

Aramis Project

Judge Rules In Favor of Solar Plan

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — An Alameda County Superior Court judge on Tuesday officially denied a request to overturn the county's approval of the 347-acre Aramis solar energy farm in North Livermore Valley, a court website said.

Judge Evelio Grillo issued his decision Tuesday afternoon, denying "Petition for Writ of Mandate." The full statement is pending.

Attorneys for the petitioners — Save North Livermore Valley (SNLV), the Ohlone Audubon Society and the Friends of Open Space and Vineyards organizations — and a lawyer representing the county and Intersect Power, were not immediately available to discuss the ruling at press time. Steven Selna, one of the petitioners' attorneys, said he had received notification of the judge's decision, but had not

(See SOLAR, page 10)

LLNL Warning

Deterrence Is No Longer Guaranteed

By Jeff Garberson

For decades, it has been commonly assumed that U.S. interests are secure because the overwhelming power of American military forces deters major aggression.

Increasingly, analysts are questioning that assumption, spurred in large part by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The long European peace that followed World War II seems to have come to an end, they realize, and complacent assumptions about security no longer suffice. The U.S. military and its NATO allies might actually be put to the test if Russia's armies attack other parts of Europe.

To a prominent analyst at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Russia's military challenge and ques-

(See DETERRENCE, page 2)



American Legion Post 237 and VFW Post 6298 color guards presented the colors during a Memorial Day observance at the Pleasanton Senior Center on Monday, May 30. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PUSD Continues with Bond Measure

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — The school board unanimously voted on May 19 to move forward with a facilities-improvements bond measure to be put on the November ballot despite election time constraints.

"Costs will increase and

Assistant Superintendent Ahmad Sheikholeslami. "I think we have a story to tell and we have a pathway. Although that might be challenging, we need to move forward."

The Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) identified \$856 million in facilities improvement

sure for \$270 million that same year. However, this year's potential measure would follow another, less successful, PUSD measure for \$393 million that received only 52.4% of voter support in March 2020, just shy of the 55% threshold required to pass.

According to an April survey conducted by Clifford Moss, a bond consulting firm, the community has expressed tepid support for this year's measure. The survey reported 54% in favor with a 4.9% sampling error.

"While a majority of voters do feel the district has the need for additional

(See PUSD, page 8)

"I think we have a story to tell and we have a pathway. Although that might be challenging, we need to move forward."

— Ahmad Sheikholeslami, PUSD Assistant Superintendent

the problems will increase with our facilities," said

needs in 2016 and successfully passed a bond mea-

Commission OK's Updated Hotel Plan

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Planning Commission on May 24, unanimously approved an updated plan to develop a four-story, 133-unit hotel with nearby valet parking in the city's downtown core.

On a 5-0 vote, the commissioners determined the plan for the hotel on the southeast corner of Railroad and South Livermore avenues met the requirements of the city's Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) environmental impact reports, followed its architectural design and was exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

"As has been said before, we don't decide whether something should be built; we decide whether something can be built, whether it follows the guidelines," Planning Commission Chair Steven Dunbar said.

"I think it's going to be a great development, but I also think generically, it meets all the regulations and that's what we're here to do."

Although favoring a downtown hotel project, Save Livermore Downtown, a community organization, raised the point that the hotel's planned valet parking site on the corner of K Street and Railroad Avenue is not

consistent with the DSP. The group encouraged the panel to postpone its approval "until suitably located parking is identified."

"SLD continues to support the development of a hotel in downtown Livermore and recognizes that the city and its voters realize the benefits the hotel will bring to downtown Livermore," SLD attorney Winston Stromberg wrote in a letter to the commission. "However, SLD remains concerned by the fact that the project's use of the 2080 Railroad Ave. parcel for off-site parking is inconsistent

(See HOTEL, page 8)

Referendum Filed So Future Council Can Relocate Eden

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — A Livermore resident has filed a referendum with the goal to ensure future city council members will have the ability to relocate the Eden Housing project.

Barry Fadem of Fadem & Associates LLC law firm initiated the referendum process on May 27 on behalf of Richard Ryon, who stated in a press release that Livermore residents have lost confidence in the current city council.

The action follows the council's May 24 decision to amend the city's disposition, development and loan agreement with Eden Housing, whose project to build 130 affordable housing units on the southeastern corner of Railroad Avenue and South

L Street was approved by the council last year. Since then, the community group Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) has filed a lawsuit questioning the legality of certain project elements.

Ryon wrote, "Instead of listening to the majority of its constituents who favor a different location for the Eden Housing project, the council has voted to approve an extensive revision to the disposition, development and loan agreement that will allow the city to transfer the property at Railroad Avenue and L Street to Eden Housing by this September."

He continued, "The city is allowing Eden to acquire the land before Eden has secured the bulk of its financing for its project and before the lawsuit challenging last

(See EDEN, page 10)

Sewage Line Extension Going To the Ballot Box

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — On May 23, the city council directed planners to continue preparing a ballot measure that would require voter approval to extend the municipal sewage system to South Livermore Valley vineyards.

Proposed about six months ago by the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC), the underground sewer would extend beyond the city's boundaries, primarily along Tesla Road, to the area's wineries. The sewer system would protect the groundwater endangered

by residential and winery visitor septic systems, as well as livestock.

"It will not spur any unforeseen growth in the city or its sphere of influence," said Lori Souza, a longtime TVC board member. "It would serve existing and already permitted uses to achieve the vision of the South Livermore Valley Area Plan (SLVAP) plan in full conformance with Alameda County Measure D."

As it stands now, the initiative would ask voters to amend the South Livermore Urban Growth Boundary in the city's general plan to allow

(See SEWER, page 10)

Affordable Housing Funds Tagged for Rehab Center

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — The city council will loan up to \$2.4 million in affordable housing funds to a local organization to purchase land which will be developed into a substance abuse disorder and medication treatment facility.

The 5-0 action during the council's May 23 meeting will enable the Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) to buy the Victory Baptist Church property at Walnut Street and Junction Avenue to create the Tri-Valley's only inpatient drug and alcohol treatment center for the homeless.

"It's going to be a wonderful addition to the city's contribution to working on those most in need and some of our lower income folks, unsheltered, that need help with drug addiction," City Councilman Bob Carling said. "This is something that the east side of the county has been lacking for quite a while."

According to city reports, the need for such a facility was discussed in January by the council's subcommittee on homelessness, where they brainstormed medium and long-term solutions to the homeless problem.

The committee also asked the city's staff to work with Alameda County Behavioral Health to address the lack of substance and medication

abuse treatment services in the Tri-Valley. Without this service, they concluded, it would be difficult to help the homeless population.

The closest inpatient sobriety and detox center is located in Cherry Hill, an 82-bed center in San Leandro. The city said homeless liaison officers and advocates often take people to the center, only to find it has no space for them.

In addition, Axis Community Health and Bay Area Community Health provide the only drug treatment services for low income residents in the Tri-Valley. Both programs are currently full, with 50 people on a waiting list.

The short-term loan will enable the HCEB to spend \$2.1 million to purchase the property and \$300,000 for other expenses, including architectural design.

The property's owner has already negotiated a sale agreement with HCEB, which will hold the site until it can identify a nonprofit service provider to develop, own and manage the site. The church site includes a main sanctuary and a modular office on 16,500-square-foot. Although in a residential neighborhood, the site has no adjacent neighbors.

City community development staff determined the property to be a good candidate for a treat-

(See CENTER, page 8)



Rodman Martin appeared on Wheel of Fortune on May 18. The Pleasanton resident and attorney won cash and a trip to Cozumel, Mexico for a total prize value of \$28,000. (Photo - Carol Kaelson/Wheel of Fortune©/© 2022 Califon Productions, Inc. ARR.)

Pleasanton Man Spins The Wheel of Fortune

By Dawnmarie Fehr

PLEASANTON — Local attorney Rodman Martin played the odds on Wheel of Fortune last week and came away a winner.

During his May 18 appearance, Martin won cash and a trip to Cozumel, Mexico for a total prize value of \$28,000. According to the 40-year-old, the experience was fun, but solving puzzles under the studio lights with an audience is vastly different from the home experience.

"I think it's harder than when you are at home," said Martin, an Amador Valley High School graduate who lives in Pleasanton with his wife, Katie. "What I didn't appreciate going into it was all the work as a contestant — you actually have to spin the wheel, say the right letter and try to solve the puzzle, but at home, you just sit there and work off of other

people. (In-person) makes it a little more challenging, and the pace is fast."

Martin won the main game and made it to the bonus round. He enjoyed meeting Pat Sajak and Vanna White, noting the pair were friendly and professional.

A longtime fan of the show, Martin's grandmother always watched it in the evenings, followed by Jeopardy! to make for an hour of game shows after dinner. During the initial months of the pandemic, Wheel of Fortune was one of the games Martin downloaded to his phone and began playing often. When his wife suggested he go on the show, he looked up the process and submitted his application in February of last year.

According to Wheel of Fortune spokesperson Cassandra Flores, anyone who

(See WHEEL, page 8)

PETS OF THE WEEK



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(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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Get Ready for Tuesday Tunes in Livermore Plaza

“Tuesday Tunes” is set to return after a two-year Covid-19 hiatus. The Shea Homes Stage in the Livermore Plaza adjacent to the Bankhead Theater will be alive with music at 6:45 p.m., from June 14 through Aug. 16, as the Livermore Cultural Arts Council opens its free, 10-concert, family-friendly series with “Dirty Cello.” From Iceland to Italy, and across America, Bay Area based “Dirty Cello” brings a high energy and

unique spin on blues, rock, and Americana. Rebecca Roudman plays cross-over cello like you’ve never heard before. From down home blues and rock with a wailing cello, to virtuosic stompin’ Americana, the band gets hearts thumping and toes tapping. Shea Homes is a major sponsor of this series. Additional funding comes from Fremont Bank, Las Positas College Foundation, Uncle Credit Union, Uncle Yu’s at the Vineyards, The

Independent, and Joan and Lynn Seppala. On June 21, the series features local jazz favorite “Matt Finders and Friends” and “Element 116.” Other popular bands returning are “LunaFish,” playing 60s and 70s rock, and “Audio Illusion,” with classic rock, pop, blues from the 50s and forward. New bands include “Jean Fineberg and JAZZphoria,” swing and blues to funk; “The Chris Bradley Band,” traditional New Orleans jazz; “The

Blue House Band,” acoustic rock; “Dustbowl Travelers,” Americana, folk, and bluegrass; “Frankie Bones Project,” country, folk, and rock with ukulele; and “The Hurricane Band,” classic rock and R&B. This series has something for everyone. A schedule and details about each band can be found at www.lcac.org and in Facebook postings by LCAC. City municipal codes restricts alcohol consumption in public places.



The Shea Homes Stage in the Livermore Plaza will come alive with music from June 14 through Aug. 16 as part of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council’s 10-concert, family-friendly series. The June 14 performance kicks off the season with “Dirty Cello.” (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

DETERRENCE

(Continued from first page)

tions about deterrence come as no surprise. The analyst is Brad Roberts, the highly regarded director of the Center for Global Security Research, an LLNL think tank. Roberts has been warning for years that Russia, China and North Korea see the U.S. as an adversary to be conquered, not merely a political and economic competitor. In 2017, Roberts told a Livermore audience that Russia, China and North Korea “are clearly focused on subduing us and separating our allies from us in peacetime.” Now, five years later, all three adversaries have gained steadily in military capability while the U.S. has only started to face the geopolitical danger and modernize its military. Last month, speaking to an LLNL audience, he said that the leaders of the three countries have been frank about their ambitions and intentions. **Coasting** His fundamental concern is that Russia, China and North Korea have been working all-out to catch up to and surpass the U.S., which until recently has been coasting, acting as if its military lead is insurmountable. His LLNL talk is available online. In speaking to the Laboratory audience, and in a subsequent telephone interview, Roberts stressed that his views are personal and do not reflect any institutional position. In his talk, he pointed out that in 2014, as Russia seized Crimea, Russian President Vladimir Putin denounced “western strategy” as “encirclement and containment aimed at keeping Russia weak and denying it its rightful place in the world.” More recently, in March of this year, shortly before the invasion of Ukraine, Putin’s foreign ministry threatened that if the U.S. and the west don’t back away from Russian borders, Russia would be forced to “implement military/technical measures.” Similarly, while China is building up nuclear forces, Chinese President Xi Jinping has said that he is committed to a “significant increase in strategic capabilities, in order to ready China to be at the center of the world stage in the dominant position.” North Korea is a third potential adversary with its nuclear weapons, missile development program and hostility to the U.S. and the west. Just last month, Roberts said, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un declared that while the primary mission of North Korean nuclear forces is deterring attack, those forces must be also prepared for other uses if undesirable situations arise.

All three countries have “theories of victory” that explain in detail how they can prevail over the U.S., Roberts said. In the interview, he said that in the years following 9/11, the U.S. was “heavily focused on the war on terror, and appropriately so.” At the same time, Russia, China, and North Korea “were heavily focused on us as their main threat. We couldn’t see ourselves as threats to them, so we didn’t really pay attention.” **The Way of Democracy** “It’s the way of American democracy, and of democracy generally, that we are really good at ignoring hard problems until we just can’t ignore them anymore,” he added. Roberts has both practical and academic experience. From 2009 to 2013, he served as deputy assistant secretary of defense for nuclear and missile defense policy. He played a leading role in creating the Obama Administration’s Nuclear Posture Review, the document that provides an overview of U.S. nuclear deterrence strategy. He then moved to Stanford University’s Center for International Security and Cooperation as a William Perry Fellow before coming to LLNL in 2015 to head the CGSR. To open his LLNL talk, he summarized impressions of a recent, month-long trip to major international defense centers in Europe and the U.S. From the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels to London to Paris, he found common concerns. “Everywhere I went, people were feeling under intense, new forms of pressure about the effectiveness of deterrence and, frankly, also the reliability of the United States,” he said. Nervous allies wondered whether the history of “America’s trajectory” will show that Donald Trump or Joe Biden was the presidential “aberration.” If Trump turns out to be the aberration, then the U.S. will continue its traditional, strong support for alliances like NATO which, in turn, enhance American security and support American values. He did not try to detail the consequences if Biden turns out to be the aberration and future U.S. administrations refuse to support traditional allies, but “it eats away at their gut as they face these new nuclear threats that there’s a big question about American commitment to them.” **Our ‘9/11’** Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has awakened much of the world, he said. In

Washington and elsewhere, it is common to call the invasion “our 9/11,” revealing to this generation the harsh realities of military threat to the world order. Roberts points out a further reality that may surprise some in the west: Russian military doctrine allows low level nuclear attack to gain advantage in a regional war. While the common western view is that even a small nuclear exchange is unacceptably dangerous, likely to tip the world into civilization-destroying Armageddon, Russian military planners think otherwise. They believe a very limited nuclear strike can “sober but not enrage” the enemy – convince it to back off from a fight in recognition of Russia’s greater determination, Roberts said. Five years ago, as part of Livermore’s Rae Dorough Speaker Series, Georgetown University diplomacy professor Robert Gallucci described this doctrine as “escalate-deescalate”: a small strike against the U.S. mainland if Russian troops are being defeated on Russia’s own border. “Don’t think just Ukraine, don’t think just the Baltics... think Iowa” as the place that the Russian might hit with a nuclear weapon to cow the U.S. into backing off, he said. Since Russia’s “theory of victory” holds that the U.S. or other opponents will back away once it recognizes Russia’s determination, in Roberts’s opinion, the appropriate response has been to undermine their theory by doing the opposite – by not backing down. While he did not specify exact steps, he said in the interview that the “first principle” of responding to Russian aggression is that “actions speak louder than words. “Our actions in support of Ukraine are an essential first building block,” he went on to say. We must join with allies “to strengthen the regional security architectures to which Russia, China and North Korea so strongly object and seek to destroy.” He believes we must decide whether we want to be international leaders in these efforts, an apparent reference to the Trump Administration’s disdain for treaties that the U.S. has traditionally led. He is encouraged not only by efforts towards modernizing the U.S. military but at signs of Congressional bipartisanship on defense at a time when so many other initiatives are blocked by political divisions. Members of both parties have commented that the Russian invasion of Ukraine has “changed in a fundamental way our perception of what is happening inter-

nationally and what America should be doing now,” he said. In particular, a new, bipartisan Strategic Posture Commission has been created by to conduct a threat assessment and review U.S. nuclear weapons policy and strategy. The commission has 12 members, appointed in equal numbers by Democratic and Republican members of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees. Among other commission members is former LLNL employee, Lisa Gordon-Hagerty, who served for two years as head of the National Nuclear Security Administration. NNSA is the federal agency responsible for the nuclear weapons labs like LLNL and Sandia.

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Valley Dance Theatre celebrated its 40th anniversary at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on May 28 and 29. Dancers above are shown performing "Paquita." [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Annual Paint Livermore Competition to Be Held this Weekend

The public is invited to view the winning paintings in this year's Paint Livermore plein air competition from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, June 5, at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St.

Painters will have their easels set up around Livermore for the annual outdoor event sponsored by the Livermore Art Association on Friday and Saturday. More than 50 artists from Northern California competed last year.

The judging will also be announced, and paintings of the city's historic buildings, vineyards, and natural environment will be on sale, at Carnegie Park on Sunday.

For more information, visit livermoreartassociation.org.

Ukrainian Music Benefit June 19

International concert pianist Tamriko Siphraashvili and the Inspire Music Academy faculty are hosting an event to support the people of Ukraine on Sunday, June 19 at 5 p.m.

The benefit concert will be held at the Firehouse Arts Center, 444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton and will support the people of Ukraine. All proceeds will go to the International Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Relief effort.

For more information, visit www.inspiremusicacademy.com/ukraine or call 925-461-3266.

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Teen Collects Shoes for Those in Need

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Foothill High School junior Christopher Lee was recently recognized by Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown for his work in organizing an ongoing shoe drive.

Begun in 2020, the shoe drive was a way to marry his community service interests and his passion for tennis.

"In my freshman year, I was required to do volunteer work and had trouble finding opportunities between tennis practice and homework," said 17-year-old Christopher. "I discovered that I could volunteer from home by collecting and shipping shoes, especially since I went through so many per year."

collecting the used balls and sending them to Recycle-Balls, which utilizes them to create tennis court and playground materials and equestrian tracks. He also collected old tennis rackets and sent them to EPATT for underprivileged students to learn to play tennis.

Jill Buck is the founder and CEO of Pleasanton-based Go Green Initiative, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting environmental health, safety and sustainability in schools. She has worked with Christopher during his high school career and said his initiative is impressive.

"One of the things I know about him is he's always

pressed similar sentiments about Christopher's drive. He is helping Christopher gather old rackets and tennis balls and noted tennis ball repurposing has come a long way.

"With tennis balls, people use them once or twice, and then they go into a landfill," Patton said. "Now they are developing tennis courts using ground up tennis balls or repurposing tennis balls, and it's a whole lot better than dumping them into a land fill and polluting the earth. And people don't know what to do with old tennis rackets ... so people recycle their rackets here and I fix them up a little bit ... it's for a good cause."

Christopher continues to work on his positive impact on the environment and community, hoping to inspire his fellow students to do the same.

"I think I achieved my goals, but I think more can be done," he said. "My original intention in creating the shoe and tennis ball drive was to inspire kids of all ages with community service and volunteerism. That was my hope creating this kind of drive and my hope was to get more people involved to have a greater impact, so it is my hope that I inspired students and kids to create their own community service drives to have their own community impact."

Rick's World of Tennis is located at 40067 Mission Blvd., Fremont. For more information, call 510-656-3821.

Donations to Soles4Souls can be made at www.soles4souls.org.



Since 2020, Foothill High School junior Christopher Lee has been collecting used shoes and tennis equipment for donation to various organizations that assist those in need. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Christopher said he goes through multiple pairs of shoes each year as a tennis player. What he discarded was still very usable by someone not playing tennis, so he looked for ways to keep his shoes out of landfills. He began donating them to Soles4Souls and hoped to spread his message of community service.

"I wanted to share and continue this activity so that other students can help the environment, community and society," said Christopher. "I expanded the shoe drive by partnering with the nonprofit Go Green Initiative to get students community service hours and a financial prize."

Over the three years he has run the shoe drive, Christopher has collected 2,239 pairs of shoes. He set collection bins up at the Ruby Hill Tennis Club and at Rick's World of Tennis, a tennis shop in Fremont. Through the bins and a social media campaign, Christopher spread the word about the work he was doing. He obtained a corporate sponsorship from Workday, securing \$27,000 in grants to Soles4Souls, East Palo Alto Tennis and Tutoring (EPATT), Go Green Initiative, the Livermore Homeless Refuge, Foothill High School and Razom for Ukraine. He also began collecting used tennis balls and old rackets to donate.

Since most tennis players only use tennis balls one to two times, they can quickly create large amounts of waste. Christopher began

looking for more, what more he can do to be helpful, so I really appreciate the gumption and initiative he has shown throughout the last three years of this shoe drive," said Buck. "He read about the impact of sending shoes to a landfill and the possibility of creating another life for those shoes and that's the kind of leader we need and I'm really proud of him."

Rick Patton, owner of Rick's World of Tennis, ex-

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EDITORIAL

Zone 7 Board Members Will Determine the Future of Our Water Supply

During the next few years, key issues for Zone 7's Water Agency Board of Directors will involve managing the drought, deciding whether to mandate increased water rationing, and determining whether to continue support for the state's scaled-down Delta Conveyance project.

The infrastructure project — now one tunnel instead of two — would take massive quantities of water rushing from the Sierra Nevada through the Sacramento River and divert them from their natural flow into the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, so that they can be used by 27 million residents and 750,000 acres of farmland from the Tri-Valley to San Diego.

Supporters believe a single tunnel will keep farm chemicals from entering the Delta water and provide a more reliable pumping schedule when endangered plants and fish species are at risk.

However, many conservationists, tribal leaders, recreational and commercial fishermen, environmental justice advocates, boaters, Delta business owners and elected leaders oppose the project. Opponents say reductions in freshwater flow will increase salt along the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers, posing danger to fish, vegetation, and soil. In addition, opponents note the project could lead to harmful algae blooms, increase flow of pesticides and natural occurring selenium from agricultural areas through the San Joaquin River, and stir up methyl mercury in sediment, all of which can harm fish.

Restore the Delta — an advocate of the Delta's estuary and lower income cities in eastern Contra Costa County that would be locally impacted by the project — noted that the reduction to a single tunnel would move the project east into these environmental justice communities, a term referring to communities most impacted by environmental harm.

A May 24 petition filed by a coalition of California Native American tribes and Delta-based environmental justice organizations called on the California State Water Resources Board to update and enforce its Bay-Delta Plan to ensure the participation of tribes and other impacted communities. The petition addressed the state's racist past, which connects to current water rights practices.

"The threats to tribal species, tribal and public trust resources, and public health are rooted in a continuation of California's discriminatory water management history, from how water rights were established through the taking of tribal lands and the exclusion of communities of color from Delta access and decision-making," the petition stated.

About 70% of the Tri-Valley's water supply comes through the Delta under a contract between Zone 7 and the California Department of Water Resources.

Seven people serve on the Zone 7 board. Four seats are on the June 7 ballot with five candidates to choose from. Voters pick their top four.

Two of the three board members seeking another term — Dennis Gambs and Sarah Palmer — have joined in the majority's two 5-2 votes to authorize Zone 7's 2.2% share to fund the massive project's \$340 million planning costs, including \$2.8 million for 2021-2022, and another \$4.75 million through 2024 in April. With construction included, the project is expected to cost about \$16 billion and take until 2034 to build. Zone 7's share over the life of the project would be about \$350 million.

Board member Olivia Sanwong, who is also up for reelection, has twice voted against the funding.

With Michelle Smith McDonald's choosing not to run again, a fourth seat is open. Two candidates have joined the race: Dawn Benson, who works

with East Bay Municipal Utility District in Oakland, and is an active Dublin resident, serving on the Dublin San Ramon Services District Board and the Dublin Planning Commission.

The fifth candidate, Todd Shinohara, is a pharmacist who does not have a campaign website and did not respond to an interview request.

The Delta Conveyance is a major issue for Zone 7 board members to address in the coming years.

Zone 7 serves as the Tri-Valley region's water wholesaler, working with retailers in Livermore, Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District and California Water Supply to deliver water and flood protection services to the East County.

Zone 7 directors manage 37 miles of flood channels to protect 425 square miles and provide infrastructure for clean water. The board has the power to finance, construct and operate systems to transport, store, treat and distribute water.

Last year, for example, the board approved spending \$2 million to design a facility to treat potential human health threats in Cope Lake's water should chemicals accumulate above legally acceptable levels. Last September, the board declared a Drought Emergency and Stage 2 Water Shortage Emergency. This declaration included mandatory 15% water conservation from all Tri-Valley water service providers.

Zone 7 also delivers untreated water directly to agricultural businesses to irrigate 3,500 acres, primarily South Livermore Valley vineyards.

Gambs, a civil engineer and former water supply and flood control manager at Zone 7 for 34 years, has served on the board since 2018. A Livermore resident, he advocates creating additional storage to capture stormwater and to offset snowpack storage lost because of global warming. He

promotes safe water that tastes good, water and flood control projects that are cost-effective, and transparency with the public.

On the Delta Conveyance, he said his votes for funding enabled Zone 7 to participate in the planning process for the project to be finalized by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The board will vote again in 2024 on whether to participate in the project and will assess studies and public comments before making any decisions, Gambs said.

"(One) objective of the project is to provide operational flexibility to improve aquatic conditions and manage risks of additional future constraints," said Gambs. "In any case, Zone 7 will be able to review the planning studies and assess public comments before making any final decision on participation in the Delta Conveyance project."

Livermore resident Sarah Palmer, a retired science teacher with a degree in biochemistry who has served since 2006, says her experience as the board's vice president and president matters. "With climate change and decreasing water resources, it is important to develop a diversified portfolio of water resources and updated infrastructure," she said.

Palmer, who chaired the Delta Stakeholders Engagement Committee, helped oversee input that resulted in several changes to the project to minimize the impact on wildlife and local communities.

"Ideally, we wouldn't need a system like (Delta Conveyance), but our infrastructure needs major upgrades. The levee system in the Delta is fragile and vulnerable to seismic activity, flooding, and sea level rise. The Banks and Jones pumping plants are aging and the intakes will be in brackish or salty water sooner than we think," Palmer said.

Palmer said multiple projects will be needed to meet water needs in

the coming decades.

Pleasanton resident Olivia Sanwong, a global market research analyst elected in 2018, said she offers "real-world knowledge that is critical when evaluating construction projects and water quality testing processes." She said she came through for voters when she voted against raising rates.

In a published report earlier this month, Sanwong said she could not support the Delta Conveyance project because she needed to see environmental studies of its impact. The draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected to be released for public review and comment in mid-2022, according to the California Department of Water Resources website. However, the final EIR is not expected for another year.

"I look at the Delta ecosystem and I think it's such an important environment. For me personally, I really think a lot about humans controlling nature and unintended consequences, and it's really tough for me to support this without seeing the EIR," she said.

In an email to The Independent, Sanwong expanded on this point, referring to the Chicago Electric Dispersal Barrier, which exposed the Great Lakes basin to an invasive fish species.

"The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is one of our most unique natural resources," she said. "In my analysis of the (Delta Conveyance project), I believe we have too many unknown variables involved in the project, and this is why I am cautious."

She raised the point that since the Delta Conveyance project is dependent on the current watershed system from the Sierra snowpack, it won't add additional water to our supply, and it does not include additional water storage. She strongly encouraged voters to view a film created by local high school and college students called

"Hometown Water: Lifeline of Pleasanton." The film explores the city's reliance on imported water from the SWP and the water infrastructure throughout the state. It can be viewed here: https://bit.ly/Indy_Lifeline.

Electing Benson would give Dublin a board representative, now that McDonald has decided to move on. Benson says her "collaboration and forward thinking for a safe and reliable water supply to meet the Tri-Valley's needs is very important." Her stance on the Delta Conveyance was unknown. She did not respond to an inquiry.

Based on information available now, we believe that it's unclear whether the Delta will be harmed by a tunnel project. We think that more needs to be done to require agricultural uses in Southern California to become more efficient and reduce their water usage. More water storage areas should also be studied.

Our strongest endorsement goes to Sanwong, who has withheld her support of the Delta Conveyance until she can learn what best protects our environment. And one valuable element the EIR will consider is a no-tunnel option, which could result in less spending and less harm to the environment, while mitigating the impact on local communities.

We additionally endorse Gambs, Palmer and Benson, but encourage them to carefully consider the alternatives to the Delta Conveyance, rather than rubber stamp it.

The Independent does not view Todd Shinohara as an option, as he has not presented himself as a serious candidate.

In coming years, we think Zone 7 should pursue new solutions to water supply problems rather than sharing in the costs for the multi-billion dollar Delta Conveyance.

Those elected to the Zone 7 board will make extremely important decisions for California's future.

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 Tuesday before publication

When You Vote

Cheree Hentershaw, Pleasanton

A fervent recommendation for Sarah Palmer as continued member of Zone 7. She works diligently concerning the critical issues regarding water resources—local and regional. I have known her over the years as an educator, then as one who focused her concern and expertise on water=Zone 7.

Disappointed Again

Mary Anne Rozsa, Livermore

The Livermore City

Council again is at the opposite pole from the majority of Livermore residents. At the Monday meeting, May 23, the Council modified the agreement with Eden Housing, moving up the transfer of the old Lucky site to Eden Housing. Instead of the December 31, 2022, transfer, it will occur in a couple of months, which will in essence take away the ability of a new council to change directions after the November election. Our Council continues to not listen to the many citizens' voices calling for the relocation of the four-story Eden Housing project to a more suitable location. Continuing to add more

four-story buildings in the Downtown core will forever change the character and charm of our lovely City. Our City center should feature a lovely big park for all residents to be proud of and to be enjoyed by future generations.

Support for Stroke Program

Joe Carlucci, Pleasanton

I wanted to say thank you to Ruth Roberts and the Independent for the recent article on the Stroke Support program at Stanford Health Care ValleyCare. We look forward to supporting the patients and families of our community.

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

Kumagai for Gun Sense
Linda Knapp, Dublin

As a mother, I am distraught over the bloody gun violence occurring almost daily in the communities and schools we call home. I can't read the paper or turn on my car radio without hearing about another terrible incident. We need state leaders who will pass new targeted gun violence prevention laws right now and ensure that the laws already on the books are being enforced. I am supporting Navy veteran Shawn Kumagai, who understands this gun problem and strengthened gun safety laws in Dublin by requiring firearms to be stored in locked containers. Kumagai has promised unequivocally to vote on the side of gun sense every single time, to protect our children's lives and those of everyone in our community. We need Kumagai as our Assembly member because we cannot afford to lose even one more life.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!
Deborah McQueen, Livermore

Ripley's Believe It or Not, was a famous newspaper, radio and TV show that dealt in stories so bizarre

that readers might not believe they were true. People enjoy strange and unusual stories, but not when they are associated with their city's governance. Yet, in another stellar move by City officials designed to show the public who's boss in town, the city approved a revised Disposition, Development and Loan Agreement (DDLA) with Eden Housing, whose primary function is to permanently halt the ability of a democratically elected council and mayor in November 2022 to modify the present DDLA for Eden Housing's downtown plan. The City's decision to adopt Eden Housing's revised plans on Dec. 7th, 2020, formed the thin slice of the wedge which created division with the public. Subsequently, three developments emerged, resulting in similar outcomes, potentially aimed at blocking the ability to move Eden Housing's buildings across the street on Railroad Ave. Were these developments coincidental or intentional - you decide - or - Believe It or Not!

The first example was the acquisition of 2080 Railroad Ave., on behalf of Presidio for a flat surface

parking lot, ostensibly due to Presidio's inability to finance the previously promised underground parking garage. The City loaned Presidio \$1.9 million from the taxpayer's public fund. The second was the timely purchase of 150 N. L St. by Alan Burnham, a publicly self-identified local philanthropist who enthusiastically supports Eden Housing's Plan. The third is the City's recent approval to amend the DDLA for Eden Housing's Downtown building to accelerate the property's ownership transfer before a new council and mayor are voted in, thereby transferring the land from the City to Eden Housing. Thus, the city can only be put in a much smaller park.

The land in question is presently the subject of a lawsuit between Save Livermore Downtown and the City of Livermore. The suit's outcome is far from certain, making such a move at this time both financially dangerous and fickle for the city. Placing Eden Housing's affordable housing project on the last piece of open space will permanently destroy downtown Livermore. Too much cement and not enough green

space will cause Livermore to lose its appeal as a tourist attraction. Instead, it will continue to drive more Livermore residents to Pleasanton's downtown for superb restaurant dining, delightful farmer's markets, and family-friendly green parks.

Now is the Time for Death of a Small Town
Thomas and Barbara Soules, Livermore

The city council and those supporting them view their vote on Monday a win against those proposing the city consider relocating the low-income housing, putting the low-income housing either north of Railroad or on Pacific Avenue where there is more room and where this housing would add to the neighborhoods. Admittedly, they may not have had a good detail plan, but the city wouldn't even seriously consider this possibility. The city council and their supporters dug in their feet. They could win this game. But it wasn't a game.

Our self-congratulatory city council also did not look to the future beyond their "win" if these buildings are built? What will

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

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City Council Tries to Handcuff The Location of Eden Housing



Proposed Eden Housing building, along the block on Railroad Avenue from L Street to the extension of K Street: City of Livermore Planning Document

First, the City Council didn't listen to residents and put the massive 4-story Eden Housing right in our city center.

Last week, they made it worse. They passed a resolution transferring the land to Eden Housing, which will handcuff any future City Council and make it impossible for a new City Council to relocate the housing. Ever.

Save Livermore Downtown believes we can bring affordable housing to Livermore and preserve the unique character of our beautiful city with a family park instead of a 4-story building.

Something has to change. The current council cannot be allowed to block a future council. We need to fight back.



There's still time to Save Livermore's downtown
Sign up to help at savelivermoredowntown.com

Paid for by Save Livermore Downtown

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

the buildings be like in 5, 10 or 20 years? Have they visited and talked to folks living in Eden Housing projects in Hayward, Tracy, San Leandro, etc.? Eden Housing Management has a 1-star rating on BBB and Yelp. Most of their units will become Section 8 housing. While this kind of low-income housing is important, these four-story buildings should not be right in the center of the downtown where they will also add to already difficult traffic and parking and will destroy the character of a small town, making Livermore no longer a fun place to visit and stroll around and to live in, one of the most enviable small towns in the East Bay.

The city also seems self-congratulatory about loaning Eden Housing \$7.8M to buy the property and offering to provide \$5M more to help complete the project. Where I come from this is called a land contract. The city receives no money, only a promissory note for the property. It is the riskiest kind of property transfer one can make and is made only when the buyer does not have money and no bank will lend money for the project. My father sold his business in a land contract and when the new owners failed to make payments, my father lost everything. If Eden went under, what would the city do with the land with finished or unfinished buildings on it? This potential eventuality with taxpayer dollars is scary.

No, this is not a game. If these contracts are made and the buildings are built, I will not lose a penny. We are not fighting for ourselves. The loser will be the town of Livermore.

Mony Nop

Gretchen Rutherford, Livermore

I'm writing to endorse Mony Nop for Mayor of Livermore. I first met him through a non-profit organization where he was very enthusiastic about helping the youth of Livermore. Then I knew him professionally through business dealings. I also knew him as a police officer of the highest caliber. He was and is concerned about our public safety and making Livermore a city in which you are proud to live.

Mony has always shown integrity in all that he does and will take the time to listen to what you have to say. He always has the heart of the community at the forefront in any project or dealings. Mony loves giving back to our community by supporting the work of many nonprofits, to include the Culinary Angels, Tri-Valley Haven, and the Goodness Village.

For the past six years, Mony has been hosting the Mony Nop Turkey Drop holiday drive, where he collects turkeys, gift cards and cash for Tri-Valley Haven, our last local shelter in Livermore. This project provides over 300 turkeys and hundreds of dollars to Tri-Valley Haven so they can support their holiday

food programs, serving over 800 underserved families in the Tri-Valley annually. Mony also co-founded the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance, so these organizations can support each other and obtain the help they need from the communities they serve.

Mony supports relocating Eden Housing in order to maintain the character of downtown Livermore, while enhancing the small town feel of our city. He is very approachable and will listen to your needs and concerns. He is also our best candidate to represent us now and into the future. Please vote for Mony for Mayor of Livermore.

Ahern for Sheriff!

Mike Grant, Dublin

Alameda county citizens don't be fooled by the other candidates for the job of Sheriff. This job requires an "expertise" that not many have in their background. This department is very large and covers 821 square miles and in the tri-valley alone there is 300 square miles of it. He is in charge of 1,000 sworn officers with 400 of those officers out on the streets on patrol assignments and the total number of employees under him is 1,700 people. This is not a department we turn over to a rookie for on-the-job training!

Just in the last couple of weeks we have had 2 very horrific active shooting events. One was in Buffalo, New York and the other was in Uvalde, Texas. Both of these shootings took 31 lives and of that 19 were children. This week ABC 7 News and Luz Pena interview Our Sherriff Greg Ahern about this event. What Ahern said is what we all expect from our Law Enforcement personnel. When she asked him how the Alameda County sheriff department would handle this kind of event his reply was we have breaching tools in our units with ballistic shields, and we would not have waited to enter the classroom. Under Greg Ahern's leadership he trains other departments in active shooter tactics. Under his leadership other departments in the bay area, out of state departments and other countries have come for active shooter training. So, this is why it's so important in these uncertain times we stick with a proven leader who can protect all of us.

Please, when you vote select Greg Ahern for sheriff of Alameda County.

God Bless those 31 lost in the shooting and please pray for their families.

There is Still Time to Make a Change

Ben Barrientos, Livermore

Choose one: underhanded, anfractuious, dishonorable, deceitful -- these are words to describe the Livermore City Council.

Our City Council held a virtual meeting which lasted until 11 p.m., so working folks then wouldn't have a chance to voice their opinion. They obviously had their minds made up.

We are the concerned

ones trying to voice our opinions to these elected representatives. 70% of the common folk want common sense gun control yet it falls on deaf ears. The majority of the votes cast several years ago on the renditions of the new downtown fall on deaf ears. We need a city council that listens to the people. It's time for new city council members.

The City Council has locked the City of Livermore into a big mistake involving the affordable housing with the Eden Developer. There will be no real open space/park downtown, only a very large development akin to the stalled Legacy project. We still may be able to modify what the Four Horsemen have decided to do to us.

Changing America

Owen Brovont, Livermore

The whole exercise of influence and leadership in our society needs serious investigation and analysis. Presently it is dominated by politicians and their bureaucratic minions, and by the ultrarich and wealthy wannabees in the tech, news, education, and entertainment industries. Recall recent history depicts the most disastrous conflicts defined and initiated by a small number of people of power and influence, the cost of which was paid by anywhere from thousands to millions of lives – men, women, and children – Ukraine is an ugly conspicuously example. Given the weapons of modern warfare, the destruction has been atrocious, leaving whole cities devastated. This model persists because people have not defined and therefore do not collectively subscribe to a common set of principles that would reject these behaviors. Such principles must be efficacious antidotes to egomania, greed, and unrestrained acquisitiveness.

Pure democracy is not a viable candidate as a solution because of the spontaneity of human passions driven by ignorance and poor judgment which can and have led to human travesties.

Here we are destroying our own society apparently because an ill-informed minority part of the population doesn't like it – it is the height of stupidity to capitulate because of fine sounding phrases like tolerance, multi-culturalism, and equity. The creators, leaders, and purveyors of these ideas hide their actual goals and purposes. For example, they create euphemisms like "right to choose" to hide infanticide, and phrases like "Black Lives Matter" to create confusion and division in the population. Shouting "white supremacy" and "white paternalism" and other racist rants then point to them as causes of all social problems. These and many, many more catch phrases are created to focus interpretation of reality in the direction most suitable and useful to people who want to make substantive changes to society – clearly toward authoritarianism

(COVID!) that will soon evolve into full-blown communism if not thwarted. This technique has been successfully used throughout the world. In short, Western Culture and its societies are being led like lambs to slaughter while they party on.

It is clear that vesting too much power and authority in any one person or creating that impression (Executive Orders!) invariably leads to despotism. We have been witnessing that process for the past hundred years, even in our cities and towns. We have examples of Stalin, Hitler, Mussolini, Mao Zedong, and others to justify our caution in dealing with these new attempts at remaking America.

Bauer-Kahan for a More Transparent California.

Connor Lam, Pleasanton

Advertisements and marketing are much like sugarcoating a cookie. You are left with the harsh and ugly truth once you take out the sweetened lies and deception. However, Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan has strived again and again to make bills and policies that protect the welfare of California citizens and uncover the truth. She co-authored SB 793 to shut down big tobacco's false advertising.

She not only made policies but continues to stand by her values. Despite her busy schedule, she came as a guest speaker at my Anti-vaping conference, which aimed to explain the harmful effects of vaping through a teen's lens.

She recently created AB 2089; a bill aimed to protect an individual's medical information from harmful advertisements. These advertisements force clients to fill out surveys, unaware of how they are releasing sensitive information. Yet, Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan didn't stand back and let this happen - she wrote up a policy that directly attacks the issue.

A vote for Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan is a vote for a more transparent government in California - one where the truth is brought out of where lies and deceit hide it.

Vote Already!

Trish Munro, Livermore

VOTE: There's an old joke about a person who lives an exemplary life—you know the type. They have only one wish: to win the lottery. Days, weeks, months go by. Nothing. Finally, they cry out to the heavens: "I've been a good person all my life! Just let me win the lottery!" The heavens' part and a voice comes down: "Meet me half-way, would you? Buy a ticket!"

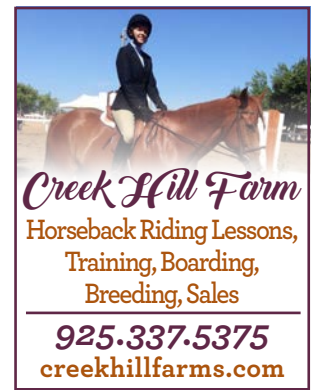
That's voting, folks. It guarantees nothing. A lot of the time you lose. But without it, you get nothing. So, vote. NOW.

The minimum—the very minimum—responsibility that citizens have is to vote.

In every election. For every single position. Having read the voter pamphlets that come in the mail, paid for with YOUR tax dollars. We all can do more. Check endorsements. Read websites. Google people and see what red flags—or the reverse—pop up.

In primaries, particularly in off-year elections, most people don't vote. Yet the primaries matter. Some results—like water board—will stand. Some results determine who runs

(See MAILBOX, page 7)



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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 6)

in November. Either way, vote. Hate the choices? Suck it up and pick the least bad one. Then get involved and find someone better for the next election and help them run and win.

National events and elections have local ramifications, but the reverse is true, as well. Water, education, budget management, public safety and more are at stake. So, vote!

THREE ENDORSEMENTS: Here are three of the candidates I endorse. All three have vision and passion, which are necessary, but not sufficient. In addition, they have demonstrated they have the necessary knowledge, experience, and the ability to get things done by working with others. Not considered: my personal relationship with any candidate. Just "going along" for one more term.

If you care about better public safety through community policing, vote for Yesenia Sanchez for Alameda County Sheriff/Coroner. This is a case where there is a superb candidate facing an execrable incumbent who should be replaced, as the East Bay Times and Independent both state eloquently.

Second: if you care about education in Alameda County, vote Cheryl Cook-Kallio for District 7 and Alysse Castro for Superintendent. Both are excellent and will work well together.

There are many more up and down ballot races, but these three are critical to the health of our region.

VOTE. It matters.

Marchand's Marionettes
Richard Andrews, Livermore

Usually, when an elected body is shown to be irresponsible and unresponsive to its electorate, as our City Council has been, they respond by corrective measures and some sort of mea culpa. But I guess the Grand Puppeteer Marchand has more pull with his marionettes than do we citizens. A week ago Tuesday, they

instituted an action with all the honesty of Jan 6, minus the guns and violence. Agenda item 6.3.

Through this reprehensible and questionable legal maneuver, they want to tie the hands of the next Council – an unprecedented move. I see the hands of former Mayor and candidate Marchand all over this, just like the black draped mausoleum he gave us at 1st & L. If he ever gets back in office, I would anticipate we'll see more of this type of action. BTW: His opponent Mony Nop has none of this nefarious baggage.

Loaning \$7.8 million of City funds to a company whose very actions are under serious litigation on the project is nonsense. And why is it OUR money, and not a loan institution? Another unanswered question.

To transfer Eden the property while under litigation is insane. Toss in the \$500,000 that Giappetto and Co. loaned them earlier, and you have an \$8.3 million debacle. These marionettes have to get back in their clown car and exit the ring. And their puppeteer need not bother to enter. They have ignored the citizens, who called out to stop this arrogant usurpation of authority. Yes! We want the housing, but not this "deal" or the current location. The Council vote? Ha! As democratic a vote as one would expect from the Russian Duma. Shameless.

Mony Nop's Problematic Links
Mini Chopra, Livermore

In your Mailbox letter, dated April 28, 2022, Mony Nop has described the controversial Eric Dillie, who is running for the Alameda County Education Board, as a brother to him. Mr. Nop's endorsement of a candidate with questionable antecedents is a red flag and yet another reason for me to not vote for him this November.

That a perpetually anti-establishment, Save Livermore Downtown, is sup-

porting him is quite foretelling of where Mr. Nop's loyalties and allegiance will lean to, if he goes on to become our future mayor.

Of all the things that Mr. Nop could have promised us in his mayoral campaign, he cherry-picked an issue that has brutally riled up our City for the past two years and has had us all hurting morally and financially. Nop's presence on the Council will only further wedge the divisions within our City.

Affordable housing for the working-class Livermore was never on Mr. Nop's agenda, even during his first innings when he unsuccessfully ran against Mayor Woerner. Eden Housing, as the matter stands today, is ever unlikely to relocate from its current site of construction. Do not get misled by Mr. Nop's directionless and empty election promise to Livermore.

In his capacity as a realtor, Mr. Mony Nop represents several clients buying or selling homes in expensive, multi-story HIGH-RISE developments in the Bay Area. (Source: Mr. Nop's publicly accessible

real estate listings). Why, then, does Mr. Nop detest and oppose the multi-story affordable Eden Downtown Housing for low-income individuals and families? Perhaps because the low-income working class - those who face insurmountable hurdles in their lives to transition to stable homeownership - are not from among his high-income clientele. #doublestandards

As we continue to debate Eden Downtown Housing's location, we must conscientiously ask ourselves - who does the Livermore Downtown belong to? It certainly does NOT belong to the wealthy clique from Save Livermore Downtown. The Downtown belongs to ALL of us - including those who work hard in low-paying jobs to keep the Downtown businesses running.

My family and I will be voting for Mr. Marchand - his past, present, and continuous contributions to Livermore command our trust and respect for him and make him the most ideal torchbearer for our City as it continually evolves and adapts itself to the changing times and needs of its people.

Vote for Alysse Castro for Alameda County Superintendent

Joanne Morrison, Livermore

In its editorial on May 26, the Independent asserted that "there was no compelling reason" to vote against incumbent LK Monroe in the race for ACOE Superintendent. I and many other knowledgeable voters disagree.

First, Monroe spent nearly \$600,000 in funds meant for Covid relief on paying bonuses for her office staff — staff that turned around and donated to Mon-

roe's campaign. These expenditures have not been adequately explained. This was money that could have gone to teachers and others on the frontlines of the pandemic education crisis. Monroe had to publicly apologize for the bad judgment in May.

Second, Monroe failed in her oversight capacity when she failed to intervene and prevent the controversial school closures in Oakland. She continued to approve the OUSD budget each year while the schools

(See MAILBOX, page 8)

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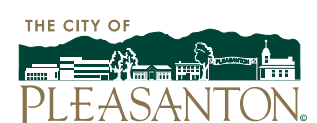
WATER: SAVE SOME FOR TOMORROW

This is California's third dry year in a row
The long-range forecast for 2023 looks dry too
Take action and start conserving TODAY!

- Irrigate after 9 p.m. and before 6 a.m. to reduce evaporation
- Rebates are available for water-efficient landscaping, smart irrigation controllers, and high-efficiency clothes washers
- Use a broom to clean driveways and patios, keep pools covered, and add mulch around trees to retain water
- Shorten showers and only run dishwashers and clothes washers with full loads

Visit www.zone7water.com/drought for information on rebates, water use rules, and fixing leaks

TRI-VALLEY WATER AGENCIES



MAILBOX

(Continued from page 6)

were headed toward closure. The Independent says with respect to the closures “she was doing her job.” Teachers disagree with that assertion and that’s why more than a dozen teachers’ unions are supporting Monroe’s challenger, Alysse Castro. The Independent notes that “... no teachers organizations are listed among her endorsements...” as though that is unimportant. On the contrary, it is highly significant that Monroe has zero support from teachers.

Third, as noted by Cate Sarraile in her letter published May 26, “Another area of concern is the use of government equipment during the workday to send emails to ACOE employees and their friends, urging support for Monroe’s reelection.”

These are all reasons not to support LK Monroe for re-election. Castro, on the other hand, is an expert in school financing, teaching a master’s class at UC Berkeley in managing resources for rising educational leaders, and she will help superintendents all over Alameda County get better services for their schools, students, and teachers. That will allow personalizing learning, building systems of support for students and staff, and developing educators to break free of the bureaucracy and spend time with kids. Furthermore, Castro has deep experience with alternative education — one of the superintendent’s most important jobs — changing students’ lives, providing access to career paths, and breaking the school-to-prison pipeline. Castro has consistently built schools that address the historical inequities in educational opportunities that confront most of Alameda County’s youth; a child’s educational future should not depend on their zip code. Vote for Alysse Castro for Alameda County Superintendent of Schools.

Behind on Your Water Bills?

E. Brown, Dublin

The long-awaited AR-PA-funded Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is set to launch on June 3rd in California. Go to <https://csd.ca.gov/water-bill> and <https://www.csd.ca.gov/lihwap> for more information. If you meet the requirements and your water retailer has signed up for the program, a one-time payment of up to \$2,000 could be made on your behalf to bring your account current. Payments will be made directly to the water companies. The income requirements for LIHWAP are the same as the income requirements for LIHEAP. Proof of income or current participation in LIHEAP, CalWORKs, and/or Cal-Fresh will be used to determine eligibility. Submit applications and documentation to an approved local service provider in your area. The local service provider for Alameda County

is Spectrum Community Services in Hayward.

Participating water retailers in our area include the City of Livermore, Cal Water, the City of Pleasanton, East Bay MUD, and Alameda County Water District. As of this date, Dublin San Ramon Services District is the only Tri-Valley retailer which has not elected to participate.

We would like to get DSRSD on board and could use the community’s help. Otherwise, eligible DSRSD customers don’t deserve to be excluded. We are asking customers to contact DSRSD and urge the district to opt in. Call or send an email to the elected board of directors (board@dsrsd.com). The excuses DSRSD has provided (our area is too affluent, the district offers a low-income discount program similar to the ones offered by some other local water retailers, the district’s participation would require too much time and effort, etc.) don’t hold water.

Those of us who work with the disadvantaged in the Tri-Valley and have been advocating for this program know better. LIHWAP is specifically designed to cause as little inconvenience to the water companies as possible. Much of the paperwork will be handled by others. Since each of the water companies (including DSRSD) has low-income customers with arrearages who would benefit enormously from this assistance, 100% participation should be the goal.

Council Made Bad Decision

Theodore Schaefer, Livermore

The Livermore City’s approval of the DDLA agreement with Eden Housing is not a prudent business decision and ignores real opportunities to find a better project for the Livermore community.

The agreement requires the City to loan Eden \$7.8 million to acquire the property, to pay Eden over \$5 million to build a small park in between the project’s two tall, wall-like apartment structures, and to commit itself to over \$4 million to clean-up the existing soil and soil vapor contamination at the property.

Why doesn’t the City of Livermore and its brilliant staff just go ahead with contracting the building of the too-big, mislocated low-income housing development itself and save all the above millions to go toward construction and then rent out to qualified Livermore residents of long standing who need the housing without the high cost of Eden and lack of tenant control by Livermore. The costs would be lower without intermediary Eden, and the tenants can be chosen with criteria by Livermore as owner. After all, who is going to set rental rates and what criteria will determine who lives there -- children/grandchildren of long-time Livermore citizens, outsiders, or singles, marrieds

without kids, married with kids, divorced, old, young, WHO?

Better done by Livermore itself and control remain with us vs giving Eden this extremely valuable land.

Memorial Day Respect

Tania Panarello, Livermore

Major kudos to Kenny Way and staff at the Vine Cinema and Alehouse: The Vine was a packed house on Monday, May 30th, but Kenny and other “Top Guns” behind the counter rose to the challenge, moving the concessions line along as quickly as possible, yet never sacrificing their usual friendly, helpful service. I hope they all got a well-deserved good rest that night, as well as a chance to see Top Gun: Maverick!

My family went to see the 1:15 showing of the long-awaited Top Gun: Maverick sequel to 1986’s Top Gun. What better movie to see on Memorial Day than one that reminds us of the sacrifice others have made so that we can enjoy watching movies in the comfort of our hometown and savor the precious gift of freedom?

I tried not to have high expectations after reading Randy Myers’ glowing review of Top Gun: Maverick in the East Bay Times’ May 26th edition, but after having seen the movie now, I have to agree with Randy that Maverick is “the rare sequel that’s better than the original”. I highly encourage you to support the Vine and see the movie there. (I just can’t shut up about this movie, it was so good!) Outstanding!

On a final note, please do not wish people a “Happy Memorial Day!” Memorial Day is a day of respect and remembrance of those who gave their lives to protect our many freedoms -- and to support the families of those fallen service members, because no one serves alone. My husband, a veteran who proudly served our country in the US Navy and is still very much alive, would like more people to become educated and more sensitive to this difference -- because, while he appreciates your gratitude, he greatly appreciates his fallen brothers and sisters who made the ultimate sacrifice. To the military families who have lost loved ones: Thank you for YOUR sacrifice, and we are sorry for your loss.

Preserving Legacy

Alan Marling, Livermore

If Joan Seppala and Jean King wish to be remembered for their good works, they should stop obstructing workable projects needed for the public good. Their litigation is currently paralyzing affordable housing during a housing crisis and blocking a solar farm during a climate crisis.

Perhaps because positions of privilege have allowed Seppala and King to be philanthropists in the past, they now believe they know what’s best for the

Tri-Valley. They organized affordable infrastructure for the Livermore downtown hotel, needed by the vineyard industry and supported by the voting majority. They continue to block the Eden affordable housing, even after publicly elected Councilmembers voted unanimously in favor.

Rather than self-examining their unpopular opinions, Seppala and King seek to change the public’s with deceptive ads and articles in The Independent (owned by Seppala). When opposing affordable housing, first they claimed there was a better alternative plan; that was a fantasy. Next, they claimed the land was too toxic for a hotel; Judge Frank Roesch said that argument was “utterly without merit.” More recently they claimed Livermore needs a park. The thing is, we already have downtown parks: Stockmen’s, Carnegie, and Lizzie Fountain. But pretend for a moment we have none. How out of touch would you have to be in twenty-first-century California to prioritize parks over affordable housing?

I begin to wonder about the real reason Seppala and King are deadest against affordable housing. It may have something to do with the proximity to the Bankhead Theater. They oversee it as LVPAC directors. Perhaps they worry working class and people of color would attend? There’s little danger of that now. The last time I went I sat through an uncomfortable experience of multiple Black comedians trying to make jokes to an audience that was mostly rich and white.

If Seppala and King wish to be remembered as benefactors, they should stop being out-of-touch obstructionists.

Keep Downtown Looking Like Livermore

Maryann Brent, Livermore

Last week, our City Council passed a resolution that will transfer the last parcel of undeveloped land adjacent to Stockmen’s Park to Eden Housing. If that action proceeds, Eden Housing will own the land outright as the City loses control over it, and Eden Housing will build two monotonous 4-story apartment buildings that violate City codes. They sit across L street where another massive 4-story condo-and-parking disaster is emerging, accomplished ever so quietly under John Marchand. Welcome to urbanization ... This move by John Marchand and Bob Woerner’s Councils will establish two large chunks of urban housing next to our ranching heritage-Veterans - Stockmen’s Park. Are you happy with that image - block after block of 4-story urban housing downtown? Visit <https://www.savelivermoredowntown.com/> and stay tuned for an opportunity to keep a downtown that still looks like Livermore.

Thanks to the Scouts

Jan and Rich Buckley, Livermore

We want to thank again the Boy Scout troops of the local area who decorated the cemetery on Memorial Day. For many years now we have appreciated the parents who help the many who do this for the town. My brother in the 50’s and our three sons in the late 70’s and 80’s participated in the troop here in Livermore and now grandsons in Seattle have carried this tradition with them.

Intolerable and Outrageous

Pete Stephenson, Livermore

I am a parent of two young children, ages 5 and 7, and I was horrified to see the news out of Texas as, yet another deranged killer gunned down innocent children.

In looking over the depressingly large number of school shootings that have taken place over the last few decades, it strikes me that these tragedies have occurred both in states with strict gun laws (like California and Connecticut) and those with liberal laws (like Texas), with none of those laws having any sort of preventative or protective effect. The killers plan meticulously for weeks or more and have been able to adapt to or ignore or bypass any law or regulation in place.

However, one thing stands out to me: in all cases the killers targeted “soft targets” where they could carry out their heinous crimes unopposed. They know that schools forbid ordinary, law-abiding people like teachers, staff, parents, etc. from possessing any sort of means of protection (including, but not limited to, lawfully carried firearms, pepper spray, tasers, etc.) while on school grounds. State law and school policy leaves such people helpless and defenseless, even if they are vetted, trained, and licensed to carry elsewhere in their community and state.

Our police are outstanding and do their best, but even they cannot be everywhere at once, or arrive instantly when needed. By the time they are called, travel to the scene, arrive, assess the situation, find the bad guy, and engage him, a madman is able to kill dozens even with the most ordinary pistol or revolver.

Clearly, guns in the right hands serve a protective benefit: the President, the Governor, banks, money in transit, jewels, etc. are all protected by trained, armed people. But, for some reason, our defenseless children are left in the care of similarly defenseless adults to whom we legally denied the choice to protect themselves and the children they’re responsible for.

We’ve kept kids and adults defenseless for decades, and still these keeps happening: this policy clearly doesn’t work. How many more need to die

before we as a society conclude that merely putting up “no guns allowed” signs doesn’t stop those with murder in their hearts, and allow responsible, trained, and vetted people the choice (not the mandate or requirement, just the choice for those willing to do so) to protect themselves when faced with deadly danger? Hopefully, none.

Sewering the Wealthiest and Blocking the Little Guy

Rich Buckley, Livermore

Expanding the sewer outside our urban boundary line for South Livermore Valley to accommodate the richest landlords in Alameda County while blocking all the little guys along the way, is an emotionally packed subject on par with abortion-on-demand, and the stupid foolish proxy Ukrainian war funded by POTUS-B and Beltway - neocons.

The Wine Group <https://tinyurl.com/2p8f86m9> that bought Concannon found themselves caught in government environmental double-speak, where all their legal operating permits (fully legal in every way), to function as wineries have functioned for hundreds of years, (cellaring, retail-wholesale, eat, drink, and be merry) were changed. The Local Branch of The Imperial Office of Environmental Purity and Global Warming Doctrine, During an Extended Ice Age While Earth Crosses The 12,600 Year Electric Universe Galactic Plane, imposed a new demand on Concannon to truck all wastewater and honey pot effluents to Livermore’s sewer treatment facility. The cost: \$150,000 per month, complains Concannon bosses. Ouchie!

On March 12, 2020, The Wine Group seeing the handwriting on the wall went public to find a new owner. Any new owner would do. Do you take Bitcoin?

One of many alternative options could have been to work with Livermore School District and run a sewer line down Almond Ave about 4000-feet to Concannon’s buildings and be done with. Concannon might even pay the entire cost to unload \$150,000 per month trucking costs.... at 1/4 that rate for their own sewer line. But wait, where’s the big corporate welfare in that? Aren’t the little guys supposed to pay, while the big guys benefit? Why can’t we do a Mayor Karla Brown creative Ruby Hill deal of some sort and provide sewer treatment we profess has “ample excess capacity” and enter a controlling contract to leave Concannon outside Livermore and let’em hook up? Nothing new is being added to mother earth. Run the numbers; it’s a no brainer. Will a company that sells 53 million+ cases (\$3.5 to \$4-Billion wholesale) a year globally qualify for a local community bond participation rate? Duh?

CENTER

(Continued from first page)

ment center, as it includes a full kitchen, bathroom and shower, and 20 parking spaces.

Josh Thurman, Livermore’s Human Services program manager, wrote in a report to the council that Alameda County’s Behavioral Health Department identified the East County as a priority area to expand its services.

WHEEL

(Continued from first page)

wants to be on the show can apply through the website.

“(Applicants) fill out an application from the Wheel of Fortune website and submit a photo online,” said Flores. “They also have the option to send in a short, 60-second video, (and) they answer a series of questions about themselves. Then, if they are selected from that point, they will get a call for a virtual audition. If they

Eventually, a state grant is expected to provide HCEB funds equivalent to the amount Livermore is loaning the HCEB. Then, HCEB can reimburse the city.

Mayor Bob Woerner called the action “significant.” He noted the city expects to be repaid.

“It’s a good way to leverage our resources and get

make it past that round, they are given a day to come and film for a show.”

The show’s producers generally plan to film a week’s worth of episodes in one day, making for a fast-paced filming experience. According to Martin, the entire team was impressive, moving efficiently through all their work with minimum fuss.

“It was surprising how

things going,” he said.

Carling credited city employees “for looking for these opportunities and moving smartly forward.”

“I can’t be happier than to support this kind of activity in our community,” Carling added.

The Victory Baptist Church closed earlier this year, according to its website.

smooth the operation was,” he said. “It’s a well-oiled machine. They have a dedicated and supportive staff.”

Martin hosted a viewing party when his show aired in May, but because of his contract, he was unable to share his success with friends and family until they watched it unfold on TV.

To apply to be on Wheel of Fortune, visit bit.ly/3fzOt7j.

PUSD

(Continued from first page)

funding, it’s not really intense,” said Amanda Clifford, Clifford Moss principal.

And although 70% of the survey’s participants supported raising taxes in the name of excellent public schools, only 52% felt the PUSD could be trusted to properly manage local tax revenue.

The board has yet to set a dollar amount, but potential bond measure language tested during the survey suggested a range between \$350 million and \$450 million.

With only a few months before the November election and a filing deadline of Aug. 12, both the board and its consultants identified time limitations as the biggest hurdle garnering voter support.

“There is a path to passing a bond here,” said Curtis Below, polling consultant FM3 Research partner. “It’s challenging.”

Phase two of the bond consulting services, which includes scheduling and finalizing the ballot measure with a public messaging strategy, will cost the district \$91,000; \$21,000 of which will go to Clifford Moss, with the remainder to funding community engagement.

The discussion on whether to continue into a second phase followed a facilities master plan (FMP) workshop at the same meeting that produced a prioritized project list designed to help inform the bond measure’s size. The workshop also revealed a dichotomy be-

tween where “there is what the district knows it needs (and) what the voters say they’re willing to support,” said Clifford.

Below said the voters’ concerns focused on deferred maintenance in the form of repairs and safety.

“Right now, the impression is there’s interest in just paying to fix things that are unsafe,” continued Below. “And then a lot of the priorities that we had heard from the district are performing arts facilities, the tracks, the gyms.”

The key to the coming campaign, said Clifford, will be finding the right balance between the two.

The board plans to approve its FMC update by June 23 and make its final decision on the bond measure by July 14.

Dublin Military Banners Now on Display

Dublin is honoring 12 local veterans and active-duty members of the U.S. military with banners on display now through Veteran's Day in November.

Now in its fourth year, the city's Military Banner Program this year recognizes Marine veterans Joshua Harris, Jeffrey Hellman, and

Jack Hyundo Kim; Navy veterans Martin A. Korte, Russell Parrington, and William R. Shoemaker; Army veterans Connie Mack, John Mercado, and Janine Thalblum; Air Force veteran Ronald J. Wellendorf; and two active-duty servicemen, Pablo G. Colon, U.S. Army, and Bronson L. Suyat, U.S.

Coast Guard.

The banners, sponsored by community members, are on display along Dougherty Road, near Camp Parks, between Scarlett Drive and Amador Valley Boulevard. A "walking tour" map with the location of each banner can be downloaded at bit.ly/3fzOt7j.

Park District Issues Snake Warning

The East Bay Regional Park District last week warned hikers and visitors to be aware of snakes, most notably rattlesnakes, along some trails in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Park district staff said warm spring weather can prompt snakes to explore their environment, which can lead to more encounters with humans and dogs. They advised hikers and visitors to leave all snakes alone. Park wildlife is protected by law.

They also said parkgoers should avoid hiking alone; scan the ground ahead of them as they walk, jog or ride a bike; stay on trails; avoid walking in tall grass; look before sitting down on a log or rock; and keep dogs on designated trails.

Library to Offer Summer Reading Recommendations

Livermore Public Library staff will discuss their book recommendations for teens and adults during a Summer Reading Roundup at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., on Wednesday, June 29.

The roundup is part of the library's Adult Summer Reading Program. Those who are unable to attend the in-person recommendation will also be able to view a recording of the roundup at bit.ly/3NojNFr.

Readers who participate

in the library's summer reading game will also be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate for a local restaurant or business.

For more information, visit library.livermoreca.gov or the library's Facebook page.

HOTEL

(Continued from first page)

with the DSP and applicable planning and zoning rules."

Stromberg said SLD would like city staff to work with the developer, Davis-based Presidio, to find another parking location.

Development of a hotel has long been on the wish list for Livermore residents and business owners who believe a hotel can serve as the centerpiece for the downtown, providing much-needed lodging for a region hoping to electrify its wine tourism industry.

City officials hope the hotel will complete development of the Livermore Valley Center, bringing new investment to downtown Livermore, contributing to the area's revitalization with the Bankhead Theater, Livermore Cinema and other commercial projects.

Presidio proposed its hotel plan six years ago, receiving city council approvals for the project in 2016 and 2018.

A debate, however, ignited over whether the hotel should be located on the east side of Livermore Avenue near the Bankhead Theater or the west side adjacent to an open park.

Community groups opposed to the location obtained enough signatures to place the issue on the March 2020 ballot as Measure P. Voters approved the measure to allow the hotel to be built

on the east side by a 2-1 vote.

The project will include 25 public surface parking stalls, including 13 for the disabled, to be constructed between the hotel and the Bankhead Theater. The original plan placed the hotel atop underground parking with 120 spaces.

However, according to a city report written by Associate Planner Tricia Pontau, the project's delays and increased costs made underground parking no longer feasible for Presidio. In January, the city council approved a plan to loan \$1.9 million to the company to buy a 33,600-square-foot parcel formerly used by a pool supply business for valet parking.

The loan, officially made to Presidio's 2205 Railroad Ave. LLC, must be paid back in a lump sum at 3.5% interest when the hotel opens by 2025.

SLD opposed the parking plan during that January meeting, but the council voted unanimously in favor of it.

In his letter to the planning commission, Stromberg argued that the valet lot about a tenth-of-a-mile away from the hotel did not qualify as "on-site" parking as required by the DSP. He also contended that DSP required parking to be within the downtown core and, while the hotel was within

that designation, the parking lot was not.

"Because the 2080 Railroad Ave. site is outside of the downtown core, the project is inconsistent with the specific plan, in that it would allow off-site parking for the hotel in an unlawful location," Stromberg wrote.

The attorney disagreed with a staff report conclusion that valet parking is a type of on-site parking.

During the planning commission meeting, Kimberly Cilley, Livermore's senior assistant city attorney, disputed Stromberg's contentions. Cilley said the valet parking plan met DSP's downtown core provision because drivers would be bringing and picking up their vehicles at the hotel. She added that an EIR included a measure "that the city has long-contemplated valet parking as a way to satisfy the Downtown Specific Plan parking requirement."

The panel made some suggestions for minor improvements for bicycle parking and crosswalks, but otherwise approved the hotel plan.

"I didn't go to law school ... but I do believe the Assistant City Attorney," Commissioner John Stein said. "I believe we can make all the findings necessary for this project."

OBITUARIES

Virginia McFann

April 16, 1932 — Dec. 26, 2020



Virginia E. McFann, wife and mother, passed away on Saturday, December 26, 2020, at the age of 88 due to complications from a fall at home. Virginia was born on April 16, 1932, in Seattle, Washington to Otis and Elizabeth (McCuaig) Lassiter. As a family, they moved around and finally settled in Southern California. She graduated high school from Venice High in 1949, received an AA from Santa Monica College and a BA in history from UCLA. After receiving her BA, she returned to UCLA to earn a teaching credential. She taught for a few years in the Los Angeles school system before leaving to start a family.

A violinist, Virginia was a founding member of the Livermore-Amador Symphony. For 52 years, her passion for

supporting music in the Livermore Valley was demonstrated through holding almost every leadership position within the Symphony Guild. After retiring from LVJUSD, she helped young musicians by volunteering with the Junction Avenue Middle School string program. She also played in the orches-

tra for hundreds of community theater productions and was proud of her part in helping students obtain scholarships to study music.

Virginia is survived by her four sons and their wives, Gregory (Josephine); Brian, Garret (Julie-Ann); Kent (April), and five grandchildren, Steven, Caitlin, Donovan, Aidan and Mark, and her long-time caregiver and friend Zakia Hazrati. A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 10, 2022, in the chapel at the First Presbyterian of Livermore, 2020 5th Street, Livermore, California, at 2 p.m. A reception in the Fellowship Hall will follow. In Virginia's honor, donations may be made to the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association at <http://livermoreamadorsymphony.org/donations.html>.

Charles B. McFann

Feb. 8, 1926 — May 21, 2022



A memorial reception will be held at The Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum on the corner of Pine and North L Street, Livermore, California, on Wednesday, June 15, at 2 p.m. Charles B. McFann, Jr., 95, died in Livermore, California, on May 22, 2022. He is survived by four sons and their wives: Gregory (Josephine); Brian; Garret (Julie-Ann); Kent (April); a brother, John McFann (Shelby); and five grandchildren: Steven, Caitlin, Donovan, Aidan and Mark McFann. Charles was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia E. McFann, and sister, Joan Dougherty.

Charles was born on Feb. 8, 1926, in Mishawaka, Indiana to Iva (Jackman) and Charles B. McFann Sr. but spent most of his childhood in Southern California. He graduated from the University of Denver in June 1952 with a degree in

mechanical engineering with honors. He began his engineering career in the Southern California aerospace industry before moving to Livermore in 1962, where he worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for more than 20 years. After retirement from LLNL, he was a consul-

tant for several companies in Silicon Valley.

Charles was a WWII veteran who enlisted in the Navy on his 17th birthday. He saw action in the South Pacific as a turret gunner in a torpedo bomber. He was on the same ship as one future president, Gerald Ford, and in the same task force as another, George H. W. Bush. He took part in the atomic bomb testing at Bikini Atoll. He was an active member of the Livermore Art Association and the Livermore Heritage Guild. He singlehandedly renovated his historic home in Livermore and an old cottage on South K Street, plus restored old cars and photographs. He was instrumental in the restoration of the antique fire engines at the Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum in Livermore.

Erin Elizabeth Winter

Nov. 13, 1975 — May 9, 2022



Erin Winter passed away suddenly on May 9 in Livermore, California of natural causes. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Erin grew up in Virginia, North Carolina, St. Louis, Missouri and Los Angeles, California, before moving to Tiburon, California, where she graduated from Redwood High School in 1992. She found quick success in the real estate industry before joining her mother Lynn and brother Mark in their thriving family business, Hired Hands Inc. It was there that she truly prospered, bringing light, commitment and compassion to every day. She absolutely loved the lifework of senior care, and the opportunity to work alongside so many amazing people; helping seniors and their families

brought her great joy. In 2013, Erin expanded Hired Hands operations by opening an office in Pleasanton and moving to Livermore to be with her life partner Tim Ponder. It was here she greatly enjoyed the ranch lifestyle, surrounded by many animals,

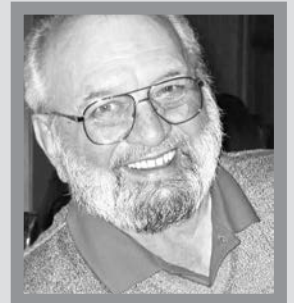
and was thoroughly involved in the community, including the Livermore Rodeo Association. Erin felt strongly about helping people and was a leader in her local PEO International chapter — educating, motivating and celebrating women through philanthropy and education.

Erin is survived by her parents Lynn Winter of Sonoma and Ron Winter of Indianapolis. She is mourned by her life partner, Tim Ponder; her oldest brother Mark Winter (Lori) and daughter Elsa of Sonoma, as well as brother Joel Winter (Cecilia) and their children Madeleine and Griffin of San Francisco and their extended families. Erin will be lovingly remembered for her positive energy, beautiful smile and compassionate heart.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Donald Wayne Moon

April 1, 1934 — May 1, 2022



Donald Wayne Moon of Livermore passed away peacefully at the age of 88 after a two-year battle with cancer. Born in Herrick, a small farming community in central Illinois, he was the second son and youngest child of J. Burl Moon and Joanna (Turner) Moon. While his father and older brother were away serving in World War II, he remained in the small community of Herrick where he was known as "Wayne," working family farms and educating himself. From his childhood, he showed a strong mechanical propensity; he once dismantled an old lawnmower engine to motorize his bicycle used to deliver newspapers in the town. He went on to major in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois in Urbana. His superior performance was rewarded by membership in the University Honor Society and Engineering societies.

In 1956, he met his future wife Joan, and they were married in June 1958, settling in Detroit where Don worked for General Motors while Joan worked on her PhD. In 1961, he was ready to return to academia. He earned his PhD degree in material sciences at Caltech in Pasadena in 1966 and was then hired by UC Davis to help develop its fledgling Mechanical Engineering Department. The couple moved to Woodland and then to Davis where they bought their first house and welcomed Anita (1967) and David (1968) to the family, and Don added a consulting service to his teaching. In 1972, he moved the family to Walnut Creek when he left UC Davis for employment with Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, where he remained until his retirement in 1994. Though he and Joan divorced in 1983, they remained close and together saw their children graduate from law and medical schools.

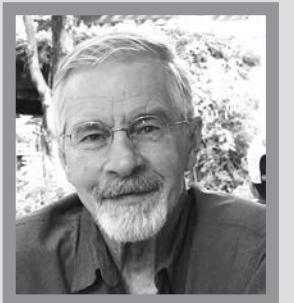
During Don's retirement years, he enjoyed playing bridge, perfecting his golf game, and taking many trips with friends around the western United States, Europe and Asia. In 2021, with declining health, he moved to Mill Valley where his proximity to his daughter Anita, her family and his treasured caregiver Rigat provided him with care and love. Don is preceded in death by his parents and his brother James Moon. He is survived by his daughter Anita Moon-Grady (Daniel); son David Moon (JiAe (Kim)); five grandchildren — Siobhan (Sophia) and Jamie Grady, and Samantha, Melissa and Rebecca Moon — and two nephews, James and Carl Moon.

Don was a very kind and gentle man; he disliked confrontation and preferred a rational approach to problems. He loved and was loved by his family unconditionally and will be missed immensely. A celebration of life will be held on June 19, 2022, at Poppy Ridge Golf Course. All are welcome, but please contact the family for details if interested in attending (amoongrady@gmail.com). In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at <https://tinyurl.com/DWMoon-StJude> or to the Fetal Heart Society at <https://fetalheartsociety.org/donations/donate/>.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bruce Dale Weidman

July 1, 1949 — May 13, 2022



Bruce was born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania and moved with his family to Livermore as a young boy. He graduated from Livermore High School in 1967. He served in the Army in Panama and then came back to work at Lucky's as a butcher. A few years later, he was hired to be the first park ranger at Sycamore Grove Park in Livermore and therein found his life's purpose. Wherever there was a nature presentation, an Easter egg hunt or a moonlight walk, one could find Ranger Bruce. He delighted campers with stimulating activities as the ranger at Camp Shelly in South Lake Tahoe. He worked and lived at Sugarloaf Open Space in Walnut Creek for 21 years, where his Ancient Ways program on primitive weapons and technology was a highlight for the local community. Bruce proudly styled himself a butcher, baker and candlestick maker for all his varied skills and trades. He retired in 2016, settled in Sonoma and became a docent for Columbia State Park where he portrayed a trapper and trader character affectionately known as "Tumbleweed."

Bruce was preceded in death by his parents, Walt and Dolores Weidman, and his sister, Annette Weaver. He is survived by his loving wife, Deanne Weidman; his siblings, Les Weidman, Lynn Staysa and Jani Richards, and his beloved children, Robert Weidman, Jeremy Fones and Jennifer Holloway. He was adored by his six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Memorial gifts can be made via donations in Bruce Weidman's name to: Friends of Columbia State Historic Park, P.O. Box 367, Columbia, California, 95310. Please wear bright colors, not black, to his Celebration of Life at 10 a.m. on June 18, 2022, at Sugarloaf Open Space, 2161 Youngs Valley Road, Walnut Creek, California, 94596.

Livermore Wines Showcased at Uncorked! Competition

By Laura Ness

Congratulations to all the wineries who entered award-winning wines in the 13th annual Uncorked Wine Competition, hosted by the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC).

“Designed to showcase the diverse talents of Livermore Valley’s winemakers, only wines made from fruit grown in the Livermore Valley American Viticultural Area can be entered, which keeps the focus on the valley’s unique terroir.”

Kudos to the TVC and especially to board member Cynthia Ross and consultant Angela Rundles, who coordinated the massive effort which culminated in a gala awards celebration held at the Garré event center, on May 19.

The competition was developed by Laura Ness and longtime Tri-Valley Conservancy Executive Director Laura Mercier, who left the post last June after 18 years with the non-profit. Designed to showcase the diverse talents of Livermore Valley’s winemakers, only wines made from fruit grown in the Livermore Valley American Viticultural Area can be entered, which keeps the focus on the valley’s unique terroir.

Pivotal to the TVC’s charter is the preservation of agricultural land in perpetuity. The TVC itself was created as an agricultural land trust as part of the South Valley Plan, and has played a key role in encouraging the planting of small vineyards throughout the Valley.

This year, it was Collin Cranor of Nottingham Cellars taking Best of Show and Best Red for his 2017 Micro Lot Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, made of fruit sourced from the Casa de Viñas, Sacahau, Smith and Ghielmetti Vineyards. A perfect example of how some of the Valley’s best vineyards can create liquid harmony, it bested a field

of 70 final judging round entries, prevailing over the Best White, the 2021 Darcie Kent Sauvignon Blanc from Triska Vineyard, and the Best Rosé, the 2021 Wine Without Borders Rosé of Grenache from the Gum Tree Vineyard, made under

awarded to the 2019 Las Positas Estate Syrah, an immense wine of great structure that stood out amongst a ginormous field. Winemaker Brent Amos also scored Double Gold in this class for the 2019 Las Positas Tempranillo.

Cabernet Franc went to the 2019 Wood Family Cabernet Franc from White Cat and Ghielmetti Vineyards. The 2019 Darcie Kent Stone Patch scored Double Gold as did the 2019 Cuda Ridge White Cat Vineyard Cab Franc.

Best of Class for Cabernet Sauvignon under \$40 went to 2018 Almost Famous Dog Day from Madden Ranch and Bing’s Barn. Other Golds went to 2018 Rubino Estates Reserva and to 2019 Wood Family “Viva.”

Best of Class for Cabernet Sauvignon over \$40 went to the 2017 Nottingham Cellars Micro Lot Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (with 6% Petit Verdot). Double Golds in this category also went to the 2018 Concannon Clone 7, the 2017 McGrail Vineyards Estate A Jo Elét (“The Good Life”), the 2018 Lineage Collection “The Premier” by Steve Kent Mirassou, from the Home Ranch, Sacahau and Ghielmetti Vineyards, and the 2018 Darcie Kent Clone 30 from Bing’s Barn.

Best of Class for Petite Sirah went to the 2019 Concannon Nina’s Reserve. Concannon also scored a Double Gold for their 2018 Reserve. The tribute to the last vintage from Madden Ranch, the 2018 Darcie Kent Ghost Vines Petite Sirah was also awarded a Double Gold. The 2017 Ruby Hill Jewel Collection also scored a Gold.

Longtime Livermore Valley winemaker, Julian Halasz, (previously at Rios Lovell and Concannon) gets credit for the most Best of Class wins for five, three for Almost Famous and two for Darcie Kent Wines. Rhonda Wood and her winemaking team at Wood Family took three BOC wins.

Congratulations to all the winemakers who continue to turn the fruit of the valley into something utterly delicious and worthy of toasting in celebration of this special place.

the Almost Famous Wine Company label.

The final round judges were Jim Gordon (Wine Enthusiast), Fred Swan (Norcal Wines) and Laura Ness.

Best of Class in the Other White category this year went to the 2021 Darcie Kent Sauvignon Blanc. Other Gold winning entries in this class were the 2021 Garré Estate Pinot Grigio and 2020 Almost Famous Wine Company Grüner Veltliner, Triska Vineyard.

Best of Class in the Chardonnay Category was the 2020 Wood Family Para Mas Amigas from Block 12 of Wisner Vineyard. Other Gold medalists here were the 2019 Darcie Kent De Mayo Vineyard and the 2019 Arroyo Cellars Sblendorio Estate.

Best of Class Rosé went to the 2021 Wine Without Borders Rosé of Grenache. Other Gold medalists in this category were the 2021 Rosato di Sangiovese from Garré Vineyard & Winery and the 2021 Wood Family Pink Pearl Rosé of Grenache from the Fong Vineyard.

Best Zinfandel/Primitivo went to the 2019 Darcie Kent Field Blend Zin from DeMayo Vineyard. Other Gold medalists were 2018 Ruby Hill Winery Jewel Collection and 2019 Wood Family Big Wood Zin, from Raboli, Ravenswood, Eagle Ridge and Scott Vineyards.

Best Other Red was

Double Gold also went to the 2018 Garré Vineyard Estate Sangiovese, along with Gold for the 2018 Garré Syrah. The 2019 Concannon Stampmaker’s Reserve scored Gold as did the 2019 Nottingham Cellars Casa de Viñas Select Blocks, a blend of 50% Petite Sirah, 25% Cab Franc and 25% Cab Sauvignon, from the Casa de Viñas vineyard farmed by Julio Covarrubias.

Best of Class and Double Gold in the Bordeaux Blends category went to the 2018 Almost Famous Wine Company “Choreography” from Crown Block and Bing’s Barn vineyards. The 2019 Wood Family “The Captain” from One Oak, White Cat, Thomson and Smith vineyards scored Double Gold as well. Additional Golds were awarded to 2019 Big White House & John Evan Cellars “Chateau Marion,” and the 2019 Almost Famous “Firepit Red.”

Best of Class in the Malbec and Petit Verdot Category went to 2019 Cuda Ridge Petit Verdot from Smith Ranch Vineyard. The 2019 Big White House Malbec from Ghielmetti Vineyard scored Double Gold, as did the 2019 Darcie Kent Estate Crown Block. Wood Family also scored Gold for their 2019 Smith Ranch Petit Verdot.

Best of Class for Merlot went to the 2019 Wood Family One Oak Estate, while Best of Class for

Dublin Urges Residents to Register for Emergency Alerts

Dublin is encouraging residents to register their mobile phones to receive emergency alerts by email.

The city’s Emergency Alert System is designed to notify residents of emergencies in the city and surrounding community, along with recommendations on what actions should be taken.

An Emergency Alert icon on the city’s website will also be displayed. The city is also partnering with Alameda County on a new high-speed telephonic notification system, AC Alert, that allows the county to target specific areas of the community for emergencies such as missing children, utility outages, road closures, fires, and boil-water alerts.

According to the county, the AC Alert system is capable of dialing thousands of phone numbers per hour,

making up to three attempts to deliver a recorded message to a live person or an answering machine. The county already has contact information for local landlines through an agreement with AT&T, but residents without landlines need to register their mobile devices and email addresses at tinyurl.com/2p8msvze to receive recorded messages.

Dublin Police Services has also partnered with Nixle, an emergency notification system, to alert residents during emergencies, road closures, or other health or safety issues. The Alameda County Fire Department also issues alerts via Nixle.

To receive police or fire alerts on a cell phone, text “Dublin” or the city’s zip code, 94568, to 88877 or visit nixle.com. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/mpu2w744.

SOLAR

(Continued from first page)

had a chance to read it late Tuesday afternoon.

The Independent will provide details of the official ruling once it is made available.

Grillo’s decision does not mean the case to stop the Aramis facility along Cayetano Creek is over. SNLV and the other organizations have the right to appeal to California’s 1st District Court of Appeal.

The groups’ hopes for success in the higher court could be buoyed by a comment Grillo made during a series of hearings before him in his Alameda County courtroom. Grillo said that a higher court might overturn his local decision and let voters decide the “bigger picture” of whether the Aramis plant should be built.

“The big picture is should the voters have a chance to weigh in on whether or not there is going to be a big field of solar panels in an

agriculture area,” Grillo said at the time.

Although Grillo issued his official decision Tuesday, he had already released a tentative ruling in mid-April indicating he was leaning in the county’s favor. In that tentative ruling, Grillo said he believed county officials and the Board of Supervisors acted appropriately March 24, 2021, when they approved the project.

Despite that, Grillo continued to allow attorneys to try to convince him otherwise during two hearings. If given the chance, Intersect Power plans to build and operate a renewable energy plant capable of generating and storing 100 megawatts of power that could provide electricity to 25,000 Bay Area homes. The utility project would have 267,000 solar panels spread across the site.

EDEN

(Continued from first page)

year’s city approvals for the project has been concluded. This action is an obvious tactic to prevent a new council from making any change to its unpopular plan.”

According to Ryon, a campaign to collect signatures will follow, so that voters “can decide whether the Eden agreement harms the city and should be rejected.”

The entire council has shown continued support for the Eden project, citing an urgent need for affordable homes in the midst of a statewide housing crisis. The project is supported by several Livermore and Bay Area anti-poverty and environmental organizations, including the Livermore Housing Authority, East Bay Housing Organizations, the Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative and Greenbelt Alliance.

Opponents of the project, however, have agreed that there’s a need for affordable

homes, but have expressed the desire to move the housing across Railroad Avenue to the north, where they say as many as 230 affordable units could be built and more parking, while leaving space for a park in the center of town. The council should also look at other sites, the community group notes.

SLD’s lawsuit argued that the city unlawfully approved the project, because it doesn’t follow the Downtown Specific Plan design standards and California Environmental Quality Act requirements. While Alameda Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch ruled against SLD, the group filed its case with the Court of Appeal in April. According to city officials, last week’s amendment to the development agreement will enable the project to go forward quickly if an appellate court rules against the SLD suit.

Ryon said this decision

means that once the property is transferred to Eden, there will no longer be an opportunity to assess potential alternative locations for the housing project at a site that can provide even more apartment units and more parking.

“The chance to turn the center of town into a creative park, a gathering place for friends and families, would be lost,” he said. “Three new city council members will be elected this November. If a majority of the new council favors relocating the Eden Housing project, this agreement will tie their hands and provide them with no real options. They will be left with a project that they and Livermore citizens do not support. That is why I, among others, believe the only way we can fix this problem is by taking this agreement to the voters.”

During the council meet-

ing last week, Mayor Bob Woerner called the deal to sell the land for Eden’s development well-considered, while protecting the city and community’s interest. He condemned opponents who he said sought to delay the project in court.

“Having repeatedly failed at the ballot box by 2-1 margins, they have now resorted to frivolous lawsuits to block progress,” Woerner said. “We heard another direct threat of even more litigation (Monday) They have dramatically failed in court so far. And I’m confident that they will continue to fail in court and elsewhere.”

Linda Mandolini, the president of Eden Housing, said during the same meeting that efforts to prevent the project will continue to fail in court.

“Had we not been sued, this project would be in construction right now and

we would be welcoming 130 families to their homes next year,” Mandolini said. “It is really unfortunate that we continue to be basically delayed for no legitimate reason.”

In an email to The Independent this week, Councilmember Robert Carling said SLD is unwilling to listen.

“Specifically, every city council vote on the downtown since the plan was finalized in January 2018 has been approved 5-0,” Carling continued. “Those decisions were made by three different councils. The vote on the hotel on March 3, 2020, was 2 to 1 against the same group of people operating under a different name. On May 24, 2021, the public comment on the Eden agenda item was 70 people in support of the Eden project and 37 against. On May 24, 2022, it was 27 in favor of Eden and 13 against. Both are margins of 2 to 1. Lastly,

the candidates for council and mayor supported by this group have gone down to defeat in 2018 and 2020. The voters have decided. SLD just doesn’t want to listen. They should stop wasting time and taxpayer money.”

SLD members have pointed out that based on data from Thomson Reuters, 44% of Roesch’s cases have been reversed in full or reversed in part.

As part of the referendum process allowed under the California Elections Code, Fadem sent the city clerk — for prompt transmittal to the city attorney — a proposed impartial summary of the resolution and agreement. The city attorney will have the chance to modify the impartial summary or decide to make no changes.

Woerner and Mandolini did not respond to this week’s requests for comment before press time.

SEWER

(Continued from first page)

the sewer to be extended within the SLVAP planning area. The city has already begun studying the future sewer’s potential effect on the environment.

The sewer line is expected to cost \$11.5 million. The city hopes to use about \$6.5 million in Alameda County funding and also secure federal and state infrastructure funds and groundwater management grants to make up the difference.

About 20 residents, including vineyard owners, called into the May 23 meeting to comment, all in favor of the sewer extension.

Several cautioned the council and city staff to take care how the measure is written so that developers in the future cannot find loopholes that lead to damaging open space and

farmland.

“The open space around Livermore is very important for the agricultural lands, with its vineyards and numerous crops, the parks that provide space for humans and other living things and the scenic views that stimulate our mental health,” said Jean King, a representative of Friends of Livermore. “The South Livermore Valley Area Plan, the South Livermore Valley Specific Plan, County Measure D and the Livermore Urban Growth Boundaries protect all of these ... It is very important that this initiative has clear, consistent language and that there be no unintended consequences that might not benefit the area.”

King said FOL was specifically concerned about an area along Buena Vista

Road that is not covered by the area or specific plans, and expressed concern that developers could attempt to use the sewer ballot measure’s language to circumvent Measure D’s provisions that limit the size of structures and result in 12,000-square-foot mansions.

“Some additional language in the initiative clarifying this issue might avoid confusion in the future,” King said.

Dick Schneider, a co-author of Measure D, which voters approved in 2000 to protect open space and agricultural land, said it’s important that the ballot measure specify that the sewer line is for commercial use and not for large residential homes that would use large amounts of water.

“Large houses have lots

of bathrooms and lots of water demand,” Schneider said. “I think those kinds of things need to be analyzed carefully in the supplemental (Environmental Impact Report) before the council makes a decision about what kinds of mitigations may be required.”

Other speakers, including former Livermore Mayor John Marchand, who has announced his plan to run again for the position, said the infrastructure is needed to attract larger wineries to the region to bolster the flagging industry.

“The only way that the infrastructure needs can be met is to build a sanitary sewer down Tesla, a sewer line that would serve the needs of the wineries but would not allow for urban development,” Marchand said.

David Epstein, TVC’s executive director, said a sewer line could help stabilize agriculture in the Livermore Valley and prevent the pressure to develop the land.

“A vibrant wine country is important to maintain the South Livermore Valley’s community character and agricultural economy,” Epstein said. “The construction of the sewer line extension project would have no direct impact on Livermore taxpayers, and the City of Livermore has affirmed its existing wastewater system has plenty of capacity to process additional wastewater.”

Karl Wente, vice president of the Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association and chair of the county’s Agricultural Advisory Committee, said

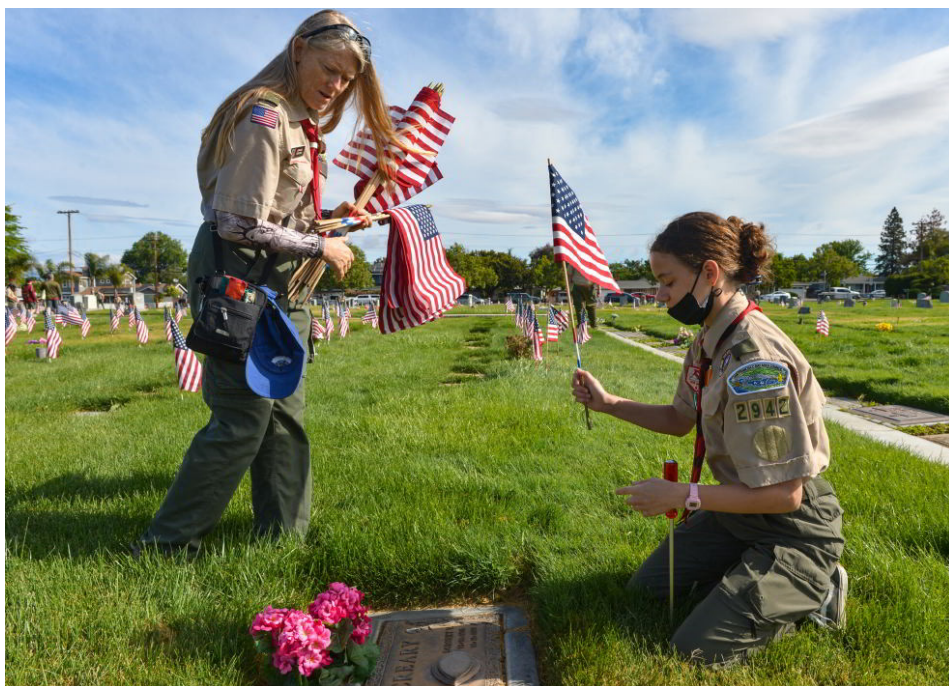
a sewer line is necessary for agritourism, which is critically important to the industry’s future.

“Everyone agrees this is the right thing to do for the benefit of our community,” Wente said. “Let’s do it. Let’s continue to bring all the stakeholders that we need to the table to do this.”

City councilmembers Gina Bonanno, Bob Carling and Trish Munro encouraged staff to heed the public’s advice as they write the measure.

“I do believe that getting the language right is critical to getting this passed,” Munro said. “Make sure that it is as clear and airtight as possible.”

“I think it would be incumbent upon us when we review this again to make sure there’s plenty of clarity,” Carling added.



Lorraine Ferguson and Galie Feigenbaum from Livermore Boy Scout Troop 2942 place flags at Memory Gardens cemetery on Saturday, May 28. Over 1,300 graves among the three Livermore cemeteries were remembered with flags on Memorial Day. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

State Assembly Passes Bill to Allow Suits Against Irresponsible Gun Sellers

By Joe Dworetzky
Bay City News Foundation

The day after Wednesday's mass school shootings in Texas, the California State Assembly passed AB 1594, which allows survivors of gun violence in California to sue gun manufacturers and sellers for damages if the gun was sold in violation of a new firearm industry standard of conduct.

The bill was approved by a vote of 50-20 and now heads to the California State Senate for consideration. If enacted, the bill will create an industry standard of conduct in California that will require manufacturers and sellers to establish reasonable controls on the sale and marketing of guns. In the language of the legislative comments that accompanied the bill, gun manufacturers and sellers may be sued if they are 'irresponsible, reckless, and negligent in the sale or marketing of their products in California.'

Types of conduct that could fall into that category would be the sale of guns that are 'most suitable for assaultive purposes' rather than for hunting or self-defense. Another category would be sales that target

minors or other individuals legally prohibited from buying firearms.

The statute is designed to permit state law actions against gun manufacturers and sellers that might otherwise be precluded by the federal Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, which was signed into law on Oct. 26, 2005, by then President George W. Bush. The federal statute provides immunity to manufacturers and sellers if a gun they have sold is used illegally.

There are several exceptions to the federal immunity, one of them is applicable when the manufacturer or seller 'knowingly violated a state ... statute applicable to the sale or marketing of the product.'

The legislative comments to the bill note that courts have differed on interpreting the scope of the federal exception. Two courts - one of them the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit (the federal appellate court that covers California) - adopted narrow interpretations of the exception. Those courts said that the exemption does not apply to state laws that are generally applicable to the sale or manufacture of commercial

products, but only to state laws that specifically apply to the firearms industry.

AB 1594 seeks to fall within that narrow interpretation by creating a law that is specifically applicable to the firearms industry. It was co-authored by The Brady Campaign and California Attorney General Rob Bonta and introduced by Assemblymembers Phil Ting, D-San Francisco; Mike Gipson, D-Compton; and Chris Ward, D-San Diego.

"It's not fair that almost every industry in the United States can be held liable for what their products do, yet the gun industry is exempt from that, providing no incentive to follow our laws," said Ting. "Hitting their bottom line may finally compel them to take every step possible to prevent illegal sales and theft of firearms to reduce gun violence."

In addition to individuals who have been harmed by gun violence in California, the bill allows the attorney general, as well as city and county attorneys, to bring actions to enforce the provisions of the bill. If enacted, the bill would take effect July 1, 2023.

Rangers to Join Library for Nature Storytimes

Rangers with the Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District will join librarians from the Livermore Public Library to share children's books about nature and wildlife at two, free Nature Storytimes on the trails in Sycamore Grove Park this summer.

Weather permitting, a Hobbit Tree Nature Storytime is scheduled for 11 a.m., on Friday, June 10.

Family members should wear comfortable walking shoes and meet at the kiosk near the Wetmore Road entrance to the park, according to the library. The program will begin after a half-mile walk along a paved path that is suitable for strollers.

The Creekside Nature Storytime is scheduled for 11 a.m., on Friday, July 8, also weather permitting.

Families should meet at the Arroyo Road entrance

to the park, according to the library.

Following a water-themed story time, a park ranger will lead children down to the creek to explore the water and wildlife. Participants should wear sturdy

shoes that they do not mind getting wet; flip-flops are not allowed.

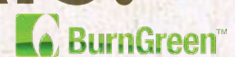
Although registration is not required, the first 20 families to sign up for each session will be placed on a list to receive a free parking pass.

\$20 Hourly EVENT STAFFING (May to August)



Information: (925) 455-6585 or livermoreSEP@icloud.com or apply in person at 2282 Fourth St, Livermore, CA 94550

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Pleasanton Celebrates Classes of 2022

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Pleasanton community turned up the celebration for local high school seniors last weekend with the placement of an array of colorful ribbons flanking the poles on downtown Main Street.

The yellow, purple, blue and black ribbons represent each high school's colors — blue for Foothill High, purple for Amador Valley High, black for Village High, and yellow for all three.

"The ribbons start at

the bridge and go all the way down Main Street to Bernal," said Amador Valley parent volunteer Robin Cruz. "There's roughly 90 poles with four ribbons each and there's about 40 ribbons on the bridge. So about 400 ribbons between the poles and the bridge."

Cruz said 35 parents, teachers, city and district officials turned out to hang the ribbons; a tradition started in 2020 when the senior class's activities were canceled due to the pandemic and Pleasanton Uni-

fied School District parents were looking for a way to make the graduating class feel special. The ribbons were so appreciated, they've been brought back each year since.

"I think it's such great community involvement," said Cruz. "It's a community effort and the kids seem so honored to have it."



Ribbons festooned the downtown area in Pleasanton last week in celebration of the Class of 2022. Ribbons recognizing Foothill, Amador and Village high schools were placed by volunteers on Main Street and the adjacent bridge area. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, June 4
Building a New World**

The Livermore-Amador Symphony welcomes the engaging and virtuosic pianist Frederic Chiu, an exceptional interpreter of the music of Prokofiev, in a performance of the composer's thrilling third piano concerto. Join as they conclude the season with an audience favorite, Dvorák's beloved New World Symphony. Prelude Talk begins at 7 p.m., and the concert starts at 8 p.m. There will also be an after-concert reception. Tickets are available at the Bankhead box office and livermorearts.org.

**Saturday, June 4 and Thursday, June 5
Goodguys 27th Annual Summer Get-Together**

Goodguys, America's favorite car show, will be hosting its 27th Annual Summer Get-Together on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. The event will feature a burnout competition, indoor muscle car show, live entertainment; a variety of food trucks, giveaway prizes and more. Tickets can be purchased at the gate or online at goodguys.com.

**Wednesday, June 8
Interfaith Interconnect Religion Chat**

From 5 to 6 p.m., this month's Interfaith Interconnect Religion Chat topic is "How does your community welcome children and youth into the faith? What rite of passage ceremonies are traditional in your culture?" Featured speakers are Trish Munro, Congregation Beth Emek, and Karan Saini, Sikh. Presentations include time for audience questions, and optional breakout discussion groups will take place from 6 to 6:30 p.m. The in-person meeting will take place at the Muslim Community Center East Bay, Suite 100, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd., in Pleasanton. For a map, visit mceastbay.org/hp. For the Zoom meeting, visit bit.ly/3G8AVN9. Doors and the Zoom room open at 4:40. For more information, email interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect.

**Sunday, June 12
Celtic Harps at Trinity Lutheran Church**

Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter will perform Celtic Harps, rare instruments and wondrous stories, at the Trinity Lutheran Church of Pleasanton, at 4 p.m.

The show features two Celtic harps, the rare Swedish Nyckelharpa, Ukrainian Bandura, Cittern and more. The concert takes place at 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. Suggested donation is \$15 to \$20, and students and children are free.

**Monday, June 13
Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Presents Karen Bowdren LaDuc**

During "How to Research your Ancestors in Italian Records" Karen will walk you through the steps to find what you are looking for and download it successfully. She will also review the basics of Italian research and the use of familysearch.org. The free presentation begins at 7 p.m., with the Zoom call starting at 6:30 p.m. Preregister at bit.ly/3wif02F.

**Wednesday, June 22
State of the County with Supervisor David Haubert**

Join Supervisor David Haubert as he delivers his first State of the County, during which he will reflect on recent accomplishments achieved by Alameda County, as well as the challenges that lay ahead, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at 6680 Regional St., in Dublin. Sponsorships are still available. For more information, call 925-828-6200.

**Thursday, June 16
Summer Concert Series at Emerald Glen Park**

Dublin's Summer Concert Series returns to the Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater during the Dublin Farmers' Market. The event kicks off with the '80s cover band, the Spazmatics, performing at 6 p.m. That evening is also LGBTQ+ Night at the Dublin Farmers' Market. The concerts are free, and guests should plan on bringing blankets or lawn chairs. The Dublin Lions Club will also be on hand for wine and beer tastings, and dinner can be purchased from one of the many food vendors. For more information, visit bit.ly/3PNSypL.

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

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

Granada Takes Second in NCS Playoffs

By Nathan Canilao

The Granada High School softball team was defeated by the Heritage High Patriots 8-0 on May 27.

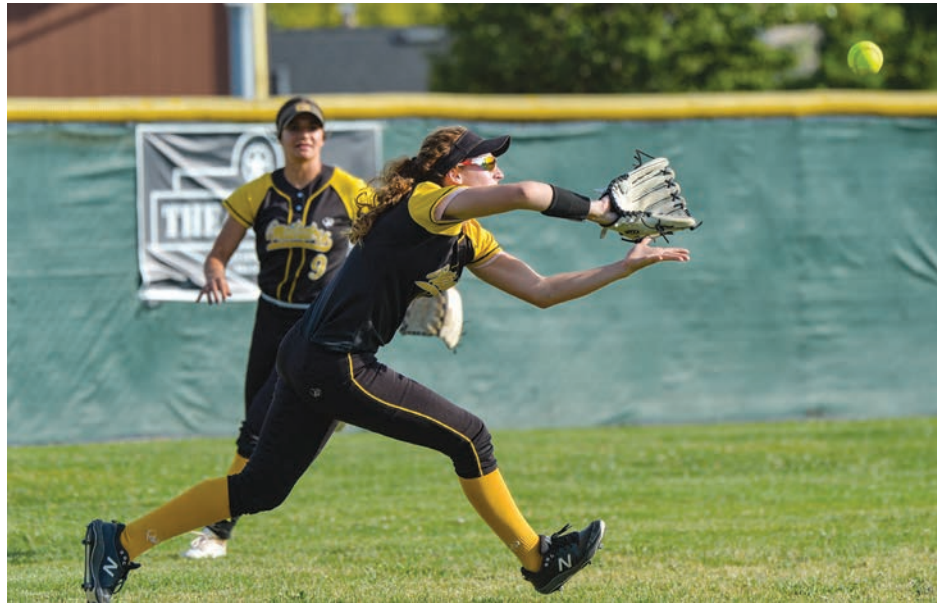
Heritage scored five runs in the first inning and put the Matadors behind early. In the sixth inning, Heritage scored three more runs and put the game away for good.

The Matadors had a rare struggle offensively against the Patriots. They were shutout through all seven innings and eight batters struck out.

It was also a struggle for the Matadors defensively. They gave up two, three-run home runs and couldn't stop the high-powered Heritage offense.

The Matadors will continue on to the CIF State Championship series despite the loss. With earning the No. 1 seed, they were guaranteed a spot regardless of the outcome.

They will look to bounce back in the state championship playoffs as they come in as the No. 7 seed in the Division I bracket.



Granada High's left fielder Lauren Deplitch grabs a fly ball during the varsity North Coast Section Softball Championships Finals, Division 1 on May 27 against Heritage High School. Heritage won 8-0. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia/] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Foothill Baseball Loses NCS Title Game

By Nathan Canilao

The Foothill High School baseball team lost the North Coast Section title game 9-6 to De La Salle High School on May 27.

The game started off strong for the Falcons. They scored at least one run in the first four innings and held a 4-0 lead in the third inning.

The Spartans came back

strong in the fourth inning and scored three runs to cut the Falcons lead to just two. De La Salle's late push in the final innings tied the game at six apiece which led to extra innings after the seventh.

Foothill shut down the Spartans offense in the eighth inning, but couldn't hold on in the ninth. They allowed the Spartans to score three runs in the ninth and couldn't answer back.

Senior Jack Basseer had a big game for Foothill. He went 3-for-5 with an RBI. Brendan Comerford also showed for the Falcons going 2-for-3 with an RBI.

The Falcons NCS run ends, but they still are alive for the CIF state title. They qualified for the Division I state title bracket with the loss and will look to recapture a championship in June.

Writers Club Names High School Winners

Jessica Jiang from Amador High School, Annika Gangopadhyay from Foothill High School, and Prakriti, from Monte Vista High School in Danville were named first-place winners in the Tri-Valley Writers Club's 11th annual High School Writing Contest.

gopadhyay received first place in poetry for "Nautch Girl." Saxena was honored in nonfiction for "How to Win a Fight with Your Parents." Second place in Short Story Fiction went to Sameer Dhanvantari, Vineyard High School in Livermore, while third went

Catherine Vuletic, San Ramon Valley High School, and Sarah Baer, Amador. Honorable mentions went to Michelle Pan, Quarry Lane; Victoria Huang, Foothill; and Annika Gangopadhyay, Foothill.

Second place in nonfiction went to Srija Nam-



From back row left: Tri-Valley Writers Club Vice President Lynne Menon is shown with contest winners Annika Gangopadhyay, Alex Hanin, Yufei Xian, Jessica Jiang, Sarah Baer, and Pleasanton Teen Poet Nikita Jayaprakash. Seated are Sarah Ham, Natalie May, Prakriti Saxena, Srija Nampally, and Catherine Vuletic. (Photo - Chuck Deckhert)

According to the Tri-Valley group, a branch of the California Writers Club, 81 students from a dozen Tri-Valley schools submitted 116 entries, including 32 short stories, 61 poems, and 23 nonfiction essays. Students from a dozen Tri-Valley high schools competed.

Jiang received first-place honors for her short story, "The Silent Voices." Gan-

to Meghan Boyle, California High School in San Ramon. Honorable mentions went to Sarah Ham, Monte Vista; Alex Hanin, California; Serena Lei, Foothill; Shriya Sridhar, Dougherty High School; Sneha Ganesh, Dougherty; and Yufei Xian, Amador.

Second place in poetry went to Julia Vu, Quarry Lane School, while there was a tie for third between

pally, Dublin High School, while third went to Natalie May, Granada High School. Honorable mentions went to Emma Ka, Amador; Jessica Bakar, Foothill; Angelina Ge, San Ramon Valley; and Gayathri Viswanath, Dougherty.

The winners were honored in a program at the Four Points by Sheraton in Pleasanton on May 21.

Alan Hu Foundation Awards Scholarships

The Alan Hu Foundation has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to six high school seniors from Pleasanton, including Ellen Kim, Delaney Roehrs, and Jane Wu, from Amador High School, and Emma Hill, Beatrice Lam, and Samreena Siddiqui, from Foothill High School.

The Alan Hu Foundation Scholarship was created

in memory of Alan Hu, a 15-year-old Amador High School student who committed suicide in 2018. It also honors Sarah Rahman, a resident of Fremont who took her own life in 2020 after suffering from mental illness. She was 40.

The scholarships are awarded to graduates of the Pleasanton Unified School

District for further study in the fields of psychology, psychiatry, or neuroscience.

Xiaofang Chen, president of the Pleasanton-based foundation, said the selection committee was impressed by the recipients' resumes and passion for psychology, neuroscience and medical research to cure mental illnesses.



From top row left: Emma Lim, Makenna Meyers-McNerney, Foothill High School head coach Jorge Quero, Torre Anderson, Marina Garcia, Sabrina Nelson, AND Claire Van Horn, Kayla Galvez, and Samantha Lim recently attended the California State Track Championship, along with more than 1,500 elite high school athletes, in Clovis, California. Torre Anderson finished in 13th place in the Long Jump with a jump of 17 ft 11.5 inches. The 4x100 relay of Emma, Lin, Anderson, Marina Garcia, and Makenna Meyers-McNerney finished in 15th place, with a time of 48.73. The 4x400 relay of Kayla Galvez, Sabrina Nelson, Samantha Lim, and Claire Van Horn finished in 21st place, with a time of 4:04.85. To qualify for state, these athletes had to advance through three competitive rounds of qualifying – East Bay Athletic League (league), Tri Valley North Coast Section (sectional), and the Meet of Champions, where they had to finish in the top three. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Ends Softball Season With 8-3 Loss

By Nathan Canilao

The Livermore High School softball team was defeated in the second round of the North Coast Section playoffs on May 24 with a 8-3 loss to the Marin Catholic Wildcats.

Both teams struggled to get going from the start. The first run of the game didn't come until the sixth inning.

After seven innings, both teams were tied at two and the game went into extras. In the eighth inning, the Wildcats scored six runs and made it a 8-2 ball game heading into the bottom of the eighth.

The Cowboys couldn't recover and scored only one run in the eight, ending the game.

Taylor Rodriguez had a big game on both ends for

Livermore. She went 2-for-5 with a double. She also pitched the entire game and shutout the Wildcats through six innings. She finished with 13 strikeouts.

The No. 1 seed Cowboys' season ends in the semi-finals. They finished their season with notable wins over Granada, San Ramon Valley, Freedom and Petaluma.

Boosters Honor Olympian Scholars

By Nathan Canilao

On May 23, the Livermore-Granada Boosters held their annual Olympian Award Banquet where the organization hands out the Olympian Scholarship to two Granada High student-athletes and two Livermore High student-athletes. Each winner received a \$2,500 scholarship.

Kevin Gad won the boys' scholarship for Granada High School. He was a standout basketball player for the Matadors this season, leading them to an East Bay Athletic League title game berth. Gad is expected to play basketball next season at Saint Mary's College.

Outfielder Mikayla Winchell took the girls' scholarship for Granada

High School. The Notre Dame softball commit currently has 49 hits, 30 RBIs and 39 runs across 27 games this season.

For Livermore High's boys' scholarship, wrestler Timothy Cowan won the award. He held a 34-6 record this past year and took first place in the North Coast section wrestling final. He is committed to wrestle at Cal Baptist University.

Dominican University commit Taylor Rodriguez won the girls' scholarship for Livermore High. The

right-handed pitcher has 24 wins on the year and has 327 strikeouts through 188 innings pitched.

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CELLARS

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

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Livermore
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Baranouskas Graduates ENMU

Eastern New Mexico University announced the graduation of Pleasanton resident Leah Baranouskas.

Morin Earns Master's Degree

Brittany Morin, of Pleasanton, has received a master's degree in health data science from the University of New Hampshire.

LLNL, Amazon Announce Cloud Storage Development Agreement

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Amazon Web Services (AWS) have agreed to collaborate on developing cloud-based storage solutions for use in high-performance computing (HPC). In announcing the agreement last week, LLNL and Amazon's cloud-based storage subsidiary said they would "define the role of leadership-class high performance computing (HPC) in a future where cloud HPC is ubiquitous."

Under the memorandum of understanding, LLNL and AWS "will explore software

and hardware solutions spanning cloud and on-premises HPC environments, with the goal of establishing a common stack of open-source software components that can run equally well at both large HPC centers and on cloud resources."

Cloud storage allows users to transfer data over the internet to an off-site storage system maintained by a third party.

"The cloud HPC market is growing, and clouds are becoming a viable way to run HPC jobs," said computer scientist Todd Gamblin, who is leading the effort for LLNL.

"More software is being developed for the cloud environment than for traditional HPC centers, and larger portions of our workflows are going to start looking like cloud software," Gamblin added. "We want to be in tune with mainstream software development, take advantage of this ecosystem and be able to deploy it easily, the way that clouds do."

LLNL and AWS already have an existing open-source collaboration involving Spack, a software package Gamblin and his team developed for HPC machines.

Building off that collaboration, LLNL and AWS will explore how HPC centers can better utilize cloud resources, including models for data staging, data migration, and cloud-bursting, using public cloud sites when demand spikes

In addition to increased flexibility for users, Gamblin said a common HPC software stack, programs designed to work in tandem, could increase competitiveness, stimulate tech transfer, and present a 'more natural direction' for industry partners that can more easily run HPC jobs in the cloud.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 588892

The following person(s) doing business as: Traveling Tax Lady, 38399 Birch Street, Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Patricia E. Fretty, 38399 Birch Street, Newark, CA 94560. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2017. Signature of Registrant/s/: Patricia E. Fretty, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 6, 2022. Expires May 5, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5158 Published May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 588435

The following person(s) doing business as: Third Culture Bakery, 2701 8th Street, Unit 101, Berkeley, CA 94710, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Third Culture Food Group, 2701 8th Street, Unit 101, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/30/2017. Signature of Registrant/s/: Raymond Butarbutar, CEO, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 21, 2022. Expires April 20, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5159 Published May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 588717

The following person(s) doing business as: Nomada, Coaching & Consulting, 1015 Park Hills Road, Berkeley, CA 94708, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jodi Pincus, 1015 Park Hills Rd, Berkeley, CA 94708. 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: 5/2/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jodi Pincus, Sole Proprietor, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 2, 2022. Expires May 1, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5160 Published May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 22CV010768

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Brian K. Ross, Esq.
Law Offices of Brian K. Ross
11850 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568
925-803-9450
br575653@gmail.com
Attorney for Jerry Peter Walker (AKA Gerard Peter Garand) filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:

Gerard Peter Garand

Proposed Name:

Jerry Peter Walker

THE COURT ORDERS

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 6/24/2022
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17

The address of the court is:

Alameda County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 5/3/2022 /s/: Electronically Filed - Xian-xii Bowie, Deputy Clerk - Judge Hon. Frank Roesch.

THE INDEPENDENT, LEGAL NO. 5161, PUBLISHED MAY 19, 26, JUNE 2, 9, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Valley Landscape, 3991 First Street, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan H.

FILE NO. 588817

The following person(s) doing business as: Eli's Room, 4147 Freeda CT., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Carey Hyllton, 4147 Freeda CT., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Carey Hyllton, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2022. Expires May 3, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5162. Published May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589001

The following person(s) doing business as: Bangles and Bovines, 751 Polaris Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Theresa Kummerer, 751 Polaris Way, 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: 4/30/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Theresa Kummerer, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 12, 2022. Expires May 11, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5163. Published May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 22CV011323

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Cheri Diana Zoellner
3421 Cornerstone Court, Apt 116
Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925)775-5043
nolafans@att.net
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:

Cheri Diana Zoellner

Proposed Name:

Cheri Diana Snyder

THE COURT ORDERS

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 7/15/2022
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17

The address of the court is:

Alameda County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 5/16/2022 /s/: Electronically Filed - Xian-xii Bowie, Deputy Clerk - Judge Hon. Frank Roesch.

THE INDEPENDENT, LEGAL NO. 5164, PUBLISHED MAY 26, JUNE 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589153

The following person(s) doing business as: Bob's Discount Liquors #7, 32154 Alvarado Blvd, Union City, CA 94587, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jay Umiya INC, 32154 Alvarado Blvd, Union City, CA 94587. 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: 5/17/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Nehal Patel, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 17, 2022. Expires May 16, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5165. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589113

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Valley Landscape, 3991 First Street, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan H.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589096

The following person(s) doing business as: Gilman Brewing Company, 912 Gilman St, Berkeley, CA 94710, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Anvil Brewing Company, 94 Westline Dr, Daly City, CA 94015. This business is conducted by a corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/21/2016. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sean Wells, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 16, 2022. Expires May 15, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5167. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589025

The following person(s) doing business as: Croffles & Co., 2086 Newark Mall, Suite 2035 Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ipatissier, LLC, 3984 Washington Blvd #321, Fremont, CA 94538. 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/: Yong Kim, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 12, 2022. Expires May 12, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5168. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 588837

The following person(s) doing business as: Big O Tires San Leandro, 2201 Washington Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Baija 76 Enterprises, 2057 Drysdale Street, Danville, CA 94506. 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/: Harman S. Baija, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2022. Expires May 3, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5174. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 588996

The following person(s) doing business as: Ann Richardson, 1147 Mataro Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Her Smooth Voice, LLC, 1147 Mataro Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566. 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/: Ann Richardson, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 11, 2022. Expires May 10, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5169. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589092

The following person(s) doing business as: Barn It Up With BG, 4696 Amy Court, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bettygene Egan, 4696 Amy Court, 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/: Bettygene Egan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 16, 2022. Expires May 15, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5170. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589170

The following person(s) doing business as: Appliance Solution, 3926 Stoneridge Drive, Apt# 6, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ramon Ruiz, 3926 Stoneridge Drive, Apt# 6, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ramon Ruiz, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 17, 2022. Expires May 16, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5171. Published May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589042

The following person(s) doing business as: JB Plumbing and Water heater, 6210 Cedar Blvd, Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan H.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589321

The following person(s) doing business as: Top Knot Bake Shoppe, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kelly Isselhardt, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551; Brett Isselhardt, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2016. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kelly Isselhardt, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5173. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589384

The following person(s) doing business as: Diablos Cooperstown, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Branco, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. 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/: Jeremy Branco, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5179. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 22CV011739

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Stephanie Abimbola Moses
443 Lee Street, Apt 302
Oakland, CA 94610
(925)759-5740
bibolamoses@gmail.com
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:

Stephanie Abimbola Moses

Proposed Name:

Abimbola Stephanie Moses

THE COURT ORDERS

that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written

objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 7/15/2022
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17

The address of the court is:

Alameda County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 5/16/2022 /s/: Electronically Filed - Xian-xii Bowie, Deputy Clerk - Judge Hon. Frank Roesch.

THE INDEPENDENT, LEGAL NO. 5170, PUBLISHED MAY 26, JUNE 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589089

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Veterinary Hospital, 2494 Railroad Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Livermore Loving Paws Veterinary Corp., 2494 Railroad Avenue, 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: 5/1/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mercedes Alegria, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 5, 2022. Expires May 4, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5175. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589236

The following person(s) doing business as: TWS Wholesale, 414 Pendleton Way, Oakland, CA 94621, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Window Specialist, 414 Pendleton Way, Oakland, CA 94621. 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: 2/13/15. Signature of Registrant/s/: Keith C. Perry, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 19, 2022. Expires May 18, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5177. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589380

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Wu Commercials; 2. Smarthubleader;

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589381

The following person(s) doing business as: Diablos Cooperstown, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Branco, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. 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/: Jeremy Branco, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5179. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589384

The following person(s) doing business as: Jai Ambe Foods LLC, 46509 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jai Ambe Foods LLC, 46509 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Shailesh Patel, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5181. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 22CV011739

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Stephanie Abimbola Moses
443 Lee Street, Apt 302
Oakland, CA 94610
(925)759-5740
bibolamoses@gmail.com
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name:

Stephanie Abimbola Moses

Proposed Name:

Abimbola Stephanie Moses

THE COURT ORDERS

that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written

objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

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Date: 7/15/2022
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17

The address of the court is:

Alameda County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 5/16/2022 /s/: Electronically Filed - Xian-xii Bowie, Deputy Clerk - Judge Hon. Frank Roesch.

THE INDEPENDENT, LEGAL NO. 5170, PUBLISHED MAY 26, JUNE 2, 9, 16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589089

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Veterinary Hospital, 2494 Railroad Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Livermore Loving Paws Veterinary Corp., 2494 Railroad Avenue, 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: 5/1/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mercedes Alegria, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 5, 2022. Expires May 4, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5175. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589236

The following person(s) doing business as: TWS Wholesale, 414 Pendleton Way, Oakland, CA 94621, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The Window Specialist, 414 Pendleton Way, Oakland, CA 94621. 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: 2/13/15. Signature of Registrant/s/: Keith C. Perry, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 19, 2022. Expires May 18, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5177. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589321

The following person(s) doing business as: Top Knot Bake Shoppe, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kelly Isselhardt, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551; Brett Isselhardt, 6927 Bear Creek Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2016. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kelly Isselhardt, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5173. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 589384

The following person(s) doing business as: Diablos Cooperstown, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Branco, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. 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/: Jeremy Branco, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2022. Expires May 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5179. Published June 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 22CV011739

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Stephanie Abimbola Moses
443 Lee Street, Apt 302
Oakland, CA 94610
(925)

Pedrozzi Foundation Awards 127 Scholarships to Livermore Students

The Pedrozzi Foundation announced last week that it has awarded \$459,000 in scholarships this year to 127 Livermore students, including three new scholarships established to honor local residents.

Since 2008, the Pedrozzi Foundation said it has awarded \$5.7 million in scholarships to nearly 1,600 Livermore students.

Most of the funding has come from an endowment established by Livermore businessman Mario Pedrozzi, who left his estate to the community when he died in 2002. However, the foundation is also administering an increasing number of scholarships established by area residents to honor friends and family members.

That includes a scholarship, funded anonymously, to honor the memory of Hunter Diemert, a Livermore High School sophomore who died when the pickup he was riding in went down an embankment off Del Valle Road last August, just short of his 16th birthday. The Hunter Diemert scholarship went to Brett Whitelaw, a Del Valle High School graduate, who the foundation said plans to attend Las Positas College and pursue a career as an auto mechanic.

The new Clay Felicitas Memorial Scholarship was

also funded anonymously in memory of the former Livermore police chaplain and community liaison with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Felicitas, who died in April at age 71, was a graduate of Granada High School. The inaugural Clay Felicitas Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Lukas Sifter, a three-sport athlete at Granada, who also served as Associated Student Body rally commissioner. Sifter plans to attend Las Positas to become a paramedic and firefighter. He has already begun training with the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Explorers and Contra Costa County Sheriff Search and Rescue Team.

The third new scholarship administered by the Pedrozzi Foundation was created by the family of the late Dr. John Shirley, a veterinarian and former Livermore mayor who died in 2021, to recognize students who put service above self. The first John Shirley Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Emily Wheeler, from Livermore High School, who the foundation said aspires to be a pediatrician.

The previously established Kim Cupps Memorial STEM Scholarship was endowed in honor of Cupps' lengthy career at Lawrence

Livermore National Laboratory. The 2022 recipients were Clarissa Cheung, who will be studying computer science at the University of Florida, and Katherine Meezan, who will be studying mechanical engineering at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

A complete list of the 23 donor-funded scholarships is available on the foundation's website, pedrozzi.org.

The foundation-sponsored Pedrozzi Scholars for 2022 include Jayron Aclan, Jerald Adriano, Diana Aguilar, Hazel Amin, Evelyn Arroyo Magaña, Pallavi Badri, Jacob Bauman, Jake Beers, Jalen Bets, Lorenzo Bilbao, Matthew Bourne, Nadia Bourne, Kelly Burke, Faith Byington, Aidan Cameron-Smith, Jordan Canning, Nicholas Carrano, Hannah Chan, Clarissa Cheung, Edith Cibrian, Annelise Combittis, Pearstin Confronti, Timothy Cowan, William Crowhurst, Lizzie Davies, Manoj Devaraja, Nalini D'Souza, Alyssa Duckworth, and Michael Duperly.

Also, Jeremy Dyson, Kassadee Dyson, Charlotte Foulk, Roxanne Frank, Cheyenne Frey, Lekhna Gaddam, Emma Goulart, Milan Grewal, Rachel Guerra, Lucia Gutierrez, Shannen Haase, Olivia Hardesty, Abigail Harrison, Caitlyn Hendrickson, Chi-

lam Huynh, Ashley Irwin, Bryce Jensen, Olivia Jordan, Melanie Junnila, Sricharan Kannan, Minh Kawamura, Jack Kilner, Danny Knight, Jordan Knight, Shriya Kona, Ethan Kwan, Justin Lam, Maelyn Laranang, Elizabeth Lau, Laney Lawrence, and Bryanna Leary.

Also, Evelyn LeDesma, Julia Leigh, Alexandria Lish, Marisa Loera, Emily Macias, Dillon Maheshwari, Wade Matthews, Emily McCandless, Karli McDowell, Claire McGinnis, Stefanie Medina, Katherine Meezan, Regina Molitoris, Sara Morris, Matthew Morris, Anna Morrison, Bella Murphy, Amelia Nelson, Arjun Nimmakayala, Christina Oftedal, Melissa Olvera, Gia Oscherwitz, Tanner Parker, Kendall Parry, Ria Patel, Anthony Pennisi, Kamin Peterson, Rose Pham, Gianna Pietro, Joseph Porter, Alejandra Quezada Sermeno, Ahalya Rajesh, Alexis Ramirez, Jennie Ren, Benjamin Rho, Sydney Roberts, and Nate Rodkin.

And, lastly, Miguel Rodriguez, Adam Sahn, Anusri Saraf, Wilson Schwegler, Arya Sharma, Wesley Short, Dylan Silva, Valerie Sommer, Alexis Sosine, Arianna Stanley, Dylan Steill, Dario Stewart, Lukas Stifter, Alexandra Stranutu, Stephanie Suarez, John Taggart, Ciara Terry, Shannon Thomas,

Dylan Tompkins, Liana Tran, Rafael Valle, Fabiola Valle, Michael Vieira, Brandi Waschau, Lauren Webb, Emily Wheeler, Brett Whitelaw, Carley Wiedenfeld, Makayla Winchell, and Brianna Yen.

According to the foundation, 20% of its scholarship recipients will be the first members of their families to attend college.

The foundation also announced the 11 newest members of its Pedrozzi Young

Scholar Program, which provides support for high-achieving students from Marilyn Avenue Elementary School in grades six through 12. Joining the Pedrozzi Young Scholars this year were Elvy Beltrán, Donovan Gonzalez, Justin González, Red Kenzo De Vera, Zareena Parhar, Annia Quispe Larios, Rociel Ruiz, Dunya Saeedi, Celina Beatriz Solimen, Isaac Soltero, and Melanie Vera Caballero.

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