

District Aims To Vaccinate Families with Urgent Needs

By Dawnmarie Fehr

REGIONAL — Livermore's school superintendent last week announced an effort to help vaccinate not only teachers, but vulnerable families as well.

In preparation for her district's March 22 return, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Superintendent Kelly Bowers offered the news during a March 1 appearance at the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Alliance meeting.

Bowers said she used data from the county to determine that Livermore has more COVID-19 cases than other cities in the Tri-Valley area, with many uninsured families working in the agriculture or service industries who are unable to protect themselves.

"That's where our pitch came for a community effort to make (vaccines) very accessible," she said. "No transportation barriers, no language barriers, no barriers, just get something here."

Bowers drafted a letter and sent it to local politicians and representatives, and immediately began to hear back with positive support from many area stakeholders.

Livermore has now been approved for a mobile vaccination pod capable of administering 1,000 doses

(See FAMILIES, page 7)

Sutter Runs Short of Its Vaccines

By Heather Brewer

REGIONAL — A shortage of COVID-19 vaccines has forced Sutter Health to stop initial shots of the vaccine and reschedule second-shot appointments for thousands of patients.

Officials said they began the cancellations of up to 90,000 appointments because of supply issues last week. In an email to local media, Sutter representatives said they should receive enough vaccine shipments over the next several days to begin rescheduling the appointments.

According to the Northern California health system's website, they are not scheduling first-dose appointments due to this limited supply.

"Because the first portion of the state-allocated vaccine supply won't arrive until mid-next week, most patients will still need to be rescheduled," Sutter said in an emailed statement.

However, good news is on the horizon. Monique Binkley Smith, the system's media relations manager, said that many county and local partners have given vaccines to Sutter Health in recent days.

"This additional and unexpected supply, along with the state's commitment to provide approximately 60,000 doses over the next two weeks, allows us to reschedule those impacted patients, starting as early as this weekend," she said.

Staff hopes to have enough vaccines to administer the required second shots in suggested time limits.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and

(See SUTTER, page 6)



First-grader Alexander Mercado runs to his class at Alisal Elementary School in Pleasanton, which became the first city in the Tri-Valley to reopen campuses for hybrid learning last week. Livermore and Dublin students will return in the coming weeks. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Opposition to Airport Expansion Grows

REGIONAL — Objections to a possible expansion of the Livermore Municipal Airport (LVK) have surfaced, with rumblings of discontent present at city council meetings throughout the Tri-Valley. A new group has formed to oppose it.

Since the Livermore Airport Commission approved KaiserAir's development plans on Feb. 8, Pleasanton resident Kamal Aggarwal teamed up with an advocacy group of Tri-Valley residents calling itself Say No to Livermore Airport Expansion. KaiserAir would add Boeing 737s to the LVK runway.

While David Decoteau, the former airport manager, stated that KaiserAir estimates two aircraft would conduct two landings and two takeoffs per week, Aggarwal's group cites concerns that once the expansion is built, it will not be legally possible to place a cap on the number of flights. Several public speakers have dialed into public meetings at city councils around the Tri-Valley to voice dismay over the noise impact.

Woerner said at a city council meeting this week that the council does not yet have an application. He

asked City Manager Marc Roberts for a timeline, should the application appear before the planning commission.

"The first thing we have to do is see what's actually in the application," Roberts said. "Assuming what's been preliminarily discussed, then those items — the development portion of the project — would need an environmental review. Depending on the nature of that environmental review, that would take between four and 12 months to complete. And at the conclusion of that environ-

(See AIRPORT, page 11)

Rep. Eric Swalwell Sues Donald Trump

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Tri-Valley Rep. Eric Swalwell has sued former President Donald Trump, Donald Trump Jr., former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Congressman Mo Brooks (R-Ala.).

The congressman alleges that they should be held accountable for the Jan. 6 insurrection in the U.S. Capitol that forced lawmakers to flee from their chambers and hide in locked rooms as police officers spent hours holding off the angry rioters.

Swalwell — who has represented Dublin, Pleasanton, Sunol, Livermore and 11 oth-

er Alameda and Contra Costa county communities since 2012 — accuses Trump and "many others" for speaking at a morning rally near the White House and shattering the "sacrament" of a peaceful transfer of presidential power "through a campaign of lies and incendiary rhetoric which led to the sacking of the U.S. Capitol."

"Donald Trump lost the 2020 presidential election. He was unwilling to accept defeat," the lawsuit states. "Trump lied to his followers, telling them that the certification of Joe Biden's election was a 'coup' and that their country was being stolen

from them ... Out of options and out of time, the defendants called their supporters to Washington, D.C. on the day Congress met to certify Joe Biden's win, telling them to 'Stop the Steal' and 'be wild.' Thousands came to the District in response. Some planned violence at the Capitol in advance; some were stirred to violence by the defendants' words on that day."

The lawsuit filed March 5 in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, charges that through force, intimidation and threats, the defendants tried to prevent

(See SWALWELL, page 8)

City Updates Ordinance For Emergency Housing

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — The city council on Monday adopted a state building code provision that will make it easier for city officials to issue permits to construct temporary housing during a declared emergency, such as the state's ongoing homeless crisis and the yearlong pandemic.

The 5-0 action places the city in line with a state code addition established in 2019 that allows local jurisdictions to authorize temporary housing projects that would not meet normal state and local building code requirements.

According to city staff, the code removes stricter barriers that hinder construction of tents, sleeping cabins, transportable housing units and other temporary, movable facilities necessary in a crisis.

As part of a state law technicality, cities like Livermore cannot utilize the state law to enable such projects unless they adopt the same provision into their local building codes.

Mayor Bob Woerner likened the technicality in the law to turning on "two

(See HOUSING, page 6)

Alameda County Board Approves Aramis Solar Project Opponents to Pursue Litigation

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — The contentious Aramis Solar Energy Generation and Storage project received unanimous county board approval during the appeals hearing last week.

Opposition groups are planning litigation.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors held the 10-hour hearing on March 4, ultimately going forward with the controversial project presented by applicant Intersect Power. The solar development, proposed for agricultural land in North

Livermore along Cayetano Creek, is set to cover 350 acres with solar panels and battery storage.

The hearing followed the Board of Zoning Adjustments' (BZA) decision in November to recommend approval of the project. Three project opponents — Save North Livermore Valley (SNLV), Friends of Livermore, and Friends of Open Space and Vineyards — filed appeals. The fourth to appeal was applicant Intersect Power itself, taking issue with the BZA's

(See ARAMIS, page 7)

Cities Agree to Fund Axis Community Health In Dublin In Pleasanton

By Victoria Lachnit

The Dublin City Council, on March 2, unanimously voted to fund a mental health urgent care facility.

This Axis Community Health pilot program will offer urgent mental health care services for free to residents of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton, regardless of income or insurance status. The organization currently has medical and behavioral health facility locations in Pleasanton and Livermore.

The budget will be \$277,000 for a 12-month program, with an additional startup cost of \$44,000.

Alameda County Be-

(See DUBLIN, page 6)

By Ruth Roberts

In a unanimous decision, the Pleasanton City Council approved entering into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) alongside Dublin and Livermore for a mental health urgent care pilot program funding.

The pilot program offers urgent mental health services through Axis Community Health, which has offices in Pleasanton and Livermore.

"The need for mental health services in the Tri-Valley has increased dramatically in the last decade and has been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic," stated the staff

(See PLEASANTON, page 6)

Restrictions Ease as the County Rises to Red Tier

By Ron McNicoll

REGIONAL — On March 10, restrictions for some businesses eased as Alameda County moved from the purple tier in the state's guidance system to the more permissive red tier.

"Alameda County's case rate is on the decline, and vaccinations of vulnerable residents and our frontline workers are progressing, but the COVID-19 pandemic is not over," said Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County Health Officer, in a March 9 announcement.

With the red tier, restaurants may now operate at 25% of maximum capacity or up to 100 custom-

ers, whichever is fewer. Retail stores can operate at 50% of maximum capacity; food courts are permitted to serve the public as long as they follow indoor dining requirements. Movie theaters may operate at 25% of maximum capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer. Museums, zoos and aquariums are cleared for 25% of maximum capacity. Gyms, fitness studios and studios at hotels, may operate at 10% of maximum; climbing walls are permitted.

With the easing of restrictions, however, Moss stated that masks and physical distancing are still required.

(See RESTRICTIONS, page 6)



Dublin High School football players took to the field in a scrimmage against Campolindo High, March 6. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



BRUCE

PET OF THE WEEK

In the 17th and 18th centuries, British and Irish sailors believed a black cat onboard their ships would bring good luck and ensure a safe return. Take Bruce home to port and you'll have your own lucky first mate! Bruce is a two-year-old shorthair cat looking to set sail to his forever home. While Valley Humane Society remains closed during shelter-in-place, adoptions are coordinated by appointment. Contact info@valleyhumane.org for more information.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds.....	11	Sunwalker Hearing Set for April.....	2
Editorial	4	Missing Student Dies in Sunol Crash.....	2
Mailbox	4	Dublin Opens All-Abilities Park.....	3
Obituaries.....	9	Livermore Couple Develops COVID-19 Test.....	3
Real Estate	11	Unusual Impact of Climate Change in Wine Country.....	9
		Community Kids Flying High.....	10

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The appeals hearing for Sunwalker, another controversial solar power project proposed for North Livermore, will take place April 22. If approved, the panels will cover the land seen here, off Manning Road. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Retirees Receive Millions in Settlement

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory retirees have received \$5.8 million in benefits from settlement of a healthcare lawsuit against the University of California, according to a court-mandated report on the first year of settlement activities.

The lawsuit, filed in 2010 by LLNL retirees, sought to regain access to university healthcare benefits, which they received prior to a contract change in 2007. The suit became a class action in 2014, and while the retirees did not regain access to UC

healthcare coverage, a settlement reached in late 2019 provided additional benefits to nearly 9,000 members of the class action, including LLNL employees who retired prior to Oct. 1, 2007, as well as the heirs and estates of the deceased.

The settlement provides for the university to pay \$80 million into a fund to be maintained by a settlement administrator. The fund will benefit class members in three basic ways during the next two decades: reimbursing excess past medical costs

incurred by the loss of UC health care, contributing to eligible future medical costs, and paying for benefits counseling.

According to the court-mandated report, by the beginning of February, \$1,000 checks had been mailed to 5,935 class members. Another 287 checks were being prepared for mailing.

The court-mandated report can be read at http://llnretiree.com/sites/default/files/status-reports/Requa_v_UC_Regents_-_Annual_Report_2.25.21.pdf

Missing Student Dies in Sunol Car Crash

By Heather Brewer

UC Santa Cruz student Atharva Chinchwadkar, who had been missing from his Fremont home for a week, was found on Feb. 27 in Sunol, the apparent victim of a fatal automobile accident.

Chinchwadkar, 19, was last seen alive by his parents, Sachin and Yashashree Chinchwadkar, on Feb. 21 at about 6 p.m. He left the house after telling them he was going out to buy pet food. He did not return home.

According to a California Highway Patrol (CHP) report, Chinchwadkar was found deceased inside an overturned vehicle on the morning of Feb. 27, in an unincorporated area of Alameda County near Sunol and Fremont. The report also said CHP received a call of an overturned vehicle off the roadway on Calaveras Road west of Welch Creek from a bicyclist who had stopped there and observed a gray Toyota Camry upside down, approximately 100 feet into a canyon.

Alameda County Fire Department firefighters recovered the vehicle and confirmed the driver had been reported missing out of Fremont on Feb. 21. There were no skid marks where the

vehicle left the roadway. No additional details, including how long Chinchwadkar was in the car before he was found or whether other vehicles were involved, CHP released.

On social media, tributes poured in for the young man.

"The past few days for us have been a horrible nightmare, as you can imagine," said his parents in a public Facebook post. "We hope and pray that no one's child has to meet a fate as our extremely brave Atharva did. We also pray that no family has to ever face such day in their lives. That said, we seek comfort in knowing that our Atharva is now home with the Lord, resting in peace. He may have lived a short life, but it was full of life! He touched so many hearts and, even in his end, brought the whole community together in a way only a very special soul can. Our hearts are overflowing with pride of our son. With that, we want to extend our gratitude to the entire community, friends and family who came together in such a way searching for our son, helping in a way we had not imagined. We are overwhelmed with your love and support and will always be thankful."

College officials also ex-

pressed their sadness in a statement released on March 2.

"We are saddened to write to you with news of Atharva Chinchwadkar, an Oakes student, who was reported missing Sunday, Feb. 21," said Dr. Marcia Ochoa, provost, Oakes College. "It is now known that Atharva passed away in an automobile accident. Atharva began at UC Santa Cruz in the fall of 2019, and he was a junior studying biomolecular engineering and bioinformatics, B.S. We mourn the loss of this treasured member of our Oakes community, and extend our condolences to their family, friends, and loved ones."

His parents said Atharva's life was a free-spirited one.

"He did everything with so much conviction and love," they said. "It gives us hope to see that he touched his friends lives with such amazing characteristics and that they take inspiration from his life. Atharva, son, you were the light of our lives and will always be. You will beat in our hearts with every heartbeat. You live in us. No one can take you away from our hearts. We love you unconditionally and hold you dearly in our hearts forever."

Museum's Ed Kinney Speaker Series to Resume Virtually

The Museum on Main will resume its Ed Kinney Speaker Series with virtual performances beginning with "An Afternoon or Evening with Lady Bird Johnson" as portrayed by actor Gay Storm, on March 24.

The Ed Kinney Speaker Series presents actors on stage portraying historical figures. The Pleasanton museum was forced to cancel the series last year after just two live performances because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The 2021 online series, which will be presented on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., will pick up where the 2020 schedule left off, with two changes:

On April 14, the museum will present the legendary screenwriter Gene Roddenberry, who created the

"Star Trek" television series, portrayed by Chautauqua scholar Doug Mishler.

And on July 21, Susan Marie Frontczak, a living history performer who bills herself as Storysmith, will portray Marie Curie, known for her pioneering research in radioactivity. The visit with Curie, the only woman to win two Nobel prizes, is part of a STEM on Stage virtual tour commemorating the 100th anniversary of her visit to the U.S. in 1921.

Rescheduled from last year are:

"Che" Guevara, an avowed Marxist and guerrilla leader during the Cuban Revolution, second in command to Fidel Castro, who became a counterculture symbol of rebellion, portrayed by Chautauqua

scholar Joey Madia, on May 26.

Thomas Edison, the famed American inventor known for perfecting the light bulb, phonograph, and motion pictures, portrayed by actor Peter Small, on June 9.

Jacques Cousteau, marine biologist who drew attention to ocean conservation through his many TV specials, portrayed by Chautauqua scholar Doug Mishler, on Aug. 18.

William Shakespeare, the English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language, but whose personal life remains largely a mystery, portrayed by actor J.T. Turner, on Sept. 15.

Audie Murphy, America's most decorated combat

soldier in World War II who became a Hollywood star, portrayed by actor Duffy Hudson in a one-man show entitled "To Hell and Back," on Oct. 13.

The shows will be available on a web-based platform, Big Marker, that does not require viewers to download an app.

For more information or to purchase tickets, go to www.museumonmain.org or call (925) 462-2766. Tickets are \$10 for members, \$15 for seniors and students with valid ID, and \$20 for general admission.

Season ticket holders from 2020 should email Sarah Schaefer at education@museumonmain.org or call the museum at (925) 462-2766 to ensure they are signed up for the new season.

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Tri-Valley Career Center Offers Free Tax Prep

Tri-Valley Career Center will continue to offer in-person, drop-off and pick-up services for 2020 taxes.

Bring your tax documents to the drop-off location for review with an IRS-certified volunteer, then return the following week to sign and pick up your returns. The center will e-file the returns on your behalf.

Virtual services are available for taxpayers who qualify for VITA services and are able to submit their tax documents electronically. These 100% virtual services are conducted without in-person contact and can be accessed through the IRS website at getyourrefund.org.

This year, the drop-off site is located at Dublin Professional Center, 7600 Dublin Blvd., in Dublin, at the corner of Golden Gate Drive and Dublin Boulevard. Tax services will be performed on Wednesdays, by appointment only. You can drop-off your tax documents on Wednesday and return the following Wednesday to sign the completed returns. Wednesday schedules are Feb. 10 to April 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for drop off; and Feb. 17 to April 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for pick up.

Please note, center staff will conduct a thorough interview to avoid missing information and keep your tax documents to prepare your tax returns. It will take about one week to have your return finalized.

To get started, make a required appointment, print out an interview intake form, fill it out completely and bring it with you to the appointment. Then, gather all supporting documents as listed here:

- An original photo identification to prove your identity, such as a California driver's license or passport.

- Copies of your photo identification and social security cards for everyone on the tax return, including children. Staff will match the copies against your originals.

- All tax documents. If in doubt, bring it anyway.

After your appointment, wait one week while the volunteers prepare and check your tax returns. As an IRS-certified VITA site, your return will be prepared by one VITA volunteer and quality reviewed by another VITA volunteer. When your tax returns are ready for review, you will receive a phone call from the quality reviewer to schedule a telephone or Zoom call to review and approve your returns.

Finally, return to pick up your documents and copies of tax returns. This will typically be one week after drop-off, but it may be longer if there is a need to wait for additional documents or information. At the pick-up, staff will return all original

documents and all copies, and will also provide copies of your tax returns. You will be asked to sign the e-file authorization forms required for the center to e-file tax returns on your behalf.

Please note, volunteers and staff depend on you to provide the required information and documents needed to prepare complete and accurate returns. You have the final responsibility for the income tax returns and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you sign the e-file authorization. The center is not responsible for the inclusion of doubtful deductions or inadequately supported documentation, nor for resulting taxes, penalties, or interest.

During your appointments, you must follow all COVID safety requirements. For more information, call 925-416-5100. To find a VITA site close to your area, call the United Way helpline at 2-1-1.

Humane Society Seeks Volunteers For Board

The Valley Humane Society is accepting applications from volunteers interested in serving on its board of directors.

Board members serve two-year terms and are responsible for fundraising and building community relationships.

In the last year, the humane society, whose mission is to save and improve the lives of companion animals in the Tri-Valley, experienced a 29% increase in dog and cat adoptions and a 400% rise in individuals needing assistance feeding their pets. The organization anticipates that demand will continue to increase this year.

Those interested in serving on the board should apply by email to board@valleyhumane.org. The deadline to apply is April 9.

More information is available on the organization's website. valleyhumane.org.

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Dublin Opens All-Abilities Playground

A new Imagine Playground, designed to be accessible to children with special needs, is now open at the Dublin Sports Grounds. The \$5 million renovation at the Dublin city park also includes an all-inclusive picnic area, upgraded landscaping, parking facilities, pathways providing easier access to the sports fields, and a new Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant restroom facility. The city reached out to individuals and organizations that work with people

with special needs to design the playground, including Dublin Unified School District special education teachers, Little League Baseball's Challenger Division, and the local School of Imagination. The city also sponsored booths at events in 2018 to ask residents what they would like to see in the new all-abilities playground design. Dublin received a \$1.4 million grant from the state Department of Parks and Recreation to help pay for the renovation.

The Dublin Sports Grounds encompasses almost 23 acres near the city center off Dublin Boulevard and Civic Plaza, including a baseball diamond, two softball diamonds, and two soccer fields. A new illuminated public art piece, "Conversations," by artist Barbara Grygutis, has also been installed near the redesigned playground, designed to emphasize the human ability to transcend differences and find common ground through conversation.



The Dublin Sports Grounds now boasts a new park with a focus on accessibility. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Company Develops Technology for Rapid Coronavirus Tests

By Dawnmarie Fehr

One local company, Kaya17 Inc., has developed a rapid COVID-19 test and aims to use its revolutionary technology to create tests for other disease markers as well. Based in Livermore, Kaya17 created a new platform for diagnostic point of care testing, combining the accuracy of a traditional lab test and the speed of a

rapid test. "Typically, rapid tests aren't as accurate, and they tend to have a lot of false positives and false negatives," said Su Dwarakanath, founder and CEO. "This one is a blend of the two, where the accuracy is as good as you can get, and it's rapid. Point-of-care testing does have some problems, but we did a lot of innovation to get this test to the same level of efficiency

and accuracy as a lab test." Pleasanton resident Dwarakanath credits her success to the vertical flow filter method she developed and the lightweight portable reader designed by her co-founder and husband, Sri Satyanarayana. She said his engineering skills paired well with her background in research and diagnostics. "He designed the reader and software, and I am in the lab, where I develop the test itself," said Dwarakanath. Currently, Kaya17's 15-minute, saliva-based, antigen test for COVID-19 is CE Mark-approved. This certification of conformance with health, safety and environmental protection enables the company to sell its products within the European Economic Area as well as parts of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. They have applied for emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Once approval is received, they will begin marketing their test in the United States.

"The FDA has been going pretty fast these days, because it's an emergency, so we applied," Dwarakanath said. "They asked for some clarification on some things; we gave them that, and we are hoping to hear back in the next two to three weeks."

Kaya17 was founded in 2015 with the goal of shrinking lag time between testing, diagnosis and treatment to improve health care for patients everywhere. The company partnered with Day Break Labs in Livermore for incubation services and conducts its pilot manufacturing in Livermore as well. Its new test product will serve a wide range of uses in a variety of industries from travel to education to manufacturing. According to Dr. Allyson Tevrizian, Md., Dwarakanath's vertical flow technology is a game changer. "Testing is still a very important part of the solution for COVID-19," Tevrizian said. "We hope this can still be put out there. The country is not vaccinated, and now we have these variants. So testing, and especially rapid testing, is going to be an important part of schools, medical clinics, workplace operation, and travel reopening."

Tevrizian works as an allergist in Pleasanton and has watched Dwarakanath develop her platform and its clinical usefulness. The vertical flow system enhances the test's sensitivity, solving the accuracy difficulties of the common rapid test. Kaya17's test kit fits in a briefcase, making it light and portable for quick set up at any site. A randomized, blinded clinical trial found the test's accuracy to be 98% sensitivity, with a 90% specificity. The test can even detect early stage and asymptomatic infections. The diagnostic platform, which makes this test unique, can be adapted to perform other types of testing for infectious diseases, allergies and cancer markers, among others.

"The testing may calm down, but it won't go away," Dwarakanath said. "We are looking at COVID-19 today, but we are looking at a lot of tests coming up in the future, one which is Influenza RSV and COVID-19 together. People are getting sick, and they don't know if it's COVID, so if we have one test that can detect the flu and COVID-19, it would be very efficient. That is our next step. Then, we have a whole line of tests for cancer markers, women's health testing, and others, so we can use the platform and create others. The future is extremely bright for our platform." For more information on Kaya17, visit kaya17.com.



Husband and wife team, Sri Satyanarayana and Su Dwarakanath, created a new COVID-19 test. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Regional Park District Names New General Manager

Sabrina Landreth, former Oakland city administrator, has been named general manager for the East Bay Regional Park District. "Our board is thrilled to have Sabrina join our organization," said Dee Rosario, president of the park district's board of directors. "She has all the right elements of urban public sector

leadership experience and especially understands the diversity of the East Bay communities we serve." Landreth is a fifth generation East Bay native who earned a master's degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley. She was Emeryville city manager before going to

work for Oakland, where she served as deputy city administrator, budget director, and legislative analyst to the city's Finance Committee. She was named Oakland city administrator in 2015, resigning in 2020. Landreth succeeds Robert Doyle, who retired as general manager after a 47-year career with the park

district. The East Bay Regional Park District is the largest regional park system in the nation, with 73 parks, 55 miles of shoreline, and over 1,300 miles of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Dublin Parks Accepting Applications for Student Representatives

Dublin is seeking a student representative for the city's Parks and Community Services Commission and new members for the Youth Advisory Committee. The application deadline for both is Friday, March 26. The Parks and Community Services Commission advises the city council on

the operation and maintenance of parks, recreation program, and community services. It meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday of every month. Members receive \$50 per meeting. The student representative must be a Dublin resident and be either a junior or senior in the 2021-2022

school year. The representative will serve from June 1 through May 31, 2022. The Youth Advisory Committee also provide input on city programs and activities. The committee meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of the month. Applicants must be Dublin residents and enrolled in

middle or high school for the upcoming school year. Members will also serve from June 1 through May 31, 2022. Applications for both positions are available at the City of Dublin's website, <https://dublin.ca.gov>.

Former Poet Laureate Gioia To Address Tri-Valley Writers

Former California poet laureate Dana Gioia will discuss "Does Poetry Matter in the Modern World?" during an online meeting of the Tri-Valley Writers at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 20. Gioia, who served as poet laureate from 2015-19, will also discuss his development as a writer and his newest book, "Studying with Miss Bishop: Memoirs from a Young Writer's Life." The internationally recognized poet is also the author of five collections of verse, including "Interrogations

at Noon," which won the American Book Award, and "99 Poems: New & Selected" which won the Poets Prize in 2016 for the best new poetry volume. During Gioia's tenure as the state's poet laureate, his unprecedented tour of all 58 California counties became the subject of a BBC radio documentary. The Zoom-based meeting is free and open to the public, but reservations are required by March 18. To reserve, email president@trivalleywriters.org.

Webinar to Discuss COVID Stress

Dr. Debra Kaysen, a clinical psychologist who specializes in the effects of traumatic events on mental health, will present a free webinar on Tuesday, March 30, on strategies to deal with chronic stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The online seminar, "Moving from Surviving to Thriving in the Context of Chronic Stress," is being sponsored by the Pleasanton-based Alan Hu Foundation, founded by Xiaofang Chen and Chih-Ching Hu after their son, a 15-year-old Amador Valley High School student who suffered from

mental illness, took his own life in 2018. Kaysen, who is also a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Stanford University Medical Center, will discuss specific ways to mitigate stress associated with COVID-19 for healthcare workers and the public and how to help build resilience. The hourlong webinar will begin at 6:30 p.m., with 15 minutes for questions following the presentation. To RSVP and receive the Zoom meeting link, go to alanhufoundation.org/events.

Applications Open for Business Rent Abatement Grants

Livermore is now accepting joint applications for its Commercial Rent Abatement Matching Grant Program from eligible commercial landlords and their small business tenants.

Businesses with gross receipts up to \$10 million that have experienced losses as a result of COVID-19 are eligible to receive up to \$7,500 from the city if their commercial landlords agree to waive up to \$7,500 in unpaid rent during the public health emergency -- providing a net benefit for eligible businesses of up to \$15,000.

The city has appropriated \$409,000 for the program, which is available on a first-come first-served basis.

For more information and a copy of the joint application, go to www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/ed.

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EDITORIAL

What Happened, Supervisor Haubert?

Before the Nov. 3 election last year, David Haubert supported the development of a solar policy before approval of the Aramis and Sun-walker projects. He also stated his concern regarding the impact of the Aramis project on the ecosystem at the proposed site in North Livermore, along Cayetano Creek.

"After meeting with local residents, I have grave concerns about the impacts of the project on the environment, especially the scenic corridor," Haubert said in an August 2020 press release. "I would also like to see a solar study completed to help inform the decision. In my experience, leaders make better decisions when they have all the facts."

The completion of a solar policy became a common request of the county from constituents and agencies concerned with the lack of development planning. And Haubert himself joined the stance when agreeing to an October statement calling for a moratorium on all solar development until such a policy is in place.

That is why many constituents have voiced their dismay that months after making these statements, Haubert went forward and voted in favor

of the Aramis project despite the county's lack of a solar policy.

He never said that he outright opposed the project, and perhaps some of his concerns about the project's impact on the native ecosystem were alleviated through studying and attending meetings. However, it doesn't add up that a solar policy was once viewed as critical during the campaign, but now it's not.

If we're rushing Aramis through ahead of completing a policy simply because applicant Intersect Power has claimed that the project will die if delayed by 90 days, then this isn't the right company to work with. If this is the truth, as they have asserted, then they have not planned diligently. And that is not the county's fault.

But, in truth, the claim sounds more like a slick salesman's veiled threat.

Sunwalker — the much smaller project that's proposed for the neighboring region — is set to hold its appeals hearing April 22. We hope the board will pause forward motion on this development until the county has a plan in place.

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.

Build Panels on the Roof

James Ervin, Livermore

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the construction of the Aramis solar project in North Livermore Valley on March 4.

This approval allows Intersect Power to pave 400 acres of grassland and riparian corridor with solar panels! The Environmental Impact Report for the project discusses creating construction buffers to protect active eagle nests and owl burrows. Yet, these people pretend not to realize that eagles and owls feed on field mice, rabbits, and other rodents that will no longer live here when the field is covered. The rest of us will be left to wonder why sparrows, meadowlarks, and magpies declined in the local area after grasslands no longer support the insects they feed on.

This environmental destruction will happen so that City of San Francisco can purchase green power credits without actually having to make any hard choices. San Francisco and other California cities need to learn to build solar panels on their own roofs; not over open spaces that support shrinking ecological habitats.

How to Make It Quiet

Theodore Schaefer, Livermore

A quiet/nonpolluting Livermore:

a) Ban gas lawn mowers and blowers from sales and purchase in the Tri Valley -- permit battery-driven only, especially for landscapers, who should immediately stop using noisy and polluting gas mowers, blowers, edgers, etc. and can get extra batteries if needed to do a full day's work.

b) Require solar on roofs of all new houses, condos, and businesses, so that we cut down on some pollution from burning so much natural gas in the winter. The solar could be connected to a few warming coils in the condo's concrete floor, and thus partially heat the whole unit for the winter.

c) Require three small recycling bins in all apartments and condos, for garbage, organics, and recyclables, etc., without grandfathering out existing housing units

d) Require that soft goods like big mattresses and rugs be put in a separate landfill area, so in the future they might be shredded and disposed of environmentally. Separate glass from plastics and from paper in our chaotic landfills.

Are You Happy With Downtown?

Don and Linda Milanese, Livermore

We've always supported the

idea of a large park downtown.

In fact, over many months, we gathered signatures for three petitions for that very purpose. Whenever we talked to citizens at the Farmers' Market, outside grocery stores, or in neighborhoods, we always described what was planned just across the street on the old Groth Brothers lot: 222 units in 4-story buildings with parking garages. But, we had an election last March that sealed the deal for the downtown development and appeared to end any hope for the large Central Park that would have extended Stockmen's Park to L Street.

We wish the construction of the 222 units had begun before the election, because the voters could have seen its impact on L Street and would have voted for open space. Now, we're stuck with an additional 4-story future development right across the street from Groth Brothers - Eden Housing.

We know Livermore needs more housing - we support the need - but does it need to be built in the heart of town to create two solid blocks of housing? In addition, the footprint of Eden Housing's new plan has expanded way beyond its original promise. It's not what voters chose.

If you're not happy with what's happening downtown, please sign the online petition at Tinyurl.com/Save-Livermore-Downtown.

No Science, Just Politics

Mike Bland, Livermore

While Newsom and Biden claimed their responses to COVID will be science based, we can clearly see now that was just a lie.

Vaccines are now prioritized for teachers as they pander to the California Teachers Association (CTA) and the Democrat-dominated teachers unions. Teachers in their 20s are getting vaccines in a deal to reopen schools.

To fight his recall, Newsom is buying CTA support with \$2 billion to 'partially' reopen the schools by April 1. This is in stark contrast with Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds, who decided enough was enough after attending school board meetings (via Zoom), where she was shocked to see the contempt with which parents were treated by school boards (sounds like Oakley).

She concluded teachers, 'were not putting the student first,' so she called on lawmakers to 'send me a bill that gives parents the choice to send their children back to school full time.' The state senate and house passed it on Jan 29.

Gov. Reynolds has more balls than Newsom ever had. Please continue to remember these lies for the recall vote. Anyone want to bet that CTA will run ads against the recall?

Stop Livermore Airport 737 Jets Expansion

Mark Lauer, Pleasanton

The Livermore Airport Commission approved building new facilities on 45 acres to fly Boeing 737 jets in and out of the airport.

Although they claim that it will only be a few flights a day, which is terrible if you live anywhere near a flight path, in reality this will allow much greater traffic of large jets, because the airport cannot refuse planes from takeoff and landing. That is, once the facilities are expanded, expect large commercial jetliner traffic throughout the valley.

Jet flights over our house have increased over the past couple years, even though our house is not supposed to be in a flight path. There have been less flights in the last couple weeks as the airport tries to sneak the latest expansion through, but this is the eye of the hurricane.

The risk of a catastrophe caused by the airport should not be ignored. A small plane crashed on Isabel Avenue about a week ago,

striking a car. Imagine if that was a large jet that plowed through a residential neighborhood or school.

This morning, a corporate jet flew directly over Mohr School, as I have seen many times previously, despite it being an unrecommended flight path. Restrictions on flight paths to those shown on the airport website are voluntary, and the cost of some jet fuel was apparently more important than the safety of hundreds of students.

The airport attempts to justify the expansion by projecting that it would earn about \$290,000 per year in lease revenue and \$100,000 per year in fuel taxes (suggesting a huge increase in greenhouse gasses) and says this money would be used to further increase airport facilities, exacerbating the problems created by the airport. Compare that to the economic impact of the initial expansion on the hundreds of houses most affected by the expansion, which are valued at \$1million to \$2 million and up. Even a modest 5% decrease in value would be \$50,000 per million-dollar house, or \$10,000,000 for only 200 such houses. A more detailed calculation yields a much higher number.

Indeed, an online petition to stop airport expansion already has over 2,300 signatures, suggesting a much higher economic cost.

If you care about safety, noise, quality of life, the environment, and home values, please help stop the airport from expanding again and destroying the areas around it.

Reevaluate Your Vision

Mary Carter, Livermore

As a lifelong resident and member of a family that has lived in Livermore for six generations, it saddens me to see what is happening to downtown Livermore.

Here, we had a chance to make our downtown even greater in a manner such as Healdsburg. Instead, it's going the route of Walnut Creek. To those that think that high-density housing, no parking, and heavy traffic belong downtown, please take your values to Walnut Creek and leave Livermore's downtown the way it should be, charming and a place to shop and dine.

To those responsible, please stop and reevaluate your vision for downtown Livermore, so it is better aligned with what the majority of residents want.

They Turn a Deaf Ear

Richard Hughes, Livermore

For those of us who seem so 'gung-go' about the development and expansion of Livermore Airport to now include Boeing 737 aircraft, I would like to educate them about an important concept.

Suggestion: Please go and live in Mumbai, India, or Manila, Philippines, for just 60 days, each visit. When you do that, you will discover what happens to cities that do development and expansion, followed by more development and expansion, motivated primarily by business interests, with no thought given to the following things: noise pollution, air pollution, water pollution, trash pollution, overcrowding, and gridlocked traffic.

They have become absolutely awful places to live in. I know. I have walked that walk. Been there, done that. Yes, those cities are located in what have been called third-world countries. America used to be a first-world country. Just like the UK, we are fast slipping into second-world status. That is a topic for a whole separate thread or discussion.

But really, what is the essential difference between development or expansion projects in the third world versus the first world? Before any development or expansion projects happen in first-world countries, much thought and consideration is given to noise pollution, air pollution, water pollution, trash pollution, overcrowding, and gridlocked traffic. Are we saying that we don't care about these things anymore?

If that truly is the case, shame on us! Welcome to the third world ... we seem to be making increasingly poor decisions over the last several decades in our personal lives and at the city level, the county level, the state level and at the federal level.

Question: Are these poor decisions a consequence of the fact that we have devolved into a 'nation of spoiled brats' that are slowly sinking into the quagmire

of our own incompetence?

I would like to end with a quote that succinctly transmits a little message from a song in the Hollywood movie, "Paint Your Wagon." Yes, I am old enough to remember that movie.

"Civilization left and civilization right, until there's nothing left and there's nothing right!"

Let's think about this message, long and hard, please. The City of Livermore has chosen to serve the 1% at the expense of the 99%, again, as usual! That is now why we elect them to their offices, and they turn a deaf ear to us when we tell them so!

Do Not Expand Livermore Airport

Andrew Bixby, Livermore

We, the people of Livermore, are once again being subjected to something that we do not like and do not want, but seems to be being shoved down our throats, whether we like it or not!

This refers to the recent submission of a proposal by the Livermore Airport Commission to the City of Livermore Planning Dept., i.e.: a proposal to expand the use of Livermore Airport, to include a Free Base Operator (FBO) called Kaiser Air, to fly 3-6 Boeing 737-500 Aircraft into and out of Livermore Airport (LVK), every week.

I have seen the YouTube video of the so-called test flights that were secretly performed recently into LVK. Those twin jet engines are loud! 97 dB emanating from a screaming jet engine that was not even throttling up too much, because the aircraft was empty, was not fun to hear.

The other serious concern we all must have is with regard to the length of the currently available runway at LVK. It is just a mere 5,700 feet. Boeing recommends that its 737 aircraft have at least a 6,800-foot runway. What are these city officials thinking? Kaiser Air says it is only a 737-500 and it is always going to be empty because these 737s are only going to come to LVK for service and maintenance.

But we live in the real world, don't we, guys? We all know that a fully loaded Kaiser Air 737 is going to take off or land at LVK, either surreptitiously or in an emergency, when Oakland does not clear one of their planes to land due to weather or some other reason.

Very recently, a small turbo-prop airplane had to make an emergency abortive action, due to engine trouble during takeoff. It ended up on the fence of the airport, with half the airplane on Isabel Avenue, in collision with a motor vehicle that just happened to be on Isabel Avenue at that moment! Luckily, nobody got killed.

Can you imagine a huge Boeing 737-500 airplane that has to make an emergency abort during takeoff from LVK, and then careens right across Isabel, totally destroying 10 vehicles and killing 20 people, and then continues careening into the shopping complex across the street, with the pilot landing right on the stove of the kitchen inside Cattleman's restaurant? Hello?

Eden Housing

Thomas Soules, Livermore

At the workshop meeting on March 1, Mayor Woerner said that aside from a small group of people, the citizens of Livermore favored the planned Eden Housing project on the Lucky site. Unless my very small survey is vastly biased this is not true. Everyone (100%) I talked to wanted the low-income housing to be moved to north of Railroad.

A Promise of Hope for Our Community's Less Privileged Children

Mini Chopra, Livermore

Affordable housing projects, such as the upcoming Eden Downtown Housing in Livermore, are envisioned to provide safe and habitable spaces for our city's most crucial workforce — teachers, nurse assistants, police cadets, and our downtown's restaurant workers.

These are the people who make our everyday Livermore life so much easier for us. This workforce, which is continually at-risk of becoming unhoused and falling through the cracks, represents not just individuals; it, in fact, represents households, sometimes supported by a single-

income parent, with children to nurture, raise, and prepare for the future.

In 2019, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified District reported a count of 137 vulnerable children enrolled in our public schools. Of these, 83 lived in overcrowded housing; 32 lived in temporary shelters; 20 lived in hotels or motels; and two were unsheltered. (Source: Human Services, City of Livermore, livermorechamber.org.)

How do we stay motivated about investing in tax-funded public education, without being assured that all our community's children, no matter what economic strata they belong to, are being provided an equal and fair chance to a good future — a future that is only made possible if these children are allowed a stable roof over their heads and an integrated family support system? Livermore's Eden Downtown Housing, therefore, is a promise of hope for our community's less privileged children. If this project is allowed to move forward as planned, it will save many at-risk Livermore families from getting disintegrated and save many of our city's youth from losing direction in life.

Our city's true community character and ethos are defined, not by fancy and upscale restaurants, but by how we treat and support the most vulnerable among us. Livermore's rich and affluent, who don't seem too excited about sharing our downtown with 130 low-income households, are being short-sighted here in failing to realize the debilitating cost of displacing our city's most essential workforce. With increasingly visible income disparities in a socio-economically diverse Livermore, the only way to mitigate the gap between the haves and the have-nots in our city is by continuing to invest in the future of all our children and by ensuring that no single child is deprived of a stable way of life.

As they rightly say, it takes a village! An assured yes, it is, to the proposed Eden Downtown Housing at their existing site.

Social Distancing Tradeoffs

Alan Burnham, Livermore

A March 4 letter said that masking and social distancing are ineffective and violate the first amendment, so citizens should protest them by opening businesses and other actions.

It is both the right and obligation of citizens to speak out against ineffective and overreaching regulations. Thoreau even argued that one should go to jail rather than obey an immoral law. But are mask and social distancing regulations immoral? Are traffic laws immoral?

What about slander and libel laws? When does the unfettered action of a person become a crime against another?

Masking and social distancing are effective at reducing transmission — by about 70% in 2020 as I wrote on Feb. 25, and by about 80% when people were more careful. It is true that the cost of social distancing is substantial, but it must be weighed against the cost of not doing it. The tradeoff is not trivial, and governments have not always done it well. We often consider only all-or-nothing decisions.

COVID-19 hospitalization and death rates vary, but good average estimates for the U.S. are 2% for hospitalizations and 0.4% for deaths after correcting for unconfirmed cases. The latter is consistent with 120 million total cases and 530,000 deaths. If everyone in the U.S. had caught COVID, and that would have happened without social controls, we would have had at least 1.3 million deaths, and probably a lot more due to overwhelming medical facilities.

What is the value of a human life? The EPA and Federal Department of Transportation value it at about \$10 million in their analyses. That is about twice the \$5,000 per year of quality life used by insurers and three times the average lifetime earning potential. But even using a low value of \$2 million times 1.5 million lives would give \$3 trillion. And the could-have-been 6.5 million hospitalizations at \$60,000 apiece would be another \$400 billion.

The total of \$3.4 trillion is 16% of the U.S. GDP!

A final moral question is more than hypothetical. If an unvaccinated person refusing to wear

a mask in a crowded room were proved to have infected a person who subsequently died, could the infecting person be charged with reckless endangerment or be sued for wrongful death?

Freedom is not unlimited. With freedom comes responsibility, and with more responsibility (e.g., masking and social distancing) will come a faster and more lasting reopening.

Livermore City Council Lacks Common Sense

Zbigniew Jastrzebski, Livermore

I have been observing, in dismay, many of the decisions that have been made, in recent years, by the Livermore mayor and city council.

One has to ask the question: Are these guys just lacking in common-sense? Is that the root cause of the problem?

It takes common-sense to know that you don't overbuild in a downtown area, so that you don't make it so awfully closed-in, crowded, and stifled, that nobody ever wants to visit your downtown area ever again! What a complete and utter mess these guys have made of downtown Livermore, and the overbuilding has just started. Even God cannot help us after they have finished screwing it up. They have 'done' us good, and we can't hit the 'undo' button!

It takes common sense to know that you don't build a huge industrial solar power plant in an agricultural area and scenic corridor! You could have moved the location of that plant to an area that was not agricultural and not a scenic corridor, but that was too hard to think through. North of Morgan Territory, and between Livermore and Patterson and Newman, there is oodles of space. Wow, right?

It takes common sense to know that you don't change East Avenue to one lane each way, with a silly road diet, to solve one problem, while you cause five other problems. East Avenue is a major east-west artery in Livermore. It is one of the only three we have. It will naturally become a critical evacuation route for approximately 27,000 people in the event of a California wildfire or a major earthquake. They have no clue!

It takes common sense to know that you don't just develop and expand Livermore Airport, because one businessman is pushing for it. Livermore airport has always been for small planes only.

Your city fathers allowed the building of thousands of homes all around the airport over the last 20 years, right up to its border! Already, the sound of private Lear jets and Gulfstreams is awfully loud when they fly just hundreds of feet over thousands of residential homes, and now, they want to allow Boeing 737s into LVK? Have they heard of the term noise pollution?

God, we miss Marshall Kamena! Why? Because he had a lot of common sense, and most importantly, he knew not to serve the 1% at the expense of the 99%.

Trump's Shameful Legacy

Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

While sanity is returning to America, Trump and his followers yearn passionately for an America that will eventually take us back to the days of Jim Crow.

I, for one, yearn for an America that takes us back to the days before Trump entered politics.

I yearn for the days when we had trust in elections. That trust was stolen in 2016, when a presidential candidate, for the first time in American history, declared that unless he wins, the system is rigged. We all know to what measures Trump and his buddies resorted when he lost in 2020.

I yearn for the days when America believed and excelled in science. The rest of the world admired us and was envious of our accomplishments. I was proud to be an American!

Above all, I yearn for the days when truth and facts — "reality" — were respected. The days when we were an enlightened country that had risen above medieval superstition and above cult-like conspiracy theories. I yearn for the days when this country marginalized racist and militant elements, the days when America tried to live up to its ideals of equal rights and equal justice for all.

Instead, Trump has left a shameful legacy: "the big lie"

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

that the election was stolen from him – a lie that did not convince a single court – and he tried many! He has stolen American's trust in the election process.

Trump has openly supported white supremacists and militants who attacked our seat of government. He has made science take a back seat, questioning climate change and opposing and ridiculing medical measures to protect against the COVID-19 virus – the last with deadly consequences.

Truth and facts mean nothing to Trump. He rather fuels insane and dangerous conspiracy theories like QAnon. Thanks to Trump, the QAnon cultists think of themselves as the "true patriots." Cultists have even infiltrated the halls of Congress!

Fortunately, I can be proud of my Congressman Eric Swalwell, who has actively fought against Trump and his continued attempts to turn America into a fascist bastion. I am dismayed by readers who are downplaying the insurrection of Jan. 6, while attacking Swalwell for absolutely nothing.

Rep. Swalwell is helping his constituents – indeed, all Americans – tremendously by undoing the harmful legacy of Donald Trump.

A 'Special Detail' for Tri-Valley Conservancy
Greg Scott, Livermore

Attention is deserved for the March 4 headline article, "Tri-Valley Conservancy To Monitor Aramis Site If Approved" in The Independent, which stated, "The Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) penned a recent agreement with Intersect Power, the Aramis Solar Energy Generation and Storage Project applicant, to monitor the site should the project gain approval."

How cozy to have an 'agreement' to witness and 'monitor' the ensued harm of nature at the Aramis Solar Project site before

the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the project on March 4, contrary to votes of the electorate with the passage of Measure D. This TVC collaboration is a betrayal of the mission of conservancy. The loss of this prime agricultural soil and the resultant reduction in biodiversity does not meet the standards of conservancy.

"We are all complicit, paralyzed by the overwhelming force of the megamachine and bound to its destructive energy by our allotted slots within its massive machinery," said Filip Muller, a Czech Jew survivor of liquidations at Auschwitz through being a 'special detail' member to Claude Lanzmann in 'Shoah,' a Holocaust documentary.

The development of the Aramis Project site is another societal and environmental degradation to people's welfare by politicians and corporate interests who are a cog in the deleterious 'megamachine.' Big picture: Knowledge from new research, using satellite technology, led at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, informs us over 100 million acres of the corn belt has completely lost its topsoil. This is the soil layer that supplies most of the water and nutrients to plants. As a consequence, corn yields are 6% lower for an economic loss of around \$3 billion.

How much prime agricultural soil remains this proximate to the Bay Area as we have in the North Livermore Valley? How much more agricultural soil can we afford to lose when over 16 million children are hungry in this country?

The recent agricultural losses in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas will take years of recovery. The diminished economic contributions will add to poverty and to food prices nationally, which will accentuate domestic hunger. In lieu of this, we are going to decimate local prime agricultural

soil capabilities and the attendant biodiversity?

May there be justice in a court of law against the unwise actions of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and Intersect Power respective to these lands. Our children require better than complicit destruction.

Parking Space Too Tight
Pat Wheeler, Livermore

I understand that the City has voted to narrow half the spaces in downtown parking structures from 8.5 feet to 8 feet.

Who are they supporting? Auto body shops, car detailers, manufacturers of side mirrors, car dealers of mini-size autos?

My car, including side mirrors, is 7 feet wide, and my son's mid-size car is 6.5 feet. Once the doors are opened, they are even wider. We cannot assume that the adjacent cars are parked in the middle of their spaces. Even 8.5 feet is tight for our cars to get in and out of. Think of parents trying get their child out of or into a car seat, or trying to load groceries into the back seat, or people with limited mobility and maybe a walker trying to get in and out of the car without hitting vehicles next to them.

I measured the width of parking spaces in several commercial lots and public parking areas. They ranged from 9 to 10 feet. At times, with people parking inappropriately, it can be a challenge to get in and out of them with the doors open. This weekend, I saw a police car parked over the white line between the spaces.

At times, I have had to drive around in the Railroad Garage looking for a spot where adjacent vehicles aren't so close to the edge or with oversized vehicles taking up most of the width of the 8.5 feet wide spaces. Narrower spaces will only exacerbate this problem. I doubt that half the vehicles in Livermore are mini-vehicles. The Eden Housing develop-

ment will add to the parking deficit. It was short 98 parking spaces. With the narrowing of spaces, it may only gain four spaces, leaving it 94 spaces under the city code and causing more of us to circle the downtown looking for parking.

I am also concerned about the size of spaces for people with disabilities. Someone with a motorized wheelchair and a large van with a side ramp to get in and out of the vehicle needs a 10-foot space, plus more than five feet to get in and out of the vehicle with a ramp down. What are the plans for those people?

Yes, we need more parking in downtown. But we need it for all people, not just agile ones with small cars.

City Council an Outrage
Melanie Reed, Livermore

Livermore residents, if you're not already aware of what is being planned for our beautiful downtown it's time to sit up and take notice.

You may think that with Measure P behind us, we're moving toward a plan that gives us a downtown hotel, more parking, plenty of open space and parks, and a few new housing units. Unfortunately, there are changes going on behind the scenes that go against what the people of Livermore were promised.

There are currently 222 housing units being built in a 4-story structure on L Street. What you may not realize, is that Eden Housing is now planning to build an additional 130 low-income housing units across the street. The impact is that L Street will be flanked by 4 story tall housing units on either side. That will leave us with high-density housing looming over L Street, less open space, and not enough parking to support the additional housing units.

The residents of Livermore asked for open space, less hous-

ing, and an inviting downtown that reflected the character of our community. Now we're moving towards a downtown that's characterized by high-density, low-income housing, insufficient parking, and a lack of green, open spaces where people and visitors will want to visit and gather. I love Livermore's downtown and don't want to see it devolve into something unwelcoming. It's time for our City Council to do the right thing and find a more appropriate location for the Eden Housing development. Enough is enough!

Supervisors Approve Utility Scale Solar in North Livermore
David Rounds, Livermore

It only took Dave Haubert,

the new District 1 supervisor, two months to break a significant, big campaign promise.

Vowing during the run up to

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

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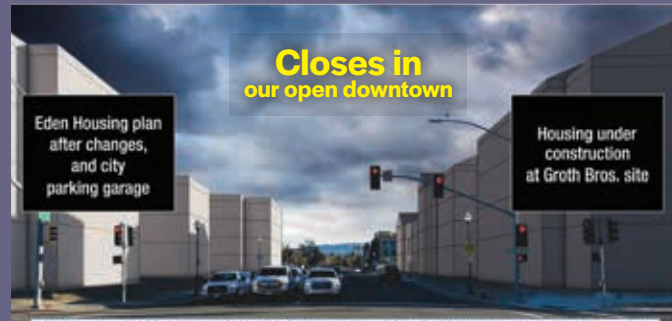
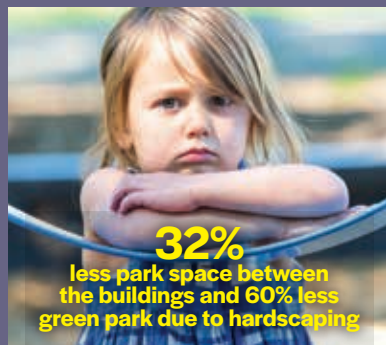
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373 N. L Street, Livermore, CA 94551 Phone: 925.495.4892 Fax: 925.495.4893

Unhappy with Eden Housing's new plan for downtown?

Eden Housing's new plan for downtown Livermore is not what we were promised. It shrinks parks and open space, reduces parking, eliminates workforce housing for teachers, firefighters and police, closes in our historic open downtown and will increase traffic congestion on L Street.



Here's what you can do.

1

Sign the petition against the new plan at tinyurl.com/Save-Livermore-Downtown

2

Follow Save Livermore Downtown on Facebook @SaveLivermoreDowntown

3

Write a letter to the editor letters@independentnews.com or www.eastbaytimes.com/letters-to-the-editor

4

Write an email to our City Council at LivermoreCityCouncil@cityoflivermore.net



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Speak up to Save Livermore Downtown!

DUBLIN

(Continued from first page)

havioral Health will give this pilot program a grant of \$250,000. The cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton would split the remaining \$24,000 evenly. Should the grant not come through, however, the three cities would split the total cost of the pilot program evenly.

"We chose to split it equally, because we don't know how utilized it would be for each city," City Manager Linda Smith stated in an email to The Independent. "After the first year, we will have more data."

During the meeting, Smith presented the proposal alongside Dr. Jennifer Penney, the Chief of Behavioral Health at Axis Community Health, who will run the urgent care center pilot program.

All the councilmembers expressed their support for this project.

"I think this is very needed, because I see the increasing number of people, including teenagers and students, need these kinds of services," City Councilmember Sherry Hu said.

SUTTER

(Continued from first page)

Moderna vaccines should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible, but not earlier than recommended (i.e. three weeks for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine or one month for the Moderna vaccine). However, second doses administered within a grace period of four days earlier than the recommended date for the second dose are still considered valid. They do make it clear that if it is not feasible to adhere to the recommended interval and a delay in vaccination is unavoidable, the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines may be administered up to six weeks (42 days) after the first dose.

Currently, only limited

The council also asked questions about the operations and legality surrounding the proposed urgent care center. Penney expanded on how the program is planning to operate.

The center plans to serve 20 patients a week and is projected to serve 500 patients in the 12-month pilot program period. They currently have 20 therapists on staff.

"The proposed program would offer up to five individual sessions with the possibility of consulting with a psychiatrist with the hopes of keeping someone stable until they can get connected with their insurance provider," Penney said.

She said that if a patient is underinsured, an enrollment team will determine if the person qualifies for Medical or Covered California. The role of the center will be to connect people with resources.

"That's a much-needed service in our community," Vice Mayor Shawn Kumagai said.

He went on to say that he has noticed mental health

facilities reach capacity and do not always have enough staff members to treat those in need.

City Manager Linda Smith said that, in the past three years, there has been a 45% increase in 5150 calls — a state welfare code used by police that indicates a person is a danger to themselves and results in a mandatory 72-hour hold in a psychiatric ward.

"I think any help that we can insert is helpful," Kumagai continued.

Councilmember Jean Josey asked if there would be room to scale up the amount of patients helped throughout the duration of the pilot program. She anticipated that this center will be a victim of its own success once more and more people find out that this service has become available.

Penney said she hopes to find a team willing to support the project but noted that it is hard to predict the demand since they have not worked with this population in the past.

"We're willing to be as

flexible as possible," Penney said.

Councilmember Michael McCorrison expressed concerns over the coverage the mental health center itself would have. City Attorney Josh Powell reassured the councilmembers that liability on the cities involved in this agreement should not be an issue, as the health center will hold the liability insurance.

Mayor Melissa Hernandez expressed her support for the urgent care mental health center by sharing a personal story about seeing a friend in a mental health crisis.

"I do want to share to our community that this is greatly needed," Hernandez said.

Hernandez further stated that even though this program has not started yet, she called Axis to secure help for a resident who had been suffering from Bipolar Disorder for 10 years.

"I am honored as a city to be driving this and to be the leaders for the Tri-Valley," Hernandez said.

– Valley Care is now able to schedule vaccination appointments for health care workers; individuals 65 and older; and persons at risk of occupational exposure to COVID-19 through their work in any role in the following sectors: education and child care (including staff and any other workers involved in child or student care); emergency services; and agriculture and food. However, vaccine supply remains limited, and officials will continue to add more appointments as they get more vaccines. Stanford Health Care has received both the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit <http://shc.is/3qtmU3a>.

At Kaiser Permanente, staff is currently vaccinating health care workers; residents of long-term care facilities; people 65 and older; and people working in education and child care; food and agriculture; and emergency services. According to its website, supply is still limited but increasing, as the State of California has increased the weekly vaccine allocation to better match the number of members the organization serves. The hospital is scheduled to receive 20% of California's vaccine supply. As they get more supply, they will continue to include additional groups by looking at age, health risks, and job types. For more information, visit <https://k-p.li/3bw8UkR>.

until the emergency or crisis is declared over.

Councilmembers Britni Kiick and Gina Bonnano questioned what happens to a temporary housing project at that point. Livermore's Community Development Director Paul Spence said "we would look to transition the units if it came to that point" to permanent housing.

"We really don't anticipate, sadly, that we're going to have an end to the housing crisis in the next few years," Spence said.

The Livermore City Council will hold a special meeting Monday, March 15, to interview candidates to fill the planning commission seat vacated by Councilmember Gina Bonanno.

PLEASANTON

(Continued from first page)

report. "There is not enough capacity to meet the demand, and the systems are complex and difficult to maneuver, especially in a crisis."

Through the MOU, the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin agree to pay Axis Community Health a sum not to exceed \$321,495 for project startup and project budget year one costs. Each city will pay one-third at this time.

Councilmember Jack Balch said he was very supportive of the program and hoped it would be evaluated on a regular basis, so that it could continually improve.

Councilmember Kathy Narum expressed appreciation that the pilot program was a proactive measure to address issues within the community. She noted it could help ease the strain on law enforcement. Vice Mayor Julie Testa called the program a terrific first step, and Councilmember Valerie Arkin said she was happy to see the services offered to the community.

Mayor Karla Brown thanked the many students who have called in to stress the critical importance of mental health.

"(Students) were even willing to trade off school resource officers in order to get mental health support," Brown said. "I also just wanted to say that this is a supplement to our officers and our emergency responders, which I think is going to be welcomed. For our city staff who make those first calls, those initial calls, now they have someone to refer their residents to."

Council Draws Road Map for 2021 Legislation

The city council unanimously approved a series of policy positions and comments pertaining to potential new jurisdictional bills.

The Pleasanton Legislative Framework and Focus Areas for 2021 were reviewed and submitted to the city council during the March 2 regular meeting.

The following are some of the focus areas and items recommended by staff and approved by council: COVID-19 response and recovery; housing; fiscal sustainability; Pleasanton's infrastructure; protect local control; safe and secure community; sustainable development; and regional collaboration.

Each year, the City Council Legislative Subcommittee

RESTRICTIONS

(Continued from first page)

"As more activities and businesses open indoors, and more people from different households mix, the risk of becoming infected increases," he said. "The

is asked to review and discuss new bills that have been introduced at the state and federal levels and determine the city's policy positions. The report, once approved by all five Tri-Valley cities, serves as a framework to provide collective voices at the legislative level.

"There are lots of focus areas for this year, but I imagine the (primary) focus will be on COVID-19 and housing issues," said Becky Hopkins, assistant to the city manager.

The subcommittee led by Testa and Narum, examined various bills ranging from environmental issues and mental health services to homelessness and fire prevention.

"I'm pleased we are taking a forward position on things; it's important that we don't sit and watch, and it's important we kind of lead the way on this," said Testa.

Although the intent behind the document is to create solidarity and a strong collective voice among all the Tri-Valley cities — Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and the Town of Danville — City Manager Nelson Fiahlo pointed out there can be exceptions if one or more cities don't concur.

"Yes, all five cities must agree, but in some cases, it can be just four cities supporting an initiative," said Fiahlo. "But 90% (of the time) or sometimes more, there is an alignment."

The focus areas were chosen based on current political issues at the federal and state levels in addition to timely regional and local issues. City staff will continue to monitor incoming bills throughout the 2021 legislative cycle to determine if and when the city council should take a formal position on additional items.

"I think this really sums up well all the different areas where we can be effective, and that really can have an influence on the city," said Narum. "They are things that really make Pleasanton a unique and great place to live, and so I'm happy that we continue to work through these bills — both the ones that help us and try to modify the ones that are maybe not quite as much in our favor. I think this is a really great process."

For additional information, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

HOUSING

(Continued from first page)

switches" to use it.

According to Brent Smith, Livermore's building official, the less restrictive requirements for temporary, movable structures can only be used when the city manager declares a state of emergency or a local shelter crisis. California adopted the addition to its building code specifically to provide less restrictive requirements for temporary, movable structures to address California's ongoing housing and shelter crisis.

Livermore City Council declared a local shelter crisis in the city on Oct. 8, 2018, before the state adopted its code.

"This ordinance could be utilized for projects such as the Tiny Homes project at

data are available on efficacy of Moderna vaccines administered beyond this window.

"As long as we continue to receive sufficient supply, we anticipate being able to complete all second dose vaccinations well within the CDC's recommended timeframe," said Binkley Smith. "We may still need to reschedule some second-dose patients and will reach out to them in advance.

For more information about Sutter Health's vaccine schedules, visit www.sutterhealth.org.

Other agencies offering vaccinations locally include Stanford Health Care – Valley Care and Kaiser Permanente.

According to its website, Stanford Health Care

Crosswinds Church," Smith wrote. "While these appendices do reduce certain building code requirements,

they continue to impose responsible requirements for temporary housing and shelter projects by maintaining minimum requirements for ceiling height, lofts, stairways, handrails, emergency egress, smoke and carbon dioxide detectors."

CrossWinds Church has been working since last year with local and county officials to develop Goodness Village — 28 160-square-foot homes for the unsheltered — on its grounds at 1660 Freisman Road. The homes, which include restrooms, showers, kitchenettes, central air conditioning and

heat, and porches, are being built to provide homes at an affordable price with supportive services and activities.

The new ordinance, set to take effect in April, could be applied to provide temporary housing for people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency on March 4, 2020, and Livermore City Manager Marc Roberts followed with a local emergency order nine days later. The local order has been extended six times.

The less restrictive requirements will be allowed only when the city manager formally declares a state of emergency or a local shelter crisis. The rules would apply

to a for-profit developer.

Utility-scale, solar-energy factories can go many places in the county and state, but they should not go everywhere. These decisions around our collective desire for clean energy must not be decided based on a developer's plan and willing landowners, especially when one environmental consideration is being sacrificed for another.

What is Livermore?

Barbara Doggett, Livermore

For one moment, put aside all the arguments about where to put Eden Housing, parking spaces, open spaces, and broken promises.

Just simply ask yourself the bigger question, what is it that makes Livermore a unique place for living and visiting. Until now, our beautiful town has grown in good ways. Do you want it to continue and thrive for us and for future generations? Twenty years ago, when I said I worked in Livermore, the response would be, "Where?"

Our home was an unknown, obscure, little city. Twenty years ago, people went to Pleasanton or Tracy for dinner, movies, and street fairs.

Today, people come here for all of this, wine and beer tasting and more. I have friends that come from San Leandro just for dinner, to shop and to stroll around. Today, when I say, "I live in Livermore," we are recognized throughout the U.S. ... even in Europe. I ordered Wente wine in restaurants. Today, our town has retained its attraction with unique, old, wine-country atmosphere, while smartly modernizing first street. Today, Livermore has become a destination for visitors, family neighborhoods, and young adults.

But ask yourself these questions about planning our future:

- Will driving downtown L street between 1st and Railroad, with 3- and 4-story buildings on

both sides of the street be like driving through a dark tunnel?

- Is a 4-story building dominating and darkening the park area appropriate? The only other 4-story structures are public buildings - the parking garage (away from pedestrian town) and the Bankhead theater (unimposing - set way back with public use space in front).

- How will fewer parking spaces adversely impact local businesses?

- How and why did this present Eden Housing plan emerge from the original, and subsequent myriad of proposals over the last four years, to be the largest and most invasive?

- Why is the central park the only place for the massive Eden Housing, when many other nearby sites are available?

Now is a vital pivotal decision-making point for the future of our community. Do we take a lead from the Napa-Sanoma area to continue the warm wine country environment welcoming residents and visitors? Or do we to greatly overbuild downtown into a Dublin-Fremont type of city. Hopefully, our Mayor and City Council are good visionary stewards of our community.

What do you want to happen?

Say No to Jets

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Livermore Airport voted to allow 737 jets to land and depart from LVK, along with fueling stations and hangars for 737 jets.

The Sierra Club voted to oppose the project for the following reasons. The FAA allows 737 jets to fly day or night, as long as the 737 jets fly under 89 decibels.

The noise level from the 737 jets exceeds the California State Noise Control Act of 1973 limit 70 (dBA), exceeds CEQA noise limit 70 (dBA), exceeds City of Livermore General Plan (2003 to 2025) noise limit 70 (dBA), exceeds Alameda General Plan (1994) limit 70 (dBA) exceeds City of Dublin

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

the election to favor the creation of a "solar siting policy" before approving utility-scale solar. Haubert led the 5-0 vote by the board of supervisors to approve the Aramis project last week. Vowing to continue to "work" on a solar policy, the environmental and legal flaws of this project were dismissed by the supervisors.

Next month will be an appeal hearing and vote on a second utility-scale solar plant, across the street from the Aramis project. A solar policy will not be in place by that time. Does anyone question the vote of Haubert and the supervisors?

Once this second project is approved, developing a solar siting policy should be easy for Haubert and the supervisors. Put it in the now-industrialized North Livermore Valley. The disregard for violations of general plan zoning, proven environmental impacts, and the general inappropriateness of siting this solar factory in North Livermore was discouraging, but not unexpected from a board that has never accepted the protections to open, scenic, and agricultural land offered by Measure D.

How could they justify this decision?

They did it by making this a zero-sum choice. Save the environment for our grandchildren or have open space. This ridiculously simplified overstatement is a cop out that is going to become the "de rigeur" for solar developers and politicians.

Supervisors are not elected to just make tough decisions, they are elected to make smart decisions and be leaders. Options abound for Alameda County to develop clean-energy sources that do not require covering existing agricultural lands and open space.

Are those options "turnkey," like this Aramis proposal? No, but sometimes the right decision, impacting the most people, requires work, dedication, and commitment. Unfortunately for citizens, it is much easier for the county to just give that work over

scar Livermore? Any comments on the destruction in some of our East Bay cities over last summer? Or, for that matter, any explanation as to why the capitol in D.C. looks like the Green Zone in Baghdad?

His laser focus is on a man who is a private citizen, retired in Florida. And this quixotic journey has consumed every moment of his last two terms, ending in one troubling failed attempt to tie Trump to Russia, and two failed impeachment attempts, costing taxpayers millions of dollars.

I encourage you to visit his government website and see if you can identify anything of substance he has done for you. And I personally don't believe hounding Trump for four years qualifies.

I also encourage you to vote for the best candidate next time. She may even be a Republican!

Falling Short Loretta Kaskey, Livermore

The current Eden Housing plan falls short of the city's code requirements.

The current design is NOT meeting density (exceeds 55 units per acre) and parking (less 90 some stalls) requirements. It's obvious the plan does not fit in the intended location.

Fear not, the city council may permit deviations from the Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) as part of its approval of a particular development without requiring an amendment to the DSP, provided that the project is consistent with the stated intent of the DSP and the City's General Plan. So, the project can be whatever three city council members say it is. They can simply change the standard.

Residents of Livermore deserve better.

Eden Housing should take a serious revisit of their current plan. They might gain much more in seeking an alternative site. All residents would then collectively gain more.

City council can enable a better outcome for all of Livermore.

Reconsider Development Ben Barrientos, Livermore

Has he taken a stand on the massive solar farm that will soon

FAMILIES

(Continued from first page)

each day. The pod will be placed in areas most in need of vaccines.

During the meeting, Bowers also shared the district's reopening checklist.

The reopening checklist contained many components, and Bowers noted the list was not completed overnight. LVJUSD has been working on its plan since last year. This final product covers cleaning and disinfection; health and safety measures; planning and implementation; on-campus logistics; communication and information; testing, contact tracing and vaccines; agency approvals; and ventilation.

"Ventilation is a real concern for a lot of districts," Bowers said. "We have great HVAC systems; we have

MERV 13 filters installed; we have two schools that, due to a grant, actually have MERV 16 air filters installed. And that was pre-COVID when we were having those horrible air quality days, so we have been focusing on air quality since before COVID."

Plastic barriers will be used in offices, but no barriers are being placed around student desks. Bowers noted this was a conscious decision based on evidence that masks are the most effective tool in preventing the spread of COVID-19, and plastic barriers can actually limit air flow.

Masks are a requirement for all students and staff. Campuses will feature other tools, like touchless hydration and touchless hand-sanitizing sta-

tions, along with screening and contact tracing measures.

"There will be some adjustments for families," Bowers noted. "Many parents are used to walking their kids right to class, and we do have to limit the numbers and the amount of people coming on campus. But we will welcome the students, and they will be able to go about their business."

Bowers also said that she and the district have pushed to get their employees vaccinated. Currently 90% of teachers and 80% of staff have received their first dose of the vaccine, and booster shots are being scheduled. Bowers stated the vaccination was not required, but made available to staff prior to full scale opening.

Welcoming Back Pleasanton Students

Pleasanton Unified School District is the first of the three Tri-Valley districts to open in a hybrid learning schedule for elementary grades. The district's spokesperson, Patrick Gannon, said things are going well since the district reopened March 4.

"Reopening for our elementary schools has been going smoothly in getting all of our hybrid prekindergarten through fifth-grade students back into the classroom," said Gannon. "This is thanks to a lot of hard work and preparation by our school site teams. As of Monday, all nine of our elementary schools and Harvest Park Preschool have reopened fully for hybrid

learners. We look forward to Thursday, when we will welcome our middle and high school hybrid learners back to the classroom."

Dublin Prepares for March 18 Return

In Dublin, plans are underway to welcome back elementary students beginning March 18. Currently, the district has no specific schedule for secondary grades. Transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will return on March 18; first - third grades will return on March 22; and fourth and fifth grades will return on March 25.

Students can choose to stay in distance learning, go into the district's am/pm hybrid learning model, or stay with

their teacher, regardless of which program the teacher chooses.

"A lot of the feedback we got from the community was that they just want to be with their teacher; they don't want disruption in that regard," said Chip Dehnert, Dublin's public information officer.

For more information on LVJUSD's reopening plans, visit <https://www.livermore-schools.org/reopening>.

For more information on Pleasanton Unified School District, visit <https://www.pleasantonusd.net/>.

For more information on Dublin Unified School District, visit <https://www.dublinusd.org/>.

ARAMIS

(Continued from first page)

conditional-use permit (CUP) requirements. The supervisors denied all four appeals.

Rob Selna, an attorney representing SNLV, confirmed in an email to The Independent that a "coalition of farmers, ranchers, environmentalists, Alameda County voters and proponents of good government" are gearing up for litigation. The email followed SNLV steering committee leader Chris O'Brien's public statement to the board during the hearing that the opposition intends to sue.

He said the board approved two solar projects in 2012, recalling that staff had stated at the time that the decision wouldn't set a precedent.

"So the question of whether (solar projects on agricultural land) is a conforming use has not been determined on a countywide basis," said O'Brien. "And that needs to be addressed before you vote on this issue."

The fate of the project almost saw another turn earlier in the day when Supervisor Richard Valle initiated a motion to remand the project to the planning commission. At which point, Intersect Power Principal Marisa Mitchell said the action, which staff confirmed would result in a 90-day delay, would kill the project — a claim that both supervisors Wilma Chan and Keith Carson pushed.

"Ms. Mitchell, for you to state on the record that this would kill the project, I don't know if that's an adequate answer or not, because you probably know very well that no matter what happens, there will probably be litigation," said Chan, who noted that she preferred the project. "In terms of how fast you're able to proceed or not, you guys have expended a lot of time and energy for years on this, so I just want to make it very clear that, if you're going to say that on the record, that that's really 100% true."

Mitchell said delaying the project by 90 days was putting her company into an unfair position. But Carson then further demanded a simple "yes" or "no" answer to the question of whether or not 90 days would, in fact, kill the project — to which Mitchell eventually answered yes.

Public Speaker Tyler O'Brien, whose family home is directly impacted by the project, urged the board to send it back to the planning commission.

"For Marisa Mitchell to say that this project is going to die if 90 days passes is a joke," he said. "The project has been continued before; they know that litigation on CEQA is impending, and it will be delayed for another two years, at least. They knew this was a potential when they came into this. And they've said time and time again that if you take land and acreage, the project will fail. Well, that never happened ... they lost the Stanley property, and yet somehow, magically, the project is still economically viable. These people backtrack on everything they say about this project. I think it's the safe thing to send this to the planning commission to

safeguard yourselves."

Since its inception, the project has brought environmentalists head-to-head. Opponents state that Aramis will harm the existing site ecosystem and endanger federally protected species — all while covering agricultural lands with an industrial power plant. On the other hand, its supporters say the threat of climate change is an immediate threat in need of immediate action.

"The truth is, we do not have time to wait," Speaker Emily Moore said. "Decarbonizing is not an arbitrary political move. It is essential for the survival of the human race. The UN's 2018 intergovernmental panel on climate change reported that to avoid the most devastating consequences of climate change, we must drastically reduce emissions within the next decade. This is science. All of the top researchers know this."

The project also brought up the conversation of equity, with public speakers noting that pollution and climate change disproportionately impact communities of color. Jahan Sagafi, a social justice lawyer living in Oakland, said that in a society with a shrinking middle class, this project would provide living wage jobs. Sam Cobbs, CEO of Tipping Point Community — a nonprofit focused on alleviating and preventing poverty — reported that the Aramis project's community benefit program will give \$250,000 to his organization.

"This is an invaluable contribution to our efforts to alleviate poverty and homelessness in the Bay Area, particularly because overhead costs like energy are very difficult for nonprofits to fundraise for," Cobbs said. "When I was the executive director of First Place for Youth, which is located in downtown Oakland, I was amazed to see how much energy bills went down once solar was installed."

April Atkins, a field representative of Carpenters Union Local 713 in Hayward, spoke in representation of 4,000 carpenters in Alameda County.

"Local job creation is an important benefit of procuring large-scale renewable energy," she said. "We need to put people back to work and do our part locally to help achieve safe, renewable energy goals."

However, Marlina Selva, representing the Ohlone Audubon Society, voiced opposition.

"We would first like to acknowledge the Ohlone people, who are the caretakers of these ancestral lands of theirs that we all walk on," said Selva. She added that the impacts to listed species were under-represented. "We strongly urge that this project not be permitted today by the board of supervisors."

Other environmental groups that joined the stance in opposition to the project included the Alameda Creek Alliance, the Golden Gate Audubon Society and the Friends of Springtown Preserve.

Deborah Pearson, a retired consulting biologist who sits on the steering committee of the Friends of Springtown Pre-

serve, called herself a longtime defender of "places that don't look like much but happen to be very important habitats and very important ecologically."

"That is probably the one thing that bothered me the most — in the biological assessments in the environmental impact report for this project, they seem to dismiss that this land has any value at all," she said.

A Save Mount Diablo representative during the hearing said that the organization takes no position on the project. But another environmental group, the Sierra Club, stood in favor of Aramis.

"We applaud Alameda County for its unanimous approval of Aramis," said Luis Amezcua, Sierra Club senior campaign representative. "As one of the largest solar projects in Northern California, Aramis is well-sited and will be critical to aiding the local economy and achieving California's clean air and energy goals. We look forward to continuing our work with Alameda County and other stakeholders in building local clean energy that is consistent with our support for Measure D and will create good, union jobs."

While some Tri-Valley residents spoke in favor of the project, several others from the area spoke in opposition. Sandy Amaota, a resident of Pleasanton, was concerned with well water contamination from chemicals associated with solar panels.

Priya Vassu of Livermore was against it even though she's a supporter of solar power. She urged the board to look at this project from the perspective of 50 years from now, considering that open space is a dwindling resource. Further, she said she was offended by the characterization that the objection comes from a wealthy white perspective.

"People who are saying that have not been here in this community and have not walked on this land," Vassu said.

District 1 Supervisor David Haubert stated that Measure D — passed by voters in 2000 to protect open land from urban sprawl — was problematic, prohibitive and unclear, with some people believing the project violated the measure and others saying it didn't.

"This is a very tough decision for me personally, in that it's the balance of open space, the environment and the need for clean energy," he said before casting his vote.

Public speaker Glenn Kirby reported that he was chair of the Alameda County Planning Commission in 2000 when Measure D was passed. He said he was proud of the work the commission completed over the years, but noted that an area that could have been improved was "es-

tablishing under what conditions and where agricultural parcels could be converted to infrastructure."

"Measure D allowed for supporting utilities within utility corridors. We never defined 'utility corridor' or how the corridor would support agricultural uses, and it remains undefined to this day," Kirby said. "And I think the reason you are struggling with this now ... is the result of a lack of having a policy. In response to the question of why there's not a policy for utility installations, your staff has said that the requirements recommended for this project would be applied to future projects."

"This is not a sound method for establishing policy, and I think it's unreasonable that, because of a lack of policy, you're forcing this applicant to be the test case for all of the possible scenarios that might arise in the future if you had a policy in place. For instance, the proposal for sheep grazing, chickens and beekeeping are, in my view, rather token uses, which should not be used as policy for future projects."

In October last year, while still campaigning, Haubert agreed to a statement supporting the creation of such a county solar policy, alongside SNLV and former Fremont Councilmember Vinnie Bacon — who was also his supervisorial District 1 opponent.

Their statement read, "We call on Alameda County Board of Supervisors to place a moratorium on the review of new solar power plants on agricultural land until the county completes a comprehensive study and mapping project on the appropriate siting, scale and operation of solar power plants, if any, on agricultural land, and incorporates this work in a solar ordinance and General Plan Amendment. The

East County Board of Zoning Adjustments for Alameda County should likewise defer review of any individual proposed utility-scale solar facilities on agricultural land until the solar ordinance and General Plan Amendment are adopted."

With no solar policy currently in place, Selna called Haubert's "yes" vote on the project after gaining the District 1 seat, a turn against his East County constituents.

"(Haubert) took the side of unions and a San Francisco-based private energy company that stands to make millions by blanketing a protected, scenic valley with solar panels. Other supervisors followed along," said Selna. "There are East County locations suitable for industrial, ground-mounted solar, but North Livermore Valley is not one of them. California's quick transition to clean energy requires smart planning so that impacts on protected land can be minimized. Alameda County has provided a blueprint for how not to approve solar projects. Hopefully, other jurisdictions can learn from Alameda County's mistakes."

After the meeting, Haubert told The Independent that while he had concerns in the past, he has since participated in hours of public meetings, read hundreds of emails and

reports, and engaged with people who both support and oppose the project. On the topic of a solar policy, he said that halting the project when it's so far along would be unfair, "especially when staff was so clear that this project would very likely be compatible with any policy they would bring back."

"Furthermore, I remain committed to completing a solar (project), especially after so many years without one," he said.

When asked if the arguments made in favor of Aramis would have an impact on his vote for the neighboring Sun-walker solar project, whose appeals hearing is set for April 22 according to county staff, Haubert said each project is different and unique.

"But, yes, some of the same arguments would have a similar impact," he said.

Haubert went on to say that it's important to keep an open mind and listen to all sides before making a final determination.

"I will always act in the best interests of the majority of my constituents," he continued. "I would like everyone to know that their voices were heard, and I appreciated everyone who weighed in. I will always have an open door and an open mind for the people I serve."

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SWALWELL

(Continued from first page)

Congress from carrying out the duty of certifying the presidential election that day. It further charges that they failed to stop the attack, inflicted emotional distress and acted with negligence. The lawsuit cites various statutes to support its claims, including the D.C.'s bias-related crimes law and a law used to prosecute the Ku Klux Klan after the Civil War.

In response to the suit, Trump spokesman Jason Miller issued a statement to the media that called Swalwell "a low-life with no credibility." Miller also called it a disgrace that a "compromised" Swalwell sits on the House Intelligence committee, citing a recent Axios report that said a Chinese spy targeted him and other politicians. Swalwell has said he broke off all communication with the woman six years ago when he learned her true identity from intelligence officials. He has not been found to have done anything wrong.

Brooks, in a statement to AL.com last week, called Swalwell's lawsuit "frivolous." "Socialist Eric Swalwell's frivolous lawsuit is a meritless ploy by a man who betrayed his country by bedding a Communist Chinese spy while serving on the Intelligence Committee that hears America's highest classified security secrets," Brooks said. "I make no apologies whatsoever for fighting for accurate and honest elections. In sum, I wear Communist-sympathizer Swalwell's scurrilous and malicious lawsuit like a badge of courage ... Under no circumstances will Swalwell, or any other Socialist, stop me from fighting for America."

Swalwell's lawsuit alleges he and other officials were targeted specifically because of their political affiliation and opposition to Trump's efforts to decertify the 2020 presidential election. In a statement, Swalwell's attorneys — Washington D.C.-based law firms Caleb Andonian, KaiserDillon and Coburn & Greenbaum — said the lawsuit seeks to find Trump and the other defendants accountable for Jan. 6 in a court of law.

Swalwell's lawyer, Philip Andonian, said the lawsuit targets Trump "in his personal capacity," not in his official capacity as president.

Presidential immunity concepts should not apply.

"We think what he was doing was unrelated to his official duties in office," Andonian said. "His conduct is so far outside the boundaries of what the courts would look at as 'official.' He violated the law."

Andonian said Trump acted "at best as 'candidate Trump.' It really is 'candidate Trump' who can't let things go, not as President Trump. There is no immunity for conspiring to violate civil rights or inciting violence."

Andonian said the lawsuit hopes to have a court hold Trump accountable for what happened that day because that did not occur in the Senate.

"Donald Trump is liable for inciting violence," Andonian said. "He does not get protection for that...He has to answer to those things in a court of law."

Swalwell's suit, reiterating charges he made against Trump while serving as a House Manager during Trump's second impeachment trial, said Trump incited the crowd by telling them to "fight like hell" and "walk down Pennsylvania Avenue ... to the Capitol." About 40% of the crowd, the lawsuit said, did just that.

"As a direct and foreseeable consequence of the defendants' false and incendiary allegations of fraud and theft, and in direct response to the defendants' express calls for violence at the rally, a violent mob attacked the U.S. Capitol," the lawsuit continued. "Many participants in the attack have since revealed that they were acting on what they believed to be former President Trump's orders in service of their country."

Swalwell's lawsuit follows a similar case filed by fellow House Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Mississippi Democrat, against Trump and others allegedly responsible for the riot. Each followed Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's speech saying that while Trump was acquitted in his impeachment trial he could be held accountable in civil court. Although the Senate voted 57-43 to convict Trump, impeachment requires two-thirds of the senators to gain a conviction. Just as Swalwell outlined the evidence against Trump dur-

ing the impeachment trial, the lawsuit goes through the events of Jan. 6.

Andonian said Swalwell is a victim, because he was impeded from doing the job

he intended to do and was an individual inside a building taken over by a violent mob and subjected to trauma.

Swalwell's lawsuit seeks monetary damages.

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TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now Until Sunday, March 21 St. Patrick's Day at Home

This St. Patrick's Day, enjoy the rich sights and sounds of traditional Irish dancing, drums and fiddles. Recorded before a live audience in 2019 and never before seen on film, The National Dance Company of Ireland captures Celtic joy and delivers it right to your doorstep. A portion of all ticket sales benefits the Bankhead Theater. For tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/3tEJlzy>.

Now Until Monday, March 22 Registration for Dublin Police Services' 2021 Citizens Academy

Registration is now open for Dublin Police Services' 2021 Citizens Academy. The program will run each Wednesday for 10 weeks, beginning March 31, at 5:30 p.m. Participants must be at least 18 years old and live or work in Dublin. Instructors plan to begin the Academy on Zoom with one-hour sessions, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and will then transition into a safe, socially distant format, extending the time period to 8 p.m., as COVID-19 restrictions allow. Due to COVID-19 regulations, sessions are limited this year to the first 20 registrants who qualify. To participate, complete the online application. Applications will also be made available by email, fax, or in person at Dublin Police Services (6361 Clark Ave., in Dublin). To request that an application be sent to you by e-mail or fax, contact Deputy Paula Greenbaum at 925-833-6622 or pgreenbaum@acgov.org. The deadline to apply is Monday, March 22, at 5 p.m.

Now Until Friday, March 26 Dublin Youth Advisory Committee

The City of Dublin is now seeking applicants for its Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). YAC is a positive and creative youth-driven forum that gives Dublin teens an outlet to provide input on programs and activities offered by the city. The Youth Advisory Committee generally meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Dublin Senior Center. Applicants must be Dublin residents and enrolled in middle or high school for the upcoming school year. The term of office is for one year, beginning June 1, 2021, through May 31 of the following year. The application deadline is Friday, March 26, at 5 p.m. To complete the application, visit <http://bit.ly/3kV8tDN>.

Now Until Wednesday, March 31 Apply for Military Banner Program

The City of Dublin is now accepting applications to sponsor a banner honoring a local service member or veteran. The banners will be displayed along Dougherty Road from Memorial Day to Veterans Day 2021. The deadline to become a sponsor is March 31, 2021. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/2N1hrmw>.

Now Until Wednesday, May 19 Coffee Hour for Seniors

"Zoom "Coffee Hour for Seniors" will resume once a month, on Wednesday mornings, beginning in January. The Zoom get-togethers will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Feb. 17, March 17, April 14 and May 19. For more information, visit www.dublin.ca.gov/380/Special-Events.

Now Until Friday, July 23 Art History in Action

A creative and varied monthly curriculum introduces some of art's major periods, artworks and architecture, as well as the impact of different cultures, theories, materials, processes, techniques and audiences. The instructor will be Thomas Dewhurst. There are multiple class dates. For more information or to register, visit <https://sforce.co/3ktrnkY>.

Friday, March 12 COVID-19 Update

Alameda County Public Health Director Dr. Nicholas Moss returns with an update on COVID-19 and the latest Alameda County Health Order, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., via Zoom. An opportunity to ask questions will be held at the end of the presentation. Dublin Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Livermore Valley and Pleasanton Chambers of Commerce for this informative presentation. The event is free, but registration is required. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/3bn7IA4>.

Saturday, March 13 and Sunday, March 14 Irish Dance Lessons

Take an introductory lesson from the McGrath Irish Dancers and the McBride School of Irish Dance from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue, in Dublin. The cost is \$12 per person. No experience is necessary. Lessons will be taught at the Shannon Community Center patio. Facial coverings and social distancing are required. To register, visit www.dublinrecguide.com and search 'Irish Dance.'

Saturday, March 13 City of Dublin St. Patrick's Day Celebration!

The 37th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration will be held Saturday, March 13, through Saturday, March 20. This week-long celebration will feature both virtual community events as well as in-person, reservation-based events throughout the City of Dublin. The festive schedule of events will be updated soon. Heck with the city for more information on how you can celebrate St. Patrick's Day all week long, at <https://bit.ly/3bbPSyL>. Contact Lauren Marriotti by phone at 925-556-4508 if your business is interested in getting involved with the 2021 St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Saturday, March 13 Shamrockin' Scavenger Hunt

Can you find Glen? The mischievous leprechauns are playing tricks on the Dublin community and have hidden Glen the Guide and shamrocks all throughout town. Help find them all and win some St. Patrick's Day-themed goodies. Download the GooseChase app and select 'Play as Guest' or 'Play with New Account.' Enter the game code DUBLINSTPATS and click on 'Join Game' to start out on your search. Show City of Dublin staff that you completed the hunt by March 20 and schedule an appointment to pick-up your goodie bag!

Saturday, March 13 to Sunday, March 14 Irish Marketplace

The Irish Marketplace will feature unique Celtic artwork, Irish tartans, hand-knit wool sweaters, Celtic capes and shawls, beautiful handmade Celtic jewelry, as well as fine arts and crafts vendors from around the world. The marketplace will be held both days, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Hacienda Crossings Entertainment Village.

Saturday, March 13 Celtic Rock Drive-in Concert

Rock out to the Celtic Rock tunes of Cali Celtic and Tempest from the comfort and safety of your car, from 6 to 9 p.m., at Hacienda Crossings, 4980 Dublin Blvd. Tickets are \$40 for residents and \$48 for nonresidents, and one ticket is required per vehicle. The City of Dublin will be in compliance with all of the guidelines set forth by the Alameda County Vehicle Based Gathering. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/30200cY>.

Saturday, March 13 to Saturday, May 8 Livermore Valley Opera Presents "Triple Treat 2021"

Livermore Valley Opera will again offer an operatic treat with a series of free online concerts on LVOpera Channel on YouTube. "Triple Treat 2021" features professional opera singers performing in three concerts premiering March 13, April 10, and May 8. All concerts begin at 6 p.m. and accompanied by LVO Music Director Alexander Katsman. English subtitles provided. Following each premiere, the concerts will be available on-demand on the LVOpera Channel so you can watch each any time. Though the Triple Treat virtual opera concerts are free, donations are always welcome. For more information, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

Tuesday, March 16 Irish Cooking Class presented by Pans on Fire

Put on something green and join in for a feast of Irish dishes! From the comfort of your own home, learn to make Irish Coddle (bangers and mash) with a caramelized onion sauce and Irish Soda Bread which the little ones will love. The class will be hosted on Zoom, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., and

the cost is \$39 per household. For more information, email Lauren Marriotti at lauren.marriotti@dublin.ca.gov. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3r62dv7>.

Wednesday, March 17 to Wednesday, May 18 Seniors Zoom Coffee Hour

The Dublin Senior Center will continue to host a Zoom Coffee Hour once a month through May. Seniors are encouraged to grab a cup of coffee and join friends for fun activities online. The next event will be held on St. Patrick's Day - Wednesday, March 17, at 10 a.m. This activity will be led by Dublin Senior Center volunteers on March 17, April 14, and May 19. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/20x2ngA>.

Wednesday, March 17 Introducing East Bay Community Energy

In April, Pleasanton will have a new default electricity generation provider. Find out more about the organization, your options, and what this means for you, from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom, at <http://bit.ly/3ehohPT>. The meeting will also be recorded and posted on Facebook and YouTube.

Thursday, March 18 ShamRockin' Drive-Thru Event

Dublin seniors are invited to participate in a ShamRockin' drive-thru event from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., at the Dublin Senior Center. City staff will be handing out a swag bag to seniors filled with information to help seniors and their families navigate life's transitions from home care to real estate to placement. Participants should enter the Senior Center driveway from Donohue Drive and drive past the front entrance of the facility. Do not arrive before 12:30 p.m. and stay in your car upon arrival. Drivers should pop open their car's trunk or roll down a window in the back seat so that staff can safely deliver the bag to the occupant. For more information, email seniorctr@dublin.ca.gov.

Thursday, March 20 Does Poetry Matter in the Modern World?

The California Poet Laureate Dana Gioia will present "Does Poetry Matter in the Modern World?" at the Tri-Valley Writers Zoom meeting, on March 20, at 2 p.m. He will talk about his odd journey to becoming a writer and discuss his new book, "Studying with Miss Bishop: Memoirs from a Young Writer's Life." The Tri-Valley Branch of the California Writers Club (CWC) will host the meeting. The session is free and open to all who reserve a place by Thursday, March 18. To reserve, email president@trivalleywriters.org.

Monday, March 22 Chamber Membership Orientation

The Dublin Chamber of Commerce is hosting a membership orientation, via Zoom, at 10 a.m. During the meeting, the hosts will review how to login to the Member Information Center; how to build out your directory listing and review enhanced listing features; news releases; job postings, hot deals and member-to-member deals; and marketing opportunities with the chamber. For more information and to register, visit <http://bit.ly/3cea57y>.

Thursday, March 25 Returning to Work Safely

Join the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare for a virtual educational presentation at 1 p.m. The webinar will cover what employers need to know about employees returning to work safely. Topics of discussion to include items an employer should consider for employees returning to work during Covid-19; tips on the best ways to mitigate an employee's concerns about returning to work; information on quarantines and what you should know as an employer; and how allergy season impacts symptoms and screening for Covid-19. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/3uWs8HY>.

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Sundays, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Carnegie Town Square. Open Thursdays, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Carnegie Town Square (South K Street between Third and

Fourth St.) 2155 Third St.

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.

Six Feet Apart Productions Shares Art From a Distance

Sunday Night Stories is an on-line show with people sharing true stories, poetry, comedy, music and more, featuring an eclectic mix of entertainment to feel connected in times of social distancing and self-isolation, live every week, on Sundays, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit facebook.com/pg/Six-Feet-Apart-Productions or eventbrite.com/e/sunday-night-stories.

Stress Relief Recovery International

A confidential, peer-led, self-help group for stress relief will take place Sundays, at 2 p.m., via conference call. Get guidance on practicing a method developed 80 years ago by psychiatrist Abraham A. Low to replace the 'defeatist babble of the brain, with secure thinking to help cope with the stressful events in our everyday lives. Call 925-515-604-9094, ID 192451547#.

VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME

Register for Virtual and Outdoor Activities

Do you want to learn a new skill, dabble in a new art form, get into shape, or finally take up that new hobby you've pushed back for so long? The Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department is now offering a wide variety of virtual and outdoor in-person courses this fall. Registration is open for everything from coding, web design and engineering courses to art, public speaking, and outdoor group exercise. There are even courses on LEGO and Minecraft. Sign up now at <https://bit.ly/33BNAoU>.

EBRPD Brings "Parks to People"

East Bay Regional Park District is committed to the idea of lifelong learning and helping people make their own discoveries about local parks. The resources they have compiled are designed to be used at home, in a classroom or part of any online learning. For more information, visit www.ebpd.org/activities/digital_learning/default.htm.

LARPd Now on YouTube

Livermore Area Recreation & Park District is featuring videos for all ages with virtual activities, including Basketball Academy, Mystery Craft Making Activities and many more to come. Visit www.larpd.org to subscribe and receive notifications as new videos are available.

Music Together Tri-Valley Supports Early Childhood Development

This international, award-winning, early-childhood music program supports parents with songs and musical activities to enjoy with their children through play-based learning curriculum, designed to help everyone learn to sing in tune and keep a beat. For more information, visit www.musictogether.com.

Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring everyone a beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcasts of musician interviews and conversations about the music. Subscribe to listen at www.pacificchamberorchestra.org.

Sunflower Hill Online Activities

Sunflower Hill posts new Online Activity videos created for people with developmental disabilities each week. Our archive includes over 140 free videos on yoga & meditation, movement exercises, cooking activities, scavenger hunts, arts & crafts activities, and more! Visit www.sunflowerhill.org/onlineactivities

Livermore Residents Invited to Play Library Bingo

The Livermore Public Library is inviting the community to celebrate National Library Week, April 4-10, by playing Library Bingo.

Participants can download English or Spanish-language bingo cards beginning Monday, April 5, or pick up cards at the Civic Center Library.

Some of the bingo squares are reading related, others encourage connecting with the community, and still others focus on discovery, such as reading a banned book, visiting a local park, suggesting a book to a friend, checking out the night sky, or trying a new recipe.

Completed bingo cards can be entered in a raffle by dropping them in the book return boxes outside the Civic Center, Rincon, or Springtown branch libraries. Players can also drop off their completed cards in person at the Civic Center library or take a picture of their completed cards and email it to lib@livermore.lib.ca.us. Completed bingo cards must be submitted by Friday, April 30. Four raffle winners will receive goodie bags.

Library Bingo is sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Public Library. For more information, go to www.livermorelibrary.net or call 925-373-5505.



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AIRPORT

(Continued from first page)

mental review, then it would go to the planning commission for review of the physical improvements."

However, Roberts said that until staff receives an application, he can't provide a better time frame.

KaiserAir currently owns three 737s under a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airline certificate that allows it to operate scheduled passenger service. It flies regular weekly service from Oakland International Airport to Kona, Hawaii. It also runs private charters and operates fixed base operator (FBO) businesses at Oakland International Airport and the Sonoma County Airport in Santa Rosa.

The main purpose of its proposed 45-acre facility in Livermore is to house and maintain KaiserAir's fleet of jets, relocate its corporate offices from the Oakland airport, and to run a full-service FBO business, the company and city officials have said.

Based upon revenue projec-

tions, the ground lease would net the Airport Enterprise Fund approximately \$286,944 per year. Over the term of a 45-year lease (35-years with two five-year options), an estimated net revenue of \$12,912,480 is anticipated. In addition, fuel flowage fees — a charge for every gallon of fuel pumped — would result in over \$100,000 additional revenue to the airport fund per year. The development would also increase enterprise fund revenues through landing fees. The additional revenue would be used to enhance and improve airport facilities.

Prior to submitting a proposal, KaiserAir and city officials said a test run was conducted with one of the company's 737s, and that no noise complaints from the community were registered.

Decoteau further stated that noise level readings were taken in residential areas east and west of the runway; both readings were in the low 80 decibel range, according to meeting minutes from the Nov.

16 Livermore Airport Commission meeting. According to an LVK aircraft study posted on the city's airport noise management page, Livermore's adopted Noise Element states that a noise exposure up to 60 decibels DNL (over a day-night average sound level in a 24-hour period) is considered "normally acceptable" for residential construction. A noise exposure up to 70 decibels DNL is considered to be "conditionally acceptable" for residential construction. The Noise Element does not differentiate between airports and other noise sources.

The San Jose International Airport, however, must not generate noise levels in excess of 89 decibels when taking off or landing with the exception of emergencies.

Rob Guerra, senior vice president and chief pilot of KaiserAir, acknowledged the company operates 737s, but said there are no plans to introduce scheduled commercial passenger flights to Livermore. On the issue of noise, Guerra told

airport commissioners that his company operates within noise parameters set by the FAA.

Aggarwal, a resident of the Pleasanton Meadows neighborhood a few miles from the airport, responded to say that the absence of complaints for the KaiserAir noise test carries little weight.

"I'm not sitting outside 24 hours a day monitoring air traffic and noise levels," said Aggarwal. "That whole idea, that 'we did a study and no one complained' is like saying 'we lit a firecracker and no one complained.'"

The Independent requested from the airport a description of the KaiserAir 737 noise test, the test results, and basic flight track data, such as the weight of the aircraft and flight path over the Tri-Valley.

In response to a public records request, the City of Livermore, which owns the airport, stated there is no documentation of the flight pattern, weight of the aircraft or recorded noise level readings.

According to the Livermore staff, the 737 arrived on Jan. 29, 2020, at 1:27 p.m. and departed the same day at 2:26 p.m. Airport staff members recalled a noise meter east of the airfield near Isabel Boulevard reaching the mid-80s on landing. On departure, another city staff member recalled a noise reading on takeoff at around 85 decibels.

The standard departure procedure for takeoff from Runway 25R in Livermore requires a straight heading to the west until reaching an altitude of 1,200, then turning right and heading north, usually around El Charro Road, above populated areas in Dublin, and then toward the Altamont.

Videos of the takeoff provided by the City of Livermore appear to show the jet turning before reaching 1,200 feet in elevation. One video clip taken from the San Francisco Premium Outlets shows the jet banking a hard right and circling back toward Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve toward Los Vaqueros Reservoir. Based on

footage from the video, permanent municipal noise monitors, homes and apartments in Dublin were not near the plane's flight path.

Say No to Livermore Airport Expansion posted a petition on the website change.org, asking Livermore to reject the proposed airport expansion and to revamp its safety and noise abatement policies. The petition had nearly 3,000 signatures from residents around the Tri-Valley at press time.

The Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group executive committee this week passed a resolution opposing the expansion, citing concerns about safety, noise and air pollution.

Federal law places severe limitations on Livermore's ability to restrict the use and operation of the airport, and airspace above the city. Still, opponents to the expansion argue the city retains power to regulate the development proposal and the project should require a rigorous environmental review process.

OBITUARIES

DeLene A. Gouvaia

May 11, 1926 – Feb. 7, 2021



DeLene passed away peacefully on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021, at the impressive age of 94.

She was born on May 11, 1926, in Eugene, Oregon, to Walter and Minnie DeWitt. At the age of 1, her family moved to Adair, Iowa, where her brother, Dean, was born in 1928. By 1939, her family had moved to Casey, Iowa, where she attended Casey High School and graduated in 1943.

Shortly after graduation, her parents' government work brought her to California. At 18, she began working at Sharpe's Army Depot in Lathrop, California, as a private secretary to a colonel. She eventually met her future husband, Anthony Gouvaia, after being introduced to each other by his sister. They married Dec. 30, 1945, in Manteca, California, and moved to Livermore seven years later.

Anthony and DeLene were the parents of Ron, John, Mark, and Jeannette. DeLene was a PTA member at the Green School, a 4-H leader of Green 4-H club, and later, a 4-H leader at Inman 4-H Club, where she taught sewing and cooking. She was kept on hosting family dinners and gatherings and enjoyed knitting, crocheting, sewing, cooking, baking, gardening,

animals, and traveling.

After her husband Anthony retired, they traveled to South America, Canada, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada. Upon returning, she enjoyed attending St. Michael's Golden Friends' luncheons and bus trips to the casinos. Family was her number one priority, and she was known to look for the good in everyone. She kept a positive outlook on life and never yelled at anyone.

Anthony and DeLene were married for 54 years before he passed away in 2000. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, and great grandson. She is survived by her four children, nine grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

Her funeral mass will be held at St. Michael Catholic Church on March 17, at 10 a.m. Family and friends are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Richard Lee Harris

Oct. 17, 1931 – Feb. 1, 2021

service, he returned home to begin his working career.

He spent a successful 40 plus years as an auto mechanic. He worked for Ellis Brooks Auto Center in San Leandro for many years, until his retirement in 2011. In his spare time, Richard was an avid bowler and spent many hours bowling at Livermore's Granada Bowl. He loved watching sports, especially baseball. He had an amazing collection of sports memorabilia that he sold a few years ago.

Richard was married to Theresa Harris, who passed in November 1993.

Richard is survived by his brother, Darel Harris of Salinas, California; Silvia Caranza, step-granddaughter of Visalia, California; and several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

At Richard's request, friends and family will gather at St. Michael's Cemetery, in Livermore, on March 20, at 10:30 a.m., where Richard will be interred with his wife, Theresa. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Harris family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Susan Nourse Peterson

January 1937 – Feb. 22, 2021



Susan Nourse Peterson passed away on Feb. 22, 2021, at the age of 84 after a long illness.

Susan was born in southern California in January 1937, to Gwendolyn and John Nourse. She was in the first graduating class of Arcadia High School and went on to graduate from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts in history.

Sue was an avid reader. Starting with the daily newspaper, no day went by without her turning the pages of some mix of news, history, biography, mystery, nature, science, or research. While at Stanford, Sue met Rolf Peterson, and they married shortly after graduating.

Several years later, they settled in Las Vegas, Nevada. This was home base for the many family trips Sue planned to destinations, including the Grand Canyon, Zion National Park, Death Valley, and the Sierra.

Her three children remember 'growing up outdoors,' as they hiked, camped and backpacked throughout the southwest with the youngest going on her first backpacking trip before she started preschool. Sue learned about and explored each of these places from its human history to its geology and its natural history. As a birder, her binoculars

were always at hand to view birds she encountered.

Like her mother, Sue devoted much of her time to volunteering. She was especially active as a Girl Scout leader. Sue made it possible for many girls to explore the outdoors by leading outdoor adventures to many places including backpacking trips from the rim to the river in the Grand Canyon and through the Zion Narrows. Sue was also instrumental in establishing a canoeing program for the local Girl Scout Council. She then taught canoeing techniques and water safety skills to girls before leading them on one day and multi-day canoe trips on the Colorado and Green Rivers.

When her children left home, Sue continued helping youth. She earned a teaching credential and taught elemen-

tary school in Los Angeles. She also dedicated more time to her interest in genealogy and devoted many hours to researching her ancestors.

After teaching for eight years, Sue moved to Livermore. Soon after that, Rolf retired, and they enjoyed 22 years of active, adventurous retirement that included traveling and camping in the southwest, taking trips to the midwest to explore family history, attending college reunions and football games, and enjoying annual trips to Lake Tahoe.

Sue enjoyed spending time with her two grandsons, reading to them, picking out toys and books they would enjoy, and volunteering in their classrooms. As they grew older, she continued the tradition of family camping by sharing annual trips to the Sierra.

Susan is survived by her husband, Rolf; brother, John and his wife Susie; daughter, Sharon; son, Steve; daughter, Linda, and her husband Efraim; and grandsons, Nicholas and Austin. A small family celebration of life will be held at a later date. Donations in Sue's memory may be made to Point Blue Conservation Science, the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology or to your favorite charity.

Robert Henry, 79, a lifelong resident of Livermore, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family, on Feb. 22, 2021.

He was born on March 22, 1941, to William "Bill" and Madeline Henry at St. Paul's Hospital in Livermore. He grew up in Livermore, attending St. Michael's School, was an altar boy and a Boy Scout achieving Star Rank during those years. He graduated from Livermore High School in 1959, where he lettered in football and track. The highlight of his youth was his summers spent at his family cabin in Santa Cruz, playing on the beach and swimming in the ocean breakers at Twin Lakes Beach.

He served five years in the U.S. Navy, from June 1959 to June 1964, on the U.S.S. Paul Revere and U.S.S. Sea Poacher. He was a proud Vietnam veteran and reminisced most about his time spent on the U.S.S. Sea Poacher submarine. After he was honorably discharged from the Navy, within the next year he met his soulmate, Georgia Fuchs, and married her. Together, they raised four loving daughters.

He was a union electrician for most of his career. In 1986, he went to work for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he worked for 15 years in plant engineering. He was a senior supervisor with the Specific Work Unit, supervising decontamination and demolition projects, when he retired in April of 2001.

He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (I.B.E.W.), Local 595, for 55 years, a

Robert "Bob" Stephen Henry

March 22, 1941 – Feb. 22, 2021



member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, Las Positas Parlor #96, a member of the Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association, where he proudly served on the board of directors during the 1990s and as president in 1996 and 1997, a member of the Altamont Cruisers Classic Car Club, and a very proud member of the Sea Poacher Association. He was honored with a 'Quilt of Valor' from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7265, in May 2018.

He was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather (Papa), friend and a devout parishioner of St. Michael's Catholic Church. He will be remembered most for his well-rounded personality, strong values, humor, laughter, thoughtful conversations, and most of all, for his great love for his family and friends. He truly enjoyed telling stories and hearing them, too!

He loved spending time with his family and friends and playing with his dog, Lillie. Throughout his life, he enjoyed hunting, riding dirt bikes, taking his boat out on the Delta, water skiing, raising parakeets for a few years, racing his stock car at Bayland's

Raceway, visiting his family cabin in Long Barn, taking Jeep and ATV rides, attending car shows and hot rodding in his 1965 Chevy Truck that he restored, and he always had projects he was working on.

He also established HG Cattle Company with his son-in-law, Rick Groth, where they enjoyed raising cattle together for around 15 years. He was a great man who lived life to the fullest, took pride in everything he did, was loved very much and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Madeline Henry, along with his aunts and uncles, Isabel and Frank Gardella, and Belmeda and Robert Haera, and his cousin, Niel Haera. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Georgia; his beloved dog, Lillie; his four daughters, Mary Harris (Brian), Terre Groth (Rick), Nikki McFarlin (Eric), and Katie Bagakis (Nick); nine grandchildren, Jessica (fiancé David Rudberg), Ashley and Danielle Groth, Brooke and Bridget Harris, Dominik McFarlin, and Genevieve, and Elizabeth and George Bagakis. He is also survived by his brothers, Thomas Henry and Bruce Henry; and his cousin Ray Haera and Sharon Haera (Niel's wife).

A memorial Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 11 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., in Livermore. The interment will be private. Due to COVID-19, a Celebration of Life Reception will be held in the future, when safe.

Kathryn Ann "Katie" Echols

July 10, 1944 – March 3, 2021



Kathryn Ann "Katie" Echols, a resident of Livermore for 49 years, passed away peacefully while surrounded by her husband and daughters.

Married for 59 years to her "King," Oliver "Ollie" Echols. She devoted her life to her family, selflessly raising their four daughters, Deborah (Jeff Burch), Annette (Brent Smith), Suzanne (Pete Vargas), and Michelle (Aaron Borgen), then sharing in the joys of helping to shape the lives of 14 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Marvin "Redd" White. She is also survived by two brothers, Wood White (Kathy) and Marvin White Jr. (Donna); sisters, Marla (Mike St. Denis), and Kim-

berly (Dave Drummond); by her much-adored in-laws, Julia Echols, Patricia (Donald Barnett), James Echols (Lisa), Marilyn Mc Cauley, Lora Beisley; and by numerous extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by Michael Unger, Marianne

(Emmett Torres), Sharon Garcia, and Thomas Echols, Sr.

Though she will forever remain in our hearts and memories, her physical presence will be deeply missed.

A private memorial service will be held on March 17, at 2 p.m., at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., in Livermore. Live streaming will be available (link will be sent or posted prior to day of service). A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, post COVID-19.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a contribution in her name to the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Echols family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Gary A. Burginyon

June 29, 1935 – Feb. 24, 2021



Gary A. Burginyon, age 85, passed away on Feb. 24, in Pleasanton.

He grew up in Spokane, Washington, and attended Washington State University, where he was a Phi Beta Kappa recipient. He came to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1968 after receiving his doctorate in experimental nuclear physics from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

At Yale, he did Coulomb excitation studies of rare earth nuclei using the MP tandem accelerator. At Livermore, he first joined the High-Altitude Physics group, where he thoroughly enjoyed the projects as it included many trips to the Pacific Missile Range on Kauai. Later, he worked on diagnostics, including trips

to the Nevada Test Site and assisting a group at the Aldermaston Laboratory in England. Prior to coming to the Livermore Lab, he worked on anti-submarine warfare projects at Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

He enjoyed riding his bike to the lab, regardless of the weather, and especially liked his 12.2-mile bike ride through Sycamore Grove Park in his retirement. He enjoyed

ballroom dancing, vegetable gardening, handball, Oakland A's baseball, including trips to spring training, San Diego and Death Valley. Playing his trumpet and harmonicas added to his musical enjoyment.

He is the past member of Trinity Baptist Church, SIRS 122, Elks Lodge 2117, the American Physical Society and the Livermore Valley Tennis Club.

He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and is survived by his wife, Sheila K. Burginyon; his daughters, Brenda Jorgensen (Doug) and Arlene Townzen (Matt); grandchildren, Alex, Nathan, and Lauren; and his sister, Shirlene Brouillet of Gig Harbor, Washington. He was preceded in death by sister, Hazel Kivett.

IN MEMORIAM

Laura Halunen Thournir

Jan. 8, 1953 – March 1, 2020

A year has gone by since our sudden loss of a life well lived, too brief by far.

We will never forget the love that she expressed for all she touched. Her family and friends and the granddaughters that she adored. Her art students at Granada high who would call out to her with affection whenever they saw her out in public with, "Hi Mrs. T!"

Grateful that she lived and loved and is missed by all who knew her.

CAP Cadets Return to the Sky

Eight cadets with the Civil Air Patrol's Tri-Valley Composite Squadron, stationed at the Livermore Municipal Airport, received hour-long orientation flights last week aboard a Cessna 172.

The cadets, all area teenagers, worked with experienced pilots during takeoff but were allowed to handle the controls alone once the aircraft was aloft, learning about navigation, weather, aircraft instruments, and flight maneuvers.

The day began with the cadets helping pre-flight their aircraft.

Each flight out of Livermore climbed to 3,000 feet

before heading southwest. The four-seat Cessna landed at either Tracy or Byron, when another cadet would move into the co-pilot's seat for the flight back.

"That was pretty cool," said Akaash Babu, a CAP cadet who attends The Quarry School in Dublin.

The CAP cadet program is open to youths from 12 to 18.

"One of the most important activities that we do with cadets in Civil Air Patrol is to take them on these orientation rides," said Joe Spears, a software engineer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and aerospace education coordinator for

the Civil Air Patrol in the Bay Area. "

It was especially important to our cadets to be able to participate in this activity since COVID-19 has kept us from having in-person activities for nearly a year," Spears said. "Getting our cadets in the air is one of our squadron's highest priorities right now."

In addition to Babu, cadets involved in the orientation flights were Yusuf Choudhry, Joshua Gohres, Will Hodges-Praske, Sriya Katreddi, Scott Paterson, Samantha Wang, and Robert Watson.

Pilots Keith Breton and Alex Arnoldy volunteered their time.



Teen cadets received orientation last week at the Livermore Municipal Airport. (Photo - Joseph Spears)

Amador Freshman Accepted into CAP Training

Giulia Telli, a freshman at Amador Valley High School, is the first Civil Air Patrol cadet from the Tri-Valley Composite Squadron in Livermore to be accepted into the NorCal Cadet Flight Training Program.

The NorCal Flight School, designed to streamline the process for Civil Air Patrol cadets to eventually fly solo, provides training in the same aircraft the CAP uses in its search and rescue and disaster response missions. Telli, a cadet senior master sergeant, recently completed her first flight in a Cessna 172 with an advanced Garmin G1000 NXi flight system.

Telli has been a CAP cadet since September 2019. She is Bravo flight sergeant for Squadron 156.

The Civil Air Patrol is

the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. The cadet

program is for youths from 12 to 18.



Amador student Giulia Telli was accepted into NorCal Cadet Flight Training. (Photo - Joseph Spears)

Quarry Lane Student Finishes Third in National Exams

Competing at the junior varsity level, Romal Mitr, a sophomore at The Quarry Lane School in Dublin, finished third in two IAC National Championship examinations – the National Biology Exam and the National Ecology and Environmental Science Exam.

International Academic Competitions USA sponsors 11 national exam competitions encompassing the sciences and history for elementary, middle school, and high school students.

The 2020 examinations were conducted in December.

The National Ecology and Environmental Science Exam covered topics ranging from ecosystems, conservation biology, climate change, food webs, biogeochemistry, environmental degradation, biogeography, and human ecology.

The National Biology Exam covered all aspects of a standard high school biology curriculum, including molecular and cellular biology, ecology, anatomy,

taxonomy, evolution, and genetics.

"We are incredibly proud of Romal's achievements on the national stage," said Candice McGraw, senior director of the private Quarry Lane School in Dublin. "Romal continues to exceed expectations and represent Quarry Lane beautifully. This achievement highlights her tremendous dedication and passion for learning."

The broader IAC consortium oversees competitions in more than 25 countries.

Livermore Names Middle School Spelling Bee Winners

Isaac Yee, a seventh grader at Mendenhall Middle School, won the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's spelling bee for seventh and eighth graders, held virtually last month, after seven rounds by correctly spelling the word "nihilism."

Meanwhile, the judges declared a four-way tie in the fourth through sixth grade competition after four students survived 12 rounds of competition. Sharing the title were sixth graders Lily Feng and Brayden Kreitzman from East Avenue Middle School

and Anaya Menon from Mendenhall, and fifth grader Mahathi Kamalanathan from Altamont Creek Elementary School.

Yee outspelled 18 competitors, while 31 students participated in the spelling bee for younger students.

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

Amador Questers

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

Amador Valley Lions Club

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

Assistance League Amador Valley

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

Axis Community Health

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

Big Bay Ray, Inc.

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

Blankets For Kids

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

Cantabella Children's Chorus

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

Cheza Nami

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

Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley

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

CityServe of Tri-Valley

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

Community Health Education Fund

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

Culinary Angels

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

Drivers For Survivors

39270 Paseo Padre Pkwy #335
Fremont, CA 94536
510-369-5770
driversforsurvivors.org

Exceptional Needs Network

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

Fertile GroundWorks

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

Friends of the Livermore Library

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

Friends of Open Space and Vineyards

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

Goodness Village

1660 Freisman Rd.
Livermore, CA 94551
Goodnessvillage.community

Hively

6601 Owens Drive, Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-417-8733
BeHively.org

Hope Hospice

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

Interfaith Sharing Inc.

678 Enos Way
Livermore, CA 94551
925-366-5567
saintbartslivermore.com

Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild

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

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Foundation

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

Livermore Art Association

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

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Inc.

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

Livermore Heritage Guild

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

Livermore Homeless Refuge

4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-895-4167
HomelessRefugeLivermore.com

Livermore Lab Foundation

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

Livermore Lions Club

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

Livermore Pleasanton Fire Fighters Foundation

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

Livermore Valley Education Foundation

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

Livermore Valley Opera

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

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center

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

Movements For The Mind

MovementsForTheMind.com
movementsforthemind@gmail.com

Museum on Main

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

NAMI Tri-Valley

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

Open Heart Kitchen

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

Pacific Locomotive Assoc., Inc.

Operators of Niles Canyon Railway
P.O. Box 515
Sunol, CA 94586-0515
(510) 996-8420
NCRY.ORG

Partners for Change Tri-Valley

4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
650-474-9962
pfctv.org

Paws In Need

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

Pleasanton Art League

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

Pleasanton Community Concert Band

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

Quest Science Center

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

Reins In Motion

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

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore

P.O. Box 2181
Livermore, CA 94551-2181
http://www.rotarianfoundationlivermore.org

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

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

Senior Support Program of The Tri-Valley

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

Shakespeare's Associates, dba Livermore Shakespeare Festival

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

Shepherds Gate

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

SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc/Meals on Wheels

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

Sunflower Hill

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

The Taylor Family Foundation

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

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

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

Tri-Valley Conservancy

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

Tri-Valley Haven

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

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance

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

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre

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

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare

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

Valley Concert Chorale

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

Valley Dance Theatre

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

Valley Humane Society

3670 Nevada St.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-426-8656
ValleyHumane.org

Farmers Market Returns to Emerald Glen on April 1

The Dublin Farmers Market will return to Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, on April 1.

Managed by the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association and considered an essential business under Covid-19 regulations, the market will be open from noon to 4 p.m. on Thursdays through Sept. 30.

The market association implemented several healthy and safety measures last year because of the pandemic, including the elimination of free samples, entertainment, and seating areas. In addition, more space was also added between stalls, vendors are required to wear facemasks, and hand-washing stations are available for vendors and shoppers.

Viticulturists Report Impacts of Climate Change on the Wine Country

By Laura Ness

Climate change is impacting farming everywhere. Here in the Livermore Valley, where many are producing Cabernet Sauvignon, the climatic shift may not be so kind. While it may be getting measurably hotter in other American viticultural areas, including Napa, here in Livermore, the East-West valley orientation naturally draws in cool ocean air. As winemaker Colin Cranor of Nottingham Cellars is fond of saying,

“Livermore is cooler than you think.” Sixth-generation winemaker Steven Kent Mirassou takes it one step further, claiming, “Climate change is causing more cool air to come in through the Livermore Valley earlier each day, abbreviating the growing day and necessitating more growing days in the season to get to optimal ripeness for varieties like Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Because Cabernet Franc ripens earlier than Cabernet

Sauvignon, we may find ourselves at some point in time unable to adequately ripen Cabernet Sauvignon before the winter rains come in, but at the same time, having perfect conditions to ripen Cabernet Franc.” That’s one of the driving forces behind his current focus on Cabernet Franc. So convinced is he of its potential to be Livermore’s vinous shining armor, that he’s launched a new brand called L’Autre Côte (the other coast). He sources from two vineyards: the

Ghielmetti Vineyard, which Mirassou had a hand in developing, and is now owned and farmed by the Corbett family; and the Sachau Vineyard, planted and farmed by the Wenthe Family. “The Livermore Valley has had a long and illustrious history of producing world class quality Bordeaux varieties,” said Mirassou. “The consistency and prevalence of wind from the San Francisco Bay through our growing area each day is one of the fundamental viticultural conditions that

allow us to grow world-class fruit.” Very little Franc is planted here, though, with only 3.5 acres of Cabernet Franc at Ghielmetti and just 6 acres at Sachau. More will need to be planted to vault this grape to prominence, however. Mirassou thinks the old Raboli site would be ideal and hopes more can be installed at Ghielmetti. Wine lovers are invited to join in a virtual roundtable on March 25, at 10 a.m., called “Cabernet Franc: An Esthetic Exploration.”

Panelists will be Steven Kent Mirassou of L’Autre Côte, John Skupny of Lang & Reed Napa Valley, and Matthieu Baudry of Domaine Bernard Baudry. They will share stories, winemaking secrets, and their overwhelming passion for all things CAF. Topics include the history, farming, winemaking, and hedonic deliciousness of the world’s most alluring, bracing, elegant, and sexy grape in the world. To register, visit http://bit.ly/Indy_Wine.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES
Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **Dublin Kia, 4300 John Monego CT, Dublin CA 94568**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): California Automotive Retailing Group, Inc., 4200 John Monego CT, Dublin CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Inder Dosaanjhi, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2021. Expires February 10, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4820. Published February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **Honey Blooms Co., 1668 Spruce St. Livermore, CA 94551**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kelsey Jordana Szendenski, 1668 Spruce St. Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Kelsey Jordana Szendenski, Owner & Creator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2021. Expires January 29, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4821. Published February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **Lick Your Eyeballs, 1712 Milvia St., Berkeley, CA 94709**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Audra Barrios, 1712 Milvia St., Berkeley, CA 94709. 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: January 1, 2015. Signature of Registrant/s: Audra Barrios, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2021. Expires January 26, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4822. Published February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **McRae Editorial, 402 Elmwood Lane, Hayward, CA 94541**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michelle Ann McRae, 402 Elmwood Lane, Hayward, CA 94541. 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: Michelle Ann McRae, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2021. Expires February 9, 2026. The Independent Legal No.

4823. Published February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **Courtney Cutchin Photography, 886 Bellflower Street, Livermore, CA 94551**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Courtney Frisk, 886 Bellflower Street, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/29/2016. Signature of Registrant/s: Courtney Frisk, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 28, 2021. Expires January 28, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4824. Published February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **1. Forest Nectar, 2. Hima Solutions, 1491 Cedarwood LN Ste A, Pleasanton, CA 94566**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sakhi Naturals, Inc., 1491 Cedarwood LN, Ste A, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Bhuvaneshwari Himakanthala, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2021. Expires February 5, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4825. Published February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 2021.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: **Hafone, 1540 Jackson St # 113, Oakland, CA 94612**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gregory Tartaglione, 1540 Jackson St # 113, Oakland, CA 94612. 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: Gregory Tartaglione, Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2021. Expires February 4, 2026. The Independent Legal No. 4827. Published February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Numero del Caso): R20072032
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISOS AL DEMANDADO): The Heirs or Devises of Augustine U. Bernal, deceased and all persons claiming by, through, or under said decedent; (Additional Parties Attachment form is attached) **ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):** Alameda County Transportation Commission **NOTICE!** You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not

protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **¡AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje

en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso. El nombre y dirección de la corte es: **Alameda County Superior Court 1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612** El nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono de plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): **Joshua D. Cohen (Bar No. 184067) Patrick Tuck (Bar No. 305718) Wendel Rossen LLP 1111 Broadway, 24th Floor Oakland, CA 94607 Tel: (510) 834-6600 Fax: (510) 834-1928 DATE (Fecha): AUG 19 2020 CLE (Secretario): JERRIE MOYER, Deputy (Adjunto)**

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant. **ADDITIONAL PARTIES ATTACHMENT:** Attachment to Summons List additional parties: Defendant **ARNOLD J. CARSTON**, an individual; **RONALD G. CARSTON**, an individual; **ROBERT W. CARSTON**, an individual; **JOHN P. CARSTON**, an individual; **JOHN A. COSTELLO**, an individual; **SALLY A. COSTELLO**, an individual; **CARRIE T. COSTELLO**, an individual; **KATE A. HAUSSMANN**, an individual; **MARGARET D. HARRIS**, an individual; **JENNI GUZMAN**, an individual; **DOES 1-50**; and All Persons Known or Unknown Claiming an Interest in the Property. **Description of Property PARCEL 63878-1** A parcel of land situate in the unincorporated area of the County of Alameda, State of California, being a portion of that 33 foot wide strip of land described in the Indenture to Bernal recorded December 15, 1888 in Book 358 of Deeds at Page 433, Official Records of said County, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCING at a point lying on the centerline of Vallecitos Road (66.00 feet wide), as said road is described in the Indenture recorded June 5, 1931 in Book 2586, Page 468, Official Records of said County, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCING at a point lying on the centerline of Vallecitos Road (66.00 feet wide), as said road is described in the Indenture recorded June 5, 1931 in Book 2586, Page 468, Official Records of said County, being more particularly 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Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare is ready to care for you, now and always. We continue to adapt and adhere to the most up-to-date safety guidelines, so you can feel confident getting the care you need.

To ensure your safety, we are:

- Screening both staff and patients for COVID-19
- Requiring and providing masks for all
- Staggering visits to allow for physical distancing in common areas
- Ensuring separate screening areas for symptomatic patients
- Sanitizing exam rooms after every patient
- Scheduling urgent care video visits in addition to in-person care

Don't delay your care. Appointments are available at our locations across the Tri-Valley and remotely by video visit.



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