Lee happens to be African American. Congresswoman Porter happens to be White. Either one of them will work tirelessly to eradicate poverty regardless of their particular race. Let us hope, on principle, California chooses wisely.

Flags on School Grounds

Owen Brovont, Livermore

The front-page article, "Callers Spew Hate…," in the September 28th edition of the Independent, was disconcerting. The article had the hallmarks of contemporary leftist rhetoric in using the phrases "spew hate" and "homophobic." This is a common occurrence when criticizing those who do not subscribe to the perspective of the ideological left's dogma. It is sad to see it occurring in our town. This approach is intended to plant seeds that undermine the current political atmosphere of the country and is aimed at creating and manipulating both a tone and shaping a frame of mind for the upcoming 2024 elections. A potential voter must be on guard to detect such tactics.

The editorial commentary, in the same issue of the Independent, regarding the flag controversy at the Sunol elementary school was also disappointing, especially the first paragraph. Traditionally, the American elementary and secondary schools are places to gain competence in the basic academic subjects that children will need as they progressively ascend to higher levels of education. It is not the venue at which to be propagandized by ideas they are fundamentally ill equipped to deal with at such young and impressionable ages. The present social and political turmoil has clearly demonstrated the reality that many adults have also proven themselves ill-equipped to deal with these complicated social issues as well. To expose children to the ideas of homosexuality and transgenderism violates their rights not to be traumatized by adults who are ideologically dedicated to various competing social philosophies. They should be allowed to be children, to enjoy their childhood, and not to become unwitting victims of ideologically motivated subversives or crusaders.

Only the American and state flags should be flown on school grounds for traditional reasons – the flagpole is not to be used for flying an advertising banner symbolic of any activity or special interest group. Irrespective of the subtlety of such uses, children should not be politicized on school grounds. That isn't education; that is child abuse!

We Lost a Legend

Richard Andrews, Livermore

With the passing of Senator Feinstein, California lost an excellent Senator and advocate for our great state. I did not agree with some of the things she voted or advocated for. But I understood who she was, and why she did it. She was a wise politician, who worked with the opposition to get things done, and knew sacrifices needed to be made to keep America and California moving forward. She was as good as it gets.

She was in decline, and I do hope her bad health, which affected her abilities at the end, will not be the legacy that some fools will point to. Rather accept that she was the best for the job, and always put OUR needs first.

She will truly be missed, and I hope the Governor will not make a political hack assignment to assuage a particular group. We need someone who is known for intelligent acts, and the ability to work with the opposition to get things done. Congresswoman Barbara Lee is good, but I feel that Eric Swalwell, or State Senator Steven Glazer, would be a better choice.

The Globe

Teresa Miller, Livermore

Contrary to popular arrogance, our Earth has changed climates from the beginning of its time and, no surprise, without any assistance from the human race.

And at home on our piece of Earth, the things that are going to kill our country in particular are the demagogues, the autocrats, the socialists, the marxists and the democrats. There is a profound lack of common sense in our midst.

Bringing Back Jazz

Ellen Bradley, Pleasanton

In the March 2018 issue of The Independent written by Emily Patton, an article entitled "An Appetite for Jazz" was published. At that time before COVID, Jazz (traditional real New Orleans style) was being supported by The Independent and many venues in Livermore. There is one remaining traditional jazz music group in the entire area now in 2023!! The Chris Bradley Band. is still appearing the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Old Mexico Bar & Grill on Portola Ave from 7-9, with real NOLA musicians and a dance floor, no cover. (Tips greatly appreciated,) Their Music was enjoyed at Tuesday Tunes this year!! Sadly, it does not have the following it once had before COVID. Really hoping for support again from real, traditional jazz people that are still in the Tri-Valley, and from The Independent who used to advertise and promote the Chris Bradley Band every week from then Editor Janet Armantrout, a wonderful fan. Hoping to renew support for real NOLA jazz and music from the 1920's and 30's. Come hear the real music play. (Swing Dance is in again.) … Support us. Thanks.

There Should be Only One Flag

Kay Y-H Thorson, Pleasanton

I lived in Sunol, off Kilkare Road, on Fern Trail, for several years.

I lived there with my parents initially, then my husband and our two children.

I brought my two babies' home after their birth to our humble abode, on Fern Trail.

My son attended Sunol Glen for a few years and it was a happy experience for him.

We loved Sunol Glen. It was a wholesome, non-political, involved community, with emphasis on education, fairness and inclusiveness.

We were "Sunolians", through and through.

But more importantly, we were Americans!!

We live in America. We have and honor the "Star Spangled Banner". We use our United States flag for many occasions.

The flag is used atop a coffin to symbolize one who has served, or one who died as a Civil Servant. It's placed in courts of law, the Whitehouse, the Senate and Congress. At voting polls, at civil and federal buildings, revered at Scouting events (girls and boys), it's carried in parades; it appears on television when appropriate, and at schools.

I'm sure there are many instances and locations where our flag is hung, throughout the country.

The flag represents "America", the land that we love.

We don't fly flags for slavery, the holocaust, Japanese relocation camps, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Easter, Valentines Day, etc.

There should be NO other flag flown for ANY reason, with the exception of flying State flags, below the Red, White and Blue.

Where does it end?? We would have to have flagpoles twenty stories high, in order to accommodate all groups of diversity. Allow one group to hang their flag, you've set a precedent, and our flag means nothing.

Throughout history, many people around the world have been persecuted. To learn, know and understand the atrocities committed against humankind is to honor and acknowledge what occurred. And, that should be taught in the classroom, not on a flagpole.

However, it is my solemn belief that NO other flag should be flown but the United States flag, period!

"It's All Over Now, Baby Blue"

Daryl R. Carlson, Livermore

Owen Brovont's recent hurtful letter to this paper on children and medical gender transition is hysterical right wing fantasy. Brovont's politics are so far off the side of the political spectrum that if seen through a prism, they would be in the ultraviolet range, discernible only to predators like birds of prey. His ignorant letter, with totally unfounded and false assertions, is simply part of a far-Right media propaganda attack on LGBTQA+ people, useful as a wedge issue. Nonsense like this does great harm to children in this community.

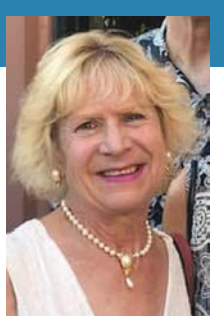
In Support of the Change-Makers

Cathy Rainey, Livermore

On Saturday, September 9, 2023, Livermore held the first "Youth Climate Summit". The event was a huge success because of the message of hope it communicated to all who attended. Created and implemented by local high school students from the Tri Valley, it's clear that young leaders are emerging who care about our planet. We should not turn our backs on them by ignoring the message of the summit. There is hope, but only if all of us take action to reduce the impacts of climate change. Many of these actions are not difficult, nor costly. Some are a heavier lift, but in the long run, end up saving money as well as the planet. Acting locally is the first step in meeting the challenge of achieving carbon neutrality. We can be proud of the leadership the City of Livermore has taken in regard to climate change. Take a look at the city's Climate Action Plan. Then, sign up at the Livermore Resilient Hub (livermore-resilienthub.com), where your family can actively participate in activities, actions, and goal setting to reduce greenhouse gases. The website is fantastic and contains a wealth of collective information we can all use. With a goal of 500 families joining the hub by December 2023, only 14% of Livermore families have registered. Show the young change-makers of our valley that you care and that you support the work they have accomplished.

Her Vineness

Local Winemakers Place in Variety of Competitions



Laura Ness

By Laura Ness

There are lots of wine competitions out there. Many are affiliated with county fairs, such as those in Alameda, Mendocino and Sonoma counties, which are open only to wines from that area. Such a focus is great, because it gives the winemakers a chance to go head-to-head in regional contests.

Our Livermore Uncorked! operates under the same principle -- only wines grown in the Livermore American Viticultural Area (AVA) get to enter.

Winning big in your backyard is an honor, but the broader wine competitions, like Sunset, SF Chronicle, CA State Fair and East Meets West, give winemakers a chance to compete on a grander, even global scale. Winning at one of these, as Livermore winemakers have done a number of times, brings serious bragging rights, not just to the winery but to the entire region.

From the local to the global stage, we have a consistent winner in our midst. Las Positas Vineyards once again finished atop the podium at the recent East Meets West Wine Competition for their stunning, juicy and relentlessly satisfying 2022 Estate Verdehlo, (Best of the West White Wine, BOC, GG, 98 pts.).

Congratulations to winemaker and GM, Brent Amos, who has bet big on this Iberian grape and it's paying off handsomely. The Best of the West Red Wine at this one was Eberle Winery 2021 Cotes-du-Robles Rouge from Paso Robles, purveyor of well-priced, well-made wines. Best Rosé was Rodney Strong Vineyards 2022 Sonoma Coast Rosé of Pinot Noir, and Best of the West Dessert went to Navarro Vineyards 2022 Riesling Cluster Select Late Harvest from Anderson Valley. These wines are all stellar and highly recommended.



The most interesting East Coast wines from this competition were a delicious blackberry fruit wine from Holy-Field Vineyard & Winery in Kansas, where they have more luck with fruit other than grapes, and a fabulous spicy and engaging Presque Isle Wine Cellars NV "Film Noiret," from the shores of Lake Erie in PA, made from the Noiret grape. It was named Best of the East, and garnered 100 pts.

This wine was graded by my judging panel, which included American Wine Society Board Member, Jay Bileti, and the noted wine columnist, Dan Berger, whose palate and wine knowledge are profound. We decided this wine could not have been made any better, so we gave it 100 points. If you can score a bottle of any of these wines, you will be transported straight to another place, which is why we drink wines from all over. If you strictly drink wines from the region in which you live, you develop a "house palate" to the max. It's good to "drink around!!"

I just finished judging the Sonoma Harvest Fair, which features all Sonoma County wines, and unsurprisingly is very focused on Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Zin. The latter two aren't Livermore's strongest suits. It's generally too hot for Pinot Noir and too cool for Zin. The winner among the whites at the 2023 Sonoma Harvest Fair was the 2021 Fritz Underground Winery Chardonnay, a brisk and breezy wine, with a pleasant creaminess that pulled it ahead of the attention-getting and edgy St. Francis Sauvignon Blanc, a stone-cold bargain at $17 with its intense pineapple, mango and grapefruit, and the 2022 Imagery Estate Riesling from the Pine Mountain AVA in Cloverdale.

This Riesling might be even better in 2023, with acidity levels higher than those of the punishingly hot 2022. The Best Red Wine was the 2021 Wilson Winery of Dry Creek Zinfandel ($38), edging out a magnificent 2021 Trentadue Montepulciano ($30), a lovely 2021 J Rickards Pommard Clone Pinot Noir ($62) and a solid 2020 Coyote Sonoma Cabernet Sauvignon ($40). A standout was the La Chertosa Wines 2022 "Eye of the Swan" Aleatico Rosé ($22).

A public tasting of all the Gold Medal winners will be held on Saturday, October 14, at the Sonoma Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa: SonomaHarvest

Next up is the Harvest AVA Challenge in November, which pits wines from each AVA against one another. With any luck, Livermore will submit lots of entries and we'll have even more to brag about.

Three Valleys Fund Offers Calendar

The Three Valleys Community Fund (3VCF), which puts donors in touch with local nonprofit organizations, has launched a comprehensive online calendar of events.

According to 3VCF, there are more than 360 nonprofits providing direct service to the Tri-Valley region. The online calendar "is designed to spotlight all our local nonprofits who are working to build a sense of community and belonging, while making a lasting and positive impact on the quality of life in our region."

Nonprofits are invited to join the 3VCF directory of organizations and submit events for inclusion on the calendar. For more information, go to 3VCF.org. The nonprofit also manages donor-advised funds.

Dublin to Host Floating Halloween Pumpkin Patch



Dublin's popular Floating Pumpkin Patch event (above at last year's event) is back for another season at The Wave facility on Saturday, Oct. 21. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Halloween is just around the corner. Enthusiasts can find their perfect pumpkin at the City of Dublin's "Floating Pumpkin Patch" on Saturday, Oct. 21. Join the Dublin staff at The Wave, 4201 Central Parkway, for one of two sessions, where guests can float in and find the pumpkin of their choice! There will be swimming, pumpkin decorating, prizes, and more. Each registered participant is allowed to choose one pumpkin and have two spectators at the event. Pre-Registration ends on Oc. 19, in order to reserve a pumpkin. Session One begins at 1:30 p.m.; Session Two begins at 4:30 p.m. Visit www.dublinrecguide.com to register.

Arts Collective Welcomes Dublin Paint Out Event For 2023

The Dublin Arts Collective will host Dublin Paint Out 2023, a juried plein air competition, on Saturday, Oct. 7, and Sunday, Oct. 8.

Artists will register at Dublin Heritage Park, 6600 Donlon Way, on Saturday morning, before heading out to paint at a Dublin location of their choosing. The judging will be at 1 p.m. on Sunday, back at Heritage Park.

The Dublin Arts Collective is a nonprofit organization that promotes the visual arts in Dublin and the surrounding community.

The public is encouraged to observe the artists at work and view their finished paintings on display at Dublin Heritage Park. The winners will be announced Sunday afternoon.


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COUNTY

(Continued from 1p ag)

ousness of it is something that we all understand."

Erin Armstrong, a senior policy advisor for Supervisor Nate Miley, who proposed the emergency declaration, said the number of unhoused people in the county has risen from 5,629 in 2017 to 9,747 in 2022.

"Every year the scale of this crisis grows," Armstrong said. "The leading indicator associated with homelessness is the cost of housing. As the cost of housing goes up, homelessness increases."

Armstrong said the median rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the Bay Area is more than $3,000 a month, more than 2 ½ times the national average.

Armstrong said interviews with homeless people conducted last year found a variety of reasons for their plight, including disputes with family and friends, eviction and foreclosure, job loss, money issues, substance abuse and domestic violence. Seventy-five percent had been on the street for a year or more, and Blacks, multi-racial people and LGBTQ were several times more likely to become homeless. Forty percent reported having a disabling condition, including mental illness, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, health problems, drug and alcohol abuse, brain injury, and HIV/AIDS.

Deaths of homeless people also are rising countywide, including nine people last known to live in Dublin, Pleasanton or Livermore in 2018; 14 in 2019; 17 in 2020; and 15 in 2021.

The county spent more than $207 million on efforts to alleviate homelessness in 2021-22.

Miley told his colleagues in a letter that the county must work with cities in a joint approach. The county, he said, is responsible for health and social services, while cities are responsible for housing, planning and basic city services.

"Homelessness is a complicated and a multi-faceted issue that requires coordination, collaboration, and the combined forces of different jurisdictions," Miley wrote.

Alameda County's emergency declaration follows similar proclamations in the city and county of Los Angeles, and cities of Long Beach and Santa Monica.


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AIRPORT

(Continued from 1p ag)

phaseout at Livermore. Last year, the FAA launched an initiative to eliminate lead fuels in piston-engine aircraft by 2030, but those who live near the Livermore airport said that is too long to wait.

"It's still too slow," said Shirley Lewandowski, who lives near the airport. "Every day that goes by, there's children here that are being affected. We really can't wait until 2030."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, lead exposure in humans can lead to long-term health, behavioral and nervous-system problems, especially in children.

Earthjustice representative Nathan Park said during last week's meeting that there is a "groundswell moment" currently taking place in Congress, as representatives are becoming more primed to phase out leaded aviation fuel than they have been in decades.

The national momentum, continued Park, has been driven largely by a Santa Clara County study that found elevated blood-lead levels in children living near Reid-Hillview Airport in San Jose.

Speaking at last week's Livermore meeting, resident Donna Cabanne said that the first step for the airport would be to install a second fuel tank to offer unleaded fuel alongside the traditional leaded version, aligning with Five Rivers' proposal.

"It's an option," continued Cabanne. "We're not prohibiting the sale of leaded fuel, we're just (providing an) option."

"We need the City Council to fast-track that application," continued Cabanne. "I strongly believe that seven years is too long to wait. These children will be exposed another seven years to the danger of lead air pollution, and that is too high of a risk for these children."

She noted, "It not only affects Livermore residents, but it affects all Tri-Valley residents."

Loomis to Discuss Art of Sugar Flowers

Jan Loomis, an award-winning abstract artist, will be the guest for a joint meeting of the Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association at the Cultural Arts Building, 4477 Black Ave., Pleasanton, on Monday, Oct. 9.

In addition to her work in watercolor, acrylics, and colored pencils, Loomis is a "sugar artist," turning a dough made from powdered sugar into three-dimensional and edible flowers, leaves, and berries.

Her talk for the art groups is titled "The Art of Making Sugar Flowers."

Her creations have been featured in Cake Central Magazine and American Cake Decorating, in addition to numerous newspaper articles.

Loomis has also taught workshops throughout the Bay Area and has been a judge for the Contra Costa Cake and Sugar Art Society.

The 7:30 p.m. meeting is free and open to the public.

Tickets are now on sale for our annual fundraising gala to benefit:
Culinary Angels
Glitz & Gratitude
Garré Winery & Vineyards Livermore
October 21, 2023 6pm - 10pm
The generosity of sponsors and attendees provides greatly-needed funds that support Culinary Angels. We are a volunteer-based nonprofit that provides nutrient-rich meals to cancer patients and their caregivers throughout the Tri-Valley.
Learn more about us: culinaryangels.org
Purchase Tickets: gala@culinaryangels.org

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Oct. 6
Joyful Canvas Show
Together with the John Muir Auxiliary and the Livermore Art Association present Joyful Canvas, a juried show open to all. Art will be on show at the gallery at John Muir Health Auxiliary, Aspen Gallery, Walnut Creek. For more information or to register, visit livermoreartassociation.org. Participants are asked to register by Aug. 1.

Now to Oct. 12
Broadway Chorus
The chorus will be starting rehearsals for the Winter Concert "A Funny Thing Happened at Broadway Chorus - A Night of Musical Comedy." This is a non-audition chorus, so if you love to sing, this is the place for you. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Adults and children are welcome. The first rehearsal was held on Sept. 21, at Asbury United Methodist Church, located at 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Those interested are welcome to come to the first rehearsals to see if you would like to sing with us. Sign-ups and more information are available at eastbaymusicals.org.

Now to Oct. 31
LAA at RLCC Art Show with Vicki Assegued
LAA is proud to have Vicki Assegued's fiber art as the inaugural exhibit at the Robert Livermore Community Center (RLCC) Seniors Center, located at 4444 East Ave., in Livermore. Assegued is an experimental, original-fiber artist who teaches her many techniques through various art schools, organizations and retreats, and she also exhibits and sells her artwork. The exhibit will be up for the month of October, hung in the lounge and the hallway. Her art is available for sale. The RLCC is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit vickiart.com.

Now to Oct. 31
Library Art Show
Livermore Library, at 1188 S. Livermore Ave., will host an art show featuring original art and photography by members of the Livermore Art Association. The theme is "Nature's Gifts." Membership and show information is available at livermoreartassociation.org or dp.rodriguez@icloud.com.

Saturday, October 7
3rd Annual Chili Cook Off at Carnegie Park
Everyone is invited to the 3rd annual Chili Cook Off at Carnegie Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is a community festival of food, activities, booth vendors, live music, and, of course, the best chili in town. Admission to the park is free. Chili tasting, beer, and wine tickets will be sold at the event. This event is the main fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley and supports grants and projects that improve our community. Visit livermorevalleyrotary.org for more information.

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

Saturday, Oct. 7
Science@Stockmen's Park: Engineering Encounters
From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will design, build, and test everyone's creations. There will be something for everyone, including lots of hands-on activities for all ages. Engineering Encounters will take place at Stockmen's Park, 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023, 2-4 pm
Livermore Jazz Society Hosts Erik Jekabson
From 2 to 4 p.m., Erik Jekabson will play melodic and bebop-influenced trumpet and flugelhorn with a warm sound. He writes his own music, crafts interesting arrangements of standards, and brings in a killer band of some of the most in-demand players in the Bay Area. This event will be offered with in-person attendance and a livestream. To request seating, email info@livermorejazzsociety.org or fill out an online form at livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats. If seating is available, a reply will be sent with a formal invitation including the performance location. A donation of $20 is encouraged, but donations of any amount are most welcome. For more information, visit livermorejazzsociety.org.

Monday, Oct. 9
Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Presents Pam Vestal
Pam Vestal is a full-time genealogist and lecturer in Oregon whose research extends far beyond the Pacific Northwest. She explore four different approaches to understand family histories in the context of the time and place in which they lived, and to look for unexpected in the information. This free event takes place from 7 to 8:30 p.m., via Zoom at rb.gy/7gibl. For more information, email program@L-AGS.org.

Sunday, October 15
Road Rally of Livermore Historical Sites
Livermore Inner Wheel presents a fun and interesting way to learn about Livermore history. Using a curated list of clues and a car, attendees will track down Livermore historical sites, a great way to become familiar with the interesting and important history of Livermore. Meet in the parking lot of Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd., at 1 p.m., and donate $25 to participate. All cars will be on the road by 2 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the first cars to complete the rally. For questions or to preregister, contact ebell4830@sbcglobal.net.

Sunday, Oct. 15
Road Rally of Historical Sites in Livermore
Inner Wheel of Livermore presents a fun and interesting way to learn about Livermore History. Using a list of clues and from a car, you will track down Livermore Historical Sites, a great way to become familiar with the city's interesting and important history. Meet in the parking lot of Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd., at 1 p.m., and pay $25 to participate. All cars will be on the road by 2 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the first cars to return. For questions or to preregister, email ebell4830@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, Oct. 21
TriValley Writers' Speaker
Chris Hennessy, an independent filmmaker, author, and speaker, will explain how to promote a book, social media marketing, and more at 2 p.m. at Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Las Positas College, Room 2470 at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Oct. 19, and make payment, Tickets are $10 for CWC adult members; $12 for nonmembers; $5 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and $8 for student nonmembers.

Saturday, Oct. 21
Glitz and Gratitude - A Gala & Auction to Benefit Culinary Angels
Join in for Culinary Angels' largest fundraiser of the year featuring a gourmet dinner and Garré wine, an amazing live and silent auction with emcee Juliette Goodrich of KPIX 5 and local celebrity auctioneer Big Frank, live entertainment and more. A no-host full bar will be available and cocktail attire is requested. The event takes place from 6 to 10 p.m., at Garré Vineyard & Winery, 7986 Tesla Road, in Livermore. For more information, visit culinaryangels.org.

Saturday, Oct. 21
Telegraph Quartet (Strings)
Del Valle Fine Arts presents Telegraph Quartet, quartet-in-residence at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The group will perform the String Quartet No.4 by Grazyna Bacewicz, Britten's String Quartet No. 1 and Dvorák's String Quartet No. 14., at 7:30 p.m., at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore. Tickets are free for youth and are available at the Bankhead box office or livermorearts.org.

Sunday, Oct. 22
Matt Finders and Friends
Hosted by Livermore Jazz Society from 2 to 4 p.m., Matt Finders and Friends has been swinging together for nearly 10 years. Come check out the magic. To request seating, email info@livermorejazzsociety.org or fill out an online form at livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats. If seating is available, a reply will be sent with a formal invitation including the performance location. The event link is livermorejazzsociety.org/events/matt-finders-and-friends. A donation of $20 is suggested, but donations of any amount are most welcome. For more information, visit livermorejazzsociety.org.

Sunday, Oct. 22
Pleasanton Community Concert Band Fall Concert
The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will play its annual Fall Concert in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., in Pleasanton, at 2 p.m. This year, the band is saluting Animals as Portrayed in Music. The concert is free. For more information, call 925-846-5897.

Friday, Oct. 27 and Sunday, Oct. 29
"Celebrating Beethoven!"
"Celebrating Beethoven!" is a highly anticipated concert, originally slated for the 2020 commemoration of Beethoven's 250th birthday anniversary. This program takes attendees on a musical odyssey through Beethoven's compositional evolution, featuring string quartet compositions from his early, middle, and late periods. The Oct. 27 performance takes place at 7:30 p.m., at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. The Oct. 29 performance takes place at 3 p.m., at the Community Congregational Church, 1305 W. 2nd St., in Benicia. Advance tickets are available at beniciachamberplayers.com, and the concert is free for students.

Saturday, Oct. 28
Science@Stockmen's Park: Halloween Hijinks
From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will learn about the science behind Halloween tricks and treats. There will be something for everyone, and this is a great way to start the Halloween celebration. Stockmen's Park is located at 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

Saturday, Nov. 11
Holiday Craft Fair
Livermore Eagles will be hosting their annual Holiday Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 527 N. Livermore Ave. Visit with local artisans displaying and selling their handmade crafts for those extra special gifts. Crafters interested in taking part should call Evy Barr at 925-980-7216 for additional details. The fair will also feature a bake sale with proceeds to benefit the local humane society.

Saturday, Nov. 18
TriValley Writers' Speaker
Nina Schuyler, an award-winning novelist and short story writer, who teaches creative writing at UCSF and Stanford Continuing Studies, will present "Making Metaphors and Other Stylish Moves" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting 2 p.m. at Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Las Positas College, Room 2470 at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Oct. 19, and make payment, Tickets are $10 for CWC adult members; $12 for nonmembers; $5 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and $8 for student nonmembers.

Tuesday, Nov. 28
State of Giving Gathering & Community Impact Grant Awards
In honor of Giving Tuesday, Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF) is pleased to present an annual impact report on giving in the Three Valleys region. Join in from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. for an early evening reception and program at the Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, where the 2023 Impact Grants to nonprofits working to improve mental health and wellness will also be awarded. All are welcome. For more information or to pre-register, email info@3vcf.org or visit 3vcf.org.

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

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

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

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

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. There, discover a church that believes that all people are children of God and are of sacred worth. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and Nursery Care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time with bagels, beverages, and great conversation. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit asburylive.org.

WINGS-WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT
WINGS-Women in God's Spirit is a faith enhancement group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet October through May, on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. The organization now includes the Catholic women of both Livermore and Pleasanton at St. Charles Borromeo, St. Michael, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Augustine. Attendees can enjoy a variety of engaging speaker presentations and topics, small group sharing, fellowship and more. All are welcome. For more information, visit stcharlesvillermore.org/wings.

Email non-profit events to calendar@independentnews.com for newspaper calendar and visit our website www.independentnews.com to promote all events online.

OBITUARIES

Ann Parnie Frobose

Aug. 9, 1936 – Sept. 25, 2023

Ann Frobose, a devoted follower of Jesus, went home to her Lord Sept. 25, 2023. She was 87.

A memorial service will celebrate her life at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023, at GraceWay Church, 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton.



Ann's lifelong love of learning was wide ranging. One expression of this was her extensive and deep study of Christian literature. Her sister, Pat Wahlen, said "She had a strong sense of God and Jesus and knew more about the Bible than anyone I knew." Ann taught children's Bible School for many years and led many Bible studies.

She was a valued member in a variety of groups and communities. She maintained a lifelong bond with a group of classmates from Middlebury College. For years she and Rich participated in an Ignatian Companions group in Berkeley that focused on Catholic studies and community service. Ann's passing will leave a hole in these and many other groups.

Ann was a natural life coach. Her wisdom, kindness and love of people blessed those in her presence even when she was going through difficult times of her own.

The eldest daughter of Elaine Helmer and Alexander David Parnie, Ann was born in Detroit and grew up in the suburbs of Birmingham. Her dad routinely took the family on spring and summer road trips to see the United States.

After graduating from Birmingham High School, she moved to Vermont to attend Middlebury College. She earned a degree in English Literature in 1958 and married Philip Ormsbee that year. They had two children and divorced after twenty-five years.

Ann had never worked out of the home in her married life, except in retail and light administrative positions, so she trained and started working as a paralegal. It was not a good fit so she shifted to teaching and earned a teacher's certificate at St. Mary's College in Moraga. She was employed by the Mt. Diablo Unified School District as a special education teacher for seventh graders. Ann had found her calling.

She met Richard Frobose and they were married in October 2000. She had deep roots in the Catholic faith but decided to attend the Presbyterian Church with her husband. There she was elected as an elder. After finishing that service, she returned to the Catholic Church and remained an active member of St. Augustine's parish in Pleasanton.

She is survived by her second husband, Richard Frobose of Pleasanton, her sister Pat Wahlen of San Diego; her son George Ormsbee and wife, Missy, of Sisters, Oregon, her daughter Mary Church and husband, Daniel, of Willits, California, and her step-daughter Carisa Smitham and husband, Andrew, of Palos Verdes Estates, California, and grandchildren Bridget, Sean, Skye, Drew, and Summer. She is predeceased by her brother, David Parnie.

The family prefers contributions in her memory to the following organizations:

NEXT STEP LEARNING CENTER
222 CURTIS ST
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, 94607
www. https://next-step-learning-center.business.site/

SHEPHERD'S GATE
1660 PORTOLA AVE.
LIVERMORE, California, 94551-1632
www.shepherdsgate.org

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
400 WASHINGTON AVE.
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, 36104-4344
www,splcenter.org

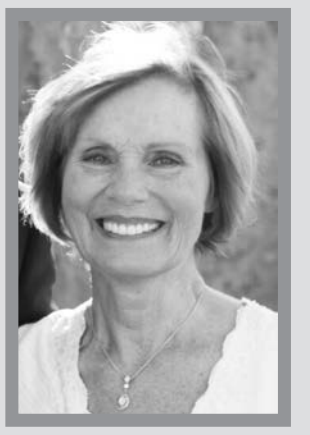
HOUSTON CATHOLIC WORKER
PO BOX 70113
HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77270-0113
www.jcd.org

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION
PO BOX 96961
WASHINGTON, DC 20090-6961
www.ijm.org

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Dianne Marie Graydon

July 13, 1943 – Sept. 7, 2023



Dianne (Walter) Graydon was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She met her husband, Jim, at a Youth for Christ Rally on July 29, 1961. They were married on April 11, 1962. During their 61-year marriage they raised three children and have 11 grandchildren and currently seven great-grandchildren. Dianne and Jim during their marriage have lived in Cleveland, Ohio; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; St Louis, Missouri and here in the SF Bay Area since 1970 after corporate moves.

Dianne attended the Catholic school system until the 10th grade and graduated Mayfield High 1962 class. She loved her family and enjoyed being a homemaker and excelled at cooking, baking, sewing, gardening, and doing crafts. Dianne spent much time as a helper in the family business when called on. She taught Sunday school to 4 and 5 yr. olds and loved her many years involved with weekly Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) classes and loved to share her faith. She and Jim have led short term mission trips assisting Missionaries in Guatemala, Brazil, Spain and Mexico.

Having a passion for travel they have visited all 50 states and over 100 countries on all continents except Antarctica. They have taken as many as two to five foreign trips a year since Dianne's condition was diagnosed. Many trips were bed and breakfast adventures throughout Europe and New Zealand. They took great pleasure in cruising and have taken approximately 25 ocean cruises throughout the world as well as four river cruises throughout Europe. They took 2 guided tour trips to Israel/Egypt and also Italy. Dianne loved the many years they traveled around the USA in their motorhome exploring and visiting family and friends. Jim is also a pilot, and they had many adventures flying their Beechcraft Bonanza airplane throughout the USA and Mexico.

Dianne is survived by her husband James M Graydon (Jim) and three children: James W. Graydon (Jacqui); Cheryl L. Laine (Richard); Carolyn C Goins (Marshall); 11 grandchildren: Jessica Jackson; Natalie Laine Prothero (Michael); Myles Goins (Kaela); James R Graydon (Genesis); Marcus Goins; Nathan Laine; Julia Schreiber (Christopher); Jennafer Graydon; Morgan Goins (Lauren); Mason Goins; Joseph Graydon. Seven great-grandchildren: Holly Jackson; Leila Jackson; Rosie Goins; Annie Goins; Owen Goins; Jameson Schreiber; James Levy Graydon. Three additions are coming in February 2024: Baby boy Prothero; baby Goins; baby girl Graydon! Dianne is also survived by a sister, Debbie Ebert (George) Brunswick, Ohio. In lieu of flowers, we encourage you to donate to two of the local organizations we have supported.

SHEPHERD'S GATE: A safe emergency shelter for women and mothers with young children. 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore, California, 94551. 925-487-4147. shepherdsgate.org

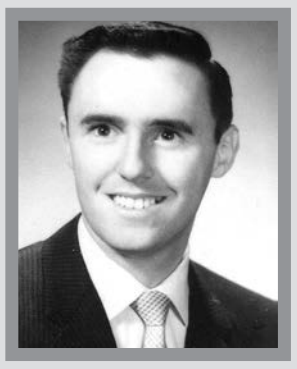
NEXT STEP: Crisis pregnancy center. Empowering women to make healthy life choices. 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Livermore, California, 94550. 925-425-0414
www.next-step.org/dianne

Celebration of life. All are welcome! Friday, Oct. 13, 1 p.m., Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy., Pleasanton, California.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

James Charles Woodfill

Feb. 7, 1939 – Sept. 7, 2023



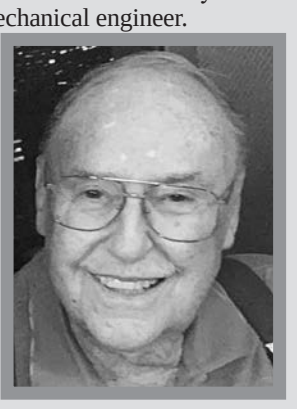
James (Jim) Charles Woodfill – dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend to many, passed away peacefully on Sept. 7, 2023, at the age of 84. Jim passed away at home surrounded by family in Pleasanton, California.

Born to Charles (Bud) and Mary (Mellie) Woodfill in Orange, California in 1939. He graduated from Santa Ana High School in 1956 and attended Santa Ana Junior College where he continued his education on to Cal State Long Beach and studied engineering. Jim was the first in his family to graduate from college and earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California Berkeley in Mining and Engineering in 1961.

Jim was a member of the Del Rey Fraternity and served as vice president. He remained an active member throughout his life. Jim was the editor of the alumni newsletter for nearly 40 years, and which facilitated lifelong friendships with his fraternity brothers. He was a loyal friend. Jim was funny and fair and no matter where Jim went in life, he made friends of strangers.

After graduation Jim moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1962 where he worked as Application Engineer for Allis-Chalmers and contributed to testing and mechanical improvements of industrial machinery. Jim wed the love of his life and wife of 33 years, Elaine Norton Hofius, in 1963. They were married in 1964 and returned to California where they began building a life together. Jim was awarded a prestigious grant from the National Science Foundation in 1965 and pursued his master's degree at his alma mater UC Berkeley in Materials Science and Engineering in 1966.

Over the next few years, they expanded their family and moved from California, to New York, back to Wisconsin and then finally settled Pleasanton, California where he joined the Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco. In 2000, Jim retired from a notable 32-year long career as a mechanical engineer.



Jim's expertise in mining and metals took him around the world. He took many work assignments throughout his career both in the U.S. and trekked across the globe, while keeping his roots in Pleasanton. He was a hardworking family man who took work seriously, but never himself.

His interests included a great knowledge and love of baseball, to being an avid Cal Bears Football fan. Jim religiously spent Saturday afternoons during football season with his children watching or attending games. Jim's extraordinary memory and fascinating talent to recall Cal history and statistics made for hours long conversation. He loved sharing his breadth of knowledge with anyone who asked. He was a tough adversary to beat when watching Jeopardy. Although his health declined over the years, his quick wit and knack for numbers never deteriorated. He was a walking encyclopedia til the end.

Jim was preceded in death by his devoted wife Elaine in 1997, his parents Bud and Mellie Woodfill, and his sister Mary Helen Snyder. He is survived by his daughter Julie Carter and her husband Roger, his sons Mark Hofius and his wife Pam, Stephen Woodfill and his wife Pattie, and Chuck Woodfill and his partner Gino; 11 grandchildren: Melisa, Amanda, Ashley, Courtney, Lindsey, Heather, Kelsey, Dylan, Kimberlee, Wesley, and Abigail; six great-grandchildren: Alice, Ryleigh, Gunner, Samantha, Hunter and Logan; five nephews and a niece.

A celebration of life is being held on Oct. 14, 2023, at 3 p.m. at the Highland Oaks Cabana Club located at 4520 Sandalwood Drive, Pleasanton, California, 94588.

WELLS

(Continued from 1p ag)

mental Protection Agency.

But even before last November, the City Council voted to pivot away from its original plan of building its own water treatment plant to address the PFAS contamination. Rising construction and operating costs, along with tightening health standards, posed more risk than the city was willing to accept.

It instead embarked in September 2022 on a Water Supply Alternatives Study to explore other options to exercise its groundwater rights. City staff presented the initial findings from that study at its Sept. 19 City Council meeting.

Pleasanton is unique in that it has its own 3,500 acre-feet per year pumping allotment on top of any water it buys from Zone 7 outside the city. In the past, this allotment has supplied around 20% of the city's supply.

While costs for the original water treatment option have since ballooned from $46 million to $65 million, the study also considered treating only one well at a cost of $29 million or drilling two new wells at $23 million. A fourth alternative, in which the city forgoes its groundwater quota and buys all of its water from Zone 7, would need $11 million in infrastructure improvements to handle summer demand peaks.

It weighed each option in terms of reliability, implementation timing, water quality, operational complexity, and institutional complexity to identify the new wells option as the current best recommendation.

Both Vice Mayor Jack Balch and Councilmember Valerie Arkin questioned the degree of confidence the city should have that the new wells would not become contaminated, and that the city could find well sites to begin with.

Although City Manager Gerry Beaudin made sure to temper his response, warning that nothing could be said with certainty about the PFAS plume in the area's aquifer, he said, "The way the model is at least showing currently, over 20 years, the PFAS plume at the depth it's being pumped, would actually shrink." He was referring to a groundwater model presented by Zone 7 engineer Ken Minn.

City staff will present a formal recommendation to the city council on Oct. 17, with possible test wells in 2025 and operational wells in 2027, if the council pursues that route.

LOCAL

(Continued from 1p ag)

improvises and repositions as needed to achieve the effect she is seeking. She uses auto body glue to secure everything. Smaller sculptures take around 100 eggs, but her larger ones – like the two-headed, life-size alligator she is currently working on – take hundreds.

"Friends give me their eggshells," she said. "The art department at Pittsburg (Los Medanos College) saves me all their eggshells. I guess that's just part of being my friend."

Lee originally studied painting in school, but found herself drawn to sculpting and calls herself a "self-taught sculptor." Much of her inspiration and knowledge comes from growing up in her father's San Francisco auto body shop, where she learned to cut and manipulate varied materials.

The piece Lee entered in the Beautiful Bizarre competition was a sculpture of two crocodiles hatching from one egg. The sculptures measure approximately two feet by three feet, and are composed of a resin and clay base, covered with quail eggshells. Entitled "Yin and Yang," the piece is a concept of balance, both negative and positive, she said.

"I sculpted these twins to show (how) two opposing, powerful forces may actually be complementary, interconnected and interdependent, and must coexist to survive," Lee told Beautiful Bizarre.

The piece impressed the judges for its array of unusual materials and lifelike appearance.

Deputy Editor of Beautiful Bizarre Magazine Natalia Joruk said, "Yin and Yang" is well balanced, not only in physical form, but aesthetically as well, and her well-thought narrative for the sculpture struck a further chord with our jury panel."

Lee teaches art classes at Los Medanos College. For more information, visit her website at www.srhlee.com.

SEARCH

(Continued from 1p ag)

Field to see if anything may have been overlooked at the time and speaking again to people who were interviewed initially.

West hopes WATE will make inroads where her family and Dudek have been roadblocked.

"We've been very transparent that we've not had the best open relationship with the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD)," she said. "We don't get regular updates from them. We really get nothing unless we ping them again and again."

"It's been very frustrating," West added.

SFPD did not return an email request for comment.

Dudek explained that following the Discovery show, he received hundreds of calls, some from well-wishers, but also lots of fresh leads. He followed one lead to a woman in West Virginia who resembled the missing woman and even had the same first name. But in the end, "It wasn't our Sydney," he said.

Dudek said he is hopeful WATE's fresh approach will generate new leads. "All it takes is one," he said. "Whether we find her alive, confused somewhere or somewhere else, the family needs to know. They're really good people. It's tearing them apart."

WATE helped solve the Gabby Petito/Brian Laundrie case in August of 2021. At the time, Petito had gone on a road trip in Florida with Laundrie, her boyfriend, but went missing and was later found dead.

Laundrie was later found dead as well in the Carlton Reserve in North Point, Florida in October 2021. He took his own life.

Anyone with information about Sydney West is asked to contact private investigator Scott Dudek at 925-705-8328 or Dudek.associates@gmail.com.





Amador's Zoe Allison, above left, spike the ball during the Granada High game on Thursday, Sept. 28 in Livermore. Above right, Maddie Kosalnick returns a shot against Granada. Amador won 3 matches to 0. ***(See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia)*** (Photos – Doug Jorgensen)

Amador Valley Girls' Volleyball Team Defeats Granada High

By Phil Jorgensen

After falling to Foothill High School in five sets on Sept. 28, the Amador Valley girls' volleyball team won nine straight sets entering this week, including a three-set victory over host Granada.

"These girls just compete," said new Amador Valley coach Jacky Yao. "Sometimes that five-set outcome could go either way. We were up 11-9 (in the fifth set on Sept. 19) … We got back in the gym, chatted a little bit, they put that game behind them, and they refocused, and they've been great."

The Dons, who improved to 17-4 overall and 7-1 in the East Bay Athletic League with the Granada win, have split with Foothill this season. Amador Valley handed Foothill its only loss this season entering this week with a 31-29, 25-18 win in the semifinals of the East County Invitational in Pittsburg on Aug. 19.

Yao has coached for 18 years, including in the Santa Barbara area where he was an assistant coach for Dos Pueblos High School in Goleta. Yao also was an assistant at Archbishop Mitty-San Jose from 2015-17 before deciding to devote more time to his young family, he said. Yao is also the club director for City Beach Volleyball in Fremont. Prima Glorioso, Amador Valley's coach from 2017-22, is now the coach at Granite Bay.

Amador Valley has a wealth of returners from last year's squad, which finished 24-7 overall and reached the semifinals of the North Coast Section Division I tournament. Middle Blocker Charlotte Kelly was a first-team all-EBAL selection, and libero Kaitlyn O'Sullivan was a second team pick. Sydney Goldstein and Zoe Allison are also returning starters, Piper Bailey and Dani Kostalnick were part-time starters, and Makenze Mapes also played a lot last season, Yao said. In addition, the Dons have senior transfer Zepora Ti'a from Granada.

In their 25-14, 25-16, 25-11 victory over Granada on Sept. 28, the Dons showed their talent.

In the first set, Maddie Kostalnick served four consecutive points, including two aces, for a 6-1 Amador Valley lead. Granada's Paige Bennett served four straight points later to narrow the Dons' lead to 9-8, but a point by Amador Valley's Ti'a and a six-point serving run by Mapes gave Amador Valley a 16-8 advantage on its way to the first-set win.

The Dons led throughout the second set, including a 6-0 advantage behind the serving of O'Sullivan and a kill and a block for points by Kelly. Amador Valley's lead grew to 10-1 and 18-6 on its way to a win in that set.

Granada took a 1-0 lead in the third set before Amador Valley scored the next four points. But behind a kill from Ainsley Wade and an ace from Karly Bonaventure, the Matadors cut Amador's lead to 4-3.

A kill by the Dons' Madelyn Huddleston ended that run, but Granada continued to stay close for a while, as a point by Scarlett Lapointe narrowed Amador's advantage to 9-6. However, Amador proceeded to go on a nine-point run, including eight service points from Mapes. Allison and Ti'a had kills during that run.

Granada, which was missing two starters against Amador Valley due to injury, fell to 8-11 overall and 1-6 in EBAL action with that loss. Results of Tuesday's matches were unavailable at press time.

The Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department will celebrate the 15th anniversary of Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3546 Old Foothill Road, on Saturday, Oct. 14., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The celebration will include games, crafts, and guided hands-on activities that reflect the park's history and heritage. The event is free, but registration is required. To register, go to pleasantonfun.com.



(Photo courtesy of Pleasanton Recreation Department)



Foothill's Nathan Bodensteiner deflects a Livermore pass intended for Justin Matchett. ***(See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia)*** (Photos – Doug Jorgensen)



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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600467

The following person(s) doing business as: WB4Golf, 1831 Barcelona ST. Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wade Beucler IV, 1831 Barcelona St. 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: 8/22/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Wade Beucler IV, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 30, 2023. Expires August 29, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5605. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600577

The following person(s) doing business as: CWS Research & Advisory, 2445 Romano Cir., Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Caifeng Wang, 2445 Romano Cir., 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/: Caifeng Wang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 6, 2023. Expires September 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5606. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599653

The following person(s) doing business as: Nurse Next Door, 30699 Tidewater Dr., Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Golden Care Enterprises, 30699 Tidewater Dr., Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Narinder Sandhu, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 28, 2023. Expires July 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5607. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600532

The following person(s) doing business as: Even Space, 478 25th ST., Ste A, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Colleen Paz & Associates Architectural Corporation, 2200 Adeline Street, Ste 305, Oakland, CA 94607 This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Colleen Paz, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 1, 2023. Expires August 31, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5608. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600090

The following person(s) doing business as: Megakoo Media, 3385 Dublin Blvd #310, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Irvin, 4847 Hopyard Rd. #4247, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/13/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jeremy Irvin, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 14, 2023. Expires August 13, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5609. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600183

The following person(s) doing business as: Vista Grande Landscape Management, 6735 Sierra Court, Suite A, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gateway Landscape Construction, Inc., 6735 Sierra Court, Suite A, Dublin, CA 94568 This business is conducted by an Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/1/2004. Signature of Registrant/s/: Corey Pontrelli. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2023. Expires August 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5610. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600640

The following person(s) doing business as: Broadway Telegraph Partners, 1933 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mohammad El Miari, 544 Third Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066; Mahmoud Elmiaari, 666 Teal Sreet, Foster City, CA 94404. This business is conducted by a Co-Partners. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/14/2005. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mahmoud Elmiaari, Partner/Coowner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2023. Expires September 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5611. Published September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600630

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Horse Real Estate, 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Erica Jones Starkey, 305 Borica Dr., Danville, CA 94526. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/5/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erica Jones Starkey, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 7, 2023. Expires September 6, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5613. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600504

The following person(s) doing business as: Fremont Boat Club, 543 Scott St., Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Helix Data Sync LLC, 543 Scott St., Fremont, CA 94539. 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/: Venkat Jegannathen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 31, 2023. Expires August 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5614. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600359

The following person(s) doing business as: Poco Loco, 7000 Bancroft Ave, Oakland CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gazzalis Supermarket, 1659 Brookside Dr., San Leandro, CA 94577. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/25/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hamzzah Saleh, VP. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 25, 2023. Expires August 24, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5615. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600749

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Impacttrak; 2. Impacttrack, 5627 Civic Terrace Avenue, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Travis Peng, 5627 Civic Terrace Avenue, Newark, CA 94560. 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/: Travis Peng. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 13, 2023. Expires September 12, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5616. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600816

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri Valley Solar care, 1428 Roselli Dr., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chris Fragoso, 1428 Roselli Dr., Livermore, CA 94550; Jody Kendrick, 1428 Roselli Dr., 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/: Chris Fragoso, Jody Kendrick, Owner.s This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 15, 2023. Expires September 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5617. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600725

The following person(s) doing business as: Little Genie Family Daycare, 26931 Lakewood Way, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): S and K Education LLC, 26931 Lakewood Way, Hayward, CA 94544. 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: 8/23/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Meng Chieh Yu, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 13, 2023. Expires September 12, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5618. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600292

The following person(s) doing business as: Market Your Wellness, 889 53rd St., Oakland, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): REprocess Inc., 889 53 St., Oakland, CA 94608. 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: 3/1/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jennifer Lindsay, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2023. Expires August 22, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5619. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600632

The following person(s) doing business as: Blake at Berkeley, 2033 Blake Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Berkeley VQOF II SPE, LLC, 5973 Avenida Encinas, STE 300, Carlsbad, CA 92008. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/12/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Scott McWhorter, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 7, 23. Expires September 6, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5620. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600375

The following person(s) doing business as: Vegas Gift Shop, 1143 International Blvd, Oakland, CA 94606 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): PRO Durrani LLC, 55 Derow CT, Sacrament, CA 95833. 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/: Mohammad Qais, Member/ Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 25, 2023. Expires August 24, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5621. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600041

The following person(s) doing business as: CloudDish, 2693 Stoneridge Dr., Ste 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Snowflake USA Inc., 2693 Stoneridge Dr., Ste 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Simin Wang, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 11, 2023. Expires August 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5622. Published September 21, 28, October 5, 12, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600937

The following person(s) doing business as: Strait Money Management, 1026 Innsbruck ST., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kristin Strait, 1026 Innsbruck St., 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/: Kristin Strait, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5623. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600919

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Ruha Yoga; 2. Bay Area Play Therapy Training, 381 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Keler Emily, 1688 Fluorite CT., 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: 8/4/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Keler, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 20, 2023. Expires September 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5624. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.600335

The following person(s) doing business as: Luna's Transport and Watering Services, 7548 San Sabana Rd,, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ramon Luna, 748 San Sabana Rd., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ramon Luna, Owner/Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 24, 2023. Expires August 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5626. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600324

The following person(s) doing business as: Mama T's Pies, 1013 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Norman Riffe, 1013 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Norman J. Riffe, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 24, 2023. Expires August 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5627. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600834

The following person(s) doing business as: Plumbing 1 Builder's Inc., 26079 Cascade St., Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Plumbing 1 Builder's Inc., 26079 Cascade St., Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Leonardo Cervantes, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 18, 2023. Expires September 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5628. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600469

The following person(s) doing business as: Comprehensive Site Services, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ProCraft Equipment LLC, 25886 Clawiter Road, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Terry S. Truesdale, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 30, 2023. Expires August 29. The Independent, Legal No. 5629. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600587

The following person(s) doing business as: Royal Dimeond Magazine, 625 Berry Ave. #110, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rodney Duane Mitchell Jr., 625 Berry Ave. #110, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/6/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rodney Duane Mitchell Jr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 6, 2023. Expires September 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5630. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600387

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Friends Preschool of Pleasanton, 5627 Gibraltar Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): VLV Educational Services LLC, 5627 Gibraltar Dr., Pleansanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/28/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Hui, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 28, 2023. Expires August 27,, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5631. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600940

The following person(s) doing business as: CharityWorks, 7087 Commerce Cir, Unit D, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ira Klein, 1888 W Cavendish Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552; Lauri Klein, 1888 W Cavendish Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/27/2001. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lauri Klein, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5632. Published September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JANNE TURNER CASE NUMBER: RP23141030

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

Date: 11/13/2023
Time: 10:15 AM
Dept.: 202.
Address of court:
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
2120 Martin Luther King Dr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704
Berkeley Courthouse

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

LaVaughn Hart
5351 Superstition Drive
Las Cruces, NM, 88011.

The Independent, Legal No. 5533. Published October 5, 12, 19, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600977

The following person(s) doing business as: Expert Moving & Storage, 25509 Industrial Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545-2802 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Expert Moving & Storage LLC, 1330 Alma Ave, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. 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/: Alexander Belykh, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 22, 2023. Expires September 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5634. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600646

The following person(s) doing business as: Pura Vide Pranaya Inc., 868 Berryessa CT, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pura Vida Pranaya Inc., 868 Beryessa CT, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/22/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Prathyusha Yarlagadda, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2023. Expires September 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5635. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600207

The following person(s) doing business as: Jeremy Blanchard Coaching, 2930 Domingo Ave Num 1055, Berkeley, CA 94705 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Blanchard Coaching LLC, 2930 Domingo Ave Num 1055, Berkeley CA 94705. 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: 4/27/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jeremy Blanchard, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5636. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

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Filmmaker to Address Tri-Valley Writers Club



Chris Hennessy

Chris Hennessy, a Northern California independent filmmaker and author, will present "How to Build Your Writer's Platform using Storytelling Crossover Tips" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Las Positas College in Livermore on Saturday, Oct. 21

Hennessy will discuss how writers can motivate themselves to create and perform at their highest ability and promote their books to create buzz. He will also discuss simple social-media marketing tips to get known.

For filmmakers, Hennessy will address how and why to incorporate film/video into writing projects and how to turn a book into a feature film.

The writer's club will meet in room 2470 of building 2400. Check-in will begin at 1:30 p.m.

There is a two-step registration and payment process. To register, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Thursday, Oct. 19. Payment can be made online at www.trivalleywriters.org.

The cost is $10 for members and $12 for non-members, with discounts for students.

East Bay Regional Park District Urges Public to Follow Fire Safety Rules

With the arrival of fall, and the hot, dry Diablo winds that can blow in from the east, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is urging park users to be aware of fire warnings and follow all fire safety rules.

Park goers are asked to alert EBRPD to any fire hazards and to call 911 to report a fire.

The district maintains a trained fire department with specialized wildland firefighting equipment, including two helicopters, and closely monitors weather conditions.

The district reports that habitat restoration is also underway at Briones Regional Park in Martinez as part of a two-year project to test various trail management strategies to improve safety and protect natural habitat and wildlife.

Parts of four trails have been designated bike-only and downhill-only due to terrain and user safety.

The district is also experimenting with alternating daily access to designated trails for horse riders and hikers and bikers.

Restoring illegally built "bootleg" trails is a critical component of the project, according to EBRPD.

EBRPD also reported work will begin soon on public access and habitat restoration on 300 acres adjacent to Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont that were recently donated to the district. The property includes seasonal wetlands, grassland, riparian forest, and oak savanna.

The district said it is planning to add visitor facilities, including a 100-space parking area, picnic tables, restrooms, water fountains, trails, wildlife overlooks, and educational exhibits and signage.

The district will also host several naturalist programs this month focusing on tarantulas, which can often be spotted in East Bay parks this time of year as they search for mates. Although tarantulas can look scary, EBRPD said they are harmless to humans.

The best parks to spot tarantulas at are Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, Del Valle Regional Park, and Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve. For a list of programs, go to ebparks.org/calendar and search for "tarantula."

Other EBRPD events this month include:

- The annual Harvest Festival at the Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14, and Sunday, Oct. 15. Activities will include corn harvesting, cider pressing, old-time music, crafts, narrow-gauge train rides, and tours of the restored farmhouse. Admission is $12 for adults, $10 for seniors, and $8 for children 4 to 17.
- The Sunol Heritage Festival at the Sunol Wilderness Visitors Center in Sunol from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21. Admission is free, but there is a $5 parking fee.
- A nighttime train ride through the "haunted forest" at the Ardenwood Historic Farm the last two weekends of the month. Operated by the Railroad Museum at Ardenwood, the ride is family friendly. The train runs from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are $15. For more information, go to ebparks.org/events/haunted-railroad.

LLNL Will Head Up Carbon Dioxide Research

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) will head up a federal research project designed to recondition agricultural soils to absorb more carbon dioxide.

Jennifer Pett-Ridge, who heads LLNL's Carbon Initiative, will also lead the new Terraforming Soil project, part of an expansive federal initiative to create new sources of clean energy and reduce carbon emissions by half before the end of the decade.

The $19 million project is part of the Energy Earthshots Initiative launched by the Department of Energy in 2021, with an overall goal of reaching a net-zero carbon economy by 2050.

Research funding for the program was announced in January.

LLNL also announced that Jiaqi Li, a principal researcher in its Atmospheric, Earth, and Energy Division, will serve as deputy director for another Earthshot project known as the Center for Coupled Chemo-Mechanics of Cementitious Composites (CM4) at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York.

The Terraforming Soils project is part of a larger Carbon Negative effort, one of six broad Earthshot programs.

LLNL noted that soils store a vast amount of carbon dioxide in both organic and inorganic form, up to 3,000 billion tons globally, which is more carbon than is found in the atmosphere and land plants combined.

But, LLNL said, agricultural land in the U.S., more than 400 million acres, has lost carbon in the past century due to cultivation and erosion.

The Terraforming Soil Energy Earthshot Research Center at LLNL will research new bio- and geo-engineered ways to reverse that trend and manage agricultural lands to capture more CO2 from the atmosphere.

Li's CM4 project to develop composite materials able to withstand the extreme heat and pressure of geothermal environments is part of a broader Enhanced Geothermal Shot. Her team will conduct fundamental research on the effect of geothermal environments on the chemo-mechanics of sustainable materials. LLNL will receive $1.9 million over four years for its role in the project.

In addition to LLNL, collaborators on the terraforming project include the University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Davis, Rice University, Princeton University, Yale University, Carleton College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northern Arizona University, Colorado State University, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Andes Ag, Inc., and the Woodwell Climate Research Center.

Collaborators on the CM4 project include Sandia National Laboratories, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Cornell University, Princeton University, University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Other Earthshot programs announced thus far include a Hydrogen Shot, Long Duration Storage Shot, Floating Offshore Wind Shot, and Industrial Heat Shot.

Livermore Airport to Host Its Annual Open House

The 26th Annual Livermore Airport Open House will take place on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Livermore Municipal Airport, 680 Terminal Circle, in Livermore.

This year's open house will feature static displays of general aviation, military and warbirds, antique and classic, and experimental and homebuilt and aerobatic type aircraft; general aviation aircraft fly-bys; representatives from flight schools located at Livermore Municipal Airport; airborne law enforcement and air rescue aircraft; Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department safety house; Livermore Police Department exhibits; aviation vendor displays and information; and mobile gourmet food from the Food Truck Mafia.

Additionally, airport tenants display their aircraft, and local aviation businesses and flight schools share what they do with the community.

"Hosting the Livermore Airport Open House isn't just about showcasing aviation," said City Manager Marianna Marysheva. "It's an opportunity for the community to gain a better understanding of the services and many benefits provided by the Livermore Airport to the greater Tri-Valley region."

Event admission and parking are free.

Pleasanton's Unchained Labs to Hold Life Sciences Summit

Unchained Labs, a life sciences company, will host the 2023 Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit at its new Pleasanton headquarters complex, 4747 Willow Road, on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

Organized by Startup Tri-Valley, a nonprofit that promotes science-based businesses, the networking conference will include an analysis of the local investment landscape for life sciences, a "fireside chat" with John Hanna, vice president of corporate development at Pacific Biosciences of California (PacBio), and a panel discussion with executives from synthetic biology and therapeutics companies about what is attracting and what is still needed to support emerging life sciences firms in the Tri-Valley.

Unchained Labs, which develops technology for biologics and gene therapy research, moved into its 121,000-square-foot headquarters, housing all its California engineering, manufacturing, marketing, and sales operations, last month.

"We are excited to welcome the Tri-Valley life sciences community to our new digs as we continue to expand in the Tri-Valley," said Unchained Labs founder and Pleasanton resident Tim Harkness. The company also has offices in Massachusetts, China, and Japan.

The Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit will run from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free, but attendees must register by Sunday, Oct. 8.

To register, go to tinyurl.com/ycks2jtv. For more information, go to startuptrivalley.org.

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