

City Council Reveals Its Parcel Tax Plan

By David Chircop

The city's campaign to promote its vision for downtown Livermore took an unusual step Monday when two members of the City Council floated the idea of putting a parcel tax measure on the November ballot in case voters do not support the city's plan.

And while this was the first time a parcel tax was ever discussed in a public meeting, a campaign flyer sent to Livermore voters over the weekend appears to show its creator had advance knowledge of the council members' intentions. The "Vote Yes on Measure P" mailer

was paid for by Presidio Companies, Inc., whose hotel development agreement with the city is at the center of the March 3 referendum.

Communications about the parcel tax proposal between members of the City Council, sitting on an ad hoc committee, and the Presidio-backed "Yes" campaign, could violate open meeting requirements of the Brown Act, said Terry Francke, general counsel for CalAware, a nonprofit open government watchdog group.

The Brown Act is California's law that requires legislative bod-

ies, like city councils, to hold their meetings open to the public, to provide prior public notice, and to allow citizens to access related public records before meetings.

There are some exceptions to the open meeting requirement which allow certain closed-door deliberations. One is through the creation of so-called ad hoc committees. But there are restrictions on who can take part in discussions without triggering public meeting requirements.

Francke said it is not uncommon for city councils to exploit this exclusion and avoid open meetings

by mislabeling as "ad hoc" what are really standing committees — more permanent sub-units that provide initial consideration and sifting of proposals in broad policy areas.

After the Central Park Plan Initiative qualified for the ballot last July, Councilman Bob Woerner said the City Council should consider putting its own competing ballot initiative or initiatives to a public vote. He suggested crafting measures to limit changes allowed under the Central Park Initiative, and to block public funding for a

(See PARCEL TAX, page 6)



See Inside Section A

Section A is filled with information about arts, people, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board.

Councilman Coomber Not To Run Again

By Larry Altman

Livermore City Councilman Bob Coomber, who is in need of a kidney transplant, announced this week that he will not seek re-election in November in order to concentrate on his health.

Coomber, 65, already on the waiting list at Stanford University Medical Center, said he plans to see doctors and register for similar lists at UC San Francisco Medical Center and UC Davis Medical Center, "which will require a lot of travel."

"I'll miss a lot of city events and things I don't usually miss," Coomber said. "I can't devote my whole attention to the office."

Elected in 2016, Coomber said he had considered his decision over the past few weeks, telling his wife Gina

(See COOMBER, page 14)



The City of Dublin will dedicate its new Public Safety Complex, 6361 Clark Ave., on Feb. 22. The public is invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m., take a tour of the new facility, and enjoy a barbecue lunch provided by the Dublin Lions Club. See the full story on page 14. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Coronavirus: A Threat Both New and Old

By Jeff Garberson

To some, it's a terrifying new disease emerging from China to threaten health in the rest of the world.

To others, it's not much to worry about, with barely a dozen cases in the entire U.S. and none at all reported to date in Alameda or Contra Costa counties.

The Wuhan coronavirus, as the disease has been called after the quarantined Chinese city where it seems to have emerged, has so far sickened more than 40,000 in China and killed some 1,000.

Tuesday, as the Independent was going to press, the World Health Organization gave the virus itself a formal name, COVID-19, which carefully avoids stigmatizing people or places. CO stands for coronavirus, VI for virus, D for disease and 19 for the year when it was first identified.

Coronaviruses are a family of viruses circulating throughout the world, most often in animals. "Corona" refers to a fringe reminiscent of a crown.

Five varieties of coronavirus, including COVID-19, are known to infect people with results ranging from mild colds to severe respiratory distress.

Some epidemics have been life-threatening. Beginning in 2002, for example, severe acquired respiratory syndrome, or SARS, killed nearly 800 in China and Hong Kong before burning out a year or so later. Middle East respiratory syndrome, or MERS, is highly lethal. It continues to be diagnosed occasionally.

Although the potential for spread of COVID-19 is considered real, few countries have had more than a handful of cases. By early this week, Thailand had reported 32, Taiwan 18, Vietnam 15, India 3.

The disease is so new that no one is quite sure how it spreads.

Jake Scott, an infectious disease physician at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare in Pleasanton, marvels that a medical test was developed within a month that can identify victims of the disease. Less than two decades ago, development of a comparable test to identify SARS took several months, by which time the epidemic was burning itself out.

COVID-19 shows no signs of

(See CANDIDATES, page 2)

(See CORONAVIRUS, page 3)

Car Accident Fatality Near Pleasanton

By Larry Altman

California Highway Patrol investigators are trying to find witnesses to a Feb. 7 overnight crash near Pleasanton that killed a Salida man.

Officers suspect 55-year-old David Leon Davis might have suffered a medical problem before he drove off the roadway near the intersection of Sunol Road and Castlewood Drive in unincorporated Alameda County.

CHP Officer Tyler Hahn said investigators need to speak with anyone who saw the car leave the road.

"There were no evasive marks left on the roadway or dirt shoulder that would indicate braking, swerving, etc.," Hahn said.

Passing motorists spotted the 2014 Volkswagen Jetta wagon about 20 to 30 feet off the road about 8:10 a.m. The car sustained front end damage and overturned, coming to rest on its roof.

Davis was inside and pronounced dead at the scene.

Investigators do not know what happened or when, but suspect the

(See FATALITY, page 14)

1st District Candidates Comment on Issues

By Ron McNicoll

Four candidates are running for the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in the 1st District, which includes Livermore, Dublin, and Fremont. They are Dublin Mayor David Haubert, Dublin Councilwoman Melissa Hernandez, State Sen. Bob Wieckowski of Fremont, and Fremont Councilman-at-large Vinnie Bacon.

They are running to succeed Scott Haggerty who announced his retirement for the end of 2020, after 24 years' service.

The Independent asked questions via email about current issues facing the county. One dealt with details about County Measure D, which voters passed in 2000, but which some people want modified.

Dick Schneider, who co-authored Measure D, has insisted that the changes some residents and supervisors Miley and Scott Haggerty want would open the floodgates to commercial uses that are banned, and set a precedent to destroy Measure

D protections for agriculture. The view on the other side is that they are technical changes, and the board can do them legally.

Measure D will be on the supervisors' radar for much of the next

two years. In January, Miley, 1st District supervisor Scott Haggerty, and 3rd District Supervisor Wilma Chan directed staff to prepare the draft of an ordinance change that would appear on the countywide ballot in the 2022 presidential primary. Meanwhile, the draft will be shown around unincorporated areas that have planning boards, such as Sunol.

Candidates' responses are listed alphabetically.

COUNCILMAN VINNIE BACON

I have been a champion in the fight against overdevelopment in Fremont. I would like to take that struggle to the county level by making sure that lands in the unincorporated areas of the county are not overdeveloped.

I would love to be involved in planning at the regional, Bay Area, level. We clearly have a jobs/housing imbalance that needs to be addressed at the regional level.

I have master's degrees in transportation engineering and city planning from UC Berkeley. I would love to use my skills in these areas to help alleviate the traffic issues that are severely compromising our way of life.

Measure D

I am a strong supporter of Measure D and believe that it has done a great job preserving open space in Alameda County. However, I would be open to minor changes in specific commercial uses to help businesses that are struggling. I would not be in favor of large, blanket changes and especially changes that allowed for more housing.

Any proposed changes in Measure D should go before the voters of Alameda County.

Homelessness and rents

I am proud to say that I voted in favor of a Homeless Navigation Center in downtown Fremont despite significant opposition from some members of the community.

The county already provides significant services that can help the homeless. I would be in favor of expanding these services in response to the rise in homelessness. We should expand mental health services, drug/alcohol treatment, job training and other services as needed to help people get out of homelessness.

I believe that some form of rent control can be effective in providing more affordable housing. This

Miley Faces One Challenger in 4th District

By Ron McNicoll

Two candidates are running for the 4th District supervisorial seat, which has been held for the past 19 years by incumbent Nate Miley, who seeks re-election this year. His opponent is Esther Goolsby, a community organizer for Communities for a Better Environment, a statewide organization that focuses on environmental problems and communities' responses to them. Goolsby serves East Oakland, where she has lived since her teens.

The Independent asked questions via email about why they are running, and about current issues facing the county. One dealt with details about county Measure D, which voters passed in 2000, but which some people want modified.

Measure D, also known as the Save Agriculture and Open Space Lands Initiative, imposes strict rules for development of agricultural land

in eastern Alameda County, and serves as an urban growth boundary. Changes to the law require a public vote, although it leaves room for supervisors to make "technical or non-substantive" changes considered to be consistent with the purposes of the ordinance.

Dick Schneider, who co-authored Measure D, has insisted that the changes some residents and supervisors Miley and Scott Haggerty want would open the floodgates to commercial uses that are banned, and would set a precedent to destroy Measure D protections for agriculture. The view on the other side is that they are technical changes, and the board can do them legally.

Measure D will be on the supervisors' radar for much of the next two years. In January, Miley, Haggerty, and 3rd District Supervisor Wilma Chan directed staff to prepare the draft of an ordinance change that would appear on the countywide

ballot in the 2022 presidential primary. Meanwhile, the draft will be reviewed in unincorporated areas that have local planning boards, such as Sunol, that advise the supervisors.

The Independent asked candidates whether they support changing Measure D, and also whether voters should have a chance to change or reaffirm the current rules.

The candidates also were asked about the county's role in solving problems of homelessness — it nearly doubled in two years countywide — and rising rents, and how to build more housing.

Candidates are listed alphabetically by last name.

ESTHER GOOLSBY

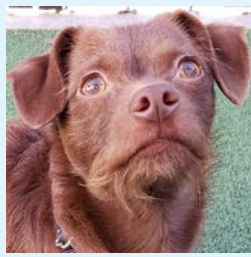
Supervisors hold an immense amount of power to create positive change. I stand for justice. With my commitment and bold dedication,

(See 4th DISTRICT, page 6)



Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton celebrated native ways on Sat., Feb. 8. The free event provided a glimpse into the history of the first people to live in the East Bay area. In addition to the recently completed Tule River Indian replica home, native stories, cultural demonstrations, games, and teas made from native plants were offered. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK SCOOBY



Rev up the Mystery Machine and follow the clues...luckily there's no monster at the end of this chase...just a scruffy little dog looking for a home! He can't talk nor solve crimes, but this Scooby will work hard for a treat! Sit, down and touch are just a few of the tricks he's mastered. Scooby is a small breed mix and estimated to be two-years-old. Meet Scooby at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am - 4pm. Visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information. Photo credit: Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz

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CANDIDATES

(Continued from first page)

is an especially big issue for our elderly renting population living on a fixed income. I did bring a referral on this matter to the Fremont City Council.

Top 3 priorities

Affordable housing – Bay Area cities have typically been providing more than the recommended market rate housing, but much less than the recommended amount of affordable housing. This is because developers profit more from market rate housing. Politicians have let developers get away with this. The net result is our current crisis of affordable housing. The solution is to insist that developers provide the mix of housing that our area needs, not more market rate housing that the developers would like.

Regional Planning – Clearly, if you look at the current traffic situation in the Bay Area, you would have to agree that those responsible for regional planning have failed to properly deal with the growth the Bay Area has experienced. Instead of a one-size-fits-all solution like SB 50, we need strategic changes to look at which areas need more affordable housing, which need more employment centers.

Climate Change – One of the biggest contributors to greenhouse gases comes from the excessive automotive travel that people use in order to get to/from work. While we will need expensive transportation solutions like Valley Link, we also need to develop mixed use development near transit that will encourage transit usage and walking trips to get people out of their cars. Developing in such a manner is a far cheaper way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions than expensive mass transit projects.

No developer funding

I am proud to be the first Fremont City Council member to refuse campaign contributions from developers. Lily Mei then became the second when she won in 2014. As of 2018, we now have a majority of members of the city council that do not take contributions from developers.

MAYOR DAVID HAUBERT

I'm running for County Supervisor because it is a logical extension of my 18 years of public service, having been a School Board Trustee for 10 years and then a Dublin councilman and mayor for a total of eight years. I have devoted my life to public service. I am the most experienced candidate. My track record is excellent. Dublin Unified School District is now recognized as a top performing school district, and the city is well managed with no debt, and great parks, services and programs.

I also have a unique perspective having served alongside the supervisors for the past six years on regional

commissions such as Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO), Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC), Livermore, Amador Valley Transportation Commission (LAVTA) and the East Bay Economic Development Agency (EDA). I know what it takes to be a supervisor and I'm the only candidate who has this experience. This is also evident by the fact that all Tri-Valley mayors, as well as many council members, endorse me. Mayors know who is best qualified to be the next supervisor. It is critical that cities and the county work well together.

Being supervisor will allow me to turn my attention to the many problems facing Alameda County, which we discuss below. I am up for the challenge.

Measure D

I must take Dick Schneider at his word as co-author of Measure D. It may be a matter for the courts to decide if there is so much disagreement about this. I feel I have always had a good relationship with the Sierra Club, and certainly I have supported them in the past on major decisions such as protecting Doolan Canyon. I want to protect our open space, and preserve the world for generations to come.

I always believe that a vote of the people is a powerful over-riding factor. I say that the power of the people is greater than the people in power. If necessary, I would support a public vote.

Homelessness and rents

Homelessness is not a problem; it's a crisis. We need a moral imperative to do what it takes to fix this crisis. I have a fair but firm plan which calls for a safe and warm bed, required treatment for mental illness and addiction and job training so people who are able to work can go back to work. We need to hold ourselves to a higher standard for getting results.

Cost of living is a function of supply and demand of housing options and local wages. Adjusting any of these factors will have an effect on another. If we increase supply, then competition will lower costs for housing. Lacking that, wages must eventually increase in the marketplace or people will leave and that will reduce demand. I am afraid that rent control may ultimately lead to higher costs for everyone.

It is certainly better to prevent someone, especially a senior on a fixed income, from becoming homeless than it is to treat them if they do become homeless. I favor programs that prevent people from becoming homeless.

Top 3 priorities

Solving homelessness, ensuring well-run county medical facilities, and completing much needed road and transportation construction projects such as Valley Link are huge areas of interest for me

COUNCILWOMAN MELISSA HERNANDEZ

I am running because I believe I bring a new perspective to the Board as the daughter of migrant farm workers, a mother, and a decades long volunteer with deep roots in our community, who also has the experience and proven results to get things done.

As Dublin's vice-mayor, I championed the Downtown Plan, helped deliver clean energy to Alameda County, and alleviated traffic congestion with the expansion of Dublin and Dougherty boulevards. As supervisor, I will continue to deliver results on issues

important to working families throughout the district.

I will fight for traffic and transportation improvements, such as Valley Link, work to increase affordable housing for seniors, and to retain teachers and essential service providers, to improve county social programs, like mental health and job training services for the homeless, and health care and social services for children and seniors, to preserve open space, and to enhance our wine region.

Measure D

I agree with Dick Schneider that Measure D does allow the board to make technical changes, but as a child growing up in a farming and agriculture community, I do not agree that equine is strictly commercial. What I am hearing is that our wine region has less grapes planted now than we did when Measure D passed. I would like to work with all sides, such as the Sierra Club, winegrowers, and the community to come up with a reasonable approach while ensuring we preserve open space.

Homelessness and rents

Homelessness in the county has increased a staggering 43% since 2017, with the number reaching over 8,000 on our streets each night. I will work diligently to implement and expand upon the Alameda County vision 2026 plan to address homelessness. We must provide tools and opportunities to move people into housing with rental assistance programs, and we must connect our homeless population with services, such as healthcare, mental health, and job training, to help ensure a successful and permanent path out of homelessness.

Rent control would have to be implemented on a city by city basis, not at the control of the county. Seniors on fixed incomes should not live in fear of being forced out of their homes.

Top 3 priorities

My top areas of focus in the county are reducing traffic congestion/improving public transit, addressing homeless issues, increasing affordable housing options, and protecting public safety.

As a director on both the Valley Link board and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) board of directors, I will work to build on Supervisor Haggerty's visionary leadership on transportation within the 580 corridor. Valley Link will connect Bay Area commuters via rail, and alleviate congestion on the 580 corridor.

I will also look for innovative ideas for reducing 680 traffic along the grade into Milpitas.

The lack of affordable housing is driving families away from Alameda County.

I will work to increase affordable housing options for seniors and to help retain teachers, nurses, and other essential service providers in Alameda County so they can afford to live in the communities where they work.

Protecting the safety and security of families has been and will always be of the highest importance for me. I have been endorsed by the Livermore Police Officers Association, the Deputy Sheriffs' Association of Alameda County and Livermore Pleasanton Firefighters IAFF Local 1974, because from the time I was a community leader and volunteer to being sworn in to protect and service on the Dublin City Council I have been a tireless advocate for our first responders.

SEN. BOB WIECKOWSKI

I am running for the board of supervisors because I feel that my skill set will transfer well to the Board, and I believe I will be a good fit for the job. In Sacramento, I have been a leader on housing, the climate crisis, and reducing income inequality. The Board of Supervisors also creates the county's \$3.5 billion budget, and I will bring experience and leadership from balancing with California's \$222 billion state budget to Alameda County. I've spent my life working to lift people out of poverty, first as a bankruptcy attorney, and now as an elected official.

Measure D

I agree with Scott Haggerty's reading of Measure D, which directs the Board of Supervisors to determine whether the technical changes would extend to agricultural, commercial, or recreational uses. I have been an advocate of Measure D, and Measure D has put in place necessary preservations of open space throughout Alameda County. It is the Board of Supervisors' responsibility to correct unintended consequences for all ordinances following county staff's implementation.

Measure D should not go to a ballot. I believe it is within the purview of the board to grant variance to ballot measures like Measure D when there are unintended consequences.

Homelessness and rents

Given the gravity of our homelessness crisis, the county needs to efficiently leverage its money with the monies being spent from the nonprofit, state, and federal sector. The current state funding of \$650 million and future state funding of \$750 million directly to nonprofits creates potential for collaboration and maximizing success of our programs to house our residents experiencing homelessness. Assisting our partners is of utmost importance during these

critical times.

I voted for AB 1482, which capped rent hikes at 5% plus the local rate of inflation per year. This measure is now being implemented in Alameda County. Some bad actors have raised rents and

moved tenants in anticipation of this legislation. If housing production, including affordable housing, is insufficient to curb the rising prices of rent, then rent control is another tool in our toolbox to

(See CANDIDATES, page 3)

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CORRECTION

A story about Dublin schools Measure J in the Feb. 6 issue erred about enrollment numbers. The enrollment in school year 2009/10 was 4,265. Enrollment in 2019/20 was 12,695, an increase of 198%.

A story about Taylor Family Foundation in Section A of the January 30th issue contained an error. TTFB does not operate camp arroyo.

LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLIMATE ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE ADVISORY BODY

RESIDENTS OF LIVERMORE: The City of Livermore is accepting applications for the Climate Action Plan Committee (CAP) advisory body. The deadline to apply is March 13, 2020. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's office by 5:00 pm.

CAP's role is to guide the development of the City's new Climate Action Plan and help further the City's efforts to address climate change. The Committee will make recommendations to staff and the City Council about how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase climate resiliency citywide.

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be held the evenings of March 30th and April 2nd, 2020. For more information or to apply, please visit www.cityoflivermore.net/AB, call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email us at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

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CORONAVIRUS

(Continued from first page)

disappearing, so epidemiologists and researchers around the world are working 24/7, openly sharing medical data in order to develop detailed models of how the disease progresses in a patient as well as how it can be transmitted between people.

Does it get passed on through the air? In saliva or bodily fluids? By physical contact? All of the above?

Of great importance for predicting how fast it spreads is the question of whether a sick person can pass it unknowingly to others before symptoms appear? This is one reason measles can burn so fast through unvaccinated school populations: It is transmitted before kids know they're sick.

A report from Japan last weekend said that pre-symptomatic transmission is not only possible, but common. Based on case histories of 26 patients in several countries, medical researchers at Hokkaido University concluded that about half of transmissions came from people harboring the coronavirus who had not yet shown symptoms.

Scott, the ValleyCare infectious disease physician, says that until there is medical clarity about transmission, it remains difficult to give health-protective advice beyond the sensible counsel offered every

winter against colds and flu.

That is: Wash hands often and use alcohol gel, especially after touching something that might be contaminated; avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, where mucous membranes are a transmission route into the body; avoid contact with sick people; stay home if you are sick.

This is the kind of sound advice that has been circulating at Tri Valley schools and sent home to parents.

Scott does not recommend masks to protect against COVID-19; first, because it is not clear how it is transmitted; second, because there are so few cases in the U.S.; and third, because masks tend to become slimy and contaminated after constant use.

He does think that sick people should consider wearing masks to keep their germs from spreading, however.

Unlike seasonal influenza, for which there is a safe and reasonably effective vaccine, there is no vaccine for the Wuhan coronavirus. Richard Hatchett, an American physician who heads an international effort to develop a vaccine, has been quoted as saying the problem is being tackled at unprecedented speed, but success is probably a year or more away.

Like many other observ-

ers, Scott notes the irony of serious coronavirus alarm in a world where many people don't bother with vaccinations that are readily available for influenza and other infectious diseases like measles and human papilloma virus.

Still, he sees the COVID-19 publicity as an opportunity to advise people about the importance of keeping vaccinations up to date.

Even how to treat Wuhan coronavirus patients is uncertain and being investigated urgently. After the Chinese government claimed last week that the fatality count had leveled off — that it had turned a medical corner — the number of deaths rose again this week to more than 100 in one day.

On the positive side, Scott has been highly impressed at the international medical community's willingness to share medical information fast.

Where is he on an optimism-pessimism spectrum that seems to range from blasé indifference to panic?

At neither extreme, for sure. Scott considers the situation "serious" because of the many uncertainties while there is evidence of rapid spread inside China. He believes the U.S., like much of the rest of the world, has been investing too little in public health.

"This outbreak has quickly shown us that as a global society we were not repaired for this, not as prepared as we should have been," Scott said.

He also points out that COVID-19, like the deadly SARS and MERS viruses, seems to have emerged from our interactions with the animal world. "If we were not disturbing these animal ecosystems so much, we might not be exposed to these exotic bugs," he warned.

As for China, he faults local officials in Wuhan for not "raising alarms more effectively and more quickly" when early coronavirus cases appeared. He also thinks "the American public health system has been... overwhelmed, not by the (small) number of cases, but in trying to get a grasp of what has been going on."

While it has declared a public health emergency over

the Wuhan coronavirus and imposed quarantines of travelers from China, the Trump administration has cut the budget for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control for three consecutive years.

Still, the U.S. can consider itself fortunate that there have been so few domestic cases, especially during a time when U.S. health facilities are already stretched thin by a severe influenza season.

Scott thinks it possible that the seriousness of the situation in China, including the large number of fatalities, may not be universal but may stem in part from inadequate facilities.

"The cases seem to be milder outside of China partly because Chinese resources are overwhelmed and people aren't getting the resources they need," he said.

CANDIDATES

(Continued from page 2)

address the housing crisis. I am also in favor of direct subsidies to assist low-income renters.

Yes, I support rent subsidies for seniors on fixed incomes. Seniors must have the right to age in place and live with dignity, which is why I am a staunch supporter of efforts to approve low-income senior housing projects across the county.

Top 3 priorities

My top three subject areas are housing, poverty, and transportation. We need to build more housing, including affordable housing, and I want to streamline the approval process for homeowners to build an accessory dwelling unit on their property.

We need to think regionally to address our transportation

issues, and I support projects like BART and ACE expansion and Valley Link.

As for addressing poverty, we need to focus on eliminating homelessness and expanding healthcare coverage throughout the county, and ensure that everyone partakes in the census so we receive the funding our communities need for social services.

We need a supervisor who has the experience and leadership to deliver on day one. I believe I am the most qualified candidate, because I bring leadership on the issues that matter most.

County workers, first responders, healthcare workers, and Supervisor Scott Haggerty have all supported my candidacy because they know that I will be the best representative for the district.

Flu Shots Safe for Pregnant Women and Fetuses

A Kaiser Permanente study has confirmed the prevailing medical view that pregnant women can get flu shots without risk to their fetuses.

The study made use of a standard screening questionnaire to evaluate the developmental progress of six-month-old infants who had been born to 1,225 Kaiser maternity patients.

The offspring of 799 women who received the flu vaccine were found to have developed equally with the offspring of 426 women who did not get the shots.

The finding was not a surprise. Pregnant women have long been advised to get flu shots for their own health and for that of the fetuses because getting the flu can have serious consequences including stillbirth.

The study did, however, examine infant developmental health over a longer term than previously, according to Lyndsay Avalos, a scientist with the Kaiser Permanente division of research.

The results of the study were published earlier this month in the journal *Vaccine*. The research "offers additional confirmation of the safety of the influenza vaccine for both pregnant women and their children," said Avalos, lead author of the article.

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FOR COUNTY SUPERVISOR

As State Senator and Vice Mayor, BOB WIECKOWSKI has a track record of GETTING THINGS DONE.

He has led the charge in tackling our housing crisis, improving our infrastructure, expanding healthcare coverage, and fighting climate change. Now, Bob Wieckowski wants to bring his skillset and experience to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

As your County Supervisor, Bob will:

 **Combat Our Housing Crisis** by expanding our affordable housing and Housing First Programs, easing fees tied to the building of granny flats (ADU's), and fighting to prevent homelessness before it happens

 **Improve Transportation Infrastructure** by completing Valley Link, expanding BART/ACE, improving mobility on 880/680, and encouraging regional cooperation

 **Fully Fund Our County's Health System** and boost our healthcare nonprofits and community health centers, while expanding mental health services throughout Alameda County



Proudly endorsed by Supervisor Scott Haggerty, county workers, local first responders, and community leaders from across the State and Region!



VOTE BY MAIL TODAY or ON ELECTION DAY MARCH 3!

EDITORIAL

Note: Joan Seppala, Founder and Publisher of The Independent, is one of the leaders of the grassroots organization that supports the Central Park Plan.

The activist role of Livermore citizens is being threatened in a way that this newspaper has not seen in the 56 years since its founding. Recent actions taken by city representatives and their partners pushing their plan for Livermore's downtown development ignore, threaten and manipulate ordinary citizens in numerous ways.

In the past, grassroots activists have also fought with the city, developers and other business representatives over initiatives – Livermore's Urban Growth Boundary, for example. Both sides argued over the issues related to the merits of their cause. However, the city and its business associates never resorted to the strategies now being used.

If left unchallenged, these and similar actions will not only affect the current downtown development process, but also will become the new norm, influencing how the city's policy decisions are reached for years to come.

Examples of the inappropriate actions taken so far include:

- *Public feedback shunned.* Presidio, the city's hotel developer, preferred to build its hotel on the east side of Livermore Avenue. Although the City's \$500,000 Outreach Process found 3 to 1 that participants wanted a hotel located on the west side of Livermore Avenue, the east side was chosen.

- *An attempt to render meaningless the Central Park Plan vote.* The city's Development Agreement with Presidio, if approved by voters on March 3, would secure Presidio's right to build its east side hotel. The goal of that action, taken after the Central Park Plan initiative qualified for the Nov. 3 ballot, is to render the decision meaningless if voters decide in favor of the Central Park Plan with its westside hotel. The Development Agreement is at odds with voters' rights under the California Constitution to enact the Central Park Plan as designed.

Swalwell for Congress

We are pleased to endorse Eric Swalwell to be Congressional Representative for District 15 in the coming election. Swalwell, 39, is a four-term incumbent, a centrist Democrat like his political mentor, the late Ellen Tauscher. He embodies political ideals that we support and that are all too lacking in Washington today: integrity, insistence on the rule of law, bipartisanship, transparency. If only more politicians were cut from the same cloth.

Swalwell is a former Alameda County prosecutor. When first elected to the House in 2013, he hit the ground running, and hasn't slowed since. He serves on two key committees – Intelligence and Judiciary – and

Voters Need to Send the City a Message to Stop Backdoor Attempts to Influence the Election

- *Intimidation of Central Park Plan initiative signers.* In an off-the wall move, Livermore's City Clerk filed a lawsuit against the Livermore residents who signed the initiative rebuttal ballot argument, stating that the reason for the lawsuit is that the rebuttal arguments were not factual. State law specifically allows opinions to be freely expressed in ballot arguments. The City Clerk is no longer a city employee. She should not have been weaponized in the hope of forcing Central Park Plan supporters to retreat.

- *Misuse of irrelevant state housing laws.* Four state housing bills have been cited by officials as evidence that the state will force housing developments on the downtown site if the Central Park Plan were adopted. Not one of them would do so.

City representatives and their allies claim SB 50 could require an 8-story apartment complex next to the Bankhead. SB 50 recently failed for the third time in Sacramento. Even if passed, the bill would not have affected the Central Park Plan, because it enabled cities to move a required development to another area in the city.

AB 1486 provides a process for cities to dispose of surplus land. It does not force the development of affordable housing or any other particular land use. And SB 330 allows an exception for its limits on downzoning if a city changes its land use plan to add housing elsewhere, as long as there is no net loss of residential capacity.

Finally, AB 1763 only deals with density bonuses for affordable housing projects. It does not mandate housing, and therefore, is not relevant to the Central Park Plan.

Repeatedly mentioning laws that do not bear on the Central Park Plan is simply wrong.

- *Initiative terms misstated.* At a recent Council meeting, a staff member showed a drawing of the Central Park Plan site map, with the Science Center sprawling over a large section of the Central Park. The staff person intentionally showed a one-story building instead of a three-story building, increasing the footprint

three-fold. In fact, on pages 21 of the initiative, Figure 5-1B is incorporated, setting the boundaries of the park, Science Center and other facilities. The Science Center cannot reduce the park's size. This act by a city employee was misleading.

- *Parcel tax threatened without data to support it.* Just this Monday, a discussion of a parcel tax for the November ballot was initiated at the City Council meeting. Voting on Measure P by mail had begun. A parcel tax was proposed to cover the additional expenses that the city said would be incurred if the Central Park Plan were adopted. No council or staff report justifying the need was provided. Audience members supporting the Central Park Plan explained to the council that legitimate costs could be covered without a parcel tax. A Willdan Financial Services study showed that the Central Park Plan would contribute \$1.2M a year to the city's general fund, or \$35 million over 30 years. The bulk of revenues would come from the high-quality hotel, with its large number of rooms and high room rates, a common sense opinion that the Willdan study verified. No immediate action was proposed. Speakers questioned whether the goal of the agenda item was merely to scare voters who do not want an increase in property taxes.

These actions taken by the elected City Council, city staff, the hotel developer and their commercial and other supporters are intended to damage a voter's ability to clearly understand the facts behind the Central Park Plan, and independently determine what is in the city's best interests before voting. This should stop.

Vote No on P. You will be keeping open the opportunity to make a meaningful vote in regard to the Central Park Plan in November, with its high-level westside hotel, needed parking off Livermore Avenue, and larger 3-acre park. You will also be sending a message that the public sees through the backdoor attempts to influence voters, and does not support them. This will preserve our ability to participate in a meaningful local democracy in the future.

has played central roles in some of the important debates of our time (impeachment and foreign interference in U.S. elections, to name two.) He has become an influential Democratic Party spokesman on national issues without being hyperpartisan. He listens to critics as well as to supporters.

He is willing to work across the aisle toward common national goals. Three years ago, for example, he co-sponsored bipartisan legislation to help police departments acquire rapid DNA testing technology. More recently, just last month, he joined New York Republican Elise Stefanik in introducing a bill to modernize online job searches.

Swalwell has worked to reduce gun violence, relieve traffic congestion and find solutions to student debt burden. He represents his district's science and defense interests thoughtfully and effectively. He has stayed in close touch with his constituents, both in person and communicating from a distance.

Swalwell threw his hat in the ring for a brief Presidential run, but wisely withdrew when his national polling numbers did not rise to a promising level. It's too early to predict where his career might go – how high it might rise – but for now, Eric Swalwell has earned the right to be reelected Congressional Representative for District 15.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them and city of residence. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be limited to 600 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com. To be considered, letters must be received by 6 p.m. on the Monday before publication.)

Voters Must Hold Trump Accountable

Marla Kirby, Livermore

"Corrupting an election to keep oneself in office is perhaps the most abusive and destructive violation of one's oath of office that I can imagine." With these words, Sen. Mitt Romney voted last week to convict Donald Trump of abuse of power. Romney was the only Republican senator to cast such a vote. His was the lone voice among the GOP senators who closed their eyes and ears to what was plainly put before them by the House impeachment managers.

Whether they shut out the evidence because of cowardice or party loyalty, those Republican senators refused to fulfill their constitutional obligation of impartial justice, and in doing so, willfully ignored the founding principle of this nation: the rule of law.

And so, we the voters must do our civic duty and help to hold Donald Trump and his enablers accountable at the bal-

lot box. If we the people do not send a strong message to our elected officials that no person is above the law, and especially not the president, then we will have failed our forebears who fought for, and maintained, this core democratic principle over two centuries.

We also will have failed our children, to whom we say do what is right, even when it is difficult. We teach our children not to cheat or to lie, and to follow the rules. Truth matters. Right matters. Character counts. What does it say about our country that an elected official who is given immense authority under our constitutional system is held to lower standards than those we set for our children?

We the people still have the power to change this, and we must do so before it is too late. But it will take all of us who believe that the rule of law still matters to pitch in. Do not sit on the sidelines and expect that all will be well. It won't be unless we work to make it right.

Parcel Tax Not Needed

Tamara Reus

The politics behind the Livermore City Council's discussion of a parcel tax was evident on Monday. The council provided no information to the public in advance of the meeting, or at the meeting, to support a parcel tax. The council used its position to stoke fears, aided by the misleading mailers put out by the supporters of Measure P. With the election only a few weeks away, threatening a parcel tax measure misinforms voters, many of whom are already completing their ballots.

A parcel tax would not have to be placed on the ballot until August. The council won't have additional information until April or possibly May, after the vote on Measure P is

over. There was no need for the council to discuss this issue now, except to scare people into voting in favor of Measure P.

The city has not even revealed the amounts it will be spending for the City Plan. This makes a full comparison of the financial impacts of each plan impossible. Another reason to question the council's underlying motivation.

Let's be clear. A parcel tax is NOT needed to implement the Central Park Plan.

The Central Park Plan will generate \$1.2 million per year in taxes and fees, according to a study prepared by Willdan Financial Services, a national firm. Willdan took into account the fact that the Central Park Plan provides a full-service westside hotel, including 160 rooms with a high room rate and top-quality restaurant, parking fees, and additional retail. With over \$35 million in revenue over 30 years, this is more than enough to cover added costs in the Central Park Plan.

Second, in order to provide parking near Livermore Avenue where it is needed, the Central Park Plan places the same number of stalls in three garages that the City Plan places in two. Because of this variation, the additional expense is \$2.5 million, not \$23 million. Again, the \$1.2 million annual increase in revenues will offset the expense.

Third, some have said that the proposed parcel tax is needed to help with residential development financing if the Central Park Plan is approved. Eden Housing has been awarded \$14 million by Alameda County for its 130-unit affordable-housing project. However, if the 130 units were built north of Railroad Avenue instead, Eden could still secure the county's \$14 million. This area is across from the downtown plan site, with walkable access to downtown businesses. It could accommodate significantly more affordable housing than currently planned and could thereby exceed the county's funding criteria, as well as being good for Livermore. No need for a parcel tax.

And last, the \$4 million in any remaining affordable-housing obligation could be addressed by up-zoning other land for affordable housing, such as the area north of Railroad. Any

portion of the obligation that is not covered by the 84 affordable units in the Central Park Plan can be met by adding 46 or more units there. The city can use the same strategy for the Central Park Plan that it used in relocating housing to Pacific Avenue in the Stockmen's Agreement, still benefiting the city's affordable-housing fund.

Of course, if Measure P passes, it will fix the hotel location on the east side of Livermore Avenue, in direct conflict with the Central Park Plan, with its better hotel, better park, and better parking. Is the city council so afraid that Measure P will be defeated this March that it rushed to discuss an unwarranted parcel tax for the November ballot? Don't let this threat dissuade you from voting "No" on Measure P.

Vote for an Actual Plan

John Lawrence, Livermore

A leader of the group opposed to the city's downtown development plan spoke before the City Council a few weeks ago. She confirmed the inaccuracy of their site drawing by explaining that the footprint of a building could be changed (was not actually set) and that park amenities were just suggestions (not actually thought out and designed). If that weren't enough deception, when asked to explain where parking for the hotel was actually located on their drawing, she responded, "that parking will have to be arranged." She was further pressed to explain how the community could, as her group proposes, "compare and decide," when their supposedly more convenient hotel parking didn't actually exist. Her response was, "Let's not talk about that." It's time to stop this lunacy and move forward with an actual plan. A plan that actually fits into the site. A plan with actual and honest dimensions. A plan with a hotel developer and hotel parking that actually exists. A plan with an actual and realistic timeline. Please vote "Yes" on Measure P to stop this special-interest group's blatant waste of public resources and their vindictive interference in development that is supported by our downtown and local business, housing and conservancy advocates, the rodeo and police associations, and all of our elected officials. Vote "Yes"

for actual people, parks, parking and progress!

Decision on Parcel Tax Postponed

Richard Ryon, Livermore

These comments are in reference to an item on Livermore City Council agenda for Feb. 10. This item was described as, "Discussion and direction regarding potential City Council sponsored measures for upcoming elections." The recommended action was: "The City Council Subcommittee on Initiatives recommends the City Council receive its oral report and then provide direction to the committee and to staff regarding potential City sponsored measures for upcoming elections."

This benign-sounding and vague agenda item was rumored to be about recommending a parcel tax on every property in the city if Measure P is defeated in the March 3 election. This seemed to be an endorsement of the unfounded "Yes on Measure P" claim in a mailer that defeat would cost the city \$40 million. A threatened parcel tax seemed designed to punish Livermore citizens if they voted "No" on Measure P. Discussion of the item by subcommittee members Bob Woerner and Trish Munro did not dispel the concern regarding a parcel tax. However, a decision was put off until sometime between April and August, after a report by city staff.

I had written a full-page statement to be read to the council, denouncing the perceived threat. I scratched much of what I wrote. The following is what I did say: "At the Jan. 27, city council meeting, I testified that the Willdan Financial Services Co. in Oakland estimates that the alternative to the city's plan for downtown would produce \$15 million more than the city's plan over the next 30 years. The Central Park Plan might cost up to \$5 million more than the city's plan, netting about \$10 million more to the city. Therefore, the Central Park Plan is the fiscally responsible choice."

I would not expect the city council to accept unquestioned an alternate financial plan to that offered by its own staff. You might not agree with every item contained in the Willdan report. However, I cannot imagine that the scientists and financial people on the council, who

are trained to evaluate conflicting information, could disagree with the overall conclusions contained in that report. It is unconscionable not to read and consider a plan offered by a reputable outside consultant.

Unify Livermore

Heather Hammer, Livermore

At a time when politics are polarized in our nation, I am deeply disappointed to find divisiveness in the City of Livermore as we approach an issue of our own on March 3. I want to urge our voters to cast their ballots to unify Livermore by voting "Yes" on Measure P. Our City Council has worked for 20 years on a creative and workable City Plan. Now as we are finally ready to start the project, it is being challenged by individuals who oppose the measure. "Yes" on Measure P will implement a plan with an attractive hotel on Livermore Avenue, welcoming visitors into our town and wine country. It is a community effort that has already invited and heard the voices of the people and has gained support from the business community. It is a well thought out compromise that will be beautiful and practical. We elected the mayor and council members to lead our city. Now we need to continue their good work by voting "Yes" on Measure P.

Reject Measure P for Meaningful Vote

Jean King, Livermore

The voters of Livermore signed petitions last summer to qualify an initiative so there could be a vote on the Central Park Plan for the downtown. Ever since it qualified for a vote, there have been constant efforts to sabotage that vote with a hotel-development agreement, misleading statements concerning passed and defeated state legislation, incorrect statements about the cost of the plans, and personal attacks on supporters.

Parcel-tax proposals and additional initiatives are yet another attempt to mislead, confuse and scare the public and stop the Central Park Plan from being implemented if it is approved by the voters. Vote "No" on Measure P so there can be a meaningful vote on the downtown.

(See MAILBOX, page 8)

THE Independent

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ON MARCH 3RD **VOTE NO** ON THE PRESIDIO DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

DID YOU GET THE MAILER ATTACKING THE CENTRAL PARK PLAN?

PUT THE SCARE TACTICS WHERE THEY BELONG.



The Yes on P campaign is making false claims about the Central Park Plan

PresidioDevCo LLC, the for-profit hotel developer that is bankrolling the Yes on P campaign, is misleading Livermore voters. The company wants to secure its hotel location east of Livermore Avenue this March, in order to render meaningless your November vote on the Central Park Plan with its westside hotel. Please look at the facts before you vote.

FALSE CLAIM #1 "ACCORDING TO SB 330, A WESTSIDE HOTEL CAN'T BE CONSIDERED UNTIL 2025"

FACT: NOT TRUE

SB330 allows cities to move housing elsewhere in the city as long as there is no net loss. SB330 is a nonissue.

FALSE CLAIM #3: "AB 1763 ENABLES A 6 STORY APARTMENT BUILDING...NEXT TO THE BANKHEAD"

AB 1763 HAS NO RELEVANCE TO THE CENTRAL PARK PLAN.

AB 1763 only provides density bonuses for affordable housing projects. It does not mandate housing. Therefore, it is not relevant to the Central Park Plan.

FALSE CLAIM #2 "AB 1486 REQUIRES AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT THE CORNER OF L AND RAILROAD"

FACT: AB 1486 HAS NO EFFECT ON THE CENTRAL PARK PLAN.

AB 1486 establishes a procedure for how cities dispose of surplus land, nothing more. It doesn't require affordable housing. The Central Park Plan is NOT affected.

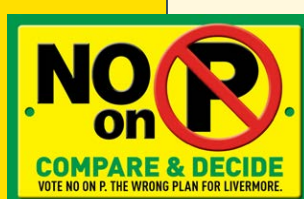
FALSE CLAIM #4: "YES ON P STOPS A \$23 MILLION PARCEL TAX ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT."

NO PARCEL TAX IS NEEDED FOR THE CENTRAL PARK PLAN.

The Central Park Plan's parking garages, placed where needed, will cost only \$2.5 million more than the City plan. Offsetting this cost, the Central Park Plan will provide \$1.2 million annually in taxes and fees, according to Willdan Financial Services. The City will not need a parcel tax.

And the biggest whopper of all...

Yes on P supporters say that SB 50 could force us to build 8-story apartments next to the Bankhead Theater. But SB 50 was just defeated for the third straight time!



LivermoreDeservesBetter.com

ON MARCH 3RD, **VOTE NO** ON P

IT'S THE WRONG PLAN FOR LIVERMORE

Ad Paid for by Protect the Central Park Vote, No on P.

SPORTS NOTES



Left: The Dublin Gaels #19 Eamon Fakhri tries to get the ball away from the Falcons #17. The Gaels won 5 to 0. Right: Amador Valley Dons #9 Josh Lovell and Livermore #8 push for control of the ball. Amador won 3 to 0. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



Left: In a close game, Amador's #23 Dominic Miranda scores 2 points. Amador won 45 to 43. Right: Livermore High's Madison Silva shoots for 2 points. Dublin won 66 to 28. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



4TH DISTRICT

(Continued from first page)

the county will change to be healthier.

The passion is real. Living through the toxic pollution in my neighborhood, since I was 16 years old, where a foundry has been for over 113 years, the federal government and opportunity zones are bringing even more pollution to our already overburdened neighborhoods. I breathe the air, and live in the pollution daily. And so I am grounded in community, and will continue to engage and communicate with residents and community groups throughout the District 4.

Lack of healthy food and local farm sourcing, air quality and environmental health are all focuses of my platform and part of my professional work experience. I also believe in true public safety, which focuses on advancing our environments to be safe.

Measure D

I agree with Dick Schneider's point (about expanding commercial uses without following what he says is the correct interpretation of Measure D allowances). As an environmental justice organizer for the past 10 years, I have seen commercial change as well as corporations and big business change the landscape of my immediate environment, and throughout other parts of District 4 when driving through. The impact overall of this type of change and/or expansion has been hit or miss; I'd say too often miss. From residents and the community at large, the people have often voiced that they feel it is not beneficial to them, their health, and their ability to thrive.

I would be in favor of going to an election (if Measure D would be changed), and for the decision to be made by the voters. The people need to decide.

Affordable housing

Local jurisdictions like Oakland have refused to develop a public land policy or any policy that will follow the state law of requiring the use of the Surplus Land Act, where the for-sale land will be used for affordable housing. There is nothing com-

plex about this crisis. The lack of any policy that protects the poorer people from losing their housing must (be changed) now. The county needs to adopt (anti-speculation) laws that would no longer allow hedge funds and corporations to buy homes, and flip them. The county needs to start the change of local policy.

The county needs to use state and federal funds to develop housing for the un-housed now. We also need services combined with housing. Housing alone is not enough.

Since rent control has passed statewide, (Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the bill last year, effective this year.) I will help to ensure protections to sustain and close any loopholes that enable landlords to raise the rent. I seek to prioritize building multi-family unit housing and apartments to keep up with our rising population, and also ensure that we have protections in place for county natives to be able to move back to the cities they are from. With the rise in technology and corporate entities, there are more and more luxury apartments and market-rate housing being developed. We need to ensure that 30% of housing developed is dedicated to affordable housing for people who live in/are from the area that is being developed.

Seniors that need help, should get the help they need (from rent subsidies).

Top priority

Climate Chaos - The Bay Area is becoming one of the most polluted areas in the country. We no longer have time to study this. Many plans that have been made by communities must be used to start a just transition for our future generations to thrive.

We need to address the Alameda supervisors' role in oversight of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The residents of Alameda County cannot, and should no longer have to bear the brunt of a system that relies on fossil fuel production and burdening the environ-

ment and impacting population health.

Additional issues

I would aim to make the work of supervisors transparent to the residents and other stakeholders. I would also make efforts to work collaboratively with health departments, committees, businesses and city administrations. Together, we would design incentives and concurrently draft similar legislation to develop guidelines that consider health in all policies, also using what has worked with the community for years. The people often already know the solutions to what impacts them and their health.

SUPERVISOR NATE MILEY

I have been a supervisor for the past 19 years. Before that, I served as an Oakland City Council member for 10 years, and a community organizer for nine, yet I am just as passionate, if not more so, about public service today as I was when I started this journey. I want to continue to bring my energy, experience, and knowledge to address issues and make society better for all of us.

Measure D

The voters intended for appropriate rural/ag uses to be protected under Measure D, including equestrian uses. I believe that (a Castro Valley riding academy that lacks enough floor space for permission under Measure D to expand a roof area) is an appropriate rural/ag use under Measure D, because the state defines equestrian use as agriculture.

I am open to taking Measure D back to the voters, not just for this specific issue, but to revisit the question of whether or not it is appropriate for urban voters to limit private property rights in rural areas, without just compensation.

Homelessness and rent

I am deeply passionate about this issue, which is why I have pushed the county to take a stronger role in addressing the housing and homelessness crisis. I am preliminarily sup-

porting a countywide ballot initiative for homeless services, which includes a large portion of funding dedicated to preventing homelessness and displacement through well-funded rental assistance and supportive housing programs.

I supported the policy behind and campaign for Measure A1 which provided nearly \$600 million for much needed affordable housing. I have been working on strategies that are and will comprehensively address the problem. Additionally, I strongly support the new County Office of Homeless Care and Coordination.

I support AB 1482 (California Tenant Protection Act), which went into effect on Jan. 1, 2020 and caps rent increases at 5% plus inflation each year until 2030. The law will retroactively apply to increases on or after March 15, and it will also ban landlords from evicting tenants without cause.

A countywide ballot initiative for homeless services includes rental assistance, which will target vulnerable populations, such as seniors on fixed incomes.

Affordable housing and homelessness: Need to continue developing thoughtful, effective, and innovative solutions to break the cycle of homelessness and to create a range of housing, especially for low-income workers, teachers, first responders and seniors.

Priorities

Quality of life issues: Addressing illegal dumping through education, eradication and enforcement; creating livable communities for all, and advancing 21st century policing, ensuring a living wage, and an age-friendly county for the elderly.

Regional transportation and congestion: Planning and delivering transportation projects and programs to expand access and alleviate congestion.

Thank you for the opportunity to state my positions and encourage civic engagement for a healthier democracy.

PARCEL TAX

(Continued from first page)

parking garage it allows next to the Bankhead Theater, where the city's approved plan calls for a hotel.

An ongoing power struggle between the City Council and resident activists has intensified in recent weeks as the first of two critical elections involving clashing visions for the redevelopment of city-owned downtown land draws near.

Livermore voters on March 3 will have the opportunity to vote on Measure P, a referendum on whether to uphold or reject the city's hotel development agreement with Davis-based Presidio to build a hotel next to the Bankhead Theater. A yes vote affirms the development contract between the City Council and Presidio. A no vote reverses the agreement.

Then, on Nov. 3, voters will decide whether to approve the Central Park Plan Initiative, with a hotel west of Livermore Avenue. It presents an alternative downtown development plan to replace the city's eastside hotel plan, and amend parts of the city's General Plan, Downtown Specific Plan, and Development Code.

At the Council's July 23, 2019 meeting, Mayor John Marchand created the two-member ad hoc committee on initiatives. With the Council's unanimous consent, Marchand appointed Woerner and Councilwoman Trish Munro.

The pair were tasked with exploring options for crafting Council-sponsored initiatives aimed at limiting the effectiveness and potential cost of the Central Park Initiative. No public meetings were held or announced since the committee was formed, according to the city's public documents.

A city council's ad hoc committee may be just as subject to the Brown Act as the City Council itself, depending on who created it, how, and who the members are, Francke said.

For example, the Brown Act's public meeting, notice, and other requirements apply to ad hoc commit-

tees that include at least one member not on the council.

If there is communication with a third member of a five member city council—in other words a majority of the council is now involved in discussions of an ad hoc committee—this would also step into Brown Act violation territory if the committee is not meeting in public, Francke said. This type of prohibited communication need not be direct, and can include "meetings of the minds" arranged through intermediaries.

City Attorney Jason Alcalá did not respond to questions from The Independent asking whether the Livermore City Council's Subcommittee on Initiatives has adhered to requirements of the Brown Act.

On Friday, the city posted its Monday meeting agenda simply mentioning the presentation of an oral report from the Subcommittee on Initiatives regarding potential City Council-sponsored measures for upcoming elections. There were no supporting documents, such as meeting minutes, reports or recommendations.

While initial discussion on the ad hoc committee's task included potential land use initiatives, Woerner announced Monday it will likely just focus on potential revenue measures to pay for extra costs they claim the city will have to pay to implement the Central Park Initiative if it is approved in November.

"If nothing else, Council should ensure that the city remains fiscally sound. We've seen examples of cities that have gone bankrupt. It's not a good look," Munro said.

A parcel tax — a form of real estate tax — would make up for what Woerner predicted as a \$35- to \$50-million budget shortfall if voters approve the residents' Central Park Initiative.

Munro suggested the council wait for the results of the March 3 election. "We do not recommend going forward with planning any

(See PARCEL TAX, page 12)

vote **YES** on Measure P

THE SIMPLE TRUTH

NEW STATE LAWS MEAN A NO VOTE ON MEASURE P WILL REMOVE LOCAL CONTROL AND REDUCE AVAILABLE PARKING DOWNTOWN



RIGHT PLACE



The Bankhead site is **ALREADY PERMITTED** for a hotel. **Assembly Bill 1486** requires affordable housing at the corner of L Street and Railroad be given first priority.

RIGHT NOW



A **YES** vote on Measure P means construction will begin **THIS YEAR** on the Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead. **Senate Bill 330** means the Central Park Plan cannot be considered before 2025.

NO HIGH RISE



Assembly Bill 1763 enables a six-story apartment building with only one parking stall for every two units to be built next to the Bankhead. A **YES** vote on Measure P prevents this since a hotel is "grandfathered" in at this site.

NO PARCEL TAX



The Bankhead Hotel is **PRIVATELY FUNDED**. A **YES** vote on Measure P stops a \$23 million parcel tax on the November ballot to fund the unneeded Central Park garage.

The opposition's proposal would **REMOVE LOCAL CONTROL** and **REDUCE AVAILABLE PARKING** downtown. Foolishly, it also raises the possibility that the state could mandate a high-rise apartment be built next to the Bankhead. **Nobody wants that!**

Vote YES on Measure P to maintain LOCAL CONTROL and build the downtown that Livermore residents - not sacramento politicians - want.
On or before March 3rd, vote "yes" on Measure P

www.BankheadHotelNow.com • [VoteYesForTheBankheadHotel](https://www.facebook.com/VoteYesForTheBankheadHotel)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

AB 1486: A State Land Grab
Elizabeth Arnold, Livermore

By now you have probably heard that the State of California passed a bill, AB 1486, into law that essentially mandates that all surplus land up for sale/lease by governmental agencies must be offered for low/middle-income housing. This bill applies to our city, and possibly our downtown. You may want to re-read that statement.

Not surprisingly, this land-grab bill was sponsored by legislators from Berkeley and Oakland; surprisingly, it was approved by our own representatives, Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and State Senator Steve Glazer. Yes, our own representatives voted to restrict our ability to develop our city and the downtown according to our will.

Elections appear to have had consequences: With one abstention, all 88 Democrats approved this bill, including Bauer-Kahan and Glazer. All 29 Republicans voted against it. See leginfo.ca.gov for the voting records of all legislators. Note that party affiliations of the representatives are not included in the voting record. Coincidence? You decide.

Elections will continue to have consequences. You should contact our city officials and state representatives and voice your opinion on this land grab. Even more importantly, you should vote in response to it. Both Rep. Bauer-Kahan and Sen. Glazer are up for reelection this year. You decide.

Public Has Been Misled
Rob Blum, Livermore

The Livermore City Council has misled the public from the start of this project, starting with the workshops being misled and influenced by the Presidio Group. The city did not listen to the participants and the public on a westside hotel. This has caused a petition for a westside hotel. The Presidio Group is misleading the public with false information and scare tactics on Measure P, against the westside hotel; all the advertising is being paid for by the Presidio Group for the city.

Why is the city council being so dishonest with the public and so in bed with the Presidio Group? The downtown and public deserve more honesty from the council for a Central Park Plan with a top-quality 4- or 5-star hotel on the westside. There is only one chance at this, do it right and do not cram a mediocre hotel in a tight location and hide it as a boutique hotel. This is just wrong.

Compare the Central Park Plan with a westside hotel to the City Plan and one can see the Central Park Plan with the westside 4- or 5-star hotel will add tremendous value to the town of Livermore. The plan also is more aesthetically pleasing and has a lot better flow pattern for a hotel and public to enjoy. Vote "No" on Measure P

An Audacious Claim
Monte Dalrymple, Livermore

One of the claims for the westside hotel is that it will generate \$15 million more in tax revenue for Livermore. This is an incredibly audacious claim, because the same special interests behind this proposal were behind the initiative that forced the Livermore City Council to downsize the original eastside hotel. This is exactly like the pickpocket who returns your wallet to collect the reward.

Furthermore, who knew that hotel rooms were such a lucrative tax source? Twenty-five extra rooms generating \$500,000 per year is almost \$56 per room per night in taxes. But remember, the same special interests behind this proposal promised that the Bankhead Theater would be self-supporting. We all know how that turned out.

But those issues aside, any

extra tax income from the larger hotel should not be evaluated in isolation. Many of the things that go along with the westside hotel will bring either costs or lost revenue to the city. For example, moving Veteran's Way is going to cost money. Those 84 dorm-style living units are going to bring in less property tax revenue, and will almost certainly prevent the city from recouping enough money to pay back the loan that was used to buy the land.

Two smaller parking structures, instead of one larger one, are going to cost more. Those are just the obvious costs. This is just one of the reasons why I'm voting "Yes" on Measure P.

Support Angela Ramirez Holmes for Zone 7
Kathy Narum, Pleasanton

Angela Ramirez Holmes' commitment to fiscal accountability and transparency has been critical to the Zone 7 Water Agency board of directors over the last eight years, and earns her the opportunity to be re-elected for another four-year term.

Ramirez Holmes has been an effective financial watchdog at Zone 7, fighting for regular finance committee meetings, comprehensive financial reporting and documents, and transparency. She is accessible to constituents, asks tough questions, and demands accountability on behalf of all residential, business and agricultural customers in the Tri-Valley.

With critical decisions to be made over the next few years on statewide infrastructure projects, flood-control priorities, and new technologies impacting Zone 7's continued efforts to deliver a safe and reliable water supply to our region, there is no one better than Ramirez Holmes to be sitting in that seat making informed decisions. Please reelect her to the Zone 7 board.

Yes, Livermore is Out of Balance
Mark Strauch, Livermore

Regardless of one's position on Measure P, letter writer Dennis O'Brien (Independent, 1/30/20) succinctly makes the case for the importance of voting and interacting with your representatives. I agree with him that the city is out of balance. One only has to look at the continued "Dublin-facation" of Livermore to realize that.

Livermore Shakes Supports Measure P
Lisa A. Tromovitch
Artistic Director, Livermore Shakespeare Festival

Livermore Shakespeare Festival was created in response to the City of Livermore's downtown planning process, a process that reflected a clear understanding of cultural tourism. Having a boutique-style hotel downtown on Livermore Avenue, connected to the wine country via a wine trolley, spoke to the needs of the future outdoor festival. Moving forward with the long-awaited plans with Presidio hoteliers aligns with the mission and goals of the arts organization. Therefore, the board of directors and staff of Livermore Shakespeare Festival are supporting a "Yes" on Measure P.

Originally, we planned a typical 10-month indoor season of plays. In 2002, when we learned that many of the vineyards were opening tasting rooms, some adding event centers, and that the downtown planning process included a small, upscale hotel near restaurants and bars, I immediately thought we should flip this, and start the company with an outdoor Shakespeare festival and then grow outwards into the rest of the year.

When we learned of the plans for a wine trolley, and a cohesive plan that put the hotel on Livermore Avenue, with cinemas at each end of the main street, we knew this was a city that understood how tourism worked.

They were planning consciously, thinking about pedestrian and vehicular traffic. They spread out customers among various small businesses and restaurants, all within walking distance of the hotel, while putting the hotel right at the gateway to the downtown. Everything was moving into place for great customer service while preserving the small-downtown atmosphere that is so attractive.

The hotel location was put into the approved site-specific plan in 2004. An article in The Independent announced the future arrival of the hotel in 2008. The nationwide economic crash scuttled those plans. But after reevaluating the assumptions, opening the plans up to public input, stakeholder expertise, and financial and safety scrutiny, the city reaffirmed the location and took citizen feedback for a new unified concept that brought Stockmen's Park, a veterans memorial, a small arts center, and a science center into the plan, along with workforce housing to activate downtown and the new park. Local teachers in particular would qualify for the workforce housing model. Many smaller businesses operating at various times of day benefit from downtown housing within walking distance.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival's board of directors commends the City of Livermore on its thoughtful planning process, and has pledged to support the community effort through fundraising for a small, flexible theater space that also supports outdoor concerts and educational programming.

Give Central Park Plan a Chance
Anne Marie Etesse, Livermore

I have been a Livermore resident for many years and loved seeing how Livermore has grown as a city, keeping a green belt and turning its downtown into a fun and gourmet center.

Measure P is about to dull all the progress Livermore has made as a city. It will not provide its residents with the optimal solution for parking, hotel, and a beautiful park downtown that we so need!

I am urging you to really look at the details of Measure P and to read and educate yourself on the Central Park Plan.

The Central Park Plan will offer a 160-room full-service destination hotel, 84 units of housing, a 3-acre continuous activated park, and 244-space parking garage. The Central Park Plan will also generate revenue for our city.

Vote "No" on Measure P to give the Central Park Plan a chance.

Fight Over Costco To Continue
Matt Sullivan, Pleasanton
Citizens for Responsible Growth

Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth is very disappointed by the actions of the Pleasanton City Council to approve Costco and the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone project. The city continues to conceal the true environmental, public health, and traffic impacts of the project, and refuses to provide the details of public subsidies to Costco, a \$135 billion corporation. We are weighing the alternatives to respond to this action, but suffice to say, this fight is not over.

Laurene Green for Zone 7 Board
Paulette Salisbury, Pleasanton

If you care about the quality of the water you drink, and bathe in, vote for Laurene Green. This critical Zone 7 Water Agency board election will determine your family's water future. Zone 7 is the body that provides water to much of the Tri Valley.

It's time to bring some fresh scientific solutions to this board, which controls treatment meth-

ods to filter and "purify" water, rates, and how this precious resource is protected from contamination.

The board must have more than basic understanding of the water cycle and cost-cutting plans to effectively protect our water and provide for the health of the Tri Valley. That's why it's critical that you vote for one candidate in this election: Laurene Green. Her scientific perspective, background as a water engineer, and experience in groundwater investigations and cleanup of aquifer and reservoir issues is what we need on Zone 7.

Dismayed by Senate Behavior
Gary Estee, Livermore

Can you believe this situation? I stand both amazed and dismayed at the behavior of

(See MAILBOX, page 10)

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OBITUARIES

Patricia (Pat) Ann Harvey Mar. 30, 1958 – Jan. 18, 2020



Pat got her wings on Jan. 18. She was born in Riverside, California, March 30, 1958, and grew up in Pleasanton and Livermore, graduating from Granada High School in 1976. She worked at Granada Pharmacy and for doctors in Berkeley. She spent her last 16 years in skilled nursing facilities, surviving with grace nerve pain from a spinal cord injury as a quadriplegic. She stayed interested in the world, enjoying TV, especially the National Geographic and Syfy channels and any medium

with photos of Johnny Depp! She amazed us by still sketching while lying down.

She is survived by her parents, James Harvey and Sue Stacy, and her sister, Diane Harvey (Arleigh Taylor). She was predeceased by her younger sister, JoAnn Jukich (Mike). She will be missed by her extended family of nephews and cousins. A memorial will be held from noon to 3 p.m., on Feb. 15, at Beeb's at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to her favorite charity, KQED, or to the Tri-Valley Conservancy in Livermore.

Mary Agnes McMahon Livermore Resident



Mary Agnes McMahon, of Livermore, went home to God on Feb. 4. She was 81. Mary Agnes was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to Mary Frances and George Thomas O'Brien. She was raised in Lenox, Massachusetts, the second of four children. Her family owned Michael O'Brien Flowers, and she helped deliver flowers during the busy holiday seasons growing up. She attended Lenox High School, playing trombone in the school band, and was involved with the Girl Scouts.

Mary Agnes attended The College of Our Lady of the Elms in Chicopee, Massachusetts, where she was president of the Glee Club. She graduated from The Elms in 1960 with a degree in sociology with a minor in education. She later earned her Master's in Education. Mary Agnes taught in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, as well as in an inner-city school in Springfield, Massachusetts. She was involved with local politics, including arranging events for the Young Democrats.

After a whirlwind courtship, Mary Agnes wed Francis (Frank) Holmes McMahon on Aug. 30, 1969, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Lenox, Massachusetts. They moved to Castro Valley, California, before ultimately settling in Livermore. Together, they raised three chil-

dren. Her love for education led her to work for 30 years for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District in various capacities, including substitute teacher, reading specialist, and teacher's aide. She particularly enjoyed her time as a long-term substitute teacher's aide in the Special Education class at East Avenue Middle School and Granada High School. Mary Agnes was an avid reader and penned many book reviews and memorable letters to the editor. She was an active member of St. Michael's parish and enthusiastically supported local charities and schools. She enjoyed knitting scarves for the homeless and was humorously rumored to have "kept the post office in business," sending daily mail to her grandchildren and relatives. She enjoyed laminating pictures and articles of local people in Livermore (especially former students) and sending

them to their homes. She remembered her friends' and neighbors' birthdays, sending cards or surprising them with a balloon on their doorstep. She enjoyed swimming, taking her young children to the Cabana Club in the summer, and later in life, swimming laps at LifeStyleRX in Livermore.

Mary Agnes is survived by her children, Michael McMahon, Mary (Mark) McGuane, and Anne Marie (John-Paul) Mikolajczyk. She is also survived by her brother, Edward O'Brien, of Washington, D.C.; sister, Jo Anne (John) Ellis, of Syracuse, New York; sister-in-law, Janet O'Brien, of Lee, Massachusetts; grandchildren, Zia and Violet McGuane, and Leo, Rita and Rosamystica Mikolajczyk; and nine nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Francis Holmes McMahon, by two weeks; her parents; and her brother, George O'Brien.

Combined services for Mary Agnes and Francis Holmes McMahon will be Saturday, Feb. 22 at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., in Livermore, starting with a Rosary at noon and a Funeral Mass at 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Shepherd's Gate in Livermore or Friendly Manor in Oakland, California.

Konrad D. Rickenbach April 5, 1927 – Feb. 8, 2020



Konrad D. Rickenbach, of Pleasanton, California, passed away on Feb. 8.

Konrad's journey began April, 1927, in Steinen, Switzerland. During his youth, he was surrounded by lakes, meadows, and mountain peaks. Growing up in this environment, led to his passion for skiing, cycling and travel. In his mid-20s, his curiosity took him to North America, working his way across Canada into Northern California. He settled in Pleasanton and became involved with cabinet manufacturing and

property development with his schoolmate, Frank Aufdermau. Konrad enjoyed being with family, his skiing friends, and a nice bottle of wine.

He leaves behind his wife of 65 years, Elisabeth; sons Konrad (Doris) and Andreas (Kristen); daughter Suzanne (Thomas); six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

No services will be held. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Kindred Hospice, Dublin, or a local Humane Society.

Yu-Li Pan Resident of Pleasanton



Yu-Li Pan, 80, passed away peacefully on Jan. 22, in Pleasanton, California. Born in China, he immigrated with his family to the United States in 1950. He studied in Berkeley public schools and received his doctorate in physics from the University of California in 1964. He taught at the University of Pennsylvania until 1969, then continued his career at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory until his retirement in 1993. He specialized in high-

energy nuclear physics research and made significant contributions to the development of laser technology, authoring over 100 one papers and receiving a patent. He enjoyed travelling around the world, hiking in the Himalayas, observing diverse penguin species, and taking bicycle tours. A lifelong bachelor, Yu-Li is survived by his three sisters, five nieces, eight grandnephews, and one grandniece.

Karen E Wheeler Aug. 17, 1946 – Jan. 31, 2020

Karen Elaine (Burke) Wheeler, 73, passed away unexpectedly Jan. 31, 2020, at her home in Watertown, Wisconsin.

Born in Marseilles, Illinois, she spent her early life in Sacramento, California, graduating from Hiram Johnson High School in 1964. She moved to Livermore in 1966, where she began work for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She graduated from the University of San Francisco in 1998, and moved to southeastern Wisconsin in 1999.

She loved traveling, skiing, horseback riding, singing, camping, fishing, and spending time with friends and family. Her Native American heritage was a source of great pride. She was appreciated for her dry sense of humor and persimmon jam. She recently served her community as a volunteer with the Watertown Police Department.

Karen is survived by her son, Daniel Brown (Mary-Anne); her daughter, Christy Julius (Mike); grandchildren

Jake and Abbey Julius; and sisters Linda Wheeler (Jim), Terri Wheeler (Joe), and Tami Wheeler (Bruce). She was preceded in death by her mother, Anna Jewell Wheeler, in 1993, and father, Harold Wheeler, in 2018.

Private services were held. If desired, donations in Karen's memory may be sent to the Watertown Police Department, Attn: Donation Fund, 106 Jones Street, Watertown, WI 53094, or Wisconsin Public Television, www.wpt.org

Jo-Ann Braden Aug. 10 1942 – Feb. 11, 2020



Jo-Ann was born in Oakland, California, to Bonner and Robert Arthur Dana. Despite a valiant fight against cancer, she passed away at home in the presence of her husband Richard (Dick) Braden on Feb. 11. During their 50 years of marriage they shared their love with two daughters, Joanne and Cindy, along with five grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Jo-Ann graduated from San Ramon High School in Danville, California, and became an ac-

countant, working for Job Corps, Motor Truck Distributors, and Roy Jensen Construction. She later obtained her contractor's license, building homes and doing remodels.

Jo-Ann enjoyed horses, spending many years with the E Wa Tom Lih Kinh Appaloosa Club in Livermore, serving on the board and as president. She was awarded a life membership to the National Appaloosa Horse Club.

Jo-Ann's love of bowling got her involved in several leagues

and she served as secretary to some of the senior leagues at Granada Bowl in Livermore. She also bowled with the Granada Match Club. A Celebration of Life will be held at 12:30 p.m., March 17, at Beeb's Restaurant at the Los Positas Golf Course in Livermore. Donations may be made to Hope Hospice or a charity of choice. Callaghan Mortuary is handling arrangements and an online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Mark Andrew Wiley Sept. 29, 1957 – Jan. 27, 2020

Mark was born in Cornell, New York, to George and Mary Jane Wiley, but grew up in Livermore, California. After attending Livermore High School, he joined the U.S. Navy and was deployed on the ammunition ship USS Pyro. After his military service, he worked at G.W. Compressor with his father for many years. Mark continued working in the air-compressor service industry, and ended up living in Colorado with his wife Roberta, who he married in 2004.

Mark loved restoring cars and riding motorcycles. He had many friends and always said he had a good life. Mark left us for eternal peace on Jan. 27, 2020, after

batting idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a rare lung disease. Mark had a positive attitude even in his final days, telling friends "you can't always choose your path, but you can choose who walks it with you."

Mark was predeceased by his parents, George and Mary Jane Wiley; son Red (Mark Jr.) Wiley; and stepmother Frances Wiley Avilla. Mark is survived by his wife Roberta Wiley, son Charlie Wiley; grandson Chase Wiley; brother Aaron Wiley; sister Marliese Mullins; stepbrothers Michael and Patrick Holland; and nieces Katie Holland,



June Fern Gomez



June Fern Gomez ascended into Heaven on Feb. 4, 2020, after a brief illness. She was 97. Her son, Marco, was with her when she passed. June is survived by her son and a daughter, Christine, in the Philippines; four grandchildren, Sonia Bullard of Texas, Jeremiah Escobar of Virginia, Gabriel Gomez, and Grace Gomez of Dublin, California;

three great-grandchildren, Brandon Phothisane, Chase Bullard, and Kaden Bullard, all of Texas; and grand-dog Zuko of Texas, and her beloved dog Duke.

Visitation will be from noon to 4 p.m., at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, on Feb. 17. Burial will be at noon on Feb. 18, at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Livermore.

Robert (Bob) James Barnett Jun. 26, 1956 – Jan. 25, 2020



Bob Barnett, 63, passed away in his home after a massive heart attack on January 25 in Brentwood, California.

He was born in Oakland, California, and raised in Livermore, where he graduated from Livermore High School. He later moved to Brentwood, which he called home for many years. He cared about those around him and was always willing to lend a helping hand. He loved cars (especially his Corvette), golfing, and dinner with friends and neighbors.

Bob was a highly skilled general contractor who was well respected for his craftsmanship. If you were fortunate to hire Bob for a project, you knew it would be a project of perfec-

tion. However, you also soon found out that Bob did things his way, or better known as the best way. In the end, as stubborn as you thought he was being, you would have to admit he was right and the job would come out beautifully.

Bob is survived by his twin

brother, Bill Barnett, of Livermore; two sisters, Roxanne Springer, of Livermore, and Cindy Dee, of Bend, Oregon, as well as five nieces and four nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 1-4 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 22, at Trilogy at the Vineyard, Club Los Meganos, 1700 Trilogy Parkway, Brentwood, California. Flowers may be sent to Trilogy at the Vineyards and/or donations can be made to the American Heart Association at the following dedicated memorial fund, <http://www2.heart.org/goto/bobbarnett>. Callaghan Mortuary is handling the arrangements; an online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Scott William Miles

Scott William Miles died on Jan. 25, 2020, at his home in Kuna, near Boise, Idaho. He was 59. Scott was a sensitive, intelligent, generous man who loved life, whether brain-storming

computer issues (his occupation, solving problems in garage and home, or working in his large yard and garden. He embraced the outdoors, always admiring beauty in nature, while fishing,

camping, boating, hunting, or simply wandering. A man dedicated to family, Scott is survived by his parents, sister, wife, four children, and ten grandchildren.

Francis (Frank) Holmes McMahon June 15, 1934 – Jan. 22, 2020



Francis (Frank) Holmes McMahon, of Livermore, passed away Jan. 22. He was 85.

Frank was born on June 15, 1934, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to Martha and Francis Holmes McMahon. He was a bright student and a hard-working member of 4-H. In 1948, he won top award for best 4-H vegetable garden in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. By the age of 14, he had taught himself Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata and could play all three movements by heart.

Although the family moved to Florida, he returned to Massachusetts in 1950 to become an Eagle Scout in Boy Scout Troop 50. He graduated from Palm Beach High School, in Palm Beach, Florida, in 1952, and was awarded a full scholarship to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. That same year, he won the Florida state high school track championship in the 440-meter race.

While attending MIT, Frank was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He did his basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and was stationed in West Germany. A pioneer in computer science, Frank worked for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore for 30 years. Among his many accomplishments was

Livermore Loops, a benchmark for parallel computers, as well as predicting the existence of a planet. He also invented the terms FLOPS and MFLOPS so that he could compare the supercomputers of the day by the number of floating-point calculations they performed per second. He authored the book, "The Livermore Fortran kernels: A computer test of the numerical performance range."

Frank married the love of his life, Mary Agnes (O'Brien) McMahon in 1969, and they had three children together. A true family man, he devoted his life to his wife and children. He was a serious and caring person who also loved a good laugh. In his free time, he enjoyed walks around the neighborhood and long walks at

Sycamore Grove. He was often found in the yard gardening and enjoyed photography. He played the piano beautifully and could play several pieces of Beethoven by heart. He was a history buff, particularly of World War II. One summer he took his children to New England to retrace the steps of the American Revolution War. He loved classical music and would enjoy performances from the Livermore Symphony.

Sadly, his wife Mary McMahon passed away just two weeks after Frank, on Feb. 4, 2020. He is survived by his children, Michael McMahon, Mary (Mark) McGuane, and Anne Marie (John-Paul) Mikolajczyk. He is also survived by his brother, Martyn McMahon; 5 grandchildren, Zia and Violet McGuane and Leo, Rita and Rosamystica Mikolajczyk, as well as nine nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Peter McMahon.

Combined services for Mary Agnes and Francis Holmes McMahon will be Saturday, Feb. 22 at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., in Livermore, starting with a Rosary at noon and a Funeral Mass at 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Alzheimer's Association.

Honor Your Departed



As a non-profit agency serving the Tri-Valley for 40 years, Hope Hospice relies on donations to help provide end-of-life care and support to all who need it. If your family is designating charitable donations in memory of a departed loved one, please consider Hope Hospice. Your generosity will allow us to continue providing excellent care, grief support, and caregiver education to the local community.

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 8)

our elected officials. Granted, my political acumen is neither complex or extensive, but I do like to think that I have some basic understanding of the U.S. political system after observing it for over 60 years. I also have a college education (with several degrees).

Also, I am a retired veteran with a background in two military services. Among various diverse companies, I have worked at the Livermore Laboratory, Rand Corporation, Northrop Electronics Division, and Hughes Aircraft Corporation. So, I believe that it may be assumed that I have some semblance of logical thought processes swirling through my brain.

The recent behavior of the members of the U.S. Senate has been, at the very least, self-serving in how they handled the Impeachment trial of that unmentionable POTUS. They have gone far beyond any possible interpretation of party loyalty by failing to allow witnesses during the trial. Their actions have openly displayed their imperfections and unsuitability for their offices. It is inconceivable that any self-respecting individual could act in such a biased and selfish manner, especially when their obligation is to place the welfare of their constituency before their own.

To list a few of the inappropriate actions that the President has committed (that have been ignored and permitted by the Senate) are:

- 1) Assumed office without either a transition team or plan.
- 2) Nepotism by hiring his own children to jobs that they had neither the training, experience, or capacity to fulfill.
- 3) Appointed cabinet members woefully incompetent and/or incapable of performing any tasks beneficial to the country.
- 4) Wasting so much in federal funds that the national deficit skyrocketed into infinity and beyond.
- 5) Ignored not only the science, but the actual effects of environmental changes to the world.
- 6) Alienated the people and governments of every single nation on the planet (except for those known for human rights violations and violent treatment of their own inhabitants).
- 7) Encouraged election fraud in 2016 and attempted to repeat same in upcoming 2020 election.

8) Consistently appointed immoral and criminal men to positions requiring the highest degree of honesty.

9) Is incapable of speaking without falsehood, exaggeration, errors, and self-aggrandizement.

10) Continually wastes time and money on glorious projects like building a wall to reduce refugees from crossing the border and a Space Force that nobody needs.

My suggestion is that each senator have their performance in office and backgrounds investigated by our federal law enforcement agencies. Article I, Section 5, of the U.S. Constitution provides that "Each House [of Congress] may determine the Rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member." Since 1789, the Senate has expelled only 15 of its entire membership. I also recommend that a maximum age limit of 45 years be established for both houses of Congress and the presidency.

As for the upcoming election, I fervently hope that the Democratic National Convention selects a worthy candidate for us to vote for in November.

Mayors Join in Endorsing Haubert for Supervisor

John Marchand,
Mayor of Livermore

Jerry Thorne,
Mayor of Pleasanton

Bill Clarkson,
Mayor of San Ramon

Karen Stepper,
Mayor of Danville

We, along with Dublin Mayor David Haubert, represent all the cities of the Tri-Valley. We work closely on the things that matter most to our communities. We all want to elect the best possible candidate to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and we unanimously endorse Haubert.

Haubert has an impressive background, serving for 18 years on the local school board and as mayor of Dublin. He has the experience it takes to make unbiased, fair and thoughtful decisions because he is an Independent thinker, not tied to any political party or special interest. He is a team player who works across party lines to get things done. If we want real, practical ideas on solving the homeless crisis, traffic gridlock,

and housing affordability, Haubert is the person for the job.

Trouble with a Capital 'T' Stephen Azevedo, Livermore

Friend, either you're closing your eyes to a situation you do not wish to acknowledge, or you are not aware of the caliber of disaster indicated by the presence of a Measure P in your community. Well, ya got trouble, my friend, right here... I say, trouble right here in Liver City. Why sure I love my downtown, certainly mighty proud to say, I'm always mighty proud to say it. I consider that the hours I spend at the rodeo parade or the Bankhead are golden. Help you cultivate horse sense, and a cool head and a keen eye. Did ya ever take and try to find an iron-clad leave for yourself in Livermorium plaza? But just as I say it takes judgement, brains, and maturity to design a downtown park and hotel, I say that anyone can take and scratch a notion on a napkin. And I call that sloth, the first big step on a road to the depths of deg-ray-dation! An' the next thing ya know, you're payin' for signatures and passin' on half-truths to voters. Not makin' a great downtown designed by architects and engineers... But a sketch of an idea with no backing from city leaders! And that's trouble... Yes, you got lots and lots of trouble. Right here in Liver City. Trouble with a capital "T" and that rhymes with "P" and that stands for...

Please vote "Yes" on Measure P. Support our city planners, staff, and council to build a beautiful downtown soon. (Apologies to Meredith Willson)

Don't Challenge Measure P Vote in Court Fred Gertler, Livermore

My concern about Measure P has less to do with the vote than what happens afterwards. I feel – and I understand this smacks of cynicism – that whichever side loses will immediately go to court, and the will of the voters will be preempted by legal challenges. Without an assurance from proponents and opponents not to challenge the outcome of the vote in court, I am likely to not vote on this issue

Group Promotes Gun Control, Not Gun Safety Pete Stephenson, Livermore

"A Gun That Changed Their Lives Forever," published in The Independent Feb. 6, incorrectly states that Moms Demand Action is an organization that is both nonpartisan and promotes gun safety.

The article should have stated that the group is largely funded by billionaire Democratic presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg, and offers no gun-safety training, courses, or other resources. It is strictly a political advocacy group that promotes gun-control policies that restrict ordinary, everyday Americans, while doing little, if anything, to reduce crime or violence.

While the advice that MDA member "Ann" gives regarding securing guns is both sensible and reasonable, the policies the larger group advocates go far beyond such commonsense recommendations. If readers are interested in actual gun-safety advice, training, and local courses, I refer them to <https://gunsafetyrules.nra.org/> or their local NRA-certified instructor.

Term Limits Needed Maurice Duenas, Livermore

Pete Stark and Scott Haggarty are perfect example of why we must have terms limit in Congress and at county levels, like we do for the Livermore City Council and state politics.

Democracy Takes a Hit Elizabeth Judge, Livermore

If the democratic process does not work at the local level, how can we expect it to function nationally? Three members of the current Livermore City Council effectively threw citizens under the bus after the extensive public outreach process by adopting a downtown plan that ignored the results. Thousands of people rose up against this action, first with a referendum, and then with an Initiative.

All five current council members placed the citizens' initiative on the ballot for November 2020. They then undercut that initiative by going ahead with a development agreement for their eastside hotel knowing that, if unchallenged, the agreement would make the citizens' initiative moot. Thousands of people had to rise up with a new referendum to stop this hotel agreement (Measure P) in order to save their Initiative.

Voting for Measure P would suggest to officials that citizens

do not mind being thrown under the bus. As with national democratic process offenders, if they get away with it once, they are likely to do it again. Vote "No" on Measure P.

No on Measure P Doris Ryon, Livermore

Once upon a time, not so long ago, the City of Livermore asked residents what they wanted to see in place of a large, neglected, largely dirt, parking lot downtown. The excellent idea of a Stockmen's Park and land swap for low-income housing was unknown to city representatives who conducted outreach sessions. Participants prioritized parking and maintaining Livermore's community character and suburban atmosphere. The primary funder of Measure P, Presidio Hotel Group LLC, was not eligible to participate. Vote "No" on Measure P for an opportunity to vote for the Central Park Plan and maintain parking near the Bankhead Theater, which attracts people from all over the valley and beyond for musical and cultural events.

Bills Do Not Affect Central Park Plan Rich Buckley, Livermore

Vote "No" On Measure P. The opposition is promoting incorrect views of recent legislation and it must be corrected. Along with an inexperienced City Council, the developer, and an ill-advised mayor, they are blatantly misleading voters fabricating intentional scare tactics. State housing bills do not affect the Central Park Plan:

(1) SB330 allows cities to move housing elsewhere in the city as long as there is no net loss.

(2) AB 1486 establishes a procedure for cities to dispose of surplus land, nothing more. It does not specify where housing should be located.

(3) AB 1763 only provides density bonuses for affordable-housing projects. It does not mandate housing. It is not relevant to the Central Park Plan.

(4) SB 50 was just defeated for the third straight time. Because it enabled a city to move housing in a required area to another site in the city, it would never have forced Livermore to build eight-story apartments next to the Bankhead Theater.

Vote "No" on Measure P in the March 3 election to stop the eastside hotel.

Measure P Flyer Goes Too Far Thomas Soules, Livermore

We received a flyer in the mail from "Yes on P" that was simply appalling. Unfortunately, it included the names of many respectable people, businesses, and organizations that I hope did not really endorse its contents.

The mailer states that the Central Park Plan proposes a garage next to the Bankhead Theater that would require passing a \$40 million parcel tax. This is certainly a scare tactic. The City Plan includes a huge five-story garage on L Street, directly behind the small one-story shops on First Street, compared to the Central Park Plan that has two smaller garages, one on L Street and one next to the Bankhead Theater.

I understand the advantages of the two garages in the Central Park Plan, including ready access to both areas of downtown, smaller structures, and a little more parking, but it makes no sense to me that the difference would require a \$40 million parcel tax.

But that is not the main reason the flyer was appalling. The article in the flyer is titled, "Millionaires who benefit from a \$40 million parcel tax," and states, "this taxpayer-funded garage (next to the Bankhead) can be leased, presumably for \$1 per year, to these same millionaires for their personal and business use." It accuses two families, who have devoted so much of their time and money to the betterment of Livermore, of being the architects of some kind of hard-to-imagine fraud. This is over-the-top defamation of character of the worse kind.

Livermore Needs a Proper Central Park Belkis Cabrera-Palmer, Livermore

What I like the most about the "No on Measure P" campaign is that they encourage Livermore residents to compare and decide. That is what I did several months ago when the drawings of the City Plan and the Central Park Plan were published in this newspaper. At that time, I decided. I decided that I do not like the City Plan in the least. Even if there were not an alternative plan, I would not like the City Plan because it does not offer green open space for

the downtown users to enjoy. I definitely do not see myself frequently sitting down in front of someone's house to relax and spend the afternoon. Like the City Plan would make people do, since most of their proposed "open" space is between or close to residential buildings. If the City Plan is executed, I, and for sure many more, would visit Livermore downtown less often, which should be a concern for downtown businesses. I am afraid that if Measure P passes, voters will not have the opportunity to decide which plan they like the most. And what is worse, I am afraid that downtown Livermore will be spoiled forever. We need a proper central park.

No on Presidio Plan, Yes for Winnie Bacon Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Vote "No" on the Presidio Plan. Vote "No" on Measure P. Why should a developer decide the fate of our downtown? What do we want? City government of the people, by the people, for the people. Not for the profits of the developer. We are not for sale. That's why we signed the referendum, to have our voices heard in a meaningful way.

Don't be fooled by the scare tactics claiming the state will take over the downtown parcel and build eight-story dwellings. Proposed legislation SB 50 failed to pass, and other state laws cited do not apply to the downtown area. Playing on people's fears is a strategy used by developers to instill panic when they know their plan is inferior. It is a tactic that has been used repeatedly in Livermore with Pardee and others. These scare tactics have failed in the past because Livermore voters are intelligent enough to see through this sham. We the people support the Central Park Plan. Vote "No" on P.

If you value open space and want to preserve it, vote for Winnie Bacon for Alameda County Supervisor. He is the only candidate who vows to leave Measure D intact. Measure D was passed by an overwhelming majority in 2000 to protect open space in the Tri-Valley and the county. March 3 is a critical election for us. Vote "No" on Measure P, the Presidio Plan, and vote for Winnie Bacon, the only experienced candidate who supports preserving open space.

Ban Political Signs From Public Areas Steve Goodman, Livermore

I have lived in Livermore my entire life and have campaigned for, and been elected to, public office as a Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board member. I've also participated in various campaigns on local community issues and have supported local candidates for office. As part of this process, I have placed hundreds of signs within the community in accordance with local sign ordinances. To say that I am outraged by the current sign situation occurring with Measure P signs would be a gross understatement. I have never seen such divisiveness in the community. It has manifested itself through the ongoing removal and vandalism of the "Yes on P" signs.

Signs that I personally placed have been removed and vandalized not once, but multiple times. Even the replacement signs were vandalized and removed, many of them cut into pieces and left as litter. This is unacceptable. To disagree with a position or issue is part of the democratic process, but the willful acts of vandalism are not. I therefore think that the Livermore City Council should seriously consider enacting a policy that the cities of San Ramon and Dublin have already enacted, that is, prohibiting all political signs in public areas of the city. This action should hopefully end the sign issue, allowing those involved to concentrate on factual discussion of issues as part of the election process and not have to worry about placement of signs.

Will Citizens Pay if Measure P Fails? Terrell Givens, Livermore

So, if Measure P does not pass, will the citizens of Livermore have to pay all the costs to build Joan's private plan for our downtown?

Don't Cut Down All the Trees James Monroe, Livermore

I cannot understand how Livermore city officials are not hanging their heads in shame. This includes the city attorney, city council members, mayor, and even the city manager. All of them make me ashamed to live here and call this home.

I have lived in Livermore

longer than probably all of the above have been alive. While not all the officials mentioned are elected, ignoring the wishes and needs of their constituents is never OK for elected or appointed representatives. Yet it has become the norm here. Shame on you all.

I have attended city council meetings many times, and each time witnessed the dismissive way the members treat those who take the time to share their opinions and concerns, even when the unified attendees outnumber the council members 100 to 1. You are merely representatives, who are elected to represent the will of the people. That's all.

In light of that, someone please explain why it is necessary to repeatedly cut all the trees near and around any place where construction is about to take place without ever considering which, if any, are likely to impede that work. Just cut them all, make it all ugly, then worry about it later. It will take 20+ years minimum for them to grow to their previous size. It can't be that they are in the way because they leave the 2-foot stumps. I don't see this happening elsewhere, just in Livermore.

Hollow Statements And Illegal Signs Anthony Pangelinan, Livermore

It is disingenuous for "No on P" spokesperson Tammy Reus to go on television and make statements printed in the papers that their organization does not support the destruction of the opposition signs, while at the same time including the names of those who encourage such destruction on their list of supporters.

Letters written by Loretta Kaskey and Doug Mann have disparaged the "Yes on P" signs. Jeff Kaskey has placed signs (with his name on it) next to "Yes on P" signs disparaging them as well. And yet their names are listed as supporters? Shouldn't they be removed if the campaign does not support that behavior?

Also, when I was doing research regarding the contribution reporting requirements, I came across the following disclosure requirement for signs: "The font must be a height of at least five percent of the advertisement, meaning that each line must be at least five percent of the advertisement." A quick measurement shows that the "No on P" signs are not in compliance with California's Fair Political Practices Commission regulations.

Shame on them.

No on Measure P Alan Ross, Livermore

I have been a Livermore resident for over 20 years and I have admired how the downtown area has developed. Measure P is a step in the wrong direction. The Central Park Plan is the right choice for Livermore, and I urge you to seriously consider this plan as the only logical choice. This plan offers the right balance of economic and environmental growth. I am voting "No" on Measure P, and I urge you to do the same.

What Do Taxpayers Know about Measure P? Don & Barbara Maroney

"The Coalition to Unify Livermore for the Wine County Hotel at the Bankhead 2020 project CM#1422283." Is this really the "Yes on Measure P" team?

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore believe this downtown project has been a unifying effort by our elected officials and retail coalition? No on P!!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore know who is funding the "Yes on P" effort from Novato, California? No on P!!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore believe it is acceptable for our city leadership to present a redundant ballot initiative to validate or reject their own work prior to the November vote? No on P!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore believe there will be any reduction in tax revenue or economic activity created by this project just by moving the hotel to a westside location and redesigning an 8-acre downtown parcel? No on P!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore believe a slight delay in strategic planning for such a critical piece of property will inconvenience anyone, considering the fact that such great work in our community has been going on for over 20 years? No on P!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore have any input/visibility into who, and at what market rates, the occupants of the residential aspects of either plan will be? No on P!

Do the tax-paying residents of Livermore believe there will be an onerous \$40 million tax obligation by allowing the voters to decide in November? No on P!

Check the Mailers Richard Langlois, Livermore

I am proud to have my name listed on the respectful and informative mailer from the "No on P" campaign. We, the "No on P" sponsors, have contributed our time and money to try to make Livermore a better place for all its residents, with no financial benefit to ourselves. I am voting "No" on Measure P because I trust Livermore voters to pick the best plan for the city.

I can't believe that the Livermore mayor and City Council have unanimously endorsed the ugly "Yes on P" mailer funded by a billion-dollar developer who will make millions from this hotel. This mailer slanders the motives of prominent Livermore citizens who have worked for decades to improve our city with no personal financial gain, and used unsupported and exaggerated claims of tax increases and state takeovers to scare residents.

It is not surprising that the comments on Nextdoor and other forums have become increasingly hostile with personal attacks, because our city leadership has endorsed these tactics with their mailer. Regardless of the election outcome, this mailer will likely taint the reputations of the city council and the City of Livermore, forever.

Check the mailers. What side do you want to be on?

Misleading Article Steven Spedowski, Livermore

While it was nice to see The Independent begin to cover local housing measures that have been in the works for years, it was equally surprising to see the political spin on the front-page article in last week's edition.

The headline, "SB 50 Defeat Lifts Threat of a Forced Housing Project," is mostly inaccurate. It is correct that SB 50 failed to gain enough votes to pass. It should also be noted that Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins addressed the state Senate after the vote, vowing that "a housing production bill to help alleviate our housing crisis will happen this year." In legislative calendar terms, this year means by October 2020.

Although many new bills are in the works, let's pretend for a moment that no new housing legislation will be passed this year. The bold proclamation that the defeat "lifts the threat of a forced housing project" is blatantly false.

The article mentions two adopted bills that significantly restrict downtown options. SB 330 suspends until 2025 local initiatives that downzone housing. AB 1486 requires that surplus land to be disposed of be offered for affordable housing. However, AB 1763, allowing three-story housing height increases and reducing parking requirements, is not mentioned. All three bills present significant hurdles for the Central Park Plan, making the concept virtually impossible to implement. It comes as no surprise that the "No on P" group would dismiss adopted legislation as "scare tactics."

Continuing the political spin, the article provides significant space for opinions from Tamara Reus without establishing her credibility to provide analysis of the legislation. Ms. Reus's opinions are speculative at best. Her statements contradict the analysis of the legislation by the Office of Legislative Counsel, a non-partisan group consisting of 82 expert lawyers that summarizes and reviews legislation for constitutional conflicts.

It would be great to see continued coverage of state legislation that will significantly impact the residents of Livermore. I hope that future articles will include analysis from independent experts instead of politically biased opinions presented as fact.

Vote for Best Plan Carol Silva, Livermore

Many of the pro-Measure P letter writers seem to be concerned with potential delays and/or cost of the Central Park Plan.

In Loretta Kaskey's letter, "No Need for Lengthy Delay," she questions the timeline from city staff that estimated a delay four or more years should the initiative for the Central Park Plan pass. She states that "the timeline allocates for many unneeded activities," one of those activities being planning and outreach. I agree. Outreach workshops have already been done.

Ms. Kaskey's statement that "various activities listed could (See MAILBOX, page 11)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 10)

occur concurrently, and none of those were noted" is also a valid point.

I administered the contract for the half-mile extension of Stanford Linear Accelerator Center's Linac Coherent Light Source accelerator housing. This accelerator extension included an injector facility, beam transport hall, undulator tunnel, near experimental hall, photon transport tunnel, far experimental hall, service buildings, and a central plant, totaling approximately 120,000 total gross square feet. It took three years (2006-2009) to construct these amazingly complex scientific facilities. Construction precision was critical, with numerous activities occurring concurrently for the work to be completed in this time frame. The beam transfer hall has 6-foot-thick walls, 4-foot-thick concrete ceilings, 1,550 feet of tunnel, and 350 feet of tunneled research catacombs. Some areas are over 100 feet below the surrounding surface. The floor had to replicate the curvature of the earth. Both floor and temperature stability were critical.

Also, as the contract administrator of the Design/Build LCLS office building (22,143-square feet with walled offices, including a parking lot, the building's construction had an aggressive schedule of 10 months, with contractual incentives for schedule, safety, and budget. The office building was completed more than 30 days ahead of schedule and within budget.

My opinion is that the city's timeline for the Central Park Plan is to discourage voters from choosing one of the two plans in November, specifically the Central Park Plan. I am tired of the city council/city staff continuing to create obstacles to prevent the voters from deciding what they want. Please vote "No" on Measure P on March 3, so that voters have a choice of plans in the upcoming November election.

Please don't let the city council's scare tactics discourage you from voting for the best plan.

Contracts and agreements can be created to optimize desired results, but in addition to including contractual incentives, strong leadership, good communication, and cooperation between all parties is important.

I believe the Central Park Plan is the best plan and its contracts can incorporate schedule, safety, and budget incentives.

Third Parking Garage Not Needed
Mary Perner, Livermore

Addressing the Seppalas' and Jean King's wish to create nearby parking for those (mostly seniors) who love classical concerts and classic films, I have a personal perspective on the matter.

I've been a regular Bankhead Theater volunteer for over 10 years, and sign up to help out at most of the same concerts supported by Ms. King and the Seppalas. Over those 10 years, I have seen a great deal of low attendance at concerts. Not many youth or millennials attend. Attendees are becoming grayer and fewer.

A few weeks ago, I worked a wonderful concert of gifted musicians, who were much appreciated, but by only 157 people in a theater with a capacity exceeding 500. In the days before the concert, tickets were being offered at discount for only \$10. Unfortunately, that still didn't swell audience numbers. I felt badly for the musicians, who were truly world class.

Something needs to change, but spending \$23 million (more) of our tax dollars to squeeze a third parking garage (a second garage attached to the one we already have at First and Railroad is also planned) within a half block of the others to benefit so few people makes no sense at all. I am a senior, myself, and consider the parking structure directly behind the Bankhead, near First Street on Railroad Avenue, to be convenient and accessible for all. A next-door structure is unnecessary, expensive, and in my opinion, will be an eyesore in that spot. I will be voting "Yes" on Measure P.

No on P is Right for Me
Doug Mann, Livermore

Decades ago, a tactic employed during Livermore's "development wars" was to frighten residents into accepting unsatisfactory proposals. They claimed if we didn't build a particular tract-du-jour, "the county would force us to build something

worse." It worked for a while, until we got wise to the trick.

The Yes on Measure P campaign is resorting to the same routine, except this time the scary monster is "the State." Since they can't defend the hotel location on merit or facts, the last resort for the developer is to scare us into voting for the development agreement. We're smarter than that, and we don't like to be pushed around.

The salient details have already been expertly articulated by Tamara Reuss and others, so I won't repeat what has been so thoroughly explained, nor how completely their unsubstantiated fear-mongering has been debunked. SB 50 failed, and two oft-cited state laws will not apply to our downtown redevelopment. The Central Park Plan can be built completely on our terms.

As a lifelong resident, I would be the first to oppose any measure that would endanger our ability to fully control the rebuilding of our downtown. That is why I will vote "No" on Measure P, so we can get it done right and fast.

City Plan Not What People Wanted
David M Rounds, Livermore

"Yes on P" supporters say the hotel should go on the eastside, which means that the City Plan, not the Central Park Plan can be built. The mayor says that the City Plan was the result of the community outreach process, approved by 80% of those who participated.

But that is not actually true, is it?

Stockmen's Park, while certainly a great idea, was not presented during the public outreach, even though members of the city council were very aware of the opportunity offered by the Stockmen's and Rodeo Association before the public outreach started. The outreach participants said that housing was the least desirable feature, followed closely by cultural facilities and public finance, while the most important features for the public were adequate parking and open space.


What did the council provide? A plan with 130 apartments in four, three- and four-story buildings that will dominate several acres of the downtown area, and a plan to

move parking currently near Livermore Avenue and the downtown core to a multistory parking garage on L Street near First Street.

How did this happen? An ad hoc group called the Unified Group, consisting of downtown business interests, wineries, and a few others, along with guidance from some council members, presented a sketch (not a plan, not an architectural drawing ... just a sketch) at a November 27, 2017, council meeting. This sketch was slipped into an addendum to the agenda packet on page 3,060. Until then, the public had never seen this sketch of the "Unified Plan" for downtown. The council seemed to like this sketch that the public

(See MAILBOX, page 12)

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 11)

was seeing for the first time and instructed staff to make it into a more finished plan to show everyone in January.

Since that time the council, staff, and supporters have been “speaking into existence” a belief that the City Plan was what the citizens said they wanted.

When you vote on Measure P, please remember you are ultimately voting on a downtown plan. Make sure your vote is not based on this false premise that the city did its due diligence and gave the community what it asked for in the expensive, \$500,000 community outreach process. The council gave the community exactly what the council and the group of folks and organizations who would benefit wanted.

Don't Threaten Voters With Parcel Tax

Maryann Brent, Livermore

I would like to caution the Livermore City Council that scare tactics relating to the downtown plan are a mistake. City Council, you have dragged out state housing bills one after the other, and now, a parcel tax. These are non-issues. You are threatening to punish the Livermore community if they do not vote as you wish.

City Council, you and your supporters have called us liars. You have bullied us. You have said that there is no other hotelier, when you well know that at least one exists. You have called the Central Park Plan a drawing and not a plan at all, when you well know the plan exists. You have asked for a comparison of costs, and of course we cannot respond because you have not presented your costs. You have claimed that implementing the Central Park Plan would delay building by four years, and we have shown that our timeframe is similar to yours. What will

you claim next?

City Council, do not threaten or punish Livermore residents for wanting a downtown space that is better than your plan.

Claims Can Be Confusing

Owen Brovont, Livermore

Several comments in the letters of Feb. 6 motivate me to again voice an opinion.

The City Plans offers Livermore a hotel that is architecturally undistinguished and unimaginative, while branded “boutique” because it sounds clever. But it is certainly not up-scale in any sense.

A boutique is a small shop dealing in fashionable clothing or accessories. The only distinctive accessory associated with the City Plan is orienting the east side of the hotel on a blank brick wall several stories high. Now that will surely lead patrons to say: “What a wonderful time I had in my Livermore wine country experience. I got to face a brick wall from the window of my hotel room and I had to hunt for a restaurant for breakfast, lunch, and dinner because the hotel didn’t have one. Of course, lunch and dinner didn’t really present a problem because there are many fine eateries within a few blocks of the hotel.”

It is not hard to contend with Jay Davis regarding his comments about the difference between plans and cartoons. Indeed, the city has a plan, but whether it is well-thought-out or not is certainly debatable. In fact, that is what the opponents of the City Plan have contended all along. That Davis labels the Central Park Plan a cartoon is unwarranted. Supporters of the Central Park Plan have not claimed that it is anything but a conceptual drawing to illustrate a far more aesthetically pleasing and likely more beneficial

configuration of the project than the one the city is offering; a concept that proposes more of what the citizens have asked for, like a meaningful park area, than the city includes in its plan.

Obviously, should the City Plan be stopped by a “No” vote in the upcoming referendum, and a more acceptable, honestly vetted plan flow from resident participation, the appropriate engineering work must and will be undertaken before actual construction begins.

In this same issue, Mayor Marchand offers nine statements he called “facts.” His sixth fact was that the Central Park Group was a small number of Livermore residents that have “... used referendums and initiatives to make the outcomes favorable for them.” This “fact” is misleading because the referendum and initiative process was obtained through a petition effort and only provides the residents a legitimate voice in the planning process.

His seventh fact was that the location of the hotel by the Bankhead Theater was chosen in 2004. Given that “fact,” one is driven to suspect the reasons why the city council has fought so hard to keep the hotel in that location, and suggests that possibly the outreach efforts were intentionally structured to validate that decision, come what may.

His eighth fact is of little consequence. He might have overlooked the “fact” that the drawing isn’t a plan, it is a conceptual idea. As we used to say, “So on into the night!”

Scare Tactics

Loretta Kaskey, Livermore

Interesting juxtaposition between the Livermore City Council and the billion-dollar developer paying for all those “Yes on P” flyers. The devel-

oper’s flyers were very specific about a \$40 million parcel tax that they claimed was needed if we didn’t vote for Measure P. But the city council is not pursuing a parcel tax. So, the “Yes on P” folks apparently invented an imaginary parcel tax to scare voters. It just doesn’t exist. The developer made it up, and then said it was a kickback.

What scare tactic do they trot out next? Why, a six-story high rise next to the Bankhead Theater due to “new state laws that require land near transit stations” to be turned over to developers with zero local control. Oh, the mendacity! Did they not know that SB50 is dead and gone?

Then the very wealthy developer says, in his paid flyer, that Measure P gets big money out of local politics. Since he brought it up, and if he wants to get it out, we could make a suggestion: If this made up insanity feels crazy, come back to reality. Vote “No” on P.

Encourage commUNITY

Tania Panarello, Livermore

What things can you do to encourage a better sense of commUNITY in your town? Here are some things I consider when I’m out and about in my hometown of Livermore:

1. Open doors for others, plain and simple; it never gets old.
2. Smile and greet one another. Slow down and unplug from your phones long enough to say hello. You never know when your interaction with others may brighten their day.
3. Clean up after yourself. Please don’t litter, and extinguish your cigarettes, for crying out loud! (Or don’t smoke at all. Think of all the money you’ll save on insurance premiums and by not buying cigarettes.)

4. Clean up after your dog. Would you like to step in a steamy, stinky pile while out playing with your family, friends, or dogs? And if you do clean up your dog’s poop, please dispose of it, too. It’s amazing how many poop-filled bags I see along my walks.

5. Teach your kids to clean up after themselves. Have them wash their dishes and put away clean clothes right away.

6. Instill good habits in your kids. When my family goes shopping, we each try to grab a cart to return to the store or cart corral.

7. Encourage your kids to exchange gifts at Christmas, birthdays, and other occasions to foster goodwill toward one another. Have an only child? Have them exchange gifts with a cousin, friend, or neighbor.

8. Bake goodies to take to a neighbor.

9. Talk to your neighbors. Get to know them. (Yeah, I need to work on this.)

10. Patronize your local businesses. Get to know the owners and employees.

11. Be kind and respectful to cashiers, servers, and other service employees.

12. Thank a veteran or active service member. They have all contributed in some way to protect our many freedoms. We truly are blessed to live where we do.

Thank you for reading this. Now go out there and do your part to encourage a positive, thriving commUNITY! Go forth and be awesome!

Words, Words, Words

Martha Peterson, Livermore

I am willing to read lots more about the current controversy on Measure P. Vote “No” on March 3. I will happily read until November.

PARCEL TAX

(Continued from page 6)

parcel tax initiative immediately. We’d like to hold on that, reconsider, see where we stand sometime in late April,” she said.

Some supporters of the Central Park Initiative spoke in opposition to the City Council’s decision to begin discussing a possible tax measure, weeks before a vote on the hotel development. They also accused the council of excluding the public, yet giving the developer an inside track.

“It’s interesting that he seems to have been well-informed about it, and the public and the rest of us don’t know much about it... I’m just curious about how it was that the developer already has us out there with a parcel tax,” said Jeff Kaskey, a supporter of the Central Park Initiative.

Tamera Reus, president of Protect the Central Park Vote — the “No on Measure P” campaign — cited a financial study by Willdan Financial Services that projected taxes and fees of about \$1.2 million generated annually by the Central Park Plan, which she said would readily offset any additional costs.

“A parcel tax is not needed to implement the Central Park Plan. It is an abuse of power for the City Council to mention a parcel tax tonight without providing any details to the public in advance,” she said.

Woerner said the City Council is being prudent. “I’m a trained financial analyst and the best thing I can say about this study that you’ve paid for is (that it’s) highly-speculative,” he said. “My real word for it is ‘bogus.’”

REAL ESTATE NEWS & NOTICES

How Savvy are You About Credit Scores?

By Cher Wollard

The average American FICO credit score has increased to 703, the highest since 2005. The average score in California is even a little higher, at 708. This is good news — and it makes sense.

During the downturn, many people lost their jobs, lost their homes, declared bankruptcy, and had other problems that created havoc on their economic stability, resulting in lower credit scores.

But people’s understanding of how credit works has diminished. Two recent surveys, one by the Consumer Federation of America, the second by NerdWallet and the Harris Poll, show many Americans don’t understand what a credit score is or how their choices impact their scores.

CFA and VantageScore created a quiz to test your understanding of credit. You can take it online at www.creditcorequiz.org, or take it here — the correct answers are at the end.

1. Which of the following service providers may use credit scores to decide whether a person can buy a service and/or what price he or she will pay?
 - a. Mortgage lender
 - b. Credit card issuer
 - c. Cell phone company
 - d. Electric utility
 - e. Landlord
 - f. All of the above
2. On a \$20,000, 60-month auto loan, about how much more would a borrower with a bad credit score pay than a borrower with a good report?
 - a. Under \$1,000
 - b. \$1,000-\$3,000
 - c. \$3,000-\$5,000
 - d. More than \$5,000
3. Which of the following does a credit score mainly indicate?
 - a. Knowledge of consumer debt
 - b. Attitude toward consumer debt
 - c. Amount of consumer debt
 - d. Risk of not repaying the loan
 - e. Financial resources to pay back the loan

4. Which of these groupings contains three factors that are all used to calculate a credit score?
 - a. A person’s age, missed loan payments, and marital status
 - b. Missed loan payments, high balances on credit cards, and ethnic origin
 - c. Marital status, high balances on credit cards, and personal bankruptcy
 - d. A person’s age, high balances on credit cards, and ethnic origin
 - e. Missed loan payments, high balances on credit cards, and personal bankruptcy
5. Who collects the information on which credit scores are most frequently based?
 - a. FICO and VantageScore Solutions
 - b. Three main credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion
 - c. Individual lenders
 - d. Federal government
 - e. All of the above
6. Does each consumer have just one credit score?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
7. Which of the following is usually a good generic credit score?
 - a. 400
 - b. 500
 - c. 600
 - d. 700
8. When are lenders that use credit scores required to inform borrowers of the credit score used in the lending decision?
 - a. After a consumer applies for

- a mortgage
 - b. On all credit card, auto, and other consumer loans when a consumer doesn’t receive the best terms and/or lowest interest rate available
 - c. Whenever a consumer is turned down for a loan
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
9. Which of the following actions helps a consumer raise a low score or maintain a high one?
 - a. Make all loan payments on time
 - b. Keep credit card balances under 25 percent of the credit limit
 - c. Avoid opening several credit card accounts at the same time
 - d. All of these
 - e. None of these
 10. When will multiple inquiries about getting a mortgage or auto loan lower one’s FICO or VantageScore credit score?
 - a. Each time one makes an inquiry
 - b. Only when one makes at least five inquiries
 - c. Never during a one- to two-week window
 - d. Never
 11. How important is it to check the accuracy of your credit reports at the three main credit bureaus?
 - a. Very important
 - b. Somewhat important
 - c. Not very important
 12. When you cannot resolve a complaint to a credit bureau or lender about your credit report or credit score, which of these federal agencies

- a. Federal Reserve Board
 - b. Federal Trade Commission
 - c. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
 - d. Department of Justice
- Answers:**
1. G: All of the above
 2. D: More than \$5,000
 3. D: Risk of not repaying the loan. While other factors, such as savings and income, may influence repayment risk, the credit scoring models that produce credit scores only consider credit report contents.
 4. E: Missed loan payments, high balances on credit cards, and personal bankruptcy. Age, ethnic origin and marital status should not be considered in making credit decisions, and in most cases is against federal and state law to do so.
 5. B: Three main credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion
 6. B: No. Consumers have many credit scores. Generic scores, often developed by the three national credit bureaus, are made available by these credit bureaus, by FICO, by some lenders, and by some independent websites (such as creditkarma.com, Quizzle.com, and Credit.com). These scores give consumers an idea of their general credit risk, whether they can obtain credit, and whether they will be charged subprime rates.
 7. D: 700. The most common credit scoring scale range is 300-850. Scores above 700

- are usually considered by lenders to indicate low credit risk, while scores below the mid-600s are often considered to indicate some or great risk. Systems that use other scales may consider scores differently.
 8. D: All of the above
 9. D: All of these. Someone with a good score may lose up to 70-90 points when payments are missed on credit cards or automobile loans, and more than 100 points when a mortgage payment is missed.
 10. C: Never during a one- to two-week window. Multiple inquiries during this period are treated as a single inquiry by FICO and most other scoring models.
 11. A: Very important. Each of the three main credit bureaus — Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion — is required by federal law to provide a free copy of your credit report once a year upon request. An easy way to get each report is to visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228.
 12. C: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Log onto www.consumerfinance.gov or call (855) 411-2372.
- For more information about credit or any other real estate-related matters, contact your local Realtor today.
- Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Drysdale Properties, Livermore.*

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567378

The following person(s) doing business as: Dave Busky Training, 2244 Buena Vista Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Buscovich, 1295 Dorothy Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578. 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: 2017. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Buscovich, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 9, 2020. Expires January 9, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4685. Published January 23, 30, February 6, 13, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567505

The following person(s) doing business as: The BA’s Family Transport Inc, 1915 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): The BA’s Family Transport Inc, 1915 De Vaca Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Patsy Bibiano Arciniega, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 14, 2020. Expires January 14, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4686. Published January 23, 30, February 6, 13, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567454

The following person(s) doing business as: Fiesta Taco, 1989 Santa Rita Road, Ste J, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria del Carmen Fonseca, 1079 El Dorado Drive, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which

the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maria del Carmen Fonseca, Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 13, 2020. Expires January 13, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4687. Published January 23, 30, February 6, 13, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567376

The following person(s) doing business as: Passionate about Porcelain, 5793 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Catherine Ann Houf, 5793 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: July 5, 2005. Signature of Registrant/s/: Catherine Ann Houf, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 9, 2020. Expires January 9, 2025. The Independent, Legal

No. 4688. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567676

The following person(s) doing business as: Hela Crafty, 854 S I Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Helena Bireley, 854 S I Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Helena Bireley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 21, 2020. Expires January 21, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4692. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567761

The following person(s) doing business as: Cardenas House Cleaning, 340 Hummingbird LN, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Angelina

Cardenas, 340 Hummingbird LN, 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/: Angelina Cardenas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2020. Expires January 22, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4693. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567761

The following person(s) doing business as: Mehran Restaurant, 5774 Mowry School Road, Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mehran Catering Inc, 5774 Mowry School Road, Newark, CA 94560. 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: 2001. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sryen Fiaz, President. This statement was filed with the County

Clerk of Alameda on January 6, 2020. Expires January 6, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4694. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2020.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WILLIAM KENNETH JESS Case No. RP20050835

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: WILLIAM KENNETH JESS, A Petition for Probate has been filed by: JOHN K. JESS & SALLY M. JESS, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take any actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be

granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: February 25, 2020, Time: 9:31 AM Dept 201, at: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley Courthouse. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of

the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Attorney for Petitioner: KATHRYN S. KORN 23 ALTARINDA ROAD, SUITE 215 ORINDA, CA 94563 (925)-253-1808. The Independent, Legal No. 4695. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567038

The following person(s) doing business as: Morales Landscaping, 1759 Saddle Back Circle, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eric Mo-

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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rales, 759 Saddle Back Circle, 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: Eric Morales, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 31, 2019. Expires December 30, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4696. Published January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2020.

James E. Volponi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 6, 2020. Expires January 6, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4699. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567341
The following person(s) doing business as: M and I Transport, 898 Herman Ave #109 Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Itzel Bibiano & Mauricio Hernandez, 898 Herman Ave #109 Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Joint Venture. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 8, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Itzel Bibiano, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 8, 2020. Expires January 8, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4700. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567762

The following person(s) doing business as: Maid to Clean Housecleaning, 995 Acacia Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Liz Guevara, 995 Acacia Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 22, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Liz Guevara, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2020. Expires January 22, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4697. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567807

The following person(s) doing business as: Swiss Precision MFG, 7653 Hawthorne Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mike Eichenberger, 5287 Bianca Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 7, 2010. Signature of Registrant/s: Mike Eichenberger, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2020. Expires January 23, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4698. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567186

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri Valley Optometry, 254 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): James Edward Volponi, 1109 Nielsen Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 2, 2010. Signature of Registrant/s:

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567843
The following person(s) doing business as: MSH Engineering 1956 Regulus CT, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael S. Huber, 1956 Regulus CT, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Michael S. Huber, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2020. Expires January 24, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4701. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567843

The following person(s) doing business as: The Dandelion Healing Center, 2) Dandelion Seeds 4 Change, 2038 Murdell Lane Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): VPN Logistics, Inc. 2038 Murdell Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Patti Hindiyeh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2020. Expires January 27, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4702. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567901

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) The Dandelion Center, 2) Dandelion Seeds 4 Change, 2038 Murdell Lane Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): VPN Logistics, Inc. 2038 Murdell Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Patti Hindiyeh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2020. Expires January 27, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4702. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 567901

The following person(s) doing business as: Salazar Transport, LLC, 9782 S Flynn Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Salazar Transport, LLC, 9782 S Flynn Road, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Diego Salazar, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 16, 2020. Expires January 16, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4703. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 568093

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Fracisco Realty, 2) Mike Fracisco Real Estate, 2207 Third St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael N. Fracisco, 2207 Third St., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Michael Fracisco, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2020. Expires January 30, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4704. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 568284

The following person(s) doing business as: Universal Landscape and Pond Maintenance, 1881 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leonardo David Escamilla, 1881 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: March 1, 2019. Signature of Registrant/s: Leonardo David Escamilla, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2020. Expires February 5, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4705. Published February 13, 20, 27, March 5, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 568290

The following person(s) doing

business as: Tu Celular, 1087 Murrieta Blvd # 240, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Glendys Lopez, 1087 Murrieta Blvd # 240, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Glendys Lopez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2020. Expires February 5, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4706. Published February 13, 20, 27, March 5, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 568240

The following person(s) doing business as: Gloria & Bibianos Transport, 5107 Norma Way Apt#61, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lizbeth Bibiano Arciniega, 5107 Norma Way Apt#61, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Lizbeth Bibiano Arciniega, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2020. Expires February 4, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4707. Published February 13, 20, 27, March 5, 2020.

Notice is hereby given that this is an Online Bid Process; only bids submitted through the online portal will be accepted. Please logon or register at <https://easourcing.acgov.org>. OUTREACH AND NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCE for RFP #901863 Medi-Cal and CalFresh Outreach, Enrollment, and Renewal Assistance Vendor Pool OUTREACH CONFERENCE: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 10:30 AM San Lorenzo Library, 395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo CA 94580 NON-MANDATORY NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCE: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 1:30 PM GSA-Procurement Room 201, 2nd Floor 1401 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612 OR online - see webpage Response Due by 2:00 PM on March 13, 2020 County Contact: Tarana Malmirchegini at (510) 208-9614 or via email: tarana.malmirchegini@acgov.org. Attendance at bidders conference is NON-MANDATORY. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 2/13/20, CNS-33403338. The Independent, Legal No. 4708. Published February 13, 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656



Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Arador Plaza Rd. Hours: 11am to 3pm.

Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION

Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

EMPLOYMENT

Sales Engineers (Ref:101)

Flexon Technologies, Inc. Detail job desc at www.flexontechnologies.com Job Site: Pleasanton, CA. Wrk in an Agile env. to undrstrd req, dzn, code & support deployment of various applns; Utz VersionOne to trk daily wrkflw & JIRA to ensure all logged defects are accounted for. Job may involve working at various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. Travel required to the extent of relocating to various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. Send resume referencing job title and reference number to Flexon Technologies, Inc. at 7901 Stoneridge Dr, Ste 390, Pleasanton CA 94588.

65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before

you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

114) FOR SALE

115)ESTATE/ GARAGE/YARD SALES

18) FREE SECTION

Free Pine & Oak Wood
You cut & haul it
Lots of Pine cones, too
Please call
(408)897-3156

127) LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements

that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE

168)LAND FOR SALE

170) LAND FOR RENT

157) OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO/ DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

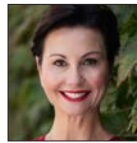
165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

Room for Rent in Livermore With Private Bathroom, \$1000 monthly. Looking for a clean, quiet, working professional. Available immediately. Month to month lease.
Call or text
Jason. 720-908-0047

160) BOAT / RV RENTAL SPACE

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

COMPASS



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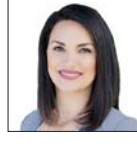
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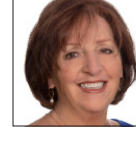
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COOMBER

(Continued from first page)

which way he was leaning. He made up his mind to not run late last week and made his announcement during Monday night's council meeting.

Coomber said he would "rather see someone younger and with more energy" take his position. He will serve out his term until a new council member is elected.

Doctors diagnosed Coomber's kidney condition -- chronic kidney failure -- a little more than a year ago when he was feeling fatigued. It was just his latest health challenge.

Diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in his teens, osteoporosis ravaged his legs and shattered his bones. He has spent the rest of his life using a wheelchair and requiring insulin.

Despite that, he continued his love of hiking along wilderness trails and enjoying nature, especially in Sycamore Grove Park. Last year, the documentary "4 Wheel Bob"

chronicled his unsuccessful attempt to become the first person in a wheelchair to cross the nearly 12,000-foot elevation Kearsarge Pass in the Sierra Nevada. The documentary is available on Amazon Prime Video.

Coomber's exploits in hiking mountain trails has resulted in numerous honors, including his election to the California Outdoors Hall of Fame in 2007. The Bush Administration honored him with a President's Council on Physical Fitness Community Leadership award in 2008.

During an interview Tuesday, Coomber relaxed in Sycamore Grove Park and watched a red fox scamper past him as he talked of his council decision. He said he was proud during his term to take part in approving a \$6 million complex to house a new City Council chamber and emergency operations center near the city's

Civic Center and library; and in the decision to move the 128-year-old historic Southern Pacific train depot building to the transit center in downtown Livermore.

"We moved things forward in a lot of ways," he said.

Coomber, who also has served on the Livermore Area Recreation & Park District board of directors and with the East Bay Regional Park District Advisory Committee, said he will miss talking to the people in the street and coffee shops, and bringing their input back to the council.

"It's good that we can engage that way," Coomber said.

Coomber said that although he needs a kidney, he has not required dialysis.

"I still feel pretty good," he said. "I know this can't happen soon enough to get a new kidney. Even if it happened tomorrow, I wouldn't be up and running for several months."

FATALITY

(Continued from first page)

car hit one or more trees before flipping over. The car's engine was cold when the vehicle was found.

"Unfortunately, because the vehicle left the roadway in the dark and ended up behind a small dirt embankment covered in foliage, there may be no witnesses," Hahn said.

An autopsy will examine whether the driver had a medical issue and determine whether he was under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Hahn said it also is a possibility he fell asleep at the wheel.


"These types of crashes are sad for the family because without a witness, and without a statement, sometimes there is still a question of why," Hahn said.

Anyone with information was asked to call the CHP office in Dublin at 925-828-0466.

Salida is located about seven miles from Modesto, off Highway 99.

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Dublin to Hold Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for New Complex

The City of Dublin will dedicate its new Public Safety Complex, 6361 Clark Ave., on Saturday, Feb. 22. The public is invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m., take a tour of the new facility, and enjoy a barbecue lunch provided by the Dublin Lions Club.

The new police headquarters, at the corner of Clark Avenue and Dublin Boulevard, will anchor the Public Safety Complex, which includes the existing Alameda County Fire Department administrative offices. The new offices will house police administration, operations, and other essential functions. Units within the department will have their own

office spaces, and the facility will include a much larger Emergency Operations Center and briefing/training room than was previously utilized at the Dublin Civic Center.

"Dublin Police Services is looking forward to moving into our new location so we can continue to provide a high quality of service to the community we serve," said Dublin Police Chief Garrett Holmes. "The new facility will provide us with the space we need to grow as a department."

The Alameda County Fire Department initially moved into its administrative offices at the Public Safety Complex in the spring of 2014. The de-

partment temporarily relocated while the police portion of the building was being constructed.

As the Public Safety Complex will be home to both Dublin Police Services and the Alameda County Fire Department, a new public art piece, created by artist Gordon Huether, will represent both agencies. The artwork, "Ribbon," will also be unveiled at the dedication. Standing 17-feet tall, the aluminum structure is inset with blue and red dichroic glass, as a metaphor for police and fire, with the words "Commitment, Honor, Integrity, and Trust" to remind the public of the mission and values of both departments.

The lower level of the current Dublin Police Services facility at the Dublin Civic Center will be transformed into a cultural arts center, while the Dublin Parks and Community Services staff will move into the upper level of the building.

Dublin to Honor Military with Banners Again

Dublin will again honor local veterans and active duty members of the Armed Services with banners displayed along Dougherty Road between Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

The banners will include name, rank, branch of service and a photo the honorees, along with whether they are active duty or a veteran. At the end of the display period, the

banners will be presented to the honoree or the sponsor.

To qualify for the city's Military Banner Program, honorees must be active duty members of the Armed Forces or honorably discharged veterans. They also must be current residents of Dublin, have immediate family members living in the city (spouse, parent, sibling, child or grandchild), or be a former resident of Dublin

resident with a demonstrated long-term, positive impact on the community (subject to approval by the city).

Those who wish to sponsor an honoree should fill out the online application form at <https://bit.ly/2SAU5my>. Applications are due by March 25. There is a \$230 fee. For more information about the Military Banner Program, contact Suzanne Iarla at (925) 833-6650.

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Livermore Valley Opera Offers Two Operas, One Ticket



Michael Day - Tenor



Anush Avetisyan - Soprano



Robert Mellon - Baritone

Even operas sometimes offer a two-for-one deal.

Livermore Valley Opera will offer two, one-hour operas in back-to-back presentations at the Bankhead Theater, beginning with the West Coast stage premiere of Zemlinsky's psychological thriller "A Florentine Tragedy," followed by Puccini's comedy Gianni Schicchi.

The two one-act operas – one a tragedy, one a comedy – are both set in Florence, Italy. Based on fragmentary tales by two literary giants, Oscar Wilde in the first case, Dante

Alighieri in the second, "A Florentine Tragedy" tells a tale of jealousy and commerce, while "Gianni Schicchi" is a farcical tale of greed and commerce.

"In approximately two hours you will experience much of what great opera is capable: tragedy and comedy, beautiful music, incredible theater, and a vivid display of human emotions right before your eyes and ears," said LVO artistic director Eric Mills in explaining the pairing. "Both operas are guaranteed to captivate in utterly different ways."

"A Florentine Tragedy" is a story of "the power of marriage and redemption which is, as we take into consideration our modern sensibilities, perhaps, naïve," said stage director Layna Chianakas. "The dark, psychodrama nature of the piece lends itself to an interpretation that leans toward female objectification and the egomaniacal nature of both male leads."

Meanwhile, "Gianni Schicchi," which Chianakas said is arguably "the greatest comic opera ever written," displays "the inner workings of

a Mediterranean family as they fight over a dead relative's will, ultimately bonding over their love of money and hatred of Schicchi, who proves far smarter than all of them."

Robert Mellon, who recently sang the role of Simone in A Florentine Tragedy for Opera de Oviedo in Spain, is acclaimed by Opera News for having "excellent comic timing," and a "domineering baritone, gleaming like polished copper." Michael Day is a lyric tenor whose voice has been described by Opera News as "bright, clear,

and endearing." Anush Avetisyan, an Armenian-American soprano who made her debut in Carnegie Hall this past December, will sing the roles of Bianca and Lauretta.

Several familiar artists from past LVO performances are among the talented cast including Kirk Eichelberger, Deborah Rosengaus, Bojan Kneževi, and Ryan Bradford. All, except Kneževi, appeared in LVO's Barber of Seville last spring. Bass-baritone Kneževi, "display[ed] boisterous comic flair" as Don Mag-

nifico, the despicable stepfather in LVO's Cinderella, and as Mustafa in An Italian Girl in Algiers.

(Continued on page 5)



Bluegrass Award-Winner Sideline Comes to Firehouse Arts



Award-winning bluegrass band Sideline will play at the Firehouse Arts Center on March 6.

Sideline, whose hit single, "Thunder Dan," won the Song of the Year award from the International Bluegrass Music Association in 2019, will perform at the Firehouse Arts Center on Friday, March 6.

Sideline started as a side project for a group of

seasoned players in 2010, but soon began to record and release albums in earnest. The band's founders, Steve Dilling (banjo), guitarist Skip Cherryholmes, and Jason Moore (bass), were all members of previous award-winning groups, with many Grand Ole Opry appearances and years of

national and international tours. The band became a full-time effort with the additions of Zack Arnold (mandolin), Jamie Harper (fiddle) and guitarist Jacob Greer.

The current tour will feature songs from the group's newest album, "Break to the Edge," along

with "Thunder Dan" and neo-traditional covers of classic songs.

The two-hour performance will begin at 8 p.m., at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Reserved seat tickets are \$15 - \$25. For more information, go to www.firehousearts.org, or call (925) 931-4848.

Real Irish Comedy Fest Takes Stage for St. Patrick's Day

Not only Irish eyes will be a-smiling this St. Patrick's Day weekend as the Real Irish Comedy Fest comes to the Firehouse Arts Center stage on Saturday, March 14, with a "blast of blarney."

The Real Irish Comedy Fest showcases the best of Irish comedic talent, entertaining audiences with Ireland's unique wit and storytelling talent. The line-up includes:

- Adam Burke, who many will recognize as a regular on NPR's popular comedy quiz show "Wait Wait Don't Tell Me."

- Niamh Marron, winner of "Show Me the Funny," who Simon Cowell has called, "risky, edgy, and a very naughty girl."

- Dave Nihill, the first-

ever Irish winner of the prestigious San Francisco Comedy Competition and the first Irish comedian to have a special on Dar Bar Comedy.

- Martin Anglolo, whose comedy style is a mix of one-liners and silly observations.

- Francis Cronin, an Irish army and UN soldier turned standup comedian, actor, writer, who first achieved national acclaim for his adventure sketch videos on his YouTube channel "Glow-Punk."

The two-hour PG performance will start at 7 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$20-\$30. For more information, go to www.firehousearts.org or call (925) 931-4848. The Firehouse Arts Center is at 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.



The Real Irish Comedy Fest comes to the Firehouse Arts Center stage on Saturday, March 14.

Dublin Seeking Artists for More Utility Box Art

The City of Dublin is inviting professional artists, or high school student-artists working under the supervision of an art teacher or art professional, to submit designs for painted utility boxes, now through March 18, at 5 p.m.

Following the positive public response to painted utility boxes the city has already added around town, the Dublin City Council has approved funding for 10 more to be painted this summer. The 10 utility boxes are at intersections throughout Dublin.

In their applications, artists may specify whether they have a specific utility box they would like to paint, although the city reserves the right to assign boxes at its discretion. Designs must "include or reflect the city's diversity, historic heritage, or key activity through Dublin." The city says the Public Art Program has added color and character to Dublin's streets, while deterring graffiti and other forms of vandalism.

For more information and artist application, see <https://bit.ly/2H3R5ff>.

Painting with Acrylics

The Livermore Area Parks and Recreation Department will offer a class for adults in acrylic painting, taught by Linda Beach, from 7-9 p.m., on four consecutive Wednesdays, March 3-25, at the Robert Livermore Community Center. All levels are welcome to try their hand at painting using thick brush strokes and color. Students supply own materials. To register, call (925) 373-5700 or go to www.larpd.org.

Bubbles & Bacon Back for Second Year



The Pleasanton Downtown Association will sponsor the second annual Bubbles & Bacon festival from 4-7 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 22.

Fifteen downtown locations will be offering bite-sized, bacon-inspired treats, highlighted by a bubbling adult beverage. Eventgoers must be 21 or older.

Check-in will be at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., where IDs will be verified and eventgoers will receive a wristband, commemorative 2020 Bubbles & Bacon champagne flute, and program. Programs will have a map of all participating restaurants along with a menu of bites and bubbles. From there, eventgoers

are free to stroll through downtown and enjoy the tasting experience at their own pace.

For tickets, go to <https://bit.ly/2S71z1l>. Tickets start at \$40, but prices will increase to \$45 on Saturday, Jan. 18. Online ticket sales will end at midnight, on Friday, Feb. 21. If not sold out, tickets will be available for purchase beginning at 3:30 p.m., the day of the event, at the Museum on Main for \$50 cash or check only.

All event proceeds go to the Pleasanton Downtown Association, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the economic vitality and hometown character of downtown Pleasanton.

Lapin Talk to Focus on Securing Earth From Space Threats

Lawrence Lapin, former professor at San Jose State University and author of the soon-to-be-published "Giant Leaps for Mankind: Space Threats and Planet Security," will present the case for upgrading the security of the planet in a talk sponsored by the Tri-

Valley Stargazers at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 21, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore.

As Lapin points out, the planet has no real defense against meteors and NASA gives limited attention to such extra-terrestrial hazards. In his 40-minute talk,

Lapin discusses how to remedy the missing security. Lapin said science the capability to protect the planet from another "dinosaur-killing" meteor, but notes that the primary handicap is the public's lack of awareness.

According to Lapin, the

key element is protecting the Earth is an independent Planet Security Guard, separate from NASA. He adds that securing the planet from extra-terrestrial threats will also lead the way to successfully deal with a twin problem: the effects of climate change.

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre to Hold Auditions for "Annie"



The Tri-Valley Repertory Theater will hold auditions for its production of "Annie" at 7 p.m., on Feb. 24 and 25. Auditions are by appointment only and may be scheduled by sending an email to KBreedveld@trivalleyrep.com

Rehearsals will begin (depending on cast conflicts) on May 12 and are generally scheduled for 7:30 -10:30 p.m., Monday


– Thursday; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays; and 6-9 p.m. on Sundays. Children's rehearsals will be over by 8:30 p.m. on weeknights until school is out of session. There will be seven performances at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, from July 18 through Aug. 2

For more information, including roles to be cast, go to www.trivalleyrep.org/.

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Swalwell Authors Book on Trump Impeachment

"Endgame: Inside the Impeachment of Donald J. Trump," Rep. Eric Swalwell's account of the House impeachment and Senate trial of the president, will be released on April 7.

Swalwell said Endgame, to be published by Abrams Press, "is the story of cour-

age triumphing over corruption to impeach President Trump."

"It's my inside account of America's public servants stepping up and Congress taking action to rein in a president who put his own interests over national security and our elections'

integrity," Swalwell said. "And while Donald Trump's Senate fixers rigged his acquittal, our effort to hold him accountable was the beginning of the end for his corrupt presidency."

Swalwell (D-CA) was first elected in 2012 to represent California's 15th con-

gressional district. Now in his fourth term, he serves on the House Intelligence Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, the two committees that handled the impeachment inquiry. He also served as a House manager during the Senate trial.



Rangers at Del Valle Regional Park have installed the remaining owl boxes built by Kali Spelts as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award project last year. Installing the boxes was put on hold until the old owl boxes were uninhabited. Pictured are Rangers Evan Butler, Gisselle Hernandez, and Kristian Giorgiev standing with Kali Spelts.

Livermore Scientist to Discuss Carbon Neutral Economy

Roger Aines, chief scientist for the Energy Program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, will give a presentation "Pathways to Zero: How California Can Have a Carbon Neutral Economy," to Tri-Valley Citizens' Climate Education at the Livermore Library on Thursday, Feb. 27.

The two-hour meeting will begin at 6:30, with Aines scheduled to speak at 7 p.m. The group will also discuss a number of upcoming activities. For more information, go to <https://trivalleycce.org>.

Green Engineering Academy Prepares Graduates for 21st Century Careers

Students who will be entering Livermore High School next fall will have an opportunity to learn about the school's Green Engineering Academy during the LHS Expo. The LHS Expo, which highlights courses, clubs, sports, and extracurricular activities available at the school, is set for 6-7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Livermore High School, 600 Maple St.

Since 2010, Livermore has offered students the opportunity to go through four years of high school as part of a cohort of students who share core courses (such as English, social studies, science, and math) along with engineering courses, allowing them to learn and grow together. GEA courses and real-life experiences help prepare students for college and for 21st century technical jobs that are in high demand, including engineering, architecture,

renewable energy, sustainability, and energy-efficient manufacturing.

While still part of the larger high school – and able to participate in elective programs including band, orchestra, art, world languages, and athletics – students in GEA are able to engage in internships, working alongside professionals and contributing to the solution of real-life problems faced by engineers. The program includes field trips to engineering centers such as Google, NASA, and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

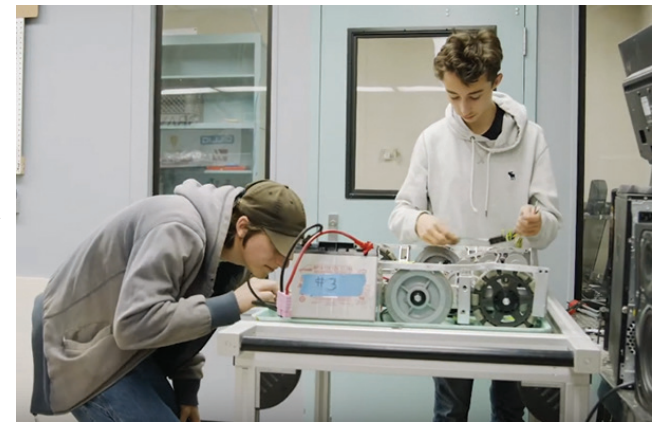
"One of the greatest strong suits of the GEA is the opportunity for students to have an out-of-the-box education that is innovative, exploratory, and relevant to the current needs of our local and greater community," said GEA engineering teacher Dorothy Morillos. "This is really achieved through

the collaborative nature of our program coupled with our project-based curriculum and varied community partnerships."

Because the GEA is funded through a California Partnership Academy grant, students have access to state-of-the-art tools, such as a 3D printer and laser cutter for their projects.

"In the GEA, students learn skills that can be used in the workforce such as creative thinking, problem solving, and teamwork," said Karen Fletcher, also a GEA engineering teacher. "It's great to see their self-confidence grow each year."

More information about the GEA is available at livermoreschools.org/gea.



Livermore High's Green Engineering students in the classroom. (Photo courtesy of LVJUSD)

Music for You Sponsors Art Contest

Music for You, a Bay Area group of high school musicians, is again sponsoring the Music for Junior Artists Online Art Contest for students in kindergarten through 10th grade.

Described as an opportunity to experience "a world beyond what we see," the contest encourages students to create a work of art while listening to selections of music chosen and performed by Music for You.

One of the judges for this year's contest will be Peggy Gyulai, owner of the Peggy Gyulai Studio in San Francisco, whose own work explores the connections between music and the expressive possibilities of paint on canvas.

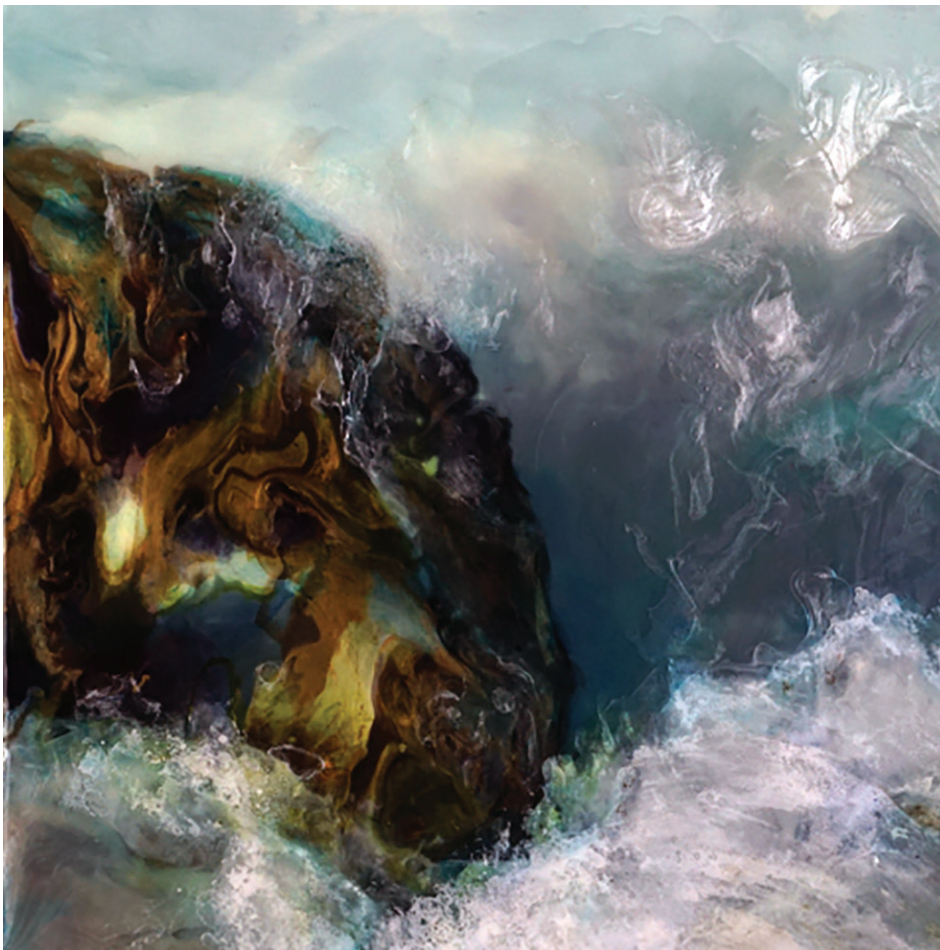
Students may submit entries between Feb. 16 and March 22. 2020 Music for Junior Artists Online Art Contest will open on Feb. 16 and submissions will end on March 22 at 11:59 pm. The guidelines are simple:

To enter the contest, students should choose a music selection and create a piece of art that is either abstract or a depiction of a subject related to the piece's title, background, or theme. Artworks must be submitted between Feb. 16 and March 22. Awards will be presented at the Carnival of the Animals and its Musical Allusions concert on Saturday, April 18. For more information go to <https://ptownmusic4you.weebly.com/art-contest.html>.



"Hear the Color" by Alissa Wong

Wine Tasting Offers Opportunity To View Closing Exhibits



Art and Wine Intertwined will showcase art by Bay Area artists. Above: work by Livermore artist Linda Ryan

“Art & Wine Intertwined,” from 1:30-3:30 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 22, offers one of the final opportunities to enjoy the large-format art pieces that make up the “Living Large” exhibit at the Bankhead Theater.

The abstracts, seascapes, nature, and figurative images of “Living Large” showcase artists from across the Bay Area in oil, acrylic,

pour media, photography, and mixed media. “Sea Change,” a solo exhibit by award-winning Livermore artist Linda Ryan, is also on display in the Founder’s Room, chronicling the development of her unique pour-painting process.

Hosted by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, “Art & Wine Intertwined” is scheduled just nine days before “Living

Large” and “Sea Change” close on March 2 to make way for a new exhibit. Many pieces are available for sale and can be purchased during the event.

“Art & Wine Intertwined” is free and open to the public. Wine tastings are \$2 each or three for \$5. Light appetizers will be served. For more information visit lvpac.org

Life Transitions to Discuss Dementia

Life Transitions for Aging Adults this month will discuss dementia awareness. The group, sponsored by St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore, will meet from 1-2:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 18, in Borromeo Hall. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, contact Molly Fisher at (925) 449-8849 or fisher.molly@comcast.net.

OPERA

(Continued from first page)

LVO's Music Director Alexander Katsman will conduct the professional orchestra for A Florentine Tragedy with its music and drama of Wagnerian intensity, followed by Gianni Schicchi, featuring one of the most memorable arias in all of opera “O Mio Babbino Caro.”

Evening performances will be held at 7:30 p.m.,

on Saturday, March 7, and Saturday, March 14. Matinee performances will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 8, and Sunday, March 15. There will be a pre-opera lecture one hour before each performance.

In an effort to attract younger operagoers, LVO is introducing a new pricing structure, except for Tier 1 seating. Regular

adult tickets are \$42-\$90; tickets for age 20 and under are \$20; 40 and under \$40. Tickets can be purchased through the Bankhead box office, 2400 First St., Livermore or (925) 373-6800, or through the LVO website at www.LVOpera.com. Opening Night Dinner tickets are \$95 per person.

FIREHOUSE

ARTS CENTER

For tickets, visit:

www.firehousearts.org/events



Celebrating Tom Jones

Starring David Burnham
February 14-8PM
February 15-2PM

All the hits!...with a full band!
What a great Valentine's gift!



Creatures of Impulse presents IMPROV Face-Off

February 19-22

The show where the audience wins the prizes!



Sideline - Bluegrass

March 6-8PM

6-piece powerhouse!
2019 International Bluegrass
Association Award winners!



The Real Irish Comedy Fest

March 14-7PM

Come get a blast of the Blarney!
Accents included!



4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton | 925.931.4848

Cantabella Offers Choral Workshop for Teachers



Tom Shelton of Westminster Choir College

Offered in conjunction with the 2020 Young Voices in Harmony Festival, the award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus is offering a workshop for teachers led by Prof. Tom Shelton of Westminister Choir College.

Focusing on children's and youth music, Shelton

teaches classes in conducting, sacred music, and music education at Westminster in Princeton, New Jersey, and serves as conductor and coordinator of the Westminster Neighborhood Children's Choir. In addition, he is director of the Children's and Youth Choirs at Princeton United Methodist Church and conducts two ensembles with the Princeton Girlchoir.

His workshop, "Getting Out of the Rut – Ideas for Introducing a New Song to Developing Voices," explores creative ways to introduce a new song to young singers, focusing on multiple learning styles (aural, visual, kinesthetic) and incorporating musical literacy.

"We all have our individual teaching styles when introducing new music," Shelton said. "Sometimes we lose our creativity, fall

into a 'rut' and introduce new songs the same way every time."

The workshop will be given 6-9 p.m., on Friday, April 17, at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth Street, Livermore.

The workshop is open to music professionals, educators and students, or, anyone who is interested in learning to be a better choral director. The early bird registration fee is workshop \$45 (\$30 for college student). Those who register before March 18 will also receive a packet of music appropriate for middle school and high school choirs in school and community settings.

To register or for more information go to www.young-voices-in-harmony.cantabella.org/2020-teacher-workshop/ or contact Bee Chow at bee@cantabella.org.



Shelton's workshop "Getting Out of the Rut – Ideas for Introducing a New Song to Developing Voices," explores creative ways to introduce a new song to young singers, focusing on multiple learning styles and incorporating musical literacy.

Zinfandel's Immigration from Croatia to America

By Harry Stoll

Zinfandel has been heralded as America's Grape. The claim was that it was grown and made into wine only here. But as with almost all of us, it was an immigrant. In Croatia, where it almost certainly originated, it is known as *crljenak kaštelanski* (literally "black from Kaštelanski," and pronounced as spelled).

There is more than one version of how it made its way to America and to California. I favor the one from Sonoma County Ravenswood Winery founding winemaker Joel Peterson, because he's a zin wonk who wears a cowboy hat.

The Ravenswood website has a "Zintroductio" in which Patterson notes, "... the best documented introduction commenced in Austria where the grape was kept as part of the Schoenbrunn Collection of Horticultural materials from the Austria-Hungarian Empire. In 1829, Colonel George Gibbs received a shipment of vines from the Schoenbrunn collection sent to his estate in Queens, Long Island, New York that probably included Zinfandel." (*Crljenak Kaštelanski*.)

He goes on to explain, "... Zinfandel, with the help of Colonel Gibbs, William Prince and Samuel Perkins, made its way from New York to Boston, where it was a regular staple of the nurseries and was grown in hot houses to produce table grapes in the 1830s. Zinfandel was imported to California in 1852 by Fredrick Macondray who had the

odd dichotomy in being involved in horticulture ventures and being a sea captain carrying on trade between California and Massachusetts."

The Wine Institute states, "... The Zinfandel name, however, is truly American—the earliest and only documented use of the name is in America where a Boston nursery owner advertised Zinfandel for sale in 1832."

That would be Colonel Gibbs, but how did he come up with the name? The marketing website VIVINO claims in New England it "... was referred to as Zenfendal, a play on its Hungarian name *tzinifándli*." The Merriam Webster Dictionary agrees that zinfandel is probably a modification of the obsolete Hungarian *tzinifándli*.

Until recently, *crljenak kaštelanski* hadn't been grown in Croatia for centuries, possibly since troops of the Ottoman Empire swept through. But in 2000, Edi Maletic and Ivan Pejic, of the University of Zegreb in Croatia, and DNA expert Carole Meredith, of the University of California, Davis, who had been looking for a Croatian zinfandel, found one along the Dalmatian coast. DNA tests revealed that *crljenak* and zinfandel were the same.

Here are some zins to try:

2014 Bent Creek Livermore Valley (\$30). According to the winery's website, the "brilliant scarlet color sparkles. The blend of red fruit and spice aromas are followed by intense Bing cherry flavors with a zing of cinnamon

and cloves. Savor its long tart cherry finish."

2016 Darcie Kent Livermore Valley (\$45). The winery notes that this is a field-blend zinfandel with some petite syrah. "You could undoubtedly add to this long list of aromas: black plum, a spoonful of cream, cloves, rose petal, woodshop, cherry pie, and the scent of the dry, native grasses that grow between the vines. This highly acidic zinfandel, with clutching tannins and a silky body, has the structure to age further. Its youth shows in the fruit forwardness of its palate: seedy blackberries, bursting cherries, bay leaf, and bruised, perfume-y plum."

2012 Ehrenberg Amador County, Shenandoah Valley (\$29). This zin is typical of Ehrenberg Cellars. The website describes it as "a very traditional style Zinfandel. With a deep pepper and spice tones. It has earthy and mineral flavors with a hint of herbs. The longest lasting finish you could ask for."

2015 Chouinard Lodi (\$25). "Old vines and a new release join for a crisp and fruity treat with mellow tannins."

2016 Rosa Fierro Bittersweet Zinfany, Livermore Valley (\$32). "Craving a return to the Zin of yore, where you could taste every last summer ripe berry, bursting with brightness? One sip of this red raspberry, boysenberry and cinnamon-laced plum tart from Kalthoff Common will take you straight to the ol' berry patch. Alluring earthy aromas and a dusting of cocoa and nutmeg add complexity."

Film Series on Great Art to Debut at Bankhead

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center will debut a new film series, "Great Art on Screen," at the Bankhead Theater in March, featuring documentaries about legendary art and artists.

Great Art on Screen joins other film series at the Bankhead, including the original Classic Film Musicals, National Theater Live Encore Screenings, and the Family Film Series, which returns this summer for the third year.

Great Art on Screen of-

fers an in-depth look at some of the groundbreaking art masters of their time. The first film, "Frida: Viva la Vida," profiling the revolutionary spirit and tormented soul of Frida Kahlo, will be shown at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 24.

Other films will highlight the 500th anniversary of Leonardo Da Vinci and the masterpieces of the Baroque Italian sculptor Bernini. Others will take viewers to prehistoric dinosaur bone excavation sites, St. Petersburg's Hermitage Museum, and the

exquisite Wunderkammer or "cabinet of curiosities" and private collections from the 18th century Renaissance.

Classic Film Musicals also continue this month with the iconic 1961 version of Leonard Bernstein's masterwork "West Side Story" starring Natalie Wood. The winner of 10 Academy Awards will be screened at the Bankhead at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Other classics on tap this summer are Fiddler on the Roof (1971) on March 18, Anchors Aweigh (1945),

April 15, and Guys and Dolls (1955), May 13. In keeping with the traditions of the classic film era, every show is preceded by a cartoon and newsreel.

National Theatre Live brings the best of British theater from more than 20 live stages with state-of-the-art filming techniques specifically tailored for each play. The West End production of Joseph Mankiewicz' "All About Eve," starring Gillian Anderson (X-Files) and Lily James (Yesterday), will be shown at the Bankhead at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27.

Other National Theater Live presentation this summer will include "The Audience" by Peter Morgan on March 26; "Small Island," based on the novel by Andrea Levy, on April 30; "All My Sons," by Arthur Miller, on May 21; "Hamlet" on June 25; "The Lehman Trilogy," by Stefano Massini, on July 23; "Fleabag," written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge, on Aug. 20; "One Man, Two Guvnors," by Richard Bean, on Sept. 17; "A Midsummer Night's Dream" on Oct. 15; "Present Laughter," by Noël Coward, on Nov. 19.

This will be the third summer for the Family Film Series, which started in 2018 to offer an inexpensive way for the entire family to enjoy some of the beloved films of the 1980s and 1990s. This summer's series will feature "October Sky" (1999) in June, "The Goonies" (1985) in July, and "FernGully" (1992) in August.

Tickets for Classic Film Musicals and Family Films are \$5. Tickets for National Theater Live and Great Art on Screen are \$20, with \$10 tickets for students up to age 21. Popcorn, movie treats and beverages are available in concessions for all films.

For tickets or more information, go to lvpac.org or call (925) 373-6800.

Concert Pianist Glover to Perform Concertos Without Orchestra



Daniel Glover will perform a collection of piano solo transcriptions from five well-known concertos from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and early 20th Century periods at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore on Feb. 22.

Concert pianist Daniel Glover will perform "Concertos Without Orchestra," a collection of piano solo transcriptions from five well-known concertos from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and early 20th Century periods on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Glover, who has been the Valley Concert Chorale's accompanist since 1998, will share the history and analysis of each piece he performs.

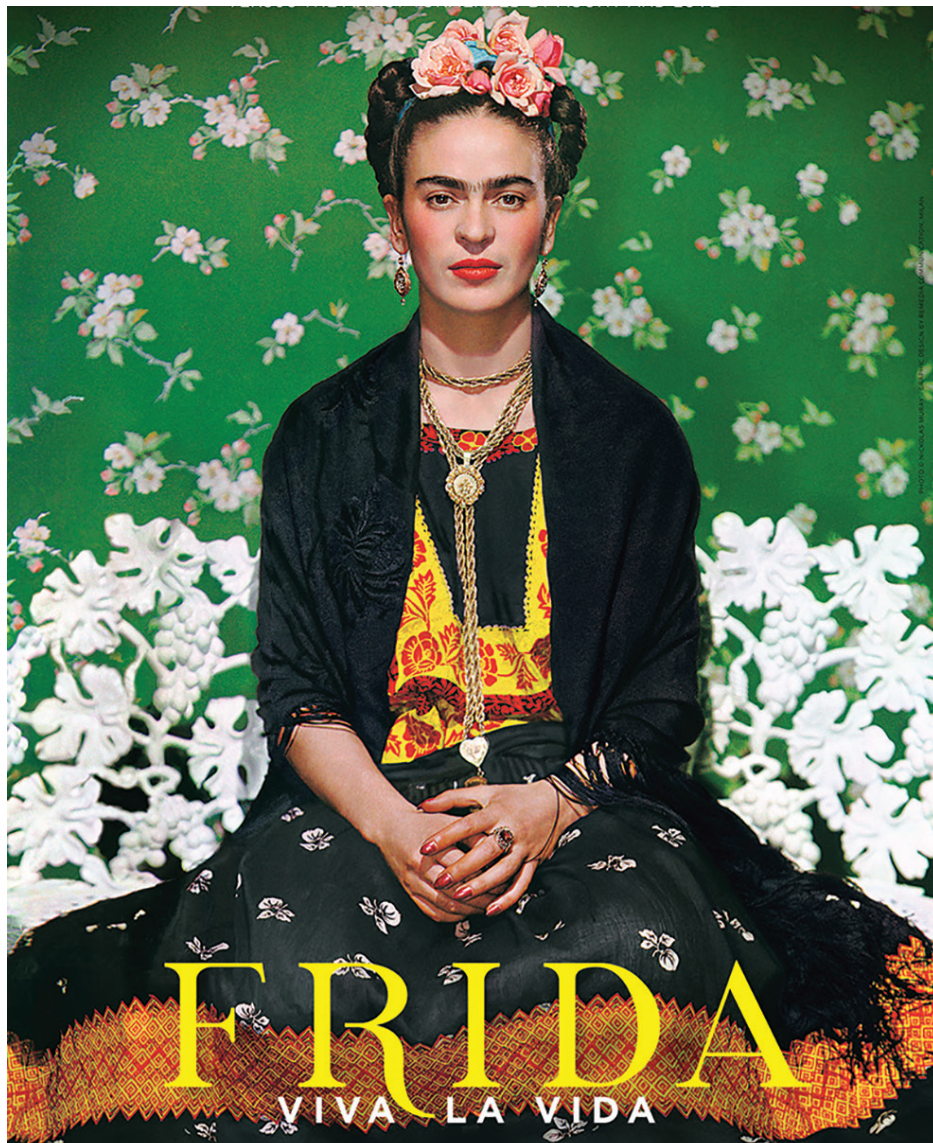
"The transcribers of the concertos are as well-known as the original composers," Glover said, "but what is surprising to the listener is the transcribers' uncanny ability to synthesize the parts of a full symphony orchestra, as well as the solo piano (or two violins), into one unified whole."

The program will begin with an unusual "double" transcription of Vivaldi's Concerto in A Minor for Two Violins, a work Johann

Sebastian Bach transcribed for organ. Glover said Russian pianist Samuil Feinberg then transcribed a piano solo version in the 1920s, based on both versions.

The program also features Russian composer Balakirev, who transcribed the expressive and elegant "Romance" from Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor; and Charles Valentin Alkan's solo version of the first movement from Beethoven's Third Concerto. The concert concludes with Ravel's "Adagio" from his G Major Concerto and the complete Concerto No. 2 in G Minor of Saint-Saëns in a transcription by Georges Bizet, the composer of the opera Carmen.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased online at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling (925) 866-4003. Proceeds will benefit the Valley Concert Chorale, all-volunteer, non-profit chorale, which is sponsoring the performance.



"Frida: Viva la Vida" will be shown on March 24 as part of the Great Art on Screen series at the Bankhead Theater.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Jason Lyle Black "backwards pianist", Feb. 28

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Livermore Art Association Gallery, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2155 Third Street, Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sat. 11:30 to 4 pm and Sunday 10 to 2:30 pm. For information call 925.449.9927.

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at five businesses in the area. Viewing locations are: The Stanford Health Care Dermatology Clinic, 1133 E. Stanley Blvd. Suite 111, Livermore; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite

183, Pleasanton; The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton; and The Bagel Street Café at 4101-A Dublin Blvd., Dublin. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at 510.877.8154.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Still Time to Sign Up for Art Workshop

Sign-ups are still available for the Livermore Adult Education's Art Workshop, a non-instructional class where artists work at their own pace with the medium of their choice in a relaxed and supportive environment with other artists. The class is facilitated by Lorraine Wells and meets Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon, now through March

17, at 1401 Almond Ave., in Livermore. For more information, call (925) 606-4722, or go to www.livermoreschools.org/domain/1060.

Photography Classes for amateur photographers looking to improve their skills, at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Classes will be held 7-9 p.m., on Thursdays, from Jan. 16 through Feb. 27, with field trips on Feb. 2 and Feb. 22. Register for class #5000 at (925) 373-5700; online at larpd.org; by email at registration@larpd.org; or in person at the community center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

Artists' Studio has openings in its 2018-2019 school year art classes. Artist Peggy Frank offers small group, individualized instruction in art to students ages 7 through high school, and adults. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. Contact Peggy at 925.443.8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info: 925.373.9638 or microangelo@earthlink.net.

Preschool Art Classes, Thursday mornings 9:45-10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at 925.216.7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com.

Art Classes for children, teens and adults, beginner to

advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and Keyboard

Lessons, for children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

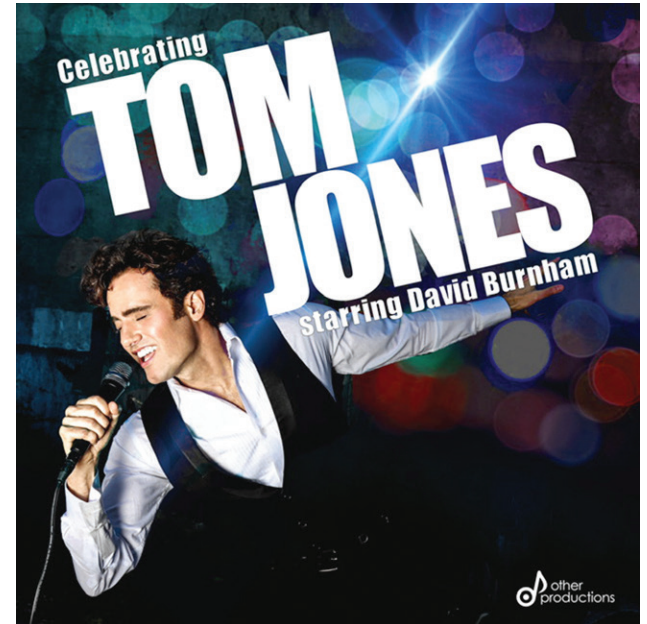
Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the last Saturday of each month from noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First Street, Livermore.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Georgia on My Mind: Celebrating the Music of Ray Charles, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. A stellar cast of award-winning performers comes together to celebrate Ray's music. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore.



Georgia on My Mind: Celebrating the Music of Ray Charles, Feb. 14



Celebrating Tom Jones – A Special Valentine's Weekend Event, Feb. 14 & 15

Celebrating Tom Jones – A Special Valentine's Weekend Event featuring award-winning Broadway star David Burnham ("Wicked," "Light in The Piazza") and live six-piece band with music director Todd Schroeder. Firehouse Arts Center Theater in Pleasanton. Performances at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 14, and

2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 15. Reserved-seat tickets: \$28-\$38. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, (925) 931-4848, or at the box office, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

Riders in The Sky returns to the Bankhead Theater at 3 p.m., on Sunday, Feb. 16, in a show filled with fun for the whole family. Holding true to the tradition of Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, Riders in The Sky serves up traditional western harmonies while adding their own down-home country charisma and comedic flair. Tickets are \$20-\$75, \$20 for students under 21 and active military. To purchase tickets, call (925) 373-6800, or go to lvpac.org.

International Guitar Night (IGN), Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. in the Bankhead Theater. A cast of guitar luminaries from around the world will highlight the diversity of the acoustic guitar. IGN celebrates its 20th year of US tours with guest host Mike Dawes (England) and his incredible two-hand contemporary style. Tickets start at \$20.

Livermore-Amador Symphony presents "Angels and Demons" on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Bankhead Theater with guest conductor Jason Klein. The concert will begin at 8 p.m., preceded by a prelude talk from 7-7:30 p.m. The Symphony Guild will host a post-concert reception in the lobby. Ticket information can be obtained at www.bankheadtheater.org, the Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St. in Livermore, or by calling (925) 373-6800.

Jason Lyle Black returns to his hometown on Friday, Feb. 28, for a one-of-a-kind experience that blends popular music with his own comedic flair. A trained classical pianist, Lyle has the remarkable ability to

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at Old Mexico Bar & Grill in Livermore on Portola Avenue — the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

ON THE STAGE

Creatures of Impulse, a popular and much-lauded teen improv troupe, will compete against other Bay Area improv teams in Face-Off 2020 at the Firehouse Arts Center Theater. Shows run Feb 19-22, and may be purchased at the door; at the Firehouse Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave. in Pleasanton; by calling (925) 931-4848; or online at www.firehousearts.org.

Port and Chocolate at Cedar Mountain Winery in Livermore will host a special Port and Chocolate Tasting on Valentine's Day weekend. The winery, 10843 Reuss Road, will pair a Library Port with chocolates from Gourmet Works. Tastings will be offered from noon to 4 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15. \$5 from each flight will be donated to Wings of Rescue. Call 925-373-6636 for more information.

The Valley Humane Society's Tails at Twilight Gala which will raise funds for animal rescue, education, and community service efforts, will be held at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton, March 6. A champagne reception, hors d'oeuvres, and a no-host bar will begin at 6 p.m. Dinner, dancing and live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$150 per person and are available at valleyhumane.org. For more information, call (925) 426-8656.

The Goodguys 38th All American Get-Together, a two-day hot-rodding festival at the Alameda County Fairgrounds featuring more than 3,000 hot rods and custom cars on March 28-29. The festival will include vendors, auto parts swap meet, live music and stage shows, competitions, how-to seminars, and the American AutoCross Shootout. Advance general admission tickets can be purchased for \$20 at www.good-guys.com.

A Writers Meetup for Adults meets on the first Tuesday of every month at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Learn more at livermorelibrary.net or call the library at 925.373.5500.

Hagemann Ranch Open House, Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 p.m. Go to www.livermorehistory.com for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.



IMPROV X FACE-OFF

Creatures of Impulse Teen Improv Group, Feb. 19-22

play as easily sitting backwards as forwards, while performing music from Disney and Broadway classics, to songs from the Beatles, AC/DC, and movie theme songs. He returns to Livermore to headline his show as part of the Bankhead Presents season. For tickets, go to lvpac.org or call (925) 373-6800.

Retzlaff Estate Winery, Live music every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave. retzlaffvineyards.com.

DANCE

World of Imagination presented by Livermore School of Dance Jazz Company, a dance revue directed by Liz Roberts that combines jazz, tap, hip hop, modern, contemporary lyrical and musical theater, at the Bankhead Theater on Saturday, Feb. 15. Tickets are available at www.lvpac.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

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BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to editmail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club meets at Alisal Elementary the second Thursday of the month, except July and August. On Feb. 13, Rose Loveall, owner of MorningSun Herb Farm, will give a talk on "Herbs in Your Garden" at 7 p.m. Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. For more information, go to www.lavgc.org.

Help with Grief - Anyone struggling with the death of a loved one is invited to begin their healing journey at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Sessions will be held at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13 and 27, and March 12 and 26. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Call Eleanor at 846-8708 for more information.

Lion's Club Crab Feed Fundraiser. A Crab Feed Fundraiser for the Livermore Lions Club will be held on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 5:45-8:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Doors open at 5:00. All you can eat crab will be accompanied by pasta, salad, bread, soft drinks, dessert, and a cash bar. Tickets are \$55 each, \$400 for a table of 8, or \$500 for a table of 10. The night will include a silent auction, raffle prizes, and live music. For tickets, call (805) 405-8742.

Tri-Valley Cares will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 20, in the conference room at 4049 First St., Livermore. Tri-Valley Cares focuses on increasing community safety by reducing nuclear weapons, and preventing toxic and radioactive pollution. Refreshments will be served. For more information, go to trivalleycares.org or call (925) 443-7148.

Moms Who Meditate - A new meditation group will meet for the first time 8:15 - 9 a.m., on Sunday, Feb. 23, in the Fireside Room at Asbury United Methodist Church. The sessions, set to run for six weeks, will be an introduction to meditation using Christian Meditation. Moms with children of all ages are welcome. Sign up with Jackie at jackieb@asburylive.org, or call (925) 447-1950.

The Pedrozzi Foundation is accepting scholarship applications until March 2 at 5:00 p.m. Scholarships are available for undergraduate, graduate, community college, and technical/vocational studies. High school seniors from Del Valle High School, Granada High School, Livermore High School, and Vineyard High School are eligible to apply. Graduates of all ages are encouraged to apply. For more about the Pedrozzi foundation, visit <https://bit.ly/2PHczkM>.

Assistance League of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call 925.461.6401.

Grief Support Group for Teens. Hope Hospice offers grief support groups for children and teens at no cost to residents in the Tri-Valley. Groups meet at the Dublin office during the school year on the first and third Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. The sessions run through May 21. Call 829-8770 or email griefsupport@hopehospice.com. A parent or caregiver must remain on-site while the youth is attending group. Group meets at the Hope office, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. The program is free but donations are accepted.

Genealogy Help at the Pleasanton Library. To get help finding your roots, send an email tdocents.chair@L-AGS.org for an appoint-

ment. Volunteer docents from Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will provide assistance in your genealogical research at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

Pleasanton Sole Mates meets at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., for a 2.5 to 3 mile walk at a moderate pace.

Del Arroyo 4-H Club meets once a month at 6 p.m., usually on the third Wednesday, at Arroyo Seco Elementary School, 5280 Irene Way, Livermore. All member families and potential member families are welcome. 4-H is a national program which encourages members to learn by doing, offering a variety of projects, events, and community service activities. For more information, contact Miranda Munro at delarroyo4hclub@gmail.com.

The Mount Diablo Rose Society meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June at 7:30 pm in the Community room of the Dublin Public Library at 200 Civic Plaza in Dublin. For more information, visit our website at www.mtidiablorosesociety.org or email secretary@mtidiablorosesociety.org.

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs, both national and international Topics that have been covered in club politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 925.872.7923.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. No dues, fees, or weigh-ins. Join us on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Multi Service Center, 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Visit www.foodaddicts.org.

ClutterLess (CL) Self-Help Group meets every Monday (excluding post office holidays) at 7 p.m. at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, in Pleasanton.

LifeRing is a secular recovery group, an alternative to the 12-step program that accepts all people with drug and alcohol issues. We meet in a friendly, down-to-earth atmosphere to create a sobriety program that works for YOU. Meetings are every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from noon to 1 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Contact is Steve Bowman, 925.207.2430.

Tri-Valley Fly Fishers (TVFF) invites everyone, at no charge, to the regular monthly meetings featuring guest speakers who share their knowledge of the sport. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month, September through June, at the Livermore-Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club, 4000 Dagnino Rd., Livermore.

Livermore Valley Coin Club. Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you enjoy collecting coins or other numismatics this is the place for you. The meetings incorporate shared numismatic knowledge, various club raffles, a Coin of the Month and a club coin auction. For information contact: Gary Antone 925.373.6758.

Valley Children's Museum, a community based, non profit, children's museum for children 3 to 10 years old, offering fun and educational STEAM based play activities. Located in Emerald Glen Park, Dublin, off Gleason Dr. Open Thursdays 4 to 8 pm during Dublin Farmer's Market & third Saturday of the month. Volunteer opportunities for teens and seniors. For more info visit <http://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org> or contact Linda Spencer, 925.683.4741 or linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org.

Livermore Lions Club meets for dinner every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at Emil Villa's Restaurant, 3064 Pacific Ave. in Livermore. Lions are the world's largest service organization. Livermore Lions support the needs within the community and state, the nation and the world. Funds provided to support the homeless, the fire victims, and the hurricane and earthquakes

victims. Charities include: Canine Companions, Blind Centers, and the Ear of the Lion. Check out our website (livermorelionsclub.org) for up-coming projects and events. All are welcome.

Master Gardeners Talks, Demonstration Garden, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Trained Master Gardeners are on site at to answer question and give tours of the garden 9:30am-11:30am on the second Saturday of the month; talks on seasonally appropriate topics. All Talks are 10 -11 am on the second Saturday of the month.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley's Connections Support Group, meets every Wednesday, from 7:15pm - 8:45pm at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. This group provides support and education for anyone experiencing a mental illness. For further information, visit www.nami-trivalley.org or contact Kendall @ 925.872.0170.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), DAR was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the world during the past three years. For more information, please visit josemaria.californiadar.org/ or contact Debbie Janes at jmardar.regent@gmail.com.

DAR Jose Maria Amador, Pleasanton Chapter. The local Jose Maria Amador chapter meets on the second Saturday of the month from September to May, with a short business meeting and a program.

DAR Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter. Meets September through May on the first Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit <http://jhl.californiadar.org>.

Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group, those with Parkinson's or a variant diagnosis plus their care partners meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center on the second Saturday of every month from 10am - noon. Hear speakers on a variety of related topics and share challenges, solutions, and triumphs! Contact mary.behrendt@comcast.net or 925.462.5081 for more information. No cost.

Pleasanton Amer. Leg. Post 237 located at 301 Main St. is looking for few good veterans to join us. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1900 hr. or consider joining us for coffee/donuts every Saturday 0700-0830. All veterans all welcome to join us at coffee. You qualify to attend if you served. Come and meet other veterans and you will hear and see nothing has chan. We guarantee you will enjoy being around veterans. Visit our post at americanlegion-post237@comcast.net.

Alcoholics Anonymous If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call AA: 925.829.0666.

Native Daughters of the Golden West, (California born Women) is a fraternal and patriotic organization founded on the principles of: Love of Home; Devotion to the Flag; Veneration of the Pioneers; Faith in the Existence of God., Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore, meet first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, I.O.O.F Hall, 2160 First St., Livermore (easy entrance from back of building) Rec. Sec.: Shelley Buchberger, 925.698.4345, NDGW.org.

Scottish Country Dancing in Livermore. Enjoy the lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Make new friends and have fun while you exercise. Join us Mondays 8:00 to 10:00 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience or partner required. We welcome new dancers at any time. Call Margaret Ward at 925.449.5932 or Sheena MacQueen at 925.784.3662 for more information.

Wednesday Night Run with Sunrise

Mountain Sports, every Wednesday night (rain or shine) at 6:30PM. Start/End Location: Sunrise Mountain Sports 2184 First Street Livermore. The run/walk will start at 6:30PM, but come hang with us around 6PM to socialize/warm-up/change. There are a variety of distances starting at 2 miles and they go up to 9 miles. The most popular is the 3.5 mile course (that does have two water fountains along its route). Dogs, kids, and people of all paces are welcome. More information located on Sunrise's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/.

The City of Pleasanton Library's Literacy Program is searching for patient, caring volunteer tutors to help adults practice and improve their English reading, writing, and conversation skills. Volunteers will work one-on-one with students, lead small group conversation practice, conduct citizenship test preparation, or lead book clubs. No advance preparation is needed. Find more information contact the Adult Literacy team literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov, or 925.931.3405.

Livermore Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post 7265, seeking returning Veterans from foreign conflicts who are interested in staying engaged with other Veterans and their families. The VFW is one of the strongest Veterans organizations in America but is in serious decline because of lack of membership. Meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month with a light dinner social at 6:00pm followed by a business meeting at 7:00pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 522 So. L St. (corner of So. L & 5th Street- enter on 5th St.). For more information contact Commander Hank Jean: 480.585.8970 or Service Officer Ron Gillette: 925.443.4444.

Tri-Valley Haven Individual Counseling & Group Therapy Openings. Tri-Valley Haven, a non-profit agency provides free, professional individual and group therapy for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and poverty. For more information on Tri-Valley Haven's Support Groups and Individual Counseling, please call 925.449.5845.

Docents for the Livermore History-Mobile. Volunteers interested in Livermore history and/or like working with children (mostly 3rd graders) are needed. Mission is to teach children the history of Livermore and instill in them a sense of pride in the city. There will be training. Time commitment could be as little as a few days a year. There are usually have 3 docents at each school. If interested, call Nancy Mulligan, 925.443.3076 or email n.mulligan@comcast.net.

Sing for Fun, Music Sing-a-Long, sing familiar tunes with other folks along with piano accompaniment. The words of the songs will be provided. No musical experience needed. Most Mondays, from 11:00-12:00 at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Small fee.

Counter Point (Addiction Family Support Group), a free faith based, Christ centered (AI Anon based) program designed to help individuals with family members who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at the St. Michael Convent building, first floor (375 Maple Street, Livermore). For further information contact Rachel at 510.501.1411.

Tri-Valley Geeks, group of adults who get together for events like board games, movies and fan conventions. Meetings every Tuesday at 5:30 for dinner and board games A schedule of upcoming events can be found on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks). Text Melody Evenson at 925.209.1214 for more information.

Golden Circle Seniors, meetings Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Sewing, knitting and crocheting all year, saving items for the annual bazaar in November. Ninety-five percent of the proceeds are donated to local charities.

Pleasanton Lions Club, meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Inklings Coffee Shop, 530 Main Street, Pleas-

anton. Check website for meeting updates pleasantonlionsclub.org. Pleasanton Lions Club is a non-profit organization that seeks to identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. All are welcome.

Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. www.AlanonTriValley.org, 925.277.7661, help@AlanonTriValley.org.

Recovery International (RI) is a free weekly self-help group, led by a trained, peer volunteer leader, for people who want to reduce their stress. Anyone 18 or older is welcome; just drop in. Meetings every Sunday 2:00 to 3:30 PM at Arbor Vista library room, 1300 South Livermore Avenue. Call Barbara, 916.335.8836 or Dave, 415.948.9462.

Ethos, free and confidential services related to pregnancy include guidance and referrals, baby clothing, and diapers. 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore. Call 925.449.5887 for an appointment.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers are needed to deliver fresh meals to homebound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 p.m. For more information, please call 925.483.1989.

Rotary Club of Livermore Valley invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to www.livermorevalleyrotary.org, or Jill Duerig at 510.378.7243 or jillduerig@hotmail.com.

Del Valle Folk Dancers: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel 925.447.8020 or george.pa_vel@gmail.com.

Square Dance Lessons in Livermore, 7 p.m. at Del Valle High School, 2253 5th Street. All ages welcome. Dancing Thursdays weekly from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. No partner or special attire needed. For more information call Margaret 925.447.6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com.

Shepherd's Gate New Life Thrift Store, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9-7 Monday through Friday, 9-5 Saturday, closed Sunday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. M-F, 8-2:30 p.m. Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 925.462.2487.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group (CL) is a non profit, peer based, all volunteer, self help in-person support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings at Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton, every Monday 7- 8:30 p.m. (except postal holidays). See clutterless.

org (national) ClutterlessEastBay.org.

Questers is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. Members learn about antiques, share and view members' collections, visit historic sites, museums and antiques shops and help non-profit organizations with restoration and preservation work. Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday monthly from September to May. If interested call President Rickie at 925.292.8123 or e-mail rjfgiono@comcast.net.

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 p.m. For more info visit us at www.trivalleystargazers.org.

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at 925.443.0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at www.trivalleysir.org and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925.967.8177.

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans' causes. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to www.calegion.org/ or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or 925.443.2330 or Roy Warner at 925.449.6048.

Eric's Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30

BULLETIN BOARD

-8:00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericscorner.org.

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net.

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925.215.8405 or visit www.Pleasanton-Newcomers.com.

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community. CRIL has offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore, providing information and referrals, community education at senior centers, and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550. Phone: 925.371.1531, fax: 925.373.5034, e-mail: abril.tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Contact Edith Caponigro at 925.998.3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925.621.8946 for additional information.

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC), Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. www.trivalleytriclub.com.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Tri-Valley support group for those who have loved ones in the military. PMF members are available to meet with military families or friends whenever support or comfort is needed. The group also sends care packages to deployed troops. For more information, contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore

who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925.784.5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

RELIGION

Moms Who Meditate, a new meditation group, will meet for the first time from 8:15-9 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 23, in the Fireside Room at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore. Sessions will run for six weeks as an introduction to Christian Meditation. All mothers are welcome. To sign up, send an email to jackieb@asburylive.org or call (925) 447-1950.

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Livermore will host a dinner for its Alpha Course fellowship program at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, Feb. 10. The dinner is free, but the church asks that guests register at StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha.

St. Michael Catholic Church Alpha dinners provide a free meal, an opportunity to meet new friends, and great conversation. Mondays at 6:30 p.m. starting February 10, St. Michael Parish Hall, 326 Maple St., Livermore. Register at www.stmichaellivermore.com/alpha. For more information, call (925) 447-1585

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. A Reconciling Church, where all are welcomed. Sunday Worship time is at 10 a.m. Children's and youth groups meet during worship services and Sunday evening Middle and High School Youth Groups. Caregivers Support Group meets the third Saturday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Fireside Room. Men's Bible Study meets Thursday mornings at 7:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room. For more information about other events visit our website at www.asburylive.org or call 925-447-1950. Asbury UMC can also be found on Facebook at "Asbury UMC Livermore." All are welcome.

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information: www.fpcl.us or 925.447.2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 925.449.4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore.

Sunday Service 10:30am. Church of the open mind, loving heart and helping hands. All are welcome. Childcare, and religious education for children as well as adults are offered. For more information, visit www.uucil.org or call 925.447.8747.

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information: 925.931.1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 925.485.1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. 925.447.2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 am. Spanish service starts at 9:30 am. Nursery and children's church provided. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. For information, call 925.447.6282 or visit www.sunsetcc.org.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information at 925.447.8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925.447.1246.

Calvary Tri-Valley, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. www.calvalrylivermore.org or 925.447.4357.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Con-cannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 925.447.3428.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org. All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, Pleasanton, 6656 Alisal Street. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 10:35 a.m., Nursery, Children's Church (ages 3-12) at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday Women's Bible Study will be taking a break, Senior Adult Ministry every other month. Call for date and time and other church programs at 925.846.8650.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. New Sunday Worship Services & Children's Ministry times now at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Small Groups also meet on Sundays, and during the

week at various times/locations. Trinity Student Ministries (7-12th Grade) meet on Sundays at 9 a.m. and on Weds. eve. from 7-9 p.m. Awana meets Sundays from 3:30-5:30PM trinitylivermore.org or 925.447.1848.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 925.447.9800.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or contact Father Augustine Lewton at 925.400.8119 or pateraugustine@gmail.com

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925.462.4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. www.saintbartsLivermore.com. Sunday service with Rev. Andrew Lobban, pastor and priest, 10:00 am Eucharist with music, childcare and Godly Play children education.

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Kilcare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org or 925.862.2580.

Pathway Community Church, 1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday, 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcome. www.pathway-communitychurch.org 925.322.1222.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/ Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd-livermore.org or call 950.371.6200.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925.449.4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. 925.227.1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship

Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 925.447.2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center Ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies. Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at 925.479.1414 Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

Lynnwood United Methodist Church offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Their winter schedule has begun, with Sunday services held at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. Lynnwood is located in Pleasanton at 4444 Black Ave. Visit www.lynnwood.org or call 925.846.0221.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Livermore Stake: Sunday services -1501 Hillcrest Ave. Sycamore Grove Ward 9:00 am; Windmill Springs Ward 10:30 am. 950 Mocho St.; Valley View Ward 9:00 am; Vineyard Hills Ward 10:30 am; Del Valle Branch (Spanish) first meeting 11:40, Sacrament meeting 12:40; 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 12:30.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org 925.828.1846.

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 a.m. Communion - 9:30 a.m., 925.906.9561, stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley - A Lighthouse to the world. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Parish Hall, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. For more information contact revharrriet@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://cslvlighthouse.org>.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, gives away clothing and other items every

Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4481 E. Avenue, Livermore.

Christ Church (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0665.

GraceWay Church worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at 1183 Quarry Lane in Pleasanton. Services include band-led worship music, Bible-based messages and Sunday School for pre-schoolers and elementary through high school students. Infant care is provided. www.gracewaylife.org or 925.846.4436.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church, meets at 1759 Locust St., Livermore. 925.667.1610. www.gracembc.com. Sunday School, 9:45 am; Sunday Worship, 11 am. Relevant and refreshing Bible teaching. Pastor: Jeff Barger.

Discovery Church of the Nazarene, 5862 Las Positas Road, Livermore. Pastor Curtis Lillie, 925.449.5256. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Gateway Church, 811 Marylin Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit gatewaylivermore.org or call Larry Trummel at 925.449.1444.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Livermore invites members of the community to Wednesday evening study, "Discovering the Bible." Currently, the subject is, "The Holy Spirit and His Work." The church address is 1759 Locust Street in Livermore. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 6:30 p.m., www.gracembc.com.

Celebration Church, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore. 925.455.4250. Sunday Service: 9:45 a.m.; children's programs: 9:45 a.m.; Spanish service at 1:00 p.m.; Jr. & Sr. High: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information or weekday Bible study and Prayer group schedules, go to www.celebrationcc.org.

B'rit Ahabah Messianic Congregation, worship every Saturday, 11 a.m. at 193 Contractors Ave., Livermore. Congregation and Jews and Gentiles. Liturgy presented in both Hebrew and English. Families are welcome. Blessing of bread and wine (or grape juice) follows each service and all are invited to Oneg, a fellowship meal.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews - Jewish Culture School The school-wide curriculum for the 2019-2020 (Jewish year 5780) will be "Jewish Ideas." It will cover topics like Jewish views of Justice, Learning, Family, Being a Mensch, Israel or Diaspora and the Jewish Community. Contact culturaljews@gmail.com, or call 510.384.8756 with any questions.

Milestones

Foothill Students Earn Record Number Of Awards at DECA Conference

Two-dozen students from Foothill High School in Pleasanton finished third or better in 27 categories last month at the DECA Northern California Career Development Conference in San Ramon, California.

Overall, 72 Foothill students tested their knowledge in rigorous, industry-validated exams on Friday, Jan. 27, followed by written presentations and role-playing on Saturday. They finished with a record 69 awards.

More than 1,500 students from various schools from the Northern California DECA region participated in a variety of real-life business scenarios that tested practical and theoretical skills involving marketing, business management and administration, hospitality, and tourism. The conference also allowed DECA students to network with professionals in many business fields.

DECA, formerly Distributive Education Clubs of America, is an international association of high school and college students and teachers. The High School Division includes 215,000 members in 3,375 schools.

Prior to the Northern California Career Development



Attendees of the DECA Northern California Career Development Conference in San Ramon, California

Conference, DECA students prepared for months, according to Angela Chen, director of training for the Foothill DECA. "Our members are not only hard-working and passionate about DECA, but have so much potential," Chen said.

The next challenge for the Foothill DECA students will be the DECA State Career Development Conference in Santa Clara, California, Feb. 28-March 2. Foothill DECA is seeking volunteers and donations to support their attendance at the state conference.

For more information, email foothilldeca@gmail.com.

Foothill DECA members to finish 1st through 3rd were:

Trinity Chang, Business Services Marketing, 1st

Kylie Maeda, Apparel and Accessories Marketing, 1st

Jacob Bolano, Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making, 1st

David Xue, Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making, 1st; Integrated Marketing Campaign Event, 1st

Angela Chen, Human Resource Management, 1st

Vishnu Nair, Entrepreneurship Innovation Plan, 1st

Ian Yoon, Entrepreneurship Innovation Plan, 1st

Mirra Kannappan, Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making, 1st

Parul Datta, Travel and Tourism Team Decision Making, 1st

Anushka Purohit, Principles of Finance, 1st

Kelsey Lem, Integrated Marketing Campaign Service, 1st

Dayeon Jeong, Integrated Marketing Campaign Service, 1st; Food Service Marketing, 1st

Kelsey Lem, Food Service Marketing, 2nd

Potkin Basseer, Marketing Management Team Decision Making, 2nd

John Morse, Marketing Management Team Decision Making, 2nd

Fariba Rahman, Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making, 2nd

Shaam Ranganathan, Buying and Merchandising Team Decision Making, 2nd

Karthik Vetrivalen, Automotive Service, 2nd

Eric Colin, Hospitality and Tourism Professional Selling Event, 2nd

Emma Lin, Integrated Marketing Campaign Event, 2nd

Jackson Gurule, Entrepreneurship Innovation Plan, 3rd

Raghav Thondikulam, Entrepreneurship Innovation Plan, 3rd

Cory Zhao, Entrepreneurship Innovation Plan, 3rd

Jesse Goodman, Entrepreneurship Team Decision Making, 3rd

Emma Swadley, Entrepreneurship Team Decision Making, 3rd

Local Youth Earns Scouting's Highest Rank

Samir Ramanathan, a member of Boy Scout Troop 924, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in Scouting.

Troop 924, sponsored by American Legion Post 237 in Pleasanton, will hold an Eagle Court of Honor for Ramanathan in April.

Ramanathan, the son of Sridhar Ramanathan and Gina Saldanha, of Livermore. He is a senior at The Quarry Lane School in Dublin, where he was a Bronze and Silver award winner in the National Spanish Honors Exam. He is on the school's robotics team, which went to the national competition, and has also earned a black belt in karate.



Samir Ramanathan

For his Eagle Scout community project, Ramanathan led a group of 25 scouts in constructing and painting picnic benches for the Taylor Family Foundation, a nonprofit organization in Livermore dedicated to providing camping experiences for children with disabilities. He also raised funds to cover the cost of all the supplies needed to assemble and paint the benches. He raised over \$1,500, more than was needed, and donated the extra funds to the Taylor Family Foundation.

Longtime Livermore Resident Celebrates 100th Birthday

Florence Gordon celebrated her 100th birthday with a family reunion dinner over the weekend, then celebrated again on Tuesday, Feb. 11, sharing cake and ice cream with friends and residents at Rosewood Gardens in Livermore.

She grew up in a small mill town outside of Mis-

soula, Montana, and attended the University of Montana, where met and married a physics student, Frank Gordon, in 1943. Married for 69 years, they had 3 children Marsha, Linette, and Deveny.

The family moved to Livermore in 1952 when the Lawrence Livermore

National Laboratory was created. Her children all attended Livermore schools and her daughters Marsha and Linette still reside in Livermore.

She is well known to longtime Livermore residents for her work at the Livermore School District. After retirement, she volun-

teered at the Kaiser gift shop for 10 years.

Over the years, she established the Livermore Play School and volunteered with the PTA, Girl Scouts, and the League of Women Voters.

She now resides at Rosewood Garden's Memory Care Center.

