

Move Eden Housing City Ordered To Process Referendum

Lower Court Ruling Has Been Reversed

LIVERMORE — The California 1st District Court of Appeal has issued a ruling that will require Livermore officials to finish processing a community group’s referendum petition seeking to put the city council resolution approving the controversial 130-unit Eden Housing project to a public vote. Alternatively, the council could repeal the May 2022 resolution that authorized the sale of land to Eden at the proposed downtown site, and that dealt with financial issues connected to the land and the project.

In a 30-page opinion, the three-justice panel reversed an earlier ruling by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Michael Markman involving a referendum petition submitted by Move Eden Housing (MEH) to the city in July 2022. While Markman had ruled that the city acted appropriately when Livermore City Clerk Marie Weber declined to

(See EDEN, page 6)

Livermore Airport Step Toward Unleaded Fuel Taken

Air Quality District Requires 2nd Permit

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — Plans for unleaded aviation fuel at Livermore Municipal Airport continue to struggle, despite efforts from the city and Five Rivers Aviation to offer the option.

Five Rivers, the sole fuel provider at the airport, secured a permit from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) last month to repurpose a 1,000-gallon fuel tank to offer UL94, an unleaded fuel suitable for some low-power aircraft.

Unlike cars, the majority of piston aircraft engines continue to use tetraethyl lead as an octane booster. The additive is toxic if inhaled or ingested, affecting human

(See AIRPORT, page 7)



Dublin will offer a variety of options this weekend to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, including a parade, 5K race and drone show. Above, Dubliners welcome residents from their sister city in Bray, Ireland last year. (See story on page 3.) (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

LLNL and UC Merced Scientists

Carbon Removal With Plants Studied

By David Jen

REGIONAL — Along with reducing carbon emissions, the world will need to remove carbon already in the atmosphere to achieve its carbon-neutrality goals and avoid the worst effects of climate change.

“Try as hard as we might (toward carbon-neutrality), it won’t be easy; and

we won’t get all the way to zero without literally sucking CO2 out of the air,” said Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) scientist Jennifer Pett-Ridge.

Pett-Ridge is the lead author of a report titled Roads to Removal that surveyed the feasibility of carbon renewal in the U.S. She, along with UC Merced soil

physics professor Teamrat Ghezzehei, presented a lecture at UC Merced on Feb. 29 highlighting the need to incorporate carbon removal into our industries and economies today.

To reach its climate goals, the world needs to remove 10 billion tons of carbon dioxide per year by 2050, according to the report. If achieved, the world could effectively add no

(See CARBON, page 7)

Nate Miley on Course to Secure Re-Election to Board of Supervisors

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley appears well on his way to a seventh term on the board, drawing nearly two-thirds of the vote last week against a challenger who had sought to bring “generational change” to the panel.

Through last week’s count, election returns showed Miley received

63% of the vote to psychiatric nurse Jennifer Esteen’s 37% to represent the county’s 4th District, which serves portions of Pleasanton and the city of Oakland, along with Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, El Portal Ridge, Fairmont Terrace, Fairview and Hill Crest Knolls.

“Pleased, joyous and thankful. A lot of gratitude that voters want to have me continue to represent them

in District 4 on the Board of Supervisors,” Miley told The Independent.

In other board races, Supervisor David Haubert ran unopposed to win a second term representing District 1, which includes Dublin, Livermore, a portion of Pleasanton, most of Fremont and Sunol. District 2 Supervisor Elisa Marquez won election to complete the term of the late Supervisor Richard Valle. The board appointed

(See MILEY, page 7)

Primaries Set Up November Races

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — The registrars in three counties were continuing to count ballots this week, but races affecting the Tri-Valley appeared to be decided following the March 5 primary election, paving the way for campaigns to begin for November runoffs.

Here’s how some state,

federal and local elections shaped up with ballots counted in Alameda, San Joaquin and Contra Costa counties through March 8. Updated figures will be released March 15.

In the 14th Congressional District, incumbent U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell won the primary easily with 64% of the vote. He will face Republican business-

man second-place finisher, Vin Kruttiventi, in November. Kruttiventi is a new challenger for Swalwell. Finishing with 18% of the vote, Kruttiventi bettered Swalwell’s previous Republican challenger, Alison Hayden, who took in 11% to finish third. Swalwell easily defeated Hayden in 2020 and 2022. Republican Luis Reynoso, a Chabot-Las

(See PRIMARIES, page 8)

Federal Correctional Institution Dublin

FBI Raids Women’s Jail; Warden and Staff Removed

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — FBI agents raided the troubled women’s prison in Dublin on Monday, at the same time federal authorities announced the ouster of its latest warden and three other top officials.

The FBI declined to comment on the raids at Federal Correction Institution (FCI) Dublin. Agents were spotted carrying boxes out of the prison. The facility has already seen eight previous officials — including a former warden — sentenced to prison since 2021 for abusing female inmates.

“We conducted court-authorized law enforcement

activity at that location,” FBI spokesman Cameron Polan said. “I am unable to comment further at this time.”

Attorneys for the U.S. Government, meanwhile, filed a notice in U.S. District Court in Oakland on Monday to announce that the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) had replaced Acting Warden Arthur Dulgov, Associate Warden Patrick Deveney and Acting Capt. Joaquin Ayala.

Dulgov and his staff were accused last month of retaliating against an inmate who testified in January about the toxic conditions at the prison, which has drawn the nickname “Rape Club.”

Randilee Giamusso, a

(See JAIL, page 9)



Above, from left to right, Pranav Dandasi and Gabrielle McClung from Livermore High visit Erick Socha Fraille at Marylin Avenue’s STEAM Academy for a partnership day. (See story on page 12.) (Photo courtesy: LVJUSD)

Dublin and Pleasanton School Districts Honored

By Ruth Roberts

REGIONAL — Schools from two Tri-Valley school districts have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools for 2024: Dublin High School and Wells Middle School in the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD), and Pleasanton Middle School and Hart Middle School in the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD).

The awards, one of the highest accolades a California school can receive, highlight two categories of success: closing the achievement gap and demonstrating exceptional student performance.

Winning schools are recognized for closing the achievement gap by enrolling at least 40% of their students from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds.

They are also identified by demonstrating exemplary overall performance in English Language Arts (ELA) and math, as well as for accelerating academic growth for underserved student groups, according to the Distinguished Schools website.

Exceptional student performances based on exemplary successes in ELA and math, the reduction of suspensions, and high graduation rates at high schools are also considered.

Both Dublin schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools multiple times, with Dublin High last honored in 2019 and Wells in 2013, according to Chip Dehnert, DUSD’s public information officer.

“Dublin High has long been a high-performing school, but our data indicated

(See DISTRICTS, page 7)



Everly Ryan (front) races at Livermore’s Tri Valley Quarter Midget Association track on March 9. The sport has become a lifestyle and profession for her family. (See story on page 8.) (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Race Car Kids Share Motorsport Passion With the Local Community

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — For Michelle Ryan’s family, race car driving is more than a pastime; it’s a lifestyle — and a profession. The Ryans started a business, called Ryan Racing 23, that focuses on helping driver development and garnering exposure for the child-size motorsport known as quarter midget racing.

Ryan said it’s such a great sport, but not everyone knows about it. “People know about adult professional racing, but not about kids

racing,” she said.

Ryan’s two kids started racing quarter midget cars at the Tri-Valley Quarter Midget Association (TVQMA) in Livermore at age 4. Ryan’s son Jacob is now 12, and her daughter Everly is 7. The younger of the two siblings currently races at TVQMA, while her older brother has moved on to junior late model stock cars. He races in Madera, California, but he is still a regular fixture around the Livermore track, helping younger race car drivers find their way in the sport.

“Quarter midgets are the

starting point. They’re fundamental,” Ryan said. “I see Jacob driving those big cars now. There would have been no way without quarter midgets; they’re the foundation for everything.”

Ryan had some indication this would be her family’s path when she and her now-husband first met. “He used to drive stock cars and was financing everything himself (without big industry sponsorships). So that was kind of like our date nights. We would fix the car,” she said. “I learned way more than I wanted to about cars.”

(See RACE CAR, page 8)

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PETS OF THE WEEK



MEET BOO BOO BEAR

Behold Boo Boo Bear, the bouncing bundle of bliss. This bubbly boy brings boundless kisses, bountiful tail wags, and boatloads of cuddles. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. (Photo – Valley Humane Society)

Commission Puts High Density Hopyard Road Project on Hold

Neighboring Residents Voice a Need to Protect Small-Town Feel

By Ruth Roberts

The Pleasanton Planning Commission voted 4-1 last week, to push off approval of a housing development on Hopyard Road, following numerous complaints from residents over the high-density development proposal.

Catalyst Development Partners, LLC has applied with the City of Pleasanton to demolish Harvest Valley Christian Church and its ad-

some of the city’s inclusion-ary zoning requirements. Pleasanton must meet its assigned Regional Housing Needs Allocation numbers of 5,965 new units, 2,758 of which are targeted toward lower-income households, by 2032.

Residents from the community and the nearby Valley Trails neighborhood spoke during the Feb. 28 planning commission meeting about their concerns regarding the

were to be approved, the precedent would be set for multi-story structures all over town. Take a look at how Redwood City has completely destroyed the small-town feel in favor of high-rise housing. There must be a better solution to satisfy all parties.”

Valley Trails resident Gowtham Swaroopa said the project is simply not a good fit for the area.

“I oppose the project because it harms the

neighborhood and does not alter the character of the neighborhood.”

In the end, the commission asked staff to take a deeper dive into the traffic data which was compiled from a 2020 analysis and bring it back at the March 13 meeting, which occurred after this story’s deadline.

Commission Chair Matt Gaidos, who was the dissenting vote, grew up in the Valley Trails neighborhood and said he sympathized with the public speakers, but added that in many respects the commission is hamstrung; if they reject this development, another project will surely follow.

“I’m struggling to come up, myself, with a legitimate reason under the framework we are under, to vote in denial of an application that from every framework we are under legally, might not be an appropriate thing to do,” said Gaidos. “(California has) a state legislature that is passing ‘what is good for the goose is good for the gander’ laws. They are putting the same framework on cities like Oakland and San Jose as Pleasanton and San Ramon ... Even though my heart goes out to everyone, I am not sure we have a legitimate reason to go against what city staff has recommended.”

The project site, about

three acres, was originally earmarked to build 44 moderate-income housing units. Under the new proposal, however, the development looks to build 48 above-moderate income units and nine lower-income units.

High density housing refers to housing developments with a higher pop-

ulation density than average. For example, high rise apartments are considered high density in comparison to single-family homes.

Regardless of the proposal’s outcome, the Harvest Valley Church will be moving to a new location at 5587 Sunol Boulevard in Pleasanton.



Above, the property for 57 proposed condos is outlined in red. (Photo courtesy: City of Pleasanton)

acent daycare on Hopyard Road near the Valley Trails neighborhood. The proposal would replace the buildings with 57 attached condominium units consisting of 48 three-story townhomes and nine low-income apartments. The lower-income apartments would meet

project.

Scott Smith, who lives near the planned development, said he feared building would ruin the small-town feel of the community.

“This proposal is incongruous with the neighborhood in so many ways,” said Smith. “If this proposal

character of our neighborhood, makes the streets too busy, increases traffic dangers, strains our local park, offers inadequate parking and heavily relies on unavailable off-street parking,” he said. “I want a development plan that genuinely respects our

Pleasanton Police Chief Leaves for New Role

By Ruth Roberts

After 30 years serving as a law enforcement official, Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing is leaving the post he has held since 2020 to take on a different public service role. He has been hired as the executive director of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority (EBRCSA). Swing’s last day in the Pleasanton Police Department will be May 2. He is staying as a resident in the Tri-Valley.

The Dublin-based EBRCSA provides infrastructure for public safety radio systems in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. In his new role, Swing will be coordinating the systems and working with different contractors and vendors to ensure the ongoing safety of the public.

“Choosing to retire from a profession, city and department that has given me so much was a tremendously difficult decision,” said Swing. “Throughout my time in Pleasanton, I was continuously impressed by how the women and men of the police department cared for our community and each other ... I will always look back fondly on how the department welcomed me during the onset of the pandemic and hope the relationships I’ve made last as long as the things we accomplished.”

Swing came to the top job in Pleasanton’s police

department from Morgan Hill, where he served as the chief of police for nine years. During his tenure in Pleasanton, Swing helped create the Alternative Response Unit, which brings trained mental health clinicians on site when appropriate during crisis situations to help reduce officer involvement. He



Above, Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing carries ice cream at Cone with a Cop Day in August 2022. (Photo Courtesy: City of Pleasanton)

also developed and implemented a 5-year strategic plan and increased employee recognition through an inaugural department awards ceremony. In late 2021, Swing led the establishment of the Community Advisory Board, which provides input and insights to the police chief on various policies and policing practices.

Swing, 53, a Tri-Valley resident and married father, said he is looking for-

ward to this newest chapter in his career, but leaves the City of Pleasanton with a heavy heart.

“The work of law enforcement is very special to me,” he said. “There aren’t many careers where you can make a difference in everyone’s life ... I am exceptionally proud of the officers I work with, and I am conflicted in the move because this department and profession mean so much to me ... (but) the opportunity was available at this time, and it is a job that intrigues me.”

City Manager Gerry Beaudin thanked Swing for his time in Pleasanton.

“Our community has benefited from Chief Swing’s leadership, expertise, and passion for public service and public safety,” Beaudin said in a statement.

For the next few months until he leaves, Swing said it will be business as usual.

“In the time I have still here, I intend to continue leading the organization and working on our strategic plan, and that implementation will continue to move forward as it aligns with the goals of the city,” Swing said. “I will also continue to work as diligently as possible on the transition to ensure a smooth and seamless transition.”

Heather Tiernan, communications manager for the City of Pleasanton, said the search for a new chief is underway.





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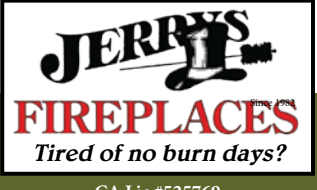




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Dublin Will Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day for the 40th Time With a Parade, Gala, Drones and More

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The city will commemorate 40 years of everything Irish during its annual St. Patrick’s Day Celebration this weekend.

Events are scheduled to take place March 15-17; there’s something on the list for everyone in the family. This year’s festival includes a 5K Shamrock Fun Run and Walk, Shamrock Gala, Firefighters Pancake Breakfast, and St. Patrick’s Day parade. One highlight of the celebration is a special 200-drone light show scheduled for Saturday evening.

“We are trying to emphasize the fact it’s the 40th (year of our) St. Patrick’s Day celebration this year,” said Ivan San Pedro, Dublin’s recreation supervisor. “What’s exciting for us to share with the community is the 200-drone show.”

San Pedro said the city included a drone show during its Splatter celebration last year and thought it was so great, it should be brought back for St. Patrick’s Day. The aerial show will be visible from many parts of the city.

Events will be kicked off Friday evening with the Dublin Historical Society’s Shamrock Gala, a ticketed event for adults 21 and older. The evening includes dinner, music, dancing, a raffle and door prizes. Tickets cost \$75. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.dublin-historicalsociety.org.

On Saturday, Alameda

County Firefighters will serve up green pancakes fresh off the griddle from 7-10 a.m. at the Annual Firefighters Pancake Breakfast at Station 16, located at 7494 Donohue Drive. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5. All proceeds benefit the Alameda County Firefighters Association charity fund.

Next on the schedule is the Dublin Lions Club 40th St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Saturday. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road, the

parade will wind through the streets, continuing east on Dublin Boulevard, north on Village Parkway, west on Amador Valley Boulevard, and ending near the Dublin Senior Center. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route. The parade features more than 80 entries, including festive marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, classic cars, dance troupes, equestrians and local dignitaries.

The festival will take

place both March 16 and 17, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Center Plaza. Highlights of the festival include three stages with live music and Irish dancing, an Irish Marketplace, an Irish tea cottage, Irish food and beverage for sale, as well as Celtic artwork and jewelry.

“Rotary Club will serve beer both days, with a commemorative beer mug available,” San Pedro said. “We have over 250 commercial vendors who will sell all kinds of items, and over 35 food vendors. We are looking forward to the festival and it’s looking like we’ll have good weather, too.”

On Sunday, the city will host its Annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Dublin Boulevard near the Civic Center. The pathway goes through town, ending at the festival with live music, awards and giveaways for participants. To register, visit runsignup.com/Race/CA/Dublin/DublinShamrockRun.

“This is the type of event that really cements a city, and this is such a significant event for the City of Dublin,” said San Pedro. “We are so proud when we talk about the 40th St. Patrick’s Day celebration, because this is our signature event, and we are excited to have all our community members come out to enjoy what Dublin has to offer.”

For a schedule of events or more information, call 925-556-4500 or visit www.dublin.ca.gov/stpats.



Revelers enjoy Dublin’s St. Patrick’s Day parade in March 2022. (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

County Assessor to Hold Free Homeowners Fair

The Alameda County Assessor’s Office will hold its fifth annual Homeowners Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Ave., Dublin.

This year’s event will focus on accessory dwelling units (ADU), also referred to as granny flats, in-law units, backyard cottages, and secondary units, which County Assessor Phong La called “an innovative, affordable, and effective option for creating much-needed housing in California.”

The event is free.

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EDITORIAL

Unleaded Fuel at the Livermore Airport Is Underway, but the Process Needs to Move Faster

We applaud the recent efforts to offer unleaded aviation fuel at Livermore Municipal Airport. Many piston-engine aircraft continue to use lead as an additive in their fuel, which contributes to air-pollution concerns close to the airport.

Lead exposure can cause a variety of health problems in humans, especially in children, where it can lead to behavioral and learning problems, slowed growth, hearing

problems and anemia, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Livermore’s Five Rivers Aviation recently obtained a permit to store and sell a lead-free alternative at the airport. The permit begins the process of securing a dedicated unleaded-fuel tank for Livermore’s aircraft.

However, additional permitting is needed from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), as well

as other approvals and parts before unleaded fuel can be offered. We urge the city and Five Rivers Aviation to pressure the BAAQMD to expedite the process with Five Rivers Aviation, because the health of our residents is at risk.

The tank is just the beginning. A complete phase out of aviation lead emissions requires a concerted nationwide effort. Aircraft, after all, travel across hundreds of miles. And the emis-

sions released in one area do not necessarily come from the fuel purchased there.

Legislation requiring unleaded fuels broadly is needed soon, not just in the distant future. Our federal and state representatives should be called into action. New fuels remain to be tested and certified for all of the aircraft in flight today.

We look forward to Livermore taking a leadership role to address the dangers of leaded fuel.

MAILBOX

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

Soul of My Soul Exhibit
Rida Wali, Dublin

As an avid reader of The Independent and a Dublin resident, I was thrilled to see the edited article on the Soul of My Soul exhibit.

You captured the spirit of the event and of the general public. The children of Gaza are being slaughtered at an unprecedented rate and the event is a small attempt at acknowledging our disenfranchised grief. Thank you for your integrity and attention to the cause.

May peace and sanity prevail in this dystopian world.

Livermore Airport Land Use Analysis Event
Felicia Ziomek, Livermore

The city is performing an analysis regarding future development at Livermore Airport. They’re having an open house on Livermore Airport land use prior to finalizing future airport development plans, to be presented to the city council in June. This is an opportunity to learn more details and to provide feedback on issues involving the airport with which you may be concerned. Your input matters! Please attend and convey your perspectives and concerns of residents who live near the airport.

When: Thursday, March 21, 4pm-7:30pm

Where: Livermore Public Library Community Rooms, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

No More Voter Suppression
Doug Mann, Livermore

Three reputable judges ruled last week that Livermore broke the law by subverting your right to vote in 2022. I’ll quote what I told you then:

“Livermore’s city clerk just had her ‘Mike Pence moment’, and she blew it.

“The similarities to the insurrection are dramatic. Pence counted the votes and ignored fake electors; she received the Move Eden Housing petitions, but refused to count your signatures while accepting the fake objection prepared by our discredited city attorney.

“Failing to advance the ‘Move Eden Housing’ petitions is illegal. The relevant case law is dead solid about what the clerk must do, and the precedent is easy to find, because it happened right next door in Pleasanton after Jennifer Lin sued Kay Ayala. Making quasi-judicial evaluations is simply not her job.

“This whole episode is an eerie reminder of our previous city clerk, Sarah Bunting. She too was coerced by the council to be the face of a frivolous intimidation lawsuit against residents. She resigned.

“We’ve come to expect modern day voter suppression in places like the slave states, but we haven’t had any reason to doubt the integrity of our election officials in California, let alone Livermore. But here we are. This is also the first major test of our new city manager, and I’ll be watching her response (or lack thereof) very closely.

“We have a rogue council with expired credibility, and this is one more example of how their autocratic tendencies have percolated down deeply into our city employees. The rebuilding of Livermore’s institutional norms after years of neglect and subversion will take time, but it needs to start.”

Today, trust is lost, and Marie Weber cannot remain as our designated Election Official. City Attorney Jason Alcalá should be immediately terminated. City Manager Marianna Marysheva should face disciplinary action.

Scam Alert
Theodore Schaefer, Livermore

My wife and I received first class letters from a tiny health insurance broker in Salt Lake saying that our local Stanford Health has gone out of business. The logo and style of the letter imitated

the very large and profitable UnitedHealth care, and if you are not very careful you might be fooled into switching to this broker — a grave mistake! There is nothing wrong with UnitedHealthcare or StanfordHealth, and I wonder who sold this little broker this database. Was it EssenceHealth, who recently dropped all their customers in California? Be very careful of written scams in the U.S. mail!

We the People Bow to Murder and Lies
Greg Scott, Livermore

“We are running this planet like a business in liquidation.” (Herman Daly, former Senior Economist, World Bank)

The metabolisms of many infants and young children in Gaza are stopping from starvation. Their lifeless bodies are wrapped with makeshift shrouds, and some are buried and some are left to rot in the open air. The complicity of the United States in the war crimes of Israel is horrid. America cares little. The Americans who oppose the Gazan slaughter are going to resist President “Genocide Joe” Biden’s re-election.

The corrupt Democratic Party forgot who they represent a long time ago, and more in the last four years. Joe Biden won the 2020 election with a sizeable youth vote. President “Genocide Joe” Biden failed them on Gaza, climate disruption, minimum wage, student loans, and any kind of fairness with the southern border situation. Minorities and the working class have also been neglected by White House policies.

An insurrectionist, fraudster, rapist, criminal “Demagogue Donald” Trump does not offer beneficial solutions. Many Democrats and others proclaim the lame “lesser of two evils” argument when there is little realization of how evil that “lesser” is. The election is billed as one for democracy. Rescheduling the Democratic Primary itinerary despite New Hampshire state law, specifically for one candidate, is democracy? Preventing any other Democrat from being on the primary ballots in North Carolina and Florida is democracy? Keeping third-party candidates off the ballot is democracy? These examples show the insidious corruption of the undemocratic Democratic Party as well.

If there is no conviction of “Demagogue Donald” Trump in the judicial system before the election, then there isn’t much of a credible judicial system left in the United States. The corrupt

U.S. Supreme Court is doing everything it can to determine the election, much as they did in the ludicrous Bush v. Gore (2000) decision. We did nothing about this fraud for 23 years. Now an insurrectionist, who may be determined to be immune from any laws as president, may become president. Without the checks and balances of the American system of governance - the greatest system of governance created in the history of humanity - the work of the Founding Fathers crumbles.

Democracy is not something the Democratic Party and “Genocide Joe” Biden, or the Republican Party and “Demagogue Donald” Trump are concerned with.

“Fearmongering” is proclaimed by those who have little comprehension of the forthcoming chaos.

Urge National Leaders to Change Course
Stephanie Ericson, Dublin

President Biden said on MSNBC Saturday that he has a “red line” when it comes to the war in Gaza. “You can’t have another 30,000 Palestinians dead as a consequence of going after (Hamas). There are other ways to deal with Hamas,” he said.

So Biden finally has a red line when it comes to Israel. Unfortunately, it could be as high as double the current death toll of 30,000. With disease and starvation on the rise, that upper limit may come sooner than later.

So far, Biden has done little beyond urging Israeli “restraint” with apparently no consequences for continued indiscriminate killing, destruction of health facilities and infrastructure, and blocking aid.

Such pleas ring hollow while the military aid keeps flowing. A recent Washington Post report revealed that since Oct. 7, the Biden administration has approved over 100 separate sales to Israel. Individually the sales were under the dollar amounts that would trigger Congressional notification, but together they are a massive transfer of firepower.

Former senior Biden official Jeremy Konyndyk put it this way: “The U.S. cannot maintain that, on the one hand, Israel is a sovereign state that’s making its own decisions and we’re not going to second-guess them, and, on the other hand, transfer this level of armament in such a short time and somehow act as if we are not directly involved.”

As humanitarians, as witnesses to this epic scale disaster, funded in large part

through our tax dollars, we must urge our national leaders to change course. I invite you to join me in writing post cards to Congress and President Biden at Panera Bread in Dublin (Amador Plaza Rd.) at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 16.

Qur’an Memorization
Abdul Awwal, Pleasanton

I was once browsing books in the downtown public library in Dayton, Ohio, when suddenly, a man came to my section accompanied by the reference librarian. This person had heard somewhere that there are Muslims who have memorized the entire Qur’an, and he wanted to see how big it really was. I was pleasantly surprised by his enthusiasm.

A few years ago, I was at a conference where the speaker was reciting a chain of names. Although I don’t recall all the names, it went something like this: Reem Javed (1985), a 17-year-old American girl, got her certificate of Qur’an memorization from Abul Hasan Muhi-uddin Al-Kurdi (1913), who learned it from Muhammad Faiz al-Duryani, who got his certificate from Mahmood Salim Al-Hulwani, and then a long chain of names continuing to ‘Asim (745), from al-Shaybani (719), from the companion Ubayy ibn Ka’b, who got it from the Muhammad (peace be upon him), who received it from Angel Gabriel, who transmitted it from the Lord of Majesty (God). These names are taken from a book by Ingrid Mattson called The Story of the Qur’an. This was an org chart type of certificate which narrates the chain from whom one memorized or received a certificate of memorization of the Qur’an, tracing all the way back to the Prophet Muhammad.

On March 10 or 11, depending on moonsighting, Muslims start the month of Ramadan. It is customary to read the entire Qur’an in a voluntary prayer right after the night prayer, led by a hafiz (a person who has committed the entire Qur’an to memory.) One Ramadan, I invited a friend whom I met in an interfaith gathering to come and listen to the Qur’an during Ramadan. He later expressed to me, “How come I have been living in Livermore for so many decades, and never knew of such a wonderful thing?” Ramadan is highlighted in the Qur’an as the month in which “the Qur’an was sent down as a guidance to the people” (Qur’an 2:185). I invite readers to experience the Qur’an in this month of Ramadan by visiting a local

mosque near you or breaking fast with your Muslim friends at sunset.

Ceasefire, How?
Patricia Munro, Livermore

From the primaries to the Oscars, the war between Israel and Hamas continues to play an outside role at every level of politics. It is given far more attention than any other brutal conflict, with the exception (perhaps) of Ukraine. So let’s make the international local and think about what, presumably, everyone in the world wants: a permanent ceasefire. Great goal, but how do we get there?

This is a war that began on Oct. 7 (both Shabbat and the holiday of Simchat Torah) with Hamas breaking an existing ceasefire with a gruesomely barbaric attack that targeted the most vulnerable (and, oddly, many who were actively working to further peace between individuals and the two peoples.) The attack included kidnapping well over 200 people. Though some hostages were released, 130 remained. Of those, recent reports indicate that sixty have died. What, if anything, should the world do about these captives? What can or should Israel do to secure their release? If Hamas says no—as it continues to do—how should the world respond?

Second, there is no question that the people of Gaza are suffering and that too many have died. (Who and how many have died is another question. Casualty reports come from Hamas, hardly a reliable source. That is not the main point.) Every death is a loss that we should mourn.

But using those deaths to advocate for policy decisions like ceasefires will not bring lasting peace. War is called hell for a good reason: when war is waged, both soldiers and civilians suffer. It is the role of government to protect civilians, not deliberately place them in the line of fire. How much responsibility does a negligent government bear for the deaths of its people during war?

Third, assuming that hostages were freed, assuming that Hamas and Netanyahu’s government reached an agreement, what then? On Oct. 6, 2023, there was a ceasefire. On Oct. 7, there was not. We still live with the after-effects of 9/11, yet an ocean and a continent separate us from those who attacked us. How can security be established between the two peoples so that they can live in peace?

Southbound I-680 Will Close for Repairs

Southbound Interstate 680 in Pleasanton will be closed from 9 p.m. Friday, March 15, until early Monday morning, March 18, while contractors repair de-

teriorating portions of the roadway, according to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Caltrans said the southbound lanes would be closed

between the I-580/I-680 Connector and Koopman Road. Northbound I-680 will remain open and will not be affected by the closure. Caltrans said detours would

be marked and California Highway Patrol officers would also be on site to help guide motorists. The closure will be rescheduled in case of rain.

MAILBOX

(Continued from 4 page)

There are no easy answers. There is, however, ample space to grieve for everyone involved and wish that all involved can arrive at a swift and peaceful resolution.

State of the Union Address Was a Disaster

David Ott, Pleasanton

Biden was angry, divisive, combative and slurred his words throughout the speech, but the worst thing that he did was to lie to the American people. Truthful facts are important. Biden was awarded a bottomless Pinocchio for all the lies in his speech. In 2020, Biden promised to create unity for the American people, but ever since he made that promise he has caused more division than any other President in history. In 2021, Biden inherited a good economy, low inflation, a secure border and peace in the world. In just three short years Biden has caused the worse inflation in over 40 years with his \$6T in excessive spending and now he is proposing to tax and spend more money. Biden's poor economic policies "Bidenomics" has led to "Shrinkflation" as a result of the 20%+ inflation rate (under the previous administration the inflation was 1.9%). Biden opened the U.S. border to all illegals and criminals and recently one of Biden's illegals murdered Laken Riley in Georgia. The House of Representatives passed HR2 in May of 2023 that would secure the US border again (previous administration had a secure border), but Biden and Senate leader Schumer refuse to pass this common sense bill. Biden funded Russia's invasion of Ukraine when he restricted the U.S. oil production and supply to the world, which allowed Russia to sell the most oil in their history. And then Russia has kept the war going because Biden is too weak and inept to force an end to the war through sanctions and negotiations. Instead, Biden continues to waste more U.S. tax dollars to Ukraine. Biden enabled the Islamic terrorist regime Iran and their proxies to attack Israel and murder 1,200 Israelis and captured 253 hostages by funding Iran with the money they needed to spread their destructive ideology (previous administration's sanctions nearly bankrupted Iran and kept them in check.) Biden should support Israel in their effort to eliminate Hamas. Biden used fear mongering in his speech when he compared the current state in America to World War II and the Civil War, when nothing is further from the truth. The economic and border security issues and the wars throughout the world have been caused by Biden and his inept administration. Don't be fooled by the lies; Biden and his regime are the biggest threat to our democracy.

Councilmember Barrientos Needs to Respect Local Government Procedure

Mini Chopra, Livermore

On March 8, 2024, I read a post authored by Councilmember Barrientos on a social media app, wherein he talked about a recent interview process that the City of Livermore had conducted to recommend names for appointment to the City's various advisory bodies. Notable from his post

is the following sentence: "Two applied from District 2 those two will serve."

Barrientos currently sits on the City Council's two-member Subcommittee for Advisory Body Review ("Subcommittee"), which, on March 6-7, 2024, had conducted interviews for open positions on some of the City Council's advisory bodies. The selections that the Subcommittee may have made (or are yet to make) to the City Council, pursuant to the interviews, are entirely recommendatory in nature. These non-binding recommendations are still subject to the City Council's final approval, scheduled for March 25, 2024.

Even if he was speaking for himself, Councilmember Barrientos' post (announcing the results pertaining to two District 2 candidates) is declarative in nature and obliterates the spirit of transparency and fairness with which public officials must conduct themselves. His post preempts the City Council's future decision on an action item that is yet to be tabled before them for final approval. Acting contrary to established procedure, Barrientos did not even wait for the City Clerk to reach out to the advisory body interviewees with the results. His problematic post, which continues staying put as of this writing, does nothing to further the duties and public interest agenda of the City Council.

Even if the Subcommittee's recommendations are to be eventually approved by the City Council on March 25, the declarative words in Barrientos' social media post deviates from the local Government's established procedure and violates the norms and values of the Livermore City Council.

I'd like to respectfully remind the Councilmember that he has, yet again, undermined the integrity of his public office. Yet again, he has tried to consolidate his vote bank from District 2, despite the common knowledge that the local Government's advisory body appointments are not made on district lines.

Things to Cogitate

Owen Brovont, Livermore

It is particularly disheartening to see this once vibrant country being absurdly abused by the political organization currently in power in the nation's capital. It is not possible to accept the claim that what the Washington swamperats are doing is in the best interests of the country and its people. On the contrary, in my more than 50 years of sitting in the bleachers, watching the two major teams tussling over devising, deciding, and implementing policies needed to maintain the stability, as well as driving the prosperity and growth of the nation, one team seeks to build along the lines of strength consistent with the philosophy of our founding generations, and the other party is dead-set to remake the country into a form antithetical to everything the country originally stood for.

The general populace has readily seen, and is currently experiencing, the steep decline of American culture at a rapidly increasing pace. Most of the news media exert enormous efforts to ignore, recast, or at least downplay, the growing chaos and

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

conspicuous economic and social decline of America, not the least of which is the absence of effective border security on both the northern and southern borders of the country. This outcome is inextricably related to the changes in our elective processes and the inconsistent and questionable character of much of our contemporary leadership. The looming destiny for America appears likely to be another nation state dumped on the scrap heap of failed nations over

the last several centuries. This outcome is often attributable to their citizens having lost sight of their original destiny. Our educational system seems to be dedicated to separating our newer generations from the history of America during the previous several centuries – a reasonable question, is why? The same criticism can be leveled at the concerted effort to disconnect the American population from knowledge of momentous events in our history, and the great

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EDEN

(Continued from front page)

verify the 8,053 voters’ signatures gathered by MEH to require a vote on the 2022 resolution, the appellate court disagreed.

The referendum needed 5,702 valid signatures to be certified before it could be placed on the ballot.

At the Appellate Court

Last week, the appellate justices — Teri Jackson, Mark Simons and Danny Chou — ruled that the Superior Court erred in determining that Weber acted appropriately when she declined to process the referendum petition. Weber did so on the advice of City Attorney Jason Alcalá, stating that the city’s “disposition, development and loan agreement” (DDLA) with Eden Housing, approved by the 2022 resolution, amounted to an administrative decision that could not be subject to a public vote. Only legislative actions are subject to referendum.

Legislative actions establish policies, while administrative actions execute them.

The appellate court wrote, “The (Superior Court’s) judgment is reversed, and the case is remanded to the Superior Court with directions to issue a peremptory writ of mandate ordering (the city) to process the referendum petition and to place the proposed referendum on the ballot for municipal election.”

Linda Mandolini, pres-

ident and CEO of the developer Eden Housing, said Eden was disappointed by the ruling and is discussing the next steps with the city.

“While the court concluded that the city’s adoption of the amended agreement with Eden Housing was subject to referendum, it did so solely on the basis that the city had allocated money to pay for the construction of a public park next to Eden’s 100% affordable housing project,” Mandolini said. “The net effect of the referendum will be that the city’s plans for a public park are further delayed and complicated. Move Eden Housing has succeeded in causing further delay and expense, but it has not stopped Eden from its determination to build this desperately needed housing.”

Litigation Involving Two Community Groups

The court’s opinion follows almost three years of litigation by two community groups — Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) and MEH — concerned about the Eden project as currently designed, located and approved.

Originally proposed in 2018, Eden Housing’s project was designed to place two four-story buildings on the former Lucky supermarket site between L Street, Railroad Avenue, the extension of K Street and Veterans Way. Supporters contend the affordable

housing project is necessary for the city, where Bay Area housing prices and rents are high.

Both MEH and SLD have stated that they support affordable housing projects in the city, but that they would prefer the Eden development be moved just across the street to the north, where a site could hold more affordable units than those proposed in the Eden project. The proposed project is not the best use for this centrally located downtown Livermore site, according to the groups.

The SLD suit, filed in 2021, asserted that the design of the Eden project did not follow requirements in the city’s Downtown Specific Plan, and that the city did not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch ruled against SLD; the appellate court upheld his decision.

MEH and its supporters have contended that the project’s current four-story project will harm downtown Livermore’s character. They prefer to have this site in the heart of the city be used for a unique park, an attraction for residents and visitors alike.

MEH also said that funding sources for a new location for Eden Housing’s project just north of Railroad Avenue have been proposed.

MEH filed its lawsuit challenging the city’s refusal to process the referendum petition in August 2022. In ruling on that lawsuit, Markman sided with the city, citing an earlier appellate court decision arising from a dispute in San Bruno that said a referendum could only be used to challenge a legislative decision. Markman agreed with the city that its approval of the 2022 resolution was an administrative decision not subject to referendum.

MEH appealed and found support in the Court of Appeal.

Appellate Court’s MEH Ruling

On Feb. 8, the court issued a tentative opinion in favor of MEH that proposed reversing the Superior Court’s judgment. On Feb. 22, the Court of Appeal held oral argument on its tentative opinion in San Francisco.

On March 6, the court issued its final opinion, authored by Simons, making substantially the same findings and determination as the tentative opinion and ruling for MEH.

In response to the final opinion, Winston Stromberg, attorney for MEH stated, “We believe the

court reached the correct result based on the law and the facts.”

Simons’ opinion stated, “Instead of complying with her statutory obligations, the city clerk refused to process the referendum based on the city’s conclusion that the resolution was not subject to the referendum power. In doing so, the city clerk violated her duties under the Elections Code.”

Elsewhere in the opinion, Simons added that the city could have challenged the referendum’s validity through its own lawsuit. In other words, after the clerk completed the processing of the signatures on the referendum petition, the city council could have turned to a court to determine whether the referendum was legislative or administrative.

In regard to whether the city’s resolution was legislative or administrative, Simons concluded, “Adoption of the challenged resolution was a legislative act subject to the referendum power, because the development agreement at issue approved the construction of and improvements to a new public park.”

The opinion stated that the Superior Court’s reliance on the San Bruno case did not apply to the Eden Housing referendum, because the hotel project under consideration in San Bruno did not include similar expenditures of public money.

During the Feb. 22 oral argument, Livermore’s attorney T. Peter Pierce argued that the portion of the DDLA approved by the city in the 2022 resolution that would provide funding for the cleanup of long-standing contamination on the site was an administrative decision and not a legislative act.

In its tentative opinion, the court had considered the project to be legislative because of two city expenditures — a \$4.3 million liability for the cleanup and \$5.5 million for the park. In the final opinion, the court agreed with the city that the \$4.3 million cap on liability related to the existing contamination was an administrative decision, but made that determination in a section of the opinion that the court left unpublished.

Unpublished appellate opinions cannot be cited in future lawsuits.

Pierce also suggested to the panel that instead of ordering a referendum on the whole project, it should allow the city to repeal the provisions of the DDLA that the court deemed to be legislative actions or bring a vote only on those issues related to the deal that were

administrative.

Stromberg disagreed.

“At the end of the day,” Stromberg told the panel, “all that is needed is one portion of this agreement to be legislative. The court is correct that, at the very least, the \$5.5 million allocation to fund a public park accessible to all of the community and all of the voters in the region is a legislative action, and that makes this entire resolution a legislative action. You can’t parse it into pieces.”

The court agreed that the park funding made the entire DDLA a legislative act.

Addressing another issue raised by the city, Simons wrote, “We also conclude that, in approving the development agreement, the city did not act as an administrative agent for the State of California under the statutes dissolving California’s redevelopment agencies, enacted starting in 2011.”

After the court’s final opinion was issued, Livermore officials said the city was reviewing the opinion and evaluating its next steps.

“That said, the city is pleased with the Appellate Court’s opinion that the disposition and development agreement for the Eden Housing project, except for Veterans Park, is not a legislative act and therefore it is not subject to referendum,” the city commented.

\$500,000 Bond Order Overturned

In addition to ruling on the referendum, the Court of Appeal reversed a separate order by Markman in late 2022 that required MEH to post a \$500,000 bond. Once the Superior Court reverses its judgment, as required by the Court of Appeal, the bond will be canceled.

Addressing the bond requirement, Eden had contended the lawsuits were brought only to delay the housing project. Therefore, the bond was appropriate under state law, they concluded.

The justices disagreed.

The proposed referendum, the justices wrote, challenged the project, but MEH’s lawsuit was not brought to stop the project. It sought to compel the city clerk to comply with her duties “to secure for the City’s voters their right to referendum.”

“(MEH’s lawsuit) is a challenge to the city clerk’s violation of the Elections Code,” the court wrote. “It is revealing that, if the city clerk had complied with her legal obligations and processed the referendum, then plaintiffs would not have had to file the present action. Instead, any

challenge to the validity of the referendum could have been heard pursuant to a petition brought by the city.”

Mandolini said it was “notable that a group calling itself ‘Move Eden Housing’ was able to convince a court that its legal challenge to the city’s approval was not in fact a challenge to Eden’s housing project.”

“That is a testament to how difficult it continues to be to build affordable housing, especially in wealthier parts of the state, where well-funded opposition can afford to hire lawyers to bring relentless legal challenges in an attempt to delay the housing projects so long that they simply fail,” Mandolini said, calling the legal challenges against Eden Housing “obstructionist lawsuits” that prevented 130 families from having an affordable home today.

Next Steps

Richard Ryon, a city voter and individual plaintiff in the MEH lawsuit, said, “We were stunned and disheartened when the city clerk stopped processing our referendum petition signed by over 8,000 registered city voters. Just a few days earlier, the clerk had told us that she would submit the signatures to the county registrar for validation.”

“So we sued the city on behalf of those voters who signed the referendum petition to protect their fundamental constitutional rights,” continued Ryon. “We are pleased that the Court of Appeal has sided with the people and determined that the city violated the law, and we look forward to seeing the processing of the referendum completed, so that the city council either repeals its resolution or puts it to a vote of the people.”

Stromberg added, “MEH’s lawsuit has resulted in the enforcement of an important right affecting the public interest and conferred a significant benefit on the over 8,000 voters whose constitutional rights were violated by the city’s actions. As a result, MEH will consider asking the Superior Court to require the city to reimburse MEH for the reasonable attorneys’ fees it incurred bringing this lawsuit and appeal.”



Aarha Khanna, a senior at Amador Valley High School, has qualified to become an Eagle Scout. He made a new bookshelf for his French teacher, and spent nearly 200 hours on the project. (Photo credit: Douglas Hall)

MAILBOX

(Continued from 5 page)

Americans who participated in them. Thoughtful Americans are encouraged to reflect on the reasons why!

Owning It

Glenn White, Dublin

The Great Depression facilitated Hitler’s rise to power in Germany because Hitler blamed the leftists despite its obvious global causes beyond Germany. The coalition among the moderate leftist Social Democrats and center right parties broke down as the right gravitated towards Hitler, and the left split between the Social Democrats and the communists, who engaged in obstructionism along with the Nazis. The right eventually united behind Hitler, who became Chancellor, and soon Hitler’s thugs broke up communist offices with hundreds of arrests. Those German communists went down in history as one of Hitler’s “Useful Idiots”, a term, ironically, coined by the Russian communist, Lenin.

The actions of those who pretend to oppose Trump

and promise to withhold support for “Genocide Joe” Biden over Gaza, while admitting that their actions can elect Trump, the authoritarian whose campaign promises to build camps, create a Muslim registry and ban Muslims, are more like the German communists rather than those who opposed apartheid or Jim Crow because their same actions, in both cases, actually enable promised dictatorship, redistribution, bigotries and cruelties, rather than opposing or ending them. Republicans would say they lack common sense. History would condemn them as “Useful Idiots”, whether they like it or not, by both the victims of retribution and the bragging of the Republicans themselves. Their sanctimonious claims that they aren’t responsible for their own behavior, which they admit can be the deciding factor for Trump winning, is one of self-delusional cowardice that actually exceeds the MAGA Republicans in its obvious

avoidance of personal accountability.

The continuing claim from Republicans that the current problems on the border belong only to Biden is another big lie, since Biden called their bluff and supports bipartisan border legislation. Republicans admit they stopped legislation because they want a campaign issue. Only cartels and Republicans lie and say that our overwhelmed border is open, because only they profit from it. The border is overwhelmed; not open. Republicans admit they profit from the misery and, therefore, cruelly prolong the misery.

Throughout history, fascists and their “Useful Idiots” have demonstrated consistent betrayal, cowardice and inability to accept accountability for anything at any time. Everyone knows if Biden and American democracy loses, Trump, Putin, and Netanyahu will win. Russia and Israel will do whatever they want, and their promised carnage will

only get worse. But pro-fascist cowardice prevents many from saying that. It’s how fascism works.

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Firehouse Arts Center Exhibits Bay Area Artist Christine So

The Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton is hosting an exhibition of works by East Bay artist Christine So, “Time Spent Among Trees,” now through April 27.

So is a painter, photographer, and printmaker who is best known for her cyanotype forests shrouded in fog.

Cyanotype is a 170-year-old photographic process using ultraviolet light that produces distinctive blue monotone prints.

The exhibit in the lobby of the Fire House Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., includes five acrylic paintings and eight hand-printed cyanotype landscapes featuring Monterey pines.

Several of So’s landscape cyanotypes are also on exhibition at the Katz Snyder Gallery of the Jewish Community Center in San Francisco and two abstract cyanotypes are on exhibit at Artworks Downtown in San Rafael.



Above, a cyanotype by Christine So, who is known for her forests shrouded in fog. An exhibition of her work will run through April 27. (Photo courtesy: Christine So)

DISTRICTS

(Continued from front page)

that our historically marginalized students — especially African American/Black, LatinX, and English learner students — were not participating in our Advanced Placement and Honors classes,” said Dublin High School Principal Maureen Byrne. “We made a concerted effort to improve participation and pass rates ... as a result of our efforts, our participation rates and pass rates have increased greatly in the past two years.

“Being recognized as a California Distinguished School is a true honor for everyone on campus. Our staff rightfully feels pride in

the exceptional work they do on a daily basis, and more of our students are feeling successful and empowered. We couldn’t ask for more.”

Wells Middle School’s Interim Principal Whitney Dwyer said, over the past few years, that the school has been working to become an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) showcase school, which requires staff to be trained in AVID strategies, as well as implement them in their classes. AVID students are those in the academic middle, but capable of completing a college preparatory path with support. Their successes in this area were part of

MILEY

(Continued from front page)

Marquez to fill his position in April representing Hayward, Union City, Newark and portions of Fremont.

Miley, 72, said he believed his experience serving on the board since 2000 was an “important factor” in his apparent win. He said he chose to run again because Supervisors Lena Tam and Marquez will have less than two years on the board by 2025, and Haubert will be completing his first term. Supervisor Keith Carson’s seat also will have a new representative following his retirement.

“I just don’t think it’s wise to have a board that’s totally new,” Miley said. “So, I’m the one that would provide the continuity and institutional knowledge, experience and relationships, that could help temper some ideas and find a little bit more wisdom around other possible directions people might want to go with.”

Ballots postmarked by March 5 can still arrive at the county Registrar’s office by March 12. Esteen said she was waiting for every vote to be counted,

but was realistic that her chances of overcoming the substantial deficit were slim.

“I am very proud of the campaign that my team and I ran,” Esteen said. “I am very proud of the way that we engaged with the community, and we had a very diverse coalition of supporters. We had people of all ages, all races, all genders, all abilities. My campaign was run for everyone.”

Esteen, 43, said she was disappointed in the low voter turnout, which she believed affected the results. Alameda County reported voter turnout of about 10.5%.

“The results of low turnout elections are typically that the people who’ve always had a right to vote — older, white people, more conservative Republicans — show up to vote every time and the people who had historically been disenfranchised and discouraged and denied the vote, did not show up,” Esteen said. “Unfortunately, this means that they did not get to make

the choice that would have benefited them most.”

Esteen, who serves on the Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council, said her campaign centered on “bringing justice and representation to those who have the least among us.” She said the “landlord lobby” funded attack ads against her.

“I don’t have much hope that (Miley’s) policies will change,” Esteen said. “I think that what we’ve seen over decades is a legislator that is willing to drag his feet and move slowly on implementation, willing to move very slowly on community input, and continues to vote with those who are his benefactors.”

Esteen said she will continue her work as a nurse. Although she serves on the Eden council, Miley must reappoint her. She said she will speak with her supporters and determine her future.

“I think that the fight for justice and liberation is what’s up next, continuing to ensure that people have the ability to speak truth to

power,” she said.

Miley said homelessness and affordable housing will be a top priority in a new term, including placing a \$10 billion to \$20 billion regional affordable housing bond measure on the ballot.

“The mental health crisis is another important thing that I want to continue to work to bring some type of resolution to, so it’s no longer a crisis, both in terms of providing community facilities for mental health care, as well as easing the burden on Santa Rita Jail when it comes to services for the mentally ill there,” Miley said.

Miley said a focus also needs to be on public safety in the county’s unincorporated areas.

“Lawlessness, retail theft, theft of mail carriers and mailboxes and home invasions and carjackings,” Miley said. “We can’t have a society based on this. We’ve got to get that under control.”



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CARBON

(Continued from front page)

new carbon to the atmosphere starting that year. The United States’ share, one billion tons removed annually, will cost an estimated \$129 billion per year and produce about 440,000 jobs nationwide.

“What we’re suggesting is that we need to start paying for something that is waste removal for invisible garbage,” said Pett-Ridge. “That’s hard to get our heads around the necessity, but believe me, the necessity is real.”

Toward that end, California’s agricultural regions offer the potential to convert biomass — organic waste products from agriculture — for storage uses. Through biomass conversion projects, carbon dioxide captured by plants during farming is transformed into more permanent storage forms, such as biochar, a kind of charcoal that can then be buried.

The focus on plants follows the Aines Principle, first proposed by Roger

Aines, LLNL’s Energy Program chief scientist. While biomass can also be burned for electricity, the Aines Principle says that the use of biomass for carbon removal may exceed the value of using it for electricity.

“We get a lot more financial benefit, as well as benefit to the climate, if we put the carbon (removal) first,” said Pett-Ridge.

The agricultural core area can also use more cover crops, which pull carbon out of the air and store it in the soil through their roots, to help keep the rise of global average temperatures under 1.5 degrees Celsius, as set by the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Ghezzehei described the changes to global average temperatures as a symptom, and not a cause, of other global systems at play.

“When the temperature of our Earth goes up by a degree (or a) degree and a half, what we are seeing is the

residual effect of the heat that was trapped by CO₂,” said Ghezzehei. “In fact, the huge fraction of heat that we trap by CO₂ goes into moving air faster (over) longer distances.”

That air also carries more water. If global average temperatures rise 2.0 degrees Celsius, the number of extreme weather events will increase by a factor of 2.7. Similarly, 37% more people worldwide will experience an extreme heat wave, 18% more insects will lose their habitats, and the arctic will be ice free one out of every ten summers, continued Ghezzehei.

UC Merced is recognized as the first public research university to achieve carbon neutrality in the country through a combination of energy-efficient design, renewable energy, carbon offsets and behavioral changes. The university served as the first stop in a series of nationwide lectures to share the Roads to Removal report.

mond praised all 293 state schools for their hard work and achievements.

“It is my pleasure to honor and recognize these schools for their efforts to provide exemplary public education to all students,” said Thurmond. “Excellent middle schools and high schools play a critical role in the life outcomes of our young people. This year’s California Distinguished Schools celebration provides us with an opportunity to recognize the hard work of our secondary educators and school staff who help our young adults discover passions and access college- and career-ready experiences that

will propel them through life.”

All 2024 California Distinguished Schools will be recognized at an awards ceremony in May at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim.



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AIRPORT

(Continued from front page)

nervous, cardiovascular and immune systems. Children are especially sensitive.

“The air permit fee for the existing 1,000-gallon fuel tank was paid, but a 30 to 60 day comment period still needs to occur,” said resident Donna Cabanne at last week’s airport commission meeting. “This can be expedited if health concerns are present.”

Cabanne asked that the commission and city press BAAQMD to fast track the process.

But aside from the comment period, Five Rivers owner Pete Sandhu told The Independent that BAAQMD has since told him an additional permit is still required before the tank can be brought into service.

“They said that they’d give us everything that we needed to move forward, or at least all the information we needed to move forward, early last week and we nev-

er heard from them ... so it’s really frustrating,” said Sandhu.

He and the city are continuing to reach out to BAAQMD for direction, he said.

Spurred by local calls for an unleaded offering, the city council voted unanimously last December to update its minimum airport standards, requiring the airport to provide the option for unleaded fuel.

While UL94 is lead free and widely available, not all piston aircraft can use it. Therefore, even with an unleaded tank at Livermore, the majority of emissions reductions await a national transition to a lead-free, high-octane alternative.

The FAA began its Eliminate Aviation Gasoline Lead Emissions (EAGLE) program in 2022, which seeks to phase out leaded aviation fuels for piston aircraft by 2030. The program is work-

ing to develop and certify an unleaded fuel formula that can be safely dropped into any fuel tank in the country’s piston-engine general-aviation fleet.

Consistent with EAGLE, General Aviation Modification, Inc. (GAMI) has developed its own unleaded aviation fuel, known as G100UL. Although available today, the Oklahoma-based GAMI currently does not ship it to California.

Cabanne urged the city to dip into its airport enterprise fund to purchase an 8,500-gallon tank for G100UL. GAMI has suggested that the fuel could be available in California as early as this summer. Although the city has said it was “in communication” with GAMI to bring the unleaded fuel to Livermore, Cabanne asked that the city be more transparent in their efforts and set clear, enforceable steps toward that end.



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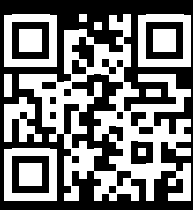
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Council Transfers Tri-Valley Haven Funds to Pay Down Loan

By Larry Altman

Because Tri-Valley Haven found another source of funding, the city council on Monday shifted \$200,000 in federal money, initially allocated to the nonprofit for its emergency shelter rebuild project, to instead pay down a government loan.

In a 5-0 vote, the council authorized the city to move the \$200,000 received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) last year as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to pay toward a \$1.8 million HUD loan obtained in 2009 to purchase the historic Hagemann Ranch.

In addition, the vote allocated \$76,000 of unused

HUD money allocated as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to pay down its loan. The balance will drop to \$140,000 and enable the city to pay off the remainder by August 2025, four years early, city staff said.

Each year, cities across America receive varying amounts of CDBG funding from HUD for housing-related programs and activities for lower income residents. In 2023, Livermore allocated nearly \$484,000 of the block grants to Tri-Valley Haven, which is building a new shelter estimated to cost between \$6.5 million and \$7.5 million.

Tri-Valley Haven's shelter offers refuge for adults and children fleeing domestic abuse. The nonprofit plans to

begin demolishing its current building in June and replace it with a larger structure that can aid more people and provide safe indoor and outdoor play areas for children.

Livermore's allocation was intended to assist with the demolition costs and relocation expenses for Tri-Valley Haven's clients, but Tri-Valley Haven found another funding source, said Amy Walker, Livermore's human services manager.

Walker told the council that the city was pursuing a new HUD loan for Tri-Valley Haven to help later with the construction costs.

Mayor John Marchand said he was proud of the city's support for Tri-Valley Haven and four other shelters in Livermore that aid the

disadvantaged, homeless and victims of abuse.

"That speaks to this community, that the fact that this community steps up, whereas there are a lot of other communities that don't," Marchand said.

The city purchased the 4.5-acre Hagemann Ranch at 455 Olivina Avenue to preserve its history. The land was part of the original Bernal Land Grant, Rancho del Valle de San Jose. In the 1800s, it was owned by the Mendenhall family, which raised horses, cattle and crops. In the late 1800s, it was purchased

by the Hagemann family.

Ordinance Allowing Tobacco Retailer Inspections Approved

In another council action, the city council voted 5-0, to give the Livermore Police Department more authority to inspect businesses to prevent the sale of flavored tobacco and vaping products.

The action updated the city's Tobacco Retailer Licensing Ordinance adopted in 2019, which prohibits the sale of flavored products.

Livermore Police Capt. John Reynolds said during the council's Feb. 26 meeting that

the update will allow officers and city officials to enter tobacco retailers during business hours to check if they are complying with the rules. Until the change, officers had to rely on the business' word.

The updated ordinance will allow officers to inspect not only public areas of a business, but also offices, cabinets and storage areas, Reynolds said. Anyone who refuses an inspection could face a civil fine of \$250 to \$1,000, and any business selling tobacco products without a valid license could face criminal prosecution.

Easter Bunny Returns to Stoneridge Mall

The Easter Bunny will be at Stoneridge Shopping Center in Pleasanton now through the end of March.

The mall's annual Bunny Photo Experience will be open from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. It will also be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays and noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays.



The Easter Bunny will be at the Stoneridge Mall through March. (Photo courtesy of Stoneridge Shopping Center)

To schedule a photo time, go to tinyurl.com/r2rrv4b8. Walk-ups will also be accepted, but those who schedule online also receive an activities book.

The mall will also host a Caring Bunny event for children with special needs and their families from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 17.

PRIMARIES

(Continued from front page)

Positas Community College District trustee, finished a distant third with 7%.

"I have been focused in Congress on the issues that matter most to my constituents, including policies that bring breathing room in their finances, local transportation and infrastructure improvements, crime, and attacks against our personal freedoms, including reproductive rights and our democracy," Swallowell said.

"I'm grateful for the support I received in Tuesday's primary election," he added. "Heading into November, we must stay united against the extreme policies of Trump and his MAGA colleagues in Congress. I am committed to being bold and going big on issues that affect our families and our freedom to live, work, and love as we choose, free from hate and inequality."

The 14th District includes Livermore, Pleasanton, Union City, Ashland, San Lorenzo, Cherryland, Fairview Castro Valley and portions of Hayward. It leans heavily Democratic in voter registration.

In the 10th Congressional District, which primarily encompasses Contra Costa County, but includes a portion of Dublin, incumbent U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier received 66% of the vote. In November, the Democrat will face Republican Katherine Piccinini, who received 19.5%. Republican Nolan Lee Chen took third with 10.5%. No-party preference candidates Joe Sweeney and Mohamed El Sherbini received 4% and

less than 1%, respectively.

Also come November, voters in the newly drawn District 5 State Senate seat, which unites the Tri-Valley with cities over the Altamont Pass in San Joaquin County, will choose between former U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton and Republican businessman Jim Shoemaker to represent them in Sacramento. Shoemaker took first with 44% of the vote, while his Democratic opponents split the vote. McNerney, who served the Stockton area in Congress from 2006 to 2023, received 32%; Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua finished third with 24%.

The result means Villapudua will find himself out of the state Legislature come 2025. He gave up his 13th District Stockton-area Assembly seat to run for the state Senate. His wife, Edith Villapudua, ran to replace him in the 13th District, but finished third.

The 5th Senate District, whose boundaries will take effect in January 2025, includes Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol and Dublin, as well as Stockton, Tracy and Mountain House in San Joaquin County.

In the 16th California Assembly District, Democratic incumbent Rebecca Bauer-Kahan defeated Republican businessman Joseph Rubay 60% to 40%. It marked the fifth time the Democrat has bested Rubay in a primary or runoff. Despite the outcome, election rules require them to face off again in November for a sixth time.

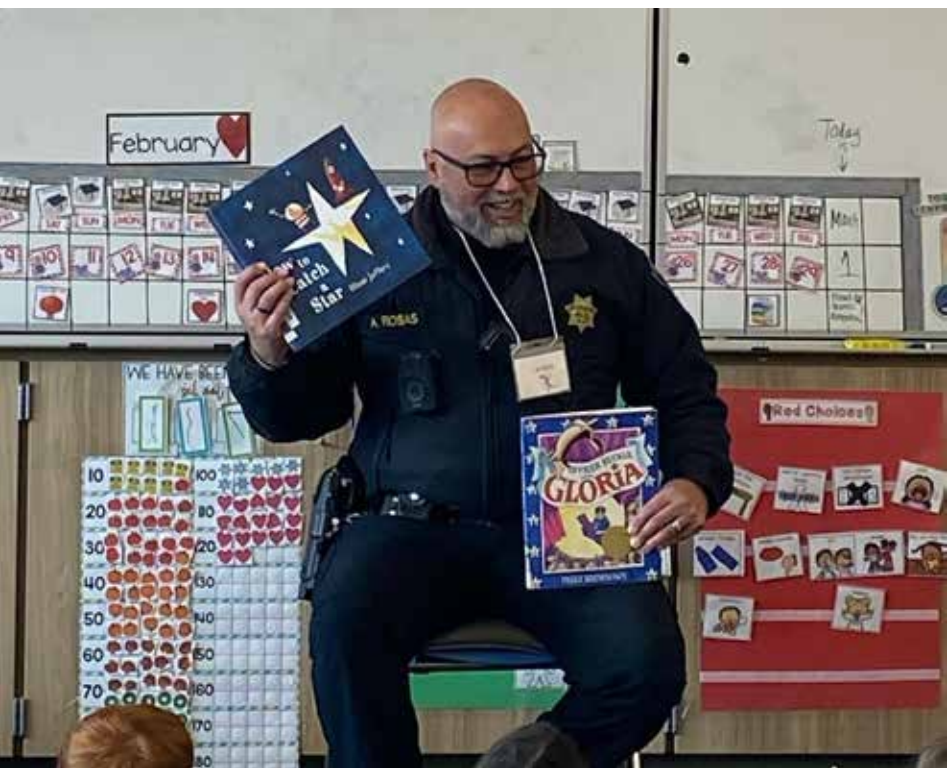
The district includes Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore, along with Contra Costa County cities including Walnut Creek, Orinda and Danville.

In the 20th Assembly district, Assemblymember Liz Ortega, who ran unopposed, won with nearly 100% of the vote. Ortega scored 19,713 votes. Sanjeetha Shanbhogue received 59 votes for 0.3%, apparently as a write-in candidate. The 20th District includes Sunol, along with East Bay cities including Hayward, Fremont and Castro Valley.

In the Zone 7 Water Agency race, voters had a choice of four candidates to fill three full-term seats. Incumbent Laurene Green topped the list with 33% of the vote, followed by Kathy Narum at 26%, and incumbent Sandy Figuers at 24%. Narum had been serving in a short-term seat set to expire in 2026. Instead, she will now serve until 2028. Challenger Alan Burnham finished fourth at 17%.

In the short-term seat vacated by Narum, Catherine Brown was elected with 82% of the vote. Seema Badar received 18%.

In the battle for the U.S.



On March 1, as part of Read Across America Day, Livermore Police Officer Art Rosas read "How to Catch a Star" and "Officer Buckle and Gloria" to several classes at Joe Mitchell K-8 School. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Police Department)

RACE CAR

(Continued from front page)

But it can be an expensive sport, so he put it on the back burner after they got married and started building their family. "Then miraculously, we found ourselves living right down the street from a quarter midget track," she recalled. "We just found it one day. I think my husband knew exactly what he was doing," she said with a laugh. And that's how it all began.

Ryan explained the differences between the types of cars. At the bottom of the rung, there are go karts, which don't have roll cages. Then there are quarter midgets, which are one-fourth the size of a regular midget car, both of which do have roll cages and are equipped with NASCAR-style safety equipment. "The kids are very secure in their cars," she said. "I would never let my kids drive in a go kart."

Her son is now driving junior late model stock cars at speeds of between 50 and 60 mph, while his sister, who

is still in a quarter midget, drives between 30 and 40 mph.

"They go pretty darn fast for a very small track," said Ryan.

"Jacob the Jet," as Ryan's son is known, has earned numerous championship titles and broken track records across Northern California along his driving journey thus far. "He has the drive and determination to go all the way (to NASCAR)," said his mom, which is his goal.

And sister "Everly Pink Lightning," who got her nickname from her brother, is not far behind. She earned the lightning moniker after she beat her brother's rookie track record. "She's a very determined girl," said Ryan. "Her ultimate goal was to beat all of Jacob's track records," which she did. "And then she broke two more of her own." Her racing future is less certain because she is also a talented Irish dancer, according to her mother. So

right now, she's navigating between Irish dancing and racing.

But her brother seems single-minded in his pursuit. He's so passionate about the sport that he mentors younger drivers through a program he started at the track called The Racing Buddy System.

A great way for kids to literally test-drive the sport, said Ryan, is to get behind the wheel at the TVQMA, where two or three times a year they offer promo days. For a nominal fee, kids can do some laps and see if they like it. And if they do, they can pursue training.

Ryan said that there are some big-name NASCAR drivers that started in quarter midgets and now their kids are driving them.

"Kyle Bush raced them and now his kid is," said Ryan. "So it's been crazy to see NASCAR professionals having their kids now race in quarter midgets. It's very cool."

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 14, 2024

HERITAGE AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

March 14, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Civic Center Council Chamber, 100 Civic Plaza. Meetings will take place on the second Thursday of every month. The length of the meeting will vary based on the agenda. See dublin.ca.gov/85/Heritage-Cultural-Arts-Commission for more information.

Saturday, March 16

LIVERMORE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS CRAB FEED

Livermore High School Alumni Associations will be holding its 12th annual crab feed on March 16 from 6 to 10 p.m. (doors open at 5:30.) Dinner will include crab, pasta, salad, bread and dessert (chicken is available with pre-order instead of crab.) There will be a live and silent auction, no-host bar, dancing, games and lots of fun. To purchase tickets, go to <https://lhsaa-520620.square.site/>. The funds raised will help support Livermore High School. Please email lhsalumniassoc@gmail.com with any questions.

Saturday, March 16

WRITING WORKSHOP: THE MAGIC OF BRINGING CHARACTERS TO LIFE ON THE PAGE

The Tri-Valley Writers Chapter of the California Writers Club will present Linda Joy Myers, founder of the National Association of Memoir Writers and writing coach for fiction and memoir. 'The Magic of Bringing Characters to Life on the Page—Secrets for Memoir and Fiction' workshop will be held March 16 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at Las Positas College in Livermore, Room 2470, in Building 2400. Check-in begins at 12:30 p.m. There is a two-step RSVP and payment process: 1) Email your RSVP to treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Thursday, March 14. 2) Beginning Feb. 18, register and pay at www.trivalleywriters.org/speaker-meeting-registration-and-payment. CWC adult members \$25; nonmembers \$30; CWC student members (ages 14-22) \$15.

Saturday/Sunday, March 16 & 17

IN PARADISUM, MUSIC TO SOOTHE THE SOUL

Calm your soul, remove your worries, and enjoy peaceful music when

the Valley Concert Choral, the Tri-Valley's premier chorus presents "In Paradisum, Music to Soothe the Soul." The selections will cover the entire span of the choral repertoire from Albinoni's famous Adagio for Strings (arranged for choir), to Mozart's Ave Verum and Ola Gjeilo's The Ground. Saturday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, in Livermore, and Sunday, March 17, at 4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., in Pleasanton. Enjoy a pre-concert lecture about the concert's musical selections and composers beginning at 7:15 p.m. for the March 16 concert and 3:45 p.m. for the March 17 concert. Tickets are \$30. College students \$10 with valid student ID. Children K-12 are free. Advance tickets may be ordered by visiting the Choral's website at www.valleyconcertchorale.org, or by calling the Choral's information number at 925-866-4003.

Sunday, March 17

SHAMROCK 5K FUN RUN AND WALK

The City of Dublin's Annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk is a great event for runners and walkers of all abilities. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. at 6815 Dublin Blvd. for the 3.1-mile, 5K course. There is a commemorative event t-shirt for all participants if registered by March 1, 2024. The first three finishers in each age group in the Competitive Division will receive a medallion. Enjoy a post-race celebration with refreshments, entertainment, and prize drawings. Over 2,000 participants are expected to join in this rain or shine event!

Monday, March 18

BROADWAY CHORUS REHEARSALS

Broadway Chorus is back this spring, and is seeking people who love to sing, both adults and children. This is a NO AUDITION chorus so feel free to come to a rehearsal and check it out. Rehearsals will be held Monday evenings starting March 18 at Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore. Rehearsal times are 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. for the youth choir and 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. for the general choir. Our spring concert will be held the afternoon of Sunday, May 19 at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. For more information or to register, go to www.eastbaymusicals.org.

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JAIL
(Continued from front page)

FBOP spokesperson, said Nancy T. McKinney, who served as the FBOP's Senior Deputy Assistant Director for its Western Regional Office for nearly a year, took over immediately as interim warden at FCI Dublin with new staff.

"Consistent with unprecedented and ongoing actions by FBOP leadership to create a positive change in the culture at FCI Dublin, recent developments have necessitated new executive employees be installed at the institution," Giamusso said. "This new team has been charged with developing a plan for the future of the facility."

McKinney began her career with the federal prison system in 1992, holding various "positions of increasing responsibility," Giamusso said.

McKinney takes over a prison plagued by scandals, criminal charges, congressional probes and most recently, a visit from a U.S. District Court justice overseeing a class-action lawsuit filed by

the California Coalition for Women Prisoners.

The lawsuit accuses FCI Dublin officials and officers of rape and sexual assault, drugging and groping inmates during medical exams, making degrading comments, taking explicit photos and sharing them, forcing women to undress to be released from their cells, and targeting immigrants with threats of deportation.

FCI Dublin is a low-security women's prison with about 635 inmates.

Last week, Rights Behind Bars, Arnold & Porter, and the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice filed lawsuits on behalf of 12 more women who allege they were victims of systemic staff sexual abuse and misconduct. The new filings bring the total active cases against the facility to 63, with dozens more expected in the coming months, the organizations said in a statement.

The cases include a Native American woman who charges she was forcibly

raped up to three times a week by an officer while being held down by two others. The officers, she alleged, made hateful comments against her, including saying Native Americans were "worth nothing but drinking alcohol and going to prison."

Another woman charges that an officer raped her and made homophobic remarks while threatening to throw her in solitary confinement. Multiple women charge that they were victims of voyeurism, being forced to masturbate, perform strip shows, or commit sex acts on other incarcerated people in front of officers. Some women, the lawsuits contend, were threatened with deportation if they did not submit, because they were immigrants.

"This horrific abuse is continuing to happen right here in the Bay Area even during and after officers being convicted," Emily Shapiro, a member of California Coalition for Women Prisoners, said in a statement. "We have to pay attention if

we want accountability from FBOP. The experiences of these 12 additional survivors speak to the fact that the abuse is systemic, that officers weaponize solitary confinement, immigration status, and write-ups to coerce people in Dublin, and that the culture of the FBOP has not changed in any true or lasting way."

Last month, Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers, who is presiding over the class-action lawsuit, paid a surprise visit to the prison

and said she likely will appoint a special master to investigate the facility. Rhonda Fleming, a woman who testified during the case, wrote an email to television station KTVU to report FCI Dublin authorities threw her into a special housing unit and transferred her to a facility in Los Angeles in retaliation. When Rogers learned of the transfer, she ordered Fleming's return to Dublin.

In December, the FBOP said it had installed 385 cam-

eras inside the facility in areas where corrections officers had sexually abused inmates for years, court documents said.

Also in December, former FCI Corrections Officer Andrew Jones, 36, of Pleasanton was sentenced to eight years in prison. Jones was the eighth FCI Dublin official charged with sexually abusing inmates. The group included a chaplain and the institution's former warden, Ray Garcia, who was sentenced to 5 years and 8 months behind bars.

Pleasanton Names Public Works Director

Siew-Chin Yeong has been named director of public works by the City of Pleasanton.

"We are pleased to have Siew-Chin join the city's executive team," said City Manager Gerry Beaudin. "Her expertise in budget management, stakeholder coordination, and implementing effective project management, while staying focused on

delivering essential services and driving improvements, will well serve Pleasanton."

Yeon, former assistant director of public works in Oakland, will head Pleasanton's Public Works Department, including all operations and maintenance, utilities and environmental services, and engineering activities.

Upcoming projects include completion of the city's water,

sewer and storm system master plans, development of an asset management plan, and the design and construction of wells to address synthetic chemical pollution.

Yeong has a bachelor's degree in construction engineering and management and a master's degree in civil engineering and construction management from Iowa State University.

OBITUARIES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Kari Ann Gomes
Aug. 18, 1956 – Feb. 15, 2024

Kari was born in San Francisco, California, in 1956 to Donald and Eltha Gomes. The family moved to Pacifica in 1964, which Kari would call home for most of her life. In 2023, she moved to Livermore, California, to live near her brother Tim.

Kari attended Terra Nova High School, graduating in 1974. Kari was a nurturing and caring person, spending a portion of her life working in child daycare centers, and playing a central role in raising her brothers, nieces and nephews. She went on to add a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Development in 1985 from California State University, San Francisco. She worked briefly in the administrative offices of the Presidio U.S. Army base in San Francisco. Her health challenges would limit the length of her working career.

Kari was a creative person, channeling her energies into art. She was a talented painter who developed and refined her skills



with fellow Pacifica artists at the Sanchez Adobe art collective. She also enjoyed sewing and designed many quilts. She left many beautiful works for her family to enjoy and to treasure forever. Kari was a lively and spirited woman. She loved to hear about the newest gossip or "scoop" with family and friends.

Kari sadly left the world much too soon and was preceded in death by her mother Eltha Griffin Gomes. Kari was proud and protective of her family. She is survived, loved and missed by her father Donald Gomes, her brother Kevin and his wife Elizabeth, her brother Greg and his wife Rene, and her brother Tim and his wife Nancy, as well as nieces and nephews Donny, Gregory, Ashley, Caitlin, Benjamin, Audrey, Taylor and Sydney, and grand-nephews Danny and James.

Kari's life will be celebrated at The Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Pacifica, California on Wednesday, March 20 at 11 a.m.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Kevin Drake
March 31, 1945 – Feb. 21, 2024

Livermore lost an amazing citizen, outstanding educator and a great man, Kevin Drake.

Kevin was born in Modesto, California, on March 31, 1945, the first of four children to parents Donald and Loretta Drake.

He was educated in parochial schools before graduating in 1963 from Thomas Downey High School in Modesto, California.

While in high school, he was student body president and was an All-Conference quarterback who led his football team to an undefeated season.

He earned a full-ride football scholarship to the University of Pacific. He graduated from UOP with a degree in U.S. history, shortly thereafter earning a master's degree in history and a teaching credential, as well.

Kevin married the love of his life, Victoria Ferrario, in 1968.

Vickie and Kevin started their early years of marriage working as educators in the Livermore School District.

They started their family in 1974 with the birth of their daughter Kristen, and then adding their son Brian in 1977.

Kevin began his teaching career as a U.S. history and government teacher while coaching football and baseball at Livermore High School. He moved to Granada High School in 1978, teaching history, coaching and later becoming athletic director.

In 1986, Kevin became vice-principal at Livermore High School and earned a master's in administrative leadership from St. Mary's College shortly thereafter.

He transitioned back to Granada High School as principal in 1994, was named Administrator of the Year in 1996, and retired from the high school in 2004.

Kevin was a born leader and truly a civil servant in Livermore. He served as president of the Rotary Club and Rotarian Foundation, authored the History of Granada High School, and became coordinator of the Choose Life organization, introducing it into the Livermore

School District system.

Kevin was inducted into the Livermore Sports Hall of Fame and awarded the Keith Fraser Community Service Award.

He was also inducted into the Tri-Valley Hall of Fame, receiving the Bob Vincent Award for Community Service.

In true Kevin fashion, he made himself available to every cause or situation. In 1997, this selfless brother donated a kidney to his younger sister.

In retirement, he was tremendously involved with his two grandchildren, Gunner and Abby, whom he adored. They were a huge source of pride to him. His favorite moniker was Papa.

Sadly, Kevin lost his recent diagnosis battle with stage four lung cancer. A non-smoker, he valiantly fought this with that fervor of purpose by which he lived his life.

Kevin Drake passed away on Feb. 21 with his family by his side.

Grieving his loss are loving wife of 55 years, Vickie; children, Kristen and Brian; grandchildren, Gunner and Abby Drake, and their mother, Amy Drake; loving siblings; Kathy Lundin (spouse Denis Lundin), Jeanine Drake (spouse Matt McElligot) and Brian J. Drake (spouse Leslie Drake);

extended family, brother-in-law, Richard Ferrario (spouse Rennise); nieces and nephews, Quinn, Jimmy, Conor, Brendan, Art, Tony, and Lisa; and many great nieces, nephews and cousins.

The outpouring of love from the community since his passing has been tremendous. The Livermore rotary is putting together a Kevin Drake scholarship fund. Discussions are in the works to name the Granada High football stadium "Kevin Drake Stadium".

Celebration of everlasting life services will be held on Saturday, April 6 at 11 a.m. at Saint Charles Borromeo in Livermore (1315 Lomitas Avenue). In lieu of gifts, please donate to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital or Choose Love (chooselovemovement.org). Blessings.



Jean Joanne Messick
Sept. 27, 1936 – Feb. 20, 2024



Jean Joanne Messick, a long-time resident of Fremont and Livermore, California, passed away on Feb. 20, 2024, at the age of 87. Jean grew up in Sacramento and met her husband Robert (Bob) Messick in Lodi, and they were married in 1954. In 1955 when their oldest daughter Judy was only two weeks old, they moved to Newark. Their second daughter Marian was born in 1957. Three years later, they moved to Irvington, in Fremont, California. Jean was a member of many clubs, sat on countless boards and committees, and also was extremely involved in community activities. Upon her arrival in Irvington, Jean joined the Country Club of Washington Township and was an active member for 53 years. Jean was also affiliated with The National Society Colonial Dames XVII, National Society Magna Carta Dames and Barons, Las Antiquelagas Club where she served as President, Native Daughters of the Golden West serving as President and VP, San Francisco Bay Area Huguenot Society, Washington Township Historical Society, FCAC member for 30 years, Genealogy Society Member, and The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) where she was the California Organizing Registrar for 26 years, earned

21 DAR pins and grew the Ohlone Chapter by 75 members. It was her passion to be involved in her community and history. A couple of accomplishments Jean is especially proud of are the development of the Ardenwood Historic Farm, and the Early American Antique Museum for the Alameda County Fair. In 1985, Jean and Bob helped open Ardenwood Farm in Newark. Jean started the Early American Crafts program there, where school groups would have the opportunity to experience early American life. In 1988, the City of Fremont presented Jean with a certificate from the Ardenwood Patterson House Advisory Board for her services as a board member and tour guide and for her assistance in restoring the Patterson House. She was honored in 2016 for 50 years

of commitment as one of four members of the Washington Township Women's Club celebrating Tri-Valley Women and their dedication. In 1967, Jean discovered one of her greatest passions: genealogy! She then spent the next 50-plus years tiptoeing through cemeteries, long hours in libraries and courthouses reviewing vital records, and traveling across the U.S., and to Scotland, Ireland, and Germany to research family ancestors. Jean's petals of her life touched many people, and she created treasured memories and legacies that will be forever remembered in our hearts.

Jean was married to the love of her life, Robert Messick, who passed away in 2001. She will be missed by her oldest daughter Judy Turner and youngest daughter Marian 'April' Lee, sons-in-law Skip Turner and Jim Lee, grandsons Robert Turner and Christopher Lee, wife Stevie, and granddaughter Courtney Lee, and extended family and loved ones.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 15, 2024, at noon, at 32992 Mission Blvd, Hayward, California. In memory of Jean, donations can be made to Stanford University; by check to Development Service, P.O. Box 20466, Stanford, CA, 94309, Memo Cancer Research, or phone 650-725-4360, press 3.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

William David Sherman
Sept. 11, 1939 – March 2, 2024

William David Sherman sadly passed away on March 2, 2024, at his home in Livermore, California. He passed peacefully with his family and loved ones by his side.

William was born Sept. 11, 1939, to William David Sherman and Goldie E. Judy. He found and married the love of his life, Margret Winifred Redmond, on Aug. 10, 1962.

They went on to have three children, six grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. Jacqueline Patricia Richards blessed them with Matthew Ryan Williams and Jeffrey David Williams and great-granddaughter Zoey Renee Williams. Mark David Sherman blessed them with Jacob David Sherman. And Julie Elizabeth Brooking blessed them with Jordan Christopher Brooking, Austin Sherman Brooking and Megan Elizabeth Brooking.

William served our country for 20+ years in the United States Airforce. He worked on top-secret military projects helping to secure the country's safety. William was once deployed for 18 months to the Philippines, separating him from his much-loved family to serve his country. The family was fortunate to spend most of their years stationed in California.

He retired on Jan. 1, 1980, and went on to work at Lockheed Martin for the remainder of his career, again working on top secret projects that even his family were not privy to.

William and Marge spent 18 years living happily in Livermore, California, where they were a treasured part of their community.

They enjoyed wine tasting, dinners with family and friends, and travel.

William was a quiet, intelligent man who also enjoyed quite time at home.

After Margret's death on Oct. 18, 2016, William was fortunate to meet Beverly Ann Broyer who he spent seven happy years with. Funeral services will be held on March 13 at 11 a.m.

There will be a family viewing at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, California, followed by a Military Funeral at 11 a.m. at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery at 5810 Midway Road, Dixon, California.

There will be a Military Escort, escorting him to the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery starting from Callaghan Mortuary at 9 a.m.

There will be a celebration of life immediately following the service at the Las Positas Golf Club, 917 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, please donate the VFW Post 7265, P.O. Box 331, Livermore California, 94550-9534.

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

Granada Boys Edged Out of Close Championship Game

By Phil Jensen

DUBLIN — In the middle of the third quarter of the California Interscholastic Federation NorCal Division I boys basketball championship game on March 5, Granada had a slight lead and high hopes of winning its second straight NorCal Division I title.

But San Ramon Valley took the lead for good with 1 minute, 16 seconds left in the third quarter, then held off a Matadors charge in the final period to win 58-55 at Dublin High School.

“It hurts. I wanted (the win) for this group in particular,” said Granada coach Quaran Johnson after the game. “So many people thought that we couldn’t even get this far, and we constantly proved doubters wrong, and in the end, it didn’t work our way, it went to San Ramon. But I’m proud of this group, proud of these boys, proud of what they

accomplished.”

Granada, the No. 4 seed in the NorCal Division I playoffs, finished the season with a 26-5 overall record. Three of those losses, the Matadors’ last ones of the season, were to San Ramon Valley. Granada beat the Wolves 60-58 on Jan. 25 in the two teams’ first meeting this season before San Ramon Valley won the next three games between the squads.

On March 5, neither team had a double-digit lead at any point of the game. It was tied at 22 at halftime, and San Ramon Valley (29-7), the No. 2 seed, had a 37-34 advantage at the end of three quarters.

San Ramon Valley’s lead grew to 48-39 with 3 minutes, 56 seconds remaining on a layup by Mason Thomas, who scored nine of his game-high 17 points in the fourth quarter. But Granada chopped away at the lead and cut it to four points twice in the last 14 seconds, including a floater in the lane by

Spencer Langowski with 7.5 seconds left. The Matadors fouled immediately, and the Wolves’ Jack Moxley made both his free throws for a 58-52 advantage with 2.6 seconds to go. A three-point-er at the buzzer by Granada’s Lennon Lomba cut the final advantage to three.

The Wolves were 11 for 13 from the free-throw line in the fourth quarter, while the Matadors only had five attempts (making four). Langowski led a balanced Granada scoring attack in the game with 13 points. Each of the other Matadors starters scored at least eight points: Lomba had 11 (including seven in the fourth quarter), followed by Marco Wilde (10), NaVaughn Long (nine) and Cortevious Taylor (eight). Long had a game-high seven rebounds and also passed for three assists and had a team-high two steals. Taylor added six rebounds.

“I’m proud of how they stuck together,” said Johnson

about his squad this season. “We look like the average Division I-level team. But the way they played together, the way they loved each other, the way they were so

persistent in not giving up and believing in it, what we do in our game plan, that stands out the most. I think that’s the most proud I’ve ever been of any team.”

Long and Taylor were selected as first-team all-East Bay Athletic League players this season. Langowski was named second-team all-league.



Granada’s head junior varsity coach Evan Zeller (front, third from left) consoles players as time expires at the end of the March 5 boys basketball game. San Ramon Valley beat Livermore 58-55. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)



The Livermore Cowboys varsity baseball team hosted the Mustangs of Mountain House on March 7, where Livermore won 11 to 2. Above, Livermore’s Tanner Lee slides into second base. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Dublin Posts Summer Activity Guide

Dublin’s 50-page guide to municipal summer camps and aquatics programs for 2024 is now available online at dublin.ca.gov. Click on Parks and Community Services

on the home page, then Activity Guide and Registration.

The guide also includes schedules for family campsouts, Dublin farmers’ market, the summer con-

cert series, and other recreational activities sponsored by Dublin Parks and Community Services.

The guide is also being mailed to all Dublin residents.

LPD Welcomes New Animal Services Officer

Kevin Leon is Livermore Police’s new Animal Services Officer. He graduated with a Criminal Justice degree at California State University,

East Bay. He was an Alameda County Sheriff’s Office Explorer for three years, and then a Sheriff’s Office Service Cadet for another three years.

He worked at the East County Animal Shelter in Dublin, where he fell in love with the field of Animal Services. He was an Animal Services Officer for ACSO before lateraling to Livermore Police. The owner of two bunnies is Spanish-speaking and appreciates the community support in Livermore.

“My goal is not to take animals away. It’s more of educating people and being able to advise them on how to better care for their animals,” said Officer Leon.



Animal Services Officer Kevin Leon (Photo – Livermore Police Department)

LLNL to Collaborate on Neural Implants To Help Patients Without Motor Control

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) is joining forces with New York-based Precision Neuroscience Corp. to advance the technology of neural implants for patients suffering from a variety of disorders, including stroke, spinal cord injury, and neurodegenerative diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Under a three-year research and development agreement, LLNL will work with Precision to develop future versions of the company’s neural implant, a thin-film microelectrode array called the Layer 7 Cortical Interface.

The brain implant is designed to allow users to operate computer systems entirely through thought, which could benefit patients who have lost motor coordination or the ability to speak.

The project will leverage LLNL’s background in developing flexible, thin-film multielectrode neural implants, as well as its micro-fabrication facility and regulatory-compliant

quality management system for prototype medical device manufacturing.

“We are very excited to embark on this collaboration with Precision, which we anticipate will significantly move the needle in the development of neural implants for the betterment of patients,” said Razi Haque, who leads the Implantable Microsystems Group at LLNL. “Combining [LLNL’s] demonstrated expertise and technical know-how with Precision’s innovative approach and skilled team will further both organizations’ efforts to push the boundaries of medical innovation and make meaningful contributions to the field of neuroscience.”

Founded in 2021, Precision’s implants combine high-bandwidth brain-computer interface technology with a minimally invasive surgical approach designed to cause no damage to healthy brain tissue.

The company began testing its implant in human clinical trials last spring in

collaboration with West Virginia University’s Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute. Precision, which operates a manufacturing subsidiary, Precision BioMEMS, in Texas, is seeking to get FDA clearance for its first commercial device later this year.

“LLNL is one of the premier research laboratories in the world,” said Craig Mermel, president and chief product officer at Precision. “Their team holds deep knowledge and expertise in thin-film microfabrication techniques, and we share common goals in translating advanced manufacturing technology to help millions of patients with neurological disease.”

Mermel said the collaboration with LLNL would lead to development of advanced fabrication techniques with quality standards for human clinical use, while also “ensuring that the eventual commercial translation of these strategic manufacturing capabilities stays within the United States.”

Park District Sponsors Food Drive

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) has launched a donation drive in support of the Tri-Valley Haven food pantry in downtown Livermore.

The food pantry, 150 N. L St., provides free groceries to homeless and low-income Tri-Valley residents. The nonprofit Tri-Valley Haven also provides shelter and support services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

LARPD said its donation drive is designed to address the community’s year-round needs.

“Our commitment to community extends beyond seasonal generosity,” said LARPD recreation supervisor Joseph Benjamin. “We are pleased to spearhead this donation drive to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those relying on the TriValley Haven food pantry throughout the year.”

According to Tri-Valley Haven, it helps feed more than 4,000 people every month.

LARPD will have donation bins for non-perishable food items and hygiene products at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., now through March 22. For a list of requested items, go to larpd.org/news.

Drop-off hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603992

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Mathematical Sciences Research Institute 2. MSRI, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720. 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: 07/10/1979. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tatiana Toro, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2024. Expires February 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5803. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603993

The following person(s) doing business as: SL Math, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720. 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: 08/17/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tatiana Toro, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2024. Expires February 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5804. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603914

The following person(s) doing business as: Ru Yi Herbs, 35201 Newark Blvd Suite G, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Runkang Inc., 1740 N. Milpitas Blvd, Milpitas CA 95035. 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: 1/22/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Winnie Huang. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 6, 2024. Expires February 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5805. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604017

The following person(s) doing business as: Heartbeat Health Education, 309 Olivina Ave,

Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brandon Recht, 309 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/12/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brandon Recht, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2024. Expires February 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5806. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603501

The following person(s) doing business as: Onix Concepts, 2022 Elm Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miguel A. Escamilla, 2022 Elm 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Miguel A. Escamilla. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2024. Expires January 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5807. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 606881

The following person(s) doing business as: Sherry's, 2213 Via Espada, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lingying Xia, . 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/: Lingying Xia, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 6, 2024. Expires February 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5808. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603571

The following person(s) doing business as: AMS Construction Services, 1063 Serpentine Lane, Ste. B, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Association Maintenance Services Inc., P O Box, 157, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Michelle McNamara, Secretary. This state-

ment was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2024. Expires January 22, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5809. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603839

The following person(s) doing business as: QMS MDR Consulting, 4220 Patricia Ave, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Perry Fukui, 4220 Patricia Ave, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Perry Fukui, Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2024. Expires February 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5810. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603752

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Immovable Lock; 2. Immovable Locksmiths, 3406 Redhook Lane, Alameda, CA 94502 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Austin Munger, 3406 Redhook

Lane, Alameda, CA 94502. 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: 11/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Austin Munger, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2024. Expires January 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5811. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604070

The following person(s) doing business as: Rumi Creamery, 651 Folsom Ave, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bon Mange Sweets Inc., 651 Folsom Ave, Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/15/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Omid Mehdavi, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 15, 2024. Expires February 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5812. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603600

The following person(s) doing business as: Brow Care Studio, 1491 Cedarwood Ln., Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Candice D. Nguyen, 1491 Cedarwood Ln., Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/24/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Candice D. Nguyen, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5813. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603685

The following person(s) doing business as: ATJ Transportation, 1535 Rubino Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Adrienne Thomas, 1535 Rubino Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Adrienne Rubi-

no, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2024. Expires January 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5816. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604063

The following person(s) doing business as: Red Lime Real Estate Investments, 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Ste 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brown Developments, Inc., 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Ste 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/29/2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jacqueline Brown, COO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2024. Expires February 13, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5817. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603747

The following person(s) doing business as: GVCI, 43456 Ellsworth ST., Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by

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the following owner(s): GVCI, 43456 Ellsworth ST. #3513, Fremont, CA 94539. 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: 1/31/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Tae Woon Chon, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2024. Expires January 30, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5818. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604114

The following person(s) doing business as: Opluentz, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria Lara, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579; John Michael Salvatierra, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by Co-partners. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/20/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Maria Lara, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5819. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604126

The following person(s) doing business as: JDL Construction, 4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): JDL Construction, 4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Jared Vick, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5820. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603953

The following person(s) doing business as: Panosa Bakery, 2718 College Avenue #2, Berkeley, CA 94705-1244 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bianca Hsieh, 2718 College Avenue #2, Berkeley, CA 94705. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/7/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Bianca Hsieh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2024. Expires February 6, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5821. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604113

The following person(s) doing business as: Juice Appeal, 150 Berkeley Square, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ilham Al Hafnawi, 2305 Helena CT, Pinole, CA 94564. 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: Ilham Al Hafnawi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5822. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603873

The following person(s) doing business as: Travel Tonic, 7961 Millbrook Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Toni Chen, 7961 Millbrook Avenue, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Toni Chen, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2024. Expires February 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5823. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604156

The following person(s) doing business as: Dublin Grocery Outlet, 7991 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sub Ek Inc., 2630 Bayshore Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94134. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/21/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Harjinderpal Bhat, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 21, 2024. Expires February 20, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5824. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604121

The following person(s) doing business as: Inchims Bamboo

Garden Dublin, 4100 Grafton St., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): PBK Ventures Inc., 4100 Grafton St., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Sandeep Kumar, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5825. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604150

The following person(s) doing business as: Little Beast Coffee, 662 66th Street, CA 94509-1004 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew Gosline, 662 66th Street, CA 94509. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/20/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Mathew Gosline, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 21, 2024. Expires February 20, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5826. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604116

The following person(s) doing business as: GMJ888, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria Lara, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579; John Michael Salvatierra, 1305 Mersey Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by Co-partners. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/20/2018. Signature of Registrant/s: Maria Lara, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5827. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604132

The following person(s) doing business as: Aligned Life Independent Living, 18958 Standish Ave, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aligned Life Independent Living, 18958 Standish Ave, Hayward, CA 94541. 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: 2/20/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Anita C. Paule, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 20, 2024. Expires February 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5828. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604189

The following person(s) doing business as: Vanpros, 4432 Enterprise St. #R, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Skaf Commercial Fleets, LLC., 1642 Douglas CT, 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: 2/22/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Nabil Alskaf, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 22, 2024. Expires February 21, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5829. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604007

The following person(s) doing business as: Logowear Group, 711 Los Alamos Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Claudia Bustos, 711 Los Alamos Ave, 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: Claudia Bustos, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2024. Expires February 8, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5830. Published, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603809

The following person(s) doing business as: Joy Math, 7375 Amador Valley Blvd, Ste 203, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joy Edu Inc., 7375 Amador Valley Blvd, Ste 203, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Yongbum Lee, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2024. Expires February 1, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5832. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604293

The following person(s) doing business as: MBC IT LLC, 1159 Vintner Place, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): MBC IT LLC, 1159 Vintner Place, Livermore, CA 94550. 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: Mark Buechler, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 28, 2024. Expires February 27, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5833. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604205

The following person(s) doing business as: Yogurtland, 30162 Industrial Pkwy SW, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jams Forever Inc., 7679 Ridgeline Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Mandeep Kahlon, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2024. Expires February 12, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5834. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604202

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunshine Training, 7486 Frederiksen Lane, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Weina Zhao, 7486 Frederiksen Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Weina Zhao, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 23, 2024. Expires February 22, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5835. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604276

The following person(s) doing business as: Adam Lewis Construction, 2021 research Drive, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ALC Services Company, 4435 First ST #308, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/16/2018. Signature of Registrant/s: Adam Lewis, President/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2024. Expires February 26, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5836. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603850

The following person(s) doing

business as: Kane Hair Salon LLC, 7059 Village PKWY, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kane Hair Salon LLC, 7059 Village PKWY, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Cuc Thi Kim Nguyen, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2024. Expires February 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5837. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604262

The following person(s) doing business as: Lucas Liquors, 16258 Foothill Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Park-Hur Investments, Inc., 16258 Foothill Blvd, San Leandro, CA 94578. 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: 4/4/2014. Signature of Registrant/s: Andrew Park-Hur, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 26, 2024. Expires February 25, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5838. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604234

The following person(s) doing business as: Poppies and Birch, 315 N P St., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jami Morton, 315 N P 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: 1/27/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Jami Morton, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 26, 2024. Expires February 25, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5839. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604196

The following person(s) doing business as: Accents and Art-tech, 14680 Doolittle Drive., San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Winston, Chu, 14680 Doolittle, CA 94577. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/1999. Signature of Registrant/s: Winston Chu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 23, 2024. Expires February 24, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5840. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603738

The following person(s) doing business as: Kevtek Property Management Professional, 3725 east Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kevin Erlich, 3725 East Ave, Livermore, CA . This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Kevin, Erlich, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2024. Expires January 30, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5841. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604239

The following person(s) doing business as: Pearle Vision, 3024 W Jack London Blvd, Livermore, CA 94551-7650 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lucideyez Inc., 3024 W Jack London Blvd, Livermore, CA 94551-7650. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Preet toor, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February

26, 2024. Expires February 25, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5842. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CV065663

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Anupam Dhopade
518 Colusa Way
Livermore, CA 94551

The following person(s) doing business as: Janice & Co., 4900 Hopyard Rd., #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Golden Valley Mortgage Corporation, 4900 Hopyard Rd., #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/5/2024. Signature of Registrant/s: Janice M. Smith, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5845. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

Present Names:
Neev Anupam Dhopade
Proposed Name:
Vednt Anupam Dhopaadey
THE COURT ORDERS
that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 04/16/2024 Time: 9:30 AM Dept: 14

The address of the court is: **Alameda County Administration Building**
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 2/28/2024 /s/: A. Thomas J. Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court.
The Independent, Legal No. 5843. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

LEGAL NOTICE
The business records of the following customers of ACCESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (or any affiliates of ACCESS) located at 5785 Las Positas Road, Livermore, CA 94551 have been abandoned: MIG and TRUMPET BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. All records will be shredded 16 days after publication of this notice. Anyone claiming to have an interest in the records should contact Access Information Protected in writing at the following address: 4 First Avenue, Peabody, MA 01960, Attn: Legal Department, Tel. No. (888) 869-2767 (Client Support); email: Collections@accesscorp.com. The Independent, Legal No. 5844. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

The following person(s) doing business as: Jeju Studio, 4600 Tassajara Rd, Apt 4405, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jintak Oh, 4600 Tassajara Rd, Apt 4405, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Jintak Oh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5847. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604413

The following person(s) doing business as: Hunan Restaurant, 17383 Hesperian Blvd, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hunan Restaurant, 17383 Hesperian Blvd, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Hunan Restaurant, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5848. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604463

The following person(s) doing business as: Gar-Cal Studio, 1056 Serpentine LN., Suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Angel Garcia - Gar-Cal Corporation, PO Box 24, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Angel Garcia, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2024. Expires March 5, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5846. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604487

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604524

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604463

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“Atom Andy” Jorgensen, a Man of Diverse Interests and Talents, Dies

By Christina Cavallaro

Andrew “Andy” Lee Jorgensen, the father of The Independent’s photographer Doug Jorgensen — died last month. A nuclear physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Andy Jorgensen helped build and fire the first laser for the lab.

He lived in Livermore and was known as a record-breaking hydroplane boat racer, race car driver, scuba diver, and family man of deep religious faith.

He was 93. According to Doug Jorgensen, The Independent’s photographer for over 40 years, “My father lived an amazingly full life,” at a unique time in history.

Doug Jorgensen explained that there were early indications of his father’s natural gifts and budding genius. Andy Jorgensen grew up on a farm in rural Missouri where, at about age 11, he began building rockets and his own solid fuel motors. In a story passed down by Doug Jorgensen’s grandmother, at one point, one of the rockets he was building prematurely ignited and blew a hole through their garage door. “My grandmother said, after that, the rocket factory (in the garage) was closed down,” Doug Jorgensen remembers.

Andy Jorgensen was a man who lived in the world of math and science and was very technical, but also extremely practical, said his son. “He grew up on a farm, so had to do all the farm chores. He’d rebuild a car engine. He built two additions to our house. He just did it. He figured stuff out.”

After graduating valedictorian of his high school

class, Andy Jorgensen went to then-Northeast Missouri State Teachers College — now Truman State University — in Kirksville, Missouri. During his college years, he landed a job as a heavy machinery operator to pay for tuition. “He’d be driving around a bulldozer reading his chemistry book,” said his son. “That gives you an idea of how he was. His feet in both worlds.”



Andrew Lee Jorgensen
(Photo courtesy: Doug Jorgensen)

He graduated from college in 1952 on a draft deferment with a bachelor’s degree in physics. Most young men at the time where he was living, who were drafted as Marines at the height of the Korean War, were not keen on the idea of going to a combat unit. Andy Jorgensen found a recruiter who recognized his mental prowess and placed him into what was called the Army Chemical Corps stationed in Aberdeen, Maryland. The unit was tasked with studying how to defend the country in a chemical, biological or radiological war. They were supposed to figure out what the U.S. military needed to win, or to fend itself against those threats.

During this era, Andy

Jorgensen became heavily involved in nuclear testing, working on the Army’s M65 atomic cannon, which they called “Atomic Annie,” the Army’s foray into shooting atomic weapons.

Other testing in Nevada allowed him to catch the attention of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, then called the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. They were there doing some atmospheric — versus underground — tests. They had a device they were testing, and it wasn’t going the way the people at the lab thought it would. So, they asked the Army unit to weigh in. Apparently, Andy Jorgensen gave them a rundown of what he thought had gone wrong. His assessment made such an impression on them that they asked him to contact them when he was released from the Army in a few months.

Jorgensen’s son pulled out a wooden plaque with “Atom Andy” burned into it in a script font. “It was a plaque various people made,” he explained. They would take copper wire and shape it into whatever they wanted burned into the wood. It was then placed about a mile or so from a nuclear detonation. When the bomb detonated, it would leave behind the image of the copper wire.

“This plaque gives you a sense of what it was like,” said Doug Jorgensen. “It was like cowboy. They did what they did because they needed to. They needed to push the envelope of science. They needed to find out if these things worked, because there could have been a time when they needed to use them. They needed them to work.”

In 1955, Andy Jorgensen

joined the then-Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and met his future wife Mary, who was a secretary there. Schedules put them together at the Nevada nuclear test site. They would go on dates and watch the atmospheric tests.

“Nothing says romance more than a blinding flash, shockwave and huge mushroom cloud,” said their future son.

Andy Jorgensen’s trailblazing continued. He helped build and fire the first laser for the lab on a whim, as confirmed in a published research paper.

His son said, “There was a diagram about how to build a crude laser. My dad said, ‘We got this stuff. Let’s build this.’ So, they put this thing together, fired and burnt a hole on the other side of the room.”

Doug Jorgensen recalled with humor having his physicist dad help him with an 8th grade science project. “It was about demonstrating water pressure change in height. Oh my God, I had no idea what I was demonstrating. I just followed the script,” he said laughing.

“We’re talking graduate level science,” he continued. “Everybody was like, ‘Did your dad help you with that?’ Um, yeah, a little, I said. This thing was about 7 feet tall, but it worked.”

Andy Jorgensen retired early from the lab to help his wife, who passed away in 1993 from Multiple Sclerosis. He then leaned into helping at Trinity Baptist Church in Livermore, where he attended for 60 years. He also volunteered at Shepherd’s Gate, helping the women out with car maintenance and financial assistance. Renowned for his appre-

ciation of fast cars, Andy Jorgensen revered the Ford GT40, which embodied a tenuous balance between raw power and the technical systems designed to control it.

There will be a celebration of life service at Trinity Baptist Church in Livermore at 1 p.m. on March 30.

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Marylin Avenue STEAM Program Readies for Upgrades

By Ruth Roberts

It will soon be full steam ahead for students at Marylin Avenue Elementary School in Livermore, thanks to the planned upgrades to their Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) Academy.

STEAM education is an approach to learning that uses its component disciplines as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue and critical thinking, according to the STEAM website.



Marylin Avenue fifth grader Brian Martinez Morataya experiments with bioretention. (Photo Courtesy: LVJUSD)

Paid for with a \$10 million Federal Magnet Grant, the Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy improvements will include the addition of two new STEAM classrooms and the redesign of existing classrooms into STEAM workspaces. The grant also allows for new transitional kindergarten classrooms, an outdoor play space, and a new drop-off and parking area. Construction is expected to begin this spring with plans for completion by fall 2025.

“These improvements will be made possible because our district was able

to apply for and receive a state bond fund reimbursement based on our community’s investment in Measure J,” said Chris Van Schaack, superintendent of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). “We are grateful to our community and bond team for playing integral roles in making these improvements possible.”

Passed in 2016, Measure J allows for the modernization of classrooms and repairing of aging infrastructure, according

to the LVJUSD website. It also provides for the renovation of onsite facilities.

While the onsite upgrade to the academy is new, the STEAM program itself has been a staple in the district for several years.

The benefits of STEAM and the district’s program were on full display recently during the Marylin Avenue STEAM Academy’s Green Engineering Academy (GEA) Partnership Day. Fifth graders at Marylin Avenue welcomed students from Livermore High School for a day to work together planning a series of stations designed to teach students about

bioretention and the science behind stormwater management and solutions. Bioretention involves the use of soil, plants and microbes to treat stormwater before it is infiltrated or discharged.

Each fifth-grade student was paired with a GEA student from Livermore High, who provided guidance and instruction through four, hands-on stations. The activities included making a four-level bioretention filtration system, examining how different types of plants affect bioretention, creating a bioretention layout.

“It was inspiring to watch younger students take such an interest in science that will make the world a better place,” said GEA student and Livermore High School senior Nilan Dharmaraj.

Kali, a fifth grader who participated in the event, came away energized.

“It would be fun to make a 3D model of a bioretention area using our Chromebooks,” she said.

Dorothy Morillos, GEA teacher and program coordinator, deemed the day a success.

“GEA Partnership Day exemplified LVJUSD’s commitment to expanding educational strategies and experiences for its students,” she said. “Older and younger students working together provides mutually beneficial learning opportunities and important points of connection that tie to student achievement. These types of experiential activities and projects are vital in extending what we do in the classroom. It teaches students that the concepts they learn in class go beyond paper and pen, and can actually have an im-

pact at their school and in their community.”

For more information, visit www.livermore-schools.org.

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Register today!

Self-paced hike • Barbecue lunch • Lawn games
Raffle prizes • Silent auction • Fundraising

Your participation helps **Hope Hospice** care for more than 2,000 East Bay neighbors each year. Money raised through registrations and supporting donations benefits patient care and helps keep grief support, dementia education, and caregiver resources available to the public at no charge.

Route Options

We’ve mapped out an out-and-back 4.4-mile route with an optional moderate loop that climbs to a scenic overlook. Or, go with our 1.7-mile route for an easy, flat stroll. Combine all three legs for a 6-mile excursion.

Tax-Deductible Registration Donation

Hope Hospice is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, 94-2576059.

\$35 ADULT
FOR PARTICIPANTS AGE 18 AND UP

\$15 YOUTH
FOR PARTICIPANTS AGES 13-17

FREE FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER
REGISTRATION STILL REQUIRED TO GET A SHIRT

\$80 FAMILY PACKAGE
INCLUDES REGISTRATION FOR 2 ADULTS AND 2 YOUTH

Sponsorship Opportunities

Connect by April 5 to maximize your publicity benefits!

TheHikeForHope.com

Dublin Posts Summer Activity Guide

Dublin’s 50-page guide to municipal summer camps and aquatics programs for 2024 is now available online at dublin.ca.gov. Click on Parks and Community Services on the home page, then Activity Guide and Registration.

The guide also includes schedules

for family campouts, Dublin farmers’ market, the summer concert series, and other recreational activities sponsored by Dublin Parks and Community Services. The guide is also being mailed to all Dublin residents.