

## Urban Growth Boundary Greenville Debate Continues

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — Proposed development along Greenville Road continued to test the balance between planning for growth and preserving the undeveloped lands during a General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting last week.

As part of the city's General Plan update process, GPAC has been tasked with gathering public input on how to best change the city's land uses to support housing and job growth through 2045. The proposed updates include five focus areas, one of which, East of Greenville, falls outside the city's urban growth boundary (UGB).

City plans for Greenville — the roughly 1,100 acres of county land between Greenville Road, I-580 and the South Bay Aqueduct — involve a mix of industrial and commercial uses, with some green-space and a parcel dedicated to the wine country.

In support of development of the East of Greenville area, some residents at the meeting worried what would become of the area if left to the county's whim, alluding to large-scale solar projects in other parts of the Tri-Valley and praising Livermore's management of its land to date.

County code enforcement in the Greenville area also raised concerns, as the city has noticed violations of current regulations, such as illegal dumping and storage in the area, said Economic Development Manager Andy Ross.

Eager to see improvements dealing with such violations, resident Tina Darmohray welcomed the city's planning expertise into the Greenville area.

"The neighborhood that I live in doesn't seem to have a plan at all right now," she said. "When I hear, 'have no plan,' that doesn't mean that there's not a plan; there's other things that's happening anyway."

(See GREENVILLE, page 6)



Valley EyeCare Center has begun offering free consultations and treatments to low-income students in several Pleasanton schools. Owners Dr. Michael Gagnon and his wife Lori, above center, are hoping to expand their services to Livermore schools. For the complete story, see page 3. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) (See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia))

## Races Shape Up for State Senate, Zone 7 Water Agency and EBRPD

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — The political battle to see who will run for the state Senate seat to represent the Tri-Valley in Sacramento beginning in 2025 sorted itself out last week as three San Joaquin County residents submitted paperwork to appear on the March ballot.

Following redistricting in 2021, Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol and Livermore will be moved in 2025 from the Bay Area's 7th District state Senate seat with San Ramon, Danville and Orinda to a newly drawn 5th District seat that

unites them with western San Joaquin County cities including Midway, Ulmar and Altamont.

Until then, the cities will remain in the 7th District represented by Sen. Steve Glazer, who has served in the seat for 10 years. He announced he would not seek reelection in 2024.

No one from Alameda County applied to run for the District 5 seat. The race will come down to Jerry McNeerney, a Democrat who represented the Stockton area in the U.S. Congress from 2007-2023; Assemblymember Carlos

Villapudua, a Democrat who has represented Tracy, Stockton, Mountain House and other San Joaquin County cities since 2020; and Republican businessman Jim Shoemaker.

The top two would face a runoff in November.

Villapudua's wife, Edith Villapudua, who had also applied for the senate seat, withdrew to run for her husband's 13 District Assembly seat. Rhodessa Ranson, a Tracy City Councilmember who had applied for the senate seat withdrew to apply for the Assembly seat. Businessman Khalid Jeffrey Jafri

(See RACES, page 6)

## Teacher Contracts Still Not Settled

By Dawnmarie Fehr

PLEASANTON — After declaring an impasse in its contract negotiations last month, representatives of the Pleasanton school district and the school district teachers' union met again on Dec. 15 with a state mediator to bargain, but still have not reached an agreement.

At end of the meeting, the Association of Pleasanton Teachers (APT) asked for more time to consider the district's prior proposal of a 6.5% pay increase. The Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) accepted APT's request.

APT is asking for a 14.25% pay hike — down from their original demand of 15% — which they claim is necessary to "recruit and

retain the best educators."

PUSD released a statement saying it agreed to APT's request for more time in the interest of seeking an amicable resolution to the mediation process.

"I am grateful for the hard work being invested by both the district and APT negotiating teams," said PUSD Superintendent David Haglund. "I'm hopeful that their ongoing collaboration will result in a positive outcome from the mediation process."

PUSD and APT have been in negotiations since August. Discussions were moving forward with the intention of reaching a deal, but APT declared an impasse during the Oct. 24 bargaining session and district representatives agreed.

APT President Cheryl Atkins said

(See TEACHER, page 4)

## Dublin Looking to Update Affordable Housing Mandates

By David Jen

DUBLIN — The levers that balance development with affordable housing will soon get an update in the city, if the City Council follows the Planning Commission's recommendations from last week.

Adopted in 2002, the city's current Inclusionary Zoning Regulations have fallen out of tune with the costs of building housing today, according to a city report.

Because the cost to build an affordable-housing, single-family home far exceeds the city's in-lieu fee, or what developers can pay to satisfy their affordable-housing requirements in lieu of build-

ing, the regulations have discouraged construction of actual affordable-housing units.

"We've been out of whack for more than a decade, in allowing developers to get a sweetener for coming here," said Commissioner Stephen Wright.

City staff therefore proposed lowering the project-size threshold for which the regulations apply, from 20 units to 10 units, and requiring a different proportion of affordable units between ownership and rental units. The new rules would require 12.5% of units in ownership projects to be set aside as affordable and 10% to be offered as rentals

(See HOUSING, page 6)

## State Bills Inspired by Tri-Valley Legislators

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Hundreds of new laws will take effect in California on Jan. 1, 2024. Fast-food workers will make \$20 an hour. Bosses cannot ask employees whether they smoke marijuana off-duty or job candidates before they get hired. There are new taxes on guns, and stores must have gender-neutral

toy sections.

The Tri-Valley had three elected officials voting on laws in Sacramento. But what laws did they initiate in 2023, navigate for passage through the Assembly and Senate, and land on the governor's desk for signature?

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, D-Orinda, whose district

(See BILLS, page 6)



"Wreaths Across America Day." Several organizations led by the VFW Post 6298, American Legion Post 237, Las Positas College Veterans First Program, Scout Troop 998, and chaired by Bradlee Ayers, placed wreaths at Pioneer Cemetery. Keith and Nicholas Lam of Pleasanton Troop 941, are shown above. See additional photo on page 11. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen) (See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia))



Kylie Noelle Patterson, 10, of Dublin, stars as one of the orphans in a production of "Annie." The show will be seen in 57 cities across the country over the next 10 months. (Photo courtesy: Jayson Patterson)

## Dublin Girl on National Tour of 'Annie'

By Dawnmarie Fehr

DUBLIN — A 10-year-old girl from Dublin is living her dream of performing on stage in a national tour.

Kylie Noelle Patterson was cast as one of seven orphans in a production of "Annie," and will spend 10 months on the road performing in 220 shows in 57 cities across the country.

Kylie said she loves singing, dancing and acting, and has been part of Dublin's Royal Theater Academy program since she was 5. When she heard about the opportunity to audition for a big production, she begged her parents to submit an audition tape.

"My dad said 'sure,' and

I got called back for the video audition," Kylie said. "Then I got the in person call back."

After flying to New York City to audition for the show, Kylie received an offer letter, informing her she'd been cast as Tessie, one of the orphans. Because the show centers around Annie and her orphan gal pals, Kylie and the other girls spend a lot of time together on stage.

"They do a lot of singing and dancing onstage," said Jayson Patterson, Kylie's dad. "It's an amazing adventure they get to have, and they are making core memories."

When Kylie signed on with the tour, Patterson quit his job as a nurse in

Castro Valley to go with her, since younger actors are required to have a parent with them. Though the family is making sacrifices — Kylie's mom and younger brother are holding down the fort in Dublin and fly to visit Kylie and Patterson as often as possible — Patterson said the experience is worth it.

The tour started with several weeks in Paducah, Kentucky, where Kylie learned her part, and Patterson learned his.

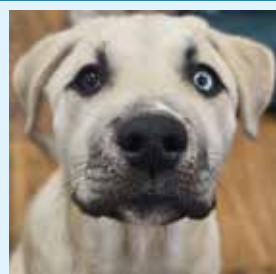
"Part of the training was to prepare parents for the show," he said. "Since mommy isn't with us, I've had to learn how to do the hair and makeup. I've gotten pretty efficient with the high pony tail."

(See ANNIE, page 4)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds .....	11	New Livermore Chamber CEO Takes the Reins.....	2
Editorial.....	4	School Boards Elect Current Members .....	2
Mailbox .....	4	College Cuts Ribbon on New Building .....	7
Obituaries .....	9	Take3 Performing at the Bankhead .....	7
Sports.....	10	Dublin Announces Best Decorated Homes .....	11
		Livermore Named as one of "Merriest" States .....	12

## PETS OF THE WEEK



### BRING GRANDPA HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

His sweet demeanor and loving gaze are sure to sleigh your heart. Ready to jingle all the way into a high-energy adventure filled with tail-wagging fun? Visit [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org) to learn more or email [info@valleyhumane.org](mailto:info@valleyhumane.org) to start the adoption application process. (Photo — Valley Humane Society)

# New CEO Talks About Plans, Goals for Livermore Chamber of Commerce

By Hannah Ferguson

Sherri Souza was recently named the new chief executive officer and president of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce. Souza served as the interim CEO for nearly a year while the former CEO, Dawn Argula, was out on medical leave.

Souza is a business owner, volunteer, and previous board member of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce. Souza's goal for the chamber is "to provide member value for businesses of all sizes." The LVCC is a business resource organization that connects, collaborates and partners with other businesses and entities in the Livermore Valley.

The chamber makes connections from business to business, business to consumer, and corporation to employees.

These associations are made by publishing and distributing advertisements and holding various events, including business mixers, business alliance meetings, luncheons, and an annual golf classic, she said.

In these current digital times, many businesses don't engage in face-to-face networking anymore. Souza plans on providing many platforms for face-to-



Sherri Souza recently took over the official reigns as the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce's new CEO. She says she is looking forward to providing support for members and businesses of all sizes. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

face networking because it "builds trust in relationships," she said.

Members of the chamber have chances to network at various meetings, such as job fairs, multi-chamber expo's, lunches, partner events and more.

Souza noted that her main work is to provide trade promotion, economic development, legal advice, education, marketing strategies, access to resources, discounts, and meaningful business relationships.

The LVCC, located in downtown Livermore, is a visitors center where anyone can enter and get referrals for services or businesses, receive advice and information about where to find products or services, pick up business cards, maps or fliers and find recreational opportunities.

The majority of the businesses that make up the chamber are located in the Livermore Valley, such as the Hawthorn Suites, Amos Productions, the Parkwest Casino, and many others.

However, some of the members include corporations such as Chevron and Pacific Gas and Electric Co., who are headquartered elsewhere and provide products internationally.

"Our charge is to support the businesses and to make sure that their needs are met with networking, business resources, and connections," Souza concluded.

ARROYO CELLARS

Tasting Room Open:  
Saturday: 12 - 5pm,  
Sunday: 12 - 5pm,  
or by appointment

2270 Research Drive,  
Livermore  
(925) 292-9157

Have a very Merry Christmas!



From Our Family to Yours!



Linda Diaz Futral

Broker/Realtor

925.980.3561

linda@lindafutral.com

www.lindafutral.com

License #01257605

LUXICOR REAL ESTATE

## Ryan Named to Direct Third Artist Studio Tour

The Alliance for the Visual Arts (AVA) has named Livermore artist Linda Ryan to be director

of the third Tri-Valley Artist Studio Tour (TVAST), scheduled for next May.

In addition to operating

her own art studio, Ryan organized the first ArtWalk Livermore in 2002 and was manager of the Bothwell Arts Center from 2006 to 2017.

The first TVAST was in November 2021, the inspiration of AVA President Dennis Baker as a way to energize the local art community following the COVID-19 lockdowns. Almost 60 artists showcased their work at 19 venues. The second studio tour was held earlier this year.

Baker said AVA decided that it needed someone devoted to organizing the tour if the nonprofit wanted to "fully serve the arts and the community."

"Linda Ryan is perfect for the job," Baker said.

Ryan is enthusiastic about the challenge.

"Open studios allows art to be seen, allows one to explain their art and process," Ryan said. "Most art is about self-expression. Art that is in storage or on a wall that no one sees isn't speaking to anyone. In my opinion having your art seen is of the utmost importance."

The online sign-up period for artists to be included in TVAST 2024 opens Tuesday, Jan. 2, but artists are also encouraged to contact Baker at info@ava-art.org or Ryan at TVAST@ava-art.org for more information.



Linda Ryan

## Prusso and Pelham Elected as Livermore And Dublin School Board Presidents

Emily Prusso has been elected president of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Board of Education for 2024 by her fellow trustees.

Prusso succeeds Craig Bueno, who served as board president for the past eight years.

Prusso was elected to her second four-year term on the board in November 2022 and served as board clerk for the last three years.

"I truly appreciate my colleagues' faith in me to serve as president," Prusso said after last week's organizational meeting of the board. "I have learned so much from Craig's example and I look forward to serving the board and our school district in this capacity."

Prusso, the mother of two, has a master's degree in English from California State University, East Bay.

Kristie Wang, a member of the LVJUSD board since 2020, was elected to the clerk's position.

Board positions are elected annually for one-year terms.

### Dublin School Board

The Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Board of Trustees has elected Kristin Pelham to serve as president for 2024.

William Kuo was elected vice president at last week's board of trustees meeting.

Pelham, who has two daughters attending Dublin schools, was elected to the board in 2020, representing Area 1, which covers the southwest portion of the school district.

Pelham has been a special education teacher for the San Ramon Unified

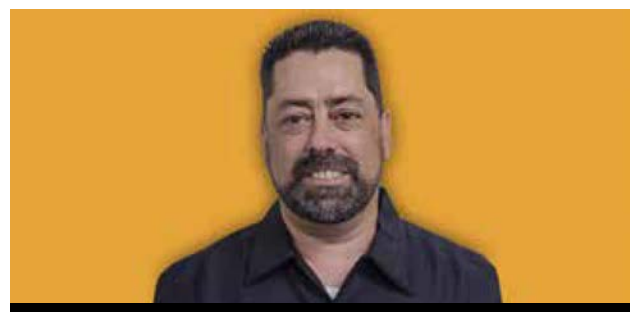
School District since 2000 and holds a bachelor's degree in special education from Gonzaga University and a master's degree in educational leadership from California State University, East Bay.

Kuo was appointed to complete Catherine Kuo's term on the board of trustees in May 2021, after his late wife was killed in a car accident at Fallon Middle School. He was elected to a two-year term in 2022.

Kuo works as an information systems engineer for the Robert Half staffing agency.

He has a bachelor's degree in molecular cell biology from the University of California, Berkeley, a master's degree in business administration from California State University, East Bay, and a doctorate in dental surgery from UCLA.

Like Pelham, Kuo has two children in the DUSD system.



Master Technician: Ron Mattos

Barnett Plumbing & Water Heaters is honored to recognize Ron Mattos and his 5-year anniversary with our company. Having joined the team in 2018, already with an extensive repertoire of knowledge, he quickly established a reputation for his ability to diagnose and understand the most intricate systems.

This unique skill, coupled with his desire to get to the bottom of things, has allowed us to come to our customers' rescue in the most complex of mechanical mysteries, ensuring we can approach every plumbing situation with confidence.

We are grateful to have had Ron on the team these past 5 years and for the impact he has made on our company and community.

Thank you, Ron, for all of your hard work, we are a stronger diagnosis team because of you.



As a Realtor who has specialized in the real estate industry for over 35 years, I've learned how to guide my clients through every step of the home purchasing and loan processes. Whether it comes to being a first time buyer, relocating, up-sizing, investing, purchasing a vacation home, or finding the right home for retirement, the skills I've acquired in my decades of experience have proved extremely helpful to my clients. For instance, my network base with diverse communities has allowed me to assist sellers and buyers in finding the right home for meeting their unique needs and wants. This would include guiding my clients through the financing aspects of their transactions such as being aware of their needs, getting approved for a loan, and being present throughout the entire process. My passion is helping people improve their quality of life both personally and financially by making their largest investment dreams come to fruition. Thank you to all my clients who have trusted me throughout the years as I continue to focus on all of your real estate needs for today, tomorrow, and the future. I look forward to making new friendships and assisting you and your families in meeting your real estate and financing goals!

411 South L St, Suite E, Livermore, CA 94550

925.858.9128



WANDA THOMPSON

CA DRE# 00983781 | NMLS#244633



## Holiday Gifts That Sparkle!

### 20% to 50% OFF

(Some exclusions apply)

*Special Financing Available*

*Sales Ends December 24, 2023*

---

# Caratti Jewelers

Since 1950

Downtown Livermore

2056 First St. | (925)447-2381 | www.CarattiJewelers.com

Mon 10am-5pm | Tues - Fri 10am-6pm | Sat 10am-5pm | Sun 11am-4pm

Exclusive  
Bridal Ring  
Stock Sale  
20% OFF

# Ophthalmologist Gives Free Care to Low Income Students

By Christina Cavallaro

Valley EyeCare Center Medical Associates, which has been caring for

patients in the Tri-Valley since 1975, has recently extended that care, for free, to students whose families cannot afford it.

Dr. Michael Gagnon and his wife Lori Gagnon, owners for a decade now of Valley EyeCare, see patients at their two locations in Pleasanton and Livermore. Together with a team of doctors and staff, they provide everything from vision exams and glasses-fittings to cataract surgeries and corneal transplants.

And now they have begun offering those services to young people whose families may be facing financial hardship.

Lori Gagnon, CEO of the business she operates with her husband, said this outreach to disadvantaged students started small, in the elementary school their own children attend in Pleasanton where they live. Then, it expanded to become part of a program through the unified school district called "See to Succeed."

"It really does come down to how can you be successful? How can we expect you to be able to do these things if you can't see?" Gagnon asks. And a lot of times, she said, parents don't know there is even a problem and too often the issue

gets wrongly attributed to something else.

"I mean, if your kid doesn't complain of headaches, how do you know they can't see well? You just think they don't understand the math problem, or it's a behavioral issue because they have too much energy, or whatever the case may be," she said.

The Gagnons' involvement in the program See to Succeed has been a result of their ongoing and active involvement in the community. They work with the Pleasanton Assistance League, an organization that sends volunteers out into Tri-Valley preschools to provide free vision screenings; Valley EyeCare helps train their new volunteers. The league reached out to see if they'd be willing to take it a step further and provide services to students in need, as part of the school district's efforts. The Gagnons were more than willing.

Gagnon recalled treating one of their first patients through the program. She noted that the program is still in its infancy in Pleasanton. She hopes to expand services to Livermore, too. "The boy was

maybe 10 or 11, and at that age kids want to be cool. So, it was pretty awesome when he put those glasses on, and he had the biggest smile, and he just said, 'I can see.'"

And that's why we do it," she explained.

The child's father, who was present during the exam, was flabbergasted, she recalled. He told her he had no idea his son needed glasses, a feeling to which she could relate as a parent herself. "You just want to be the best parent you can possibly be, and you feel bad if you miss those sorts of things. But I'm sure it felt good to him, like 'we're doing something now, and it's getting helped.'"

According to Gagnon, the mission for care is really about community taking care of community.

"A lot of our team members live in Pleasanton and Livermore, so I hope it's nice for them to be proud of the place that they come to and are employed at," Gagnon said. "We're sort of a mom-and-pop, not a big Stanford or Palo Alto. Our patients are like family, and we're glad to be able to give back to our community here. And we do that as a team."



Dr Le prepares her equipment at Valley EyeCare Center in Pleasanton. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

**Reed Plumbing Company**  
LIVERMORE, CA  
(925)  
**371-5671**  
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com  
LICENSE #601931

**MILLER'S**  
**AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING**  
**925.447.3000**  
SINCE 1960  
Lic#253756 [www.millersacandheating.com](http://www.millersacandheating.com)

*Wishing You  
Peace & Joy  
this Holiday  
Season!*

**925.784.7979**  
LeslieFaught.com  
SellingEastBayHomes.com  
DRE01027778  
2018 Bay East Association REALTOR® of the Year

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

## Lawrence Livermore Nonprofit Contributions Top \$4 Million

Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS), the consortium that manages Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for the U.S. Department of Energy, donated more than \$4.1 million to nonprofit organizations in 2023.

This was the first time that the annual LLNL employee charitable giving program, known as Helping Others More Effectively or HOME, topped \$4 million, according to

a LLNS announcement.

Laboratory employees pledged \$2.8 million through payroll deduction with 100% of the funds going directly to nonprofits selected by the employees, according to LLNS.

The management consortium, which includes Bechtel National, University of California; BWX Technologies, and Amantum Environment & Energy, added another \$1.3 million, bringing the total to \$1.4 million.

HOME donations will benefit more than 1,500 nonprofits in the Tri-Valley and Greater Bay Area.

"I am so proud of our Lab workforce for pledging over \$2.8 million for the 2023 campaign," said Carolyn Zerkle, LLNS vice president and principal deputy director at LLNL.

Since 2009, the HOME giving program, which runs October through December each year, has raised more than \$3 mil-

lion annually, including the annual LLNS contributions, with donations totaling over \$52 million in the last decade.

"The HOME campaign has long been an important way in which the Lab gives back to our communities," said Kim Budil, LLNS president and LLNL director. "I'm very grateful for everyone's commitment to making the world a better place through this continued generosity."

## When Only the Best Care Will Do

Discover our warm and innovative community where you or your loved one can make new connections, pursue your interests, and enjoy peace of mind with support that never gets in your way. We are dedicated to creating an environment that helps you thrive and live your best life every day.

Explore the extraordinary lifestyle awaiting you when you call 925-488-2203 to schedule a complimentary private consultation. We can't wait to show you around!



35 Fenton Street • Livermore, CA 94550  
[rosewoodgardens.watermarkcommunities.com](http://rosewoodgardens.watermarkcommunities.com)  
**ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE**

A WATERMARK RETIREMENT COMMUNITY™

2023 CREDENTIAL PLATINUM

LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency Training

sagecare

**THE WATERMARK**  
AT ROSEWOOD GARDENS

23-WRG-7714A RCFE LICENSE #019200708

# EDITORIAL

## Public Thoughts on East of Greenville Need a Spotlight

Public feedback deserves center stage in Livermore's General Plan update process, especially for what it has to say about the East of Greenville focus area.

The city has proposed developing industrial and commercial uses in East of Greenville, the roughly 1,100 acres south of I-580, between Greenville Road and the South Bay Aqueduct. Such a proposal, if executed, would break the city's urban growth boundary (UGB).

Established more than 20 years ago, the UGB cannot be dismantled

without voter approval. A rejection at the ballot box would override any arguments for Greenville development and force the city to rethink its entire general plan update; all of the focus areas depend on each other to achieve the city's overall goals.

With so much of the plan riding on voter sentiment, an array of costs — including the time of city commissions and committees, and the cost to conduct an environmental impact report for the East of Greenville area — could ultimately prove misspent.

Because of this, a gauge of public feedback merits a prominent place in East of Greenville discussions.

Yet some members of the public do not feel heard. Many residents voiced opposition against UGB expansion, for example, at the city's land-use alternative workshop last month where 82% of the groups spoke against Greenville development.

At last week's General Plan Advisory Committee meeting, 75% opposed breaking the city's

urban growth boundary. But neither this feedback, nor other statistics gauging Greenville's current chances at the polls, have made it into reports or been directly dealt with by GPAC.

Business growth and housing should be addressed by thoroughly studying every infill development option. Based on what has been learned so far, looking into all those possibilities first would preserve the UGB's benefits and could also save the city avoidable costs.

## MAILBOX

### Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters must be submitted by someone living in or from the Tri-Valley; they must not offer medical advice from unconfirmed professional sources or contain libelous or inappropriate content. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to [letters@independentnews.com](mailto:letters@independentnews.com) or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication.

### Urban Growth Boundary Under Attack Again

Ellen Turner, Livermore

How well I remember my first sight of Livermore as my family and I drove down the hill on Highway 84; open space and green hills with cattle grazing. I've lived here fifty years and have witnessed frequent tension between the developers and those who value open space and carefully planned development.

I am highly disappointed to see that the Urban Growth Boundary is once again under attack. Commercial and industrial growth does not belong on open space or agricultural land.

Appropriate limits have been set by the UGB. To allow development within the UGB benefits developers, not the residents.

### An Electric Future

Alan Brooks, Livermore

I love it. The world is backing away from the mad rush to an electric future as all the problems start surfacing, yet we here in la la land are charging full speed, well, with electric blowers and mowers about half speed, ahead. As long as the residential and business owners don't mind their rates doubling both to cover the investment into equipment and higher labor costs for the slower service, I'm sure the maintenance companies will be delighted to accommodate them. I just hope Livermore bides its time to see how our neigh-

bor's experiment works out for them. I suspect the noise in their genteel neighborhoods is the real issue and clean air is the free pig.

### Developers vs Citizens

Richard Andrews, Livermore

Well, it seems the returned Ringmaster of the Clown Circus of Livermore has proven how much he follows what he promised (big surprise). Remember Mayor Marchand said he always listens and obeys his constituents? If you do, please remind him, as he seems to have forgotten that his constituents are not the developers, he is so buddy-buddy with, but the people of Livermore. His memory must be short, except when developers and builder friends come a calling.

We citizens stood and told him "NO" in polls, letters, and in person at meetings, but he and his Clown Circus of 4, gladly changed the rules so a developer could put a hotel on Arroyo. If it doesn't happen, it won't be because the Clowns didn't accede to moneyed needs. But they did clear the way for another mausoleum — the downtown hotel. Just what the neighbors wanted, right?

And now he and the Pavlovian denizens of the Council nod their heads and salivate at the opportunity to ruin the foothills east of Greenville Road, so more developers can make big bucks at the current residents' expense. Hey JOHN! Remember when you said, "I always listen to the citizens," when running for office? I do. You have failed us yet again.

### Merry Christmas to All

Lee Edwards, Livermore

I feel a special privilege to have part of my tax dollars help pay for the Dorrance Dance Clown Troupe that performed in the White House to celebrate - or make fun of - Christmas. It shouldn't be surprising that the White House invited a group that advocates abolishing the police, all prisons, the Jewish State, and believe that all white Americans are racists. Perfect guests to represent those living in the White House but NOT of the average American citizen.

There is a rumor that Bozo the Clown, Ronald McDonald, Krusty the Clown, Clarabell and Homey D Clown had already been booked for that date. Too bad. Any one of them would have represented what America's values truly are.

### Removing the Lead

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

On December 11th, the Livermore City Council voted to approve the sale of unleaded aviation fuel at Livermore Airport (LVK). Many thanks to the Airport Commission, the Airport Manager, the City Manager, and city staff who have worked on this issue for the last two months.

This is an important step to reduce lead air pollution in the Tri-Valley. Unfortunately, it does not go far enough. The City Council gave the fixed base operator (FBO) two years to certify an older fuel tank at the airport. This tank only holds 1,000 gallons. The Council can do better. Additionally, the Council should buy a fuel tank that holds 8,500 gallons. The Council can use Airport Enterprise funds for the purchase; the current balance is between 7 to 8 MILLION dollars. There are more than enough funds to purchase and install a new tank for unleaded av fuel; estimates range between \$270,000 and \$300,000.

When asked why a new tank has not been purchased, the city manager replied the FBO asked the city NOT to buy a tank at this juncture. WHY? This is not an acceptable answer from FBO.

At least 10 California airports now sell unleaded aviation fuel including Hayward, Oxnard, Reid-Hillview (San Jose), San Carlos, San Martin, Santa Monica, Long Beach, and Watsonville. 35 airports nationwide currently offer unleaded av fuel. We are NOT asking for a ban on lead fuel; only to offer unleaded av fuel as an option.

While other aviation fuels without lead—hydrogen, biogas, etc. — should be considered in the future, these fuels will take years to develop and be approved. Councilmember Carling stated that Livermore needs to focus on getting a second tank certified, and to start selling unleaded aviation fuel as soon as possible. He said Livermore should not be distracted by future fuel possibilities. We agree. UL 94 can be offered in a year or less.

We removed the lead from car fuel; now we need to remove the lead in fuel for piston-engine aircraft. For the health of all Tri-Valley residents, Livermore needs to buy an 8,500-gallon tank asap. Please ask the Council to make the purchase of a new tank an urgent priority. This is a health issue that affects all of us. The best gift for residents is reduced lead air pollution.

### Christmas Miracle for America

David Ott, Pleasanton

My Christmas prayer for

America is: For a secure southern border and for the immigrants to be fully vetted and held in Mexico or their country of origin until they receive a hearing. For the complete end to the terrorist Hamas militant regime that have murdered Israelis and Americans and ruined Gaza.

For the Biden and Newsum administrations to reduce taxes and stop spending money they do not have. Reduce the size of the federal and state government agencies. Stop the weaponization of the DOJ by the democrat-

ic regime. Use paper ballots for all elections and stop the election interference and the voting irregularities orchestrated by democratic party. Allow for open and honest discussions and debate on all topics. Allow school choice for all families. Rid our colleges and universities of the Marxist doctrine that permeates the school leadership and professors. And peace on Earth. Merry Christmas!

### Stop Urban Growth

Rob Blum, Livermore

The City of Livermore

needs to keep and preserve open space. The city plans to change the land use of open space and agricultural land east of Greenville Rd. into Urban Growth development.

This needs to be stopped and kept at the current land use plan. The high cost of an Environmental Impact Report is a waste of valuable money and should be used for better needs of the city.

We need to preserve the tranquility of open space that Livermore stands for.

## LARPD Aquatics Coordinator Receives Bay Area's Rising Professional Award

Alyssa Smith, aquatics coordinator for the Livermore Area Recreation & Park District (LARPD), has received the Bay Area Public Pool Operators Association's Rising Professional Award in recognition of her contributions to the district's aquatics program.

Smith, who joined LARPD in 2021, is credited with revitalizing the district's aquatics programs following the COVID-19 pandemic, including increasing staff by 45% and streamlining swim lessons.

"Alyssa's passion for aquatics and her tireless efforts have raised the bar within our organization," said Aquatics Supervisor Patrick Lucky. "Her ability to motivate and inspire both colleagues and the community at large is truly commendable."

As aquatics coordinator, Smith was also responsible for staff development and organizing several of the

district's signature events, including the Pumpkin Splash, Polar Bear Slide, and Water Safety Day.

She is a 2021 graduate of California State University, East Bay, with a bachelor's degree in human development. Smith is also a certified lifeguard instructor, aquatics facility operator, and water safety instructor and is working on a master's degree in hospitality, recre-

ation, and tourism at CSU, East Bay.

She is also a board member for the nonprofit Bay Area Public Pool Operators Association, with responsibility for the organization's scholarship program.

LARPD, which serves the eastern half of Alameda County, operates the Robert Livermore Aquatics Center and the May Nissen Swim Center, both in Livermore.



Alyssa Smith

### ANNIE

(Continued from front page)

Once the show was ready, it hit the road. The group of 64 actors, parents, seamstresses, stagehands and production crew travel by bus and airplane between cities, putting on performances to packed houses.

In between shows, Kylie and the other young actors must find time for schoolwork. Patterson said a teacher is part of the entourage and, by law, the students must spend four hours each day on their studies.

"Sometimes, that's a field trip to a local zoo or aquarium in whatever city we are in," he said

The tour is hitting Rochester and Buffalo in New York this month before breaking for Christmas, when the Pattersons will all regroup in Canada for the holiday. Kylie and her dad will be back on the road in Delaware in the new year.

Kylie thinks life on the road is "really, really, really fun." She said her favorite part — aside from being on stage — is checking into a new hotel and taking a moment to relax.

"You can set your stuff on the ground and sit down and then go back the next day to perform another show," she said.

The Annie Tour only has

one stop in California, at the Safe Credit Union Performing Arts Center in Sacramento, April 16-24. Kylie said she looks forward to seeing the seats filled with her friends and family.

Once the tour ends, Kylie and her dad will be back in Dublin, but Kylie doesn't plan to stay put for long. Having had a taste of performing on the big stage, she said she hopes to continue to audition for other shows and may even want to study acting in college.

For more information on the Annie Tour, or to purchase tickets, visit [www.annietour.com](http://www.annietour.com).

### TEACHER

(Continued from front page)

district teachers believe their students deserve the best, and their demands — smaller class sizes, more student support, as well as the raise — help students.

"We continue to be an after-thought, and if the surrounding districts can find funds to support their educators and students, why can't Pleasanton?" Atkins asked.

APT's executive board will meet next week to plan its next move, but no more bargaining sessions will be scheduled until after the new year.

# Livermore Students Working to Restore Brushy Peak Watershed

By David Jen

Elementary and high school students took ecosystem restoration into their own hands earlier this month, helping restore a watershed in the Brushy Peak Regional Preserve near the Altamont Pass.

The two threatened amphibian species, found only in California, have suffered from a loss of wetlands due to agricultural and urban development.

Vineyard offers a career-technical-education pathway in environmental resources.

A conservation-science nonprofit, Point Blue engages school children in “training and inspiring the next-generation of conservation science leaders,” according to their website. The organization also lends its scientific expertise in natural and human-driven ecosystem changes through partnerships with government agencies, private landowners, and other wildlife and habitat managers.

Reynolds, who has attended the field trips for three years, looks forward to the second phase of the Brushy Peak restoration next year, when students will return to plant seedlings instead of seeds, and when local native communities may join in the planning effort.

Brushy Peak served as the center of an older trade network between the Bay Area Ohlones, Bay Miwoks, and Northern Valley Yokuts, until the land gave way to homesteads and ranches after California’s Gold Rush period in the mid 1800s, according to the EBRPD.

EBRPD acquired the land in partnership with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District in 1997.

“The lack of trees makes for no shade and more erosion,” said Reynolds. “You can see a really old, dead tree where we were planting, so we could tell in the past, maybe a couple hundred years ago, there were more trees there.”

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lists red-legged frogs as threatened, and tiger salamanders as threatened or endangered, depending on their population segment.



Students Kai Averill, Cian McClelland-Bane and Point Blue Environmental Scientist Dante Khan prepare the ground for seedlings at Brushy Peak Watershed. (Photo courtesy: Tia Clifford, Vineyard Alternative School Paraeducator)

About 65 students from Croce Elementary School and six from Vineyard Alternative School, both in Livermore, hiked to the headwaters of the Arroyo Las Positas, and joined a restoration project by planting oak and buckeye seeds to improve the habitat for California red-legged frogs and tiger salamanders, said Vineyard science teacher Gretchen Reynolds, who led the Vineyard group.

“This was a good opportunity for students to work alongside people who are working in that field,” said Reynolds. “The students learned a great deal and it felt as if they were making a good contribution,” he said.

Scientists from the Alameda County Resource Conservation District, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and Point Blue joined the students in the restoration effort.



The Livermore Police Department recently held its annual Shop with a Cop event, raising \$21,000 and helping 66 Livermore youth and their families have a happy holiday. More than 100 high school leadership students from both Granada and Livermore high schools also helped the children shop this year. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Police Department)

LIVERMORE VALLEY arts

## LIVE AT THE BANKHEAD

NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH

# THE FOUR FRESHMEN

Harmonic. Timeless. Jazz.

**SUN DEC 31 | 8PM**

Includes a sparkling wine toast and dessert in the lobby immediately after the show.

### GET TICKETS NOW!

LivermoreArts.org | 935.373.6800

# Lab Researching Nuclear Devices As Defense Against Astroid Strikes

Researchers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) have developed a modeling tool for assessing the potential use of a nuclear device to defend the planet against catastrophic asteroid impacts.

The research, published in Planetary Science Journal, introduces a novel approach to simulating the energy deposition from a nuclear device on an asteroid’s surface – the loss of energy as subatomic particles pass through the asteroid – improving scientific understanding of radiation’s interaction on the asteroid’s surface.

LLNL said the research opens the door to new research on the shockwave dynamics affecting the interior of an asteroid.

The model will allow researchers to build on the insights gained from NASA’s Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) in September 2022 in which a spacecraft was deliberately crashed into an asteroid to alter its trajectory.

While the test was successful, with limitations on the mass that can be sent into space, scientists continue to explore nuclear deflection as a viable alternative to kinetic impact missions, according to LLNL researchers.

Nuclear devices have the highest ratio of energy density per unit of mass of any human technology, making them an invaluable tool in mitigating asteroid threats, said LLNL physicist Mary Burkey, who led the research.

“If we have enough warning time, we could potentially launch a nuclear device, sending it millions of miles away to an asteroid that is headed toward Earth,” Burkey said. “We would then detonate the device and either deflect the asteroid, keeping it intact but providing a controlled push away from Earth, or we could disrupt

the asteroid, breaking it up into small, fast-moving fragments that would also miss the planet.”

Accurate predictions for the effectiveness of nuclear deflection missions rely on sophisticated simulations, Burkey said, explaining that LLNL simulation models cover a wide range of physical factors, which makes them complex and computationally demanding.

The latest simulations tracked photons penetrating the surfaces of asteroid-like materials such as rock, iron, and ice, while accounting for more complex processes, such as reradiation, according to LLNL. The model can also account for a diverse set of initial conditions, including an asteroid’s origination and porosity, differences in the radiation energy striking the asteroid and its duration, and angles of incidence.

Researchers said the comprehensive approach makes the model applicable to a wide range of potential asteroid scenarios.

Should a planetary emergency arise, high-fidelity simulation modeling will be critical in providing decision-makers with actionable, risk-informed information that could prevent an impact with the Earth, according to Megan Bruck Syal, planetary defense project lead for LLNL.

“While the probability of a large asteroid impact during our lifetime is low, the potential consequences could be devastating,” Bruck Syal said.

The planetary defense group at LLNL is engaged on a variety of projects in collaboration with research institutions including Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, NASA Planetary Defense Coordination Office, NASA Goddard, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA Ames and the US Geological Survey.

# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CELEBRATE WITH US!

## CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Family Friendly  
9pm Traditional

Both are candlelight services in the Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church Livermore  
(corner of Fourth & L St.)

Online: [fpcl.online.church](http://fpcl.online.church)  
[www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us) | 925.447.2078

---

Inclusion and Acceptance is a Core Value at  
*Holy Cross Lutheran Church*

Christmas Eve  
5 PM Family Service  
7 PM Traditional Service

1020 Mocho St. Livermore, CA 94550  
[holycrosslivermore.org](http://holycrosslivermore.org)

---

CROSSWINDSCHURCH.ORG

## Christmas AT CrossWinds

THURSDAY 12/21 • 7PM  
SATURDAY 12/23 • 5PM  
SUNDAY 12/24 • 2PM  
4PM  
NO 12/24 MORNING SERVICE

CROSSWINDS CHURCH  
1660 FREISMAN DRIVE  
LIVERMORE, CA 94551

## RACES

(Continued from front page)

also withdrew.

Although the deadline for the March 5, 2024, primary election was Dec. 8, the deadline for races without an incumbent was extended to Dec. 13. The incumbent in the 5th District senate seat, Sen. Susan Eggman, D-Stockton, was unable to run for re-election because of term limits.

In another race with an extended deadline, the field of candidates was completed for the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors. Three seats with four-year terms are

a former Pleasanton City Councilmember who was appointed to the panel in February 2023 to replace Olivia Sanwong, who was elected to the East Bay Park District.

Narum chose to run for a full-term seat instead of filing for election to complete the Sanwong's final two years. Voters will select three.

Development director Seema Badar took advantage of the extended deadline and filed to run for the two-year Zone 7 seat against retired environmental scien-

tion to retire at the filing deadline. But his decision after serving since 1992 will bring new blood to the board and the potential for new ideas. Nine candidates filed at the extended deadline to replace him in the district that serves Albany, parts of Oakland, Emeryville, Piedmont and Berkeley.

They are Berkeley City Council member Ben Bartlett; Emeryville City Council member John Bauters; attorney/data scientist Lorrel Plimier; Gerald Pechenuk, who has previously



Jim Shoemaker



Jerry McNeerney



Carlos Villapudua

open with Director Angela Ramirez Holmes' decision not to seek reelection. Incumbents Laurene Green and Sandy Figuers filed for re-election. Chemist Alan Burnham also filed to run for the four-year seat, as did Kathy Narum,

tist Catherine Brown. Voters will select one.

Tri-Valley voters will not have a say in how the 5th District Alameda County Board of Supervisors seat unfolds next year following Supervisor Keith Carson's surprise de-

cision to retire at the filing deadline. But his decision after serving since 1992 will bring new blood to the board and the potential for new ideas. Nine candidates filed at the extended deadline to replace him in the district that serves Albany, parts of Oakland, Emeryville, Piedmont and Berkeley.

## GREENVILLE

(Continued from front page)

John Steinbuch, who also owns property in the area, listed the infrastructure improvements that have accompanied development in the city, such as storm-drainage basins, the Zone 7 canal, and roadway interchanges.

"All of these improvements make life in Livermore easier, better and more efficient for the city," he said, advocating for similar city amenities through its development of the East of Greenville area.

Sblend Sblendorio, of the Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV), also suggested the time was right to develop Greenville, given recent declines in available business space.

"What I'm hearing is that a lot of business-serving land has been reduced to a smaller level," said Sblendorio, adding that ITV has noticed similar trends in San Ramon, Dublin and Pleasanton as well as Livermore.

Four out of 17 public commenters supported development in Greenville.

## Ripples Between Focus Areas

The decisions affecting the Greenville area could affect the other focus areas.

"The General Plan covers the entire city, and the outcomes of changes in any focus area may create impacts that need to be addressed in another focus area or areas," city representative Stephanie Egiidio told The Independent. "Ultimately, the focus areas will be considered holistically and calibrated for overall land use balance citywide."

For example, plans for the Midtown focus area, the 630 acres east of First Street and south of I-580, call for the conversion of much of its current light-industrial land into space for residential and business-center uses, with Greenville as the likely new home for this industrial activity, said GPAC Member David Kent.

The interdependencies between the focus areas have also given others reason to ask for a pause with Greenville.

Because any development in Greenville requires not only voter approval to expand the UGB, but also approval from the county's Local Agency Formation Commission for the city to annex the land, residents

have questioned the fiscal responsibility of pursuing Greenville, including an already-started environmental impact report, when the project has surmounted neither barrier.

"Breaking of the urban growth boundary is highly unpopular; you know that," said resident Doug Mann. "There is no reason to do it and it screws up the rest of your plan because, if you're depending on this area to provide you land uses that are just not going to be there, you need to completely redo the rest of your focus areas."

## Concerns Around Public Voice

At last week's GPAC meeting, the city instructed the public and the committee to comment on the best land-use scenario for the East of Greenville focus areas. But some residents asked why the city did not offer a no-project option, and the majority of public commenters reiterated arguments from previous meetings, repeating protests against expanding the UGB.

"When I look at (the options) for Greenville, I don't see anything here representative of what I saw at that workshop at all," said one resident, referring to a workshop last month. He did not think that equal consideration of a no-project alternative for Greenville had been added in response to those who had spoken out at the meeting asking for the city to keep the Greenville urban growth boundary. Nine of the eleven tables giving their reports supported a no-project alternative.

"I am not understanding, and I would like an answer, why you feel we have to expand our boundary," said resident Jane Gibson to the Committee.

But the city sought different types of feedback, said city representative Stephanie Egiidio.

"The community engagement process was not designed to collect binary yes/no input on any focus area or element, but rather to solicit thematic, qualitative feedback and areas of emphasis from the community for the project team and GPAC to consider," she continued.

At the meeting, public speakers nevertheless advocated for the land East of Greenville to be preserved

as agricultural land and open space.

"I have a lot of friends who are landowners in that area — multi-generational ranchers," said 24-year resident Stacie Logan. "They want to stay there. They're very afraid that if the land use changes, even if they don't sell their property, taxes are going to price them out of being able to live where the family has lived for generations. That's not fair."

Resident Carolyn Lord brought in the perspective of the Bay Area as a whole, suggesting that uses, such as warehouse space, moving out of Livermore are not always to its detriment.

"We are in the middle of what's called the urban umbrella of San Francisco that goes from San Francisco to Reno," continued Lord. "We are not at the end of the road anymore."

Resident Julie Wild added, "(Open space) is one of the reasons we love this area; we don't want the urban growth boundary extended either. ... If this is what the community is saying, hopefully you'll take it to heart."

Although Committee Member Paul Halvorsen floated the idea of taking the no-project option further and preserving the area through conservation easements, the rest of the GPAC dismissed the idea.

In the end, GPAC recommended a development option for East of Greenville with higher-density industrial uses, a contiguous greenbelt along the eastern boundary next to the canal, and no sports park.

GPAC will hold its next scheduled meeting on Jan. 10, 2024, but the city hopes to hold a special meeting before then to gather committee feedback on the Midtown, Laughlin and Las Positas Court focus areas, which were not discussed last week due to time constraints.

Once the city receives direction on all of the focus areas, it will provide GPAC with draft land-use scenarios along with a jobs-housing analysis for each.

The drafts will include scenarios with and without the East of Greenville focus area, said Egiidio. The city will take GPAC's recommended scenario to the Planning Commission and, afterward, the City Council.

## ZONING

(Continued from front page)

The proposed amendments will also reset the affordable resale restriction to 55 years whenever ownership changes hands and require the use of a household-eligibility system for ownership units.

Up from the previous 30-year period, the updated resale restriction will keep affordable housing below market rate through ownership transfers, unless a single owner holds onto a property for more than 55 years.

The household-eligibility system will apply the same point system — looking at criteria such as working within the city, living within the city or having immediate family in the city — to the resale process as is currently used in initial home sales.

The amendments did not change the fees themselves.

The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the City Council follow the staff's recommendations, with the addition that they also consider a more regular

cadence for reviewing the regulation.

No laws require in-lieu-fee updates, but Ashleigh Kanat from Economic Planning Systems (EPS), an economic and financial consulting firm hired by the city, recommended revisiting them roughly once every five years. EPS has worked with the city on the regulation updates.

The consulting firm Economic and Planning Systems (EPS) was selected through a competitive process to assist Staff with addressing these Strategic Plan Objectives

While the update will still require developers of owner-occupied homes to build 12.5% of a project as affordable housing, EPS recommended a reduction in the affordability requirement for rental projects, from 12.5% to 10%.

"Even without the inclusionary requirement, multifamily rental development is at the limits of feasibility," writes the city's report, describing the development roadblocks facing multifamily

development.

The requirement reduction attempts to avoid an overly oppressive environment where nothing gets built, explained Kanat.

"If we're not supporting market-rate development — meaning allowing it to be feasible — we're not going to get any inclusionary units," she continued.

State housing law requires that Dublin zone for, but not necessarily build, 1,710 housing units in the very-low- or low-income categories through 2031, a 38% increase over the past eight-year cycle.

Wright also floated the idea of a more "aggressive" requirement for owner-occupied projects, possibly raising the affordability requirement to 15% of the total units, to increase Dublin's affordable-housing stock even further.

Although Kanat provided no reasons against such an increase, Commission Chair Renata Tyler said such a change lacked basis and Wright dropped the idea.

## BILLS

(Continued from front page)

includes Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin, has seven bills going into effect as laws at the start of the new year.

Bauer-Kahan's AB352, the Reproductive Privacy Act, prevents abortion information from being automatically shared through health information exchanges to protect women who come to California for care and who could face criminal charges when they return home. Bauer-Kahan's AB254, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, prevents other medical information, such as menstrual health data, from being shared.

"No one should be forced to choose between health care and criminalization," Bauer-Kahan said. "With AB352 and AB254, we strengthen our protections for abortion care regardless of where a patient lives."

Bauer-Kahan's AB618 imposes new rules for reserving campsites at state parks. Reservations often are snapped up in minutes online and many fail to show up months later, leaving campsites empty. The new law will impose restrictions on how many locations someone can reserve and require payment that would be forfeited if no one shows up. A lottery system also will be used for the most popular locations.

Bauer-Kahan's AB363 bans the over-the-counter sale of lawn and garden neonicotinoid pesticides by 2025, limiting their use to trained professionals. Hundreds of products on store shelves or online under the Ortho, BioAdvanced and Scotts Company brand names contain the chemicals, which environmentalists argue have had a devastating effect on pollinators, including 1,600 varieties of bees, monarch butterflies, birds and insects.

AB1076 prohibits bosses from forcing employees to sign non-compete agreements in contracts. A non-compete agreement is a clause that prevents an employee from working for a rival company after leaving the employer.

In promoting the legislation, Bauer-Kahan said non-compete agreements are anticompetitive and intimidate workers, resulting in stagnation of wages, especially for middle class workers.

Bauer-Kahan's AB521 requires that by Dec. 31, 2025, all construction sites have at least one private bathroom available for employees who self-identify as female or nonbinary.

Lastly, AB1369 would allow a licensed physician or surgeon in another state

to deliver health care via telehealth to a patient with an immediately life-threatening disease or condition, even if they are not licensed in California.

## Sen. Steve Glazer

Steve Glazer, D-Orinda, who has represented the Tri-Valley in the state Senate for 10 years, wrote laws that include protections for consumers and help those wrongfully convicted.

Glazer's SB78 backs people convicted of crimes they did not commit and were found by a judge to be "factually innocent." People in that situation are eligible for state money, sometimes millions of dollars, but must go through a lengthy process that can take years. A previous bill co-authored by Glazer took the burden from victims and placed it on the Attorney General's Office when appearing before the state's Victim Compensation Board. The new law enacts the same process that governs county district attorney's offices when wrongfully convicted people seek compensation in superior courts.

Glazer's SB644 gives consumers 24 hours to cancel a booking for lodging made online if it was requested 72 hours before the check-in date.

"This first-in-the nation law will end the confusing maze of misleading cancellation policies for lodging on the Internet," Glazer said. "Now consumers will have a chance to correct mistakes and cancel bookings they hadn't intended to make and get a full refund."

Glazer's SB29 will allow the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to impose a fee on people charged with minor election infractions instead of criminal charges. The fee might range from \$50 to participating in an educational program.

In a change voters will see on sample ballots, Glazer's SB 798, will require local bond measure statements to express the tax rates per \$100,000 of assessed property value, instead of per \$100 of assessed value.

Under Glazer's SB793, insurers will send fewer duplicative renewals to policyholders if they have not changed their privacy notices since the previous renewal.

Lastly, Glazer's SB33 will enable a previous Glazer law passed in 2018 to continue without expiring. Under the law, financiers offering loans less than \$500,000 must disclose the total amount of financing, the total cost of financing, the term length, frequency and amount of payments, and the prepayment policies and

annualized rate.

Glazer will continue to represent the 7th District for another year. Following redistricting, which redrew the boundary lines, residents in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol will be in a new 5th District with cities in western San Joaquin County. A representative will be determined in elections in March and November.

## Assemblymember Liz Ortega

Assemblymember Liz Ortega, whose 20th district includes Dublin, will see four bills take effect in 2024.

Ortega's AB857 will require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to provide informational materials to inmates released from prison about the vocational services and independent living programs it offers. The law also expands the services to former inmates with disabilities.

AB917 will require the California Automobile Assigned Risk Plan, a low-cost automobile insurance program for all counties in California, to have an annual report on its status. It will be given to the state's insurance commissioner, who must annually inform the state legislature on how he or she will let the public know about the program.

Ortega's AB1457 would streamline decision making for county employees who are providing people with some state assistance programs, including the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP), the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program; and Adult Protective Services (APS).

AB800 is a first-of-its-kind law that will require California's public high schools to teach students about their rights at work and how to defend themselves against workplace abuses. The law initially will require minors obtaining a work permit in August 2024 to receive a document explaining basic labor rights extended to workers. Down the road, it will establish a Workplace Readiness Week each April in public high schools to teach students about workplace rights, protections for minors on the job and how to start and join a union.

"Youth are having their wages stolen and being seriously injured at work because they don't know that they have a right to demand safety and hold their employers accountable," Ortega said in a statement. "Teaching our youth about their rights at work is essential education and it could save their lives."



Several officers from the Livermore Police Department, including Officer Don Swanson, shown above on the left with a Meals on Wheels (MOW) volunteer, recently rode along with MOW drivers to talk to seniors about safety and senior scam awareness. The first-time collaboration allowed officers to visit approximately 137 senior MOW clients. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Police Department)

## College Holds Ribbon-Cutting For Academic Support Building

Las Positas College (LPC) held a ribbon cutting ceremony last month for its new, \$60 million Academic Support and Office Building. The 88,000-square-foot facility, designed by LPAS Architecture + Design, includes classrooms, computer and math labs, a tutoring center, faculty offices, and an expansion of the college library operational support area.

Funding for the project came from a \$950 million bond for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District approved by Alameda County voters in 2016. The contractor, Flint Builders, broke ground on the facility in September 2021. The building received Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for its energy

efficiency and environmentally friendly design. The Livermore community college also recently completed upgrades to the campus landscape, including new sod and trees, signage, and outdoor seating at the entrance to the Student Services & Administration Building. The landscape project was designed by Cupples Keller Designs with input from LPC students and staff.



Las Positas College (LPC) faculty and staff (above) cut the ceremonial ribbon on the college's new Academic Support and Office Building (below). (Photo courtesy: LPC)



## Take3, Kevin Nealon, Trock Perform at the Bankhead

Livermore Valley Arts (LVA) will present three powerhouse performances at the Bankhead Theater next month, starting with Take3 and "Where Rock Meets Bach" on Friday, Jan. 19, and concluding with a much-anticipated return of the satirical Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo on Monday, Jan. 29. Standup comedian and former Saturday Night Live cast member Kevin Nealon will take the stage on Friday, Jan. 26. Backed by an interactive light show, the classically trained Take3 trio, created by violinist Lindsay

Deutsch, infuses the music of Bach and Beethoven with the electric energy of rock 'n' roll. Deutsch, a graduate of the Colburn School in Los Angeles, has performed with symphonies across North America and has toured with top selling composer and keyboard virtuoso Yanni Chrissomallis. She also performed with the Livermore-Amador Symphony during the 2022 Violins of Hope concerts, which featured restored violins, cellos, and other instruments that were owned and played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust. She will be joined on stage for the 8 p.m. performance by cellist Mikala Schmitz and pianist Jason Stb l. Nealon spent nine seasons with Saturday Night Live, the late-night political satire and comedy sketch program on NBC, creating such characters as Frank Gannon, Politically Incorrect Private Investigator; Bob Waltman, a male parody of the late TV journalist Barbara Walters; and Franz in recurring "Pump Up with Hans and Franz" sketches with Dana Carvey. Nealon also wrote "Yes, You're Pregnant, But What About Me?" a comedic look

at the male perspective on pregnancy, in 2008, followed by "I Exaggerate: My Brushes with Fame," part memoir and part full-color artwork of characters he has created, in 2022. He also hosts "Hiking with Kevin," a digital program in which he interviews A-list actors and comedians. Only a few tickets remained for Nealon's performance, at 8 p.m., as of earlier this week. Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, an all-male comic ballet company, will be making a return visit to the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The Trocks sold out their appearance at the Bankhead in 2019. In conjunction with the live appearance, the Livermore Civic Center Library will host a showing of "Ballerina Boys," a 2021 documentary about The Trocks, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 28. The screening is free and open to the public. Tickets for all three shows at the Bankhead begin at \$25 and are available online at livermorearts.org. LVA is a nonprofit organization operating the Bankhead and Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore.



The classically trained trio Take3 will perform at the Bankhead Theater on Jan. 19. The event is presented by Livermore Valley Arts. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Valley Arts)

**Creek Hill Farm**  
Horseback Riding Lessons,  
Training, Boarding,  
Breeding, Sales  
**925.337.5375**  
creekhillfarms.com

**TONY'S NAILS 925-243-1827**  
Rejuvenate your beauty!  
✓ Acrylics and Nail Arts  
✓ Eyelash extensions  
✓ Microblading  
✓ Natural pedicures  
✓ Waxing  
Appointments and walk-ins welcome!  
2002 Portola Ave. #C, Livermore  
tonynailsLivermore.com Instagram: Tonys\_Nail\_Livermore

**RETZLAFF Estate Wines**  
Wishing all a very Happy New Year!  
We will be closed for a winter break January 1 - 29th  
We look forward to welcoming you in 2024  
Please check our calendar for upcoming events  
Live music every weekend  
RetzlaffVineyards.com

**THE Independent**  
— Since 1963 —  
**Your local news source is delivered free to readers in the Tri-Valley.**  
We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary contribution of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.  
You can sign up online at [www.independentnews.com/contribute/](http://www.independentnews.com/contribute/) or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550  
**THE Independent**  
independentnews.com | 925.243.8000 Follow us on

**MERRY Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
from your friends at  
**Gene Morgan Insurance Agency**

# LLNL and Startup Develop System for Heavy-Duty Transportation

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Verne, a San Francisco-based start-up, have demonstrated a cryo-compressed hydrogen storage system of suitable scale for heavy-duty vehicles.

This is the first time cryo-compressed hydrogen storage has been demonstrated at a scale large enough to be useful for semi-trucks, a milestone in high-density hydrogen storage.

Getting to net zero – reducing the nation's annual output of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from 51 billion tons to zero – by 2050 will require a massive, accelerated deployment of alternative energy-efficient technologies across transportation, manufacturing, electricity, buildings and agriculture.

Transportation contributes the largest portion of total U.S. GHG emissions. Within the transportation sector, heavy-duty vehicles that rely on fossil fuels generate 23 percent of U.S. GHGs. Globally, trucks, ships, and planes account for 10 percent of GHGs.

## Energy dense storage systems needed

Powering heavy-duty vehicles, such as Class 8 semi-trucks, requires very energy dense storage systems: even the most advanced batteries do not provide sufficient energy density. Hydrogen is a promising fuel source for these difficult-to-decarbonize sectors.

However, existing hydrogen-storage technologies do not provide diesel-parity performance, as these compressed-hydrogen storage systems have limited energy density capacity. Cryo-compressed hydrogen, which can support the highest hydrogen densities in a compact storage system, can overcome this challenge.

Storing hydrogen in this state provides much greater energy density than other competing hydrogen

platforms: relative to liquid, 700 bar compressed hydrogen at ambient temperature, and 350 bar compressed hydrogen at ambient temperature, CcH2 offers an improvement of 27 percent, 77 percent and 165 percent greater hydrogen density, respectively.

For the last two years, researchers at Livermore's Cryogenic Hydrogen Fueling Facility with funding from Verne, have evaluated and tested Verne's hydrogen-storage systems, successfully demonstrating a new advance in high-density hydrogen storage for heavy-duty vehicles.

"Past work at LLNL on cryo-compressed hydrogen storage has focused on the light-duty automotive sector. Storage systems for heavy-duty vehicles need to store an order of magnitude more hydrogen, greatly increasing the cost and time Hrequired for testing," said Nick Killingsworth, principal investigator and mechanical engineer at the Laboratory.

The challenge of testing the technology highlights the importance of detailed, upfront test planning, complemented with advanced simulations, to establish efficient test programs, which embodies the collaborative work between LLNL and Verne.

## Single tank system tested

Recently, the LLNL and Verne teams tested a single tank system, demonstrating storage of more than 29 kilograms of cryo-compressed hydrogen.

This benchmark is three times greater than what has been previously demonstrated with any single CcH2 storage system and roughly equivalent to a one-megawatt-hour battery system, yet in a lighter and more compact storage unit.

The system is compact enough that it can fit where diesel tanks are typically installed on a Class 8 truck—on the side of the truck between the wheels.

In addition to a different tank design, the components and functionality were enhanced to handle this larger volume.

"Despite the promise from early hydrogen-fueled truck pilots, the efficient storage of hydrogen onboard trucks, ships and

oneered at Livermore to provide a reliable, scalable and cost-effective storage solution. We could not have done this without the team at Livermore. It's exciting to see this project head toward the commercialization phase where it can be adopted across the

allowed Verne to quickly assess the performance of their cryo-compressed-hydrogen storage systems.

Over 25 years ago, Salvador Aceves, then a mechanical engineer at LLNL, demonstrated through thermodynamic modeling the benefits of

to reduce carbon emissions in the heavy-duty transportation sector," said Francisco Espinosa-Loza, a group leader at LLNL and part of the team that built all three generations of LLNL's CcH2 tanks.

## Lab has novel hydrogen refueling system

LLNL also is the site of a novel hydrogen refueling system built to directly pressurize liquid hydrogen storage systems capable of reaching higher densities than the starting liquid.

The work performed by LLNL was primarily sponsored by the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office within the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

In 2021, Verne was selected as one of Breakthrough Energy's (BE) inaugural Fellows projects, a program that backs early-stage climate ideas with funding and support to accelerate the path from innovation to commercialization. Most of the engineering and testing for this demonstration was funded and supported by the BE's Fellows Program.

"Developing and scaling a novel climate technology takes a robust network of complementary partners. The Breakthrough Energy Fellows Program is proud to support Verne as part of an ecosystem that includes national labs like LLNL, industry partners, and other sources of patient capital. It's incredible to see the technical progress that the Verne team has achieved during their time in the Breakthrough Energy Fellows program and in partnership with LLNL," said Ashley Grosh, vice president of the Fellows Program at Breakthrough Energy, an organization founded in 2015 to accelerate innovation in sustainable energy and other technologies to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.



Researchers from LLNL and Verne, a San Francisco-based start-up, have demonstrated a hydrogen storage system that can support heavy-duty vehicles, such as semi-trucks. The researchers shown from left are Kara Zhang, a Verne process engineer; LLNL mechanical engineer Nick Killingsworth; Ted McKlveen, Bav Roy and David Jaramillo, all co-founders of Verne; and Verne mechanical engineer Harry Clarke. (Photo courtesy: Garry McLeod)

planes remains one of the main challenges to unlock a zero-emission future," said David Jaramillo, co-founder of Verne.

"Verne has developed high-density, lightweight hydrogen storage systems for use onboard heavy-duty vehicles at low cost. Our solution builds upon decades of research pi-

heavy-duty sector," Jaramillo said.

The Laboratory's testing facility and safety-review process have provided Verne with access to unique equipment and expertise typically unavailable to a startup that has not had time to build up infrastructure and safety processes. This access has

CcH2. He then led a team at LLNL that designed and built three generations of tanks including a CcH2 tank that was used to drive over 650 miles in a modified passenger vehicle on a single tank of hydrogen.

"It is great to see all our work on cryo-compressed hydrogen storage systems over the years is on a path

## Alan Hu Foundation Now Accepting Applications For Student Scholarships

The Pleasanton-based Alan Hu Foundation is now accepting applications for scholarships, up to \$1,000 each, to be awarded in May to high school seniors from Livermore, Dublin, or Pleasanton whose college plans and career aspirations involve the field of mental health.

Applications must be submitted by March 10.

The scholarships were created to honor the memory of Alan Hu, a talented teenager at Amador Valley High School who committed suicide when he was 15, and Sarah Rahman, a young woman from Fremont who also committed suicide.

In addition to seniors plan-

psychiatry, neurosciences, nursing, education, or school counseling, the scholarships are open to those who plan to train as first responders at a police or fire academy.

The Alan Hu Foundation was created to promote mental health by raising awareness and eliminating the stigma surrounding psychiatric disorders, and to support fundamental research for cures.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic achievement, record of community involvement, local recommendations, and a personal statement.

For more information, or to apply for a scholarship, go to [alanhufoundation.org](http://alanhufoundation.org).

## Your Daily Online Local News.



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

Follow us on

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Dec. 1 through Dec. 31 JESS COPEMAN'S "CALIFORNIA COLORS" OIL PAINTING EXHIBIT

The Livermore Art Association's December show at the Robert Livermore Community Center will be "California Colors," artist Jess Copeman's oil painting collection inspired by the beauty of the California coastline. The show is up all through December at 4444 East Ave. in Livermore, Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Wednesday, Dec. 27 BOOK SESSION FOR ADULTS

If you're interested in reading and discussing thoughts in a lively, informal setting, please join us for our monthly Adult Book Session. Participants will be asked to read the same title and our goal is to rotate through topics, themes, and genres that meet everyone's taste. Alameda County Library strives to provide enough copies for everyone to borrow. Availability cannot be guaranteed. For December, the book club will meet on the last Wednesday from 1-2 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza. We will continue reading Karnali Blues by Buddhigagar. Contact (925) 803-7252 or [dublin@aclibrary.org](mailto:dublin@aclibrary.org) form more info.

### Saturday, January 20 LIVERMORE LIONS ANNUAL SEAFOOD FUNDRAISER

Livermore Lions Club is now taking orders for its annual seafood fundraiser. This event features cioppino, a delicious Italian stew brimming with shellfish, tomatoes, wine, spices and herbs. Each 64-ounce container serves four and comes with a bread round. The cost is \$70 per order, and the deadline to order is Jan. 16. Drive by pick up will be on Sat., January 20, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm, at the Singing Wine Maker, 5143 Tesla Rd. in Livermore. To order, call (925) 454-1489. Proceeds will benefit Livermore Lions charities and Lions Club International disaster relief funds.

### 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](mailto:artkr@sbcglobal.net) or (925) 455-0486.

### ONGOING EVENTS

#### SATURDAY PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

Open Saturdays, from 10 a.m. 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.

### SUNDAY LIVERMORE DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Open year-round on Sundays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in downtown Livermore, on Second St. between J St. and L St.

### 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](http://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](http://jhl.californiadar.org) or email [jane.everett@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://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 [stcharleslivermore.org/wings](http://stcharleslivermore.org/wings).

Email non-profit events to [calendar@independentnews.com](mailto:calendar@independentnews.com) for newspaper calendar and visit our website [www.independentnews.com](http://www.independentnews.com) to promote all events online.

## OBITUARIES

**Roditha M. de Ocampo-Camacho**  
June 27, 1942 – Dec. 3, 2023  
Livermore, California



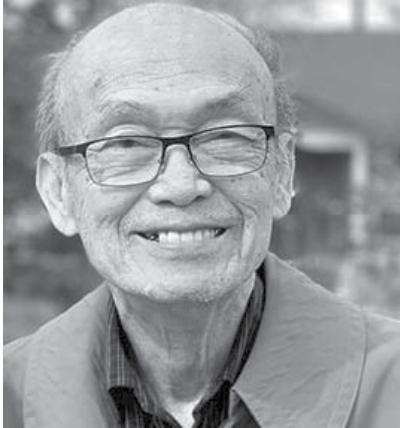
Roditha Marinda de Ocampo-Camacho was born in Daraga, Albay, Philippines on June 27, 1942. She was born to Epifania M. Cimananes and Juan M. Marinda and was the youngest sibling to eight older brothers and sisters. Roditha attended her elementary and secondary schooling in Daraga, Albay, and graduated from the University of the Philippines (U.P.) in Quezon City. Assigned as the university's captain of the varsity volleyball team, Roditha led U.P. to many victories, and historically ended their seasonal losing streak. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics and business administration. Thereafter, Roditha remained at the university as a researcher in English literature.

Roditha raised her family of six boys with her husband, Jose M. de Ocampo Jr, in Livermore, California. She rose to success as a realtor and insurance agent for over 30 years, receiving awards and recognition within the industries' affili-

ated institutes, societies, and councils. Prior to her retirement, Roditha received the Pinnacle Award from the National Association of Realtors, highlighting her business excellence. Equally important, Roditha was dedicated to serving God and the community. She held multiple roles within the church's local and district levels in finance, group prayers, and propagation. She was the Light of Salvation president for over 15 years.

Her simple joys in life included giving back to others, singing karaoke, playing cards and table tennis, attending church, shopping and dining out, vacationing near and far, tending to her flowers and spending time with family and friends. She passed away peacefully at the age of 81, surrounded by family and friends. Roditha is survived by her six children, four daughters-in-law, and eight grandchildren. She will be dearly missed, never forgotten, and will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

**Jose Manuel de Ocampo Jr.**  
Feb. 16, 1936 – Aug. 5, 2022  
Livermore, California



Jose (Joe) Manuel de Ocampo Jr. was born to Jose C. de Ocampo Sr. and Honoria V. de Ocampo on Feb. 16, 1936, in Naval, Leyte, Philippines. After graduating from the University of the Philippines in Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, Joe traveled to Europe, the United States and Asia. Eventually, he came back to the United States with his wife, Roditha Marinda de Ocampo, where he established his family of six boys in Livermore, California. He began working for Kaiser Aluminum and devoted over 20 years to this company.

Besides being an intelligent and hard worker, Joe enjoyed several life-long interests that included the following: enhancing his education, baking desserts, playing sports, attending church activities and serving the community (Knights of Columbus), shopping for bargains at thrift stores or garage sales, singing karaoke, spending time with family and friends, and making people laugh. He is survived by his six children, four daughters-in-law, and eight grandchildren. We will surely miss him and will always hold onto the amazing memories shared together.

## Fire Vehicles Add Safety Alert System

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has installed equipment in all official vehicles, including fire engines and command vehicles, that can transmit real-time safety alerts to approaching motorists.

The alerts transmitted by the Safety Cloud system developed by Haas Alert can be received through popular traffic navigation programs, including Waze and Apple Maps, or delivered di-

rectly to the information screens in many newer-model vehicles.

"We're happy to be able to add another level of protection for our firefighters so they can respond to incidents as safely as possible," said Deputy Chief Aaron Lacey. "This service connects and protects the public and our crews in the field and the drivers around them by giving motorists extra time to see us, slow down, and move over safely."



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Axis Community Health**  
5925 W. Las Positas Blvd.  
Suite 100  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925-201-6068  
AxisHealth.org

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

**Blankets For Kids**  
7580 Driftwood Way  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925-846-6155

**Cantabella Children's Chorus**  
P.O. Box 131  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-292-2663  
Cantabella.org

**Cheza Nami**  
5424 Sunol Blvd. Suite 10-153  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
chezanami.org

**Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley**  
P.O. Box 1586  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-421-1351  
cyrtrivalley.org

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

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

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

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

**Dublin Historical Society**  
7172 Regional Street, Box 316  
Dublin, CA 94568  
dublinhistoricalsociety@gmail.com  
www.dublinhistoricalsociety.org

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

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

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

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

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

**Friends of the Livermore Library**  
P.O. Box 2483  
Livermore, CA 94551  
friendsoflivermorelibrary.org

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

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

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

**Goodness Village**  
1660 Freisman Rd.  
Livermore, CA 94551  
GVLivermore.org

**Hively**  
6601 Owens Drive, Suite 100  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925-417-8733  
Behively.org

**Hope Hospice**  
6377 Clark Ave.  
Dublin, CA 94568  
925-829-8770  
HopeHospice.com/donate

**Interfaith Sharing Inc.**  
678 Enos Way  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-366-5567  
saintbartslivermore.com

**Kids Bike Lane**  
P.O. Box 2534  
Livermore, CA 94551  
(925) 352-2557  
kidsbikelane.org

**Las Positas College Foundation**  
3000 Campus Hill Drive  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-424-1010  
LPCFoundation.org

**Little Miracles Inc.**  
1039 Serpentine Lane Suite E  
Pleasanton Ca 94566  
Littlemiraclespleasanton.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Livermore Valley Education Foundation**  
849 East Stanley Boulevard  
PMB Box 143  
Livermore, CA 94550  
LVEF.org  
**Livermore Valley Opera**  
P.O. Box 1002  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-321-6964  
Livermorevalleyopera.com

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

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

**Movements For The Mind**  
MovementsForTheMind.com  
movementsforthemind@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

**Pacific Locomotive Assoc., Inc. Operators of Niles Canyon Railway**  
P.O. Box 515  
Sunol, CA 94586-0515  
510-996-8420  
NCRY.ORG

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Valley Dance Theatre**  
2247-B Second St.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-243-0925  
Valleydancetheatre.com

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

**Wiesner Memorial Senior Fund**  
4444 East Avenue  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-989-1765  
info@wiesnerfund.org  
wiesnerfund.org

**DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP  
AND NEVER MISS  
YOUR LOCAL NEWS**



independentnews.com

**FREE NONPROFIT LISTING FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

If you would like to be added please email kim@independentnews.com



Amador High's Megan Hoang jumps for a shot during the Dec. 14 game against the American Eagles of Fremont. The American Eagles won 52-48. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia/](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia/)] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

## Amador Valley Girls' basketball Team Edged Out by American-Fremont

By Phil Jensen

The Amador Valley High School girls' basketball team led for a majority of its nonleague home game against American-Fremont on Dec. 14.

But the Eagles outscored Amador Valley 10-3 in the final five minutes of the game to edge the Dons 52-48.

"We stopped attacking them in transition," said Amador Valley coach Dan Sweeney. "The first half, when they pressed us, we were able to get easy baskets. Then we started setting for eight to 12 footers in the fourth quarter, which is a much tougher shot. We didn't hit them, which kind of ended up being the difference in the game. ... We didn't make them pay for pressing us the way we did in the first half."

"I think the effort the last couple games has been

much better. We're on our way to starting to become the basketball team we can be."

The Dons return three starters, including two sophomore guards, from last season's team. Addison Leomiti, an honorable mention all-East Bay Athletic League selection last season, paced Amador Valley in scoring against American with 15 points, including four three-pointers, and also passed for two assists. Megan Hoang grabbed a game-high 14 rebounds as a guard, along with a game-high three assists and seven points. Hoang suffered an ankle injury with 2 minutes, 48 seconds left in the fourth quarter and did not play the remainder of the game. The other returning starter is senior forward Ellie White, who had seven rebounds and two steals to go along with her six points against American.

Amador Valley was missing starting center Ava Kenitzer, who was sick. Kacie Hu filled in admirably as a starter, producing 11 points and four rebounds. Katelyn Bartolome, the Dons' other starter, had a game-high three steals and two assists to go along with six points.

The Dons have eight returners on their 14-player roster from the squad last year, which was 10-17 overall.

Leomiti was on fire offensively in the first half against American, sinking a trio of three-pointers and four field goals overall. The Dons (4-8 overall after this game) took a 22-11 lead with a three-pointer by Leomiti from the top of the key with 6:08 remaining in the first half. But American (3-5), which played in the North Coast Section Division I quarterfinals last

season, rallied and took a 28-27 lead into halftime.

Hoang gave the Dons the lead right back with a shot inside the key just 25 seconds into the second half. She followed that up with a flip shot on a drive to the basket as Amador Valley went on a 10-2 run to start the quarter. But again, American came back before a layup at the third-quarter buzzer by Hu gave the Dons a 40-38 lead.

Amador Valley increased its advantage to 45-40 on a layup by Hoang with 5:24 remaining before American's final run. Shirina Shi produced eight of her game-high 17 points in the fourth quarter for American.

The Dons travel to play Liberty-Brentwood on Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Amador Valley's next game is Jan. 4 at home against Skyline-Oakland at 5 p.m.

## LPC Soccer Star Lands National Honor

By Matt Schwab

Las Positas College sophomore center back Luis "Luigi" Castillo was recently named to the United Soccer Coaches Junior College Division III Men's All-American Second Team.

"He's great on both sides of the ball and was dominant in the air," Hawks head coach Andy Cumbo said of Castillo. "In addition to his class on field, he is a well-mannered, respectful and hard-working young man. He made his mark this year and we are proud and appreciative of him."

Castillo, of Hayward, a Hawks team captain and leader, was also a first-team Coast-South selection after helping the Hawks to a 13-8-2 overall record and a trip to the Northern California Regional Playoffs. He ap-

peared to enjoy all aspects of the LPC program.

"I just want to say thank

you to my Coach Andy Cumbo and to my assistant coaches for the opportunity

to let me represent LPC. I've learned a lot of new things from them and thank you to my teammates for making this a memorable season," Castillo said.

Castillo made an "immediate and continual impact" this season, overcoming injuries to always give his best on game day, the coach said.

The Hawks surged down the stretch, going 5-1 in the final six conference games, to nail down a playoff spot.

Las Positas, as the 14th seed, fell to host No. 3 West Valley 3-0 in Round 1 of the Northern California Regional Playoffs.

Cumbo loved the quality he saw from his men's squad, describing it as "probably the best team I've had here."

What advice would Castillo give to young players? "Always set their goals high, the sky's the limit."



Las Positas College basketball player Luis Castillo, right, with coach Andy Cumbo, has been named to the United Soccer Coaches Junior College Division III Men's All-American Second Team. (Photo courtesy: Alan Lewis)



The Tri Valley Bus Pass Program, which provides free Wheels bus passes, is marking its eighth year of service to those in need. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority)

## Bus Pass Program Helps Those in Need

The Tri Valley Bus Pass Program is entering its eighth year of providing free 24-hour Wheels passes so the needy have a way to get to work or access social service programs.

The program was started by Livermore resident Jacky Poulsen, who created the program after realizing that many people most in need of social programs, including free meals and health care, could not afford bus fare. That also applied to people getting to work or job interviews.

Poulsen began purchasing daily passes for the Wheels bus service, operated by the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, with routes that cover Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore. The passes are issued to about a dozen service organizations in the Tri Valley, including Open Heart Kitchen, Tri Valley Seek and Save, Tri Valley Haven, Cornerstone Fellowship, Interfaith Food Pantry and Asbury United Methodist Church. These

organizations in turn give the passes to their clients who need help with transportation. This year, Gail Cobe and Kim Rowe of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore are working with Poulsen, providing support both with the fundraising and distribution of bus passes.

"We are so thankful for the provision of bus passes each week," said Erin McGrath, outreach pastor for Cornerstone in Livermore. "We have folks coming from all over the Tri-Valley for services such as food, laundry, showers, clothing, and help with housing. It is so helpful to know we can help get them here each week."

100% of the funds are used for buying bus passes.

Donations for the bus pass program can be made online at <https://asburylive.org/buspassprogram/> or by sending a check, with "bus passes" written on the memo line, to the Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore.

## TV30 to Stream, Broadcast Holiday Events

Tri-Valley Community Television (TV30) will stream and broadcast several holiday events from earlier this month between now and New Year's Eve, including Dublin's 40th annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, Pleasanton's Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting, and Livermore's Downtown Holiday Sights and Sounds Parade and Tree

Lighting.

From 6 p.m. to midnight on Christmas Eve, TV30 will offer viewers holiday music to background video "Sleepy Dog at the Fire," followed by a 24-hour marathon of holiday programming on Christmas Day, including parades, tree lighting ceremonies, and the Cantabella Children's Chorus.

New Year's Day will feature high school football, including games this season between Dublin and Amador Valley, Amador Valley and Dublin, and Granada and Livermore.

"TV30 looks forward each year to capturing and sharing the spirit of the holidays with our viewers," said Executive Director Melissa Tench-Stevens. "Each city

we represent is unique in their celebrations. We hope [everyone] will enjoy all the holiday programming and 'Happy Holiday' snippets from viewers which will be televised all month long."

The holiday programming is available on Comcast TV Channel 30, AT&T U-verse via Channel 99, and tv30.org. For a complete schedule, go to [tv30.org](http://tv30.org).

## 3VCF Accepting 'Stuff the Bus' Donations

Although the in-person drop-off for the annual Stuff the Bus for Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by Pleasanton radio station KKIQ was last week, the Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF) will continue to accept online donations for "the next several weeks," according to a joint announcement.

Donations will go to the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Association to purchase toys and distribute them directly to underprivileged youth in the Tri-Valley area.

As it has in the past for short-term community campaigns, 3VCF is also covering all administrative costs so 100% of all donations go to the program.

"I simply can't imagine a better way to help our community members 'give where they live,'" said 3VCF chief executive Kelly Bowers. "3VCF is absolutely thrilled to partner with KKIQ and support our Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters as they bring joy and toys to children in our Three Valleys region. We want to

encourage everyone in our community to help us make their spirits brighter during this holiday season!"

The nonprofit foundation typically partners with other groups to support local community efforts. To donate online, go to [tinyurl.com/2uv52f8b](http://tinyurl.com/2uv52f8b).

## The Wave to Host Kids Night Out

Dublin will sponsor a "Kids Night Out at The Wave" from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20.

The Wave is the city-owned natatorium and wave park at Emerald Glen Park,

4201 Central Parkway.

The evening will include swimming in the indoor pool, pizza, games, and crafts. Those attending should bring a swimsuit, towel, and a change of clothing.

The event is for children 6 through 12 and is \$58 for residents and \$69 for non-residents.

Registration is required at [thedublinwave.com](http://thedublinwave.com).

## Dublin to Recycle Christmas Trees

For Dublin residents looking to recycle live Christmas trees after the holidays, Boy Scouts Troop 905 will pick them up for a \$10 fee.

Trees need to be free of flocking or tinsel, and any base or tree stands removed. To schedule a pickup, go to [troop905.org](http://troop905.org).

Reservations will be accepted through 3 p.m., Friday, Jan. 5. Amador Valley Industries

(AVI), which provides regular trash collection for Dublin residents, will also provide holiday tree pickup on regular service days between Monday, Jan. 8, and Wednesday, Jan. 31.

AVI will provide a separate truck for discarded Christmas trees.

Trees need to be clean, no flocking or tinsel, cut into pieces four-foot in length or less, and at the curb by 5:30 a.m.

Residents can also use their green organics carts to dispose of discarded trees. Trees need to be cut so that lids close securely, and carts will be emptied on regular service days.

In addition, the city will have two large bins for residents to drop off Christmas trees for recycling in the parking lot of the Dublin Sports Grounds, 6700 Dublin Blvd., beginning Friday, Jan. 5.

THE *Independent*

## Now Seeking Freelance Reporters

The Independent is engaging freelance reporters to cover breaking news, government meetings, science and cultural topics and feature pieces in the Tri-Valley. Must have at least two years of experience writing for a newspaper or news website. Prefer candidates who live in the Tri-Valley, but will consider others willing to report in the region.

Please email [Kristin@independentnews.com](mailto:Kristin@independentnews.com) with your resume and at least 5 writing samples, with the subject line "Freelancer Application."

# Winners Announced in the "Deck the Homes" Contest

Each year, the City of Dublin hosts the "Deck the Homes" Holiday Home Decorating Contest to support those who create festive holiday displays around town. The City's Parks and Community Services Commission serves as contest judges. The winners receive a yard sign for display, a gift card to a local business, and are recognized before the Dublin City Council.

View the map to visit all of the contest entries.

Congratulations to the 2024 Contest Winners:

Seen from Space Award – Best use of lights and color. Bonato Family at 7574 Sutton Lane

Winter Wonderland Award – Best use of music, movement, and technology. Brandt Family at 7287 Bedford Way

Over-Inflated Award – Best use of inflatables. McCormack Family at 6815 Ione Way

Deck the Hall Award – Best decorated apartment/condo/balcony/door. Flebut Family. 5653 Iron Horse Parkway

Dashing Debut Award – First-year contest participant. Grymonprez Family at 8645 Ardmore Place

Spotlight Award – Judges' choice. Pena-Gasper Family at 11913 Bloomington Way.



Volunteers place ribbons on wreaths during the "Wreaths Across America Day" in Pleasanton on Dec. 16. Wreaths were placed on all 560+ graves at Pleasanton's Pioneer Cemetery. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

## LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602115

The following person(s) doing business as: Dear Taco, 3811 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94619 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dear Taco LLC, 3811 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94619. 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: 11/01/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kao Saelee, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2023. Expires November 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5698. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602194

The following person(s) doing business as: VS Services, 1141 Catalina Drive, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Todd Storti, 1141 Catalina Drive, 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/: Todd Storti, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 20, 2023. Expires November 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5699. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602176

The following person(s) doing business as: OMEML Data Photonics, 34499 Jasmine Court, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donghong Wu, 34499 Jasmine Court, Union City, CA 94587. 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: 11/17/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Donghong Wu. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 17, 2023. Expires November 16, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5700. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602140

The following person(s) doing business as: Alice Home Care, 2515 Santa Clara Ave., Suite 201, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Veris East-bay Homecare, Inc., 2515 Santa Clara Ave., Suite 201, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/18/20017. Signature of Registrant/s/: John Han, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 16, 2023. Expires November 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5701. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601879

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50008, 1916 Webster St., Ste. 101, Alameda, CA 94501-2140 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Michael Emerson, Vice President, Tax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5702. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601880

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50009, 2600 Mowry Ave., Ste 101, Fremont, CA 94538-1619 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Michael Emerson, Vice President, Tax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5703. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601882

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50010, 164 W Jackson St., Ste 10, Hayward, CA 94544-1810 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Michael Emerson, Vice President, Tax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5704. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601883

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50034, 23958 Hesperian Blvd., Ste 101, Hayward, CA 94541-7241 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Michael Emerson, Vice President, Tax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5705. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601885

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50063, 301 E 18th St., Ste 10, Oakland, CA 94606-1813 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Porus Engineer, Managing Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 8, 2023. Expires November 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5710. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602255

The following person(s) doing business as: Upward Signing, 35111 Newark Blvd Ste F PMB

5093, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amylynn Nicanor, 35251 Lido Blvd, 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: 11/18/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amylynn Nicanor, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 22, 2023. Expires November 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5711. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601886

The following person(s) doing business as: Walgreens Health Corner #50074, 5809 Foothill Blvd., Ste 101, Oakland, CA 94605-1305 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Walgreens Health Services LLC, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. 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/: Michael Emerson, Vice President, Tax. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5707. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602056

The following person(s) doing business as: Vogue Beauty Salon, 46485 Mission Blvd, Ste 800 Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Arkas Flips LLC, 1877 Sioux Dr., 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/: Abhay Sachar, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 13, 2023. Expires November 12, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5708. Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601983

The following person(s) doing business as: Cross Over Dental Enterprises, 350 Sonic Avenue, Floor 2, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Streamline Billing, LLC, 350 Sonic Avenue, Floor 2, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jorge Ramirez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 14, 2023. Expires November 13, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5714. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602407

The following person(s) doing business as: Upward Signing, 35111 Newark Blvd Ste F PMB

5093, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amylynn Nicanor, 35251 Lido Blvd, 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: 11/18/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amylynn Nicanor, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 22, 2023. Expires November 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5711. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602242

The following person(s) doing business as: Calabria Rentals, 5851 Annandale Way, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amol Tuli, 5851 Annandale Way, 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: 11/6/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Amol Tuli, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 21, 2023. Expires November 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5712. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602307

The following person(s) doing business as: Premier Jazzman Limo, 36371 Magellan Dr., Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Canyon Limousine LLC, 1818 Gilbreth Rd., #240B, Burlingame, CA 94010. 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: 1/28/2017. Signature of Registrant/s/: Norman Ngan, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 27, 2023. Expires November 26, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5713. Published December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601902

The following person(s) doing business as: Jorge's Fences, 241 N I Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jorge Ramirez, 241 N I St, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 11/6/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jorge Ramirez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5714. Published December 14, 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602407

The following person(s) doing

business as: M J Financial, 1020 Alison Circle, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Moneshpal Singh Josan, 1020 Alison Circle, 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: 12/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jorge Ramirez, Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 1, 2023. Expires November 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5715. Published December 14, 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601838

The following person(s) doing business as: Pixie Dust and Pine, 6853 Massey Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tom Ling, 6853 Massey Court, 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: 1/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tom Ling, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 3, 2023. Expires November 2, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5716. Published December 14, 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601936

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Zageur: 2. Alameda CNC; 3. Redline Robotics, 248 3rd St., # 1167, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Payne Capital LLC, 248 3rd St., # 1167, Oakland, CA 94607. 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/: Daniel Payne, Manager. This statement was filed with the

County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2023. Expires November 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5717. Published December 14, 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 601840

The following person(s) doing business as: Cafe Brusco, 2000 University Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cafe Torino LLC, 1729 Delaware Street Unit B, Berkeley, CA 94704. 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/: Alexis Rorabaugh, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 3, 2023. Expires November 2, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5718. Published December 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 11, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602461

The following person(s) doing business as: Vogue Beauty Lounge, 46485 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Arkas Flips LLC, 1877 Sioux Dr., 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: 12/01/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Abhay Sachar, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2023. Expires December 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5718. Published December 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 11, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602139

The following person(s) doing business as: 934 Motorsport, 37525 Glenmoor Drive #11, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following

owner(s): 934 Motorsport LLC, 1252 Moonlight Way, Milpitas, CA 95035. 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/: Ali A. Tuwarish, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 16, 2023. Expires November 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5719. Published December 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 11, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602461

The following person(s) doing business as: Vogue Beauty Lounge, 46485 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Arkas Flips LLC, 1877 Sioux Dr., 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: 12/01/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Abhay Sachar, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2023. Expires December 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5718. Published December 21, 28, 2023, January 4, 11, 2024.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602139

The following person(s) doing business as: 934 Motorsport, 37525 Glenmoor Drive #11, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 602139

The following person(s) doing business as: 934 Motorsport, 37525 Glenmoor Drive #11, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following

### TO PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS

go to [bit.ly/Indy-Classifieds](http://bit.ly/Indy-Classifieds) or call (925)243-8000

### MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

### ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

### FREE SECTION

### LOST/ FOUND

### NOTICES /ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NOTICES

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

### REAL ESTATE

### LAND FOR RENT

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

### HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

### BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

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



### Adopt a New Best Friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include: Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Dublin Petsmart 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm. Visit our website: [WWW.TVAR.ORG](http://WWW.TVAR.ORG). To see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate. Follow: TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, and Instagram.

### EMPLOYMENT

Designer, Senior: design, develop high quality hospitality projects; Bachelor's degree in Interior Design rel. + 5 yrs. exp. CV to [hr@foothillshg.com](mailto:hr@foothillshg.com) One Union Studio (Pleasanton, CA)

### HELP WANTED

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

## Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

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

<b>MIKE FRACISCO</b> 925.998.8131 <b>FRACISCO REALTY</b> Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt <a href="http://www.MikeFracisco.com">www.MikeFracisco.com</a> DRE #01378428	Broker	<b>Sandee Utterback</b> (925) 487-0524 CA BRE #0085150 <b>WWW.SANDEEU.COM</b> Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes
<b>Cindy Greci</b> 925.784.1243 DRE #01323804	<b>Dominic Greci</b> 925.525.0864 DRE #01707140	<b>NICOLE SWEENEY</b> REALTOR® 925.518.2142 nicole@nicolesweeneyshomes.com Results That Move You
<a href="http://www.GreciGroup.com">www.GreciGroup.com</a>		
<b>PREFERRED BROKERS</b> <b>Wanda Thompson</b> 925.858.9128 411 So L St, Suite E, Livermore CA DRE #00983781 / NMLS#244633	<b>MARTI GILBERT</b> <b>IRON HORSE REAL ESTATE</b> 550 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON marti@homesbymarti.com DRE 01520061 925.216.4063	
<b>Michelle Elliott</b> Senior Home Lending Advisor 925.212.6907   Fax: 925.378.1616 Michelle.d.elliott@chase.com HomeLoans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott NMLS ID: #9488	<b>Gordon Corsie</b> Real Estate Broker Scotsman Realty Group CA DRE Lic # 0091100 Call/Text: 925.202.5497 <a href="http://www.thescotsmans.com">www.thescotsmans.com</a>	
<b>CONNER CLOSE</b> REALTOR   CA DRE #02178974 925.337.5237 Homes@ConnerClose.com 550 MAIN ST.   PLEASANTON, CA 94566	<b>AVR Properties</b> <b>We Rent Your Homes</b> PROPERTY MANAGEMENT 925.447.2367   DRE 0096046167	

**ROOM FOR RENT**

## PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE

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

# Livermore Honored as One Of State's Merriest Cities

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Livermore was recently highlighted on VisitCalifornia.com as one of 15 California towns and cities with a holiday spirit.

Livermore becomes festive during the holiday season, with a hometown parade and lights decking almost every building downtown.

Residents get into the spirit too, especially Deacon Dave Rezendes.

For 40 years, he has decorated his home – dubbed Casa del Pomba – with hundreds of thousands of Christmas lights, drawing visitors from all over the Bay Area. This year 875,850 lights are displayed.

Livermore Mayor John Marchand explained that the holidays hold a special place in the heart of the Livermore community.

“Saturday was our beloved Holiday Sights and Sounds Parade, which brought over 25,000 people into our award-winning downtown,” Marchand said, noting the town also lit a menorah to celebrate Hanukkah. “Yes, Livermore loves the holiday season.”

When detailing holiday events in Livermore, VisitCalifornia.com highlighted the Lights of Livermore Holiday Tour with Concannon Vineyard, a one-hour, open-air ride on the Livermore Wine

Trolley. The website’s CEO, Caroline Beteta, said towns across the state inspire and welcome travelers with festive charm, and Livermore is not to be missed.

“Livermore’s seasonal activities and elaborate light displays make it an ideal destination to soak in the holiday spirit, and nearby shopping makes it easy for visitors to find great holiday gifts,” Beteta reported “Like many types of experiences, California has an embarrassment of riches to share with the world, but in the case of tracking down the state’s most magical holiday happenings, Livermore belongs on the map.”



Livermore has been named as one of the top 15 towns in the state having the most spirit during the holiday season. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

## Spence Promoted to Assistant City Manager

Paul Spence, Livermore’s director of community development, has been named assistant city manager to succeed Christine Martin, who is retiring after 21 years with the city.

Spence’s appointment by City Manager Marianna Marysheva became effective this week. He will oversee the Public Works, Community Development, and Innovation & Economic Development departments and the city’s emergency management program.

“Paul has strong technical skills, organizational experience, institutional knowledge, and familiarity with a host of

significant and highly visible projects and initiatives,” Marysheva said.



Paul Spence

The city manager added that Spence “has earned the respect of staff, the city council, the business community, and external partners” and

his “experience and institutional knowledge will provide much-needed continuity at the executive level.”

Spence joined the city in 2001 as an associate planner. He was promoted to planning manager and then community development director in 2016.

As community development director, he was responsible for the city’s Building, Engineering, Housing and Human Services, and Planning divisions.

During his tenure, Spence was also responsible for implementing the city’s 2004 General Plan, Development Code, Downtown Specific

Plan, adoption of the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan, and an update to the Climate Action Plan.

Spence has a bachelor’s degree from Pomona College in Claremont, California, and a master’s in urban and regional planning from the University of California, Irvine. He is on the board of the Bay Area Planning Directors Association, a nonprofit that offers professional education and promotes collaboration among Bay Area planning professionals.

Livermore is conducting a nationwide search for a new director of community development.

## Marching Matadors Take on Metallica Challenge

The Granada High School Marching Band, joined by the City of Livermore Color Guard, are entered in the first-ever “For Whom the Band Tolls” competition sponsored by the iconic heavy-metal band Metallica.

And while the band was not a finalist in its division, the Marching Matadors are still hoping to garner enough online votes to be named a Fan Favorite.

More than 100 high

schools nationwide entered the competition, which required them to submit a video playing a selection of 13 Metallica hits.

The Marching Matadors took on the challenge of playing “Sad but True,” “Fade to Black” and “Lux Aeterna.”

The field show, filmed at Granada High School’s football stadium with the City of Livermore Color Guard in early November, was also a departure for the band, which

usually focuses on parades and concert performances.

The band, with more than 50 members, and the color guard, a competitive program open to students from Granada and Livermore High School, are both sponsored by Granada Music Parents, a nonprofit organization.

To view the performances and vote for a fan favorite, go to [metallicamarchingband.com](http://metallicamarchingband.com).

Voting ends at midnight, Dec. 31, with the school with

the most fan votes receiving music equipment valued at \$10,000.

## Chorale Schedules Auditions for Spring Concerts

The Valley Concert Chorale will hold auditions for its spring concerts, “Music to Soothe Your Soul,” at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore on Monday, Jan. 15, and Monday, Jan. 22.

The 15-minute auditions will be by appointment only and will include vocalizing, reading from one page of a motet, and a clapping exercise.

Singers must commit to the spring concert season with Monday rehearsals at the church.

In March, the chorus will present Gabriel Faure’s “Cantique de Jean Racine,” Mozart’s “Ave Verum, Duruflé’s in Paradisum,” and works by contemporary choral composers Ola Gjeilo and Pēteris Vasks.

The May, the chorus will

present “On the Lighter Side,” with songs made popular by Nat King Cole, Billy Joel, Elton John, and Disney’s Movie Magic.

To schedule an audition, call (925) 866-4003.

Now in its 61st season, the all-volunteer, nonprofit Valley Concert Chorale is under the direction of John Emory Bush.

## Tri-Valley Haven Plans Fundraising Dinner for April

Tri-Valley Haven (TVH) will hold a groundbreaking ceremony and fundraising dinner in April for its Domestic Violence Shelter Rebuild Campaign.

TVH, which operates a confidential domestic violence center, announced a campaign in 2022 to raise funds for a new center with 50% greater capacity.

After years of use, TVH said the old shelter, with 30 beds, is “in physical decline.” The new shelter will have room for 45 beds.

Thus far, TVH said, the campaign has raised more than 80% of its \$7.8 million goal, with help from Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, and Alameda County, along with the

Sunlight Giving Foundation, Fremont Bank Foundation, and individual contributors.

The Building Together Gala will be at 5 p.m., Saturday, April 13, at the Robert Livermore Community Center in Livermore, with Dublin Mayor Malissa Hernandez as the emcee. Tickets will go on sale in January.

### MY BUDDY'S BIKE SHOP IN DOWNTOWN LIVERMORE

Dreaming of a BIKE Christmas!

- BIKES FOR EVERYONE
- LOTS OF KIDS BIKES IN STOCK FOR CHRISTMAS

Husqvarna

GASGAS

SPECIALIZED

SANTA CRUZ

NORCO

GIANT

10% OFF EVERY ITEM IN STOCK WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AD  
Offer Ends 12/31/23

WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS | SKILLED SERVICE TECHNICIANS

1601-B Railroad Ave  
Downtown Livermore

925.583.5454

mybuddysbikeshop.com  
Hours: Tues-Sat 10am-6pm

Wishing you the happiest holidays!

THE Independent

“40 Years Installing Fireplaces”

WE OFFER A LARGE SELECTION OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES INCLUDING:

Gas Fireplaces • Gas & Pellet Inserts • Free-Standing Stoves  
Sales & Installation of our Products Only

UP TO \$400 OFF\*  
\*On select units.

HEAT & GLO

No one builds a better fire

510.471.5601

JerrysFireplaces.com

JERRY'S

FIREPLACES

Tired of no burn days?

CA Lic #525769

QUADRA-FIRE

NOTHING BURNS LIKE A QUAD

23585 Connecticut Street  
Unit 15, Hayward  
M-F 9-5, Sat 10-4