

FCI Dublin Safety Officer Found Guilty Of Sex Abuse

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A federal jury last week convicted a former correctional officer of sexually abusing two women inmates at the Federal Correctional Institute Dublin (FCI Dublin) over the course of a year.

John Russell Bellhouse, 40, of Pleasanton faces up to 36 years in prison when U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers sentences him on Aug. 23 in the U.S. District Court in Oakland, prosecutors said.

Bellhouse is out of custody pending the hearing.

“Instead of fulfilling his duty as the prison’s safety manager, Bellhouse used his position to abuse the women he was responsible for keeping safe,” Robert Tripp, special agent in charge of the FBI’s San Francisco office, said in a statement. “The FBI and our partners will continue to pursue allegations of abuse by (FCI Dublin) correctional officers and hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes.”

(See ABUSE, page 7)

Zero-Emission Truck Charging Depot Slated For Livermore

LIVERMORE — East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), the local energy provider for Alameda County, has announced a new financing program to support the transition to zero-emission heavy-duty trucks.

The EBCE Board has approved \$4.5 million in financing to Forum Mobility, a zero-emission truck solutions provider, to support the development of an innovative electric truck charging depot in Livermore. This site is part of a new network of electric charging depots that Forum Mobility is building for drayage trucking carriers moving freight in and out of the Port of Oakland. “Drayage” refers to a form of trucking service that connects the different modes of shipping products.

“The City of Livermore,

(See DEPOT, page 7)



The Alameda County Fair kicks off its 2023 season on June 16 with an opening weekend of activities and rides including, the “Wave Swinger,” above. Live entertainment, special features and food are also on tap. The fair opens at noon and will feature a concert from Con Funk Shun in the Lucky Amphitheater, and a drone and fireworks show at the Stella Artois Grandstand. The fair runs through July 9. For more information, visit www.alamedacountyfair.com. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

City Council Keeps Sign Ban in Place

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — The Livermore City Council on Monday allowed a ban on temporary signs on public streets to take effect July 1, rejecting a planning commission recommendation that would have allowed signs with restrictions.

Following a lengthy discussion, Mayor John Marchand, Vice Mayor Brittni Kiick, Robert Carling and Evan Branning indicated they wanted to keep the ban in effect. Councilmember Ben Barrientos said he wanted to allow signs for First Amendment reasons.

The ban primarily will affect campaign signs posted

before elections, real estate agent “Open House” advertising, and yard sale, garage sale and car wash notices often placed in the public

“We as a city, as a leader in climate action, should not be promoting more distribution of plastic and metal.”

– Vice Mayor Brittni Kiick

right-of-way.

Kiick said her decision to keep the ban in place was not related to freedom of speech or democracy, but about clutter and climate change. Temporary signs, she said, can still be posted on private property.

“This isn’t really about campaign signs. This isn’t really about real estate signs,” Kiick said. “This is a content-neutral decision about plastic and metal in the public right of way ... We as a city, as a leader in climate action, should not be promoting more distribution of plastic and metal.”

Kiick, along with former Mayor Bob Womern and former Councilmember Trish Munro, voted in November for the outright ban of all temporary signs in the public right-of-way in commercial, industrial and residential zoning districts. The move followed residents’ com-

(See COUNCIL, page 12)

Bauer-Kahan Addresses Climate Change

By Christina Cavallero

PLEASANTON — Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan hosted a Zoom interview with Dr. Heidi Roop, author of “The Climate Change Action Handbook,” in front of a live and virtual audience at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton, on June 8.

Prior to the discussion on how citizens can best address climate change and encourage their legislators to act, Bauer-Kahan updated constituents on her efforts in Sacramento as chair of the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

“I’m in charge of all of California’s water,” she said, adding that when she first got the job, her mother asked her, “Who would want that?” Bauer-Kahan laughed, saying, “She’s right; it’s a really hard job.”

And according to Bauer-Kahan, it is one that is especially weighty, given that scientists are predicting there will be no more water in the Sierra in 24 years.

She acknowledged her son in the audience, and said, “I have three kids. Their future is really hanging in the balance. We have created a climate crisis, and we owe

it to them to be a part of the solution. We can’t just let them inherit that crisis and fix it for us.”

Bauer-Kahan pointed out that while solutions to the climate crisis do involve policy in Washington, Sacramento and at the city council level, so do the choices citizens make every day. She went on to say that she is often asked how people can make a difference in their community.

“It’s a really hard question to answer,” Bauer-Kahan said. “It can feel overwhelming. That’s what makes Dr. Roop’s book so important.”

(See CLIMATE, page 7)

On the Cemetery

Supervisors Delay Decision; Opposing Positions Remain

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — The Alameda County Board of Supervisors appeared poised last week to approve a 47-acre cemetery outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) north of the 580 freeway near Livermore after the developer agreed to downsize buildings on the site to comply with Measure D.

Although the group behind the project believes it might soon become a reality, the compromise on building size might not be enough to sway community groups opposed to the plan for additional reasons.

The supervisors, in a 4-0 vote June 8 with Supervisor Keith Carson absent, pushed the final decision on approving Monte Vista

Memorial Gardens to their Aug. 10 meeting to make sure designs for a mortuary, chapel, processing area and crematory at the cemetery are no larger than 12,000 square feet.

“I do think that we are closer,” said Ronald Kahn, CEO/manager of the Magen David Memorial Investment Group and a director/board member of Monte Vista Memorial Investment Group. “The difficult thing is that anything can happen right now, but it seems to be moving in the right direction – that there is recognition for the need for the cemetery. We are trying to do the best we can for the area to provide an asset to the community of some infrastructure that’s truly needed.”

(See CEMETERY, page 10)

Cycling Club Raises Funds to Promote Safety and Save Lives

By Dawnmarie Fehr

DUBLIN — The Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Club (VSBC), based in Dublin, recently donated \$15,000 to the California State Parks

cyclist safety in the Bay Area. The project to build more turn-outs – allowing cars to safely pass cyclists on narrow, switch back roads – is part of that work.

VSBC Past President



Seen from left are VSBC Past President Mark Dedon with Haley Gonzales (California State Parks Foundation), Joe Obrien (Trek Bicycles), and Alan Kalin (Diablo Cyclists) as they receive a \$15,000 check from the Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Club. (Photo courtesy of Randy Simpson)

Department to build more turnouts for cyclists on the roads leading up to Mount Diablo.

In addition to promoting the sport of road cycling, club members advocate for

Mark Dedon said the turnouts save lives.

“We have been looking for a way to help the safety of cyclists on Mount Diablo, and we are interested in the

(See CYCLING, page 7)



The Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls displayed acrobatic vaulting and rope tricks during their specialty acts at the Livermore Rodeo on June 10 and 11. The 105th rodeo event was hosted by the Livermore Stockmen’s Rodeo Association and sold out on both days. [See [photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Military Banners Honor Vets, Active-Duty Members

By Dawnmarie Fehr

DUBLIN — The City of Dublin’s Military Banner Program is currently on display along Dougherty Road between Amador Valley Boulevard and the Iron Horse Trail – 15 banners serving to honor, remember and celebrate local veterans and active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces.

Begun in 2018 in the city with deep military roots, the annual program runs from Memorial Day, May 29, through Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

“This is the least we can do for those who risk their lives and devote time away from family to serve our country,” said Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, who was part of the program’s initiation.

Hernandez and the late Vice Mayor Don Biddle were

part of the 2017 Federal and Military Communications Committee meeting that discussed creating a banner program to honor military personnel within Dublin. Following his February 2018 passing, Biddle was honored with a banner for his service in the United States Army. Since its inception, 65 active and veteran personnel have been honored, some posthumously. The subjects pictured on the banner are either from Dublin or have an immediate family member living in Dublin.

Local historian Steve Minniewar said the banners are important for two reasons.

“First, during World War II, over 350,000 people came out to this part of California, and many said, ‘I like it here, I want to stay,’” Minniewar said. “And secondly, the fact you had 350,000 people out here during the war planted a seed in developers’ minds

that said maybe they can have that many people out here in the future. That’s why the military is important in Dublin, because it proved we play a role in the bigger story, not just the local stuff.”

Military presence still exists in Dublin in the form of the Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, commonly known as “Camp Parks.” The development of the training area helped transform Dublin from a rural crossroads to a thriving city. Thousands of service members have been stationed at Camp Parks and Dublin spokesperson Shari Jackman said many decided to stay or to come back.

“With Camp Parks being such an important piece of the city’s history and growth, it was important to recognize the sacrifices of local servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country honorably,” Jackman said.

(See BANNERS, page 6)

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PET OF THE WEEK



THUNDER

Thunder is a thoughtful and thriving adult cat who just thoroughly celebrated his eighth birthday! He is independent and entertaining, with a penchant for treats and ear rubs. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more; email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. #SharetheCare to help pets like Thunder today!

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)



Graduating seniors at Livermore and Granada high schools celebrated the end of their high school careers on Friday, June 9. Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Superintendent Chris Van Schaack offered the district's support and congratulations to the students. "We were honored to celebrate the Class of 2023 as they prepare to further their education, join the workforce, or serve in the armed forces," said Van Schaack. "No matter the path chosen, we are confident that this year's class will pair their skills of resilience and adaptability strengthened by their pandemic experience with their determination and drive to create positive change and outcomes in our world." From top: Livermore High School grads mark the end of ceremonies with the traditional tossing of the caps. Family and friends show their support for Granada High graduates in general and one senior in particular. A smiling Granada grad points to a familiar face in the crowd. Three Livermore High friends celebrate the moment during ceremonies on Friday, June 9. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia/] (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

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Swalwell Issues Statement on Trump Indictment

Following a federal indictment of former President Donald Trump last week on charges he illegally held onto classified documents when he left office, U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA) suggested he may have done so deliberately "for his own benefit."

"Let us be clear what is alleged – that Donald Trump kept top-secret nuclear documents at his residence," Swalwell said. "A man who once leveraged \$300 million in military (aid) for the Ukrainians to find 'dirt' on his political opponent would certainly be inclined to leverage nuclear secrets for his own benefit."

In 2019, Democrats accused then-President Trump of withholding \$250 million in military aid for Ukraine to coerce the Kyiv government into launching an investigation of Joe Biden, then a candidate for president, and his family. No investigation was ever undertaken, and Trump released the money.

Swalwell added that he believes Trump was indicted "because that is precisely where the facts have taken investigators and a grand jury."

"The Department of Justice did not issue these indictments lightly," Swalwell said. "Charges were brought after months of investigations and interviews with Trump's most trusted advisors."

Swalwell stressed that "the rule of law applies to everyone, regardless of their name or position of power." He added that as a federal criminal defendant, Trump "deserves the same equal protection and due process every other defendant is afforded."

"My view has always been clear," Swalwell said. "The prosecution of criminal conduct of any politician should not be celebrated. Instead, it

should be solely based on the facts, backed by criminal culpability beyond a reasonable doubt."

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EDITORIAL

The City Is Right: The Cemetery Project Belongs Inside the Urban Growth Boundary

Reducing the size of the cemetery project buildings is a step in the right direction, but still not enough to adhere to the provisions of Measure D, which voters established in 2000 to protect agriculture and endangered species from urban sprawl. We agree with the City of Livermore that this project should move elsewhere.

During a June 8 meeting, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors postponed a decision to Aug. 10 on whether to deny two appeals and approve the 47-acre Monte Vista Memorial Gardens cemetery. Despite the developer’s proposal to reduce the square footage of the buildings, the remaining issue concerns the commercial use of buildings that would be positioned on land protected for agriculture. The proposed project would place a mortuary, a pavilion with a capacity to offer banquet services for 120-130 people, a crematorium, offices and a chapel at 3656 Las Colina Road on agriculturally designated land beyond Livermore’s city limits. The area is outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) under the county’s jurisdiction.

The groups appealing the project include Friends of Livermore and Friends of Open Space and Vineyards in a joint filing, and the City of Livermore, filing separately. They make excellent points: a mortuary and funeral pavilion are commercial developments that shouldn’t be creatively shoehorned into the category of agriculture.

As noted by Planning Manager Steve Stewart, a cemetery just outside the city’s border would violate the area’s UGB.

“In the city’s interpretation, this is an urban use,” Stewart continued. “This would be better located in an urban area of unincorporated Alameda County, or within city jurisdiction, rather than on the city’s edge in the agricultural and sensitive species habitat on the city’s edge.”

We recognize the need for a local Jewish burial ground. In the proper location, this would be a valuable asset for the community. But it belongs in an urban setting within the UGB. We don’t want to set a precedent of accepting projects that undo Measure D.

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.

Half Truths

Glenn White, Dublin

Thanks to Julie La Blanc for exposing how half-truths can be used to keep folks from the whole truth (6/8/2023). Half-truths are more effective at deception than actually lying because they are factually correct. Their lie is in their omission of facts.

Two widely spread half-truths commonly employed by MAGA Republicans are that Democrats are the party of slavery and Jim Crow but ignore the fact that segregationists left the Democrats in 1968 due to President Johnson’s support for Civil Rights legislation to join the GOP as a result of Nixon’s Southern Strategy losing the South as Johnson predicted and that Hitler banned guns in 1938, but ignore the fact that the ban was only for Jews and that gun laws were actually loosened for Germans. The first half-truth is designed to disguise the fact that the Republicans harbor white supremacists, like David Duke, Richard Spencer and Nick Fuentes and that today’s Confederate states are ruby red. Donald Trump actually had Thanksgiving dinner with Fuentes and Kanye West, a pro Hitler anti-Semite. The second half-truth is designed to convince folks that the slightest

gun regulation leads directly to a fascist state. Hitler’s racist fascist state was actually similar to the antebellum slave states where whites had guns but blacks were prohibited. This helps understand why January 6 insurrectionists flew the Confederate flag and wore shirts proclaiming “Camp Auschwitz Staff”: It was a fascist insurrection hoping to make Trump President for Life and suspend the Constitution just as Trump has openly suggested.

The crisis facing our freedom and democracy isn’t political, but spiritual and psychological where the whole truth, accountability for the truth, honor and integrity have all been cast aside. This condition has been promoted by the MAGA churches who cast aside Jesus to support Trump, their anti-Christ, who openly said forgiveness is unnecessary which means Jesus is unnecessary (Matthew 6:24). The fascist rot destroying and dividing our nation stems directly from the spiritual rot and filth spewing from the spiritual sewers that are the MAGA churches. The pretense that MAGA Republicans believe in America and the Constitution is as phony as the MAGA churches pretending they believe in Jesus and the Bible. Their moral degradation is what makes them reject visible evidence that refutes their lies and, instead, embrace imagined unsubstantiated conspiracies.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

Monte Vista Memorial Gardens

David Rounds, Livermore

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors are working with a developer to build a cemetery on 47 acres north of Livermore. This development, Monte Vista Memorial Gardens, will include traditional burial sites, in addition to 20,000sf of above ground internment in mausoleums and columbaria. The proposed project will also include another 20,000sf for a mortuary, crematorium and funeral event spaces. This cemetery development will be located in protected open space and agricultural lands in the North Livermore Valley. Our local supervisor, David Haubert, really wants to approve this development. However, no matter how much he wants to provide support for a development like the Monte Vista Gardens, it is not within his pur-

view as an elected official to make decisions that violate the General Plan, as amended by Measure D, a voter approved initiative.

County staff have been very creative in interpreting Measure D in order to find ways to support this project to the point of turning a blind eye to the facts. One of the facts is that non-agricultural commercial development (commercial buildings) is not allowed in the North Livermore Specific Plan area. Another fact which staff now admit to missing is that the general plan language says non-agricultural buildings in the North Livermore Intensive Agriculture Area are limited to a maximum floor area of 12,000 sq feet. This plan calls for buildings that total 40,000sf, total 40,000sf, so not only is it not allowed, it is also too big.

The Monte Vista development is not permitted to be used in this North Livermore location, and it cannot be legally approved.

We all know that sometimes in life and politics and in law, you cannot do what you want or prefer. Supervisor Haubert needs to realize that this is one of those times.

The City of Livermore, the Friends of Open Space and Vineyards and the Friends of Livermore have appealed to this ill-conceived and poorly placed project. Let your county supervisor know that you support these appeals by writing - david.haubert@acgov.org or calling – (510-272-6691)

AI App on Evaluating Asbury Church’s Tiny Houses Project

Greg Scott, Livermore

I am designing a generative artificial intelligence app (computer application) to help with the decision on implementation of Asbury Church’s tiny houses for the homeless project. Actually, since machine language is a subset of artificial intelligence, it is more accurately a machine language app, as it involves no cognition. It will be an umbrella of apps, which I call the Locating Homeless Incubator (LHI), that uses APIs (application programming interfaces) to OpenAI’s GPT-4, Alphabet Google’s Bard, and Anthropic’s large language models (LLMs).

The reason for the use of multiple LLMs is to build trustworthiness based on the confidence level of references and to create reliable output via a “majority report.” An example would be using a reference to Dr. Chris Herring at UCLA, who studies poverty, homelessness, and housing. Dr. Herring would get a statistical confidence level of 80 to 90 percent. To the contrary, a reference to California Governor Newsom on homelessness would get a confidence level hovering just above zero.

LHI would have a graphics generator app. This would create content, such

as Currier & Ives-esque rendition prints for proponents of the Asbury Church tiny houses project proposal. Later, LHI versions will have a holographic content generator, as an invaluable tool to further perpetuate fantasies on homelessness and its solutions.

The Community Contentment Index (CCI) app will be integral to LHI. It will learn the resentment, disrespect and contempt in the Asbury Church’s surrounding community with regard to the tiny houses project. This is partially through parsing of a training data set of media like The Independent, social networks, and other sources for strings - such as polarizing, divisive labels like NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard) to justify the tiny houses project. The CCI prescriptions may be of interest to Asbury Church in building stronger and healthier community relations. Included also in this training data set and its descriptions will be property tax rates in the area and how much the tax base of Asbury Church is being subsidized. CCI could then predict property evaluations with the tiny houses project and prescribe why residents should have a say in the building of the project at all.

Lastly, LHI would have the Jesus Evaluation Index app. The basis of its algorithm is that Jesus would live with the many unsheltered homeless that did not get to live in the tiny houses and not with the few who do.

So Long Old Friend Russ Greenlaw, Livermore

I was saddened to read of the passing of Larry Burdick, former owner of the Book Oasis.

Often, when weary of working on piping software programming, I would take a break by browsing the stacks at the Book Oasis, generally finding a used book or two of interest - one time a high school book on ancient Greek alongside a book on modern Greek, and another on Scots Gaelic. I bought all three.

Larry and I would talk of how he obtained such treasures of used books, often from estate sales. A few times he would obtain titles I requested, sometimes books I had read as a teen and had since lost.

Alas, Mr. Burdick’s store has been gone for many years, and now he is also. So long, friend.

Reduce Intolerable Airport Noise

Bernard Cabanne, Livermore

Are you concerned about the increased noise from planes and small jets flying too low over residential neighborhoods in the last few months? Have trouble having a conversation in your backyard due to airplane noise? Are you concerned about the excessive noise and vibrations from jet flights at night? Please save the date!!! On Monday

June 26th, the Livermore City Council will consider a new Airport Development and Leasing Policy. Unfortunately, this new airport policy does not address noise impacts, a transition to unleaded aviation fuel, air pollution concerns or prohibit the use of PFAS generating activities. Further, the expansion policy allows the city to initiate and solicit fixed based operators for air cargo without demonstrating a need for this service. The city initiative, in direct conflict with the 2010 Airport Resolution, allows planners to work with applicants without public access to documents unless the public files a public records act request. There are many additions, mitigating conditions, and restrictions that can be added for a better policy.

Please email the Mayor and the City Council and ask them to reject the airport development policy as currently written and ask the council to re-open the comment period:

mayormarchand@livermoreca.gov

bkiick@livermoreca.gov

bbarrientos@livermoreca.gov

egbranning@livermoreca.gov

rwcwrling@livermoreca.gov

Please attend the city council meeting on June 26 in person or by zoom. With your input, we can create a safer and more environmentally sound airport policy.

Livermore Lab

Raiza Marciscano, Livermore

Livermore Lab is one of two locations that designs every nuclear weapon in the U.S. arsenal. Much of the weapons work takes place at the Livermore Lab Main Site, located along Vasco Road and East Avenue. More than 90,000 people live in Livermore and nearly 8 million live in the 50-mile radius around the Lab and could be affected by an accident onsite.

Livermore Lab also operates the Site 300 High Explosives Testing Range near Tracy, a city that has also grown to more than 90,000 people. Open-air high explosive tests with hazardous materials to support nuclear weapons development are detonated there.

Nuclear weapons work at the Main Site and Site 300 has resulted in toxic and radioactive releases and contamination of workers and the environment. Both the Main Site and Site 300 have polluted the air, water, and soil, and both have been placed on the EPA Superfund list.

Cleanup of contaminated soil and groundwater is ongoing at the two sites and will take generations to complete.

Recently, a combination of too little funding spent on cleanup and the challenges of the pandemic era have put important cleanup activities behind schedule. Furthermore, Tri-Valley

CAREs has been told that funds for environmental safety and cleanup are going to be cut by 10% in the coming year.

Tri-Valley CAREs works to improve the Superfund cleanup by ensuring that it is fully-funded – and that it is conducted safely, effectively and in a timely manner. We believe that our water and other natural resources are precious.

We believe, too, that the Superfund cleanup must meet community needs; everyone’s voice is important in this process. We will press the Lab to update its Community Involvement Plan, which is mandated under the Superfund law.

Tri-Valley CAREs is conducting a daylong meeting on Thursday, June 15, at the Main Site. In attendance will be Livermore Lab, the National Nuclear Security Administration, the federal EPA, state regulatory agencies, and representatives from our organization. That evening, at our monthly virtual meeting, we will provide an update. Interested members of the public are invited. Details will be posted at www.trivalleycares.org.

Together we can act to protect our collective environment and reduce the health and environmental risks posed by the development of nuclear weapons in our backyard here in the Tri-Valley and in Tracy.

Safety First!

Tania Panarello, Livermore

I’d like to apologize to anyone who might have been offended by my letter last week (Safe Graduations and Celebrations, June 8). My comments were not directed at certain groups of people in particular; I was going for more of a rhythmic flow. I just wanted to encourage everyone to be safe and think before acting, to be considerate of others.

That said, I definitely have been guilty of committing some of the infractions I addressed; moving forward, I obviously can always do better.

I noticed lately that there are more teens and young adults out on the roads learning to drive. This is a big deal! It’s a scary experience for driving students, parents, instructors, pedestrians and cyclists. Please give them space and be patient; don’t drive angrily.

New drivers: Don’t be in a hurry to get your license but do stay the course and give yourself some grace. Be respectful. Be courteous. Be kind. My apologies to anyone I might have intimidated with my driving; how quickly we more skilled drivers forget about the challenges and uncertainty that less experienced drivers face. As I drive with my younger son, I’m realizing what a horrible example I’ve set, so hopefully I, too, will come out of this experience to be a better driver.

Thank you so much; safe travels!

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The National Ignition Facility in Livermore was honored on June 7 by the Livermore Rotary Club as Grand Marshalls of the 2023 Rodeo Parade. Last December, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory team was responsible for creating the first controlled experiment in history to reach fusion ignition. “It was truly an honor for the ignition team and the lab to be recognized as Grand Marshalls of this year’s Livermore Rodeo Parade,” said LLNL Director Kim Budil. “We valued the opportunity to share this accomplishment with our community and to show our enthusiasm for Livermore and its wonderful traditions, like the rodeo.” Back row, from left: Brandon Woodworth, Brian Spears, Marty Marinak, Alex Zylstra, Ryan Nora. Front row, from left: Shannon Ayers, Salmaan Baxamusa, Omar Hurricane, Annie Kritcher, Budil and Rotary President Sblend Sblendorio. (Photo courtesy of Don Wentz)

LLNL Says Increase in Burn Areas are the Result of Human-Caused Climate Change

Recent increases in summer wildfire burn areas in California are due to anthropogenic, or human-caused, climate change, according to a new study from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).

A research team led by Marco Turco from the University of Murcia Spain, modeled the climate drivers of summer wildfire activity in California, considering both natural climate variation and anthropogenic climate change effects. The study, which appeared in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, found that anthropogenic simulations “yielded burn areas an average of 172% higher than natural variation simulations.”

According to LLNL, the average summer forest burn areas in Central and Northern California “have increased five times higher between 1996 and 2021 than between 1971 and 1995.” In addition,

the research concluded that since 2001, the drivers of increasing summer burn area “are all anthropogenic, with no detected natural forcing component of enhanced burn area.”

Although repeated wildfires consume fuel and limit the activity of subsequent fires in the same area, the team estimated that the next decades, between 2031 and 2050, could see a further increase in average summer burn area in California, up to 52% more than current average burn areas.

“The results show the role of human-caused climate change in driving fire activity and highlight the need for protective adaptations against summer wildfire seasons,” said LLNL scientist Don Lucas, a co-author of the study.

LLNL said the area burned by summer wildfires in California has been increasing over the past 50 years, with the 10 largest California wildfires

all happening in the last 20 years, according to LLNL. Five of those were in 2020.

The study also found that non-climate factors have played a role in the increasing burn areas, including land management practices that cause fuel buildup and the susceptibility of California’s aging power grid to extreme weather.

In addition, “natural climate variability also influences the occurrence and severity of forest wildfires,” Lucas said, which “can mask the signal of human-caused impacts on wildfire changes.”

Nevertheless, Lucas said, the research team said it was able to quantify the influence of human-caused climate change on the burned area in recent years and concluded “that nearly all of the observed increase in burned area in California over the past half century is attributable to human-caused climate change.”

Livermore Hosts First CabFranc-A-Palooza

By Laura Ness

It’s been said that Cabernet Franc is the most charming and seductive grape: Steven Mirassou would be among the sayers. So, he recently teamed up with Matt Toomey and Rebecca Navarro of Social Bacon to create the inaugural CabFranc-A-Palooza, a four-day celebration of the grape, held on June 1 – 4.

“We love Cab Franc and wondered why there was no event around it,” said Toomey. “It’s on the fringe. We wanted to create a festival that was fun and different and would appeal to a broader audience.”

The name was inspired by a few bottles of wine, presumably Cab Franc, and fond memories of a musical event called Lollapalooza, begun in Chicago in 1991.

The Grand Tasting on Sunday, June 4, at Steven Kent Winery presented Cabernet Francs from the Livermore Valley, France, Napa Valley, Sonoma, Paso Robles, Oregon, Washington State, the North Fork of Long Island, Sierra Foothills, Santa Barbara, the Santa Cruz Mountains, Virginia, Colorado and Texas. It was a cornucopia of Franc, with some frankly being more Francish than others.

PRIMA Vini in Dublin, represented by owner John Rittmaster, managing director Brandon Mueller and Fran Cunniffe, poured excellent examples from Chinon (Loire), South Africa, Friuli (Italy), Uco Valley (Mendoza, Argentina), and a Saint-Emilion Grand Cru. These wines set helpful reference points for the varietal’s distinctive voice, complete with the vivid accent of each place.

Standouts from the Grand Tasting included the 2022 Luna Hart carbonic Cab Franc (from Santa Ynez; winemaker Gretchen Voelcker’s 2018 and 2021 were excellent as well), 2018 Prospice Resurgent Vineyard (from Walla Walla, WA), 2018 Wrights Station Cabernet Franc from Lago Lomita Vineyard (Santa

Cruz Mountains), 2017 Domaine Olga Raffault Chinon “Les Picasses” (Loire Valley, France), 2020 Andis CF

Momentous Hospitality, the partnership between Steven Mirassou, Beth Murray Mirassou, Matt Toomey and



Seen from left, John Rittmaster, Fran Cunniffe and Brandon Mueller of PRIMA Vini pour wine at the CabFranc-A-Palooza in Livermore. The inaugural event drew crowds of enthusiasts throughout the Tri-Valley. (Photo courtesy of Susan Sherrill)

from the Sierra Foothills, 2021 Infinite Monkey Theorem from Colorado (made from California fruit, as their CO crop was lost to frost), 2021 Leo Steen Ascona Vineyards (Santa Cruz Mountains), and T. Berkley Wines 2021 Thalia Vineyard (Napa, done in barriques).

The Thursday night kickoff event at Posada Restaurant highlighting 16 Livermore Valley Cabernet Franc producers, sold out instantly. The Blind Tasting on Friday, of Livermore Valley vs. Loire Valley, led by Steven Mirassou and Jim Denham of The Wine Steward, compared six examples from the two regions. Mirassou said most people could easily spot the differences. On Saturday, a sold out tasting of Cab Francs with winemakers from Livermore Valley, Napa Valley, Oregon, Virginia, and Bordeaux, was held at The Charming Fig.

Rebecca Navarro behind CabFranc-A-Palooza, are considering larger venues for next year’s event, the dates for which have already been set, so mark May 2-5, on your 2024 calendar.

A series of pupups are planned for this Fall.

The Non-Profit Partner for CabFranc-A-Palooza is the Tri-Valley Conservancy, an advocate for Livermore Valley winegrowers and raising awareness of this world-class growing region.

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

Las Positas College ‘Promise Program’ Provides Free Tuition

Las Positas College in Livermore is now offering free tuition for first-time, full-time students.

The Las Positas College Promise will cover students’ tuition, and those who qualify may receive additional funding as well. There is no income requirement for the free tuition program and no minimum high school GPA requirement.

Eligible students must be first-time college students that have not attended college before; students who have earned college credit prior

to high school graduation or students enrolled at Las Positas College during the summer immediately prior to fall 2023; must be enrolled in, and must complete, 12 or more units per semester during fall 2023 and spring 2024; and must be a California resident or AB 540 student.

Deadline for registration is July 1, 2023. To apply, visit bit.ly/3PbrMtE to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid FAFSA or the CA Dream Act Application CADAA.

Asante Africa Foundation to Hold Youth Visionary Webinar June 16

The Asante Africa Foundation is hosting a webinar on Friday, June 16 from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Entitled “Beyond Numbers: Lives Transformed, Stories Unveiled,” the event will be moderated by Asante Co-founder Erna Gras, and will feature four students who have been impacted by Asante Africa’s work. The webinar will include background on the students and testimony about how they have worked to solve some of the most pressing issues facing their communities, including the promotion of

climate action plans, local business creation, youth governance, inclusive societies and digital literacy for employment. There will be a Q&A at the end of the session with the students.

The mission of Asante Africa, according to their website, is to educate and empower the next generation of change agents, whose dreams and actions transform the future for Africa and the world.

For more information or to sign up for the Zoom event, visit bit.ly/3X68x6L

Dublin Accepting Worn Out Flags For Retirement

Torn, soiled, or faded American flags can now be dropped off for proper disposal at the Dublin Camp Parks Military History Center, just outside the main gate of the Parks Reserve Forces Training Area. The U.S. Flag Code recommends that any flag “in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferable by burning.” Dublin has installed a Flag Retirement Drop Box at the Camp Parks history center to accept flags for disposal. Several organizations, including the Boy Scouts and veteran groups, also accept flags for disposal.

The Livermore Citywide Garage Sale

Starring...unwanted stuff in new roles!

2985 1ST ST #1206
1673 3RD ST
1739 3RD ST
2496 7TH ST
864 ALDEN LN
2417 ALLEGRO ST
4616 ALMOND CIR
6505 ALTAMONT CREEK DR
2458 ANCONA CIR
1891 AQUARIUS ST
1072 AUBURN ST
1089 AUBURN ST
1080 BELLFLOWER ST
5574 BERWIND AVE
1832 BLACKWOOD CMN
5731 BOBBY DR
867 BRENNAN WAY
5626 BRIDGEPORT CIR
660 BRIGHTON WAY
581 BROOKFIELD DR
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1746 BUENA VISTA AVE
2965 CALICO CMN
551 CALIENTE AVE
3838 CALIFORNIA WAY
1373 CAMEO CT
4119 CARROSE AVE
656 CARLA ST
757 CARMEL AVE
1792 CARNATION CIR
1864 CARTIER DR
722 CATALINA DR
583 CEDAR DR
5222 CHARLOTTE WAY
5552 CHARLOTTE WAY
829 CHAUCER WAY
2211 COLLEGE AVE
1874 CORTE CAVA
1732 CORTE SUENO
1741 CORTE SUENO
5851 CRESTMONT AVE
846 CURLEW RD
939 CURLEW RD
1531 DE LEON WAY
1865 DE VACA WAY
623 DEBRA ST
785 DEL NORTE DR
2688 EAST AVE

6457 EL CAPITAN WAY
939 EL RANCHO DR
5808 ELDER CIR
434 ENCINO DR
765 ESTATES ST
598 FALCON WAY
711 FALCON WAY
1145 FARMINGTON WAY
2645 FARNSWORTH DR
4147 FINDLAY WAY
5522 FIRESTONE RD
5652 FIRESTONE RD
4133 FLORIDA CT
1499 FRANKFURT WAY
2259 FRENCH ST
4473 GALE ST
4169 GALLOWAY ST
1089 GENEVA ST
835 GERALDINE ST
6490 HALF DOME CT
2399 HAREWOOD DR
2591 HAREWOOD DR
833 HAZEL ST
1256 HEATHER LN
1665 HELSINKI WAY
3837 HILLSIDE AVE
935 HOLLICE LN
1139 INNSBRUCK ST
215 IVORY PL
227 IVORY PL
4962 JANET CT
2761 KELLY ST
2914 KELLY ST
2866 KENNEDY ST
625 KINGLET RD
524 LAGRANGE LN
568 LAGRANGE LN
412 LAGUNA CT
1228 LILLIAN ST
1438 LOCUST ST
1235 LOMITAS AVE
1260 LOMITAS AVE
767 LOS ALAMOS AVE
980 LUCILLE ST
3908 MADEIRA WAY
1082 MADRONE WAY
458 MAPLE ST
2432 MARBURY RD

788 MARCELLA ST
318 MARIE CMN
1172 MARIGOLD RD
2614 MC LARREN CT
360 MCLEOD ST
710 MCLEOD ST
1144 MEADOW DR
578 MEADOWLARK ST
2094 MEZZAMONTE CT
286 MICHELL ST
4107 MILTON WAY
1037 MIRANDA WAY
934 MIRANDA WAY
640 MORAGA DR
652 MORAGA DR
1233 MURDELL LN
607 N LIVERMORE AVE
690 N N ST
312 N P ST
1132 NAPA CT
1164 NAPA CT
754 NEWBURY ST
1115 NIELSEN LN
526 NIGHTINGALE ST
5292 NORMA WAY
867 OLD OAK RD
987 OLD OAK RD
1311 ONYX RD
5536 ORINDA CT
640 ORIOLE AVE
994 PADUA WAY
2765 PATCHAM CMN
1740 PEARY WAY
2129 PONDEROSA DR
2454 PYRAMID ST
5857 RAINFLOWER DR
642 RAVENNA ST
1620 RHODODENDRON DR
1920 RHODODENDRON DR
4904 RHONDA LN
6984 RIDGE CT
3539 RIDGECREST WAY
2217 RIVERS BEND CIR
2613 RIVERS BEND CIR
514 ROMA CT

1332 ROSELLI DR
2877 RUTHERFORD CT
609 S N ST
686 S O ST
540 S Q ST
846 SATURN WAY
232 SELBY LN
1064 SHERRY WAY
1072 SHERRY WAY
1086 SHERRY WAY
291 SONIA WAY
5436 STOCKTON LOOP
2138 STONEBRIDGE RD
2859 SUPERIOR DR
649 TEAL CT
577 TIFFIN PL
1742 TOURMALINE CT
5324 TREEFLOWER DR
1349 TULIP WAY
3704 VALLEY VIEW WAY
1504 VANCOUVER WAY
1580 VANCOUVER WAY
1647 VANCOUVER WAY
1675 VANCOUVER WAY
2655 VERNAZZA DR
2663 VERNAZZA DR
1075 VIENNA ST
6924 VILLAGE CT
1326 WAGONER DR
987 WAYERLY CMN
553 WAYLAND LOOP
2463 WELLINGHAM DR
1788 WHIPOORWILL ST
2507 WHITE CRANE CIR
275 WOODLAND CT
1011 WYNN CIR
1120 WYNN CIR
1195 WYNN CIR
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The Granada High Color Guard marches in front of the Matador band during the Livermore Rotary Club and Stockman's Rodeo Association rodeo parade on Saturday, June 10. The event was the kick-off to the 105th Livermore Rodeo held June 10 and 11. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia/] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Tri-Valley Haven to Offer Volunteer Summer Crisis Training Program

Tri-Valley Haven will offer a 70-hour state-approved course this summer for volunteers providing crisis services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Online classes will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning July 11.

Tri-Valley Haven is a Livermore-based nonprofit organization that provides support services for child and adult victims of abuse and homelessness.

Candidates for the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault training course must be 21 or older and participate in a pre-training interview. They also must sign a confidentially waiver and pass a background check.

In addition to training volunteers for its own crisis line and social services programs, Tri-Valley Haven said it would be accepting social

work students and participants from other agencies who need to complete their state certifications.

The deadline to apply is Thursday, July 6.

Tri-Valley Haven stressed that volunteers working in the agency's thrift store or food pantry are not required to take the training course.

Tri-Valley Haven is also accepting applications for a teen volunteer summer program that runs through Friday, Aug. 18.

Teens 15 to 18 will work in the thrift store and food pantry as cashiers, sorting donations, and distributing food. No experience is required.

For more information about the social services training program or the teen volunteer program, go to

Trivalleyhaven.org, email volunteer@trivalleyhaven.org, or call 925-449-5845.

American Red Cross Warns of a Shortfall In Blood Donations, Supplies

The American Red Cross said last week that a shortfall in donations in May could stress the national blood supply.

The Red Cross said it received 26,000 fewer blood donations last month than needed to meet the demand for transfusions.

Wednesday, June 14, is World Blood Donor Day.

The Bay Area Chapter of the Red Cross will be accepting blood donation at the Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, June 16.

The Red Cross will also be collecting blood at the Pleasanton Blood Donation

Center, 5880 W. Las Positas Boulevard, from 7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on June 16, June 17, June 18, June 23, June 24, June 25, and June 30, and from 11:45 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. on June 19, June 20, June 21, June 26, June 27, and June 28.

Those who donate blood during June will receive a \$10 gift card and will be entered for a chance to win a backyard theater package.

To schedule an appointment, use the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, go to RedCrossBlood.org, or call 800-733-2767. Donors must have a blood donor card, driver's license, or two other forms of identification.

Livermore Library to Host Free Cultural Workshop for Immigrants

The Livermore Public Library will host a free workshop at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 25, designed to help immigrants learn how to embrace their native culture while integrating into the U.S.

The interactive workshop at the Civic Center Library will be led by Livermore resident Senait Mesfin Piccigallo, author of the 2021 book, "You're in America – Now What?"

During the workshop, the Ethiopia-born Piccigallo will share her own experiences immigrating to the U.S. by way of China

and Eritrea.

It will cover such topics as cultural integration, individuality versus community, and why it's important to share one's unique culture with the larger community. Participants are encouraged to wear their own cultural attire.

A graduate of Asmara University in East Africa, Piccigallo has bachelor's degrees in sociology and anthropology.

The program is part of the library's Authors and Arts Series, sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Public Library.

STEM Materials Added to Livermore's 'Library of Things' Check Out Program

The Livermore Public Library has added new science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) items for check out to its Library of Things collection with a grant from Lawrence Livermore National Security, which oversees the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

New items include Mars rover solar cars, Code and Go Robot Mouse activity sets, portable telescopes, and Snap Circuits.

In addition, the library said it has created a series

of Citizen Science Kits with grant funds that are now available for checkout, including topics such as exploring biodiversity, observing pollinators, and measuring the amount of light during the night.

The Library of Things collection allows cardholders to check out equipment, such as robots, telescopes, and microscopes. For more information, go to library.livermoreca.gov and search "Library of Things" in the catalog.

Wine Group Changes Name, Date for Celebration

The Livermore Valley Wine Community (LVWC) has changed the name of its annual weekend wine and food celebration from "Taste Our Terroir" to "Taste: The Livermore Valley Wine Experience."

The celebration is also being moved from July to October, according to the nonprofit organization.

McGrail Vineyards and Winery president Heather McGrail, who chairs the four-day celebration, said the name change encompasses "the incredible experiences offered throughout the weekend."

The activities will continue to include the group's Taste Our Terroir food and wine competition.

"Terroir" refers to the area where the grapes are

grown that gives the wines their distinct taste. The "Taste Our Terroir" competition pairs Livermore Valley wineries and restaurants in several taste categories.

Pairings for this year's competition include Cuda Ridge Wines and LB Steak; Darcie Kent Estate Winery and Zephyr Grill & Bar; Fenestra Winery and Oyo; Garre Vineyard & Winery and the Garre Café; Las Positas Vineyards and The Lounge @ LPV; McGrail Vineyards & Winery and Bottletaps; Murrieta's Well and Tony Glanville Catering; Page Mill Winery and Sons of Liberty Alehouse; Retzlaff Vineyards and On the Vine Catering; The Steven Kent Winery and Locanda Wine Bar; Wenté Vineyards and The Grill;

and Wood Family Vineyards and First Street Alehouse.

The weekend will also offer the public sommelier-led wine tasting experiences, vertical tastings with multiple wineries, gourmet pairings and cooking classes, and outdoor activities at participating the vineyards.

"We also decided to move this event to October because it is one of the most spectacular times to visit the Livermore Valley," McGrail said. "The weather is wonderful, the vines are lush, harvest is wrapping up and the smell of the grapes and fermenting wine are in the air."

The celebration is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 22. Tickets to individual events are available at lwine.org.

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

Alan Hu Foundation

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925-352-6844
Alanhufoundation.org

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925-292-8123
CalQuest.org
questers1944.org

Amador Valley Lions Club

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

Amador Valley Quilters

P.O. Box 955
Pleasanton, CA 94566
AmadorValleyQuilters.org

Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc

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Pleasanton, CA 94566
amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org

Assistance League Amador Valley

P.O. Box 11843
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-461-6401
Assistanceleague.org/Amador-valley

Axis Community Health

5925 W. Las Positas Blvd.
Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-201-6068
Axishealth.org

Big Bay Ray, Inc.

Bigbayray16@gmail.com
925-523-3133
Bigbayray.com

Blankets For Kids

7580 Driftwood Way
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-846-6155

Cantabella Children's Chorus

P.O. Box 131
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-292-2663
Cantabella.org

Cheza Nami

5424 Sunol Blvd. Suite 10-15
Pleasanton, CA 94566
chezanami.org

Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 1586
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-421-1351
cytrivalley.org

Citizens for Balanced Growth

661 S. N St.
Livermore, CA 94550
CitizensForBalancedGrowth.org

CityServe of Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 1613
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-223-6947
cityservetrivalley.org

Community Health Education Fund

CHEF/TVNF
C/O Maria Mancini
P.O. Box is 420
Livermore, CA 94551

Culinary Angels

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

Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club

PO Box 2443
Dublin CA 94568
gfwcdsr.org

Exceptional Needs Network

P.O. Box 3149
Livermore, CA 94551
925-215-2281
ennnetwork.org

Feral Cat Foundation

P.O. Box 1173
Alamo, CA 94507
925-829-9098
Feralcatfoundation.org

Fertile GroundWorks

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

Friends of the Livermore Library

P.O. Box 2483
Livermore, CA 94551
friendsoflivermorelibrary.org

Friends of Open Space and Vineyards

P.O. Box 1191
Livermore, CA 94551
fov.org

Friends of Pleasanton Senior Center

5353 Sunol Blvd.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
935-931-5365
seniorcenterfriends.org

Goodness Village

1660 Freisman Rd.
Livermore, Ca 94551
GVLivermore.org

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Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-417-8733
Behively.org

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Dublin, CA 94568
925-829-8770
HopeHospice.com/donate

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Livermore, CA 94551
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saintbartsLivermore.com

Las Positas CollegeFoundation

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Livermore, CA 94551
925-424-1010
LPCFoundation.org

Little Miracles Inc.

5424 Sunol Blvd. 10-184
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-623-5407
Littlemiraclespleasanton.org

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 901
Livermore, CA 94551
l-ags.org

Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild

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

Livermore Area Recreation & Park District Foundation

P.O. Box 3403
Livermore, CA 94551
925-373-5730
Larpd.org/larpd-foundation

Livermore Art Association

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

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Inc.

P.O. Box 172
Livermore, CA 94551
Livermorefilam.org

Livermore-Granad Boosters

2117 Fourth St.
Livermore, CA 94550
livermoregranadboosters.org

Livermore Heritage Guild

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

Livermore Homeless Refuge

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

Livermore Jazz Society

info@livermorejazzsociety.org
503-459-2530
livermorejazzsociety.org

Livermore K9 Foundation

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

Livermore Lab Foundation

c/o UC Office of National Labs
1111 Broadway, Suite 2130
Oakland, CA 94607
925-453-9382
Livermorelabfoundation.org

Livermore Lions Club

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

Livermore Pleasanton Fire Fighters Foundation

4847 Hopyard Road
Suite 4, PMB 303
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Livermore Valley Education Foundation

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

Livermore Valley Opera

P.O. Box 1002
Livermore, CA 94551
925-321-6964
Livermorevalleyopera.com

Livermore Valley

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

Monthly Miracles

5211 Demarcus Blvd
Dublin, CA 94568
Monthlymiracles.org

Movements For The Mind

MovementsForTheMind.com
movementsforthemind@gmail.com

Museum on Main

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

NAMI Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 5563
Pleasanton CA 94566
925-980-5331
nami-trivalley.org

Open Heart Kitchen

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

Pacific Chamber Orchestra

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Livermore, CA 94551
925-324-2775
www.pacificchamberorchestra.org

Pacific Locomotive Assoc., Inc. Operators of Niles Canyon Railway

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Sunol, CA 94586-0515
510-996-8420
NCRY.ORG

Parkinson's Network of Mount Diablo / Tri Valley PD Support

PNMD.net
trivalley@pnmd.net

Partners for Change Tri-Valley

4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
510-773-6356
pftcv.org

Paws In Need

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

Pleasanton Art League

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

Pleasanton Community Concert Band

P.O. Box 135
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@pleasantonband.org
PleasantonBand.org

Quest Science Center

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

Reins In Motion

Therapeutic Riding Program
P.O. Box 1001
Livermore, CA 94551
reinsinmotionca.com

Robot Garden Makerspace

700 Terminal Circle
Livermore, CA 94551
RobotGarden.org

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore

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

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

5890 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 104
Pleasanton, CA 94588
866-862-7270
HealingTherapiesFoundation.org

School Of Imagination & Happy Talkers

9801 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568
925-829-9555
Schoolofimagination.org

Senior Support Program of The Tri-Valley

5353 Sunol Blvd.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-931-5378
SSPTV.org

Shakespeare's Associates, dba Livermore Shakespeare Festival

P.O. Box 2616
Livermore, CA 94551
925-443-2273
LivermoreShakes.org

Shepherds Gate

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

Sleep In Heavenly Peace Alameda Co.

Daniel.curtis@shpbeds.org
510-827-7033
Shpbeds.org

SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc/Meals on Wheels

2621 Barrington Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545
510-881-0300
SpectrumCS.org

Sunflower Hill

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

The Taylor Family Foundation

P.O. Box 2450
Livermore, CA, 94551
925-455-5118
TTF.org

Three Valleys Community Foundation

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

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

P.O. Box 11143
Pleasanton, CA 94588
TVAR.org

Tri-Valley Conservancy

1457 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-449-8706
Trivalleyconservnacy.org

Tri-Valley Haven

3663 Pacific Ave.
Livermore, CA 94551
925-449-5842
TriValleyHaven.org

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance

P.O. Box 2467
Livermore, CA 94550
TVNPA.org

Tri Valley Reach

P.O. Box 5564
Pleasanton, CA 94566
TriValleyReach.Org

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre

P.O. Box 1445
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@trivalleyrep.com
Trivalleyrep.org

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare

1111 E. Stanley Blvd.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-4560
GiveValleyCare.org

Valley Concert Chorale

P.O. Box 286
Livermore, CA 94551
Valleyconcertchorale.org

Valley Dance Theatre

2247-B Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-243-0925
Valleydancetheatre.com

ABUSE

(Continued from first page)

Charged last year, Bellhouse was convicted June 5 of two counts of sexual abuse of a ward and three counts of abusive sexual contact. KTVU reported that the victims and a third inmate testified against him. No charges were filed in relation to the third woman.

Prosecutors said the evidence showed Bellhouse engaged in sex acts and touched the private areas of one inmate in the prison Safety Warehouse and Safety Office from December 2019 to October 2020. Testimony also showed the second woman was sexually abused in the Safety Office at the FCI Dublin Camp from October to December 2020.

Bellhouse was removed

from his post when an investigation began in March 2021. According to the U.S. Attorney’s Office, he called one of the inmates “girlfriend,” gave her earrings and allowed her to use an office phone in violation of prison rules.

KUTV reported that Bellhouse had tears in his eyes as the verdict was read.

“This guilty verdict is yet another warning that any Bureau employee who abuses their authority will be held accountable,” Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said in a statement. “The Department of Justice is committed to rooting out sexual assault within the (Federal) Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and continuing to prioritize cases involving

sexual abuse of individuals in BOP custody.”

The conviction is the latest in a string of accounts of how female inmates were sexually mistreated by FCI Dublin officials in the last few years. The stories drew the attention of Senate and House Judiciary Committee members, including U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, who represents the Tri-Valley.

FCI Dublin is part of the broader BOP, which runs more than 130 institutions housing nearly 15,000 inmates nationwide. A low-security women’s institution, FCI Dublin holds about 635 prisoners. The FCI Dublin Camp is a minimum security area adjacent to the prison.

In the last few years, FCI Dublin repeatedly made

headlines with charges against correctional employees accused of sexually abusing inmates. Four other FCI Dublin employees, including its warden and a chaplain, have been convicted.

In March, Gonzalez Rogers sentenced Ray J. Garcia, 55, of Merced to nearly six years behind bars for sexually abusing three female inmates under his supervision, when he was associate warden and warden from 2018 to 2021.

“Our investigation of sexual abuse at FCI Dublin remains ongoing, and we will continue to aggressively pursue justice for victims of sexual abuse at the hands of BOP employees,” said U.S. Inspector General Michael Horowitz.

SPOKESMAN

(Continued from first page)

conservation of the mountain as well,” Dedon said. “This is a phase 2 project to continue building the turnouts that are really needed on the mountain. We are soliciting funds for this all the way up to Oct. 1. Whatever funds are obtained to that point will be the budget for building turnouts next year.”

The first phase of the project was funded by \$1.5 million from the State of California, which built 28 turnouts and brought the total number of turnouts on the mountain to 45. Approximately \$500,000 is needed to complete 30 more in phase 2.

Fundraising is moving forward. The estate of Joe Shami, a local cyclist who was killed while cycling in Lafayette, donated \$123,000 to the project. Alan Kalin, president of Mount Diablo Cyclists, challenged the state parks department to

meet that donation. VSBC already donated \$15,000 and hopes to raise more money. Dedon said construction of the turnouts varies from the simple to the complex, and averages \$9,000 for one turnout, though those costs can climb on the more complicated sections.

One way the Spokesmen hope to raise money is through their annual Mount Diablo Challenge, an 11.2-mile trek to the summit, 3,249 feet above the Tri-Valley. During the event set to take place on Oct. 1, participants can ride individually or in teams and earn prizes in different categories.

“The road is closed for this purpose, and there is no downhill traffic,” said Dedon. “We stage the cyclists in waves, and typically the first four are called the ‘elite,’ and they go up with no downhill traffic at all. Then they start

coming down in groups escorted by cars. Then we celebrate at the end.”

Another big event sponsored by the VSBC is the Cinderella Classic in Livermore, a ride meant to celebrate female cyclists. Held in April each year, the ride includes 35-, 65- and 100-mile tracks to choose from, and costumes are encouraged.

“We’ve been doing the Cinderella ride for 47 years,” said Bonnie Powers, a founding member of VSBC. “It’s a lot of fun. We had about 750 riders this year. Our membership dues are quite low, so without these two events, we wouldn’t be able to have a newsletter, and we wouldn’t be able to provide the BBQ and party and pay for liability insurance and all that.”

Proceeds from the Cinderella ride are donated to

women-oriented groups like Shepherd’s Gate.

As the club moves forward in its fundraising efforts, members continue to plan rides for all ages and abilities. Powers, who has ridden all over the world, said she just wants to spread knowledge and love of the sport.

“I love to get outdoors and get the wind in my face,” she said. “I love the adventures. My husband and I have organized countless tours all over the United States. We like to travel, and we like to travel by bicycle.”

The Mount Diablo Challenge will take place on Sunday, Oct. 1. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.valleyspokesmen.org/Mount-Diablo-Challenge>.

For more information on VSBC, visit www.valleyspokesmen.org.

CLIMATE

(Continued from first page)

As the director of the University of Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership and assistant professor of Climate Science at the University of Minnesota, Roop shared her similar struggle to answer this oft-repeated question.

“Like most good scientists,” she said, “I had the doom and gloom down pat.” She remembered feeling helpless at the end of talks.

“I’d see a lot of sad faces, and hands would go up asking the most important question, ‘But what can we do?’” Roop recalled.

For too long, the answers she and her peers in the climate space were giving fell flat, she admitted.

“They were important, but they weren’t an invitation for everyone to show up in the ways that they can,” she said. “Yes, as many of us as possible who can buy electric cars should, but there are not that many people poised to do that immediately.”

She used to say, “every action matters” – until she got called to task by an editor who challenged her to “tell the normal everyday person, who isn’t you thinking about climate change every day, what we can do.”

“The Climate Change Action Handbook” was the response to that, Roop said. The book offers bright graphic illustrations and highlights about 100 climate solutions – distilling complex topics from microplastics to bioenergy carbon capture/storage into clear actionable steps.

Roop said California researchers did the math and found that shortening delivery time windows of Amazon packages to one-hour or next-day deliveries can increase the emissions associated with a single package by over 180%.

“So, slow your shipping, and be ‘planful’ in your purchasing,” she urged the audience.

Bauer-Kahan noted that some of the recommendations from the book, like switching to front-load washers, induction ranges, heat pumps and even food kits for reduction of food waste, are all great but can be expensive. She asked about more cost-effective ways to contribute to climate action.

“It depends on who you are, where you live and how you do your purchasing,” said Dr Roop. “Food kits in deeply urbanized spaces can make sense. If you are going to the grocery store every day then, yes, it could be a good option. But it looks different for everyone.”

She said it’s more about looking for opportunities and levers for change.

“Some people have been really great about the use of public transport and riding bicycles,” Roop pointed out.

In terms of fast fashion, she said, “Consider buying less and opting to buy one thing instead of ten.”

She advised thinking about the impact those consumer behaviors are having. To that, Bauer-Kahan shared that she only buys consign-

ment now, which has had a residual benefit of also being cost-effective. Bauer-Kahan said the book called out ways of being mindful and looking for opportunities to contribute, which can be as simple as doing all your errands at once and thinking about your patterns to reduce emissions. Bauer-Kahan reminded the audience to look to the government, especially in California, for rebates on pricier things like heat pumps, low-flow toilets, switching lawns out for drought-resistant plantings. Water district is the point of contact for the water changes, PG&E for electrical, she noted.

Another solution entitled “Look to the Ballot Box” was one Roop said she found surprising.

“I had no idea that 96.3% of elected officials in the country are elected at the local level. More often than not, we are focusing our energy, effort, angst and anger on that 0.1% who are working at the federal level,” Roop said. “Certainly, those individuals have power and authority and manage significant resources, but we also have myriad local leaders who are making decisions day in and day out on how to spend those resources.”

Bauer-Kahan underscored the point, saying just last week she voted on 600 bills.

“You know I’m a climate champion, and I have an incredible team who help me do that,” Bauer-Kahan added. She explained that the

counterbalance to the special interest groups in Sacramento is more people engaging with their state legislators. “If 100 of you called, that’s a lot. That tells us people are paying attention to this bill, when 100 people call.”

Later in the talk, Bauer-Kahan segued to questions from the audience.

Roop responded to one individual who asked what made her believe her book was needed at this time.

“The climate science community has been thinking we’ve been screaming from the rooftops, but we haven’t been doing it very effectively,” Roop said. “I felt, personally, like I wasn’t doing what was most needed, which was trying to connect more people to more solutions.”

Bauer-Kahan shared what she loved about the timeliness of the book, as someone who talks to a lot of teens and to whom climate comes up every time.

“As the mom of a teen, I know this is what keeps them up at night,” she added. “And I know what is going to help them is to believe they are part of the solution. Some of the youngest on my staff are the most hopeful as it relates to climate, and I love that. They see that we are going to adapt and mitigate. We’re going to get there, and we’re doing the work every day.”

BANNERS

(Continued from first page)

Those interested in sponsoring a banner can apply online in January or February each year. The price is approximately \$200 to cover costs associated with production, hanging and cleaning the banners. Ban-

ners are then presented at a city council meeting to the families after Veterans Day. For more information, a list of qualifications or a walking tour map, visit www.dublin.ca.gov/2090/Military-Banner-Program.



Banners featuring local veterans and active-duty members are on display in Dublin as part of the city’s Military Banner Program. The 15 flags will remain on display through Veterans Day. (Photo courtesy of City of Dublin)

DEPOT

(Continued from first page)

as a longtime leader in climate action, is proud to help lead the transition to zero-emission goods movement,” said Livermore Councilmember Ben Barrientos, who also serves on EBCE’s board of directors. “As the host of key, cutting-edge clean charging infrastructure, cleaning up the I-580 freight corridor starts with us.”

The EBCE loan will support the development of Forum’s Greenville Community Charging Depot on a 4.4-acre site just off of I-580

– and now Forum Mobility will provide clean trucking on the same route,” said Nick Chaset, CEO of East Bay Community Energy. “We’re excited to help Forum Mobility charge electric trucks with 100% renewable energy and further reduce harmful emissions in our community.”

The California Air Resources Board recently approved rules requiring all of California’s in-state drayage fleet – approximately 33,000 trucks – to be zero-emission by 2035. Charging infra-



The East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) Board has approved \$4.5 million in financing to Forum Mobility, a zero-emission truck solutions provider, to support the development of an innovative electric truck charging depot in Livermore. (Photo courtesy of EBCE)

in Livermore. The depot will be capable of charging up to 96 trucks simultaneously. According to the U.S. EPA, heavy-duty vehicles are responsible for 23% of the carbon emissions from the transportation sector, as well as 45% of NOx and 57% of PM 2.5 pollution in the US – with disproportionate impacts on communities of color.

“A transition to zero-emission vehicles will mean cleaner air for our communities, a safer climate, and if done well, lower costs per mile for truckers,” stated a press release from EBCE.

“East Bay Community energy provides clean electricity from Oakland to Tracy

structure is a key ingredient for success. The California Energy Commission estimates that to comply with these and other proposed vehicle regulations, California will need 157,000 medium- and heavy-duty chargers by 2030.

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The Livermore School of Dance will feature “Rapunzel,” a ballet inspired by the animated Disney film “Tangled” on June 17 and 18 at the Dublin High School Center for Performing Arts, 8151 Village Parkway. (Photo courtesy of Livermore School of Dance)

Two Shows on Tap for School of Dance Productions

The Livermore School of Dance is presenting two productions this month, “Rapunzel” and “Throwback Thrills,” at the Dublin High School Center for Performing Arts, 8151 Village Parkway. “Rapunzel” will feature classical and contemporary

styles of ballet inspired by the 2010 Disney animated film “Tangled.” “Throwback Thrills” will include several styles of dance, including jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, and tap set to music from the 1970s, ‘80s, and ‘90s. “Throwback Thrills” will

be presented at 7 p.m., Friday, June 16, and 2 p.m., Saturday, June 17. “Rapunzel” will be presented at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 17, and 2 p.m., Sunday, June 18. Tickets begin at \$17 for all performances and are available at 26812.dan-ticketing.com.

Livermore Library to Present Jazz in July

The Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., will host four Sunday afternoon Jazz in July programs this year, beginning with Bay Area blues singer Tia Carroll and guitarist Frankie G on July 2. The programs are free and begin at 2 p.m. Reservations are not required, but seating in the library’s Storytime Room is limited. The Dave Rocha Jazz Group is booked for July 9. Playing as a quintet, the Dave Rocha Jazz Group will feature an eclectic mix of tempos, rhythms, and styles, including jazz

waltz, jazz rock, Latin jazz, hardbop, and blues. Rocha, a mainstay of the Bay Area jazz community for more than two decades, will play trumpet and flugelhorn, with Gerald Beckett on flute, Sue Crossman on electric keyboard, Doug Pahorski on upright bass, and Mark Foglia on drums. On July 16, the library will welcome The Dynamic Miss Faye Carol, a Bay Area icon known for her powerful voice and versatility. Carol sang with Oakland blues and funk legend Johnny Talbot & De Thangs in

the 1960s, before forming her own trio and playing in San Francisco’s jazz, blues, and cabaret clubs of the 1970s and 80s. She was also founder and director of the Music in the Community program at the Black Repertory Group in Berkeley from 2001 to 2013. Lastly, on July 30, the library will host The Dan Marschak Trio and vocalist Danielle Perez. Marschak is an Oakland-born composer, jazz pianist, and faculty member at Las Positas College. The trio also includes Cindy Browne Rosefield on bass and Ian Sylvester on drums.

Dublin Announces Summer Film Schedule

The first of Dublin’s free outdoor summer movies will be the computer-animated comedy “DC League of Super-Pets” at Emerald Green Park, 2201 Central Parkway, on Friday, June 23. The film tells the story of Superman’s pet dog, Krypto, and shelter dog, Ace, who work with other animals to save other superheroes who have been captured by Lex Luthor and Lulu. Krypto, who goes by the name Bark Kent in everyday life, is voiced by

Dwayne Johnson. Dublin also announced that its Friday-night Picnic Flix series of six computer-animal movies, all rated PG, would rotate between Emerald Glen and two other city parks on the following schedule: June 30 -- “Lightyear,” at Don Biddle Community Park, 100 Horizon Parkway. July 7 -- “Minions: The Rise of Gru,” at Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, 6600 Donlon Way. July 14 - “Encanto,” Em-

erald Glen Park. July 21 - “Rumble,” Don Biddle Community Park. July 28 - “Turning Red,” Dublin Heritage Park. The movies will begin at dusk, between 8:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., and end about 10:30 p.m. But the venues will open at 7 p.m. with games, food vendors, and other activities. Moviegoers are encouraged to bring low-back chairs or blankets and to dress warmly. Pets are not allowed.

East Bay Regional Park District to Waive Fees for Juneteenth Holiday

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) will celebrate Juneteenth with a Free Park Day on Sunday, June 18. Juneteenth is a federal holiday that commemorates the emancipation of African American slaves during the Civil War. Traditionally, Juneteenth was celebrated on June 19, the day in 1865 when Union troops under Gen. Gordon arrived in Galveston, Texas, with official news that the Civil War was over. Granger also issued an order to enforce the slain President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation in the state. Juneteenth was declared a national holiday in 2021. EBRPD said it would waive fees for its Juneteenth celebration, including entrance and parking fees and fees for dogs, horses, boat launching, and fishing. However, the waiver will not apply to fees for swimming, camping, or reserving picnic facilities. In addition, the waiver will not include district concessions, state fees for fishing licenses, or watercraft inspections for invasive mussels. EBRPD will also offer several naturist-led programs, including a hike at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 18, and nature walks at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park in Concord at 10 a.m. and Big Break Regional Shoreline

in Oakley at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 19. The district will also celebrate Father’s Day on Sunday, June 18, with themed activities at Crown Beach in Alameda and Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore. EBRPD will offer a two-mile hike at Del Valle from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., with rangers discussing fathers in the natural world, while Crown Beach will offer crafts and other activities at the Doug Siden Visitor Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Campfire programs are also scheduled this month at Del Valle, Anthony Chabot Regional Park in Castro Valley, and Dumbarton Quarry Campground in Fremont. The district expects to reopen swimming at the Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area in Pleasanton on Friday, June 16, after a three-year closure because of the pandemic and low water levels. Earlier this year, EBRPD signed an agreement with the Zone 7 Water District to purchase surplus water for Shadow Cliffs. The lake may also be open for boating later this month. EBRPD is the largest regional park system in the nation, with 73 parks, 55 miles of shoreline, and over 1,300 miles of trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and environmental education. For more information about EBRPD programs, go to ebpparks.org.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Aug. 22
TUESDAY TUNES
The Livermore Cultural Arts Council will host concerts on the Shea Homes Stage in Livermore Plaza by the Bankhead Theater, from 6:45 pm to 8:15 p.m., on Tuesdays from June 13 to Aug. 22, with no 4th of July concert. The family-friendly series continues June 20 with “Dirty Cello,” and “Frankie Bones Project” on June 27. Restarting July 11, the lineup is “LunaFish,” “John and Lynn Take 2,” “Chris Bradley Band,” “The Hurricane Band,” folk singer songwriter “Michael McNevin,” “Sacred Fire,” and “Jeff Bordes & Friends w/ Matt Axton.” For more information, visit lcac.org.

Now to Friday, June 16
HOLY CROSS LIVERMORE STELLAR VBS
VBS 2023 will be held Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Holy Cross Livermore Church, 1020 Mocho Street. Registration ends May 31. To register to attend or volunteer, visit holycrosslivermore.org/vbs.

Now to Tuesday, June 27
UPCOMING SUPPORT GROUPS
When grieving the loss of a loved one, people may feel overwhelmed by the ebb and flow of emotions. Hope Hospice’s grief support services help adults and youth learn to process these feelings and find ways to move forward in a positive direction. Hope’s grief support services are free of charge, but registration in advance by phone is required at 925-829-8770 on weekdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A brief assessment is required. Support groups are currently being conducted online by Zoom video conference, and services for young children are temporarily paused until in-person group gatherings can continue. General Grief runs May 8 to June 26, on Mondays, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.; Spousal and Partner Loss runs May 9 to June 27, on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. or Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m.; and Loss of a Child runs from May 8 to June 26, on Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For Teens Group, call for dates. Groups are offered once per quarter. Those who cannot make the next sessions should call the office to put your name on the interest list for the following quarter.

Thursday, June 15
SUMMER EVENING TOURS
Are you interested in learning about local history? Take a guided tour of Dublin Heritage Park and Museums. Participants will have the opportunity to get an inside look at Dublin’s historic buildings and Pioneer Cemetery and hear stories of how Dublin began. Tours will take place at 5:30 p.m. on the evenings of June 15, July 6, July 20, and Aug. 3. To register, visit shorturl.at/govLV.

Saturday, June 17
TRI-VALLEY WRITERS PRESENTS KATE FARRELL
Farrell will show attendees how to enliven their talks and create a shared experience with listeners when converting stories from written pages to spoken words. Join in at 2 p.m., at Las Positas College, room 2470, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP and pay, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by June 15, then register at trivalleywriters.org/speaker-meeting-registration-and-payment. Tickets for CWC adult members are \$10; nonmembers are \$12; CWC student members ages 14 to 22 are \$5; and student nonmembers are \$8.

Friday, June 23
2023 JUNETEENTH CONCERT SERIES
The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir (OIGC) is proud to announce a powerful and inspiring series of concerts to celebrate Juneteenth, featuring performances in Berkeley, Livermore, and San Francisco. This concert series celebrates the resilience, joy, and strength of the African American community through the power of gospel music. The three concerts will take place on June 16 at the Freight & Salvage in Berkeley, June 23 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, and June 25 at the Great American Music Hall. Each concert will feature the OIGC performing a variety of gospel music styles, from

traditional to contemporary, and paying tribute to the Freedom Songs of the Civil Rights movement. The event takes place from 8 to 10 p.m., at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore. For more information, call 510-839-4361 or visit oigc.org. Tickets for all seating range from \$22 to \$30. For tickets, visit oigc.org/tickets.

Saturday, June 24
MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND CHOIR
Trinity Lutheran Church will offer first-class performances to the local community for an affordable, donation-based cost. Free parking is provided (also accessible by BART and bus.) Preconcert talks with Luke Mayernik and members of the Echavez family are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m., with the musical performance at 7 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. Suggested contributions are \$20 for general admission; and free for students and children are free. No one will be turned away. Proceeds will support the artists and the church’s ongoing concert series. For more information, call 510-512-2623, email stonemusique@gmail.com or visit tlcpleasanton.org or facebook.com/TLCPleasanton.

Wednesday, June 28
BUSINESS POLICY IN WASHINGTON DC WITH CONGRESSMAN MARK DESAULNIER
From 9 to 10:30 a.m., join in a discussion with Congressman Mark DeSaulnier to learn about current issues in the district and business policy in Washington DC. DeSaulnier represents the 10th Congressional District, which covers East Dublin and Camp Parks, as well as the neighboring cities of San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Lamorinda, Concord and Brentwood. This is a great opportunity to meet and get to know our newest representative. The event takes place at Dublin Holiday Inn, 6680 Regional St., in Dublin. Admission is \$50 for members, \$60 for nonmembers, and \$550 reserves a table for eight. Registration closes on June 20, at 4:30 p.m. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call 925-828-6200.

Saturday, July 8
MEDICARE HEALTH FAIR
A free, comprehensive health fair for Medicare beneficiaries is happening from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Dublin Senior Center. Offered services will include Medicare Part D Assistance for money-saving prescription drug cost tips, a thorough review of medications, vaccines, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, bone density, fall risk testing, and more. For more information, call CityServe Senior Services at 925-294-0558.

Saturday, July 15
2ND ANNUAL CAR SHOW
Mark the calendars for the 2nd Annual Car Show with cool cars, a bounce house, sensory-friendly activities, games, and more, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Valley Community Church in Pleasanton. This is an adaptive and inclusive event for people of all ages with disabilities/special needs and their families.

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

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

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

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

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OBITUARIES

Jonathan Bay Nguyen

Jonathan Bay Nguyen, known to his friends as “Jonny,” passed away at the age of 21 on Saturday, May 27, 2023, as a result of drowning from an undercurrent in the Flumes section of the Feather River outside of Paradise, California.

Jonny is survived by his grandparents Elizabeth Pontillas, Bay Tran and Bay Nguyen; his parents Lai Nguyen and Genevieve Pontillas; and his younger sisters Lauren and Maile Nguyen. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Marciel Pontillas.

Jonny was born in Redwood City and spent the first part of his life in Hayward and Fremont before moving to Livermore at the age of six. He was a proud big brother to his younger sisters, always supportive, loving and playful with them. He was a great friend and always watched out for others, paying attention to what their needs were, and helping in times of need. Jonny glowed with joy and happiness. He was the life of the party, always lifted everyone's spirits, and encouraged people to become better people. He was described by his high school wrestling coaches as having "the perfect blend of serious determination and carefree joy that made him a great leader amongst his



peers."

Jonny graduated from Chico State University's business school with an emphasis in marketing and received his Professional Sales Certificate from the Seufferlein Sales program. He was starting his sales career as an Inside Sales Intern for a company that runs social media for restaurants and planned to move to San Diego afterwards. While at Chico, he worked at the rock-climbing wall for Chico State's gym, The WREC. He was also a referee for intramural sports and a summer camp counselor for children. A notable achievement of his was being the corn hole champion for the biggest tournament in the world at Chico State.

As a youth, he was active

in high school youth ministry and the Boy Scouts, achieving the 6th rank in Boy Scouts, Life Scout. As a wrestler for Granada High School, he had 90 varsity wins, was a 2-time North Coast Section medalist, a 4-time varsity letterman and starter, and led the 2019 team to a league championship, which began the unbeaten streak in EBAL duals that has continued into 2023.

A viewing and vigil were held at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore on Friday, June 9, and a funeral service was held at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Livermore on Saturday, June 10. Jonny will be cremated at a later date and entered into rest at the Irvington Memorial Cemetery in Fremont.

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

His services were broadcasted via live stream and are available for replay via the following links:

Callaghan Mortuary - <https://www.youtube.com/@callaghanmortuarylivermore944/streams>

St. Charles Borromeo Church - <https://www.youtube.com/@stcharleslivermore/streams>

Frank Michael St. Denis
Aug. 23, 1944 – June 6, 2023

We are sad to announce the death of Frank Michael St. Denis who passed away the morning of June 6, 2023, while napping in his easy chair.

Frank, or Mike as he was known to most, was born in Oakland, California on Aug. 23, 1944, to Gene and Elizabeth St. Denis. He was raised in Castro Valley and graduated from Castro Valley High in 1962. He spent most of his adult life in Castro Valley before moving to Livermore in 1990. He and his wife Marla landed in Tracy in 2011 where he spent the remainder of his life.

After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and became a flight deck director on the USS Kitty Hawk during Vietnam being honorably discharged in 1968. Being a true patriot, he had become heartbroken about his country now and had no trouble expressing it, or anything else for that matter. Regardless of the world around him, Mike rested in the fact that Jesus was his Lord and Savior and that He was the one in control.

Upon his discharge from the Navy, Mike began his education at Chabot Junior College taking classes at night, after which he attended the



Laney College Trade School plumbing program. During his apprenticeship Mike honed his skills as a plumber and received many honors including placing first and second in the California State UA Apprenticeship contest. After his four-year apprenticeship he began his career as a journeyman plumber with Local 342 and retired as a master plumber in 1995. He went on to work for Alameda County for 11 years. Mike loved to work and did so until the end like we all knew he would.

If you knew Mike, or Big Mike, you knew that he was larger than life. It was hard to

find him without a tool, beer or Bible in his hand. He was loud, opinionated and the life of the party. He loved fiercely and would generally do anything he could for the people around him.

Mike is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 34 years, Marla St. Denis (Unger); and three strong men Michael Chad St. Denis, Michael Fred Pardini, and Mathew Gene St. Denis. He was a loving grandfather of six grandchildren; Maryah Pardini, Tyler St. Denis, Noah St. Denis, Jacob St. Denis, Joscelyn St. Denis, Nora St. Denis; and two great-grandchildren: Nevaeh and Cherysh Knowles-Pardini. He was a loving brother to Bud, Dawn and Laurie. He had many nieces and nephews and was a close friend to Ollie Echols, Arthur Morris and Dan Whittemore.

Mike was a member of many organizations over the years including the Moose Club in Castro Valley, 4x4 in Motion, Tracy 4x4 Club, and a proud member of the NRA.

Family and friends are invited to a memorial service at 2 p.m. held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St. in Pleasanton. Service will be officiated by Pastor Larry Ihrig.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Dorothy Mae Basso
Jan. 6, 1926 – May 18, 2023

Dorothy Basso passed away peacefully on May 18, 2023, after a short illness at the age of 97. Dorothy Mae Faria was born on Jan. 6, 1926, to Ernie and Helen Faria. Together with her eldest sister, Anna, they were raised in Livermore, California. Dorothy attended 5th Street Grammar School before graduating from Livermore High School in 1944. On Valentines Day in 1948, Dorothy married the love of her life, Ernie Basso. Together they raised two children; Steve and Sandy.

Dorothy worked at several local businesses including Rexall Drug, Beazell's Drug, and Baughman's. But her real love was working alongside her husband raising cattle and running various team roping arenas/events. In her free time, she loved to garden and was known for her natural green thumb. She enjoyed sewing, canning, raising chickens (in her early years), playing cards and long drives in the country.

Dorothy had a love of, and a knack for telling dirty jokes. She enjoyed spending all holiday's together with family and was known for her annual St. Patrick's Day feast, a tradition the family continues. Dorothy was a vital member of our local rodeos for many years by volunteering her time selling rodeo tickets and handling the payouts, prior to computers, leaving her thumbprint in the local rodeo world forever.

She is survived by her son Steve (Sandy) Basso, daughter Sandy Inderbitzen; grandsons Brian (Jamie) Basso and Kyle (Ashley) Basso; great-grandchildren Shelby, Cadence, Rylan and Beau Basso; along with many more extended family members.

She will always be in our hearts, and we will miss her dearly but are comforted knowing that she is reunited with the love of her life.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, 2023, at Inderbitzen Ranch/Basso's Arena, 6030 Dagnino Road, Livermore, California. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Hope Hospice or the ACTRA Catastrophe Fund of California in her name.



Ralph Vigars

Ralph Vigars passed away at the age of 95. He was a resident of Pleasanton for 64 years.

Ralph is preceded in death by his wife, Marve'. He is survived by daughter, Sue Vigars (Doug) and son, Mark Vigars (Janelle). Ralph is also survived by three grandsons, Steve Cesaretti (MacKenzie), Garrett Cesaretti (Stephanie) and Scott Vigars (Katie); and 10 great-grandchildren, Phoenix, Sawyer, Nico, Killian, Hannah, Ryder, Tucker, Jolee, Harlan and Lainey.

Ralph served in the Army during WWII. Upon returning he began his long career as a gas serviceman for PG&E. His area of coverage was Livermore, Pleasanton and Sunol and the first developments in what would become Dublin.



He played adult softball for various teams in the Tri Valley. He coached Pleasanton Little League baseball for his son. He was an avid bowler at

Granada and Dublin Bowl and attended every Amador High School football and basketball for many years.

Ralph was a founding member of the "Men at the Table." A group of long-term residents that met every morning in downtown Pleasanton for coffee to discuss what was happening in Pleasanton and the world. They were working men who appreciated living and growing old in Pleasanton. Here's to the men at the table, to those who have passed and to those that continue the tradition.

Friends and family are invited to a memorial service on Saturday, July 1, 2023, at noon at Graham Hitch Mortuary located at 4167 First St., Pleasanton.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Arnold R. Clobes
Aug. 8, 1939 – March 22, 2023

The celebration of life for Arnold Clobes will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore California at 4 p.m., on Saturday June 24. Reception at the church following the service.

Corrine M. Delapena
1927 – 2023

Corrine Delapena, a longtime Livermore resident, passed away on May 31, 2023, having spent her final days surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, John Delapena, and is

survived by her three children and four grandsons.

Corrine gave generously of her time and talents and provided many years of service as a member and leader in the Young Ladies Institute. Family and friends are in-

vited to attend a funeral Mass at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at St. Michael Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore, California. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Dominican Sisters of San Rafael.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Michael David Sa
Jan. 3, 1950 – June 4, 2023

Michael David Sa, affectionately known as Mike, passed away on June 4, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of love, family and devotion. Born Jan. 3, 1950, in San Jose, California, Mike's journey through life was marked by his unwavering faith, his commitment to his loved ones and his passion for community and sports.

In 1980, he settled in Livermore, after residing in San Leandro and Fremont. He was a devout Catholic and found solace and strength in his faith throughout his life. In 1980, Mike married his beloved wife Christine Sa, and together they built a life filled with joy and cherished memories. Mike was a dedicated father to his three sons, Michael, Shawn and Jonathan. He was a pillar of support and encouragement, instilling in his children values of hard work, integrity and compassion. His love extended to his six grandchildren, Bryce, Brielle, Peyton, Wesley, Riley, and Elayna, who brought immeasurable joy to his life. Mike's face would light up with pride and delight whenever he saw his grandchildren.

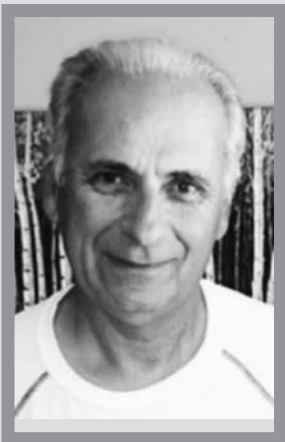
As the oldest child of Arthur and Elaine Sa, Mike cherished his role as an older brother to Judy Silva and Tim Sa. He provided guidance and support to his siblings, and their bond was unbreakable throughout the years. Mike had a passion for sports and spent countless hours coaching baseball. From Livermore National Little League to Livermore High, Dublin High and various travel baseball teams, he made a lasting impact on the lives of many young athletes. Mike's dedication and enthusiasm were infectious, leaving a lasting impression on those he coached. Outside of sports, Mike found joy in golfing, woodworking, working on cars, and attending car shows. His creativity and craftsmanship were evident in his woodworking projects, and he took great pleasure in pursuing these hobbies.

For 34 years, Mike served as a construction manager at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, dedicating his skills and expertise to his work. He approached his professional life with dedication and integrity, leaving a lasting mark on the organization.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to be made in Mike's name to the Alzheimer's Association. This cause held personal significance for Mike and his family. Your support would be deeply appreciated.

A funeral Mass to honor Mike's life will be held on June 21, 10 a.m. at St. Augustine's Catholic Church. Following the Mass, a celebration of life will take place at 11:30 a.m. at Callippe Golf Course. This gathering will be an opportunity for friends and loved ones to share stories and memories, celebrating the life of a man who touched the hearts of many.

Mike will be remembered for his unwavering love, his commitment to family and his dedication to his community. His spirit will live on in the hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing him. May his soul rest in eternal peace.



Joanne Marie Berven
Sept. 26, 2035 – June 4, 2023

Joanne Marie Berven passed away on June 4, 2023, while surrounded by family.

Commonly called Jo, she was 87 years old and the beloved wife of Dale Berven for 64 years. She was a loving mother to David of Manteca, Elizabeth of Santa Rosa and Susan of Livermore. Devoted grandmother to James, Rachael and Jacob and great-grandmother of Paulo Berven and Cadence Anderson. Joanne was the sister to William, Daniel and Robert Stenger, and sister-in-law to Theresa and Carol Stenger. She was preceded in death by her son, Matthew and her parents, George and Dorothy Stenger.

Joanne attended San Joaquin Memorial High School in Fresno and graduated in 1953. She attended Providence College of Nursing, graduated in 1956, and also received a BSN and PHN from San Jose State University in 1979. Jo continued in her education and received an MS degree from San Francisco State University in 1979. Joanne had an extensive nursing career. She was a licensed RN, held a Public Health Nursing Certificate for California, Life Credential for Teaching, and taught Medical and Surgical Nursing. She taught at Chabot College from 1974-2016, for



the American Red Cross from 1996-2000, as Nursing Lab Coordinator from 2005-2015, and taught Basic Life Support for Stanford Health Care from 2015-2020. Jo also was a staff nurse at Stanford Valley Care from 1981-2002.

Joanne had a zest for life and enjoyed being involved in, and a part of, many organizations. These include Communion Minister for St. Michaels Church from 1998 to 2023; Nurses and Cops for Caring for Contra Costa Kids from 1998-2022; Secretary for Tri-Valley Macintosh form 1998-2015; Pacific Swim masters Newsletter Editor from 1998-2013; Dress A Girl Around the World from 2012-

2023; Live Aboard Program, USS Hornet Museum Docent from 2013-2022; Registrar and Treasurer at WINGS form 2014-2023; and a member of the St. Borromeo Church Health Ministry from 2016-2023.

Joanne enjoyed spending time with her family, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She also enjoyed swimming, the outdoors, being at the family cabin, learning and teaching, being active, doing crosswords, knitting, sewing and reading. Joanne was a strong and compassionate person. She touched a great many lives with her intelligence, empathy and open mindedness, sharp wit, and recognizable laugh. Joanne will be deeply and sorely missed.

Friends are invited to attend the memorial Mass on Thursday, June 22, 11 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore with Fr. Kwame Assenyou officiating. The ceremony will be livestreamed on the St. Charles website. www.stcharleslivermore.org.

Interment private at Mt. View Cemetery, Oakland, California. In lieu of flowers the family prefers donations to the Matthew Berven Scholarship Fund, Las Positas College, Livermore.

OBITUARIES

Charles Richard Bartlett
Nov. 1, 1940 – Jan. 23, 2023



Charles R. “Dick” Bartlett, passed away quietly on Jan. 23, 2023. He was a loving, caring, generous, thoughtful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who will be greatly missed by all. Dick was so proud of, and felt so blessed for, his family. He dearly loved his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dick was born in Huntington Beach to Harry and Carla Bartlett on Nov.1, 1940. His childhood was spent in Huntington Beach, Peru, and Argentina. He loved to tell stories of his carefree childhood

spent on the beach, enjoying the surf, sun, exploring and getting into mischief.

Dick was a long-time resident and business owner in the Tri-Valley. He started Bartlett’s Excavating in 1971 and he was fortunate to have his son Randy, by his side for many years in business. Unfortunately, Randy, the father of Bryce and Bailey, passed away in 2011. However, prior to Randy’s passing he and his parents continued to work together daily at Charles R Vineyards, a winery owned by the Bartlett family which opened in 2002. Charles R

Winery was a fun and creative venture for the entire family. Dick and Randy loved working together daily and the entire family enjoyed pouring wine on the week-ends and organizing winery events. Dick was happiest when he was spending time with his family.

Dick was also an avid reader. You would find him reading for hours and then passing on books to friends and family from his bags of books. He loved running his businesses and backhoe, and he was always ready to help friends and neighbors.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Bonnie; sisters Diane Rogers and Penny (Bill) Leonard; daughters Debra (George) Bartlett-Ross, Karen (Greg) Bartlett-McLeod, Dana (Joe) Nannetti, Michelle Cordova and Nikki Freitas; daughter-in-law Gina (Bartlett) Hogan; grandchildren Katie (Scott) Peaslee, Charlie (Stephanie) Mingoia, Bryce (Aleks) Bartlett, Bailey Bartlett, Aubry Bassett, Eli (Teija) Bassett and Kalynn Bassett; and great-grandchildren Henry, Everett, Ben, Theodore, Braxton, and Wyatt.

Dick will be remembered for his great sense of humor, storytelling, generosity, kindness, love, support, and his favorite quote 'drive slow and steer fast.' At times he seemed cantankerous, but he had a heart of gold. He will be forever remembered, loved and missed by all of us that were blessed to have him in our lives.

We will honor Dick during a remembrance on June 25, 2023, 5 to 8 p.m., at Charles R Vineyards, 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore.

CEMETERY

(Continued from first page)

In delaying a decision for two months, the board did not act on two appeals requesting that they reject the project from going forward as approved last year by the county’s planning commission. The Friends of Livermore (FOL) and Friends of Open Space and Vineyards (FOV) filed a joint appeal, and the City of Livermore filed a second.

FOL, a community group opposed to the cemetery development plan, issued a statement Monday that argued the buildings are for urban uses and violate Measure D, a voter-approved initiative in 2000 that maintains strict provisions to protect open space and agricultural land from urban sprawl.

“Friends of Livermore is disappointed the supervisors do not believe the large mortuary building and funeral pavilion are urban uses not allowed outside the urban growth boundary of Measure D,” the FOL statement said. “All of the environmental groups that testified at the appeal hearing – Sierra Club, Save Mount Diablo, Ohlone Audubon Society, as well as appellants Friends of Open Space and Vineyards and Friends of Livermore – believe these uses violate Measure D.”

FOL said it “remains to be seen when a revised development plan is presented in August just what size the buildings actually are, and if the method of calculating size is based on gross building square footage as required by the East County Area Plan.”

“It is clear to us that since the zoning ordinance defines buildings as any structures erected for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals or property, and even includes swimming pools as buildings, that the proposed mausoleums and columbaria must be included in the calculation of total building square footage,” FOL said. “It is implausible that swimming pools and storage sheds count as buildings, but 18 x 18 x 8-foot mausoleum structures that hold human remains (property of the families) do not. The notion that these sacred buildings should be considered landscaping features as the applicant suggested at the appeal hearing is patently absurd.”

The supervisors indicated that if the cemetery developer complies with decreasing the buildings from their planned 20,000-square-feet, they will deny the joint appeal from FOL and FOV, and another from the City of Livermore, to stop the current development plan. The proposed cemetery is located in county territory just outside the UGB north of the Livermore city limits, and governed by Measure D.

If approved, Monte Vista will be open to all denominations, but will have about 5-acres designated specifically for Jewish burials. Jewish residents currently must travel some 40 miles from the Tri-Valley to the nearest Jewish burial ground.

“I am really committed to doing the best project possible,” Kahn said. “If part of

that means modifying the size of the building, we will do that.”

Approved by the county’s planning commission in December 2022, the cemetery would be built on about half of a 104-acre parcel at 3656 Las Colina Road. The area is agriculturally designated land adjacent to the 580 Freeway between the North Livermore Avenue and North First Street exits. The land is currently used for cattle grazing.

As originally planned, the cemetery would include a two-story 16,180-square-foot building containing a mortuary, funeral home, offices and crematorium, as well as a 3,440-square-foot single-story pavilion.

Following its approval at the planning commission in December 2022, the community groups FOL and FOV, along with the city, appealed the decision to the Board of Supervisors, stating that the project violated Measure D. The board held its appeal hearing at its June planning meeting.

During a presentation on June 8, Susan Bradford, an attorney for the two community groups, argued the cemetery plan was inconsistent with Measure D, including provisions that properties designated as Large Parcel Agriculture sites have restrictions on use, building size and intensity. She said the cemetery is not agricultural-related or compatible with agriculture; does not meet the requirement that buildings be on no more than 2-acres; and that the buildings failed to adhere to floor area ratio (FAR) rules that they not be larger than the maximum 12,000-square-feet allowed.

Bradford also contended the proposed funeral home is not for public or quasi-public use as required, because it will have private ownership; and that a mausoleum is a building that adds to the square-footage. It is not a wall or landscaping as the developer claimed.

“We feel very strongly that the proposal for a cemetery and the funeral home is not consistent with agricultural use,” Bradford said. “A cemetery of itself is not, strictly speaking, consistent with agriculture, in the sense that you are never going to get back in agricultural production land that you’d have invested with your loved ones as a burial ground.”

Bradford also took issue with county staff who told Kahn and the cemetery proponents that the calculation to achieve the maximum 12,000-square-foot rule did not include the extra space for bathrooms, storage areas and other ancillary rooms.

“Our main concern is Measure D,” Bradford said. “We’re concerned that the position of the staff and the proponents finding ways to creatively interpret Measure D to allow larger buildings for urban uses that its spirit and purpose and letter did not actually allow is concerning. Trying to shoehorn a commercial funeral home into an agricultural land use designation, we think, is a bad project.”

During his appeal, Livermore’s Planning Manager

Steve Stewart argued a cemetery just outside the city’s border violated the area’s urban growth boundary.

“In the city’s interpretation, this is an urban use,” Stewart said. “This would be better located in an urban area of unincorporated Alameda County, or within city jurisdiction, rather than on the city’s edge in the agricultural and sensitive species habitat on the city’s edge.”

Dick Schneider, a co-author of Measure D, said that FOL and FOV contend that if the mortuary and funeral pavilion are removed from the site, then the remaining buildings, including the mausoleums and columbaria, can be located within a 2-acre development envelope as required by Measure D.

“The total square footage of all buildings would also have to be no more than 12,000 square feet as required by ECAP (East County Area Plan) Policy 335,” Schneider said. “If all of those conditions are met, we wouldn’t oppose a cemetery project in that location.”

Defending his proposal, Kahn said the cemetery and structures were necessary for a growing region with a variety of cultures. The vision, he said, is to “create an environmentally friendly development with extensive water conservation and reuse, drought-resistant landscaping, solar power and green building practices.”

“Our goal is to develop and build a state of the art funeral resting place and funeral home to support the needs of the Tri-Valley region,” Kahn said. He said land covered with natural grasses and graves did not constitute urban sprawl and explained that the buildings were needed at the cemetery site because people wanting funeral services prefer them at one location.

He refuted allegations that the crematorium would lead to poor air quality and took issue with those who referred to the mortuary, chapel and offices as an “event center.”

During public comments, 18 people, including members of FOL and FOV, encouraged the board to support their appeals to reject the development as planned. Seven people spoke in favor of allowing it to go forward.

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick of Chabad of the Tri-Valley called the project “generational” because of limited opportunities for Jewish burial in the East Bay. He said there are no Jewish burial grounds in Fremont, Union City, Newark, Dublin and Pleasanton, and only a strip at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore that is mostly filled. He added that an important part of a Jewish cemetery is having the mortuary and chapel on-site.

“Burying our loved ones and escorting them on their final journey is a very sacred and essential part of life,” Resnick said. “This is really an important thing that we need for our community.”

Another speaker who identified himself as “Larry,” a Livermore resident for 45 years, said it was important for the local Jewish

community to have a facility that can provide traditional burial requirements that are thousands of years old, and one that is closer than an hour drive.

“It’s considered to be quite a mitzvah in our tradition, a blessing, for loved ones to visit their folks that have died,” he said.

Some opponents of the Monte Vista plan indicated they were against the development in its entirety, while others said they were only against the size of the buildings and the mortuary and funeral pavilion at the site because they violated Measure D.

David Furst, of FOV, said the board should not be distracted by irrelevant arguments about whether the Tri-Valley needed a cemetery or a Jewish burial ground.

“The issue is whether the proposal is permitted under Measure D, and we believe it is not,” Furst said. “The addition of any event center, sales office, crematorium or buildings that are urban buildings are not permitted on ag land.”

Calling herself a “vigilant protector” of Measure D and a supporter of FOL and FOV, Dublin resident Shirley Lewandowski urged the board to deny the project. She called it an “open space intrusion.”

“This project doesn’t qualify under Measure D as large parcel agricultural use,” Lewandowski said.

Livermore resident Johnna Thompson encouraged the board to uphold Measure D’s provisions.

“While the cemetery itself may be compatible with agriculture, the commercial development in this project is not,” Thompson said. “Voters passed Measure D to preserve and protect agricultural and open space in Alameda County, and then they elected you to uphold its provisions, not to circumvent them.”

Livermore resident Carol Silva said she opposed the project as planned and suggested the planning commission be restructured because the development never should have reached the Board of Supervisors.

“I do not oppose having an appropriately sized 20-acre cemetery, nor do I oppose the cemetery’s section in support of Jew-

ish burials,” Silva said. “I oppose the project’s event center, crematorium, and the service support buildings that have nothing to do with agriculture. I oppose the current proposal because it is in conflict with Measure D, the East County Area Plan (ECAP), the City of Livermore General Plan, the North Livermore Urban Growth Boundary Initiative, and the Scenic Corridor Policy.”

As the supervisors began discussing whether to deny or rule in favor of the appeals, it appeared Supervisors Lena Tam and Elisa Marquez were set to vote in favor of the plan. Supervisor Nate Miley, however, said he wanted the project downsized, along with broadening conservational protections on the property. Concerned about whether approving the cemetery project as planned would result in a lawsuit over Measure D, Supervisor David Haubert requested a meeting with his colleagues behind closed doors to consult the county attorney.

Hearing the supervisors’ comments after the closed session, Kahn told the panel he could resolve the issue with an alternate plan that would meet the 12,000-square-foot requirement for buildings. He said he would work with the groups and county staff before the next board meeting to comply with Measure D.

That prompted the board to postpone the final de-

cision until their August meeting.

In an interview, Kahn said his group could get below 12,000-square-feet by eliminating the building’s second floor and basement, and reducing the size of a pavilion.

“We believe we’re bringing a really valuable asset to the community and I’m still very optimistic that we’re gonna get it done,” Kahn said. “I think we’re demonstrating that we are trying to be as flexible as we can to bring a viable project to the table that satisfies as many people as possible and meets Measure D as best as possible. And go from there.”

Even with the building size reduction, concerns regarding Measure D violations remained among the community groups. The City of Livermore did not respond to a question regarding its stance on the appeal following Kahn’s statement that he intended to downsize the buildings.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597893

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Fei Xiang Bilingual School; 2. Fei Xiang Preschool, 6665 Owens Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Academic Center Of Volitation Corp, 6665 Owens Dr., 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: 2/1/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rui Zhao, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 15, 2023. Expires May 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5490. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597704

The following person(s) doing business as: The Ranch at Birch Creek, 8433 Patterson Pass Rd, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Birch Creek Ranch, LLC, 8433 Patterson Pass Rd., 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/: Phil Marshall, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 8, 2023. Expires May 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5491. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597561

The following person(s) doing business as: Grounding Body Wellness, 3527 Grand Ave, Ste C, Oakland, CA 94610 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marsha Rosenblatt, 787 Alcatraz Ave, Oakland, CA 94609. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Marsha Rosenblatt, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 28, 2023. Expires April 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5492. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597960

The following person(s) doing business as: American Tax Solutions, 29245 Albion CT, Hayward, CA 94545-1330 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Satyendra Kaith, 29245 Albion CT, Hayward, CA 94545-1330. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Satyendra Kaith, N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 17, 2023. Expires May 16, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5493. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597866

The following person(s) doing business as: Honey Bee Sweet Cafe, 2256 Las Positas Rd, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lanna Thai Cuisine Inc., 2270 Las Positas Road, 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/: Kimberly Gamble, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 15, 2023. Expires May 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5494. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597352

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. The PoolSmith; 2. The Pool Smith; 3. Pool Smith; 4. Pool Smith, 1259 Littlehale Place, Stockton, CA 95206 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chris Smith, 1259 Littlehale Place, Stockton, CA 95206. 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: 6/2/2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Chris Smith, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2023. Expires April 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5495. Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION
TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF: LINDA BISSUM
(FKA BJORN SATDEVA)
Case No. RP23140940

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LINDA BISSUM (FKA BJORN SATDEVA). A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Felicitas V. Ferid, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition for probate requests that Felicitas V. Ferid be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: July 12, 2023, 9:45 am in Department 202 Superior Court of California, County of Alameda 212 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor

or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Petitioner: Felicitas V. Ferid The Independent, Legal No. 5496. Published June 1, 8, 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597336

The following person(s) doing business as: California Solar and Storage Association, 3011 Dohr Street, Berkeley, CA 94702 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): California Solar Energy Industries Association, 1107 9th St. Suite 820, Sacramento, CA 95814. 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: 2/1/2018. Signature of Registrant/s/: Bernadette Del Chiaro, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2023. Expires April 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5497. Published June 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598208

The following person(s) doing business as: Playway Learning Center, 4617 Gerrilyn Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Simran Sahni, 4614 Gerrilyn Way, Livermore, CA 94550; Sameer Tandor, 4614 Gerrilyn Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Simran Sahni, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 25, 2023. Expires May 24, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5498. Published June 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597350

The following person(s) doing business as: A Little Cherry on Top, 640 Moraga Drive, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Valle, 640 Moraga Drive, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant

first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/1/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jennifer Valle, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 20, 2023. Expires April 19, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5499. Published June 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598159

The following person(s) doing business as: Productos Mardel, 2963 Ladd Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Productos Mardel LLC, 2963 Ladd Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/5/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jaqueline Lopez, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 24, 2023. Expires May 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5500. Published June 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023.

STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
ORIGINAL FILE NO. 544987

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). West Coast Strategic Consulting Services, 2323 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612. Registered Owner(s): Nada Djordjevic, 4220 Montgomery 306, Oakland, CA 94611. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 5/14/2018 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Nada Djordjevic, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 5, 2023. The Independent Legal No. 5501. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 597510

The following person(s) doing business as: 1: PMC Appraisal Services; 2: PMC; 3: PMC Realtors; 4: Perry Management Company, 11460 Winding Trail LN., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donald S. Perry, 11460 Winding Trail 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: 1/1/1992. Signature of Registrant/s/: Donald, S. Perry, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 27, 2023. Expires April 26, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5502. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598155

The following person(s) doing business as: Da Boccery, LLC, 175 Vineyard Ave., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Da Boccery, LLC, 2300 First ST., Suite 220, 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/: Michael Nader, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 24, 2023. Expires May 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5503. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023.

County of Alameda
Public Auction
Public Sale of Surplus
Property

Property: 1150 & 1220 Harbor Bay Parkway Alameda, CA Auction/Sale Date: Monday, July 10, 2023 Time: 11:00AM Bid Packages and Deposits – Due Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 by 4:30PM Contact: DCG Strategies at (925) 479-1350 Specifications regarding the above may also be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at: www.acgov.org. 6/15/23 CNS-3710584# The Independent, Legal No. 5504. Published June 15, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598419

The following person(s) doing business as: Mejia Cleaning Service, 1716 90th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Salvador Mejia, 1716 90th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603. 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: 1/1/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Salvador Mejia, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 5, 2023. Expires June 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5505. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598434

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Diablos Baseball 2024, 784 Lido Dr., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Melissa Seita, 784 Lido Dr., Livermore, CA 94550; Todd Lindgren, 1123 Norfolk Rd., Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Unincorporated Association - Other than a Partnership. 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/: Melissa Seita, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 6, 2023. Expires June 5, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5506. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598022

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Motor Sports, 3555 First Street, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Livermore Motor Sport, Inc., 5464 Bianca Way , Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jose Luis Alvarez Anaya, President, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 18, 2023. Expires May 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5507. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598557

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Robert J. Tisdale, DVM, Inc.; 2. Fremont Veterinary Care; 3. Fremont Pet Hospital, 43391 Ellsworth St., Fremont, CA 94539-8165 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Fremont Vet, Inc., 43391 Ellsworth Street, 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: 6/8/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sapri Kota, General Counsel. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 9, 2023. Expires June 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5508. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598550

The following person(s) doing business as: Spatial Thoughtware, 980 Riesling Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566-7220 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pierre Bierre, 980 Riesling Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566-7220. 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/: Pierre Bierre, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 9, 2023. Expires June 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5509. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 598504

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunlight Optometry, 2800 Dublin Blvd, Target Optical Dublin East #F702 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rachel Kaneta OD LLC, 2108 N St. Ste N, Sacramento, CA 95816. 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/: Rachel Kaneta, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 8, 2023. Expires June 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5510. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2023.

C L A S S I F I E D S

ANIMALS

CATS/DOGS



Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION
Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that

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Dublin Hosting Family Campouts

Dublin is now accepting reservations for this summer’s Family Campout events. Advertised as “Camping in the New American Backyard,” the overnight weekend program is held at Dublin city parks. The city organizes all activities, including campfire and s’mores, and provides dinner on Saturday night and breakfast on Sunday morning. A Family Campout is scheduled for Alamo Creek Park from Saturday, July 16, to Sunday, July 17, and at Schaefer Ranch Park from Saturday, Aug. 6, and Sunday, Aug. 7. Check-ins are at 4 p.m. on Saturday. A Family Campout planned for Jordan Ranch Park is sold out. The cost is \$27 per person for Dublin residents and \$30 for non-residents. All ages are welcome, but pets are not allowed. To register, go to DublinRecGuide.com.

COUNCIL

(Continued from first page)

plaints about political signs littering streets and often being stolen or vandalized during the election season.

At the time, Livermore allowed campaign signs to be placed publicly 60 days prior to an election in public right-of-ways. Temporary signs, both commercial and non-commercial signs, also were generally allowed in the public right-of-way in residential zones and downtown.

With some members of the public wanting a change, Woerner proposed the ban after city staff recommended limitations on the days and times signs could be erected. Woerner suggested it was better to ban signs altogether to avoid First Amendment issues allowing some signs and not others.

A provision of the ban was that it would not take effect until July 1 to allow the city’s staff to investigate alternatives used in other cities and come up with another sign plan for the new city council that took seats in December to consider.

But when it came down to it Monday, no one on the council liked the altered sign ordinance recommendation that was passed unanimously in May by the city’s planning commission. The proposal would have allowed signs at intersections of two public streets from Thursdays to Monday mornings, with no more than two copies at the same intersection. In addition, signs could not be larger than 4 square feet or posted higher than 3 feet.

Although two real estate workers who spoke during public comments encouraged the council to approve the ordinance that would allow them to place their open house placards on street corners, most on the council preferred the ban of all temporary signs, no matter the content.

“This is not about democracy. Not at all. This isn’t about freedom of speech,” Marchand said. “What this is about, is about reducing urban blight – visual blight – in the landscape.”

Marchand and Carling said allowing signs on certain days would waste the time of employees required to take them down. Carling added that requiring staff and campaign workers to drive around the city to collect signs would add to the greenhouse gas emissions Livermore is trying to reduce with its Climate

Action Plan.

“These plastic campaign signs are not recyclable, and they’re just going to be added to the landfill,” Carling said. He added that although he had voted against the ban in November, he had changed his mind.

Branning thanked the staff for coming up with a proposal but said he was in favor of keeping the ban.

Only Barrientos said he wanted signs to return to the streets. He said he agreed with resident John Stein, who, during public comments, said campaign signs allowed candidates for elections to city council and other boards an opportunity to gain name recognition.

“If you can’t put signs up, then you’ve got to go to mailers,” Barrientos said. “It’s \$5,000 bucks for one district if you want to get all of the people in your district.”

Barrientos suggested altering the proposal to allow signs for 45 days before an election or event and requiring signs to be recyclable.

“I think it comes down to the First Amendment,” Barrientos said. “I think it’s right for people to put your name out there.”

Isabel Neighborhood CFD, Housing Agreement Approved

In other council action, the council accepted the 5-0 vote of landowners to form a Community Facilities District (CFD) that will impose a special tax on future homeowners of a 112-unit condominium complex set to be built in the Isabel Neighborhood housing development.

The annual tax of an average \$435 per unit will raise money to pay for maintenance of parks, streets, bike paths and other amenities in the Triad East residential development on the northwest corner of North Canyons Parkway and Triad Place. The tax is known as a Mello-Roos fee.

The council in May unanimously approved holding a public hearing June 12 on the CFDs formation, but no one from the public arrived to comment. The CFD became the first development established in the Isabel Neighborhood plan. It will provide nearly 4,100 new housing units on the land near I-580 and Isabel Avenue. As each development is approved through the acreage, the CFD will be

expanded with future public hearings and landowner votes to impose Mello-Roos fees.

In addition, the city council unanimously approved a Low Income for Sale Housing Agreement with DeNova Homes, which is building a 112-unit subdivision located at North Canyons Parkway and Triad Drive as part of the Isabel Neighborhood development.

Under the agreement, DeNova is required to build 20% of the units — 22.4 — at prices reserved for sale to median- and moderate-income households. DeNova will build 22 units and pay \$83,676 in lieu of the 0.4 affordable units. In Alameda County, median income for a family of four is about \$125,000; while moderate income is about \$150,000.

Speaking during public comments on the agenda item, Livermore resident Jean King thanked the city and the developer for including the units, but said she was concerned whether the 22 units would be integrated with the rest of the units. She also suggested that future developments include rental housing that would include housing for low- and very low-income families. Low-income families are those making \$71,400 to \$109,000 a year. Very low income is deemed as \$46,300 to \$71,400 for a family of four.

“It is important to integrate our income communities and not segregate low-income residents in separate areas,” King said. “The Isabel Specific Plan requires rental housing to include all four categories of very low-, low-, medium- and moderate-income affordable housing. It would be good if this area and future areas would include all four categories in both rental and for sale housing and be integrated in each development.”

Livermore Community Development Director Paul Spence said the city requires that 20% of units built in the Isabel Plan be for median and moderate incomes.

He explained, “In other portions of the city, we require 15%, and we do include low-income in that component.” Spence said rental units at Isabel will have the lower income component, and the city was working with developers to encourage more low-income units in future projects.



Dirty Cello, a five-piece Bay Area string ensemble, will continue the free Tuesday Tunes concerts in Livermore Plaza on June 20. Led by crossover cellist Rebecca Roudman, the band is known for its high-energy spin on blues, rock and Americana, including its version of “The Devil Went Down to Georgia.” The Livermore Cultural Arts Council sponsors summer concerts on the Shea Homes Stage from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m. every Tuesday through Aug. 22, except for July 4. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring blankets or low-backed chairs. (Photo courtesy of Dirty Cello)

Axis Community Health to Begin Work on Livermore Clinic

Axis Community Health announced last week that it would begin site renovations for a new clinic at 1686 Second St. in Livermore on Thursday, July 13.

Axis said the clinic would provide critical healthcare resources for the community.

The Pleasanton-based healthcare provider said all of its existing facilities, including a dental clinic that

recently opened in Dublin, are now operating at capacity, while demand for services in the area continues to grow.

Axis said the new clinic would accommodate 20,000 visits annually for approximately 5,600 patients. It will include six dental spaces, six examination rooms, and offices for behavioral health services.

The public is invited to

groundbreaking ceremonies from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., with speakers to include Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, and Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert.

The groundbreaking will also serve as the kickoff of a capital campaign to raise \$1.3 million to complete the project.

Heritage Guild to Host Open House at Livermore Depot

The Livermore Heritage Guild will host an open house at the historic Livermore Railroad Depot, which now serves as the ticket office for the Livermore Transit Center at 2500 Railroad Ave., from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 17.

The open house will include tours of the building, historic displays, and a panel discussion, “What Livermore was Like Before the First Stoplight,” moderated by city historian Richard Finn, at 2:15 p.m. Panelists will include Mary Keech Butterfield, Marie Ferraro Timmer, Susan Dopking Canfield, and Don Keech.

Refreshments will be served.

Built in 1892 to replace an earlier building destroyed by fire, the depot was in use until 1971, when the Southern Pacific Railroad abandoned the rail line through Livermore.

When the railway proposed tearing it down in 1973, Livermore residents formed the Livermore Heritage Guild to rescue the depot from demolition.

Later in 1973, Southern Pacific donated the abandoned depot to the city, and over the years it saw use as a

restaurant, real estate office, dance studio, and headquarters for Livermore Downtown. Livermore received a \$2.5 million federal grant in 2016 to refurbish the depot and move it from L Street to its current location at the transit center.

The depot reopened as the ticket office for the

Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority in October 2018.

The open house celebrates 50 years since residents banded together to save the building. Anna Siig and Roger Brown will be on hand to share their memories of that effort during the open house.

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