

Foundation Launches Community Campaign

REGIONAL—Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF) has announced the launch of the Power of Collaboration Campaign - a special opportunity for local corporations and businesses to address critical, unmet community needs via high impact grantmaking to local nonprofits.

The campaign, in partnership with Amazon, is designed to raise \$500,000. "Our region is vibrant and rich in innovation, scientific and technical achievements, agriculture, natural beauty, and the arts," noted Kelly Bowers, Chief Executive Officer and President of Three Valleys Community Foundation. "Yet, submerged in our thriving suburbs, in the midst of great affluence, there are many individuals struggling to survive daily. We want to work collaboratively with our community to change that."

A 2021 Community Benefit Report from Stanford-Valley Health Care cited mental health, health care access, housing, homelessness and health/food as the top needs in the region. As an example, Bowers noted there are more than 300 unsheltered individuals in the Three Valleys, and in Livermore alone, approximately half of those individuals are children.

"These individuals represent what I refer to as 'the hidden homeless,'" she said. "It's my great hope that we can create grantmaking funds to address that and other top priority areas in 2023."

Created in November 2021, Three Valleys Community Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. (See FOUNDATION, page 9)

Gov. Newsom Vetoes Bauer-Kahan Bill To Protect Bees

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL—Gov. Gavin Newsom last week vetoed a bill by Tri-Valley Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) that would have limited the use of five pesticides that kill bees, birds and butterflies.

The veto disappointed supporters of the bill, which would have curbed the use of neonicotinoid, or neonic, pesticides in non-agricultural settings, such as home gardens and golf courses. The chemicals — imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran and acetamiprid — can be purchased online and in stores.

However, a national trade organization that represents manufacturers, formulators, distributors and other industry leaders involved with specialty pesticides and fertilizer said it welcomed the veto because the legislation was unnecessary.

In a statement explaining his veto, Newsom said Bauer-Kahan's bill, AB 2146, would have circumvented California's regulatory process of establishing restricted materials.

That job, Newsom said, belongs to the California (See BEES, page 3)



Students make their way down Village Parkway during Dublin High School's annual homecoming parade on Friday, Sept. 30. Each class presented its own float during the event, which was led by Dublin High cheerleaders and the Dublin High School Marching Band. Dublin middle and elementary school also participated in the celebration. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2022

Dublin

By Larry Altman

Dublin residents will find three candidates for two seats on their city council, but only one candidate for mayor when they fill out their ballots this year.

Mayor Melissa Hernandez, the first Latina elected as mayor of a Tri-Valley city, is seeking a second term in the position. No one challenged her.

Unlike Pleasanton and Livermore, Dublin continues with at-large elections, where voters from throughout the city vote for mayor and all city council seats.

Incumbent Vice Mayor Jean Josey is running for re-election, but Councilmember

(See DUBLIN, page 9)

Livermore

By Aly Brown

With Nov. 8 fast approaching, the six candidates seeking mayoral and council seats shared their backgrounds and perspectives on a variety of topics.

Two contenders are running for mayor (John Marchand and Mony Nop), while four will bid for council seats in District 1 (Evan Branning and Carol Wahrer) and District 2 (Ben Barrientos and Mel Chiong).

EXPERIENCE
What experience do you have that you believe will be an asset to the city council?

MAYORAL
Marchand: I have decades

(See LIVERMORE, page 12)

Pleasanton

By Larry Altman

About half of Pleasanton's residents will vote for a city council representative this year, as the city shifts from at-large elections to district elections.

All residents, however, will find Mayor Karla Brown on their ballots as she seeks a second term. Brown is running unopposed.

With Councilwoman Kathy Narum terming out, her seat was designated as District 1. Retired engineer Jeff Nibert, a Pleasanton Planning Commissioner, will face Dean Wallace, a legislative district director for state Assemblywoman

(See PLEASANTON, page 10)

Renowned Director Comes to Livermore

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Freelance stage director Rob Herriot has brought his special talents to the Tri-Valley to help stage the Livermore Valley Opera's performance of "The Elixir of Love" at Livermore's Bankhead theater.

Herriot, a Canadian [?], — has worked as a stage director since 1998, flying all over North America to bring characters to life against the backdrop of modern and classical opera.

When he began studying theater, his work on a directing project prompted Herriot's mentors to suggest his strengths lay in that direction. He was studying

singing at the time, but felt it wasn't the perfect fit for him and began seeking other opportunities. A friend brought him to San Diego, where he worked on directing for a season, then began to receive offers.

"It started snow balling, and I started getting bigger and bigger gigs and it just happened," Herriot said of his career trajectory.

Herriot's unique stage management process involves delving into the characters of an opera piece. Rather than having the music inspire his singers, he goes the other direction.

"I see the singing actor inciting the orchestra to play what we hear," Herriot said.

"It's completely the opposite of what many think. It's the singers' thoughts and actions that make the orchestra play ... I develop the psychology of the characters, figure out who they are and meld that to what the composer has given them to sing and what the composer has given the orchestra."

Herriot has worked on a variety of opera pieces in his 24 years of stage directing, but said staging "The Elixir of Love" in Livermore has been one of his favorites. The light romantic comedy composed by Gaetano Donizetti in 1832 has been a therapeutic project after two years of almost no produc-

(See DIRECTOR, page 16)

Local Youth Preserves Tribal Traditions

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — Randy Pico, Jr., has dedicated his life to honoring the traditions of his ancestors.

Known among the Native American community as a gifted performer of the traditional Grass Dance, Pico recently performed at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. The ceremony honored Native American actor and activist Sacheen Littlefeather, who declined Marlon Brando's 1973 Oscar on behalf of him as a protest against the treatment of native Americans in film. She passed away last Sunday.

"The Grass Dance is a tradition and very special to me," Randy, 17, said. "The Grass Dance, I do this for my tradition. It is who I am, Native American."

Randy's mother is Navajo, and his father is Luiseno.

Randy grew up in Livermore and began learning the Grass Dance as soon as he could walk. He has participated in Pow Wows all over California and the southwest and danced in many notable locations, including The Bankhead Theater. He has also performed for Golden State Warriors, the San Francisco Giants, the Stanford Women's Basketball team and Good Morning America.

"He's been a champion dancer many times," said his father, Randy Pico, Sr. "There's a reason Sacheen Littlefeather asked him to perform on stage and carry the Eagle Staff in the circle. He's noted for the way he carries the staff: it's a big responsibility."

Randy participated in the ceremony that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences held on Sept. 17 at the new Academy

Museum in Los Angeles. The event was created as a way to apologize to Littlefeather for the treatment she received after she spoke on behalf of Brando in 1973 when he won the Best Actor award for The Godfather and declined it in order to protest Hollywood's depiction of Native Americans.

Littlefeather received a mixed reaction from the audience, and negative pressure from the evening's producers. She felt that she was thereafter blacklisted in Hollywood. The ceremony Pico danced in — coupled with a formal apology from former academy president David Rubin — was meant to promote healing and move the conversation between Native Americans and Hollywood forward.

Littlefeather knew Randy because she served as a judge in dance competi-

(See TRADITIONS, page 15)

Stoneridge Mall Conversion Takes First Public Steps

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — Over 150 residents participated in the first Stoneridge Framework community meeting last week, where the public's thoughts around a possible Stoneridge Mall housing project began to organize under some larger themes, such as safety, traffic, and competition with the city's downtown.

Held by the planning commission on Sep. 26, the virtual meeting invited public input on the possibility of repurposing some of the mall property to build 1,300 to 1,800 housing units around a core retail space.

"The framework, in a nutshell, is a focused planning effort to provide initial policy guidance (and) conceptual planning for Stoneridge Mall," said Director of Community Development Ellen Clark.

The city council voted last month to launch the exploration process in light of several recent developments favoring the mall's conversion.

"We've seen a number of changes and shifts that start to suggest that this is really a critical moment for the mall," said Clark. "Those include some changes over the last couple of years in the retail environment, more broadly in the economy that supports retail activity — preferences among consumers about where and how they shop."

New ownership at the JCPenney and Nordstrom sites at a time when Pleasanton is struggling to place an additional 5,965 state-mandated housing units in the city also spurred interest in the project.

"(This process) is really being motivated and driven by the property owners

(See MALL, page 13)

Fewer Homes, More Golf Possible at SCS Project

By David Jen

DUBLIN — Plans for the SCS Dublin project continued at the Sep. 27 planning commission meeting. Developer Mission Valley Properties (MVP) introduced the possibility of less housing and a golf complex ahead of a commission vote later this month.

The project seeks to implement a preferred vision approved by the city council in February that includes a mix of entry-level, affordable and family housing, along with shops, restaurants and open green space. At the heart of the 76-acre project lies an integrated town square concept, with sweeping views of Mt. Diablo and a variety of recreational activities.

"(The project's) first phase, I think, was that preferred vision and trying to arrive at kind of a direction, and some attempt to arrive at consensus as much as possible," said Kevin Fryer, MVP vice president. "And the second step in that process starts tonight, which is

looking to align the general plan and zoning with that preferred vision."

Fryer presented a plan that proposed [?] 50 fewer market-rate housing units than the adopted plan, replacing a set of townhouses on the southwest corner of Brannigan Street and Dublin Boulevard with a hotel. The new plan would include a total of 520 to 600 units instead of the previous 570 to 650 units.

A possible 80,000 square-foot Topgolf location — a high-tech golf game paired with food, drinks and music — also made its first SCS appearance in Fryer's latest plan, positioned at the southern end of the property, adjacent to the I-580.

Residents hesitated to welcome such a business at the neighborhood's entrance.

"There's a golf range just on the next exit on El Charro," said Shirley Lewandowski. "And it's not a very attractive looking driving range."

Although the driving range would use astroturf

(See SCS, page 16)



Livermore resident Randy Pico, Jr., foreground, performed at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures ceremony last month honoring Native American actress and activist Sacheen Littlefeather, back row, left. Littlefeather was blackballed by the industry after she appeared on behalf of Marlon Brando at the 1973 Academy Awards where he declined the Best Actor Oscar for his role in The Godfather in protest of the treatment of Native Americans in film. (Photo courtesy of Randy Pico, Jr.)

PET OF THE WEEK



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(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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A celebration of Philippine culture and heritage took place at the Bankhead Plaza on Sunday, Oct. 2. Hosted by the Livermore Valley Arts Center, Las Positas College and the Livermore Filipino-American Organization, the event was designed to promote, preserve and embrace the Philippine culture. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Wine Auction Raises \$460,000 For Nonprofits

The annual Livermore Valley Wine Auction in September raised \$460,000 for nonprofit organizations that support the wellbeing of children, including \$212,000 from the live auction, according to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation.

The foundation said more than \$70,000 went to the early literacy program at the Boys & Girls Club of Tracy. Other beneficiaries included Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a partner organization with Crosswinds Church in Livermore that builds bunk beds

for kids in Alameda County who might otherwise sleep on the floor; the Quest Science Center in Livermore; and the George Mark Children's House in San Leandro, a pediatric care center for children with serious illnesses. The amount each organization received was not announced.

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Livermore Actor Co-stars With Zac Efron

By Randy Myers
Bay City News Foundation

There's a lot brewing when it comes to Livermore native and actor Kyle Allen.

His latest effort is playing opposite Zac Efron in a small but essential role in Peter Farrelly's aptly titled "The Greatest Beer Run Ever," a follow-up to the director's Oscar-winning "Green Book."

Allen can also be seen next month as Shakespeare's ill-fated romantic "Romeo" in "Rosaline," based on the 2012 young-adult novel "When You Were Mine," set to begin streaming on Hulu Oct. 14. The former ballet dancer is also transforming

his body into a musclebound He-Man for Netflix's "Masters of the Universe," due out next year.

While Allen's portrayal of real-life former American soldier Bobby Pappas in "The Greatest Beer Run Ever" might not be extensive, he makes the most of it. In this Apple TV+ dramedy, based on a true story, New Yorker Chickie Donohue (Efron) decides to hand-deliver cans of beer to his former drinking buddies fighting in the Vietnam War. He carries out his unlikely mission, but while on his journey, he begins to question how the government is portraying the war and

begins to understand why protesters are calling for an end to the conflict.

Russell Crowe co-stars as an intrepid Look magazine photojournalist whom Donohue meets, while Bill Murray has a brief cameo as a bartender at the watering hole where Donohue's friends gathered in New York.

"The Greatest Beer Run" isn't a perfect film by any means, but it is enjoyable and hints of greater things ahead for Allen. In select theaters now and available on Apple TV+.

Highlights of Allen's career thus far include a starring role opposite the charismatic Joey King in the Netflix supernatural romantic drama "The In Between," released in February. The less said the better about the inner workings of this PG-rated, "Ghost-like" tearjerker, but the two demonstrate chemistry as lovebirds who not only share a passion for movies, but for gazing into each other's eyes with passion. A tragic accident cuts short the romance, but their love lives on in this well-made, under-the-radar adaptation of a 2021 young adult novel by Marc Klein.

Another highlight in the 27-year-old's young career was working with Steven Spielberg on last year's re-

make of "West Side Story." Allen's background in dance and acrobatics were put to good use in Spielberg's redo, with Allen playing the role of Balkan, a member of the Jets in the "Gee Officer Krupke!" number.

Another role that spotlighted Allen's likable romantic qualities and his skill at choreographed movement was as Mark in 2021's "The Map of Tiny Perfect Things," an Amazon Prime romcom co-starring Kathryn Newton.

Based on a short story by Lev Grossman, the film takes a "Groundhog Day" premise and makes it a parable on appreciating life's little moments before they all disappear. It showcases Allen's gift for physical comedy in a tightly choreographed opening sequence in which teenager Mark catches objects, rides a bike, and hops on and off things with Buster Keaton-like timing. Now available on Amazon Prime.

Viewers can also catch Allen in this year's Kyra Sedgwick-directed romantic comedy "Space Oddity," in a supporting role in the 2020 tearjerker "All My Life" with "Glee's" Harry Shum Jr. and Jessica Rothe, in the 2018 season of "American Horror Story" and in the TV series "The Path" from 2016 to 2018.

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Livermore native and actor Kyle Allen, center, is starring opposite Zac Efron in a supporting role in the recently released movie "The Greatest Beer Run Ever." (Photo courtesy of Kyle Allen)

Additional Sexual Abuse Charges Filed Against FCI Dublin Correctional Officer

By Larry Altman

A former correctional officer charged last year with sexually abusing a female inmate at the Federal Correctional Institute Dublin (FCI Dublin) faces new allegations in connection with two other prisoners.

John Russell Bellhouse, 39, of Pleasanton, originally accused in December, now faces a six-count Grand Jury indictment that could send him to prison for 38 years, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced.

"The additional charges unsealed (Friday) demonstrate the priority the Department of Justice has placed on prosecuting cases of sexual misconduct by Bureau of Prison employees," Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said in a statement. "We have no tolerance for correction officers who betray the trust placed in them to safely and humanely care for those in their custody."

Bellhouse, who worked as the prison's safety administrator until he was placed on leave in March 2021 amid an investigation, allegedly expressed interest in an inmate in 2020, calling her "girlfriend," giving her earrings and allowing her to use an office phone in violation of prison rules.

Prosecutors allege Bellhouse touched the inmate sexually and twice engaged in oral sex with her in his office. Sexual relationships between inmates and correctional officers are illegal.

A federal grand jury handed down an indictment in the case in February, but added additional charges last week. The superseding indictment expanded the charges against Bellhouse to three sexual assault counts involving the inmate identified as "victim 1." Two counts allege Bellhouse sexually abused her and a third accuses him of engag-

ing in abusive sexual contact with her.

The updated indictment added more counts that accuse Bellhouse of sexually abusing two other female inmates under Bellhouse's supervision. The alleged crimes occurred between May and December 2020 in the FCI Dublin Camp Safety Office.

"(Bellhouse) had a fundamental responsibility to care for the welfare of inmates in his custody and maintain the good order of FCI Dublin," FBI San Francisco Special Agent in Charge Robert Tripp said in a statement. "The additional charges allege the defendant did neither, but instead abused his powers and took advantage of the women for whose care he was responsible."

The new indictment alleges two counts of sexual abuse of a ward, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison. Bellhouse also is charged with four counts of sexually abusive contact. Each of those has a maxi-

mum sentence of two years.

Bellhouse is scheduled for a court appearance in U.S. District Court in Oakland on Oct. 13. U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers scheduled Bellhouse's trial for June 5.

The indictment continues a string of shocking accounts of how female inmates were sexually mistreated by FCI Dublin officials in the last few years. The stories drew the attention of Senate and House Judiciary Committee members, including U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, a Democrat who represents Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

A low-security women's institution with about 635 prisoners, FCI Dublin is part of the broader Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), which runs more than 130 institutions housing nearly 15,000 inmates nationwide.

In the last few years, a disturbing array of problems involving misconduct, contraband and escapes has plagued the federal prison system with FCI Dublin repeatedly making headlines.

The problems resulted in demands for BOP Director Michael Carvajal to resign. In August, the new director, Collette Peters, vowed to work with Thahesha Jusino, a new warden at FCI Dublin, to change the toxic culture at the Dublin facility.

In August, federal prosecutors upgraded — for a third time — sexual abuse against FCI Dublin's former warden, Ray J. Garcia, who is scheduled for trial in November in U.S. District Court in Oakland.

Garcia, 55, is charged with abusing three female prisoners while working as associate warden and, after his promotion to warden, from 2018 to 2021.

Besides Garcia, three other guards and a chaplain who worked at FCI Dublin were charged with sex offenses involving inmates in the last few years.

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Bankhead Theater Hosts Modern Expressionism Exhibit

Livermore Valley Arts is sponsoring an exhibit of modern expressionist works

in the Bankhead Theater's UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery now through Dec. 4.

Expressionism began in the early 20th century as artists such as Edvard Munch,

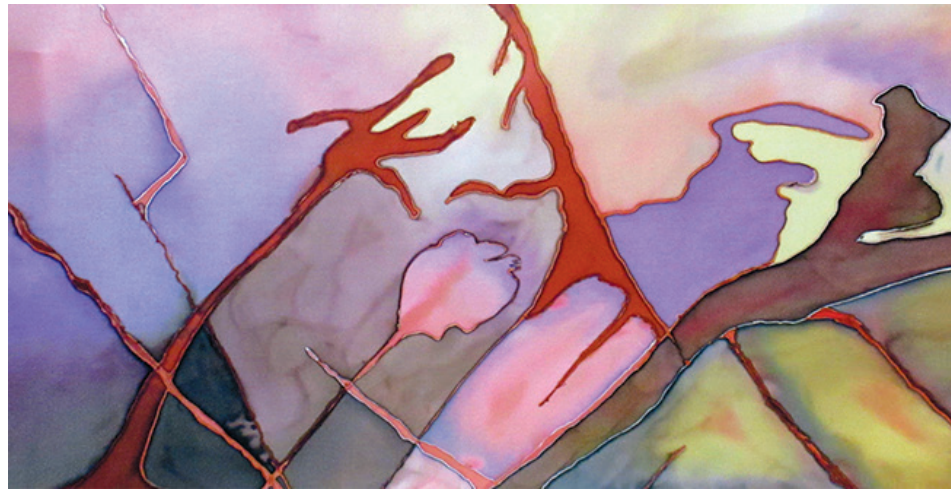
Vincent van Gogh, and Henri Matisse began to portray the world from a subjective, rather than objective perspective, using intense colors and often radically distorting their subjects for emotional effect.

The exhibit, "Shape, Form, and Color: Modern Expressionism," will include the works of local and regional artists, including Joan Miro and Alexander Calder. The Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, is also hosting an exhibit by abstract artist Ghada Jamal in the Founders Room.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Jamal's work depicts the Middle Eastern landscape in both turbulent and peaceful

times.

Ghada has had nine solo shows in Beirut and participated in several group shows, including "The Road to Peace: Paintings in Times of War, 1975-1990" at the Beirut Art Center. Her work is also on permanent display at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC.



A modern expressionist art exhibit sponsored by Livermore Valley Arts is on display at the Bankhead Theater now through Dec. 4. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Valley Arts)

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Mony Nop to Host Two Campaign Events in Oct.

Livermore mayoral candidate Mony Nop is hosting two campaign events this month.

Livermore Feeds Ukraine With Mony Nop and Kids Against Hunger Bay Area

This event will take place on Sunday, Oct. 9, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Liv-

ermore. The cost is \$20 per volunteer (ages 10+). Please register for this event at bit.ly/3BPVAVM.

Meet & Greet with Candidate, Mony Nop

Voters can voice their opinions on a variety of issues during Nop's upcoming Meet and Greet event. "This event is about hearing your

thoughts and concerns for the future of Livermore. Before you make your decision about who your next mayor is, please attend this event so you can hear directly from me," Nop stated.

Attend the Meet & Greet to hear more of Mony's plan for Livermore on Thursday, Oct. 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Legacy Appliances, 5 E.

Airway Blvd. in Livermore. The event is free to attend. Light appetizers and wine will be provided. Please RSVP to this event at bit.ly/3e0aaRq.

For further information, please contact: Sophie Mao, Communications Director (209) 420-0287, or info@monyformayor.com.

Supergroup SF to Perform in Benefit Concert

Supergroup SF will headline a benefit concert for Harmony & Healing, a hospital music charity, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore at 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 6.

Both the charity and the band, which features former members of legendary rock groups, were formed by David Victor, who played guitar for the group Boston from 2012 to 2015. Supergroup

SF performs hits from many of the Bay Area's best-known bands, including Santana, Third Eye Blind, Journey, Jefferson Starship, and Creedence Clearwater Revival.

Other members of Supergroup SF include Darby Gould, former vocalist with Jefferson Starship and Big Brother & The Holding Company; Michael Frowein, former Lynch Mob drummer; and Brad Lang,

former bassist with Y&TV. They will be joined by Tom Lindsay, former lead vocalist for Santana, and Kevin Cadogan, guitarist with Third Eye Blind, for the Bankhead benefit.

According to the Harmony & Healing website, Victor was inspired to form the nonprofit after being asked to perform for patients at the Miller Children's Hospital in Long Beach when he was touring with

Boston. The mission of the nonprofit, based in San Ramon, is to play live music for hospital and hospice patients that "resonates in their souls, brings them solace, and gives them hope for tomorrow."

Supergroup SF also played a benefit for the charity at the Bankhead, 2400 First St., in November 2021. Tickets for the benefit concert are available at livermorearts.org.

BEES

(Continued from first page)

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), which "has a mission to protect human health and the environment from adverse impacts of pesticides by regulating sales and use and fostering reduced-risk pest management."

"DPR has already taken significant steps to restrict neonicotinoid uses, based on scientific review and documented uses that pose the greatest risks to pollinators and human health," Newsom wrote. "The de-

hind the rest of the world in protecting pollinators and human health," she said. "The European Union, New Jersey and Maine have already eliminated the home use targeted by AB 2146. The bill was well balanced, only limiting applications of neonicotinoids in circumstances where they were already unnecessary. These pesticides already pollute over 90% of Southern California urban surface water. They have killed millions of bees

42% of their colonies last year. Bees are needed to pollinate crops, including strawberries and almonds, which are critical to the state's economy.

Studies, proponents said, also showed neonicotinoids were linked to a decline of European bees and about 1,600 other varieties of bees, birds, monarch butterflies and insects.

Laura Deehan, state director of Environment California, said her organization was "disappointed that the governor chose to veto this bill to save the bees."

"The reality is that California needs to move with urgency to protect our pollinators," Deehan said. "Other states have acted in a similar fashion, and California was poised to be the eighth to do so."

Deehan said she hopes the DPR implements the restrictions in Bauer-Kahan's bill.

"The silver lining here is that in his veto message, the governor calls on his Department of Pesticide Regulation to issue rules in the coming year to address non-agricultural uses of neonics," Deehan said. "Of course that lining assumes the rules will be well-crafted and have teeth."

Deehan said her organization will continue to advocate for pollinators until

the necessary protections are in place.

"We came close, and we may still get a victory for the bees in the coming year," she said.

In a statement, Megan J. Provost, president of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment,) said Newsom's veto acknowledged that pesticide evaluations should be conducted by California's DPR.

"California's pesticide regulatory program is scientifically rigorous with the DPR having reviewed and continued to register neonicotinoid-based products for use in urban and suburban settings," Provost said. "Its scientific determinations mean that products can be used effectively and safely when applied according to label directions.

"Existing law," Provost continued, "gives DPR's regulators broad authority to evaluate the availability and use status of any pesticide product at any time for a range of safety and scientific reasons, so pesticide-specific legislation that supersedes this process is unnecessary."

"The reality is that California needs to move with urgency to protect our pollinators."

— Laura Deehan, Director of Environment California

partment is finalizing regulations on the agricultural use of neonicotinoids and will begin the process of evaluating non-agricultural uses next year."

Bauer-Kahan said she was "deeply disappointed" by the governor's veto.

"Our pollinators are dying," Bauer-Kahan said. "We know the cause, and it is past time to take action."

Bauer-Kahan said the DPR has had ample evidence since 2009 to review the non-agricultural use of neonicotinoids.

"We are already far be-

and butterflies."

Bauer-Kahan said she supports Newsom's direction to the regulator to take on the issue and said she will do everything in her power to ensure comprehensive and quick action from DPR.

"I hope that our state moves quickly to create smart, proven policies to protect our bees, butterflies, and biodiversity," she said.

Bauer-Kahan and environmental groups supporting the bill said California's beekeepers lost nearly

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EDITORIAL

Bueno, Prusso and Drouin for LVJUSD Board

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) has three open seats in their at-large election this November. There are nine contenders vying for the spots, three incumbents and six newcomers.

The Independent endorses Board President Craig Bueno, trustee Emily Prusso, and first-time candidate Dr. Steven Drouin.

Given the recent trials education faced during the pandemic, and the post-COVID challenges that surely lie ahead as it pertains to funding, classroom curriculum and enrollment, a proven team is essential to ensuring the school community's success now and into the future.

During his eight years on the board, Bueno consistently supported projects that worked to secure the modernization of much-needed school facilities projects. He says if re-elected, it will remain his goal to see the school projects through, which will enhance the

educational experience for students. Bueno says he wants to continue his work to create equity in education by increasing funding for special education and state-funded average daily attendance.

Prusso is seeking a second term on the board with a focus on closing the achievement gap for students in all areas, but specifically math and language arts. Prusso said she would accomplish that goal by simplifying programs, focusing on educational basics and building a strong foundation in reading, math and science. In addition, she would develop a culture that embraces life skills and critical thinking.

Drouin, an associate professor in Education at CSU Stanislaus and married father of two daughters in the LVJUSD, says he is committed to ensuring that all students in the school community have access to a high quality, rigorous and relevant education. His years in education will serve him in dealing with the

needs of teachers, as well as students. He says he will work with the board and community members to create a safe and thriving school environment. He was also on the Measure G parcel tax oversight committee, and served on Joe Michell's school site council committee.

But one of the most important factors the candidates we endorse bring to the table is their support for the passage of the district's much-needed Measure G. Voters will have to decide on the \$450 million general obligation facility bond in the upcoming election, its approval will be critical to fund repairs and upgrades to classrooms and district facilities. While a few of the new candidates seem to support the measure, many do not, and the denial of the bond, while not a board decision, is indicative of the trustee's goals and plans for the district's future.

In order to keep the LVJUSD moving forward and in the right direction.

Nibert, Testa for Pleasanton City Council

Pleasanton voters will have their first opportunity to choose city council members under the new district-based election process. On Nov. 8, they will choose their candidates from District 1 and District 3.

District 1 encompasses the northwest portion of the city and for representation there, The Independent supports Jeff Nibert. With the terming out of incumbent Kathy Narum, the choice of Nibert is a clear one. The longtime Pleasanton resident and planning commissioner comes with a platform of experience and a pledge to focus on the environment, safer drinking water, a top topic for many residents in the area, and controlled and measured growth. He also supports affordable housing and the maintaining of Pleasanton's hometown charm and character. With his corporate background and experience managing multi-million-dollar project budgets, along with his involvement in local youth, church and civic groups, Nibert

would bring a well-rounded and grounded presence to the council. As a longtime resident, he understands and appreciates the need to balance the housing needs of the city while maintaining Pleasanton's community character and smalltown appeal.

District 3, the southwest corner of town, has three challengers, but incumbent Julie Testa is the best choice. Testa has long been the voice of change on the council and is passionate about the issues facing Pleasanton. She is equally committed to finding answers to the sometimes-difficult questions including mental health, housing and quality of life issues. The longtime resident has raised her family in Pleasanton and continues to speak to the history of the city and its hometown feel, while moving into the future. She is also an advocate for conservation and the preservation of open space.

Testa said key issues for the city will continue to be maintaining water quality and avail-

ability; implementing the city's Climate Action Plan, keeping crime down and dealing with the state's "unachievable unfunded housing mandates." She says she is committed to reasonable growth with a focus on low-income housing.

Both Testa and Nibert have proven track records of how they function on a governing body and with their history of voting in their current roles within city government.

Running unopposed for a second term as mayor, The Independent continues to support Karla Brown and her vision for Pleasanton. Her tireless commitment to city issues, collaborative work culture with her fellow councilmembers and city staff, all point to solid leadership. This is evidenced in her handling of the pandemic, relentless Housing Element changes, water safety issues and some challenging budget negotiations. She will no doubt continue to serve the city and its residents well in the coming term.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

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Is Marchand Ethical?

Deborah McQueen, Livermore

Mayor Marchand has a history of fibbing (see "Mr. Fibber," The Independent, 6-16-2022). The public dislikes politicians who deceive them. Marchand is a man who broadly boasts, "My integrity is intact," when in reality, it's demonstrably absent. Marchand engaged in deceptive behavior on his 2018 campaign forms regarding the dubious donation from the Senior Managing Director of Legacy Partners (see "Checks, Lies, and Campaign Forms," The Independent, 11-25-2021), and he also failed to report in-kind donations from At-

titude Aviation during that same period. Two articles ("Marchand's Campaign Hosts Kickoff Event," The Independent, 5-17-2022, and "Livermore's Marchand, aka the mayor of Seville, seeks re-election," Pleasanton Weekly, 6-20-2018) state that Attitude Aviation hosted Marchand as part of an opening campaign kick-off party. However, Marchand's 2018 campaign disclosure forms never listed this 'in-kind' donation. The monetary value of a private hanger, food, beverages, and advertising is well into the several thousands, yet Marchand chose not to disclose this information on his campaign forms. Marchand misrepresented the donation from Eichler, and failed to report the in-kind donation from Attitude Aviation. Marchand's actions violate California's political donation disclosure law. To imply that these actions are merely 'mistakes' strains credulity.

Adding to Marchand's questionable tactics are the curious donations from two female staffers affiliated with Attitude Aviation, who recently donated nearly \$5K each to Marchand's 2022 political campaign. Generally, small business administrative assistants and office managers neither possess the financial resources nor are motivated to donate thousands of dollars to local political campaigns, especially since they live in Danville, not Livermore. Attitude Aviation's owner Sam Rivinius donated \$10,000 to Woerner's 2020 campaign, but due to new campaign donation restrictions, he is no longer allowed to donate more than \$4,900. Conveniently, his two staffers handled that problem nicely for him. Rivinius knows how to buy influence with the right

people and his donations to Marchand are undoubtedly laced with expectations for political favoritism in his dealings with future airport policies.

Einstein stated, "Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted in important affairs." The more significant differences between Marchand, a career politician, and Momy Nop, both of whom are running for Mayor, are ones of ethics. If left unchecked, Marchand will most assuredly destroy Livermore's beautiful downtown. The citizens can still make a course correction by voting for Momy Nop as Mayor, and Ben Barrientos and Carol Wahrer for City Council in November.

Steven Drouin for LVJUSD Board of Education Shelley Casey, Pleasanton

In November, the Livermore community will have an opportunity to vote for three open seats on LVJUSD's Board of Education. I believe this is the right time to consider a new trustee who will bring a much-needed perspective to our board.

I had an opportunity to meet with Steven recently, and what impresses me most is his dedication to his career of teaching and his students. As an associate professor at CSU Stanislaus, he is now teaching teachers, counselors and administrators who are seeking higher education. He is committed to making our public school's spaces where teachers and credentialed staff are supported as respected professionals. His vast experience across many public school settings gives him a unique and valuable perspective on complex educational systems.

When students have spaces where they feel they belong, they are engaged and are, in turn, more likely to be successful. Steven has an understanding of students of all abilities and knows we need to create spaces where students can receive the support they need to meet their own personal and educational goals.

As a registered nurse, I have great respect for Steven's dedication to research and utilization of

evidence-based practices. Research should support and inform the services we provide, from the classroom via our teachers to mental health services, from our counselors and psychologists to health care services from our registered nurses and speech therapy from our speech and language pathologists. Each of these credentialed staff member groups are represented by the Livermore Education Association (LEA), that has endorsed Steven. Adding scholar Steven Drouin to our Board of Trustees, along with our LEA endorsed incumbents Craig Bueno and Emily Prusso, will ensure a bright future for our community and our students.

Virginia Redneck Thoughts - Auto Upholstery and Prop 30 Bill Stevens, Livermore

I received a refund check from Tri Vally Auto Interiors today. It is sitting in front of me right now. I had a tear in my 2018 ¾ ton Chevy Silverado PU driver's seat. TVALI was the only firm in the Tri Valley that could fix it. They replaced the bottom portion of my seat cover. I talked to the owner the day of the repair. Very nice, personable and anal guy, who was working on a 1957 car, which is two years older than me. His helper that repaired my chair was gruff and to the point. I do not mind that since I am the same. Bottom line is, they did a great job on my truck seat.

Gavin is trumping No to Prop 30. From what I read, and not online, I could be wrong. It is a tax on the super-rich to fund climate change pork barrel. Lyft drivers would benefit with tax credits on electric cars, which Lyft could claim as being green. But in reality, they are fighting employee vs. contractor law. These rich folks are the ones that would spend money on campaigns. And, Gavin wants their money, so yes, he is running for president. I am very anti-Gavin, but if the radical right puts up a Trumpster, I do not know which way I would vote. But, it would not matter in Cali anyways. Folks with my leanings are in short supply in Cali. I will not

cash the refund check. They did a great job and their honesty is refreshing in today's world.

Bad Experience with Marchand Bianca Covarelli Save the Hill - Livermore

It's important to remember ex-Mayor Marchand was in office when the illegal Environmental Impact Report was certified, and an illegal approval was entered on the Garaventa Hill proposed housing project. The Hill is sandwiched between Vasco and Laughlin Roads. This is highly environmentally sensitive land with endangered species habitats.

As a result of his actions, over the next three years, the City was sued, lost a landmark case that set a legal precedent and is now California "case law" using Marchand and Council's actions as an example of what not to do. This is what his version of "success" gets us.

For over a decade, my personal experience trying to reason with the ex-mayor and council fell on deaf ears. I trusted my intuition that their faulty FEIR certification and housing project were not lawful. The Appellate Court overturned the Superior Court's ruling and overwhelmingly decided the City's actions were unlawful. The California Supreme Court upheld that judgment. This ruling is telling and a testament to the need for transparency.

After exhausting communications with the Marchand City Council, the City fought the case on behalf of the developer, instead of standing firm with the residents. The time, expense, and resources spent by the City to defend their erroneous actions over the last three years was appalling.

To say it was "a done deal" before it was actually a done deal was misleading and calculating. Calling the lawsuit "frivolous", as I've heard the Council mention, is ignorant at best. It's the Law - to be honored.

It's not just this issue. Marchand's Council also performed poorly on city-wide decisions involving traffic congestion, inadequate parking, affordable housing inventory, etc. Their preferred replace-

ments will guarantee more of the same.

Is this the leadership we want going forward? Or do we want a new vision, a new perspective and a new Mayor and Council who operate with transparency, integrity, honor and are open to listening to the collective while in service to us? My intuition led me before and it's guiding me powerfully again. That's why I'm voting for Momy for Mayor. He has brilliant visions for Livermore. He is in favor of honoring the court ruling and using existing conservation funds to save and preserve The Hill, as are Ben Barrientos and Carol Wahrer. They are the new choice for resolving complex issues with fresh new vision.

Livermore's Tipping Point Greg Scott, Livermore

Our choice in Livermore is this: Either we change the City Council so that it listens to citizens and comes up with better solutions, or we continue with - and reinforce - the political machine that is going to destroy the character of Livermore.

Go stand at the northwest corner of "L" and First Streets and think about the "small town feel" that citizens want, while staring at the monstrous Legacy development. Add to this, the downtown, 4-story Eden Housing project on the old Lucky site, along with a parking garage. The heritage and connection with the Livermore community are not supported by the fallacious statements and actions of the current city council.

One city councilman at the last council meeting said that the opposition to the downtown Eden Housing Project is small. What is the evidence for this when over 8,000 referendum signatures were collected three days early? Most resident signature gatherers found that a high percentage of those with whom they spoke signed the referendum - 80% in many cases.

And a city councilwoman stated that those of us who are against the location of the Eden Housing Project are against housing. Until recently, I had been homeless in this community for (See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

over 6 1/2 years and I am against housing? I went through last winter in a tent without any heat, avoiding the inflated price of propane, because I am against housing? I am not a masochist. The case is simply that the downtown location of the Eden Housing Project is wrong for this community. The core downtown stage is not the place for those who have experienced the heightened vulnerability, shame and trauma of homelessness.

Why would we want to display such a socioeconomic class divide in downtown Livermore? The Legacy development across the street has no affordable housing units. Homeless units will be provided in the Eden project and the city will do police sweeps to remove homeless from the reduced neighboring Veter-

an's Park?

We can have rational, inclusive discussions on issues like this or not. Apparently, with the present Livermore City Council, we can't. We need a change in the Livermore City Council to solve the homeless and housing problem with a more comprehensive, creative approach than the current council and their supporters have been willing to consider. This community will get better listening and solutions by electing Nop, Wahrer and Barrientos.

**Yes, on Measure P
John Stein, Livermore**

30 years ago, I helped in the creation of the successful South Livermore Valley Plan that enhanced Livermore's historic wine region and limited urban sprawl. As part of that plan, we limited sanitary sewer ser-

vice to only the uses within the city limits. Things change, the state no longer allows wineries, tasting rooms, restaurants and bed and breakfasts to use septic systems. On-site sales and tourism are essential to the economic success of existing and future wineries and businesses that support the vineyards and other agricultural uses. To allow these businesses to continue a sewer line to serve the uses allowed by the South Livermore Valley Plan is urgently needed.

The vineyards and orchards protect open space, limit the chance of urban sprawl, provide jobs and add a sense of place to our fine community. To ensure that Livermore's heritage as wine country continues to succeed, please join me in voting YES on Measure P. Thank you.

**Livermore Needs a Council That Listens
Jean King, Livermore**

In 2017 the council asked for citizen input on the re-development of the downtown.

The citizens responded. During the outreach process the citizens listed housing as the very last of the 10 priorities for the downtown. The council did not listen.

Instead, the council's plan puts housing in the very center of the city owned property.

The citizens responded. They worked with referendums and initiatives to move the housing and get a public park on the land that was owned by the city in the center of our town.

Again, the council did not listen.

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

GRANADA SUPPORTERS
BINGO!
PRESENTS A...
FAMILY FUN NIGHT
FRIDAY OCTOBER 21
DOORS OPEN AT 5 PM / GAMES BEGIN AT 6:30 PM
ALL AGES WELCOME

Play for prize baskets which will be assembled by Granada SSGN 2023 / Ten games minimum
\$10 PER PERSON
(\$5 from each ticket goes towards Granada SSGN 2023)
Price includes: One Pack, a Halloween dauber, dinner (Hot Dog, Chips, drink, and ice cream)

BONUS
Granada Supporters Bingo will donate \$500 to the PTA/PTO/School with the most attendance. Ballots will be included in Buy-Inpacks. Check will be presented that night.

For information or to purchase tickets contact Ian Murphy at 925-443-1633 or IMurphy@SBCCGlobal.Net
Tickets will also be available at the door.
Inside the Student Union at Granada: 400 Wall Street

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To respect our Democracy and Save Our Downtown The Choice is Clear

Mony, Carol and Ben Supported the Right of Livermore Voters to Decide on the Referendum to Stop the Early Sale of Land to Eden Housing.



Carol Wahrer
for City Council (District 1)



Mony Nop
for Mayor



Ben Barrientos
for City Council (District 2)

Mony, Carol and Ben were leaders in the referendum to stop the City Council from selling land to Eden Housing before the election. They fought to have the city count the 8,000 signatures on the referendum and let Livermore voters decide this critical issue.

Vote for Mony Nop, Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos. They respect democracy and will pursue the options to relocate Eden Housing. This fight is not over!



Branning, Marchand and Chiong did not back the referendum, did not fight to have the city count the signatures and did not support having Livermore voters decide this critical issue.

Vote for Mony, Carol and Ben for City Council!

Ad paid for by Take Back Livermore. Supporting Nop & Opposing Marchand for Livermore Mayor 2022. Supporting Barrientos (District 2) & Wahrer (District 1) & Opposing Chiong (District 2) & Branning (District 1) for Livermore City Council 2022.
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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

They moved ahead with a revised plan for 2 larger 4-story housing units with less open space.

The citizens responded. They realized how bad 4-story units were when the 222-unit Legacy housing was being built on the Groth property on L street. That was not what they wanted for the character of the downtown. A lawsuit was filed.

Again, the council did not listen.

Instead, the council voted to sell the land to Eden Housing using funds loaned by the city.

The citizens responded. They signed the Move Eden Housing petition asking to have a public vote on the Eden Housing.

Again, the council did not listen.

Instead, the council refused to certify the signatures to put it on the ballot and rushed to sell the property before a new council could be elected.

The citizens are again responding.

Livermore needs a council that listens to its citizens.

Although the city has sold its property to Eden, there are ways for a new council majority to relocate the Eden development.

To make that happen, we must elect Mony Nop, Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos.

Elections Have Consequences

Anthony Beckett, Pleasanton

Once again, I feel the need to remind voters that elections have consequences. The citizens of Livermore are painfully coming to terms with this. On a state/regional level we need to use this opportunity to attempt to fix things before it's too late (although some have already decided it's too late). Please do not give Gavin Newsom another chance. He has had years to fix things and literally nothing has changed for the better in the time he's been in office. Californians are fleeing the state. The same can be said about Eric Swalwell. His tomfoolery has placed our nation at risk and bruised our democracy. Please set him free.

Lastly, and this is probably more important than the others I mentioned above, do not give Pamela Price the opportunity to destroy the justice system in Alameda County. As we have seen in LA and SF, it's a hard road back to reality after an activist DA is elected. Vote for Terry Wiley. Please.

You Can Fight City Hall

Michael Ferrucci, Livermore

They say you can't fight City Hall. I disagree.

The current Council has decided to substantially subsidize Eden Housing's acquisition of City owned property in the center of town, including a loan of millions of taxpayer dollars. This transaction is the center of the discontent and frustration of thousands of Livermore residents, as well as myself.

My support for a downtown park in the proposed Eden location comes from my childhood experience in San Francisco. My father was the manager of Union Square Garage. The park at Union Square was truly the city's center.

Thanks to my father, I was employed by the garage during my high school and college days living in San Francisco. It was always intriguing to me that Union Square, this remarkable oasis in the City's bustling retail area, did not succumb to development. Housing, or another downtown hotel with retail at ground level, would certainly have served the area's work force and provided exponentially more tax benefits to San Francisco. But the City had a long-term vision and understood the community's need to have a place for socialization and a natural environment in spite of the multistory buildings that surrounded the Square.

For me, it was a place to unwind the stresses of working downtown. That feeling of community was prevalent. There were musicians, street artists, poets and philosophers, and always an opportunity to share political views during

a lunch respite.

The current Council's vision is contrary to that of the community majority. I urge residents to make it clear that the Council's action to disregard the potential of the Eden Housing site as a substantial community park is outrageous. I agree the need for low and very low-income housing is paramount and desperately needed in Livermore. I am, however, convinced that there are alternative locations for this kind of development. I feel it's a gross mistake to permanently change the character of our downtown.

If we as residents follow the attitude and direction of the current City Council on the downtown issue, then we are destined to have more of the same in other areas. Please stand up for what you believe and join me in electing a new Council and Mayor. I am supporting Mony Nop, Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos. All three will fight for an alternative location for Eden Housing. I understand that they will have the power to do so.

Re-elect John Marchand

Renee Tian, Pleasanton

I am an impassioned high school senior writing to endorse my support for who I believe deserves to be the future mayor of Livermore—John Marchand.

Whether in the cafes downtown or in the hills of Del Valle, Livermore exudes a homely natural ambience that I accredit to the work Mr. Marchand has done for the city in his former 9 years as mayor.

Meeting him showed me how much he cares about this city, and the well-being of all the people living here. He's incredibly open and happy to talk about the work he has done here.

One of the things I was most concerned about was the usage of mental health professionals in police correspondence after learning about it in class. Knowing the importance of using real mental health professionals to respond to mental health calls helped me recognize the significance of Mr. Marchand's support of the Crisis Assistance program.

Given that he has a proven track record with evident results, I feel entirely comfortable endorsing his campaign for mayor, and I hope to see him lead Livermore once again.

Vote for Anne White

Will Macedo, Livermore

I've known Anne White for nearly 20 years. I've worked for her while employed as maintenance director with LVJUSD, and I've worked with her while serving as trustee with Chabot Las Positas Community College District.

While employed with LVJUSD, I saw Anne as knowledgeable and supportive of facilities programs, teachers' working conditions and everything related to student welfare and student success. Anne is committed to the welfare of all students and staff in LVJUSD. She understands the entirety of what is required for successfully promoting student welfare. Anne has been intimately involved with the development of the educational program. From special education to traditional college prep to specialty vocational programs, she knows what it takes to produce education curriculums that work — that promote student success. She has successfully weathered the historical ups and downs of TK12 funding in California. She understands school finance and the inherent competition for funding (federal, state and local) that creates uncertainty for long range planning. Her decision priorities have always been tempered by one rule: "How will this decision affect student outcomes?"

While serving as trustee with CLPCC, I met and consulted with Anne on those programs on which the two districts were already active. We discussed how we could explore additional joint projects. I found her knowledge of TK12 history comprehensive. She knows what programs worked and why. More importantly, she knows what

ideas didn't work and why we need to avoid those ideas when they reappear with the less knowledgeable and less experienced.

Anne White brings years of the right experience, knowledge and compassion for students and staff. I hope you'll join me, and vote for Anne White for trustee LVJUSD.

Wanted: A Respectful Council

Jeff Kasky, Livermore

A disturbing event happened at the Sept 27 Livermore City Council meeting after a number of members of the public spoke about the City's large downtown Eden Housing plan. They talked about the possibility of moving it from the center of town. Regardless of how you feel about the project, what happened next will gravely concern you.

After hearing over a dozen Livermore residents new and old, real estate agents, local business people, retirees, engineers, local candidates and more, all who care enough to sit through a City Council meeting and speak their concerns thoughtfully in public, after all that, we were treated to this from one of the council members. She angrily accused them:

"You want to say 'we want housing...' You (should) just say 'we don't want housing,' because that is actually the reality. You don't want it."

Yes, this council member called all those citizens liars. Told them that what they were saying was a lie. All of them. Liars. And all the other members of Council, although eager to critique the public speakers, found no reason to call out the council member for this assault. If you are looking for a reason to bring in a fresh set of candidates interested in civil communication, this is a pretty good reason.

If you have been undecided up until now, this should be the motivation you need to elect Mony, Carol and Ben to your Livermore City Council. They are not part of the same machine that thinks residents, you, are liars when you disagree. They are residents who are interested in bringing your voice to the City --, even when they don't agree with it.

Joel Will Be Good for This Environment

Bryan Gillette, Pleasanton

Joel can listen. Joel can collaborate. And, Joel can help drive a sustainable Pleasanton. I've had a chance to know Joel these past few months and found him to be a good listener who understands the needs of the community.

When he doesn't have all the details about a subject, he researches the topic, talks with knowledgeable people and then makes an informed decision. We can't expect someone to be an expert in every subject, but we do want someone who can listen and then decide on what is best for Pleasanton. I have seen Joel do this.

I also like Joel's environmental focus. We have a serious issue with water, and we need someone who understands the technical aspects to solve this problem. Joel is the chair of the Committee on Energy and the Environment for Pleasanton and has a Ph.D. in engineering, so he has proven ability to manage public groups and drive complex solutions to complex problems. This was demonstrated by his involvement with the city's Climate Action Plan. He is now leading the committee through a city-wide installation of EV charging stations.

I am excited to see Joel on our city council, as he is someone who will add diversity of thought to Pleasanton and help solve our environmental issues. Vote Joel for District 3.

Carol, Ben and Mony!

Brian Toy, Livermore

During this next election, Livermore has an opportunity to change the City Council. Change is needed. In my interactions with friends and neighbors, it is clear that Livermarians are not happy with our current and past City Councils.

Projects for our downtown have been pushed seemingly to benefit developers rather than residents. Many residents, including over 8,000, voiced their displeasure over Eden Housing in a referendum only to be shut out. The current City Council is lock-step and there is no dissenting voice. It has become a "good old boy" group scratching each other's backs.

I support Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos for council seats and Mony Nop for mayor! They are outsiders and that is what Livermore needs most at this time. If you look at their competition, they have been blessed by the current establishment. The City Council has blessed those candidates that have proven they are willing to tow the party-line. Voting against Carol, Ben and Mony will ensure that we have the same trajectory for Livermore, same lack of representation, and likely more development plans for our city which ignores the voice of residents.

On November 8th, we need to shake up the City Council to let them know that each seat is there to represent the residents. Livermarians want change and we do not want the current City Council to hand-pick its successors. Vote for Carol, Ben and Mony!

Lanhee Chen for State Controller

Jim Leek, Livermore

The state controller is not a job people think about much. It's not a political office that decides how money gets spent. Rather, the controller is an accountant; they audit the money the state is spending to ensure that it is being spent well.

I do not believe that this process has been done well in California. California has plenty of money in the treasury, but it is not spent wisely. The money we send to the state government to pay for transportation and housing the homeless seems to evaporate away, never reaching the citizens who need it. Frankly, we need a money nerd to watch where the money is going and let us know how we can make sure it goes where it is intended.

Lanhee Chen is the nerd for the job.

Ukraine War

Rich Buckley, Livermore

NOT THE PROPHECY EXPECTED?

The U.S. is constantly being bombarded with POTUS-B propaganda in turn driven by his DC Neocon masters with their propaganda that we must fear Putin, because he invaded Ukraine and is out to control the world. But Dr. Turley makes the relevant observation (I paraphrase) ... if Putin is a maniacal tyrant out to conquer the world, why did he spend the last 30 years building 40,000 Russian Orthodox Churches from the base of just 2,000 Orthodox Churches in Russia just 30 years ago?

Much of the world sees the corrupt Vatican Bank — Roman Catholic branch of Catholicism as the deep state's banker collecting and distributing our tax money through its U.S. incorporated banking arm in cahoots with secret society Freemasonry, Jesuits and the ancient Khazarian-Mafia of Ukraine —the very same criminal enterprise our grandfathers fought in WWII.

IT WAS PROPHESIZED

The great challenge to all humanity is the awakening occurring right now. DC Neocons, want to or not, are part of a key aspect of the awakening. They are the darkness. After all, Russia on the other hand (our neocon-designated enemy which POTUS-B denounces foolishly every day at the direction of the criminal and stupid neocons POTUS-B serves) seems to be leading the way to new understanding; the Orthodox brings the light.

RUSSIA'S SPIRITUAL ROLE

The 8-minute mark on conservative Dr. Steve Turley's video, <https://youtu.be/H8XiG4ILzic>, marks an important 9-27-2022 temporal marker of the western

worlds' prophetic awakening brought to light through Russia and The Orthodox Catholic Church.

IT DOESN'T MAKE PUTIN A SAINT

It seems to be a global spiritual awakening through which Russian Orthodoxy is breaking through to reach the mass's spiritual understanding: The Prophecy that Russia will bring spiritual salvation to the western world (I paraphrase).

I sensed this energy building* and believed this would happen since the start of the conflict and for the past eight years. I just did not understand how and when it would happen. Dr. Turley's video is for that reason significant.

FOOTNOTE

* "Energy building:"

Russia was refused entry to NATO in 1949 by the U.S. and UK.

Russia has been lied to ever since 1949 by NATO (financed mostly by the U.S. under influence warned by Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy).

Seek truth. Ukraine Azof Battalion is the ideological home of the old WWII Nazis which will be stopped.

The importance of being ethical: <https://youtu.be/DcA5TotAkhs>.

What Does it Take to Be on Livermore City Council?

Trish Munro, Livermore

Elections are upon us, with three open seats for city council. All Livermore voters can vote for mayor, while Districts 1 and 2 will vote for their first district councilmembers. The choices we make are deeply consequential for Livermore. What matters most is not identity, nor any single issue, but the demonstrated ability and willingness to do the hard work on behalf of all Livermore. Why?

Knowledge, skill, and practice matter. Take, for a couple of examples, basketball and opera—depending on how you like your drama. Basketball requires long hours of practice, knowing the rules, and working with teammates, coaches, and managers. Similarly, opera requires vocal practice, learning words and music, and working with orchestra, cast, and director. What a disaster it would be if the Warriors or Livermore Valley Opera hired someone with no knowledge of basketball or opera simply for the sake of "new blood"!

Yet some voters make exactly that argument for candidates for public office. That attitude trivializes public office in ways that damage all of us. As with any job, at a minimum any serious candidate for public office should be able to demonstrate they have done their homework by showing up and putting the time in to learn the nature of the role. In other words, practicing, learning the rules, understanding the roles of the different players, and demonstrating an ability to work with others for a common goal.

Livermore is a special place with a remarkable sense of community and welcome, with the aspiration of continual self-improvement, and the ability to plan creatively for inevitable change. That is why, when the new RHNA (regional housing needs allotment) came out, we were prepared with locations for new housing. That is why developing the downtown cultural core meant including all who chose to participate. That is why our prudent financial management enabled us to help our businesses and residents to better weather the pandemic.

Livermore really is special. But that doesn't happen without work and care from all of us. How we treat each other matters. The hard work put in by our superb city staff matters. And who we elect to city council matters too. In the races for councilmembers and mayor, only three have done the necessary work. Stay tuned for more on who they are.

Vote for Nop, Wahrer And Barrientos

Johnna Thompson, Livermore

I can understand the Livermore city council's desire to lock in their downtown

plan so that it couldn't be altered by the outcome of November's election, regardless of whether voters decide that their vision for downtown is myopic and flawed. Their egos are tethered to defending their plan, as is their fervor to deny any scrap of victory to the downtown preservationists they deplore. To be fair, mixed in with the ego and the vindictiveness is also a genuine aspiration to procure housing for low-income residents. Nevertheless, their tactics have been alarmingly anti-democratic. Refusing to accept referendum signatures and rushing through the sale of land to Eden ahead of November's election, using Livermore taxpayers' money as a loan to Eden for the purchase, were done to try to guarantee that they would get their way, regardless of voters' wishes. They did it because they had the power to do so, not because it was the right thing to do. The right thing, the democratic thing, would have been to allow the referendum to be on the ballot in November and wait to see what Livermore's voters want. We are, after all, the people the council purports to represent. Let's elect a council and mayor who truly want to represent all of Livermore voters, and who will work to undo this undemocratic thwarting of voters' wishes. Vote for Mony Nop for Mayor, and Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos for city council.

Ego is the Enemy of Good Leadership

Maurice Duenas, Livermore

How long is too long? 16 years? 28 years? 32 years? We have a number of elected officials who are driven simply by ego — to be in office for as long as possible. They are not driven by service to us, but of self service and self importance. Political ego makes them susceptible to manipulation; it narrows their field of vision, and it corrupts their behavior, often causing them to act against the values of the community at large. Scientists call this the "hubris syndrome," which they define as a "disorder of the possession of power ... held for a period of years and with minimal constraint on the leader."

The FURST to go. David Furst has been on the parks board for 16 YEARS all ready, and that is too long for one person to serve. He hit his prime a decade ago and has become a follower instead of a leader.

It's Not My Fault(ing). Mary Alice Falting has been on the park board since 1994 (28 YEARS). It appears that she is trying to set a record for longest serving member on the parks board. She cannot manage her ego. Her last century thinking is the last thing we need for progress in the parks and budgeting for the future.

Time for a White-Out. Anne White has been on the school board since 1990, and that is 32 YEARS. Yes, 32 YEARS!!! Enough is enough. Another life long politician who is out of touch with the citizens and only has her own ego to fill at our expense.

It is time to vote for new people to run the park and school board, so we get new prospective, fresh ideas and good decisions instead of the same old thing. We need vibrant and forward-thinking new leaders without egos, instead of those who only want stay in office for record setting achievements.

No Furst, No Falting, No White. Vote for fresh choices for our collective EGO FREE future.

Thanks be to you!

There are Other Important Issues

Bill Zeid, Livermore

While the future of DT Livermore is important, there are other important issues, and one of them on the November ballot is for the Alameda County (AC) District Attorney (DA) race. As all of us know, the current DA is retiring. Unfortunately, crime is increasing, and here in the Tri-Valley, we have been seeing increases in property crime, burglar-

(See MAILBOX, page 7)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 6)

ies, car break-ins, etc. Places like Oakland regularly see shootings and other violent crimes. Many of us are frustrated that those guilty of committing crimes are either released or given very lenient sentences.

One of the candidates for AC DA is Pamela Price. The viewpoints of Ms. Price closely resemble LA County DA Gascon and former SF county DA Chesa Boudin. We all know who they are. When even ultra-liberal SF County gave Boudin the boot this past June, that should tell you something. Ms. Price seems more interested in pursuing her own agenda as opposed to prosecuting those who are breaking our laws. Ms. Price is even on record for opposing life without parole even for the most heinous of crimes. AC does not need a DA that makes excuses for criminals; we need one who is prepared to aggressively prosecute those who break our laws.

The other candidate is Terry Wiley. While I am far from enthused about Mr. Wiley, he at least does seem to have some understanding that we must hold those accountable for breaking our laws and not make excuses for them. He has 30 years of experience in the DA's office. I urge a vote for Terry Wiley for the new AC DA.

We Need Kumagai's Vote to Ensure Reproductive Choice

Linda Knapp, Dublin

On election day, we will vote on Proposition 1, the "Constitutional Right to Reproductive Freedom," a critical ballot measure that would amend our state constitution to make it crystal clear that Californians have a constitutional right to make reproductive choices, including the fundamental right to choose to have an abortion and the right to choose or refuse birth control. However, this constitutional amendment will not become the law simply because voters pass Prop 1; CA law actually requires that the California Legislature must also vote in favor of the amendment. Because of this second required vote by the legislature, we must vote into office this year legislators who we can guarantee will vote YES on this constitutional amendment, so that the will of the people will become the law. Assembly candidate Shawn Kumagai has pledged to vote YES on Prop 1 when it comes before the Assembly for a vote and has made his pro-choice position very clear. Let's make sure he is elected to the Assembly, so he can take that important vote on our behalf.

Please VOTE, and Vote for Marchand

Lisa Lagorio, Livermore
There is a clear choice for Mayor offered to us citizens of Livermore in the election in November. John Marchand is my choice. John has demonstrated his passion for protecting and enhancing our quality of life in Livermore for decades. As an example, he has never wavered in his support for public safety. That is priority # 1 in our community. He keeps it front and center. He has developed essential alliances with decision makers all over the Tri-Valley and beyond so that he remains influential in protecting Livermore's interest in regional and statewide issues. I believe this task is becoming vastly more important as the area continues to grow. John understands every facet of the operation of our city. There is virtually no component of city governance that he is not competent to administer. John has a proven track record. He not only identifies important issues that will affect our well-being he consistently does something about them. He is a very deliberate leader. He is respectful of all points of view and consistently makes decisions with a community wide perspective in mind. Please vote in November and vote for John Marchand for Mayor.

Newer Doesn't Always Mean Better

Steve Goodman, North Carolina (former Livermore resident)

Recently a letter was published suggesting that David Furst and Maryalice Faltings should be replaced by younger candidates for the LARPD Board.

The rationale of the writer was that long-time board members don't have new ideas, having served too long, and that new candidates would have better ideas and be more effective.

Such a broad generalization in this case does not reflect reality. Both Maryalice Faltings and David Furst have served on the LARPD board of directors for a number of years and both are still actively engaged in their roles as directors.

Experience is something we value in our community leaders. As experienced board members, they are keenly aware of the challenges facing the community relating to parks and recreation and have a historical perspective, as well. Newly elected directors face a steep learning curve and may not necessarily have better ideas; this again is a broad generalization.

Director Furst has proven himself to be a good listener and is willing to educate himself on critical issues by attending conferences and trainings. He has studied other agencies approaches to challenges and helped to creatively seek solutions. He has demonstrated his ability to develop relationships with others across a variety of agencies, thereby benefiting LARPD and, in turn, the community. His vision and dedication for local trails has been a driver for the completion of trail connections/extensions, which has benefitted so many.

As a director with experience, David has knowledge of the needs of community groups and youth sports organizations. He has shown his support by recommending strategic solutions regarding facilities and master plans that benefit current and future youth in our community. His willingness to seek compromise when funds are limited is a direct result of his experience and knowledge of LARPD and the community.

Don't be quick to discount the effectiveness of elected officials who have served our community for a number of years.

Newer does not always mean better. David Furst and Maryalice Faltings have demonstrated that knowledge, passion and a willingness to listen and seek creative outcomes has benefited the Livermore community for many years. To learn more about David Furst, go to the following website: www.davidfurst4larpd. I urge voters to re-elect David Furst and Maryalice Faltings to the LARPD Board.

Teachers Support Bueno, Drouin and Prusso for School Board

Lisa Wilson, Livermore

I'm a Livermore elementary school teacher and community member supporting Craig Bueno, Steven Drouin and Emily Prusso for the LVJUSD School Board. These three candidates all understand the role of a strong school board in our Livermore community. They are focused on the needs of our students.

Craig Bueno's children attended Livermore public schools, so he understands the importance of providing resources and improved facilities to our aging school sites. He knows that students feel good about their school experience when the community provides quality facilities that they can be proud of. Craig Bueno volunteered as a parent and continues to volunteer as a football coach in our district. As a retired firefighter, he brings his dedication to public service into our schools.

Steven Drouin's children are Livermore public school students. He was a high school history teacher and is now a teacher at CSU Stanislaus helping teachers earn advanced degrees. His experience with research-based educational practices will be a huge benefit to our district. He wants to provide pathways for all students to be successful. He would work well with

current board members Bueno and Prusso.

Emily Prusso is also a parent of Livermore public school students. She is focused on helping students develop critical thinking skills, so they can be successful in different college and career pathways. She is the chairperson of the Regional Occupational Program Board and supports career technical education programs for our students. She also supports social, emotional and mental health for our Livermore students, so that they can be successful.

Craig Bueno, Steven Drouin and Emily Prusso would work collaboratively on the Livermore School Board to support all of our students. Join Livermore teachers in supporting these candidates!

"Nefarious"

Ben Barrientos, Livermore

The last minute and desperate action taken by the out-going City Council and Mayor was done in a back room as they puffed away on their cigars.

They know that the majority of the citizens of Livermore support the referendum. A person crowed, "Why only 8000+ signatures on the petition... why not 24,000?" Only 5,702 were required. We could have signed up for thousands more if it weren't for the timeline.

They know that selling prime land off Railroad Ave. is a travesty. So, what if it went against the wishes of the people? Besides, the majority of residents are not against affordable housing, only against having it built downtown.

A person bought the property across Railroad Ave. so that Eden Housing could not be built there. More units can be built on the north side of Railroad. There are other locations, also, where smaller clusters of housing can be built, saving the Eden group millions.

The people of Livermore must put a stop to these back-room dealings by electing Carol Wahrer, Mony Nop and Ben Barrientos to set the Livermore City Council on a more ethical, transparent and civil course.

Cruelty at the Rodeo

Eric Mills, Oakland

Just for the record, the deleted amendments to the county's 1993 rodeo ordinance (banning flank straps, spurs and "tie-down" calf roping) WOULD NOT HAVE AFFECTED RANCHING/EQUESTRIAN PRACTICES IN THE COUNTY. THEY WERE FOR THE RODEO ARENA ONLY. And, the original proposal had MAJOR support: Alameda County Veterinary Medical Assn., Humane Society Veterinary Medical Assn. (with 1,400 CA members), the East Bay SPCA, Ohlone Humane Society, Hayward Friends of Animals, Humane Farming Association, Action for Animals, Animal Legal Defense Fund, et al.

Here's hoping the Livermore City Council will do the right thing by these exploited and abused animals. One of these cows suffered a broken leg at the 2004 Livermore Rodeo and had to be euthanized, leaving an orphan. Another suffered a broken neck and prolapsed eyeball at the 2014 Rowell Ranch Rodeo, same sad ending. Again, these are still-lactating BEEF cows, not dairy. As such, they are unused to being handled at all, much less this roughly. And, further stressed by being separated from their still-nursing calves. CLEARLY, SOME STATE RODEO LEGISLATION IS IN ORDER. EMAIL PATERN FOR ALL:

senator.lastname@senate.ca.gov

assemblymember.lastname@assembly.ca.gov

LIKELY AUTHORS: Senators Nancy Skinner, Steven Glazer, Scott Wiener;

Assembly members Buffy Wicks, Mia Bonta, Ash Kalra

Let them hear from you! Most legislators decide in Oct./Nov. upon which bills to carry in the coming Jan-

uary session. Relatedly, see this prize-winning rodeo documentary short, "Bucking Tradition": www.buckingtradition.com.

Praising Mary Puthoff

Molly Alexander, Livermore

Unfortunate for us, Mary Puthoff retired from her position as Director of the American Indian Center, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District this last June.

Creative, inspirational and exceptional are only a few adjectives that describe Mary.

In 1972, Mary left her Lakota Tribe in South Dakota, attended UC Berkeley and created the American Indian Center. With her vast knowledge, Mary inspired hundreds of children to learn about their tribes with pride.

Mary is exceptional, because she treats each person she meets with her warm and welcome heart. Mary of the Lakota tribe has given us a vast amount of her knowledge, and we hope to pass it on to others.

We miss Mary, but I'm sure she will allow us to consult with and learn more from her.

Sale of Property to Eden Housing

Dodie Finney-Slade, Livermore

Mayor Woerner & City Council,

The sale of city property to Eden Housing is just the latest in a long string of deals our past mayor, current mayor, and city councils have done in order to meet their objectives to override the will of Livermore citizens. The downtown project has been corrupted by the city's back door deals, broken promises, lack of transparency, and dishonest representation of the final project. Remember when we were told the downtown hotel would have underground parking and a restaurant? The Eden Housing plan is not finalized - how many "design changes" will happen before IT is built? The lack of honesty and integrity from our past and current city elected officials does not inspire confidence in their ability to have the best interest and desires of the citizens of Livermore at heart.

Downtown Crisis

Alan Marling, Livermore

You may have heard about the five-story building planned smack dab in downtown Pleasanton, with zero parking. As reported in the September 15th issue of The Independent, this affordable housing violates local height maximums and may well increase parking woes. It's going forward anyway because state laws supersede Pleasanton's building code. The housing project doesn't even legally require public hearings, expedited as it is to alleviate the housing crisis.

Comparing this to Eden Housing, I am grateful our current City Council and past Mayor, John Marchand, negotiated a project with parking and buildings short enough to be hidden behind Main Street's storefronts and shade trees. And yet based off Jean King's quotes last week, she seems to think our downtown is in crisis.

We face two crises in California: housing and climate. Jean King has opposed infrastructure to alleviate both problems, along with her fellow plutocrat Joan Seppala, owner of The Independent, plus readers they manage to sway with their "alternative plans."

These alternatives range from mathematically unsound ("rooftop solar is all we need") to downright impossible (Move Eden Housing). The plans they offered looked too good to be true, and they were, and served only to make practical solutions seem unacceptable.

For a year, Jean King and Joan Seppala have delayed Eden Housing and the Aramis Solar Project. No matter how imperfect, these solutions at least will address our present problems. Other options may have worked if we had begun them decades ago. But to say we shouldn't build what we can now is like refusing to turn on the

fire hose because the water will ruin a burning house's paint job.

If "Move Eden Housing" succeeded at its supposed goal, the construction company or the CA Attorney General could then have sued Livermore for breach of contract. After the city's likely defeat, Eden Housing could've been renegotiated and built twice as high, with zero parking.

This makes the crusade against Eden Housing even more crazed, and I can only assume the entire referendum was at best a campaign stunt. The emperor has no clothes, and Jean King has no valid reasons for blocking affordable housing.

Do not reward this irresponsible behavior. Vote against the Move Eden Housing candidates. Instead choose Marchand for Mayor and Evan Branning and Mel Chiong for City Council.

Measure P is a Win for All

Tamara Reus, Livermore

Livermore residents can have a big win this year if they vote yes on Measure P. Measure P will enable the extension of a city sewer line into the South Livermore wine country. What will this mean?

- Existing wineries can pay to hook up to sewer instead of septic, resulting in cleaner groundwater.

- South Livermore can attract new wineries, currently not an option due to groundwater contamination and a resulting ban on new septic systems.

- The area can support a resort hotel and mid-sized wineries needed to promote the growth of agrotourism and the financial viability of agriculture in South Livermore.

- A successful agricultural economy will protect against pressure to turn our open spaces into housing subdivisions.

- Protection against wildfires. Vineyards are excellent firebreaks.

- What will it not mean? Taxpayers will not be footing the bill. The sewer extension will be funded from other government sources.

- The Urban Growth Boundary will not be changed.

- Development restrictions imposed by Measure D and the South Livermore Area Plan will not be changed.

In other words, this is a win for residents and a win for our wine country. Everyone likes a win-win. Vote Yes on P.

Ruby Moppin for LARPD Board of Directors

Leisa Rivas, Livermore

Ruby Moppin is a sure choice for the LARPD Board of Directors. She is a natural leader and valued member of the Livermore community. Ruby is a full-time working mother of two young boys and volunteers at schools, youth sports programs and in the community. Additionally, she has served for years as the Fundraising Director for Friends of Joe Mitchell School. Ruby continually amazes me with her dedication and passion for both her family and for the Livermore community. I completely support her plans and am looking forward to improvements in our parks and sports and summer activities. Ruby will bring the steadfast and forward-thinking leadership our park district and community needs. I wholeheartedly support Ruby Moppin for LARPD Board of Directors.

Livermore Legacy

Ted Schaefer, Livermore

As my wife and I travel through eastern France by train, we are very impressed by the incredibly beautiful downtown parks in Reims, Colmar, and Strasbourg. We exit the train and are immediately entering parks with trees, benches, grass of course, and a bandshell or par course for all to enjoy. It's incredible and could easily be in Livermore's future by relocating Eden somewhere else. Instead, it appears our beloved city council and mayor want their legacy to be a giant housing project for all to re-

gret forever.

Our city council has illegally denied our valid referendum and has given millions to Eden to own a significant piece of downtown Livermore providing Eden the ability to profit at the expense of current Livermore citizens, as well as the future of a downtown that can be enjoyed. Once again, the question is why this city council has continued to allow Eden to change the scope of the project AND sold this valuable piece of downtown Livermore to Eden, essentially funding this transaction with a loan!!! The arrogance of this city council's actions is amazing and reflects not their interest in the desires of the citizens of Livermore, but rather in wielding their authority. Clearly, they do not believe nor feel that they are in office to serve "we the people".

Teachers Do Not Support Anne White

Barbara Dyer, Livermore

According to their Facebook page, the Livermore Education Association, which represents the very hard working and dedicated teachers in the Livermore school district, have officially endorsed Emily Prusso, Craig Bueno and Steven Drouin. It would appear that they have lost all confidence in the ability of Anne White to be an effective School Board member.

Angry

Thomas Soules, Livermore

At the end of the special meeting on Monday night, I listened to the mayor and city council berate the folks who spoke in the public forum. It made me angry, really angry.

These folks were trying to express what 80-85 % of the folks they had polled in obtaining referendum signatures had to say, namely that they wanted the low-income housing in another location so that the Lucky's location could be reserved as a unique spot for all the people and one defining the center of town. They were also expressing the fact that folks were upset that the sale took place quickly, just weeks before an election, that the referendum signed by 8,000 people was rejected and that the conditions in the sale were so favorable to Eden Housing.

The city council, including the mayor, would have no part of it. They stared off into space when folks were talking in the public forum. Then, at the end of the meeting, they painted those who spoke as a group of privileged folks who would be generally opposed to low-income housing and homeless people in Livermore. They insulted us (and the people of Livermore), even suggesting that we should be kind to the low-income folks when they move in.

Their accusation that we are opposed to low-income housing could not be further from the truth. No one opposed helping low-income folks to be able to afford housing in the overinflated housing market of Livermore - least of all those folks who took the time to go to the meeting and express their concern about the city's proposed plan. The folks who spoke were expressing what they believed and had heard in the community. An alternate site could provide more space, better parking (currently planned to be underground), etc. for more low-income housing. However, the council and mayor were not listening. They had type cast and denigrated us when we were trying to express what many in the community were saying, and they had the "bully" pulpit.

We need a new city government that will listen to the people. We need Mony Nop, Carol Wahrer and Ben Barrientos. Please vote for new city council leadership for the sake of getting the city we want.

Vote for Julie Testa

Kelly Mokashi, Pleasanton

Bold! Vote for Julie Testa for re-election to the Pleasanton City Council for the

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 7)

2022 November election, because she is not afraid to stand up to do the right thing for our residents, which often requires her to make bold statements about complex issues. Testa is a tireless advocate for maintaining local control; her bold stance on challenging state housing mandates and the RHNA numbers takes tenacity and courage! Testa voted yes to support SROs in Pleasanton, which as a PUSD trustee, I appreciate. Yet, she also understands that the city and the school district must continue to re-evaluate and strengthen policies and processes to ensure the safety of youth and our residents is a top priority. A fierce advocate for mental health awareness for our youth and adults, strategic, slow-growth housing planning and concerns for potable water reuse are all other reasons to vote for Julie!

Dangers of the SLD Slate

Alan Burnham, Livermore

A September 22 ad in this newspaper by Save Livermore Downtown (SLD) says that by electing their slate, the new council can and will do whatever it takes to relocate Eden Housing. Make no mistake. Implementing the published SLD plan means a combination of eminent domain to take back the land from Eden Housing and to take other land from unwilling sellers across Railroad Avenue. Their plan will cost \$50 million or more in Livermore City funds. Also, such actions would likely spark lawsuits by affordable housing organizations that would cost the City even more money.

The obvious question is whether, if elected, Mony, Carol, and Ben would take the City down the costly and legally perilous pathway outlined by SLD or whether they would focus on other important issues facing Livermore where they could and should make decisions about future development. All three have told me personally that they would not use eminent domain or spend tens of millions of City funds to relocate Eden Housing, which raises the question of whether or not they would do what is necessary to implement the SLD plan. They have not made that clear publicly, and it is important for them to do so. Or have they changed their mind? Relocating Eden Housing is still a priority on their websites.

Regardless of who is elected next month, the next City Council must abide by state law and court decisions, and every court has ruled against SLD and their surrogates. If a new Council chooses to go down the risky SLD path, don't be misled that you will get a bigger park. The more likely outcome is a seven-story affordable housing project with no parking built under state law. So, before you buy a pig in a poke, think about who actually understands the law and what the City can and cannot do regarding the Eden Housing project. Voting for the SLD slate is playing with fire.

Elect Dean Wallace

Becky Dennis, Pleasanton,
Former City Councilmember
(1993-2002)

I am delighted to see that Dean Wallace is running for Pleasanton City Council (District 1). Dean has distinguished himself as a person who cares about the young adults and families working to build a better life for themselves here in Pleasanton. He understands the impact of spending a huge percentage of family income on housing and the negative effect this will ultimately have, not just on young families, but on Pleasanton's future economic vitality, as well. I especially appreciate Dean's strong advocacy for community participation in the planned redevelopment of Stoneridge Mall and how it can contribute to improving Pleasanton's future quality of life. It would be great to have his positive perspective on the Council! I support Dean and ask you to, as well. Please vote for Dean this election. To learn more, visit his website at www.DeanWallace.com.

Anne White for Livermore School Board

Carol Chargin, Livermore

Anne White's two sons graduated from the Livermore School District. She has continued her commitment to education as a member of the Livermore School Board with her interest and concern for all of the students in the district. Anne is one of the few people who can navigate the complex school funding protocol. She has continued her interest and study of school schedules and what is possibly the best schedule for the different ages of our students. She has been on the California State Adequacy Committee for all levels of texts for social science, language arts, mathematics, science and German. Anne has also been on the California State Charter School Committee. But, perhaps most important is Anne's very level head. Sometimes tempers can fly as people lobby for what they think is most important, but Anne always maintains her composure. With Anne's intellect, experience and composed demeanor, she is an invaluable asset to the Livermore School District. Please vote for Anne White for Livermore School Board.

No Longer Naïve

Owen Brovont, 55-Year Resident
Livermore

For those of us who have been around for a long while, the America of today is very different from the America in which we grew up. When we were young, we just didn't notice what was going on in the adult world, because we were in school, playing baseball, learning to hunt and fish under the tutelage of our dads, learning to cook and do laundry (and the dishes) under the tutelage of our mothers, and still find time to do Boy Scouts. Emerging from childhood, our naiveté eventually wore off — so by the time we reached the end of our twenties and the beginning of our thirties we positively claimed to be adults! The evaporation of the innocence of our early years is often driven by traumatic events like war, the death of a world leader, but mostly by being introduced to the responsibilities of parenthood. As the river of time flowed from the sixties through the seventies and continued toward the eighties and nineties and beyond, the world and the country in which we deeply senior Americans grew up, metamorphosed into something very different — often feeling alien.

Indeed, it was the alienating impact of the Cuban missile crisis, military service, the assassination of a President, the anti-war movement, and the growth and spread of the drug culture that nearly owns our society today. During this evolution of American society, the social and political scenes evolved into something that the Founders would not recognize, and would additionally be astounded by changes in the character of the people who today call themselves Americans. While there is some opposition to the changes, the self-styled "agents of change" have strong support from a predominantly ignorant, miseducated, thoroughly propagandized, and peculiarly naïve younger population, who are being driven like sheep to the slaughter.

These twenty-first century social and political behavior patterns play themselves out even here in Livermore. Our political leaders have shown themselves to be untrustworthy, work behind closed doors, dislike dealing with their constituency, and invite participation from the public only ostensibly because they have a demonstrated history of misrepresenting the conclusions of their so-called out-reach efforts. No greater examples of changing Livermore's historical character are needed, but to review the histories of the Legacy Project, the Eden project, the hotel project, and the various parking lots — all supported by our City Council in the face of sus-

tained vocal opposition.

Anne White for LVJUSD

Kevin Drake, Livermore

Please consider this a strong letter of support to re-elect Anne White to the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education.

I have known Anne professionally and socially for over 30 years. 18 of those years I was a high school administrator in Livermore and had numerous interactions with Anne. The main thread through my many interactions was her devotion to our students and the assurance that we did our best to educate every child.

She makes her decisions based on her homework researching the issues, not on personal bias. One case in point that I personally observed was at Granada High School in the 1990s and early 2000s. She championed the adoption of the Copernican Plan, which was based on the assessment of student understanding rather than the century old dogma of "seat time equals learning."

There is little doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic was a major disrupter of education throughout the United States. Anne, however, sees these challenges as opportunities for innovation, not as detractors. Study after study indicates that more and more young people suffer from an assortment of mental issues, and one cannot expect a student to learn when their life is in disarray. Anne White is to be applauded for being part of a unanimous LVJUSD Board that adopted the K-12 Choose Love curriculum for the district in 2017. Livermore was the first K-12 District in the State to adopt this program that gives students the skills to manage adversity, challenges and the array of emotions that confront our children today. Again, no learning can take place until the student is in a place to learn. In this vein, the District is to be applauded for recognizing this and establishing a new position of Wellness Coordinator, headed by a veteran psychologist.

The elected school board members chart the course for our educators to navigate. Anne White has a proven track record and the experience to work to direct a first-rate education for all our students; and ALL means ALL. Not all students are college bound, even though that is the aspiration of most of us. But, ALL our students must be learned citizens of the United States, to ensure our future as a nation. Anne White will work to narrow any achievement gap that exists.

Vote Anne White to the LVJUSD School Board this November.

Ruby Moppin for LARPD Board of Directors

Yana Feldman, Livermore

Ruby Moppin has experience bringing different stakeholders together as a community, and she will be great doing so for LARPD. As a Board Member of the Granada Little League and as Director of Fundraising for the Friends of Joe Michell School, Ruby has demonstrated her commitment to public service. She appreciates what it takes to create and run programs for the community and cares about making them accessible for every Livermore resident. As a parent of school-aged children and a long-time resident of Livermore, Ruby has been a wonderful resource for her neighbors, the go-to person for insights and advice. I believe, if elected to the LARPD Board of Directors, she will bring her resourcefulness, passion and a sense of duty to bettering Livermore's outdoor spaces and recreational programs.

Elect Jeff Nibert for Pleasanton Council

Valerie Arkin, Vice Mayor, Pleasanton

I am supporting Jeff Nibert for City Council in District 1. Jeff is a person of integrity and is respectful and kind. As I have seen him in action on the Planning Commission, he asks questions, researches the issues, listens to the commu-

nity and makes thoughtful decisions. He has advocated for controlled growth and will fight back regarding unfunded housing mandates from the state. Jeff will protect our historic downtown and will advocate for continuing our award-winning academics in our schools. Jeff believes in a safe community and truly cares about keeping Pleasanton a great place to live, work and play. Jeff has lived in Pleasanton for 35 years and his three children attended Pleasanton schools. Jeff is not taking developer donations, so he will be an independent voice on the council with major decisions. Please join me in voting for Jeff Nibert for the Pleasanton City Council in District 1. www.voteJeffNibert.com

The Will of the Residents Must Prevail

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

Let Livermore residents vote!!! What is the city council afraid of? Why did the city illegally keep the collected signatures for the referendum instead of turning the petitions over to the Alameda County Clerk as required by law? The courts, not the city, will determine the legality of the referendum. The expedited case will be heard in the Court of Appeals next week.

Having illegally retained the petitions, the city council compounded their deceitful actions by selling the Eden property on September 7th, just two months before the city council election November 8th. The city council willfully denied the wishes of its residents. A new city council majority must be elected that supports law-abiding actions and serves the will of the people.

We the people, by the people, for the people. These words take on grave importance in the upcoming city council election. It's time for transparency, honesty and a willingness to listen. Vote for Mony Nop, Carol Wahrer, and Ben Barrientos.

Yes on Measure I

John Sensiba, Pleasanton

Pleasanton isn't in danger of falling behind other communities in Alameda County when it comes to school facilities; we have already fallen behind. We're enjoying a reputation that our hard-working teachers and staff have persevered in crumbling facilities.

In 1978, Californians voted yes on the Jarvis Gann initiative — prop 13. The result was a change to property tax assessments that allowed Californians, specifically long-time property owners, to be shielded from sky rocketing property values. It saves longtime property owners thousands of dollars each year.

One consequence of this initiative was that the funding for our schools was significantly reduced. Another consequence was that significant control over the allocation of property taxes was ceded to the State of California. This has led to the underfunding of both curriculum and facilities maintenance in many communities, including Pleasanton.

Pleasanton voters have the opportunity to mitigate this negative impact on our community by redirecting a very small part of prop 13 savings directly to our own children. Economic studies have shown that investments in school facilities generate a favorable rate of return for homeowners and other property owners. By voting yes on Measure I to improve our school facilities, property owners are making a small investment in the preservation of the value of their properties.

Vote yes on Measure I, because it is a good investment for property owners, or vote Yes on Measure I, because it is the right thing to do. In either case, VOTE YES ON MEASURE I!

Troubling Partisanship Shown by Kaplanis

Joanne Morrison, Livermore

The MAGA Republicans decided to "go local" in the midterm elections, as urged by Steve Bannon last year,

including running candidates for school boards. That is happening in California right now.

"We recognized early that education is going to be a major motivating issue for many Californians this year," said Ellie Hockenbury, spokesperson for the state GOP. "Having strong candidates in school board races could help our slate of candidates at every level." (Mercury News, August 25, 2022) The party has been running their most tailored school board recruitment and training program ever, calling it their "Parent Revolt" program.

There are four Livermore candidates who have clearly aligned themselves with the Republican party, Deena Kaplanis, Alexandra Izarraraz, John Kupski and Kristina Mazaika. There is certainly nothing wrong with being a Republican and serving on the non-partisan school board, as long as a member does not allow partisan views to influence their decisions in the line of duty. But, we don't know that about these candidates. No one has pressed them on this issue, and in the current political climate we need to know that information. We can, however, take clues from what they say publicly when not in a formal debate setting.

Of all the candidates, Kaplanis appears to be running the most well-funded campaign, with countless signs and banners of all sizes everywhere. This begs the questions: How is she funded, and how partisan is she? While she may deny political affinity with the MAGA party, her social media history tells a different story.

Kaplanis follows and likes several extreme, right-wing political website groups on her personal Facebook account. (She may scrub her pages after reading this, but we have screenshots.) One such group is Trump Truck Rally, an organizing website for an upcoming MAGA event in Pleasanton. One banner on that site reads, "SAVE OUR CHILDREN, SAVE AMERICA! Let's Go Brandon." The latter phrase is MAGA code-speak for "F__k Joe Biden." The first phrase harkens to the dark Q-Anon conspiracy theory that Democrat officials murder children and drink their blood. (Yes, that's really what they say!)

Other sites include "Donald Trump Is My President," "Trump Unity Bridge," "For America," and "10H Outfitters," a site "Proudly Serving ... Tactical Gun-fighter Communities." After reviewing this telling history, I have to ask: Will the real Deena Kaplanis please stand up?

Wake up to Climate Change

Russ Greenlaw, Livermore

Some politicians and the propaganda press follow the motto "never let a crisis go to waste." So, it is with Hurricane Ian. Before it hit Florida, at least two TV news channels, including one very liberal, interviewed scientists with statistics showing the number of hurricanes hitting the U.S. has decreased in the last half century, not increased. The news about hurricanes has increased. The year that Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, several other hurricanes made landfall, accompanied by voluminous coverage blaming them on President Bush. While for the next several years, no hurricanes hit the U.S., a fact not covered.

Yet, the local daily printed a political "cartoon" depicting a person labeled "climate denial" clinging to a palm tree in a high wind. If that premise were true, the numbers of hurricanes would be increasing while actually decreasing. We should label the local daily "truth denier."

Same day as the false cartoon was a propaganda piece by the misinformed officer of an environmental activist group. The misleading headline read, "More heat waves in state's future..." The activist postulated that our occasional heat waves were due to the 1/5 of 1% increase in calculated terrestrial temperature over 150 years, when we

all know from TV weather maps and satellite photos that our summer heat waves (like winter cold snaps) are due to temporary shifts in wind direction due to temporary inland high-pressure zones. Summer wind shifts bring hot, dry air from inland toward the coast for a few days, blocking cool, moist ocean breezes. Winter cold snaps bring cold, dry inland air. The activist and the propaganda press ignore these facts, misleading the public, writing further, "The dramatic increase in extreme climate events ..." a falsehood.

Lastly, the local daily wrote about a (nonexistent) third year of drought, mixing "normal rainfall" (most common) with "average," different things. Studying 150 years of rain at one Northern California site, and 99 years at another, I find both sites have a pattern like a two-hump camel: the majority of years clustered about a certain rain number, with a smaller hump of much larger rain due to our few very wet years. Mean rain is between the two humps and seldom happens. This past year was average, even in Livermore, well above the normal hump, no drought. The misleading article quoted statewide rain averages, mixing our Norcal rain with desert rain — unrelated events.

Voters Deserve Transparency from Board Candidates

Cathy Rainey, Livermore

The Livermore Vine presented an excellent school board candidate forum last week which gave voters an introduction to the citizens who would like the opportunity to oversee Livermore's school district. Now it's time to know more about our candidates so that we are able to make informed choices when we mark our ballots.

Two candidates have the endorsement of the Alameda County Republican Party, Deena Kaplanis and Alexandria Izarraraz. Two others, John Kupski and Erika Kristina Mazaika, who requested "preferred status", were not given an endorsement, but are permitted to say they are "recommended by" the Republican Party. All four of the candidates spoke at the Tri-Valley Republicans' Picnic on September 10th.

While school board races are considered nonpartisan, as an informed voter in the current political climate, I would appreciate openness and honesty from these candidates about their party affiliations and how their connection to the party will affect their ability to make unbiased, thoughtful educational policy decisions based on current law, regulations, and their oath of office. Cal Matters (August 22, '22) explained that the "state GOP is seeking to capitalize on parents' anger to win local school board races in 2022 and motivate Republican voters." The party wants to capitalize on "parent revolt" in the schools, fueled by anger and high emotions. The party seeks to oust board members who are elected by teacher unions and "left-wing special interest groups" who advocate for their radical agenda.

Honestly, when I hear the words left-wing, radical, and special interests the names Craig Bueno, Anne White, and Emily Prusso do NOT come to mind.

I would like to hear the answers to the following questions from these four candidates, either in one of the valley newspapers, on their websites, at any of their appearances, or on social media. It's not my intention to censure or silence any candidate. I want to hear directly what it is the candidates believe and who they seek support from so that I can make my decision.

Does your campaign receive funding or support from the Republican Party?

Did you participate in the GOP candidate training for school board positions in Anaheim last spring?

Do you believe that the 2020 election was stolen from the former president?

FOUNDATION

(Continued from first page)

tion formed with a singular mission and vision: to strengthen the greater Tri-Valley region through inclusive leadership, thoughtful funding, informed giving and collaborative action. As one of 700 community foundations nationwide, the organization serves as a philanthropic anchor - connecting generous donors with local nonprofits committed to addressing local issues and serving those who need it most. Bowers joined the organization as CEO and President in August 2022.

Now, thanks to a lead gift of \$50,000 from Amazon, Three Valleys is able to launch its first grantmaking opportunity in 2023 via a corporate challenge to the community.

DUBLIN

(Continued from first page)

Shawn Kumagai won't be. Kumagai instead is on the ballot in a runoff with Democrat Liz Ortega to become the Assembly member for District 20, which includes Dublin.

Josey's challengers are research company executive Kashaf Qaadri; and public policy advocate Lynna Lan Tien Nguyen Do. Voters will elect two of the three.

In preparation for the election, The Independent asked the candidates why they are running for office, what they would bring to the council, their priorities if elected, what they see as Dublin's key issues going forward, and their views on housing.

Their answers include growth, meeting state mandates for new and affordable housing, public safety, financial stability, climate change and quality of life.

MAYOR

Melissa Hernandez

First elected to the City Council in 2016 and elected mayor in 2020, Hernandez is asking voters to give her a second term.

Hernandez said she is running for re-election "because my job is not done."

"Serving as the city's chief advocate, it is important to me that I continue to work on the quality of life of our residents in the City of Dublin," Hernandez said. "Two years is not enough to reach all of the goals I've set forth as mayor, and there are many projects that I have been working on that I would like to see our city complete or advance before I leave office."

Hernandez said projects including Valley Link still need her attention.

"I care deeply about this community and all of the residents we serve," Hernandez said. "I think my positive leadership style is resonating throughout the city. I am accessible and approachable. It's important to me that all of our residents have a voice in our city and feel comfortable talking with me at the grocery store or at a community event."

Listing her accomplishments as mayor, Hernandez included establishing Dublin as a "green city sustainable for future generations"; championing investment in mental health services; leading efforts to ensure the city's decision making is transparent and fiscally accountable; and attracting businesses to the city.

During her term, Dublin developed a Climate Action Plan to be carbon neutral by 2045, switching the city's electrical supply to renewable energy and wind sources, and utilizing solar garbage cans, she said.

"I'm so proud that the City of Dublin took the lead on the creation of the first ever mental health urgent care service to help people through acute crises," Hernandez said. "The city also started a behavioral health unit in police services to ensure that we can better support families, while at the same time, prevent tragedies and support our police officers."

Hernandez added that her top priority is maintaining quality services for "the most vulnerable in our community — our seniors, veterans, and domestic vio-

"We know that organizations like Three Valleys Community Foundation can act as a catalyst and convenor among donors, nonprofits and the community to create exponential impact," said Sally Kay, Regional Head of Public Policy and External Affairs for Amazon. "Amazon is committed to providing support to the communities where employees and customers live and work. That's why we are proud to offer a foundational investment to launch the Power of Collaboration Fund. We challenge other employers in the Tri-Valley to join us."

Over the last year, Three Valleys Community Foundation has served as the fiscal agent for a num-

ber of community-wide initiatives - including the We Are Pleasanton Campaign, which raised nearly \$250,000 for improvements at Foothill High School in Pleasanton; the Dublin Fallen Officers Fund, created in memory of Alameda County Sheriff Deputy Aubrey Phillips, as well as the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. In addition, Three Valleys now has more than \$1.1 million in donor assets with a number of local individuals already contributing to area nonprofits via donor advised funds.

"We salute Amazon for taking the lead on this important issue," said John Sensiba, 3VCF Board Chair. "It will take all of us - corporations, small businesses,

as well as generous individual donors, to boost the overall quality of life in our region," he said.

"In most communities, approximately 1-2 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) goes directly back to local charities. Unfortunately, we are at a much lower level - at less than half of one percent in our region. With a GDP of more than \$42 billion dollars in the Tri-Valley, we want to collaborate with businesses, community and local leaders to address the issues. I'm hopeful many will rise to the challenge and come through on behalf of our community and region."

The Three Valleys Community Foundation Power of Collaboration Campaign

will run through December 2022. Bowers noted she will be working with local nonprofits, city leaders, Alameda and Contra Costa county officials to identify the types of grantmaking

journey," she said. "We want to Give, Grant and Grow our community - together."

For more information on the Power of Collaboration Campaign and Three Valleys Community Foundation,

"We know that organizations like Three Valleys Community Foundation can act as a catalyst and convenor among donors, nonprofits and the community to create exponential impact."

— Sally Kay, Regional Head of Public Policy and External Affairs for Amazon

opportunities that could launch in 2023. "We welcome partners and collaborators to join us on this

contact Kelly Bowers, CEO/President at kbowers@3vcf.org or visit www.3vcf.org

lence victims."

Hernandez noted that the city has been successful in attracting businesses during the last two years and, unlike many other Bay Area cities, has a low vacancy rate.

"I will build on this success by continuing to lead efforts to transform our downtown and other business districts into more walkable, bike and pedestrian friendly locales," the mayor said. "We must continue to support smaller businesses still struggling with cost, supply chain and labor shortage issues."

The city, she said, continues to maintain healthy emergency reserves and a budget surplus.

"Dublin is a very well-run city," Hernandez stated. "We are financially well-positioned. We have great parks with wonderful amenities, and we have created all types of housing for many."

In the coming years, Hernandez said, the city must work with property owners and the City of Livermore to extend Dublin Boulevard east of Fallon Road. Calling it a "huge undertaking," Hernandez explained that the extension is a "very important piece of our infrastructure network" that will create the city's largest business park, bringing thousands of new jobs.

"We need to look at repositioning the Hacienda Crossings Shopping Center," Hernandez said. "With the huge shift in retail, this center will need to evolve and will need to include mixed-use development, physical changes to encourage food and beverage options, and attract tenants."

She added that she was pleased with the addition of the PGA Superstore to the former Babies R Us location.

Hernandez said Dublin also must reinvest in its aging infrastructure and develop a stronger maintenance program.

"We made this a strategic priority of ours and are hiring additional personnel in the field and in the office to support the maintenance effort," Hernandez noted. "We also need to utilize our budget surpluses for reinvestment efforts. We are doing this now for the reconstruction of Village Parkway."

On housing, Hernandez said the city adopted the Open Space Initiative of 2014, establishing boundaries for development in Dublin. She pointed out that the city is "balancing our affordable housing needs and the state mandates by placing our obligations closest to transit and job centers."

"We are also making a concerted effort towards affordability," Hernandez added, citing the conversion of about 1,000 apartments to affordable, and approving two new 100% affordable projects, making an additional 400-plus units available in the coming years.

"I value the teamwork of our city staff and our City Council as well, and it's my hope that voters feel confident in the trust they bestow on all of us to not only represent the City of Dublin regionally, but to advance it forward with the best

planning and forethought possible," Hernandez said.

<https://www.mayormelissahernandez.com/>

CITY COUNCIL (Vote for two)

Lynna Lan Tien Nguyen Do
Do, a Dublin resident for 10 years, said she is running for a council seat on "3 C's - Change, Compassion and Community."

"I want to reaffirm our sense of community and compassion for others and move forward together to affect the kind of change that will make our Dublin a better Dublin for all," Do said. "The future of Dublin is one that includes a well-established downtown, where the community can gather and enjoy our city with other members of the community, as well as their friends and family. I want to see a Dublin where everyone has a sense of pride and belonging."

An interpreter trainer who has lived in the Bay Area for 30 years, Do said that although she has spent the last two decades working in the private sector, she first worked as a political aide to various elected officials.

"I have always been an active member/participant of my community who believes in giving back," she said. "I have done this through serving on various boards and commissions since I was in high school. But now I feel it is time to make the move to gain a seat at the table where I am the decision maker and help enact change directly."

Do, whose service includes Dublin's Planning Commission, previously applied unsuccessfully for an appointment to open seats on the council. She said it was time to run for the position.

If elected, Do said she will help move the city's downtown plan forward, ensuring that Dublin residents "have complete buy-in and stake in the project."

"As well as any other projects that come forth within our city and community, I want to ensure that there is complete transparency between the city, the council, and the community," she said.

As for "belonging," Do said she wants to hold quarterly events around the holidays and celebrations that coincide "with what our community members celebrate."

"The minimum is to acknowledge that members of our community are celebrating something that is important to them and their culture," Do said. "It is important to acknowledge that we are all culturally different, but one culture we share is that we are residents of Dublin."

Do said she wants to empower future leaders of the city, working with the Youth Commission, Dublin Unified School District and schools to "create a place where the youth of Dublin can call their own and feel pride, ownership, and accomplishment."

Going forward, Do said rapid growth and infrastructure are the city's major issue. She said she remembers as a child and young adult seeing nothing but open space around Dublin while

on family car trips.

"We are growing at a rate that we are not able to sustain," she said. "Our roads, water, energy, and other resources are being stretched thin, as well our schools. We are not able to accommodate the growing amount of children that will need to be educated."

Do said the city needs "smart growth" and planning to meet state housing mandates.

"Dublin is 'America's Backyard', and we need to have the rural feel and open spaces to still be called someone's backyard," Do said. "As a city council member, I will work to ensure that we create a balance between the two needs."

Do said her background in politics, public administration, policy and psychology, will aid her if elected.

A 46-year-old first-generation Asian American of Vietnamese ancestry, Do lives with her wife and two dogs. She said she would bring her unique experiences as a daughter of immigrants and as a member of the LGBTQ+ community to the council.

"I hope voters choose me because they believe in me and the change and experience that I will bring to the City Council," Do said. "I vow to be a council member of the people and represent voices that are not often heard."

www.LynnaDo.com

Jean Josey

First elected in 2018, Josey is seeking her second term. The mother of two children, she moved to the city in 2000 and works as tutoring program coordinator at Dublin High School.

"I am running for re-election for Dublin City Council because while I am very proud of the work that our council has done in the last four years, there is more work to be done," Josey said.

"I have always prioritized quality-of-life issues for our residents, and over the last four years, we have built new parks, brought more intersections into our network of adaptive signals, started on the Cultural Arts Center, created and moved forward on the Downtown Preferred Vision, added a behavioral health unit to our police department and worked with our Tri-Valley partners and Axis Health to create a Mental Health Urgent Care Center for our residents."

Josey noted that the council "moved the needle on affordable housing and climate action," and worked hard to aid businesses and residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. The council, she said, provided technical assistance to help businesses transition to online commerce, handed out hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants and loans, changed codes to allow for outdoor dining, and offered assistance to renters.

"Going forward, my priorities are to continue to ensure that Dubliners can enjoy a high quality of life," Josey explained.

"That means that there are plenty of housing choices that are affordable for the wide range of community members that live here, from our service workers to our

recent college graduates, from our trades people to our tech workers, from our growing families to our down-sizing seniors."

Josey said she will push developers to bring projects that include affordable smaller units or "starter homes," and single-story development for seniors who want to down-size from two- and three-story homes

She stated that her priorities include continuing to build parks, making the Downtown Preferred Vision a reality, growing the economic base so office workers don't have to commute for miles, and making sure public safety services have mental health resources available to aid residents.

"It means leading on climate action and energy efficiency, lowering the municipal carbon footprint and helping our residents do the same. It means designing streets that make it easier for residents to walk, bike, and take transit instead of driving. It also means that we keep an eye on our bottom line so that we can continue to maintain the beautiful parks, roads, and facilities we have built here," she said.

Josey observed that Dublin residents want to slow housing growth, so she will work to meet state requirements for new developments by making sure the city's schools, roads, water, open space, and public safety agencies are not overburdened.

On public safety, she said she will protect police and fire budgets and pursue grants for additional programs to maintain response times and staffing levels.

"I will also look for opportunities to add additional programs like the Mental Health Urgent Care center, and the DPS behavioral health unit we started during my first term, so that we aren't putting our most vulnerable residents on a collision course with armed responders," she said.

Josey, a resident since 2000 who raised her children in the city, added that she would like to grow programs that incentivize older businesses to update their facades, and set policies that make it more attractive for larger businesses to move their corporate offices to Dublin.

Jeanjosey.com

Kashaf Qaadri

Kashaf Qaadri said he is running for City Council "to ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in Dublin."

Years ago, Qaadri said, his mother-in-law became disabled, losing sight in one eye, and could no longer live independently. Her father, a disabled veteran who lived with her, needed full-time support and a place to live.

Qaadri explained that through the affordable housing programs, Dublin has created the opportunity to provide that support and find a place for everyone to live together.

"Family is what brought me here, and family is why I'm running," he said.

Qaadri stated that he is committed to exploring innovative housing solutions to ensure that everyone, including the city's teachers, veterans, first responders and seniors can "enjoy the

benefits of living in Dublin."

"The housing shortage is a major concern in the Bay Area in general and Dublin in particular," Qaadri said. "The city is seriously deficient in meeting its allocations in the affordable categories. To be a vibrant and sustainable city, Dublin should seek to be a truly inclusive community, expanding affordable housing across economic/income categories. I would look forward to partnering with affordable housing advocates and experts to explore concrete action steps the City Council can take to ensure that we meaningfully address this critical gap in housing."

At the same time, Qaadri noted, the city should not expand at the expense of greenery and open spaces.

"It means that we need to have the infrastructure — including public transit, schools, water, sewage, trash, clean energy, etc. — to sustainably serve all residents," Qaadri said.

Qaadri, a 44-year-old husband and father of a 10-year-old fifth grader at Amador Elementary School, said his family enjoys Dublin's open spaces and parks, community events, activities and programs. An executive at a local life sciences company, Qaadri has served on the Dublin Planning Commission, Alameda County Public Health Commission, the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, and the Amador Elementary School Site Council.

He said his experience as an executive with roles in business development, commercial operations, strategic planning and product development, as well as managing budgets, generating growth and implementing innovative strategies, pairs with his community involvement to "make me the best choice for City Council member."

Besides pushing for affordable housing and improving infrastructure, Qaadri's priorities include "ramping up sustainability efforts and protecting the environment by focusing on smart in-fill redevelopment, creating business hubs through mixed-use developments, and pushing for up-to-date and accurate environmental impact reports." He also wants to partner with small businesses to support them, "especially in the context of Covid-19 relief."

Going forward, Dublin must improve traffic flow, increase communication and collaboration with the DUSD and deal with a projected budget deficit, Qaadri said.

To manage the budget, he believes that Dublin must retain established businesses and attract new businesses.

"My goal would be to promote a Dublin that is building towards a vision of a model 21st century city, one that is livable, vibrant and deeply rooted in environmental sustainability," Qaadri said.

"In many ways," he continued, "this is not the model that Dublin has been working toward to-date. However, if elected, this is the vision of a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable city I will strive toward."

www.kashaf4dublin.com

OBITUARIES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bonnie Gail McCamon
1953 — 2022



Bonnie Gail McCamon was born on Aug. 30, 1953, to Robert McCamon and Rose Elam McCamon. She had two sisters, Wanda Weber Crossland and Faith McCamon, as well as three brothers, David Winston Bloch, John McCamon and Jackie McCamon.

Bonnie was a loving mother who always gave of herself to all three of her children: Lisa Kays Roddewig, Michael Kays and Kira. She believed in hard work and sacrifice in order to help others. She loved people and people loved her! Bonnie had true friends, and they were precious to her. Bonnie was compassionate, kind and funny. She was positive, encouraging and full of love. She had faith in God. Bonnie enjoyed going to the beach, times of laughter with friends and loving her family well.

Bonnie contributed to her community. As President of her resident council, she helped to improve the residents' quality of life. She worked to get funding for a childcare center, lights for the kids' basketball court and helped head a project to provide nice work clothes for those entering employment, among many other things. She was designated Dublin, California's "Citizen of the Year" in 1997, and "Woman of the Year" in 1998 by California Senator Richard Rainey. Bonnie graduated from Cal State Hayward with a BA in psychology and a minor in criminal justice.

What will be remembered most of Bonnie is her love for people, her winning smile, her kindness and her laughter. She will be very missed by all who knew her. She is loved! There will be a celebration of life on October 18, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Avenue, Livermore, California 94550.

Gary Michael Sheldon
Aug. 16, 1945 — Sept. 7, 2022

Gary Michael Sheldon's life began in Oakland, California on Aug. 16, 1945. He was the only son of Michael and Lillian Sheldon.

Gary was raised and educated in Oakland, graduating from Castlemont High School. After high school, he worked as a welder in San Francisco at Hunter's Point Naval Yard. Gary was called to military service during the Vietnam War, serving four years in the Navy. Following his naval term, he later became a Deputy Sheriff. Gary retired from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office after 28 years of service.

Gary met and married the

love of his life, Victoria, in 1971. They originally met in high school. However, their relationship blossomed following Gary's return from the war. They were reunited at an Oakland Raider's game. To their beautiful union, two sons were born, Mike and Mark Sheldon.

Some noteworthy things about Gary: Gary believed in an uncomplicated way of living. He felt it was important to simply do what you have to do, serve who you have to serve and, most crucial, take care of your family. Gary was very dedicated and loyal to his family. So much so that after his wife's passing

in 2012, he continued VBS Services, the business she started. He was also a great provider, always making sure the family was well taken care of.

Gary Michael Sheldon departed this life on Sept. 7, 2022. He lived a life worthy of honor and celebration. He was deeply loved and will be truly missed.

He was predeceased by his wife, Victoria Sheldon.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his two sons, Mike (Kristy) Sheldon and Mark (Jennifer) Sheldon; two grandsons, Alexander and Austin Sheldon; and a host of other loved ones and friends.

Amy Webb
Aug. 14, 1927 — Sept. 29, 2022



A lifetime resident of Livermore, Mrs. Amelia Webb, known as Amy, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022. She had just turned 95 years old on Aug. 14, 2022. Amy was born in Livermore and was a member of one of the pioneer families who came to Livermore in the mid 1800s.

Amy was born into a family of three brothers and five sisters. She attended grade school at St. Michael's Catholic School, graduated from Livermore High School and was a long time member of St. Michael's Catholic Church. She worked at the Fuse Works and in the local wineries in Livermore. Amy was preceded in death by her husband, Jim

Webb; and her daughter, Jamie Bernard. She is survived by her son, Ronnie Webb; and her son-in-law Tom Bernard; her brother Alfred Alviso and his wife; and her sister Carmel

Swadley; along with many nephews, nieces and friends. Amy will live on in the hearts and minds of us all.

Visitation will be Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 5 p.m., followed by the rosary at 7 p.m. Both are at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, California. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Oct. 12, at 11 a.m. at Callaghan Mortuary. Burial will be at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Webb family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com. Donations to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Avenue, Livermore, CA 94568.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Frances E. Machado
Feb. 12, 1943 — Aug. 22, 2022

Frances Machado, 79, went peacefully to be with the Lord on Aug. 22, 2022. She was a resident of Livermore, California but grew up in Hayward. She graduated from San Lorenzo High School.

She was preceded in death by her son Robert Machado of Oklahama; and sister Loy Jory of Oregon. Frances is survived by her daughter Dona Machado of Livermore; son James Machado of Hayward; and sister Sue Beach of Palm Springs. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be at 12 p.m. October 8 at Celebration Church, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore, California. In lieu of flowers, please direct contributions to your favorite charity.



Frances Carolyn McBride
May 28, 1929 — Sept. 18, 2022

Frances Carolyn McBride passed away gracefully on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022, at the age of 93. She was born in Oakes, North Dakota to Ernest and Hildur Smith on May 28, 1929. At the age of seven, the family moved to Oakland, California.

Fran attended Fremont High School in Oakland and was very active in the Presbyterian Church Youth Group. A favorite of hers was playing hymns on the piano, which she continued to do throughout her life. At church is where she met the love of her life, Gordon McBride. They went on to be married on Oct. 25, 1947. They quickly started their family and had three children together that grew up in Castro Valley.

Fran was predeceased in death by her husband Gordon Dudley McBride; grandson Todd Kenneth Montell; and her brother Elwood Leroy Smith. She leaves behind her children Lynn Marie Dunn, Steven Wayne McBride and Jennifer Ann Gottesman (Rick); five grandchildren; four great grandchildren; sister Marjorie Kitchuck; and dear friends Ann Rossmann and Lois Daane.

Fran was described as a bundle of laughter; she was often told her laugh could be heard a mile away. Fran and Gordy had a dream of owning



property in the Sierra Nevada mountains, and their dream came true in 1964. They purchased 20 acres in Brownsville, California, which then became the family camping spot with a beautiful creek running through the property. Fran was a secretary at Bellinger Realty, which later became BRS Realty. She loved her job and happily worked for over 50 years. Fran had a great interest in the stock market and joined the Y-Knott Investment Club and was a member for 30 years.

Spending good times with family and friends was an important part of her life. When the children were young, Fran and the neighbor ladies created a group and named it "Card Club" where they played pok-

er, seven card stud, five card draw and more for 40 years. Fran also thoroughly enjoyed playing Duplicate Bridge at the Castro Valley Senior Center.

For 14 years, Fran and Gordy were involved with the USS Altamaha group and attended reunions in several different states in the U.S. Fran was the secretary and Gordy the historian for the ship USS Altamaha.

Fran happily baked fresh bread and a favorite to all who loved her were her yummy cinnamon rolls which was a staple at all holiday gatherings. She once held a course for her daughters and granddaughter named Cinnamon Roll Making 101. Attempts were made to duplicate her amazing cinnamon rolls, but unfortunately, they were unable to master her technique.

Fran eventually moved into Heritage Estates Independent Living in Livermore to be closer to her daughter, Jenny, and her son-in-law, Rick. After settling in, she made many new friends and enjoyed the variety of activities, especially all the musical events.

Fran will be greatly missed by her loving family, friends and all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Alan Norman Bishop
June 7, 1943 — Sept. 22, 2022

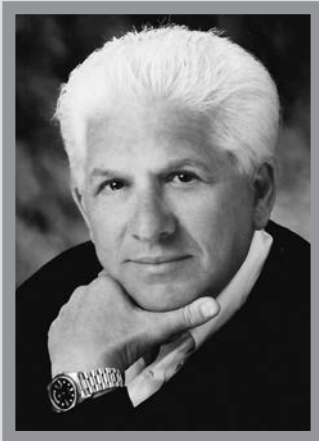
Alan Norman Bishop was born June 7, 1943, in Fall River, Massachusetts and died Sept. 22, 2022, at his home in Livermore, California with his family at his side. His parents were Jeremiah and Mildred Bishop from Fall River, Massachusetts, both of whom preceded him, as did his brother Jeremiah Bishop Jr.; and baby boy Bishop, who was stillborn; along with his wife, C. Yvonne Bishop, who passed away in 2019.

Alan is survived by his daughters Melinda (Wally) Roeben; Jennifer (Gregory) Krause; and his step-daughter Tracy McCullugh. He was also survived by six grandchildren, Macie Roeben, Kaylee Roeben, Hannah Krause, Natalie Krause, Dustin Spence and Tyler Spence; and two great grandchildren, Tyler and Jon.

Alan's career started in the Christian ministry as a youth director in Woodland, California. In 1972, Alan began a new career in real estate when he received his real estate license. He received his broker's license two years later. This new passion led him to purchase his own real estate company in 1976, which he renamed C21 Bishop Realty. In 1991, to better serve his customers, he founded Associated Mortgage Group. Later, he merged with another C21 office forming C21 Mission-Bishop Real Estate, which would go on to become the ninth largest C21 office in the country. He sold his C21 business in 2013 only to later open Bishop and Associates Real Estate, which is still operating today.

Alan will be missed. He was a loving father and grandpa, a wonderful boss and loyal friend. He loved the Lord and was a devoted Christian who had an unflinching faith in his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He didn't fear death and was ready for the next chapter in his eternal life.

A viewing will be held on Thursday, Oct. 6 from 4-8 p.m. at Fremont Chapel of the Roses located at 1940 Peralta Boulevard in Fremont. Alan's Celebration of Life service will be held on Friday, Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. at Bay Area Baptist Church at 2929 Peralta Boulevard in Fremont California. If you'd like to donate, you can donate to Bay Area Baptist Church in Fremont.



PLEASANTON

(Continued from first page)

Buffy Wicks of Oakland.

In District 3, an area encompassing the southwest portion of Pleasanton, City Councilwoman Julie Testa, elected at-large in 2018, will run for re-election against two challengers: Communications manager Jamie Lee and electrical engineer Joel Liu.

Earlier this year, the city council voted to shift from at-large elections, where residents from throughout the city vote for all council members, to district elections with four areas. Voters choose from candidates who live within their district.

The move followed a lawsuit threat from an attorney who has sued elected bodies throughout the state, alleging at-large elections violated the California Voting Rights Act by reducing the power of minorities to elect representation.

In preparation for the

election, The Independent asked the candidates why they are running for office, what they would bring to the council, their priorities if elected, what they see as Pleasanton's key issues going forward, and their views on housing.

The answers include water quality, growth, meeting the state's housing mandate to build nearly 6,000 residential units during the next several years, public safety, financial stability, the future of Stoneridge Mall and climate change.

Here are how the candidates responded:

MAYOR KARLA BROWN

Brown, who served two terms on the city council before voters picked her to be mayor in 2020, said she is running for re-election "because I believe I am the right person to address the challenges facing Pleasanton in 2022-2024."

No one filed to run against her.

"With 10 years of elected leadership behind me, I have built a reputation for addressing new challenges, exploring solutions and working together to get things done," Brown said. "In my job as mayor, it has been an honor to serve as an advocate for our residents, nonprofits and businesses of Pleasanton."

Brown said she was pleased to be part of a team of professionals in the city. She called the city's staff outstanding.

"Under the leadership of City Manager Gerry Beaudin, we are building a younger and more diverse team of directors and department leaders," Brown said. "The retirement of former directors gave the city manager the opportunity to build and strengthen our city staff."

She called her fellow city councilmembers an impressive, dedicated group that shares their experiences and asks good questions to find balanced solutions.

"Working together, our city, our council members, local businesses and our residents coped with the ongoing challenges of COVID-19," Brown said. "We should be proud of the over 10,000 vaccines that were administered at our regional vaccination site at the Fairgrounds, plus the use of the senior center was helpful to support vaccines for the school district employees, and for our students."

Brown touted the Pleasanton Senior Lunch Program run by Open Heart Kitchen, which served more than 40,000 meals to seniors, while also operating the regional food distribution site that supported thousands of residents with

food insecurities.

The city, she said, offered Pleasanton's businesses nearly \$1.5 million in city loans and county grants. The city's Housing, Human Services and Community Development departments also offered grant requests of nearly \$1.5 million.

"We have shown we are here for our residents, our businesses, our schools, and our vulnerable community members," Brown said. "We have been through a lot together, but I see a much brighter future ahead."

Once she is reelected, Brown said finalizing Pleasanton's Housing Element will be key. The state, she said, has required Pleasanton to zone land for nearly 6,000 housing units. She said she envisions the housing will primarily be located in "transit rich areas", with others dispersed throughout the city to balance infrastructure and school de-

mands.

Brown said she would like to see more jobs spread around the Bay Area. Bringing jobs to the Tri-Valley, she said, will improve affordability and reduce commute times.

"We still need plumbers, car mechanics, electricians and more, but the state's goals for more housing can displace light industrial businesses and jobs," Brown said. "As a mayor, I am trying to balance infrastructure, water needs, local jobs along with more houses, and the formula is not simple... Our city has wonderful sites for high paying jobs, and I want to retain that as a benefit for our residents and our city's finances."

Brown said she wants to keep downtown vital and thriving, and said the city is working to update retail options at Stoneridge Mall.

(See PLEASANTON, page 11)

PLEASANTON

(Continued from page 10)

"I want to hear from our residents and learn how they would like to see the Stoneridge Mall area updated, accommodate additional housing, support the transit in the area and improve the location for walkability," Brown said. "This area should feel like Pleasanton with upscale buildings and housing, which (are) desirable to young professionals and young families."

As the city moves forward, Brown said, it will look for ways to increase water quality and quantity, following the discovery of trace chemicals in a city well.

"Pleasanton is working with our water supplier Zone 7 to research possible sources of the forever materials, while exploring treatment options for cleanup and removal," Brown said. "Additional water resources are also being explored. Hopefully, the recent rain is a sign of more precipitation to come to help effect an end to the drought. As we have seen, water conservation has become a key part of our future."

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 (Vote for one)

Jeff Nibert

A resident for 30 years, Jeff Nibert said he is running for City Council District 1 to "maintain and improve our quality of life, safety and beautiful environment."

"Pleasanton residents want and deserve a council member who for long years has known, contributed to, and worked to better our city," Nibert said. "I want to bring a volunteer heart to the city council with the values of being solution-centered, a great teammate, respect always, listening, and serving."

Nibert said voters should choose him over Wallace because of his longevity in the city, volunteering with youth, church and civic groups, his experience as a Pleasanton Planning Commissioner and his corporate background. Nibert said he has managed multi-million-dollar project budgets and will apply his experience to the city budget.

"I have two engineering degrees and will call upon my experience as an engineer and use facts to guide my decisions," Nibert said. "I will honor science and use it to make reasonable decisions for our health and welfare."

Nibert, who along with his wife raised three children in the city, said he will make independent and unbiased decisions about projects and will not accept donations from developers.

"I strongly favor keeping local control over zoning decisions," he said. "I oppose 'one-size-fits-all' state mandates that destroy local control and have consequences like the 5-story Harrison Street project that can be built without City Council approval and without public engagement."

If elected, Nibert said public safety will be his top priority, along with strengthening the city's partnership with Pleasanton Unified School District, to maintain the city's quality of life.

Other priorities include taking action to remove health hazards posed by "forever chemicals" in the city's water supply; preserving Pleasanton's small town-character and historic downtown charm, protecting Pleasanton's scenic ridgelines and hillsides and implementing the city's Climate Action Plan 2. Growth, he said, needs to make sense. That means locating denser housing closer to transit to reduce traffic and climate impacts, and meeting state-mandated goals for new housing.

A key issue in District 1, Nibert said, is community engagement to create a comprehensive plan to redevelop the Stoneridge Mall area with housing, retail and commercial components.

"It's an opportunity to reimagine the mall area in a whole new way," he said. "However, the new plan must address impacts that would worsen traffic or make it unsafe, challenge

the water supply, underfund infrastructure, or crowd our schools."

As a Planning Commissioner, Nibert said he helped to formulate the city's draft city housing element plan "to meet the staggering state-mandated goals for new housing at all income levels."

Once the plan is approved, the city must work to attract investment in housing for people with lower incomes, establishing partnerships with nonprofit developers to address the needs.

"We must do better for working families, especially our teachers and city employees," Nibert said. "Forty-eight percent of residents said that a lack of housing affordable to working families is an extremely or very serious problem. I support using all available means to help those who work here to live here. I support assisting renters and first-time homebuyers. With sound planning and local control, we can balance this need with retaining Pleasanton's small-town character and open space."

<https://votejeffnibert.com/>

Dean Wallace

Dean Wallace said he's running for Pleasanton's District 1 seat to "bring a forward-looking perspective to the Pleasanton City Council — that of someone who has lived in the Tri-Valley for over 20 years, went to high school in the Tri-Valley, and who came back after college to live close to family."

Wallace, 36, said he has first-hand knowledge of the challenges facing working families and young professionals, especially the high cost of housing and rent in the Tri-Valley.

"I'm running for City Council because I want to help change the tone of the housing discussion here in Pleasanton," Wallace said. "I don't think it's okay that some people take the position that all of our Foothill, Amador, and Village high school graduates of tomorrow will just have to come to terms with the fact that they won't be able to call Pleasanton their home in the future, because they won't be able to afford to live here."

Wallace said the City Council currently regularly makes excuses for not tackling "our city's extremely serious housing needs."

"This is an injustice being forced upon our region's younger generations and working class people," he said. "We have folks working two or three jobs here in Pleasanton, who also then have to sit in their cars in slow-moving traffic for an hour and a half, or two hours, one-way, simply to commute to and from work each and every day. Why? Because our City Council has consistently refused to build much-needed homes for our younger generations and working class people."

Wallace said the city must acknowledge it is in the midst of an unprecedented housing affordability crisis and find ways to build more affordable housing, ideally near public transit, for teachers, first responders and younger workers.

"Nothing is more fundamental to the livelihoods of our citizens than making sure that everyone has a home, close to where they work, that they can actually afford to live in," Wallace said.

A renter, Wallace said he will advocate for housing policies that support renters and first-time home buyers.

Wallace said "some members of the council" believe suing the state to oppose mandates requiring more housing is a priority over building the much-needed homes.

"Some members of our council think that it is a good idea to waste millions of dollars in taxpayer funds to fight the very thing that the residents of Pleasanton themselves say is the thing that they most want to see the city government do something about," he said.

A district director for State Assemblywoman

Buffy Wicks, D-Oakland, Wallace said he previously served Pleasanton residents as a legislative aide to 15th Congressional District U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell. Relationships built with many Pleasanton and Tri-Valley leaders, he said, will help him work with neighboring communities to address regional issues.

He called his experience his greatest strength, one that distinguishes him from Nibert, and said he is excited about putting his skills and connections to work on behalf of Pleasanton residents.

Besides housing, Wallace identified public safety, safe drinking water and a more vibrant downtown as among his priorities, along with aggressively pursuing environmental sustainability.

Wallace said he wants to ensure police officers and firefighters have the training and equipment they need to keep the city safe, including the technology and communications tools required in large-scale disasters. He said he supports finding solutions to solve the city's water quality issue, including greater treatment of the city's water supply or blending water with its water supply.

On the downtown, Wallace said it concerns him when friends ask to meet him in other communities for dinner instead of Pleasanton's downtown. He said the City Council needs to increase weekend nightlife spots, find attractions to bring in young families, and change restrictive policies that discourage small business.

He also criticized some members of the city council for micromanaging the police department, instead of supporting officers and investing in improving public safety. He said they would "rather engage in asinine discussions about the presence of police vehicles at public events."

If elected to the District 1 seat, Wallace said he will push back when residents' interests and desires are not heard by other council members.

"That includes standing up to defend our district from those who desire to place the entire burden of building new homes just in District 1," he said. "I don't believe that our district should be the only district that is made to take on that burden."

A first-generation son of immigrants — his father was born in Ireland and his mother in Mexico — Wallace became a U.S. citizen in 2011. District 1, he said, "deserves a City Council member who is representative of the diversity of our district."

<https://deanwallace.com/>
**COUNCIL DISTRICT 3
(Vote for one)**

Joel Liu

Describing himself as one of more than 10,000 residents who moved to the city between 2010 and 2020, Liu said he will bring new perspectives to the City Council, if voters choose him to replace Testa.

A parent of two school age children, Liu said he cares about public safety and sustainability. Chairing the city's Committee on Energy and Environment (CEE), he worked on sustainability and wants to expand his responsibilities "to better serve our community."

"Public safety is my No. 1 priority," Liu said. "I support the School Resource Officer (SRO) program to keep our campuses safe. I support the Police Department to exhibit their equipment to the public. My opponent has different opinions."

Citing his doctorate in Electrical Engineering, Liu said he has led multi-million-dollar businesses and managed large budgets. Besides his position with CEE, he is a Tri-Valley representative on the Community Advisory Council at East Bay Community Energy.

"I will use my professional experience to make certain the city stays on a fiscally sustainable path," Liu said. "I am one of the

main contributors to the Climate Action Plan 2.0 which Pleasanton City Council approved earlier this year. Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown recently commented on another candidate who is also an engineer — 'his engineering skills and project experience will add new insights to the council.' It applies to me, too."

Liu identified public safety, sustainability, fiscal stability, and strengthening the city-school partnership as his priorities should he win.

"Support for our first responders is essential, including our alternate mental health program," he said. "I support furthering environmental sustainability and collaboration with our partners, including the school district and Zone 7."

Going forward, Liu said the city's biggest issues include public safety and keeping the city's water safe to drink.

"Half of Pleasanton's Downtown area is in District 3, and hence keeping our historical downtown vibrant is one of the most important issues for District 3," he said.

On housing, Liu said Pleasanton must continue working on the housing element, a plan to meet state rules on housing growth.

"After receiving the Environmental Impact Report, we can optimize the plan to select the best sites for zoning to solve the housing issues and meet state mandate," Liu said. "In the meantime, we need to work with legislators for local control."

Liu, 47, has lived in Pleasanton with his wife since 2008. His children attend PUSD schools and are competitive Pleasanton Seahawks swimmers. He is also a parent member of the School Site Council at Harvest Park Elementary School, and is a former chairman of the board of the San Francisco chapter of the Chinese Institute of Engineers/USA.

Liu also co-founded Tri-Valley Asian Association with other Asian American parents in 2018. The TVAA's mission is to build a bridge for Asian Americans to broaden their community connections.

On his website, Liu described himself as a "first-generation immigrant raised by parents who taught him the values of family, education, and community service from an early age."

He said he arrived in the United States 21 years ago with two large pieces of luggage and very little money. He pursued his degree at Arizona State University and worked in aerospace his entire career to design the electrical system of Boeing 787 and military aircrafts. He moved to California after his wife found a job in the Bay Area, and was hired to work for a Pleasanton company.

www.votejoelliu.com/

Julie Testa

Seeking re-election, Testa said her continued role on the City Council will be to "retain what we value in our amazing community for our next generation of families." She called her City Council term extraordinary and historic.

"Together with my fellow council members, we guided the Pleasanton resident and business community safely through several phases of the pandemic, emerging with Pleasanton in a strong fiscal position," Testa said. "I spearheaded a compassionate Alternative Response pilot program to support our stellar police officers on the more than 400 mental health calls in Pleasanton each year. I have worked with city leaders throughout California to stop the state overreach of unfunded housing mandates that will have dramatic consequences to Pleasanton's quality of life."

Testa said she was proud of her advocacy for compassionate mental health resources that resulted in the Alternative Response Program, which will include two licensed clinicians to respond to calls when someone is having a mental

health crisis instead of or in addition to police officers.

Testa called the program, which is expected to begin this year, a "win-win for everyone involved."

"It will free our outstanding officers to perform law enforcement responsibilities while supporting our residents with positive outcomes," Testa said.

If re-elected, Testa said she will prioritize representing residents' concerns about quality of life issues, the city's schools, public safety, water quality and conservation. She said she wants to push back on state officials "excessive growth mandates that threaten the careful balance of infrastructure and services that make Pleasanton wonderful."

Testa said she will prioritize resident interests over special interests, work to preserve Pleasanton's historic downtown and its small town character, support public safety, protect clean water and promote conservation.

Going forward, Testa said key issues for the city will be maintaining water quality and availability; implementing the city's Climate Action Plan, keeping crime down and dealing with the state's "unachievable unfunded housing mandates."

On housing, Testa said Pleasanton is committed to reasonable growth with a focus on low-income housing, but "we can and must push back on state overreach of incorrect housing numbers."

Testa said the state's housing agenda is about profits, and not about achieving affordable housing. Testa said she and her colleagues at the California Alliance of Local Elected requested an audit of the state mandate's numbers and found it was wrong.

"Cities must join together to require fair and accurate numbers. I am leading city council members across the state in those discussions and solutions," she said. "The false narrative that building lots of market rate housing will create affordability is profit motivated and wrong."

Testa said affordable housing requires subsidies, but the state is not providing the \$1.5 billion dollars needed to build the thousands of affordable units in Pleasanton. We can and have achieved our market rate housing, but cities are being set up to fail our affordable housing mandates."

Testa said most cities will fail and California will give developers power over housing approvals. She called the project on Harrison Street the first example.

"The project will defy our city ordinances," Testa said. "Building five stories, 46 residential units, and no parking where one small house has sat for 50 years, because Sacramento does not care about our downtown."

Testa said she and her husband moved to Pleasanton 35 years ago to raise their family. She touted her record of service, including serving as a Pleasanton City Commissioner for 11 years, as National Alliance on Mental Illness-Director, and REACH Resources Education Activities Community Housing-Director. She said she founded a statewide organization "to find solutions to excessive housing development in Pleasanton and statewide."

"I have pledged to continue to represent Pleasanton in its entirety," Testa said. "We are one community."

julietesta.com

Jamie Yee

Jamie Yee said she is running for the Pleasanton City Council District 3 seat because the current council is dysfunctional and "seems like a block holding issues from moving forward."

"The current council is not truly representative of our community, and the dysfunction it represents is harmful to the future of our hometown," Yee said. "Decisions made by the City Council today will affect the rest of our lives."

Yee said it is "concerning" that the city manager

and assistant city manager, along with the human resources, finance and operations directors have all left in the last year.

"I have been told that the staff felt they were being micromanaged by the council, there was no trust, and a very difficult and untenable working environment," Yee said.

A Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) trustee from 2008-2020, Yee said her parents moved her family to Pleasanton in 1969.

"I can remember when Stoneridge Mall was first built, the first stoplight, when Stoneridge Drive and West Las Positas Boulevard did not cut through the business park, and when parts of the sidewalks on Main Street were at the height for horses and buggies," Yee said. "I have seen growth and its positive aspects. We need smart and planned growth to ensure we have ongoing revenue streams to ensure our financial future and the quality of life we all dearly value."

Yee said her school board experience, including serving twice as board president, gives her a proven track record of public governance, including oversight of a \$160 million budget. Yee touted her experience setting policy, hiring personnel, supervising the PUSD superintendent, and learning how to have productive and civil public deliberations to gain the public's trust.

"I have experience working with school district staff and executive teams professionally and collaboratively," Yee said. "I have a deep understanding of our community, experience with constituent engagement, and an understanding of labor negotiations and the role of a city council member."

Yee, who works for the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, said she will lead in advocating for improved community engagement. She said she knows how to ask hard questions and make decisions that "come from a good place that represents the community and not a personal agenda."

Yee pointed out that, if elected, she would become the first person of color to serve on the council since 1975, when the mayor was Floyd Mori. She would be the first Asian-American woman on the panel.

"Our community is now 37.4% Asian, and it is time to balance the representation of our community," Yee stated.

Yee said she would come to the council with more experience than Testa in a public governance role and without a personal agenda. Yee said she is not adversarial and is not interested in using litigation to solve problems.

"I ask questions to truly problem-solve in a civil manner," Yee said. "I am not a bully. I have a lot of experience from my professional role working with communities and being a part or have led a true community engagement."

Yee said her priorities include Pleasanton's quality of life, supporting public safety efforts, collaborating with the school district, supporting local small businesses, and balancing modern city needs while safeguarding the character of Main Street.

Yee, who has two children who attended PUSD, said crime is down, but residents in her district are concerned about catalytic converter and porch package thefts.

On housing, she said the city needs more affordable homes for residents. About 20% of PUSD teachers, she said, grew up in Pleasanton.

"I am not sure how many live in town, but it is not reasonable for the teachers to commute long distances to teach and bring their best," Yee said. "There is a similar ratio for city staff, including fire and police. All of it is about balancing the need with what is possible, but good productive conversations at the council level need to occur. It is critical."

<https://jamiyee.com>

LIVERMORE

(Continued from first page)

of direct governance experience. I served for fifteen years as an elected member of the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors. Under my leadership, Zone 7 was recognized as one of the top ten water utilities in the nation, out of 161,000. Before being elected to council, I served on the city's General Plan Advisory Committee for two years. I was also a founding member of Livermore's Commission for the Arts, which created the city's first Arts Masterplan. I then served on the city council for six years and served four terms as vice mayor before running for mayor. With each role, I built upon increasing experience and responsibility to hone my skill set to ensure that I would be effective as mayor. I served for nine years as mayor, and with the support of the council and the region's mayors, we were successful.

Nop: Serving the Livermore community as a decorated police officer, as well as starting my own successful real estate business demonstrate my experience in the community. I've dedicated my life to helping people serving Livermore for the past 27 years: fourth grade assistant soccer coach; eighth grade basketball coach; Livermore Police Department (LPD) police officer with honor, distinction, and compassion for 17 years; D.A.R.E. instructor; community liaison between Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD); Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP) and LPD; chair of Livermore Rotary Club Mini Grants; Public Policy Committee chair for the Asian Real Estate Association of America; and vice president and co-founder of the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance. Now a self-made businessman, I help people realize the dream of home ownership, while giving back to my community through multiple nonprofits. My unique life experience that started in the killing fields of Cambodia to now having a piece of the American dream will hopefully inspire others that they can overcome obstacles to succeed in life. I understand that I am the 'outsider' in the race because I am not a politician, and I am proud of that. I believe that residents want the next mayor to be a break from the past, and one who will be more responsive to their concerns.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: I have been an active member of the community for many years and have served on the Livermore Planning Commission, LARP Foundation, Livermore Human Services Commission, and the Alameda Public Health Commission. I also completed the Key to the City and the Citizens Police Academy. Professionally, I am a culinary teacher at a local continuation high school and a former small business owner.

Wahrer: I have served in church, nonprofit and school groups, each of which required me to negotiate, listen, build alliances and resolve issues. My ability to look for solutions among differing views is an important asset for the role of city council member. I have a very hands-on nature of helping both people and our community.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: I know how to communicate with others, to handle a challenge with success, and to be an approachable leader. I have been elected to a school board, served on the Alameda Civil Grand Jury, and been on both sides of negotiation teams. At present, I am the president of the Livermore Lions Club and the Zone Chair of four other Lions clubs in the Tri-Valley. **Chiong:** I currently serve on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC). As a committee member, I have a better and deeper understanding of how the city works as we discuss different elements, like housing, transportation, jobs, climate change, arts and many more.

CRITICAL ISSUES FACING LIVERMORE

What do you believe are the three most critical issues facing the City of Livermore? If elected, how do you plan to address them?

MAYORAL

Marchand: Public safety is number one. People need to feel safe in their community and in the last poll, over 97% of residents felt safe in their neighborhoods. Under my leadership as mayor, public safety was number one in the budget. It will continue to be. I will ensure that our first responders have the tools and the training that they need to protect our community. A new Fire Station #9 and a new Emergency Operations Center were built during my tenure; these facilities will serve this community for generations. Maintaining our remarkable quality of life is critical, providing the infrastructure to ensure that our wine country and agricultural area continues to thrive. It is important that Measure P is passed for the sewer extension down Tesla to protect the groundwater resources and provide infrastructure necessary to complete the South Livermore Valley Area Plan. If elected, I will work to provide another key part of the Wine Country infrastructure: a destination hotel next to the Bankhead Theater and the Wine Country Inn down Arroyo Road. Housing Security – It is important to provide a wide range of housing opportunities so that people are able to live and work here without commuting for hours and adding to our carbon footprint. I will work with the residents of Livermore to further effective strategies to address homelessness.

Nop: Number #1: Increase affordable housing options within Livermore and the Tri-Valley region so that our working families are not unduly burdened with unsustainable housing costs. Number #2: Create more living-wage, high-paying and union jobs in Livermore, so our residents do not have to spend their time commuting and can instead spend it close to home with family and friends, contributing to our community. Number #3: Create and maintain a safe Livermore. We enjoy a quality of life in Livermore that residents hold dear. I have spent my career protecting our residents, and as mayor will seek innovative ways to continue that work.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: Homelessness, affordable housing, and public infrastructure. If elected, I will work with the county and our service providers to help our unsheltered neighbors. I strongly support Livermore's inclusionary housing policies for all income levels. I will also ensure we have safe, beautiful streets for all modes of transit.

Wahrer: These lists tend to look at specific visible challenges, which will come and go, but while we may have specific issues that we call critical, we also need to pay critical attention to the responsible financial and ethical operation of the city. In addition, the critical issues for a young condo resident in one of our new developments are likely different from those in an older downtown home. A good list of critical issues should include:

- Affordability, Meet the needs of all incomes.
- Foster respectful, transparent, efficient communication between the city and its residents.
- Address our use of resources and our footprint on the environment.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: a) The downtown development of affordable housing. b) Parking downtown. c) The constant mistrust of the current council. I will work with the council and other city staff members to find suitable, alternative locations for affordable housing. I think we should build less expensive parking garages, such as a robotic garage. I plan to have town hall meetings and/or coffee klatches monthly or bimonthly to listen to the people.

Chiong: Affordable housing, homelessness, asset

management. Affordable housing and homelessness are, in part, impacted by the market economy. While the city has policies and programs in place, I will make sure the city follows through with the housing element, provide a strong commitment to equitable access to jobs, transportation, amenities and services including mental health, and continue working with other public and private entities to mitigate the issues in the Tri-Valley and the greater Bay Area. With more than \$2 billion worth of assets the city has, asset management is critical for the safety and quality of life of Livermore residents. If elected, it is essential that I understand the overall financial situation of the city to determine priorities when it comes to maintaining, fixing, improving or replacing equipment or infrastructure.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

What are your thoughts on the city's draft Climate Action Plan? How can Livermore most effectively meet its future objectives in terms of reaching carbon neutrality?

MAYORAL

Marchand: I support the Climate Action Plan and can point to those recommendations that have already been adopted while I was mayor. Over 8,000 streetlamps were replaced with LED, designed and manufactured by Bridgelux right here in Livermore. Solar installations were made around the city. Under my leadership, the city joined the East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), which gave residents the opportunity to join the cooperative to reduce their energy bills. I will support the city's planning for additional EV charging stations and the installed Smart Parking apps to reduce the amount of time that drivers need to search for parking downtown. I'm a founding board member and an avid supporter of ValleyLink, which will be key to removing 30,000 cars per day and 100 million tons of greenhouse gases from the 580 corridor every year. Further action must be taken to ensure that the local grid has the capacity to meet the projected demands. Before the Climate Action Plan is adopted, there needs to be a community dialogue to ensure that there is buy-in from our residents and positive incentives to ensure its success and I would lead this effort.

Nop: The Livermore Climate Action Plan from 2012 is currently being updated. The goal of the plan was to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2020, and while all mitigation measures were to support the Climate Action Plan, not all actions were quantified. The revisions will further plan for adopted reduction targets for 2030 and 2045. Among the changes the city has been reviewing are requirements for NEW construction, which I think is essential to meet our targets. Climate change is here, and mitigating the negative effects that come along with it will require urgent action from everyone. I support transforming our infrastructure away from using natural gas and toward electrification in both our buildings and our vehicles. Working urgently and identifying resources to accomplish these goals will put us on the path to reaching our goals for carbon neutrality. Cities can set goals, but we must include residents in the solutions — they hold the key to change. As mayor, I would engage residents with education, ensure equity and inclusive participation, and work to establish partnerships with community organizations and businesses to meet our goals.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: The draft Climate Action Plan focuses on strategies to reduce our carbon footprint and adapt to future climate change. Vehicle emissions are the largest contributor to greenhouse gases in Livermore. As the state moves to zero emission vehicle requirements, the city needs to

ensure a smooth transition and is already making fleet and building improvements, upgrading the Active Transportation Plan, and modernizing building codes for new construction to reduce our carbon footprint.

Wahrer: The Climate Action Plan calls for some long-term work, such as establishing committees and beginning impact and emissions studies. It is also important to ensure we are enabling people to act today to reduce their energy footprint. Action Plan remedies include things such as homeowner incentives and incentives for purchases of environmentally friendly cars and appliances, but we need to recognize that these will generally provide benefits to the more wealthy homeowners. An emphasis on equity should be a highlight of the plan, including improvements to transit access, leadership recycling programs, green employment opportunities, beneficial plantings programs, and other programs that are equally or preferentially beneficial to low-income families.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: I believe that the objectives are attainable. They will have to be revisited every year; changes made as we learn more about how to tackle the challenge. I suggest that when it comes to water, people should read the book by Erica Gies, "Water Always Wins." Take some of the book's suggestions into consideration. And I believe that we should try to set up at least one micro grid.

Chiong: The draft Climate Action Plan is comprehensive in both coverage and strategies. The city can leverage the resources in the national laboratories, ensure that residents and businesses are continually engaged and establish a committee to continually monitor progress.

SOLAR

What do you believe Livermore's (or the county's) plan for future solar power generation should look like? Do you believe the county should establish a solar policy before proceeding with large developments on open space? Whether yes or no, please explain why.

MAYORAL

Marchand: I'm an advocate for effective solar installations. It was under my leadership as mayor that the city installed the solar array, which now provides 90% of the power for the City Hall campus. There are many city facilities where solar could be included to enhance the city's generating capacity, and the city should phase those in as opportunities, partnerships and investment opportunities come available. I believe there needs to be a consistent plan and policy in place to avoid haphazard "leapfrog" development or inconsistent application of policy. Just as with any development, such as the South Livermore Valley Area Plan, advance planning and policy provide the necessary framework for smart decision making.

Nop: In Livermore, there are many opportunities for solar on public and private buildings to increase our energy independence. I think the greatest potential for the future of solar in Livermore, and the county, lies in placements on homes and commercial buildings and not solar farms in our existing open spaces. I will support a county policy that is in alignment with this vision and will advocate to keep our open spaces open.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: All relevant jurisdictions should have a solar policy based on best practices and community input before approving large developments on open space. **Wahrer:** Even the county thinks they should have a solar policy; they just have not gotten it done. It seems obvious that this should be in place before planning large solar developments. While the city does not have direct control over county solar, the city must continue to work to keep its scenic and environmentally important open

space. We need to look at smaller flexible micro grids and rooftop arrays for large warehouse buildings. There are lots more options than we currently are exploring.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: We must develop a solid road plan for green infrastructure that will be in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). We must do a Least Conflict Study to locate the best areas for development. The draft solar policy is incomplete and has not been fully vetted. The policy should incentivize rooftop solar panels and encourage residents to conserve energy. Measure D, for agriculture and open space, needs to be protected. Approving projects before the solar policy is approved will harm wildlife and its migration corridors and complicate future projects.

Chiong: Projects for solar generation should be encouraged and promoted. At this time, however, while the county has ongoing discussions on the policy, it will be helpful that a policy be established to provide guidelines to develop solar projects with large developments on open space.

HOUSING ELEMENT

What are your thoughts on the city's draft Housing Element?

MAYORAL

Marchand: The Housing Element is required by the state, and it must be approved by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. I agree with Livermore's draft Housing Element plans. The city is currently working on revising the General Plan, and I serve on the General Plan Advisory Committee. Through effective planning, the city will continue to meet the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) numbers and provide our share of the state-wide housing needs while answering our residents' housing needs.

Nop: We need more affordable housing options in Livermore and in the Tri-Valley region. As Mayor, I welcome new neighbors to contribute to our vibrant community. I also understand that our grown children, our teachers, our firefighters and our police need housing they can afford in their hometown. I support the current smart growth policies governed by the city's Housing Implementation Program (HIP). It is possible to balance our need for growth and also maintain the voter-approved Urban Growth Boundary and the Scenic Corridor policy. Livermore, like all cities, needs to address the need for affordable housing in our communities. I will work with the state and the Attorney General's office in good faith. There are locations in Livermore that are appropriate locations for more/new affordable housing that fit within our neighborhoods.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: The draft Housing Element is a good planning document that maintains our community character, while meeting Livermore's RHNA number requirements. I look forward to working with the community to refine the general plan and specific plans to govern what will actually be built.

Wahrer: As a revision and update from the city's previous Housing Element, this is not a document with radical new concepts, but rather an improvement and tuning of what the city continues to work on. Observations in the Housing Element that local housing continues to be expensive are not surprising and are typical of the county and of California. This is a result of many factors, including that Livermore is a great place to live. The city needs to continue to work to facilitate infill development, allow for appropriate density, and prioritize development that reduces our environmental and energy footprint. This includes everything from individual accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to new planned development. While the city's compliance with the RHNA relies heavily on the

Isabel plan, we should make sure to also keep attention on maintaining our small-town feel, while handling infill and development within existing neighborhoods.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: The city's draft Housing Element needs improvement. It's obvious that the housing here is expensive. We must address this problem and provide affordable housing for both white-collar and blue-collar workers. At the same time, we need to limit and reduce our environmental footprint. To maintain Livermore's small-town atmosphere, we need to insert additional housing units into an already approved subdivision or neighborhood. The Isabel Neighborhood Plan, which covers 1,100+ acres, is land that can be developed for more housing.

Chiong: The draft Housing Element of the city is a data-centric and comprehensive document that will help the city comply with the Regional Housing Needs Allocation numbers. Importantly, it addresses issues on affordable housing, the unhoused and other groups that will rely on the ability to access housing and related services equitably.

HOMELESSNESS

How can Livermore best serve those experiencing homelessness?

MAYORAL

Marchand: It's important to remember that homelessness is a complex and regional issue. I think Livermore has made some improvements based on recent statistics, and I have ideas for keeping that forward progress moving. In 2014, as mayor, I convened the first Mayors Regional Summit on Homelessness. My work attracted the attention of First Lady Michelle Obama, and she invited me to the White House to participate in the national launch of the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. During my work with the U.S. Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness, I worked with some of the top experts in the country. We concluded that there is no "silver bullet" to end homelessness, so we developed a series of strategies called "silver buckshot" — small, carefully targeted strategies. The implementation of those has been successful. The last point-in-time count in Livermore has shown the number of people experiencing homelessness in Livermore has gone down, while the numbers throughout the county have risen by over 40%. The strategies include housing and wrap-around services provided by partnerships with organizations like InterFaith Housing, Abode Services, MidPen, CityServe and Eden Housing. Under my leadership, Chestnut Square was completed, providing housing to 72 low-income seniors and 42 low-income families, including some who had been homeless. \$1 million dollars was leveraged from the county to stand up the first phase of Goodness Village. Senator Glazer's office recently was instrumental in providing \$5 million toward phase 2. Construction has now begun on a Navigation Center, Vineyard 2.0. During the COVID-19 crisis, the city was able to leverage funds from the State Projects RoomKey and Homekey to provide shelter to our unhoused neighbors.

Nop: Something that many don't know is that the unhoused in our community are Livermore residents. Multiple studies have verified that typically between 65% to 80% of homeless in any given city were formally locally housed residents of that same city. I understand what it means to be homeless, having lived in war-torn Cambodia until I was six years old and then as a refugee in a tent city until I was ten years old. We must act now to help the unhoused in our community. We need to coordinate efforts between the local nonprofit and faith-based communities and the Livermore Police Homeless Liaison Officers to increase our impact. We must work with Tri-Valley

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LIVERMORE

(Continued from page 12)

and regional leaders to coordinate resources effectively. I am supportive of tiny homes that include wraparound services, especially after seeing a successfully run effort in Austin. Our local Goodness Village is modeled after their success.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: Livermore can best serve those experiencing homelessness by aligning with our neighboring cities and the county on a cooperative regional approach, such as EveryOne Home. A regional approach gives us the best opportunities to get the needed funding. I will also work on additional solutions tailored to our local needs, such as tiny homes and safe parking through partnerships with our nonprofit and faith-based organizations.

Wahrer: Communities are finding that they can do a better job responding to homelessness if they track the individuals and their needs and issues. Besides doing a better job of handling individual cases, it gives a better sense of which services need priority. To provide these services, the city partners with local groups, such as Cornerstone, Open Heart, Asbury, Cityserve, Tri-Valley Shelter, Shepherd's Gate, Abode, etc. The city is in a position to coordinate centralized data. And since police interactions are a part of the homeless experience, having a database to know who you are dealing with could be a big help. There are privacy issues, manpower requirements, etc. But those things should be addressable. The city can address specific homeless populations, such as those who live in their cars, and provide specific services, such as safe parking sites with limited services, like porta-potties and trash cans. They could take that a step further and rather than arrest them for expired tags and impounding cars, the police could refer them to organizations that might be able to help them navigate the paperwork to get tags (or whatever). Again, the approach is to look at specific cases or types of cases. To be clear, homelessness is a symptom, not a cause. There are lots of causes, and they are complex and often interrelated. Mental health, drugs, jobs, dysfunctional family, abuse, etc. So no one expects we can "solve homelessness" with better quick response services. But if we can pick off certain causes with a targeted approach, that seems like a way to whittle down the problem.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: To address the

issue of homelessness, we must be careful not to create ghettos. A strong effort should be made to educate the marginalized on how to care for themselves. The city must work with local churches that already have programs in place to help the homeless. We could create housing for them in local motels that are financially strapped. A trip to other cities in California and in other states that have been able to reduce/eliminate homelessness will be worthwhile.

Chiong: It is evident that the city cares for its unhoused population. Availability of liaison officers, access to shelter and related services including mental health programs and partnerships with other public and private entities have been effective in mitigating the homelessness issues.

EDEN HOUSING

If you do support the current location of the Eden Housing development, do you think the referendum should have been rejected? Why do you think the project should remain where it is on the Lucky site? Do you support the \$7.8 million loaned to Eden for the acquisition of the property, the \$5.5 million given to fund the park and the \$4.3 million to address the site contamination – totaling \$17.6 million?

If you don't support the current location of the Eden Housing development, why? Would you have asked the city to place the referendum on the ballot? If you favor the relocation, how do you believe this could be accomplished now that the property has been sold?

MAYORAL

Marchand: I support the current proposed location for the Eden Housing project and the recent sale of the property. In his Impartial Analysis before any signatures were gathered, the city attorney informed the leadership of Move Eden Housing (MEH) that the council's actions were administrative, not legislative. As such, the city clerk, as a constitutional officer, rejected the signatures rather than subjecting the voters to an invalid action. Since then, four judges have ruled against MEH's motions. The project should remain on this site, because during the public workshops, 36 of 37 work groups agreed that the housing mandated for this site by its purchase with Redevelopment Affordable Housing Funds should be at the site of the former train depot. These three amounts are different and need to be

fully understood. The \$5.5 million is not a loan; it is the cost of the park construction, and Eden is contracted to build it. Rep. Eric Swalwell has provided \$1 million to reduce this expense since it honors our local veterans. The site clean-up is the only responsible course of action for a contaminated site before it becomes a park. This is not a loan to Eden. The city took similar action with the clean-up of Livermore Plaza. The \$14 million of affordable housing dollars have already been committed to the purchase of the land, this is not a loan. \$7.8 million is not a loan to Eden.

Mony: The Eden Housing downtown development deal has created real divides in our community. The process of getting us to where we are has left a significant part of the community feeling unheard. The City rejected the thousands of signatures on the referendum on technical grounds and in doing so created more strife and division in Livermore. While I do not support the current location, I feel that the time has come to heal and move forward. Now that the property has been sold and there are still two litigations over the property, the fact is that there is limited recourse to pursue a relocation that isn't litigious, costly, and will not further divide our community. As mayor, I will review all of our legal options and move forward within the boundaries of our legal obligations. My goal is to find a win-win solution for the people of Livermore.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: Acting in their constitutional roles the city clerk and city attorney determined that the petition was not eligible to be processed as a referendum. Four judges have now supported their determination in preliminary rulings denying MEH motions. Furthermore, it is inappropriate and potentially illegal for a council member to interfere with the clerk and attorney performing their duties. It is important to understand that the land worth \$7.8 million contributed to the project is not being loaned in the normal sense. The loan document is a vehicle to ensure that the affordable housing fund gets the land or dollar value back if the project is not delivered as planned. Note, if affordable housing is not built on the site, the city's general fund is required to return the land or the equivalent dollar value to the affordable housing fund. We should build Veterans Park as planned. Representative Swalwell secured \$1 million for its construction because it honors our vet-

erans. As stewards of the environment, it would be unconscionable to not clean up the site, especially where children will play.

Wahrer: I am in favor of Eden housing, and I do not feel the central downtown space is the right spot for it. After showing an "approved plan" that changed right after the election, a new council needs to be honest rather than offering another bait-and-switch. Now that the property is sold, I will ask staff to look into what the real options are. Whatever happens with the Eden plan, I want to work with the city to fix the parking shortage created by Eden's single parking spot per housing unit. I also want to make sure that what open space remains is comfortable and coordinates with the rest of the public space, not walled off for residents only. I want to prioritize Livermore residents getting into Livermore's low-income housing.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: I DO NOT support the current location of the Eden Housing development. I was one of the volunteers who gathered signatures for the referendum. 90% of the citizens did not want the current location. I thought the referendum should have been placed on the ballot. The Eden Housing Developers would be able to save money if they were given other options. The city could have offered other undeveloped locations and have Eden Housing divide up the number of units, thus providing more residences. I believe that anything can be changed when given the right incentives and reasoning. Chiong: It is my understanding that affordable housing was to be built on the current Eden Housing location when the land was purchased by the city using affordable housing funds many years ago. With lawsuits and an appeal to oppose the project all decided in favor of the city, I believe the city has a legal basis now to proceed with the development. It is time to move forward from this conversation so the city can give proper attention to other important issues in the community.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

What do you want citizens to know about you as a candidate that you haven't already shared here?

MAYORAL

Marchand: With district elections, there will be two new council members joining the city council. These will be individuals who will bring with them fresh

ideas and perspectives. In the last citywide poll, 92% of respondents agreed that Livermore is a great place to live and raise a family. Furthermore, in March of this year, an independent analysis concluded that under my tenure, the Livermore Police Department was fair and unbiased. That does not happen by accident. It can only come from experienced, effective leadership and clear direction. I love this city, and I'm prepared to serve our residents with my experience and passion to keep Livermore moving forward. Elect success. Vote Marchand for Mayor.

Nop: In closing, I want citizens to know that I am running to move Livermore forward, to bring a fresh perspective and innovative ideas to the city council. I will work to create a local government that is more responsive to the needs and desires of ALL our residents.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Branning: I love Livermore, and I want to listen and work collaboratively with the residents to make Livermore even better. I have experience working with our local and regional leaders, and I am honored to have earned their endorsements along with firefighters, labor organizations, teachers, realtors and many others. I hope you will reach out at 925-232-1101 or at evanbranning.com.

Wahrer: I am excited to be a Livermore City Council

member for all residents. I have met amazing people while walking in our neighborhoods. I know you want your thoughts heard and considered. When opinions or goals are in conflict, I want to work to see where we can find common ground. Livermore is a community; we need to act with respect for each other.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Barrientos: My life experiences have taught me many things, like how to face a challenge and attempt to solve it and how to get along with all kinds of people. As your next city council member, I will be a public servant. I intend to serve by opening more lines of communication and staying engaged with all the residents of Livermore, especially those in District 2. Chiong: My husband and I moved to the United States from the Philippines 28 years ago. We raised our two kids in Livermore, and they are now carving their own paths in their chosen fields. I am proud that I live in Livermore.



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MALL

(Continued from first page)

themselves who are anxious to try and make a different use — not all of them and not all properties, but especially the closed ones and the ones with lots of

they become greater than the sum of their parts," said Williams.

The mall's western parcels would not undergo redevelopment in the first

ing there. I work for the DA's (District Attorney's) office and see a significant number of thefts and problems and cars getting broke into."

Residents also worried about traffic in the area.

Already home to the Workday headquarters and the 10x Genomics headquarters, among other businesses, the area generates significant rush-hour traffic, and the effects of an additional 1,800 housing units requires consideration, said residents.

Mike Tassano, Pleasanton traffic engineer, while supportive of traffic analyses, pointed out that residential projects tend to generate traffic flows opposite that of office projects.

Another discussion theme involved complementing Pleasanton's downtown in lieu of competing with it.

"I think downtown is a very unique and special environment," said Clark. "It has an authenticity and a character that, with all the best will in the world, a new shopping center could not replace."

Finally, residents tried to juggle various uses for the space, from outdoor shopping to parks and multi-use paths.

Resident Sarah Hoster said, "A lot of people use the mall, or have used the

mall historically, as sort of a walking area when the weather wasn't so great, and so they would like to see that incorporated."

City staff will present feedback from last week's meeting, along with that from a second community meeting in November, to the Planning Commission and City Council in December.

Residents can also provide feedback on the project at stoneridgemallframework.com.

"We've seen a number of changes and shifts that start to suggest that this is really a critical moment for the mall."

— Director of Community Development Ellen Clark

parking — make a better use of their property," said Jason Moody, managing principal at economic and planning systems.

Of the four original anchor stores — Nordstrom, Sears, JCPenney and Macy's — only the latter two remain open.

Rick Williams, of Van Meter Williams Pollack, the urban design and planning firm hired by the city, presented initial proposals for the project. These include a conversion of the northern parking sector to high-density residential; a previously approved gym, theater and retail plaza on the old Sears site; and 360 units of housing on the parcel adjacent to Sears, already zoned for housing.

"One of the goals of the structure plan is to (decide) how to integrate these in an appropriate way so that

phase.

Residents, like Michael Ko, asked that any residential project keep water usage and affordability in mind.

Williams also drew comparisons to the Northgate Mall in San Rafael, the Americana at Brand in Glendale, and the Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek to help inform the discussion.

Commissioner Matthew Gaidos relayed concerns around safety heard during the meeting's breakout sessions.

"Anything that we do, we need to make sure that the members of our community want to go and spend time in a place when they feel safe doing that," he said. "I don't feel comfortable sending my kids to the mall right now. I don't particularly like go-



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Dublin High School Defeats Hayward Farmers For Fourth Win of the Season

By Nathan Canilao

The Dublin High football team defeated the Hayward Farmers 39-34 at home on Sept. 30, clinching their fourth win of the season.

Junior quarterback Sean Collins went 11/15 and threw for 156 yards and one touchdown. Senior wide receivers Adam Moore and Brandon D'Aquisto combined for nine catches and 127 yards.

However, where the Gaels did most of their damage was in the run game.

Senior Brady Steadman rushed for 152 yards on 28 carries. Moore also did damage on the ground, rushing for 48 yards on eight carries while scoring three rushing touchdowns.

The Gaels have won four of their last five games and improve to 4-2 on the season. They cap off their preseason schedule with wins over Hayward and Castro Valley High School.

Up next for the team is a home matchup with Granada High to open league play, on Oct. 7.



Above right: Dublin wide receiver Brandon D'Aquisto jumps for a pass during Dublin High's homecoming game against Hayward High School on Friday, Sept. 30. Dublin won in a close game, 39-34. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]

(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

College Park Football Falls to LHS

By Nathan Canilao

The Livermore High football team defeated College Park High School 35-8 on Sept. 30. The Cowboys remain undefeated with the win and continue to have one of their best starts to the season in school history.

The Cowboys defense played a huge role in the win as they shut down the Falcons the entire game. At halftime, the Cowboys

took a 14-0 lead and gave the College Park offense fits.

In the third quarter, Livermore scored 14 unanswered points and took all the momentum in the game. They would close out the game easily and come away with the win.

Senior running back Elijah Rodgers rushed for 142 yards on 14 carries and scored a touchdown. The Cowboys rushing attack

played a big role in the win as they rushed for 223 yards as a team on 31 carries.

Senior Tyler Trudeau completed 10/22 passes for 179 yards and threw a touchdown.

The Cowboys move to 6-0 on the year and complete preseason play undefeated. Up next, they will face Foothill High School on Sept. 14 at home for their first game of league play.

Amador High Girls Squash Carondelet

By Nathan Canilao

The Amador Valley girls volleyball team defeated the Carondelet Cougars 3-0 on Sept. 29. The Dons picked up their 15th win of the season with the victory.

Junior Madison May led the Dons in kills with 14. Sophomore Charlotte Kelly recorded 12 kills to go along with a kill percentage

of 66.7%.

Junior Katie O'Sullivan had four aces and had a serve percentage of 92.9%.

The Dons started the first set off strong, winning 25-13. The Dons attack was on full display as they cruised to a first set victory.

The Dons replicated that success in the second set. They kept their foot on the

gas and won 25-17.

The Cougars made the third set interesting early, but the Dons would eventually pull out the win 25-17.

The Dons improved to 15-1 with the win and are currently in first place in the East Bay Athletic League standings. They will face Livermore High School at home on Oct. 6.



Livermore High hosted Dougherty Valley on Thursday, Sept. 29, where the Junior Varsity coed team (above) also had a match. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Police Department Named Agency of the Year

The Livermore Police Department has been named Agency of the Year by California Narcotic Officers' Association (CNOA) for

its commitment to public safety and the community, and its continued support of training.

Based in Santa Clarita,

CNOA is a nonprofit organization that provides training in narcotics enforcement for police officers and prosecutors.

Livermore to Hold Halloween "Trunk or Treat"

Livermore will hold its first-ever "Trunk or Treat," with city employees passing out Halloween candy from the trunks of decorated vehicles, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., on Wednesday, Oct. 26, in the Police Department parking lot at 1110 S. Livermore Ave. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Costumes are encouraged.

Livermore High Boys Water Polo Sweeps Past Dougherty Valley

By Nathan Canilao

In their first home win of the year, the Livermore High varsity boys' water polo team defeated the Dougherty Valley Wildcats 16-3 on Sept. 29, improving to 4-5 with the victory.

The Cowboys took a

strong lead early in the game and didn't look back. Their high-powered offense gave the Wildcats fits and made it hard for them to gain any momentum.

On the defensive end, Livermore shut down the Dougherty Valley offense. Strong play from the Liver-

more goalkeepers ensured the Cowboys would not have to worry about the game being close.

With this win, the Cowboys bounce back after dropping their previous two contests. Livermore will go on the road on Oct. 6 to face Monte Vista High School.



Varsity water polo goalkeeper Aiden Chirca deflects a shot during the Livermore High School, Dougherty Valley match on Thursday, Sept. 29. Livermore varsity won the match 16-3. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Las Positas Water Polo Player Gets State Honor

By Matt Schwab

In a statement about the emergence of the Las Positas water polo program statewide, Hawks sophomore Kyle Young was selected as one of two California Community College Water Polo Coaches Association (CCCWPCA) Players of the Week, along with Lily Worley of Golden West, on Sept. 28.

Young led the Hawks to an impressive 4-1 week. He amassed 16 total goals highlighted by a five-goal, six-assist, six-steal effort in a 12-7 victory over Grossmont. He scored two or more goals in each game overall and tacked on 22 assists, including a seven-assist game in an 18-14 win over El Camino. His defense was strong as well, with a total of 15 steals and one field block.

Las Positas had three

wins in the Cesar Chavez Tournament at Southwestern College in Chula Vista, besting Southwestern 13-10, El Camino 18-14, and Grossmont 12-7, on Sept. 23-24.

Las Positas also dropped a memorable international game against Jalisco U20 of Mexico, 14-13, on the trip.

On Sept. 21, the Hawks split games against West Valley and Diablo Valley College. On Sept. 28, Las Positas opened Coast Conference play with a 12-7 win over Cabrillo and beat UC Santa Cruz 22-11, improving to 13-8 overall.

Las Positas coach Jason Craighead, who has a deep squad, described Young's impressive play against Grossmont as "quietly outstanding." The coach described his squad as the best he's had "by far" at the college.

"Our whole starting

group is worth mentioning," Craighead said. "On any given day any one of them can take a lead role."

Hawks goalie Quentin Perry is looking solid after making first-team All-Northern California last year. His twin brother, Zach Perry, a sophomore driver, also had a phenomenal Cesar Chavez tournament, as did Ryan Lichlyter and others.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: Craighead described the game against Jalisco in glowing terms. "That was an awesome experience ... Their coach was also their Olympic team and National coach, and it was quite an honor (facing them). It was a different style of play, a little bit different. It was a fantastic experience for our guys. We took a picture with their team."

Rincon Library to Host Program on Insects

The Livermore Public Library will host a free, educational program on insects at the Rincon Branch Library, 725 Rincon Ave., on Friday, Oct. 14. Presented by the San Francisco-based SaveNature.org, the Insect Discovery Lab is considered suitable for students in kindergarten through high school. The program takes place at 3:30 p.m. and will explore the world of beetles, millipedes, tarantulas, walking sticks, scorpions, and other insects. To register, call 925-373-5540.

Livermore Boy Scout Earns Eagle Rank

Matto Musso, a member of Boy Scout Troop 939, has earned the rank of Eagle, the highest rank in the Scouts BSA program.

Musso is the son of Mark

and Annette Musso of Livermore. His Court of Honor was held in August. To achieve the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges and complete a community service project.

For his Eagle project, Musso, who has minimally verbal autism and communicates by pointing to letters on a letterboard, created a handbook of ways to encourage the inclusion of the neurodiverse community in civic events for the Livermore Cultural Arts Council.

"My goal was to provide insight into the lives of neurodiverse people and the specific and helpful ways

neurotypical people can include us in community and group settings," Musso said. "I hope that when used, this handbook will greatly enhance the lives of people who are too often isolated from the community, limited in opportunities to develop friendships, and too often judged as being 'off, strange, rude, uncaring and unsocial' by a community that doesn't understand them."

Troop 939 is sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. For a copy of "The Handbook for Inclusion," email annettemusso2@gmail.com.



Matto Musso

'Radium Girls' Chosen for Livermore Reads Program

"The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women" will be the featured book next year for the annual Livermore Reads Together program sponsored by Friends of the Livermore Public Library.

The best-selling book by Kate Moore tells the story of the factory workers who contracted radiation poisoning from using paint made with powdered radium to create luminous watch dials in the early 20th century. As radium dust began to cover their bodies, many of the women fell sick with mysterious symptoms, including wounds that failed to heal

and bones that began to deteriorate.

Some of the women even began to glow, especially as they touched their paint brushes to their lips to form a fine point or paint their fingernails. The medical, legal, and political struggles that followed became one of the most contentious scandals in the 1920s and '30s, leading to research into the effects of radiation and greater workplace safety regulations.

"Radium Girls" was one of four books by women selected by library staff and received the most votes from the community for the 2023 Livermore Reads Together

program, according to a library announcement. The library will host a series of events during March to honor Women's History Month and the themes in "Radium Girls."

All Livermore Reads Together events are free and open to the public. "Radium Girls" can be checked out at the Livermore Public Library.

Moore is also the author of "The Woman They Could Not Silence," published in 2021, about a rebellious wife and mother in the 1860s whose husband has her committed to an insane asylum.



Anna Zavrazhnova and Mike Henderson of XL Aviation show off their Pitts S-2B during the Livermore Airport's open house on Saturday, Oct. 2. The public event offered aviation enthusiasts the opportunity to get a close-up view of some of the aircraft that make their home at the Livermore airfield. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

TRADITIONS

(Continued from first page)

tions he participated in many times. Randy said he was honored to receive the call from her.

"She called me and asked me to perform," he said. "We had to go to LA ... it was an honor to be there. It was a great experience. It was different than my other performances because I was under more pressure, I was dancing for something bigger than myself."

Littlefeather was known for her activism and support of Native American Civil Rights. She passed away after suffering from breast cancer.

Eduardo Sanchez is the Manager of Public Programs at the Academy Museum. He said the ceremony was the first of its kind in the new theaters, and it was exhilarating to see youth participation in something so meaningful.

"There were many firsts for this particular evening and the program honoring and celebrating Sacheen Littlefeather," Sanchez said. "(Randy's) performance

was beautiful; it was wonderful. He came in early to see the stage and feel what his movements would be like on stage, wearing moccasins. I love how Randy entered the space and felt it important to be able to interact with the stage."

Randy wore custom regalia for the ceremony, designed to represent him and his heritage. The design encompassed the four sacred mountains in the Navajo tradition and the colors of his father's tribe.

Randy's parents are also active in the local Native American community and said they are proud to see their son carry on their heritage.

"We try as urban Indians to maintain our customs and traditions," said Randy's mother, Paulette Pico. "We are very proud of him. He has really put a lot into his dancing and he's excellent ... he always gets a lot of compliments from the audience and elders ... there are 100s of songs, and each song has a different dance required for it, and he knows that."

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591556

The following person(s) doing business as: Scott's Painting, 1216 Lillian Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Scott Clemens, 1216 Lillian Street, Livermore, CA. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Scott Clemens, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 29, 2022. Expires August 28, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5264. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591459

The following person(s) doing business as: Robin Renee Photography, 2936 Bottini Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Robin Dozier, 2936 Bottini Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Robin Dozier, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2022. Expires August 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5265. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591475

The following person(s) doing business as: Datarast, 775 Yolo Way, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julian-Finney, Inc. 775 Yolo 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: June, 1986. Signature of Registrant/s/: Dorothy J. Finney-Slade, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2022. Expires August 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5267. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591458

The following person(s) doing business as: Eleven Electrical Inc., 690 Daisyfield Dr., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eleven Electrical Inc., 690 Daisyfield Dr., 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: 7/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Michael See, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2022. Expires August 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5268. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591821

The following person(s) doing business as: Soapcial, 34363 Atteridge Court, Fremont, CA 94555, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mufaddal Ezy, 34363 Atteridge Court, Fremont, CA 94555. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mufaddal Ezy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2022. Expires September 7, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5269. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591833

The following person(s) doing business as: KRQ Team, 43225 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Zen Real Estate, 6807 Syrah Dr.

Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sandeep Kumar. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2022. Expires September 7, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5270. Published September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591673

The following person(s) doing business as: Bradford Air and Heating, 4049 First St #133, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wester Bradford, 2530 Anderson Lane, Brentwood, CA 94513. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/1/2003. Signature of Registrant/s/: Wester Bradford, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 1, 2022. Expires August 31, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5271. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592064

The following person(s) doing business as: World Shirobi Network Foundation, 696 Hilldale Ave, Berkeley, CA 94708, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): World Shirobi Network Foundation, 696 Hilldale Ave, Berkeley, CA 94708. 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: June, 1986. Signature of Registrant/s/: Dorothy J. Finney-Slade, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2022. Expires August 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5272. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591930

The following person(s) doing business as: Sakhi, 609 Del Sol Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Swato Bansal, 609 Del Sol Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/1/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Swati Bansal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 13, 2022. Expires September 12, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5273. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591860

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Monarch Designs; 2. Monarch Embroidery, 3856 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): LustyCo, LLC, 3856 Dartmouth Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christine Lusty, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 9, 2022. Expires September 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5274. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591807

The following person(s) doing business as: New Vintage Wine, 2553 6th St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mario Luis Rubio. 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/: Mario Luis Rubio, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2022. Expires September 7, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5275. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

ber 7, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5275. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591671

The following person(s) doing business as: Rodriguez Pavers & Stone, 21631 Garden Ave, Apt.7, Hayward, CA 94541, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ramon Rodriguez Villarreal, 21631 Garden Ave, Apt.7, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ramon Rodriguez Villarreal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 29, 2022. Expires September 28, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5276. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591129

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Visone Realty & Investments LLC; 2. VRI LLC, 2888 Chapman St., Oakland, CA 94601, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Visone Realty & Investments LLC, 2888 Chapman St., Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Adelaide Lomarita, Owner/Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 12, 2022. Expires September 11, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5277. Published September 22, 29, October 6, 13, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592244

The following person(s) doing business as: Mayer Mendez Therapy, 5208 Seaview Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Emily Mayer Mendez, 5208 Seaview Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546. 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/: Emily Mayer Mendez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2022. Expires September 25, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5279. Published September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592149

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Purus Logistics; 2. PurusLink; 3. Purus Systems, 3143 Independence Dr., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Purus Inc., 3143 Independence Dr., Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brittany Lee, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 20, 2022. Expires September 19, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5280. Published September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592097

The following person(s) doing business as: Falcon King, 39663 Leslie St., Apt. 307, Fremont CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Munawar Shah Quadri Syed, 39663 Leslie St., Apt. 307, Fremont CA 94538. 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: 9/9/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brittany Lee, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 9, 2022. Expires September 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5286. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592285

The following person(s) doing business as: Reclaimed Courage, 2431 Detert St.,

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Aeronautica America, 20301 Skywest Dr. Hayward, CA 94541, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aspire Aeronautica Inc., 180 Sonoma Ct, San Bruno, CA 94066. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/26/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kyle Cummins, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2022. Expires September 25, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5287. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592368

The following person(s) doing business as: Luminax Optoelectronic Technology, 44611 S. Grimmer Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mxtrend Corporation, 44611 S. Grimmer Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/4/2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Yane Ken Yang, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 29, 2022. Expires September 28, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5283. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592373

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Crib Buddy; 2. Crib Buddy Maids; 3. Crib Buddy Cleaning, 2930 Shattuck Ave #200-114, Berkeley, CA 94705, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Laura Groza, 2930 Shattuck Ave # 200-114 Berkeley, CA 94705. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Laura Groza, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 29, 2022. Expires September 28, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5284. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 582324

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). The Livermore School of Dance, 1988 Second St., Livermore, CA 94550. Registered Owner(s): Brittany Lee, 1921 E. Shoreview Dr., San Ramon, CA 94582. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 9/2/2021 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brittany Lee, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 9, 2022. The Independent, Legal No. 5285. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 591865

The following person(s) doing business as: The Livermore School of Dance, 1988 Second St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brittany Lee Dance LLC, 160 Shady Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94597. 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: 9/9/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brittany Lee, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 9, 2022. Expires September 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5286. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592285

The following person(s) doing business as: Reclaimed Courage, 2431 Detert St.,

Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kyle Cummins, 2431 Detert 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: 7/26/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kyle Cummins, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2022. Expires September 25, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5287. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 592405

The following person(s) doing business as: Nicholas Leggat Photography, 453 Ridgecrest Circle, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nicholas Leggat, 453 Ridgecrest 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/: Nicholas Leggat, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 30, 2022. Expires September 29, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5288. Published October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue
Adopt a New Best Friend
TVAR
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

HELP WANTED

EMPLOYMENT

FormFactor, Inc. in Livermore, CA seeks Senior Metrology Process Engineer. Dvlp, implement, & continuous improve various calibrated equipment & sys used to manufacture MEMS-based prods used in advanced memory & SOC probe cards. To apply, mail resume referencing job code 3030-R to Attn: P. Garrett, 7005 Southfront Rd, Livermore, CA 94551.EOE.

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.

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

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

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

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Syncopated Ladies on Tap at Bankhead

Livermore Valley Arts will present two energetic dance and musical performances this month as part of the Bankhead Presents season at the Bankhead Theater. On the schedule for 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 12, is

Syncopated Ladies, a female tap-dance band from Los Angeles created by Emmy-nominated choreographer Chloe Arnold. The group, whose online videos have garnered more than 100 million views, has worked

with Beyonce, and has appeared on “So You Think You Can Dance” and “Good Morning America.” Tickets for “Syncopated Ladies: Live” are \$20 to \$80. Next up is the Ballet Folklorico de Mexico de Carlos Moreno with “Dia de los Muertos,” a celebration of the departed and the lives they led, at 3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 30.

Each of the indigenous dances, representing various regions of pre-Columbian Mexico, will feature vibrant costumes, traditional music, and unique art forms. Tickets for Dia de los Muertos are \$20 to \$50.

Tickets are available at livermorearts.org, by calling 925-373-6800, or at the Bankhead Theater box office at 2400 First St., Livermore.



The Syncopated Ladies, a female tap dance group from Los Angeles will perform at the Bankhead Theater on Oct. 12. (Photo courtesy of Bankhead Theater)

Museum on Main to Observe Indian Festival

The Museum on Main in Pleasanton will observe Diwali, a traditional Indian festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs, with a lighting of small earthenware oil lamps known as diyas, at 7 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 9.

The fall festival symbolizes the victory of light over darkness. Prior to the lighting of the lamps, Pleasanton’s Towne Center Books, located at 555 Main St., will host a Diwali story time from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The lamp lighting is also being sponsored by the Bay Area

chapter of Sewa International, a Hindu faith-based nonprofit organization, and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council.

The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main St. To register, visit tinyurl.com/PTownDiwali2022.

Novelist to Discuss Setting as a Character

Glenda Carroll, author of the Trisha Carson Mysteries, will explain how the San Francisco Bay Area became a key character in her novels in a presentation for the Tri-Valley Writers on Saturday, Oct. 15.

Carroll, an open-water swimmer and sailor, wrote a weekly sailing column for the Marin Independent Journal for 19 years. She also wrote for local, national, and international sailing publications, with a foray into features and travel writing for the “San Francisco Chron-

icle,” “Travel & Leisure,” and other publications.

Each of her three Trisha Carson thrillers involves open water swimming, leveraging her experience as the Open Water Chair for Pacific Masters Swimming for five years. Her debut novel, “Dead in the Water,” was published in 2013, followed by “Drop Dead Red” in 2017, and “Dead Code: A Trisha Carson Mystery” in 2021.

Her presentation, “How the SF Bay Area Became a Character in the Trisha

Carson Mysteries,” at the Four Points by Sheraton in Pleasanton, will explore how authors make the setting of a novel integral to their story.

The presentation will begin at 2 p.m., with check-in beginning at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$14 for Writer’s Club members, \$18 for nonmembers, \$6 for student members, and \$10 for student nonmembers.

To register, email reservations@trivalleywriters.org by Friday, Oct. 14. Payment is required in advance at bit.ly/3CpD0UC.

Alameda Coroner IDs Victim of Pleasanton Car Crash

By Keith Burbank
Bay City News Foundation

The Alameda County coroner’s office has identified the victim of a fiery crash last month in Pleasanton as 67-year-old Jong Park. Park, a Pleasanton res-

ident, died when his Mercedes-Benz sedan left an Interstate 680 off ramp, went down an embankment, and burst into flames when it hit a tree. Officers responded to the single-vehicle incident about 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 14. California High-

way Patrol Officer Tyler Hahn said Park was alone in the car, and no cause was given for the crash.

Flames from the crash started a grass fire, and off-and on-ramps for I-680 at Bernal Avenue were closed for about 90 minutes.

SCS

(Continued from first page)

[AstroTurf?], Commissioner Stephen Wright shared at the meeting community water usage concerns about the SCS project in general, and asked staff to prepare more water usage details ahead of the next SCS meeting.

“I’d like to try to do a better job of explaining to (the community), if I can, why their grass is dead and we’re getting ready to do this massive project,” he said.

Additionally, Fryer suggested the plan would reduce the number of shophouses — residential units above street-level retail spaces —

in response to recent fears that the retail spaces would not be fully utilized.

“Most of the time you’ve seen residential over retail, it’s been rental,” he said. “When the preferred plan was adopted with the shophouses, that concept is single ownership,” and the city has little control over whether the retail space gets used for commercial activities or not.

The planning commission will vote on the project’s land use and zoning at their Oct. 25 meeting. That same evening, the commission will decide on the city’s

responses to the state’s comments on the Dublin Draft Housing Element.

Kristie Wheeler, assistant community development director, explained that while the city must prepare the Housing Element for certification by the end of January, the SCS approval brings with it its own deadlines as well.

“The effort is to try to get the project to the city council so that the city council that was so involved in both the community outreach process and the preferred plan is in place,” said Wheeler.

DIRECTOR

(Continued from first page)

While in Livermore, Herriot has enjoyed time spent with friends, working with a cast and crew made up of local and imported talent and enjoying the scenery that inspired the setting for this production.

“I was talking to my designer, and I said what if we set it in Livermore, around 1920, 1930s Livermore, and around a vineyard,” Herriot said. “We did some research and there was the Casa Blanca winery, which became Wentle, so that’s where it’s set.”

The story line follows a young man who is in love with a woman who owns a farm. Through a series of comedic events, including a “love potion,” the two find happiness in the end. Herriot has taken the story and built a set designed to look like a Livermore vineyard 100 years ago. He said bringing the set slightly forward in time and setting it locally is a nod to everything great in Livermore.

“I think people like the local setting,” said Erie Mills, artistic director for the Livermore Valley Opera. “There are a lot of people in the wine business, or who love wine and enjoy the fact we have a nice wine area and one of the oldest in California, so it’s nice to promote it a little bit. There’s one set that says ‘Cresta Blanca’ on the barn and you see the vineyard.”

Tenor Christopher Bozeka plays the male lead, Nemorino, and is working with Herriot for the first time. He said the setting flows well with the opera, and will bring the audience into the world of the characters more easily.

“Rob is a wonderful, amazing director,” Bozeka said. “I’ve very much enjoyed my time collaborating with him, and I think I speak for the entire cast when I say we have all enjoyed creating the product we have with this show under his direction.”

With one weekend of

performances down and one to go, Herriot reflected on his hard work getting the show up and running, noting his time spent working in Livermore was cathartic.

“This has been a very healing process for me,” he said. “Doing this production has been healing to my soul on many levels, which is what art should do. I think we all need to be healed in some way given what we’ve all come through, and that’s really what art was meant to do, heal and give catharsis through other people’s lives and stories... one day I was able to roll over and say that some of the pain and anxiety I was carrying was gone because of the magic of what we are doing.”

“Elixir of Love” is playing at the Livermore Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. For tickets or more information, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

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Mony Nop has dedicated his life to helping Livermore for the past 27 years: as a 4th grade Assistant Soccer Coach, a 8th grade Basketball Coach, a Livermore police officer serving with honor, distinction, and compassion for 17 years, a D.A.R.E. Instructor, the Community Liaison between LVJUSD, LARPD and LPD, Chair of Livermore Rotary Club Mini Grants, the Public Policy Committee Chair for the Asian Real Estate Association of America, and Vice President and Co-Founder of the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance. Now a self-made businessman, Mony helps people in the community realize the dream of homeownership while continuing to give back through multiple nonprofits.



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