

## Industrial Reduced in Midtown

Public Fears the Change Will Justify City UGB Expansion

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — Desires to protect industrial land in Livermore's Midtown area — and thereby remove the need to expand the city's urban growth boundary — guided the public when addressing Livermore's Midtown area at last week's General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting.

The city is in the process of updating its General Plan, which will direct its development through 2045.

The 630-acre Midtown area, one of five focus areas in the GPAC plan, currently includes a mix of uses, including 770 homes and 2,960 industrial and other jobs, according to the city. From the Safeway and Lowe's shopping center on First Street and Mines Road, Midtown stretches east along I-580 until South Vasco Road and is roughly bounded by Patterson Pass Road to

(See HOUSING, page 7)

## Santa Rita Jail

### Man Dies Day After His Arrest

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — The Alameda County Sheriff's office is again investigating the death of an inmate at Santa Rita Jail. A 53-year-old Oakland man, Eric Johnson, was found unresponsive in his cell at about 5:15 a.m. on Feb. 8.

Deputies and jail medical staff performed lifesaving measures, but Johnson was pronounced dead 15 minutes later, sheriff's Lt. Tya Modeste said.

San Leandro police arrested Johnson early on Feb. 7 on suspicion of vehicle theft.

Jail officials assigned Johnson to a minimum-security setting in the facility's custodial reception center, where he was the lone occupant of his cell, Modeste said.

Johnson's cause of death was not immediately known and will be determined by the Alameda

(See SANTA RITA, page 7)



Livermore Granada High's Humans Against Hate Club and students from Kathryn Malson's art classes helped celebrate Black History this month by painting a mural of Black historical figures and displaying quotes around campus. (Photo courtesy: LVJUSD)

## Jerry McNerney, Carlos Villapudu and Jim Shoemaker Three Competing to Represent the Tri-Valley in New Senate District 5

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Voters will find three new names to choose from on this year's ballot to represent the Tri-Valley in the California State Senate. Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol residents now live in the newly drawn District 5, which unites them with western San Joaquin Valley.

The candidates include former U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney, a Democrat who lives in Pleasanton; Assemblymember Carlos Villapudu, a Democrat who currently represents California State Assembly District 13, including Stockton, Mountain House and Tracy; and businessman Jim Shoemaker, the lone Republican in the race.

The district leans Democratic, with 42% registered Democrats; 31% Republicans and 21% no party preference. The top two finishers on March 5 will face a runoff in November to begin serving in 2025.

The Tri-Valley's move to the 5th District in 2025 will end its association with State Sen. Steve Glazer, a Democrat who has less

(See SENATE, page 8)

## Eric Swalwell Faces Challengers For Tri-Valley Seat in Congress

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Seeking his seventh term representing most of the Tri-Valley in California's 14th Congressional District, Democratic U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell faces three Republican challengers on the March 5 primary ballot — special education teacher Alison Hayden; Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

trustee Luis Reynoso; and businessman Vin (Vinay) Kruttiventi.

The district includes Livermore, Pleasanton, Union City, Ashland, San Lorenzo, Cherryland, Fairview Castro Valley and portions of Hayward. Voters in the district are 53% Democrats and 17% Republicans.

The top two finishers will face a runoff in November. In seeking re-election,

Swalwell, a former Dublin City Councilmember, said he wants to continue to work on projects for the Tri-Valley, including the Valley Link rail line over the Altamont Pass and bringing federal dollars for district projects and organizations.

Swalwell is an outspoken critic of former President Donald Trump and served as a manager at Trump's second impeachment trial.

(See SWALWELL, page 8)

## Four Aim to Replace DeSaulnier In 10th Congressional District

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Democratic U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier is seeking his sixth term in Congress, representing District 10 which primarily serves Contra Costa County, but now includes a portion of Dublin.

Challenging him are Republican technology consultant Nolan Lee Chen; Oakley resident Katherine Piccinini, who has the endorsement of the Cal-

ifornia Republican Assembly; Danville resident Mohamed El Sherbini, who declared no party preference; and Dublin resident Joe Sweeney, a businessman in Pleasanton.

DeSaulnier, who was a Republican until switching parties in 2000, has served at all levels of government. His resume includes the Concord City Council, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, the California state Senate and

Assembly, as well as Congressional District 10.

He was elected to Congress in 2014. His district lines were redrawn following the 2020 Census. Some Dublin residents from U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell's Tri-Valley district were pulled into his.

"I've loved being an elected official," DeSaulnier said. "I've been doing it for 30 years. I don't think I would have stayed doing this if it wasn't for voters in Con-

(See DESAULNIER, page 9)

## Livermore

### Intended City Use Of Open Space Funds Questioned

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — A slew of grant requests from the City of Livermore has drawn the attention of open-space proponents, who are concerned that the city could be trying to use open-space funds for residential or other development.

The city recently submitted four grant proposals totaling \$3.7 million to the Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee (ALOSC) to help the city buy 271 acres of land.

The areas proposed to receive the most grant funding are currently protected open space, because they are located outside the city's urban

growth boundary (UGB). However, if the UGB were moved, the open space could be rezoned for other uses, such as industrial, commercial or residential.

ALOSC manages some \$24 million in funds intended for the preservation of native biological diversity, wildlife habitat and non-motorized recreation in the Tri-Valley.

"The City of Livermore has a General Plan policy that encourages and facilitates open-space preservation in and around the city," said Livermore Senior Planner Jake Potter. "We have a robust and successful open-space program to do so. The city acquires public space parcels for preservation and

(See OPEN SPACE, page 7)



Hope Hospice will host its annual Hike for Hope on May 4 to help support terminally ill patients and their caregivers. Above, participants hike last year's event. (See story on page 2.) (Photo courtesy: Hope Hospice/Chuck Deckert)

## Haubert to Continue His Homelessness Focus

UGB, Santa Rita Jail Remain as Issues

By David Jen

REGIONAL — Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert is running unopposed for the county's District 1, which includes Dublin, Livermore, and portions of Pleasanton and Sunol.

Haubert began his career in sales and marketing in the food industry. He also founded the Trinity Consulting company, which helps startups develop their businesses.

Elected to the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees in 2002, Haubert moved on to the Dublin City Council in 2012 where he

served for eight years, including a six-year mayoral tenure beginning in 2014.

According to his website, as Dublin Mayor, "David balanced the city budget for six consecutive years and built up reserves for the rainy-day fund, all without cuts to service."

The website further notes, "David is also proud to have brought more than 750 new jobs and 150 new businesses to Dublin. Additionally, David helped add six new community parks, including a state-of-the-art aquatics center, build two much-needed school sites in the Dublin Unified School

(See HAUBERT, page 3)



The Bankhead Theater will host the International Guitar Night tour, an ensemble of world-renowned guitarists, on Feb. 23. Above from left to right, Minnie Marks, Thu Le, Luca Stricagnoli and Marco Pereira pose with their instruments. (Photo — Luca Stricagnoli)

## Guitar Virtuosos Play at Bankhead For International Guitar Night

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — The International Guitar Night (IGN) 38-city North American tour will make a stop at the Bankhead Theater on Friday, Feb. 23 for an evening of world-class guitar virtuosity. The show that began on Jan. 8 will present an ensemble of globally renowned guitarists ranging in style from classical guitar to modern fingerstyle to Brazilian guitar and blues.

Since its conception in Northern California in the late 1990s, IGN has been at the forefront of showcasing

the world's most exceptional guitarists. Founded by Brian Gore, IGN has become a celebrated platform for both established virtuosos and rising stars, consistently impressing audiences with mind-bending musical experiences.

Luca Stricagnoli, this year's spokesperson for the four-member ensemble, said, "Brian Gore is kind of like a bartender doing his perfect cocktail. He picks guitar players, not based on popularity, but on who he thinks is talented, who he thinks can do something very well."

And then Gore reaches out

to these musicians and invites them to be a part of this massive tour, which started out at its original inception with just a handful of shows. This year's IGN tour is just shy of 40 shows and marks the biggest ever. "The project really grew, thanks to the support of venues like the Bankhead Theater, which has hosted IGN for many years," said Stricagnoli.

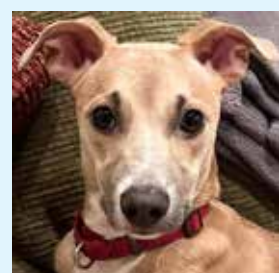
This year's stellar global lineup features Stricagnoli, who is known for his innovative fingerstyle techniques and skill that includes playing up to five guitars at the same

(See IGN, page 3)

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# Pleasanton to Host Resource Fair for Special Needs Students

By Hannah Ferguson

The Pleasanton Unified School District Office will host a California Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) Resource & Transition Fair on Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. – noon.

Individuals of all ages

with disabilities are invited, along with their families and support systems. The event will share information regarding organizations in the area that provide resources for students with disabilities.

SELPA's goal is to ensure that special needs students in California

are granted equal opportunities in their education. They provide and coordinate educational programs and services for students and training for parents and teachers.

There will be over 35 organizations at the event, including Community Resources for Independent

Living, Las Positas College and Mount Diablo Education Programs.

The event will have representatives present to help answer questions and provide assistance. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about what the organizations do as well as obtain fliers

and join programs.

"These organizations offer a variety of support including information on how to enroll in college, providing housing, entertainment, tutoring, reading, and recreational activities," said Nanette Gray, Tri-Valley SELPA's director.

The admission is free. Registration is encouraged, but not required.

The Tri-Valley SELPA is made up of Dublin U.S.D., Livermore Valley U.S.D., Pleasanton U.S.D., Sunol Glen S.D., Mt. House S.D., and the Alameda County Office of Education.

# JazzReach Makes Pros of High School Musicians

By Christina Cavallaro

Shortly before showtime on Valentine's night, performers for the JazzReach Sittin' In and Groovin' Out concert are getting ready. Kids pepper the stage of the Bankhead Theater in a mix of trendy street clothes, stylish hair, oversized sweatshirts and a hodge-podge of Vans sneakers as they run through the evening's songs before changing into all-black concert attire.

The group might look like a bunch of regular teens, but these are the Livermore Valley Arts' East Bay Jazz High School All Stars. They're part of a high-caliber, pre-professional music program for high-school age musicians looking for more opportunities outside of school. The idea for the program, now in its eighth year, is to give young musicians a more real-world experience of what it's like to be a professional musician. And tonight, that vision becomes reality.

In a unique addition to the East Bay Jazz music program, the acclaimed Metta Quintet has flown in from New York City under the umbrella of JazzReach, one of the nation's leading nonprofit providers of live educational content for the past 30 years, to host an intensive music residency for students at Las Positas College in the mornings and for East Bay Jazz in the afternoons.

And the fruits of that mentorship with the East Bay Jazz kids are on full display in the Bankhead performance, says East Bay Jazz founder and director, tenor and bass trombonist, Spencer Sussman.

"What's special about this performance is that the kids have access to a lot of amazing musicians and

music luminaries that they can glean knowledge from and just witness people playing at a professional level," says Sussman. The group had just two and half rehearsals before tonight's performance. But



High-school age musicians gain real experience through the high-caliber, preprofessional music program JazzReach. Above, members of the Livermore Valley Arts' East Bay Jazz High School All Stars played a Valentine's night concert at the Bankhead Theater after just a few rehearsals. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

the time spent with the band was hands-on in that short amount of time. "It's things like this that show them what their potential is, which is something that's really exciting."

The Metta Quintet kicks off the evening's performance with a few songs, concluding with Monk's Dream, by Theloneous Monk, before bringing the All Stars onstage to join them.

Metta Quintet's female

bassist, Adi Meyerson, inspires two young women in the rhythm section, one on electric bass, the other joining Meyerson on stand-up. They both watch her reverently when she plays, and she supports

we got the concert. That's how it goes." He adds with a laugh, "And they didn't throw stones at me and run me out of town. They worked real hard and cleaned up the music."

Many of the kids take turns walking to the front of the stage for solos. During some of the performances, it's hard to believe the teen at the mic is not a pro already. Tenor saxophone, Raymond Chen, is one such kid, losing himself in the moment and improvising with complete confidence.

Sussman says the students in the program vary. "You might have a student where jazz and music are their identity. You know, kids get really passionate about things at an early age. And for some of them this is what they live and breathe to do and it's exciting."

He notes that at the same time, some kids are still developing and may not even improvise yet. They're still working on their technical abilities.

"And I think what's beautiful about the program is that both are welcome." And while it does take a certain skill level and weekly commitment, Sussman says, "Whether they live and breathe music or they're kind of discovering music, both find this sort of passion in music and growth that I witness each year."

them with smiles and nods. Metta Quintet member, alto saxophone player and musical director for the show, Christopher McBride addresses the audience to congratulate the kids. "These students have worked really hard," he says. "They got this music, I think they read it (together) once, and have been reading it since Monday. And I was like, 'Well, welcome to the pros guys. We got a couple days, and

Wes, wrote on the Mitchell Katz Winery's Facebook page at the time. "Our dad was unexpectedly taken from us this past Friday evening ... we, his family and extended family, are all devastated and saddened by this tragedy."

Katz had operated the Mitchell Katz Winery on Vasco Road for 25 years and had told friends he was looking forward to retirement and passing the torch to his sons.

Calls and emails to the winery were not returned by press time.

Reporter Larry Altman contributed to this story.

# Charges Filed in Car Crash That Killed Livermore Winery Owner

By Ruth Roberts

The Alameda County District Attorney's office has charged Emilio Chambers Cruz, 27, with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter in the car crash that killed Livermore winery owner Mitchell Katz last July.

Cruz, from Stanislaus County, is scheduled for arraignment on Feb. 26 in Dublin, according to the DA's communications office.

Katz, 59, was killed when Cruz's car struck his SUV on July 21 on East Avenue at Mitra Street in Livermore.

Livermore Police Sgt. Justin Lash, in a previous interview with The Independent, said Cruz was speeding and passing other cars on the road when he lost control of his Subaru and hit Katz's SUV.

The vehicles came to rest on the median, where Katz's SUV hit a tree. Alcohol did not play a role in the crash, according to the Livermore Police Department.

Katz, who was not wearing a seat belt, died shortly afterward at an area hospital. Cruz sustained minor injuries.

"We have suffered a tragic loss," his sons, Jackson and

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PHOTOGRAPHY

# Food, Wine and Beer at Tri-Valley Restaurant Week

By Christina Cavallaro

Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week is back by foodie demand for its fourth year from Friday, Feb. 23 until Sunday, March 3. The popular event highlights the best restaurants, wineries and breweries throughout the Tri-Valley. It gives the community a chance to meet some of its culinary stars and explore, through the ten-day period, the treasure trove of food, beer and wine destinations that abound in the region.

The celebratory kick-off will take place on Thursday, Feb. 22 with a reception and dinner at LB Steakhouse in San Ramon. Open to the public, the dinner will feature chefs from across the Tri-Valley, including Chef Francis Hogan from Sabio on Main, Chef Roland Passot and Chef Romero Miraflore from LB Steak, Chef Daniel Massie from Wenté Vineyards and Chef Rodeny Worth from the Peasant and the Pear.

The chefs will go toe-to-toe for one night in a four-course tasting menu, each creating their take on a classic steakhouse favorite, all accompa-

nied by Wenté wines.

The week unfolds from there with more than 50 participating venues presenting special menus, deals and offerings, including two opportunities to hop aboard the Livermore Wine Trolley and embark on the Taste of the Tri-Valley Food Tour on Feb. 27 and Feb. 29. This wine and dine adventure highlights three locales for a seated experience at each. The destinations vary depending on the date.

The "Beer vs Wine Dinner" at BottleTaps in Pleasanton on Feb. 28 inspires a little friendly competition with a creative five-course dinner

paired with both wine and beer, cider or mead. McGrail Vineyards and BottleTaps have come together for a night of fine food and drink to help diners discover for themselves which beverage pairs better with which course.

Livermore's Page Mill Winery winemaker, Dane Stark, and Brandon Wood of the Cheese Parlor partner up for a cheese and wine exploration of the senses at Page Mill on Feb. 29, demonstrating the ways cheese and wine form the kind of relationship that brings out the best in each.

The week will conclude with the "Fizz, Food & Fun"

brunch on March 3 with mimosas, music and delicious fare by Las Positas Winery's Chef Curt Pipes. The event also includes a flight of wines from Las Positas, which notably took home the lion's share of Livermore Valley wine awards at the recent San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. Winemaker Brent Amos' Las Positas Estate Verdelho beat out 5,500 other wines in a tie for first place in the white wine category.

And if timed correctly, the day could end with a "Meet the Winemakers" afternoon of wine and conversation with James Foster and Brett Fikse at Concannon Vineyard.

Led by Visit Tri-Valley, organizers encourage patrons to check in at every venue they visit during Restaurant Week via the event's mobile pass, and each log-in will count as an entry toward the special giveaway drawing with a prize valued at over \$800, including a two-night stay at a local hotel, two-day e-bike rental, two tickets to the Blackhawk Museum and gift certificates to local restaurants and wineries.

A portion of the proceeds from both the opening and

closing events will benefit Sunflower Hill, a nonprofit organization based in the Tri-Valley that aims to create affordable housing and opportunities for people with disabilities and special needs.

To learn more, go to [visittrivalley.com](http://visittrivalley.com).



Back row, left to right, stand chefs Francis Hogan, Romero Miraflore, Daniel Massie and Rodney Worth. Front row, left to right, sit chefs Roland Passot and Curt Pipes. (Photo—Ron Essex Photography)

## Blues Guitarist Returns to Almost Famous Lounge



Albert Cummings  
(Photo—Nick Spanos)

Blues guitarist Albert Cummings, who played to a packed house at the Almost Famous Wine Lounge in Livermore last year, will make a return appearance at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22, and Friday, Feb. 23.

Cummings, recorded with Blind Pig Records for almost two decades, playing alongside such blues icons as B.B. King, Johnny Winter, and Buddy Guy. He

also played with the Double Trouble band backing Stevie Ray Vaughan.

His first solo album, "From the Heart," was released in 2003.

Cummings' return to the Almost Famous Wine Lounge, 2271 S. Vasco, on Feb. 22 is an "album release" show for his latest album, "Strong," which was released last week. "Strong" was recorded

at Ocean Way Recording Studio in Nashville, Tennessee, and highlights Cummings' songwriting along with his singing and playing.

The Keller Sisters, and Americana and folk duo from San Francisco, will open for Cummings at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 23.

Tickets begin at \$25 and are available at [almostfamouswine.com/events](http://almostfamouswine.com/events).

## Public to Help Name New Jordan Ranch Park in Dublin

Dublin is offering the public an opportunity to weigh in on the naming of a new two-acre neighborhood park in the new Jordan Ranch residential development near Cottonwood Creek School.

The park will feature

a multi-use court for basketball and futsal, fitness stations, embankment slide, two children's play areas, open areas, and shaded picnic tables with barbecues.

Members of the public can vote for one of four possible names, or suggest

one if their own, in an online survey at [tinyurl.com/mw7rwmea](http://tinyurl.com/mw7rwmea).

The suggested names are Wicklow Park, named for a county in Ireland; Pandora Square, named for a street bordering the park; Pandora Woods Park, named for

the bordering street and the park's concept plan, dubbed "The Forest;" or Central Forest Park, with Central Parkway also bordering the park.

The deadline to complete the survey is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

## HAUBERT

(Continued from front page)

District, and preserve over 1,750 acres of open space."

Haubert was elected as the county's District 1 Supervisor in 2020, when he focused on COVID-19 health guidelines, affordable housing and homelessness in his campaign.

During his first supervisory term, Haubert noted his success in helping open a warming center at Livermore's Veterans Memorial Hall during the winter of 2022-2023. His office also secured \$140,000 in county funding for motel shelter and other homeless services in 2023.

"Meeting the needs of Tri-Valley homeless individuals, with a focus on their progress toward obtaining housing, is a high priority for

Supervisor Haubert," said Haubert Community Liaison Director Gloria Gregory.

Haubert is also leading a \$20 billion bond measure, financed through property-tax increases, for nine Bay Area Counties, including Alameda.

Haubert's future plans in addressing homelessness include the expansion of tiny home housing at Livermore's Goodness Village and "establishing a supportive transitional housing project for the Tri-Valley," she continued.

While Haubert declined to comment on open space for this story, he voted as supervisor to approve both the Aramis solar and Monte Vista projects. Aramis, a utility-scale solar project, plans to build some 400 acres of

solar panels in North Livermore. Monte Vista, a 47-acre cemetery and mausoleum project, would develop about 20,000 square feet of buildings, just west of Livermore's Springtown neighborhood. Both projects fall outside the county's urban growth boundary, which prohibits non-agricultural development outside its limits.

Haubert described Measure D — the 2000 law defining the urban growth boundary — as problematic

and unclear, leaving it open to multiple interpretations, in his Aramis decision.

The Monte Vista project gained Haubert's approval through compromises with partially underground buildings and adding a conservation easement to the development.

On mental health issues at Santa Rita Jail, Gregory said Haubert's office is continuing to investigate the issue with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department.

## IGN

(Continued from front page)

time. His repertoire includes performances on double and triple-neck guitars he designed himself, making him a YouTube sensation with some 775,000 subscribers.

On how he developed this signature, innovative style that has earned him an army of fans, Stricagnoli said, "When faced with some sort of technical problem on the instrument, I solved it in unconventional ways and published my videos." People responded positively. "So I thought, I'm just gonna keep doing it. Every time I have a strange idea, I'm just gonna go for it."

Stricagnoli said he thought he started guitar young at age 10. "Until I heard that Thu (Le) started when she was four," he said with a laugh. Thu Le, another of the IGN guitarists, entered the National Conservatory of Music in Hanoi, Vietnam at seven, the youngest ever admitted. Her music reflects her cultural roots.

Then there's Minnie

Marks from Australia. "She's the bomb — an atomic bomb," said Stricagnoli. An exciting tour-de-force, Marks accompanies herself on drums while playing guitar in a blend of blues, rock and roots music.

Marco Pereira, from Brazil, is the only musician in the group that Stricagnoli had not played with previously. Pereira's compositions are considered modern masterpieces for classical guitar. He has contributed significantly to the global appreciation of Brazilian guitar music.

Stricagnoli said audiences can expect myriad aspects of guitar all in one energetic live performance, because all of the guitarists are so different in genre. The musicians will play individually, but also in collaboration. "And the results are very interesting," said Stricagnoli. "Besides the musical part, there's a component of friendship — of just getting along. There's positivity and comedy in the show. It's a bit wholesome."

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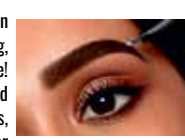
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"Speaking from experience, I know that Alan Burnham's analytical skills would be a great asset on the Zone 7 Board," **Mayor John Marchand**

"Over the past several decades Alan has helped our community in myriad ways and will undoubtedly do a great job on the Zone 7 Board," **Former Mayor Bob Woerner**

"Alan's ability to listen to people and analyze technical information will help raise the level of Zone 7 Board discussions and resulting decisions," **Zone 7 Director Dennis Gambs**

"The board needs someone with the scientific knowledge, energy, and community focus that Alan demonstrates. At Quest Science Center's Percolation and Groundwater Storage experiments, I saw his skill & passion for explaining complex issues in an educationally accurate, engaging and common sense way." **Former Zone 7 Resource Manager David Lunn**

"Dr. Alan Burnham's extensive technical expertise and experience are crucial to ensure safe and clean drinking water for residents and businesses," **Mayor Karla Brown**

"Alan has a distinguished record in both technical fields and community service and will apply his expertise towards the best possible solutions to our water needs," **Mayor Melissa Hernandez**

"I support Alan Burnham for Zone 7 based on his broad experience in scientific endeavors and his commitment on behalf of the citizens of our community." **Retired Educator Pat McMenamin**

"My wife and I both endorse Alan. We know him well from decades of working with him at LLNL and observing his thoughtful approach in his post-LLNL endeavors." **PhD Chemical Engineer Tom Parham**

[alanburnham4zone7.com/endorsements](http://alanburnham4zone7.com/endorsements)

PAID FOR BY ALAN BURNHAM FOR ZONE 7 DIRECTOR 2024, ID #1465156

# EDITORIAL

## McNerney for New State Senate District

Redistricting following the 2020 Census placed Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and Sunol residents in California State Senate District 5.

No longer is the Tri-Valley tied with communities in Contra Costa County. Instead, the newly drawn 5th District unites the region with San Joaquin County, including Stockton, Tracy and Mountain House.

The race to represent the district includes Democrat Jerry McNerney, who served in Congress from 2007

to 2023; Democrat Carlos Villapudua, who has served in California's Assembly since 2020; and Republican businessman Jim Shoemaker.

We recommend voters select McNerney, a Pleasanton resident who has represented both sides of the Altamont Pass in the state legislature and Congress. McNerney purchased his Tri-Valley home in 1992, but moved to Stockton when his district's boundaries changed in 2010. After leaving Congress last year, McNer-

ney returned to live in his Tri-Valley residence.

McNerney highlighted his priorities, which include building a strong, green economy and improving traffic congestion from the Central Valley to the Tri-Valley by building the Valley Link rail project. He also thinks that it is important to help local businesses still affected by the pandemic. McNerney has experience addressing climate action, having developed a wind-energy technology company. He hopes

to help other green companies emerge in the Tri-Valley and Central Valley.

Because of McNerney's 16 years in Congress, he brings unparalleled experience and connections that will benefit California, and our district, in particular.

McNerney will bring more of a Tri-Valley voice to the Senate than his opponents.

We wholeheartedly endorse McNerney, an experienced legislator with beneficial ties to Washington, D.C.

## Return Swalwell to Congress

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell is running for his seventh term representing Livermore, Pleasanton, and portions of Dublin in Congress in District 14. We recommend voters continue to send the Democrat to work on their behalf in Washington, D.C.

Since his election to the House of Representatives in 2012, the former Dublin City Councilmember has become a prominent and high-profile member of his party. The Livermore resident serves on the important

Judiciary and Homeland Security committees, and formerly served on the Intelligence committee.

A former prosecutor with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, Swalwell worked as a manager of former President Donald Trump's second impeachment trial and has filed a lawsuit against Trump regarding the Jan. 6 insurrection.

Swalwell said that in his first years in Congress, he worked very collaboratively with Republicans, and

hopes that when Trump is no longer the leader of the Republican party, he can build on bipartisanship legislation again.

He supports LGBTQ rights, women's reproductive rights, background checks for gun purchases, and a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers.

On local issues, Swalwell has worked to acquire federal funding for veterans' housing, Veterans Park in Livermore and the Valley Link rail line over the Altamont Pass. He de-

livered federal funding for programs, including the treatment of PFAS in the Pleasanton water supply; affordable housing in the East Bay; Livermore's Goodness Village housing development and more.

Swalwell's opponents — Luis Reynoso, Alison Hayden and Vin (Vinay) Kruttventi — do not have sufficient experience to serve as our representative in Congress.

We encourage another vote for Swalwell.

## Dublin Voters Should Re-elect DeSaulnier

U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier has served the Bay Area at all levels of government for three decades. Running for his sixth term in Congress, DeSaulnier's 10th District, redrawn following the 2020 Census, includes Dublin.

DeSaulnier, a Republican until switching parties in 2000 to become a Democrat, has served on the Concord City Council, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, and in the Assembly and Senate chambers in Sacramento, when his districts included Dublin.

We recommend that Dublin residents re-elect him for another term.

In Congress since 2014, DeSaulnier

has been a member of the House Ethics committee, the Education and Labor committee, and its subcommittees that handle health, pensions and early childhood education. He also serves on the body's Transportation committee, giving him legislative duties on issues related to aviation, water resources, the environment, transit, railroads, pipelines and hazardous materials.

He is known for conducting town hall meetings in his district than any of his colleagues.

In an interview, DeSaulnier cited the Family Engagement in Education Act as a top accomplishment. The bipartisan bill that passed in 2015 has

allocated nearly \$100 million to states and school districts to help parents remain engaged in their children's education. He has sponsored bills to improve mental health care for young people, supported the president's infrastructure act and the CHIPS Act to produce computer chips in the United States. The act will provide millions of dollars to the national laboratories in Livermore and Berkeley.

With redistricting, DeSaulnier inherited the troubled FCI Dublin women's prison. The federal Bureau of Prisons is working to clean up the facility following a string of scandals and lawsuits involving sexual abuse

of prisoners. DeSaulnier said he has met with former employees and whistleblowers and plans to visit the facility soon.

A cancer survivor, DeSaulnier said more needs to be done to fix the healthcare system.

DeSaulnier's opponents include Nolan Lee Chen, Katherine Piccini, Mohamed El Shernini and Joe Sweeney.

DeSaulnier's experience and legislative abilities outweigh those of his opponents.

We encourage voters to re-elect DeSaulnier for the 10th congressional district.

## MAILBOX

### Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters must be submitted by someone living in or from the Tri-Valley; they must not offer medical advice from unconfirmed professional sources or contain libelous or inappropriate content. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to [letters@independentnews.com](mailto:letters@independentnews.com) or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication.

### Misrepresentation of Jerry McNerney

Eloise Hamann, Dublin

What bill did McNerney not support that realtors, the building industry, farmers, and ranchers became so upset they are sending out fliers to distort Jerry McNerney's position on protecting reproductive freedom and health care? Jerry McNerney's position on women's rights to control their bodies could not be more clear.

Read the fine print on the flier; it talks about a bill — HR 2577 (114th Congress, RCV #342) — by a Repub-

lican, that is primarily about construction of housing for the military. If there is some impact on Planned Parenthood, I couldn't find it.

You can see his real records on the issue here: [www.ontheissues.org/ca/Jerry\\_McNerney\\_Abortion.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/ca/Jerry_McNerney_Abortion.htm)

Jerry McNerney has served Californians long and well for years. It is not surprising he is leaving the House of Representatives to the California State Government where he feels he can do some good.

I call for the general public to read fliers with care. The more inflammatory they are, the more likely they are to be bogus. Readers, beware.

### UGB Should Not Be Broken

David Farley, Livermore

The city of Livermore is currently trying to satisfy the affordable housing requirement as mandated by the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). The Bay Area is required to provide 441,100 units for 2023- 2031. This number is known as the Regional Housing Need Determination (RHND). Livermore is legally required to provide a portion of this housing, and must address all income levels. The City of Livermore's share of RHNA is 4,570 new housing units, 2,075 of which are lower income units (1,317 very low-income units and 758 low-income units). Livermore has a buffer of 15% to account for unrealized development, so the newly adopted Housing Element would accommodate a total of 5,256 units. For further details, please see [https://abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/rhna\\_background.pdf](https://abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/rhna_background.pdf).

Over the years, there have been many ballot measures and changes to state authorities to enforce this "housing element" requirement for localities to provide "affordable hous-

ing". In short, Livermore, at the moment, is required to provide over 5,000 housing units, distributed between low-income to high-income families. In other words, Livermore cannot avoid this legal requirement, which is driving the ongoing development discussion to place these housing units at "Midtown" (just east of Lowes), Laughlin Road, Las Positas Court, "Vasco Row", and east of Greenville (i.e. "Breaking the Urban Growth Boundary").

Besides the housing requirement, there is the "jobs per household" metric. The jobs-to-employed residents is calculated by dividing the number of jobs in the community by the number of employed residents in the same area, with the idea that ideally a ratio of 1.0 means that every local resident has a local job. This metric does not make a lot of sense in today's economy, especially with the emergence of remote workers.

Regardless, for the East of Greenville option, which would require breaking the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), only 21 housing units are under discussion. This amount of housing is negligible in contrast with the >5,000 units that Livermore is required to provide. Breaking the UGB, therefore, is mainly to increase local jobs to satisfy this dubious "jobs per household" metric. I do not believe that the UGB should be broken to create job facilities — it's not worth it and does not satisfy the legal requirement of the City to create more housing units. Breaking the UGB would also require voter approval in any case, but I do not see the justification for it based on the above facts.

### Reproductive Freedom Champions

Kyoko Takayama, Livermore

Who is the Reproductive

Freedom Champion? Per scorecards by Reproductive Freedom for All (former NARAL for Pro-Choice America), those scored A+/A. Senators Skinner and Wahab, and Assembly members Bauer-Kahan, Bonta and Wicks are recognized as champions in the East Bay and none in San Joaquin County. They author the bills, share the stories and educate communities. They do more than voting yes on the bills to receive this recognition. I am so happy our assemblymember Bauer-Kahan is the champion on this issue.

So when I saw a mailer in which a state senate candidate self-claimed the title, my jaw dropped. Yes, abortion rights became a winning issue for democrats nationwide, but this is California. After the Supreme Court decision, organizations started to publish scorecards on state legislators because it is now up to the state. Scorecards are available for 2022 and 2023. Voters approved 2022 Prop 1 to add reproductive freedom in the state constitution. This candidate apparently believes that voters won't notice that his scores are less than perfect and he is not endorsed. I take this as an insult for Tri-Valley voters. You won't become a champion just because you say so. Even though it is OK not to be champion depending on the constituents' positions, I want my representative to be 100% onboard and honest about reproductive freedom. So, no matter how much money he spends on the mailers, he will not get my vote.

Finally, I would like to point out that another candidate, former Congress member Jerry McNerney, is endorsed by both Reproductive Freedom for All and Planned Parenthood Advocates Mar Monte for State Senate District 5. He may not be a champion yet,

but during the Livermore Invisibile candidate's forum (recording at <https://trivalley.rocks/SD5CF>) he said that his door is open for us, so I could tell him to become one.

For issue organization endorsements and voting records, please check my research at <https://trivalley.rocks/2024Primary>. All the voters should vote for those who align with their values on issues. Thank you for being an informed voter.

### California Needs a Change in the Senate

David Ott, Pleasanton

The California senate primary is fast approaching, and our state needs a change. Three of the democrat options are more of the same — spend and tax policies, all with a damaging impact. Adam Schiff lied to the American people for the past eight years regarding the Russia-Trump collusion hoax. Congressional testimony proved that Schiff spread falsehoods shamelessly when he knew all along that there was no proof of any collusion. His record shows that he is in favor of high taxes and spending wildly. Katie Porter would raise taxes on the middle class and small business and would continue to spend more taxpayer's money than what is brought in by the government. Barbra Lee is a protégé of Maxine Waters, one of the most useless representatives in Congress. The only choice to save our state is Steve Garvey who is an honest, moderate businessman that will make a positive change for the citizens of California.

### Keeping the Character of Livermore

Hasan Hasan, Livermore

When I first visited Livermore in 1996, I was struck by its quaint community, variety of small businesses, and open spaces. In my mind, I thought, "I'd be for-

tunate to call Livermore my home." Now, many years later, I'm a new resident of Livermore, and concerned that recent city plans will put this in jeopardy. I'm a supporter of the 'Business Center Alternative' due to making sure that small businesses and larger sized businesses can thrive, while also including needed housing without having to break the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

If someone reading this is also a new resident of Livermore, I'd encourage you to get involved in this process to keep the character of Livermore that we all enjoy intact.

### Kathy Narum for Zone 7 Water Coordinator

Steve McCoy Thompson, Pleasanton

I am writing to endorse Kathy Narum for the position of Zone 7 Water Coordinator. Kathy's background as a trained chemical engineer and her experience in managing a family business equip her with the skills needed for effective leadership in water management.

With a chemical engineering background, Kathy brings valuable technical expertise to the table, essential for addressing the intricate challenges of water management. Her understanding of complex systems will undoubtedly contribute to innovative solutions within Zone 7.

Moreover, Kathy's strong financial understanding, honed through managing a family business, makes her a prudent steward of Zone 7's finances. She is committed to transparency and conducts thorough cost/benefit analyses to ensure responsible management of water rates.

What truly sets Kathy apart is her accessibility and willingness to engage with the community. She actively seeks input from

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

# Hotel Keycard Collector Earns Guinness World Record

By Christina Cavallaro

Morten Soerensen of Livermore has been collecting hotel keycards since the 1990s. As a frequent business traveler in the high-tech industry, he started amassing them as souvenirs of the places he'd visited.

Recently, the Guinness Book of World Records recognized him for amassing an astounding 1,136 cards, a number that most people in the world are more prone to losing than saving.

"One of those early trips was to Caesar's Lake Tahoe," he recalled. "They

made some really nice cards with a lot of imagery from around Caesar's." It's now called Bally's Lake Tahoe.

Soerensen said collecting things is not new to him. He's been a stamp collector his whole life and has applied a stamp-collector's approach to the keycards.

They must be sorted and organized properly to ensure there are no repeats, he said. He presents the cards in sturdy albums fabricated for storing stamps. The album pages are archival, so the keycards won't deteriorate over time.

But, with many things going green these days, keycards could soon be a thing of the past.

"Hilton for the last several years has printed on their cards, 'It's Time to Let Me Go,'" he said, but added he's okay with that. "It makes sense."

Hotel keycards are in fact made up of the same materials found in iPhones that allow users to take advantage of services like Apple Pay. Hilton and other hotels are employing that technology to sync with apps that allow smartphones to be used as a keycard.

"So, it's getting closer and closer," he said, adding that in 20 years people will probably look back on them as a real novelty.

But for now, for Soerensen, it's fun, and a little quirky, he admitted, especially the Guinness Book of World Records part.

"I remember checking that book out at the library and going home and reading about all these crazy things people did," he said. And he thought it was the funniest thing. So, for him, this record is a bit of a childhood dream.

"And you know, I could have done the Usain Bolt thing, and run the fastest 100 meter, but I wouldn't want to make him feel bad. So, I picked something different," he said with a laugh.

And he's not the only

one laughing. Jimmy Fallon's crew caught wind of Soerensen's new record and worked it into their opening sketch recently. "Isn't that hilarious? He freaking made fun of me. I just about died. I thought, 'oh my god, I'm famous...almost.'"



Livermore resident Morten Soerensen (above) has entered the Guinness Book of World Records for his collection of 1,136 hotel keycards. He began collecting them in the 1990s as part of his business travels. (Photo - Morten Soerensen)

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## MAILBOX

(Continued from 4 page)

residents and is open to discussing issues related to water management and finances. Her approachability fosters trust and collaboration, essential for effective governance.

In conclusion, Kathy Narum's blend of technical expertise, financial acumen, and community engagement make her the ideal candidate for Zone 7 Water Coordinator. I urge my fellow community members to support Kathy in the upcoming election for a sustainable future of our water resources.

### What Are Watershed Voluntary Agreements? Alan Burnham, Livermore

Paraphrasing California Natural Resource Agency websites, voluntary agreements are a comprehensive plan to improve water quality and habitat conditions. Parties voluntarily come together to propose them, and they are a comprehensive, multi-year solution that brings together dozens of water agencies with the state and federal governments to pool resources and take concrete actions to provide targeted river flows and expand habitat in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and Bay Delta. These environmental improvements are guided by scientific monitoring and collaborative decision making. These agreements are an important element for meeting various statutory environmental requirements. For more details, see <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Voluntary-Agreements-Page> and [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZA\\_mVomzRw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZA_mVomzRw). Once implemented, they are contractual obligations.

The Independent editors misunderstand either this program or my position on it. First, approving the program in general does not mean endorsing every proposal. Second, do they want Zone 7 to proactively fight the State on implementing all such agreements? Do they think only releasing more water into channelized rivers to flow unimpeded into the ocean is a better approach, even though it will be more difficult for the State Water Project to meet its contractual water deliveries to the detriment of Zone 7 residents without as much environmental benefit? This would reflect an inflexible ideological approach to fight with rather than work with various stakeholders on how to best solve water challenges.

Perhaps the endorsement criteria have nothing to do with optimizing water stewardship but a desire to use Zone 7 to further some oth-

er political agenda. Make no mistake about my position. Zone 7's role is to do its best to provide its residents with adequate supplies of the high-quality water they need.

### Keep Business and Industrial Use in the Midtown Area Richard Ryon, Livermore

Dear Editor,  
I urge the Livermore General Plan Advisory Committee to select a plan, such as the Business Center Alternative, that keeps the business and industrial uses in the Midtown Area. That would eliminate the need to break the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) east of Greenville Road and keep industrial and commercial uses within the City of Livermore.

Placeworks, advisor to the City of Livermore, outlined the preliminary land use alternatives for the initial four focus areas. This memo identified a "Citywide Alternative B" that would add more than enough housing to satisfy the city's required Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) required by the State of California. The same report also states that Citywide Alternative B would provide enough industrial land to achieve a jobs-to-employed residents ratio of 1.0 that the city wants to achieve.

The other reasons offered in the staff memo for adding East of Greenville (beyond the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)) seem more like wishful thinking than actual need. Here they are:

- Increase property, sales and business license revenue. (Given the volume of residential and industrial development that has been projected for the next 25 years, this need can be met within the city limits.)
- Permanently protect the Altamont Range. (Yet it already is protected by County Measure D that established UGB's.)
- Expand parks and trails. (This can be accomplished east of Greenville Road leaving the UGB where it is.)
- Create a wine catalyst site/midsize winery. (This is already allowed by Measure D in the East of Greenville area.)
- Develop a research campus near LLNL and Sandia to accommodate bachelors and those with graduate degrees, and other programs. (No appropriate organization has expressed any interest at this time. If this were to happen, nearby and feasible locations within the city's UGB could then be considered.)
- Create a more attractive entry to eastern Livermore and the Wine country. (Not

sure how the planned hundreds of acres of tilt-up warehouses are going to be an "attractive" improvement.)

• And finally, fix the county's poor land use practices in this area. (We can work with the county now to address this concern.)

None of these are compelling reasons to break Livermore's Urban Growth Boundary. More development east of Greenville is not needed. Once that open space is developed, it is lost forever, and our quality of life is diminished.

### The Cruelty of Fascism Glenn White, Dublin

Donald Trump said that, as president, he warned NATO allies that he "would encourage" Russia "to do whatever the hell they want" to countries that are "delinquent" (Feb. 10, 2024). The recent death of Alexei Navalny, a citizen of fascist Russia, and the Russian treatment of Ukrainians, indicate what Russia will do to those under her fascist occupation. Trump would sacrifice thousands, perhaps millions, to appease his hero: Vladimir Putin. This fascist appeasement, as well as Trump's need for The Border as a campaign issue, is what drove the House GOP rejection of the Senate bi-partisan bill providing legislation for Ukraine, Israel and the border that was negotiated when the Senate complied with the House request to combine the three issues. That rejection not only demonstrated GOP cold blooded treasonous cowardice, but also that Republicans lack the honor to keep their word. They chose to appear as spineless worms groveling before Trump and Putin because the Trump base demanded it.

For fascists, their cold-blooded cruelty is the point. As cowards and bullies, they deem cold-blooded cruelty as a sign of strength. A key point of their purpose is to enact retribution against those they've learned to hate by listening to right wing fascist propaganda 24-7. It's why they cheer at Paul Pelosi being beaten with a hammer. It's why their leader confuses Nancy Pelosi and Niki Haley because he has blind raging hatred for both women. And that hatred raged when Trump won an election. We can imagine how that hatred turned him into a mad man as evil as any tyrant when he lost the 2020 election. MAGA propaganda then made the fascist base hate-filled liars and election deniers. Those who resisted were rejected like Liz Cheney.

That's why anything Republicans say about the economy, border or crime is meaningless because problem resolution isn't their objective. Forcing a Trump dictatorship is. Remember when they said Mexico would pay for the wall? That's how serious they are about solving the border problem. Their motivation is only to obtain absolute power and impose their will upon others by practicing cruelty as a demonstration of their power. Trump is actually arguing to be immune from committing political assassination before the Supreme Court. His promised retribution (See MAILBOX, page 6)

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On Feb. 9, Livermore Police support dog Tater and handler Nicole Aguon (above) worked with volunteers to help with Night to Shine Tri-Valley. The event is a prom experience for people with special needs, their parents and caregivers, held at Blue Oaks Church in Pleasanton. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Police Department)

## Scholarships up to \$3,000 Offered to Tri-Valley Students

TRI-Assistance League® of Amador Valley is offering scholarships in 2024. Those to be awarded are: The Jean Cole scholarship for \$3,000 awarded to a high school senior going to a 4-year college or university and the Tri-Valley Commu-

nity Scholarship for \$1,500 awarded to a high school senior headed to a community college or a certified technical/trade school. Additionally, a \$3,000 Las Positas Transfer Scholarship will be awarded to a student graduating from

Las Positas College entering a 4-year college or university. All students must be residents of Livermore, Pleasanton or Dublin and provide information on community involvement and financial need.

Applications may be ob-

tained through the counseling offices at local high schools or by logging onto the Assistance League website [www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley](http://www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley)

Deadline for submissions is March 15, 2024.

## Annual Motorcycle Ride Against Colon Cancer Set for March

A Livermore motorcyclist diagnosed with terminal cancer is organizing the third annual Ride Against Colorectal Cancer to raise money for Fight Colorectal Cancer, a Missouri-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance the fight against cancer through policy and research.

The ride is scheduled for Saturday, March 16, and Spencer Dayton and his supporters, who organized the first Ride Against Colorectal Cancer in 2021,

are now registering riders.

"We are overjoyed to see the community come together for the third year in a row to support such an important cause," Dayton said. "Every year, the event grows, and so does our impact. We're looking forward to an incredible day of solidarity, remembrance, and action against colorectal cancer."

On the Ride Against Colorectal Cancer website, [rideagainstcancer.com](http://rideagainstcancer.com), Dayton says he was first diagnosed with colon can-

cer in late 2019, but was declared cancer-free just a few months later. However, his symptoms returned in November 2020. In February 2021, Dayton, then 23, was told he had stage IV metastatic colon cancer.

"Unfortunately," Dayton says on the website, "my cancer has progressed even with treatment, and I am terminal...meaning I will die from my cancer. Hopefully with my continued treatment that will not be for a long time."

According to Fight Col-

orectal Cancer, colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S. for both men and women, even though it's treatable if caught early.

East Bay Harley-Davidson in Livermore will be the venue sponsor for this year's ride, with 100% of the proceeds going to the advocacy group Fight Colorectal Cancer, according to ride organizers.

To register or for more information, including activities for non-riders, go to [rideagainstcancer.com](http://rideagainstcancer.com).

## MAILBOX

(Continued from 5 page)

appears to include murdering Americans like Putin murders Russians. It's how fascism works.

"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities." – Voltaire

### Vote McNerney for California Senate District 5

Patricia Munro, Livermore

The redistricting that followed the 2020 Census drew the lines for California Senate 5th District (currently served by Susan Eggman) to include both the Tri-Valley (Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton, and Sunol) and northern Central Valley. This means that the person who will hold that office must be able to represent the needs of people in the Bay Area and the Central Valley. Sometimes those needs overlap, particularly around commuting from the Central Valley to the Bay Area. Sometimes they do not, so knowing the different counties and how they vary matters a lot.

Only one candidate running has the knowledge, experience, and integrity to represent the whole district: Jerry McNerney.

Mr. McNerney previously served in the U.S. House, representing both San Joaquin and Contra Costa Counties. He knows both regions well, but also understands national issues that affect all of us at a local level. While in Congress, he supported (and authored) legislation strengthening health care for veterans, care for the environment, and more rational drug policies. He has been a staunch advocate for reproductive rights and freedom, for labor, for the environment, and affordable housing.

McNerney has the integrity, the compassion, the experience, and the knowledge to serve all of District 5. Vote McNerney!

### Who Are the Homeless We Are Sheltering?

David Marco, Livermore

It's a good thing to care for the homeless in our midst. We also need to be aware of who they are and where they've come from. We know that multitudes of people are coming across the border illegally and are going throughout the nation. It's logical to assume that a sizeable portion of the homeless are, in fact, illegal immigrants. It's been well-documented that a sizeable portion of them are involved in human trafficking and drug smuggling.

In addition, the border is a political issue. There have been many attempts around the nation to include these people on the voting rolls — which is a violation of federal and state laws. These attempts are clearly aimed at swinging large numbers of people to vote for a certain party.

So, we should not stop giving some care for these

people, but we need to be wise in exactly whom we are sheltering and the best way to truly help them.

### Perpetuating California's and Tri-Valley's Fresh Water Supply Myths

Greg Scott, Livermore

"When solving a problem, one should clearly define both the problem and constraints on potential solutions." (Alan Burnham, "Zone 7 Water Challenges," Mailbox, 2/15/2024).

We have a few problems with the Sites Reservoir. In a 2023 report by Tell The Dam Truth, the current design of the Sites Reservoir will emit around 362,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, averaged over the 100-year life of the reservoir. Do we care about our radiative reactive gas emissions?

"We spent a century trying to conquer the Sacramento River. When we finished conquering it (or not), we killed the San Joaquin. Of the crimes of the System, this is the one that cannot be forgiven." (Mark Arax, "The Dreamt Land: Chasing Water and Dust Across California," 2019).

Mr. Burnham doesn't mention the collapse of the San Joaquin Aquifer in his letter. The San Joaquin Aquifer is one of 35 major aquifers on Earth, and is one of 17 in enormous trouble from overdraft and contamination. It takes Sierra snowmelt 400 years to reach the San Joaquin Aquifer. In the San Joaquin, "In the worst-case scenario, without developing new supplies or engaging in water trading activities, the transition to sustainability under climate change and increased environmental flows will require the fallowing of nearly 900,000 acres with respect to current conditions." (Public Policy Institute of California, Alvar Escriva-bou, et al., "Policy Brief: The Future of Agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley," February, 2023). Where are those "new supplies" and/or "water trading activities" to originate from?

You have to look at the water constraints before you plan for thousands of additional residents. What Mr. Burnham fails to say is that we require water conservation drastically. This doesn't even get considered in the three meetings of the Livermore General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) I have attended. Mr. Burnham is a member of the GPAC.

With regard to our fresh water supply situation, we are in some ways like Gaza: Our backs are to the sea, our population is too many, and our water usage is too high for our aquifers and water sources, and — not as extreme as in Gaza — we are violently assaulting our environment. We are not intelligently planning for the effects of this. Wa-

ter is going to get quite expensive, and California and the Tri-Valleys are going to get mighty thirsty. We have to use our water supplies more effectively.

### Vote for Laurene Green Nancy Allen, Pleasanton

Greg Scott, Livermore

I am proud to support incumbent, Laurene Green, for a couple reasons:

1) She is an expert in water resources with a strong academic background (BS in Geology and MS in Civil Engineering from Stanford) coupled with decades of experience in the field both in the U.S. and abroad. For example, she worked on the world's largest CO2 sequestration project and she spent seven years working on the groundwater investigations and cleanup at Lawrence Livermore Labs.

2) As an incumbent on Zone 7, Laurene has a proven track record in making tough decisions that help to keep our drinking water safe.

We are lucky to have someone with Laurene's technical expertise, leadership, and passion choosing to run for her second term on Zone 7. I know we are in good hands dealing with complex issues while keeping our drinking water safe.

### City Council Sell Out Richard Andrews, Livermore

Fellow residents.

I've read the seven reasons on the June 23 Report for the proposal to further destroy the UGB, & I couldn't agree less with these questionable assertions that are supposed to be honest and unbiased. Another modification of what was authorized. Sound familiar?

Reviewing assertions and comparing it to facts, it is apparent that a "straw person" has been created to justify yet more development for City Councils' Developer friendly attitude. All seven factors in this report are questionable at best. They're crafted to ignore facts and instead insert desired opinions in their stead. This is wrong, and of questionable veracity. To pick and choose figures to justify a stand when one is supposed to present facts is NOT what these reports are supposed to be. However, this IS the case here. The REAL facts have been brushed aside to allow more developer profits.

Their bad actions follow

their bad arguments. For example, the approval of the hotel in South Livermore violated the city's design standards. After losing in court, instead of making the hotel meet its standards, the city changed its requirements to meet the needs of the hotel, not the people living nearby.

The current administration cares not. This is the same as other real estate speculators, who want to cash in on this wonderful valley's many benefits. Running buildings and warehouses up to the Altamont like what Los Angeles did to its once desirable Hollywood hills. Only the sign remains.

Is that what you really want to have happen to this wonderful valley? We all want to save what is left of Livermore, so your children can enjoy why we have here and loved for many generations...not the sprawl that San Jose has become.

This specious report must be dumped, and instead look at the truth to keep what we have left for posterity. Save Livermore! Save our town from the ugliness that unfettered development like Silicon Valley has. GPAC must act in a manner that supports OUR city, and not the investors who treat Livermore as a "cash cow" to be milked and sent to the slaughterhouse, while they move onto another project.

I hope Pavlovian pets of the Mayor will listen to the people

### Support Kathy Narum Andrea Wilson, Pleasanton

I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for Kathy Narum as Zone 7 Water Coordinator. Kathy's steadfast commitment to ensuring access to clean, potable water and her proactive approach to addressing contaminants like PFAS chemicals make her an exemplary candidate for this vital role.

Kathy's extensive tenure on various local boards and organizations, as well as her years of service on the Pleasanton City Council, underscores her deep-rooted involvement in our community and her dedication to its welfare. With a background in chemical engineering, she possesses the technical expertise necessary to navigate the complexities of water management effectively.

What truly sets Kathy apart is her unwavering work ethic and approachable demeanor. She's known for rolling up her sleeves and tackling challenges head-on, making her a trusted and dependable leader.

For those of us who value clean water and responsible stewardship, Kathy Narum is the ideal choice for Zone 7 Water Coordinator. I encourage my fellow community members to support her candidacy in the upcoming election.

### First They Came

Phyllis Couper, Pleasanton

First they came for our congress

Then they came for our churches

Then they came for our children

Then they came for our parents

Plato said "If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools."

Elections matter, but researching who you vote for is crucial to avoid electing fools.

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LIVERMORE RESIDENTS: Share your talents with the community by volunteering on one of the City of Livermore's advisory bodies. We are accepting applications now through March 1, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

**Airport Commission (1 vacancy – pilot)**  
Join us in ensuring the continued quality and viability of the Livermore Municipal Airport as a community and regional asset.  
(1) **Unexpired Term ending 11/1/27**  
*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 PM*  
**Applicant cannot be a tenant of the Livermore Airport**

**Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees (1 vacancy)**  
Join us in determining general policies to be followed controlling mosquitoes and limiting the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases. Board includes one representative of each incorporated city in Alameda County.  
(1) **Unexpired Term ending 1/1/27**  
*Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:00 PM (meetings are virtual)*

**Beautification Committee (5 Vacancies)**  
Join us in working to preserve the natural beauty and habitat of public spaces in Livermore.  
(2) **Regular Terms ending 6/1/28**  
(1) **Unexpired Term ending 6/1/27**  
(2) **Unexpired Terms ending 6/1/24 and possible regular terms ending 6/1/28, subject to City Council approval.**  
*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM*

**City Historian (1 Vacancy)**  
The City Historian's role is to increase public awareness of the history of the city and community of Livermore. Qualified applicants will have experience presenting local historical information to community groups, teaching courses in local and regional history to students at a school or community classes or be affiliated with an organization associated with the advancement of the history of Livermore.  
(1) **Regular Term ending 2/1/26**

**Commission for the Arts (1 Vacancy)**  
Join us in promoting Livermore as a vibrant and stimulating environment for artists and audiences, young and old, to experience the performing, visual, and literary arts.  
(1) **Unexpired Term ending 1/1/25**  
*Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 4:30 PM*  
*Next meeting: February 27<sup>th</sup>*

**Historic Preservation Commission (2 Vacancies)**  
Join us in identifying, protecting, and preserving Livermore's historic resources. The Commission's successes are visible in the beauty of Livermore's historic structures and landmarks.  
(1) **Regular term ending 5/1/28**  
(1) **Unexpired Term ending 5/1/24 and a possible regular term ending 5/1/28, subject to City Council approval.**  
*Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM as needed.*

**Library Board of Trustees (1 Vacancy)**  
Join us in helping to set goals and objectives for the broad variety of services and programs the Livermore libraries provide.  
(1) **Regular Term ending 6/1/27**  
*Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM*  
*Next meeting: February 22<sup>nd</sup>*

**SAVE THE DATE!** In-person Interviews will be held the week of March 4-7, 2024. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.livermoreca.gov/AB](http://www.livermoreca.gov/AB), call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email: [cityclerk@livermoreca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@livermoreca.gov).

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## SANTA RITA

(Continued from front page)

County coroner's office, which comes under the jurisdiction of the sheriff's office.

Sheriff's officials notified the Alameda County District Attorney's office about the death. A report will be

submitted to the California Attorney General's office.

Johnson is the first inmate to die in the Santa Rita Jail this year. He became the 69th person to die in the facility since 2014.

Last month, several community groups called for oversight over the sheriff's office, citing improper deputy hiring practices, custody jail deaths, and inadequate mental health care.



The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) will track Western pond turtles, a potentially threatened species, using GPS to study their behavior in Livermore's urban waterways. ACRCD is asking for donations to help fund the study. To donate, or for more information, go to [acrcd.org/projects](http://acrcd.org/projects). (Photo – EBRPD Ed Culver and ACRCD Farley Connelly)

## OPEN SPACE

(Continued from front page)

perpetuity for open space and conservation purposes."

But speakers at the Feb. 16 ALOSC meeting took issue with how quickly the proposals were brought before the committee and what the city's intention might be.

While the City of Livermore told the ALOSC of possible grant applications in January, the ALOSC was "not informed of the specific properties until last week, when we received the grant applications," said county Assistant Planning Director Liz McElligott at the meeting.

To decide on the proposals in a special meeting so soon after their disclosure was a "big mistake," said Doug Mann, Secretary for the group Citizens for Balanced Growth.

One of the parcels, the Hartford Hills property, would add some 82 acres immediately west of the Springtown neighborhood to the city's portfolio. The city has asked for \$980,000 from the ALSOC to pay for half of the purchase price, with the city paying the other half.

In separate proposals, the city has also asked the ALOSC for \$1.74 million to help buy 125 acres at 18 Greenville Road, \$520,000 to help buy 32 acres at the "Cross Property" along I-580, and \$440,000 to help buy the 32 acres known as Garaventa Hills west of Laughlin Road. Garaventa Hills is located within the city's city limits and UGB, but the other properties are not.

### Hartford Hills

Funding for Hartford Hills was addressed first. ALOSC Member David Furst, representing the Sierra Club, asked what guarantees the city could offer so that Hartford Hills would be kept as open space when under city ownership.

"The city is saying it's going to buy it for open-space preservation," said Furst. "If the city council and mayor decide, well, it's right next to Springtown. Let's build homes. What is the guarantee in writing that this will stay in perpetuity as open space?"

Livermore Acting Planning Manager Steve Riley said the city would add the property into its capital improvement budget after buying it, and then work on acquiring any conservation easements, which would protect the land in perpetuity.

County Counsel Kathy Lee explained that the grant agreements would require the return of the funds to the committee, if the parcels were used for something other than open space.

"The city could purchase this with our help, decide to make it into homes and give this committee back the \$980,000," said Furst.

Any residential development outside the county's UGB would require a vote of the residents to first move the boundary.

"We've never built suburban development on a conservation easement," said Riley. "We hold them long term, hopefully for perpetuity; that's the way they're set up."

Committee Chair Shawn Wilson said he felt no distrust of the city, but supported postponing the decision to explore more potential buyers and partners for the Hartford Hills property.

The ALOSC voted 2-1 to postpone the Hartford Hills decision for 30 days, with member Robert Carling against the action. He said that he did not expect any further information as the result of a delay. Carling is a member of the Livermore City Council, representing the city at the ALOSC meeting.

ALOSC member Jeff Nibert, a city councilmember representing Pleasanton, did not vote, as the property fell outside his ALOSC area.

### Garaventa Hills

The ALOSC also asked the city to return at a later date with a revised Garaventa Hills application. The city has made unsuccessful purchase offers to the Garaventa landowner in the past. Most recently, it had offered \$868,480 for the property as open space,

with \$440,000 coming from the ALOSC, despite Riley estimating the property to be valued between \$15 million and \$25 million if developed for residential use.

Lisa Quisito, representative of the property, wrote in a Feb. 5 letter to the city, "The owners of the Garaventa Hills Property hereby reject the City of Livermore's low-ball, highly contingent \$868,480 'offer' for the purchase of this property. ... The owners have a pending contract with Lafferty (Communities) to sell the property for 400% of the city's offer price."

Furst also noted the low amount of the city's offer and questioned if the city really intended to rezone the parcel from residential to open space.

In 2022, the community group Save the Hill filed a lawsuit that overturned a Livermore City Council approval of Lafferty's 47-home development on the parcel. Part of that court decision, explained Riley, required the city to "legitimately pursue using this land as permanent open space."

But Furst said, "It seems to me that this grant request is now being brought to us potentially not as a legitimate grant request."

Mann added, "This is a farce application."

Dick Schneider also said the city's offer was unreasonably undervalued. Based on nearby parcels, he suggested a proposal of \$1.7 million would be more in line.

Carling suggested the city return to the seller with a higher offer, and the ALOSC unanimously asked the city to instead offer \$1.7 million for the property, and to return with a modified grant application if the seller accepted.

In the past, Citizens for Balanced Growth has offered to provide significant funds to help buy and preserve the Garaventa Hills property.

Decisions on the two other grant proposals, Greenville and Cross, were postponed to the committee's next meeting because of time.

## HOUSING

(Continued from front page)

the south.

City plans also include 1,100 acres east of Greenville Road for industrial use, which some residents have opposed, because it falls outside the UGB. Development in this area would require voter approval to expand the UGB.

Three land-use alternatives for Midtown, ranging between 4,720 and 10,550 new homes, along with 4,140 to 5,690 new jobs, were initially presented.

At the meeting, all 14 public speakers favored less residential and more industrial uses in the area.

"Projections show that California's population has stopped growing; the population in 2060 is projected to be the same as it was in the 2020 census," according to a statement from Dick Schneider read by Loretta Kaskey. "The importance of retaining the Midtown focus area's industrial jobs means that Livermore doesn't have to expand east of Greenville Road, breaking the city's urban growth boundary in the process."

Resident Julie Wild said some of the city's population numbers came from the period before the pandemic.

While U.S. Census estimates show the city population in decline since 2018, city planning documents expect an increase of some 56,000 residents by 2045, bringing the total Livermore population to 146,000.

"We still have an affordable housing crisis," said GPAC Committee Member David Kent. Even if Livermore's population plateaus between now and 2060, "if we don't build an adequate number of houses, we will still be in an affordable housing crisis, and we will continue to drain out population."

While Kent said that the UGB restrictions would no longer hold if the city failed to meet its state-mandated housing targets, Schneider, a co-author of the law that es-

tablished the UGB, later told The Independent that the law included no such provisions.

Community Development Director Paul Spence said that Livermore's median home values climbed some \$250,000 even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"That's when everybody was supposedly moving to Idaho," said Spence.

Concerns about the preservation of industrial spaces also surfaced during public comment.

Jay Johnson, an owner of a small marine-science business along Bennett Drive, asked the GPAC not to remove industrial zoning in the Midtown area that would encourage landlords of businesses like his to pursue other uses.

"There's no small-business units being built," said Johnson. "The developers aren't building them. It costs too much to pay all the hook-ups. So if you remove (the zoning for) all those units, ultimately, you're saying to the small-business community, 'Do not come to Livermore. Go somewhere else, because we're not going to provide you building for units that you can move into.'"

Resident Doug Mann cautioned the city against treating the Valley Link train station — which could bring commuters from the San Joaquin Valley to Livermore jobs — as a foregone conclusion.

Current plans for the rail service show it carrying some 30,000 riders daily between Mountain House and the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station, with stations at Southfront Road and Isabel Avenue in Livermore.

"The Valley Link train is not a done deal," said Mann. "Whatever you design for this

area, don't make it dependent on the train running."

GPAC Vice Chair Jeremy Troupe-Masi agreed that the area should not depend on the train, and said, "Maybe we should be focusing more on the people (and) the businesses that exist (here) already."

The GPAC voted 8-3 to narrow the Midtown area to focus more on the space immediately around the planned Valley Link station.

This core area, they continued, should be optimized for housing and include a school site, going against public calls for industrial uses there. The recommendation also included a mixed-use industrial space along the south side of I-580 to act as a buffer between the interstate and any residential areas.

GPAC declined to provide recommendations on the areas outside of the narrowed area. Public speakers had hoped for the larger area to be secured as an industrial site to eliminate the need to provide industrial development east of Greenville Road outside the UGB.

GPAC members Alan Burnham, Paul Halvorsen and Asa Strout voted against the motion, although they did not specify which of the motion's points they opposed.

The committee will next meet on March 13.

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## SENATE

(Continued from front page)

than a year remaining as the representative of the former 7th District, which will shift north following 2020 redistricting. Glazer chose not to run for re-election in that district.

**Jerry McNERNEY**

McNERNEY told The Independent that he is the only candidate in the race “to have lived on, and represented in Congress, both sides of the Altamont Pass.” He has owned a house in Pleasanton since 1992 and was elected to represent the region in Congress in 2006. The district’s boundaries changed in 2010, shifting him to a district that represented Stockton and parts of San Joaquin County. McNERNEY kept his Pleasanton house, but moved east to Stockton. After leaving Congress last year, McNERNEY moved back to his home in the Tri-Valley.

“This gives me intimate knowledge of the people and issues throughout District 5,” McNERNEY said. “I raised my family in the Tri-Valley, started a business here, and got to see all of my kids graduate from Pleasanton High.”

During a recent candidate forum, McNERNEY said he left the House after 16 years because partisan bickering made it frustrating and difficult to get anything done. But the California legislature, he said, is known for productivity.

“California’s State Senate has a record of crafting policies that lead the nation — and the rest of the world — forward. It is a legislative body that actually works together to get things done, and that is very appealing,” McNERNEY said.

The California State Senate currently has 32 Democrats and eight Republicans.

Should he be elected, McNERNEY said his top focus will be “helping our region build a stronger, greener economy.”

“That requires getting traffic and congestion, particularly between the Tri-Valley and the Central Valley, under control,” McNERNEY said. “Valley Link was a great first step, and I will push Sacramento to ensure that it finishes on time, but we need to kick-start more projects to enhance our region’s transit hubs.”

In addition, McNERNEY said the state needs to help local businesses “get off the ground” and make sure the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on small business is over for good.

“Our region deserves to be more than just a ‘bedroom community,’ from where we commute to the Bay for hours on end. For good opportunities for work and play, our families should be able to just drive right downtown,”

he said.

McNERNEY added that economic renewal and climate action work together.

“After rooting my family in the Tri-Valley, I founded a successful start-up, and we developed the wind energy technology that graces our Altamont Hills, cuts our carbon emissions, and creates so many good local jobs,” he said. “I want to help other green enterprises emerge in the Tri-Valley and Central Valley, because our region should never fall behind the rest of California.”

McNERNEY said District 5 is home to some of the most advanced science facilities in the world, and he intends to make California the “fusion energy hub of America.”

He also listed public safety and healthcare access as issues he will tackle.

Noting his record in Congress, McNERNEY cited “the initiation of Valley Link,” a rail service planned over the Altamont Pass; construction of Veterans Administration facilities in San Joaquin County; the modernization of roads and levees, and the expansion of clean energy and green manufacturing industries.

He is endorsed by U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, D-Livermore; Livermore Mayor John Marchand; Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and the Tri-Valley Democrats.

McNERNEY said residents on both sides of the district share similar concerns, including transportation over the pass, housing and water needs. He suggested a “science-based approach” to solving the state’s water needs.

“Common-sense starting point is for our state to store as much water as possible, especially during events like the recent storms, and improve conservation policies to minimize waste,” he said.

To improve housing availability and affordability, he said state and local leaders need to streamline the permitting process without putting environmental health or quality of life at risk, and prioritize transitional services to reduce homelessness, along with creating jobs.

McNERNEY said he agrees with Gov. Gavin Newsom’s climate change policies, but disagrees with his approach to water.

He explained, “Instead of pitting regions against each other, we ought to focus more on increasing our water storage, improving our conservation techniques, and strengthening our levees against floods.”

**Carlos Villapudua**

Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua, a Democrat who has represented the Stockton area since 2020 in

the 13th District, appeared to be easily on his way to California’s Senate chamber to represent the newly drawn 5th District. Then, McNERNEY entered the race days before filing ended. Villapudua’s wife, Edith is running to fill her husband’s vacated Assembly seat, as he vies for the Senate.

Villapudua has strong experience in San Joaquin County. Before his election to the Assembly in 2020, he served on the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors for eight years. Villapudua has secured the endorsement of Tri-Valley Sen. Steve Glazer, along with the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and several San Joaquin County organizations and politicians, including District Attorney Ron Freitas.

Villapudua did not respond to an emailed list of questions posed by The Independent. During a Jan. 21 candidate forum held by Livermore Indivisible, he said he planned to be a member who will unite the Tri-Valley and San Joaquin County to bring back what the communities need.

“That’s who I’ve been in the Central Valley,” Villapudua said. “I’ve been working hard to bring funding and support for our universities. I’ve been working hard to bring money to our ports. And I know that we can do a lot more to get folks into rail (and) out of their cars. We know we have 30,000 workers that come from the Central Valley to go over to the Bay Area.”

A father of four, Villapudua cited education, affordable housing and jobs as top priorities, along with the Valley Link rail line.

“I’m a strong proponent and have been working hard to bring in the funding for Valley Link, so that we can make sure that folks are traveling back and forth to get to their jobs,” Villapudua said.

Villapudua said he has fought and will continue to fight “to protect and not allow our water to be taken to Southern California.”

“It’s a priority for great drinking water,” Villapudua said. “It’s a priority for all of our ag community, because I have a humongous ag community that we need to continue to support.”

On health care, Villapudua said the district must produce its own doctors and nurses for the Central Valley’s rural area. Speaking about law enforcement, he said Proposition 47, a criminal reform measure approved by voters in 2014 to reduce the penalties for crimes, including shoplifting, theft and personal drug use, needs a fix. Increased crime, he said, is hurting the state, costing tax revenue from businesses

that are leaving California or shutting down.

Villapudua said he was spending a great amount of time in his car, traveling to and from the Tri-Valley during the campaign to learn about the area. He said he has the relationships in Sacramento to deal with the Tri-Valley’s issues.

“I love that community. It’s a beautiful place,” he said, speaking of the Tri-Valley. “They want better schools. They want safer streets. They want everything that the Central Valley wants.”

**Jim Shoemaker**

Republican Jim Shoemaker, a San Joaquin County resident for more than 30 years, said on his website that he is running for the seat because he is deeply troubled with the district and state’s direction.

“Right now in Sacramento, there are bills in the Senate taking aim at parental rights, propping up failing schools, prioritizing criminals over business owners, and increasing spending for bloated pet projects paid for with your dollar,” Shoemaker wrote. “The average working citizen is paying more and more with no relief in sight under the current majority rule in California. Our freedoms, our families, our economy, and our leadership (have) been derailed. It is time we take back District 5 and move forward.”

Shoemaker did not respond to a list of emailed questions posed by The Independent. During a recent candidates’ forum, he said he was raised by his grandparents after his father died when he was 10. Shoemaker said he

started a number of businesses, including truck driving and popcorn distribution.

A Teamster during his time as a trucker, Shoemaker said he learned to work hard. He said his travels took him through the Tri-Valley.

“I met numerous people from all over,” Shoemaker said. “We want something better for our children and for our families. And all I’ve seen is the state seeming to get more and more powerful in controlling our lives, taking more of what we’ve worked for.”

Shoemaker identified water, crime and homelessness as his top priorities for District 5.

Shoemaker said he opposed the now-defunct Delta Conveyance twin tunnel proposal under former Gov. Jerry Brown to divert Sacramento River water to be used throughout the state. Although Gov. Gavin Newsom trimmed the project to a single tunnel, Shoemaker said he remains opposed.

“We need to be putting in reservoirs and more dams. We need to store the water that Mother Nature drops here and not send it to the ocean,” he said.

Shoemaker blamed overregulation for the state’s problems. He did not identify which regulations he would like to end, but said the state needs to allow for local control of major issues, including homelessness.

“It seems the more the state gets into this issue, the more homeless we end up with,” Shoemaker said. “How do you have affordable housing when regulations, permitting and all the costs that the state has

implemented and put on developers and builders to build the homes and apartments that we need, has interfered with that and driven up the costs?”

On improving traffic congestion over the Altamont Pass, Shoemaker said he preferred buses to the Valley Link train, a proposal that is taking years to fund and will take years to build. He suggested a system of eight to 10 buses on a dedicated road without stops.

Shoemaker said he was against windmill power generation, saying the windmills kill birds. Instead, he advocated for clean nuclear power for the region.

Shoemaker blamed California’s projected budget deficit on Gov. Newsom and the legislature for overspending and for driving businesses from the state. He said he was against funding healthcare “through the illegal alien program.”

“We’re at a point now that this state’s going to implode, because these guys keep spending our money,” he said. “We can’t fund everything under the sun.”

Shoemaker added that crime, education and water were issues that Republicans and Democrats could come together to solve. He said he was against defunding police and said schools need to educate children to “love their state, love the country they’re born in and realize they are blessed to be here, and at the same time learning, writing and arithmetic.”

Shoemaker is endorsed by the California GOP and Alameda County Republican Party.



Joanna Johnson has been promoted to Livermore Police’s Supervising Property and Evidence Specialist. The Brentwood native became a Community Service Specialist in 2002, a position she’s held until now. During her time at LPD, she’s been part of the Crime Scene unit, an explorer advisor, a car seat technician and part of the Mentor and PIO teams. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Police Department)

## SWALWELL

(Continued from front page)

He frequently wrangles with so-called MAGA congress members Jim Jordan and Marjorie Taylor Green.

Three years ago, Swalwell filed suit against Trump over the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection at the Capitol. He said he is confident President Joseph Biden will win re-election in November.

Swalwell said he hopes to be part of a post-Trump “renewing chapter.”

“I ran in government in my first couple of years, very collaboratively, with Republicans and I hope post MAGA that we can get back to that,” Swalwell said. “I’ve got Republican partners who I work with, and I hope that the day after Trump, we can build on bipartisanship and collaborate even more.”

Swalwell said in the next term he plans to continue to push Valley Link “over the goal line” to reduce commute times.

“Delivering a climate project is a big priority for the people I grew up with and my neighbors,” Swalwell said. “I’m committed to that.”

In addition to Valley Link, Swalwell said he is

proud of delivering money for veterans housing, \$1 million for a Veterans Park in downtown Livermore, and \$1.5 million for Hayward’s Stack Center, a youth and family center.

Swalwell said the Department of Transportation is conducting an environmental review of the Valley Link project. He said the inability of Congress to pass a budget has hurt his ability to obtain funding for the \$1.8 billion project and other community projects.

“I do hope in a new Congress with a Democratic majority, we can really get this across the goal line with what I can deliver from communities and project dollars, and the Infrastructure and Jobs Act. The dollars are out there.”

Swalwell said that if Democrats take back the majority, they will work on securing background checks for gun purchases, pass voting rights legislation and codify women’s reproductive rights.

“We have shown on immigration — the president has shown — that he’s willing to work in a bipartisan

way to secure the border and hopefully meet the workforce crisis that we have in America, as it relates to childcare and hospitality, and food and beverage jobs,” Swalwell said.

Swalwell serves on the House Judiciary and Homeland Security committees.

Swalwell’s high profile has made him and his family a target for threats. In January, a Florida man was charged with leaving five messages at the legislator’s Washington, D.C. office with threats to kill him and his family.

Swalwell said his staff spends eight to 10 hours a week working with law enforcement against threats.

“If the aim is to deter me, it’s not going to work,” Swalwell said. “I’m going to protect my family and my staff, but I’m going to be present in my community and effective at the Capitol.”

Here are profiles of his challengers, none of whom responded to emailed lists of questions posed by The Independent.

**Luis Reynoso**

Republican Luis Reynoso

is a Chabot-Las Positas Community College District trustee. Reynoso does not appear to have a campaign website outlining his positions and reasons for running for Congress.

His personal website says the public voted for him for the college board “because I promote justice, transparency, and accountability while fighting corruption.”

In 2023, Reynoso’s board colleagues investigated and censured him after he posted an alleged offensive meme on social media, according to his website and news reports.

**Alison Hayden**

Republican Alison Hayden is taking a third shot at replacing Swalwell. Swalwell beat the special education teacher in November runoff in 2020 and 2022 by large margins.

In Hayden’s 2022 bid for the seat, she listed her priorities as voting security and immigration issues. She also supports restoring gas pipelines, building nuclear power plants and desalination facilities, as well as developing environmental and healthcare technologies

through the private sector; parents’ rights and school choice, where schools “do not indoctrinate, medicate or social engineer our children’s minds”; and keeping jobs in the United States.

During a 2022 interview with The Independent, Hayden said Swalwell leaned too far left. She said he wants to take guns and jobs away and install a single-payer healthcare system.

Hayden said she prioritized ending taxes, fees and regulations that hurt the middle-class.

“I say pretty much every policy I would think about would lead back to supporting the family,” Hayden said two years ago. “I’m pushing for going back to the basics of community and family as the grass roots of any strong country.”

**Vin (Vinay) Kruttiventi**

Republican Vin (Vinay) Kruttiventi describes himself on his website as a “husband, father, community leader, philanthropist, and entrepreneur.”

Kruttiventi’s campaign website said his passion for community service was in-

fluenced by his grandfather, a freedom fighter who he said worked beside Gandhi in India. Kruttiventi owns A5, a business and technology consulting firm in Pleasanton.

He described himself as “an advocate for job creating in the 14th District, providing skill building opportunities to workers in the district and helping Fortune 500 companies across the globe problem solve and streamline processes.”

Kruttiventi, who chairs the Vinay Kruttiventi Foundation that aids nonprofit organizations in the Tri-Valley, listed his priorities as returning Congress to a “place of service instead of a career destination” by leading a fight for term limits; lowering taxes on the middle class; cutting wasteful government spending; and reducing the national debt and balancing the budget. He also cited immigration and education issues; energy independence, maintaining the best military in the world, ensuring children have first class educations without political indoctrination; and securing the Southern border.

## OBITUARIES

### CELEBRATION OF LIFE

**Benjamin Smith Green, Jr.**  
March 22, 1948 – Nov. 19, 2023

Benjamin Smith Green, Jr. passed away at the age of 75 on Nov. 19, 2023.

Ben was born in Pariss Island, South Carolina to the parents Ben Green Sr. and Vivian Green. He lived in Virginia until his Marine Corp. family was transferred to San Francisco. They settled in San Mateo and stayed there for the rest of their lives. It was here that Ben developed his love of all sports, including the San Francisco Giants, the Warriors and the 49ers.

Ben graduated from San Mateo High School in 1966. While in high school, he played football, basketball and baseball. He earned a scholarship to the University of the Pacific to play football. He graduated from U.O.P. with a degree in business, a teaching credential in Elementary Education and a Credential to teach P.E.

Ben met his future wife Judy while a student at U.O.P. They married in 1970 and were married for 53 years. In 1978, Ben and Judy were delighted to welcome their son Samuel to the family.



Ben and Judy moved to Livermore in 1972 where Ben began his career teaching P.E. to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at Mendenhall Middle School; an ideal job for a sport and dance enthusiast with a love of students in that age group. He coached many teams at Mendenhall, and also boys' and girls' basketball at Granada High School. He felt his true calling was coaching girls' basketball.

Ben worked many years at Concannon Winery on weekends where he poured wine and took people on tours of the

vineyards.

After 34 years of teaching, Ben retired to a daily round of golf with his many friends at Tracy Golf and Country Club.

Above all, Ben's love of friends and family knew no bounds. He was someone who never met a stranger. He loved a good conversation, especially about sports and politics. He loved being with his family, especially his son Samuel, daughter-in-law Candice, granddaughter Lexi and his grandson Brendan.

There was no finer life companion than Ben. His place beside us is empty but his spirit continues to light up the lives of all who knew and loved him.

We would be honored with your presence at a celebration of Ben's life at Beeb's, Las Positas Golf Course at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 9. Please RSVP to nscarter3@comcast.net if you are able to join us.

Donations in Ben's name may be made to Granada Women's Basketball Program, in care of Clark Conover, Granada High School.

### Jane Louise Crone 105 years

Jane Crone passed away on Jan. 19, 2024, after 105 years on this earth. She was a vivacious soul who worked into her 70's and volunteered well into her 90's. Jane was born in San Francisco and lived most of her life in the Bay Area, settling in Livermore in 1968.

Jane married her husband Dick in 1941 and together they raised four children. She is survived by her daughters Carol (Paul), Colleen, and Chris (Rich); her grandchildren Laura, Rebecca (Kai), Gabe (Elena), and Jessica (Hugo); her great-grandchildren Lily, Isabel, Sophie, Zeke, Addie, and Leo; and her great-grandchild Jasper. She was preceded in death by her husband Dick, her son Rick, her granddaughter Elizabeth, her son-in-law Bob, her parents, and her two siblings Betty and George.

She was a life member of the

Livermore Valley Lithophiles, the local rock club that she joined in 1968 with her husband. They enjoyed many happy rock collecting trips in California, Oregon, Arizona and Nevada. Jane served as the club secretary for seven years. She co-chaired the Litorama rock show twice and managed the raffle and door prizes at club meetings when she was in her 90's. One member affectionately referred to her as "The Bag Lady" because she sewed thousands of grab bags for the Arts Festival and Litorama.

Volunteering was in Jane's heart. She volunteered for the ValleyCare Auxiliary for many years, working in their thrift shop until it closed in 2016. Not only did Jane work at the thrift shop, but she shopped there also and celebrated the many great deals she found. She made many friends at the thrift shop and truly enjoyed

meeting them for luncheons. Jane also volunteered for many years for Livermore's senior lunch program.

Jane was a world traveler, visiting many countries in Europe and Asia. She always traveled with the same group of people and made life-long friends. She traveled throughout the United States as well, both visiting her daughters and grandchildren and also seeing many sights in the U.S. and Canada with her travel group.

A memorial service will be held at Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore, on the corner of College and South L St., on March 2, 2024, at 11 a.m.

Kindly RSVP to JL-CRONE4@gmail.com

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favorite charity.

### Margaret (Peggy) Moriarty Egan



Margaret (Peggy) Moriarty Egan was born on Halloween 1948 to Mortimer and Jane Moriarty. A true New Yorker from birth, Peggy was raised in the Sunnyside neighborhood of Queens, New York. As the middle child of seven, her childhood was filled with camaraderie, love, and adventure.

Peggy graduated from the Marymount School for Girls in Manhattan and received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York. After graduating, Peggy married the love of her life, Patrick Egan. Their marriage included many adventures and took them to New Haven, Connecticut; Los Alamos, New Mexico; Heidelberg, Germany, and eventually Livermore, California, where they settled and raised their three children.

In addition to being a stay-at-home mother, Peggy also held many jobs throughout her life. She worked as a library tech in the Yale University Library, campus monitor at Emma C. Smith

School, administrative assistant in the medical offices of Dr. Michael Ranahan, and over the last decade of her career in the counseling office of Las Positas College.

Peggy was fortunate to have many wonderful friends, including her "coffee group" and CCD (California Casual Dining) friends who enjoyed dinners, trips, and holidays together for decades.

Diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease at the age of 60, Peggy suffered for over 14 years with the

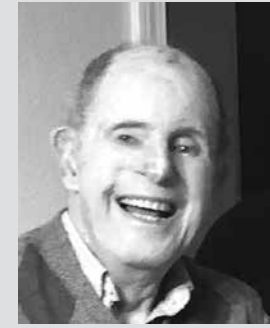
disease but never lost her typical good nature and grace. She passed away peacefully on Feb. 8 in the care of her wonderful nurses and aides at the Chateau at River's Edge in Sacramento.

Peggy is preceded in death by her husband, Patrick, her brothers, Daniel Moriarty and Kevin Moriarty, and her sister-in-law, Kathleen Moriarty. She is survived by her children Michael Egan, Andrea Egan (daughter-in-law), Peter Egan, Adrienne Irvine (niece to Peter), Jane Wrightson, and Brian Wrightson (son-in-law), her grandsons Donovan and Patrick Wrightson, and her siblings Mortimer Moriarty, MaryJo Moriarty (sister-in-law), Tiricia Moriarty (sister-in-law), Michael Moriarty, John Moriarty, Jane Fallon, and Michael Fallon (brother-in-law). In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a donation be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

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

### CELEBRATION OF LIFE

**John Joseph Van Arsdale**  
March 1, 1929 – Oct. 3, 2023



John Joseph Van Arsdale passed away peacefully on Oct. 3, 2023, surrounded by his family in Livermore. John was a loving husband for 61 years and beloved father to his four children: Cindy (Wilton Stribling) Jones, David Van Arsdale, Judy (Edward) Novak and Susie (Darren) Young. They were blessed with thirteen grandchildren and six great grandchildren. John was predeceased by his wife Jean, brother Raymond, sister Marie, and grandchild Scott Novak.

John was born in Hopewell, New Jersey; son of Edward and Julia Van Arsdale. He was a 1951 graduate of Rider College; afterwards he joined the US Army and served in the Finance Corp. On Dec. 27, 1952, he married Jean Delores Emmons from Bordentown, New Jersey. After leaving the Army, he worked for Burroughs Corporation. During his time at Burroughs, he won a trip to Palm Springs; it was

then they decided to move the family to La Mesa, California (San Diego area).

Several years later, he and Jean purchased San Diego Surveys, where they worked together until they retired. John enjoyed sailing his catamaran around the San Diego Bay and taking family camping trips when the children were young. They were very active in their church, the Friendship Force organization, traveling with

friends and visiting family. John loved to golf and enjoyed many courses in the area and out of state.

John spent the last 12 years of his life in Livermore, enjoying visits from children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed visiting Livermore wineries, and last fall he enjoyed one last vacation to Heber City, Utah to visit Judy; and Montrose Colorado, where he spent time with Cindy, David, and their families.

John was a man of great religious faith, whose Christian beliefs and principles guided his life. John was conservative, patriotic and faithful to his religion. He will be forever loved and missed by his family.

The burial took place at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery. A celebration of life will be held at St. Charles Borromeo, on what would be John's 95th birthday, March 1, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

### DESAULNIER

(Continued from front page)

tra Costa and Alameda promoting me. It's endlessly stimulating from my perspective, although it can be discouraging, too."

DeSaulnier said Dublin residents who recall his term in the state legislature representing them from 2006 to 2015, know he has focused on transportation, housing, education and air quality issues. He sits on the House Ethics Committee, and the Education and Labor Committee, where he serves as ranking member of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Subcommittee. He also serves on the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, including its subcommittees that oversee aviation, water resources, the environment, transit, railroads, pipelines and hazardous materials.

When Democrats previously held the majority, DeSaulnier was a member of the House Rules committee.

"I've done more town halls in the last nine years than any other House of Representatives member in the country, Republicans or Democrats," DeSaulnier said. "I very much believe in staying connected to my constituents."

DeSaulnier cited the Family Engagement in Education Act as a top accomplishment. The bipartisan bill passed in 2015 has allocated nearly \$100 million over the years to states and school districts to "help busy parents to be engaged in their kids' education." He touted work to fund infrastructure for electric and fuel-cell cars; and a bill called the Mental Health Matters Act to provide mental health care to young people. The bill failed to pass the Senate, but DeSaulnier said he hopes to bring it back up if Democrats can win the majority this November.

When Democrats were in control of the House during President Joseph Biden's first two years, DeSaulnier was among the Democrats who passed the president's infrastructure bill and the CHIPS Act, a law to produce computer chips in the United States. DeSaulnier said the law provides millions of dollars to the national laboratories in Livermore and Berkeley.

"We need to do more on

healthcare," DeSaulnier said. "As somebody who's a survivor of stage four cancer and was in an ICU for four weeks on a ventilator, I am very aware of the strengths of our healthcare system and the weaknesses."

DeSaulnier's new district includes FCI Dublin, a troubled federal women's prison where guards, a warden and chaplain have been charged in recent years with sexually abusing inmates. DeSaulnier said he has recently met with former employees and whistleblowers and plans to visit the facility in a few weeks as the Board of Prison's works to improve conditions.

"I spent a lot of time in the corrections field, but at the state level, and then at the local level as a supervisor, so I'm really interested in going (to FCI Dublin). Everything I've heard and read is deplorable, unacceptable, and it has to be fixed and people have to be held accountable," the congressman said.

Last week, DeSaulnier co-sponsored legislation to support and preserve local journalism.

DeSaulnier said he believes "the future of democracy" is at stake in November. He said he has faith in the country and American voters.

"As a former Republican, (the party) is more of a cult and it does whatever Donald Trump wants them to do, which really doesn't have much to do with ideology," he said.

Here are DeSaulnier's challenges:

#### Nolan Lee Chen

Republican Nolan Lee Chen, a technology consultant from San Ramon, says he is running to represent California's 10th District in Congress "to help ensure that our children will be able to inherit what Abraham Lincoln described as 'this last best hope of Earth.'"

Chen, a son of Taiwanese parents, said on his campaign website he is proud and grateful "to have been a part of the American adventure." Chen did not respond to a list of emailed questions from The Independent.

"America has always stood for freedom," Chen said on his website. "But as we are witnessing today around the world, freedom cannot always be taken

for granted and must always be fought for and defended. As a member of Congress, I will fight for a government that continues to remember that we are all created equal, the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Chen listed "Equality for All" as a top issue, saying racial discrimination must be rooted out wherever it exists, especially in government and publicly funded institutions. He said he will fight "any attempt to cut corners" around the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Chen listed his other primary concerns as Artificial Intelligence (AI), inflation, crime, energy and immigration. On AI, he said "bad actors" can use it to commit fraud and spread disinformation. He said Congress needs to make sure citizens reap the benefits of AI, and at the same time protect privacy and civil liberties. On inflation, he said the government needs to slow spending "while unleashing the productive energies of our economy to produce the abundance of goods and services needed to bring prices down."

Chen said "soft-on-crime attitudes that demonize the police" have emboldened criminals. Calling climate change "real," Chen said solar and wind are not yet reliable sources of energy, so the country needs to strive for energy independence while investing in cleaner, efficient sources of energy.

On immigration, Chen said the United States must welcome "new Americans," but keep its borders secure to prevent illegal drugs, violent gangs and human traffickers from entering the country.

#### Mohamed El Sherbini

Danville resident Mohamed El Sherbini, who listed no party preference, said he plans to be a vocal advocate to support small businesses, safety initiatives through all law enforcement agencies, and economic growth.

"We need a change for new leadership because (DeSaulnier) is out of touch with people and has done nothing lately for them," El Sherbini told The Independent. "I am the new leader that will protect my district's interest and bring federal support for all. I will also address specific issues, meet my constituents and

serve them right by being their voice in Washington."

El Sherbini said he founded King TuT Tours, Inc. USA in Danville 37 years ago that gave him firsthand experience in "navigating challenges, managing resources, and understanding the needs of entrepreneurs."

A father of twin daughters who graduated from UC Davis, El Sherbini said he served as an ambassador for the Danville Chamber of Commerce and supported charity events held by the American Heart Association and the Ladies Professional Golf Association. His civic work, he said, shows his dedication to serving the community beyond his business interests.

"This combination of experience, resilience, and civic engagement equips me with the skills and perspective needed to be an effective advocate for my constituents in Congress," he said.

El Sherbini cited his top issues as promoting policies and initiatives that stimulate economic growth, support small businesses, and create jobs; improving educational opportunities, enhancing workforce training programs, and preparing students for the jobs of the future; and advocating for affordable housing. He supports protecting tenants' rights and promoting equitable development.

"This can include supporting measures, such as increasing funding for affordable housing programs, incentivizing the construction of affordable housing units, implementing rent control measures where appropriate, and addressing issues related to homelessness and housing insecurity," he said.

#### Katherine Piccinini

Oakley resident Katherine Piccinini has the endorsement of the California Republican Assembly. Piccinini believes in "setting aside our differences and returning to the core principles of 'We the People': God, family, life and country."

"Our mission is to reclaim our God-given rights and the land we call home, ensuring that all persons — from the unborn to our veterans — are always prioritized," she wrote on her website.

Piccinini did not respond to an emailed list of questions from

The Independent. Her website states that she believes this election goes beyond political parties. It is a "battle between light and darkness."

"We will fight to restore our nation from the ground up, leaving no stone unturned, and returning it to its rightful owners: the people," she wrote. "Our focus will be on the well-being of the people, not on self-serving leaders or an overreaching government."

She added that government officials have created a "New Normal America," characterized by financial failure, civil unrest, lawlessness, perverseness and immorality.

"We will stand firm, saying, 'Not on my watch,'" Piccinini wrote.

Piccinini listed her priorities as protecting parents' rights; securing the border; stopping drug and sex trafficking; supporting the 2nd Amendment; supporting voter identification, paper ballots and same-day voting; providing safe food and water; maintaining parental medical freedoms; and stopping lockdowns, mandatory vaccines and mask mandates.

Piccinini also wants to stop reckless spending; provide a "traditional academic focused curriculum" in schools; protect female privacy and fairness in sports; "enforce biological competition," and stop "mutilating and grooming" children.

#### Joe Sweeney

Dublin resident Joe Sweeney told The Independent that he "believes strongly that we need to break the corrupt and polarizing two-party system to put our country back on the right track."

Sweeney, who runs a medical supply company in Pleasanton said he is running because "our country is declining rapidly, and the two-party system is the source of its destruction."

"I am an independent who solves problems on an issue-by-issue basis," Sweeney said. "I'm not a Republican. I'm not a Democrat. I'm the alternative."

Sweeney said DeSaulnier "may come off as a moderate Democrat because he is soft-spoken, mild-mannered, and a former Republican," but his voting record and co-sponsored legislation rank

him as one of the 20 farthest left members in the House.

"That is not in line with the district. I'm running to throw a wrench into the two-party political machine and lead our country back to the middle," he said.

Sweeney listed his priorities as securing the border; stopping illegal immigration and improving legal immigration; stopping wasteful government spending and controlling inflation; stopping the "escalating overseas conflict" and moving toward resolution; cleaning up cities, getting drugs off the street and getting tougher on crime; and keeping government out of personal health and medical decisions. He also supports keeping politics out of the classroom and focusing on student learning; moving toward sustaining energy "in an intelligent way," and protecting free speech and personal liberties.

To curb spending, Sweeney advocates an end to continuing resolutions or omnibus bills; closing non-strategic military bases and bringing troops home; single-subject spending bills and regular audits of all agencies and programs. Sweeney also advocates for closing the border; completing former President Donald Trump's border wall; negotiating with Mexico and Central and South American governments to stop migrant flows; reinstating the "Remain in Mexico" policy and increasing resources to process asylum claims for undocumented immigrants already in the United States.

On immigration, Sweeney also wants to expand the H-1B visa program to bring highly skilled workers to the United States; create a guest worker program for industries in need of unskilled labor; and remove country caps for green cards.

He also advocates 12-year term limits for members of Congress; an end to insider trading of stocks; disclosures of meetings with lobbyists and a 4-year prohibition on lobbying; and disclosing Super-PAC dark money.

"I'm running to tear out the rotten foundation in Washington, D.C. and pour new concrete, not just to put up new drapes and a fresh coat of paint," Sweeney said. "Our ruling class has put our country on a dangerous path, and it's up to us to stop them."

# Granada Boys Basketball Plays Well, but Falls to SRV

By Phil Jensen

The Granada High School boys basketball team battled valiantly without a key starter against San Ramon Valley on Feb. 15 before eventually falling 77-68 in a North Coast Section Open Division play-off first-round game.

NaVaughn Long was out for the game with a shoulder injury, but the Matadors still gave San Ramon Valley trouble. Granada held a 36-33 halftime lead and the Matadors trailed by only two points early in the fourth quarter.

"We fought our tails off. I was extremely proud of my guys," said Granada coach Quaran Johnson. "There are no moral victories. We lost. The better team won."

Granada (22-4), the No. 5 seed in the NCS Open Division, played No. 6 Clayton Valley Charter (22-8) on Feb. 21 in the fifth-place game. The result of that game was not available at press time. The Matadors will compete in the California Interscholastic Federation NorCal playoffs

next week.

On Feb. 8, San Ramon Valley used a huge second-half performance to soundly defeat host Granada 80-56 in the East Bay Athletic League playoffs. But one week later in their home gym, the Wolves weren't able to pull away from the Matadors until late in the game.

"(Long's) our leader, our captain ... but then you've got to look to the other guys that are playing. We've got to represent for him, we've got to stand up and fight for him, and we've got to keep playing, next man up," Johnson said. "We got to 22-3 not because of one guy, but because of us as a team and I thought we showed that a lot tonight."

Spencer Langowski paced the Matadors with 27 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter. It was the most points that the senior has scored in a game in his last two seasons at Granada.

"He's just that good of a player, point-blank period," Johnson said.

Cortevious Taylor added 19 points and a team-high sev-

en rebounds for the Matadors. Teammate Damien Miles, a sophomore who replaced Long in the starting lineup for the game, had a career-high 14 points. Eleven of those points were in the second quarter, including a trio of 3-pointers.

"He is just a dynamic, special player," said Johnson about Miles. "He can do a little bit of everything, and I just see the sky's the limit for him. I'm so proud of him."

San Ramon Valley, the fourth seed which improved to 25-5 with the win, bolted out to a 7-2 lead in the first two minutes of the game. But Granada remained close and trailed 18-14 after the first quarter.

A putback by Taylor tied the game at 18 early in the second quarter, and the Matadors tied it again at 22 on Miles' first bucket of the game with 4 minutes, 18 seconds remaining in the first half. Granada took the lead for the first time on a three-pointer by Miles less than a minute later, then entered halftime with a 36-33 advantage with a three-pointer

at the buzzer by Miles.

Granada's lead grew to 40-33 in the third quarter on two free throws by Langowski with 4:35 left in that period. But San Ramon Valley chipped away at the advantage and took a 43-41 lead two minutes later on a basket by Seamus Deely. The Wolves took the lead to stay with 49 seconds remaining in the period on a 3-pointer by Luke Isaak, although Granada cut the advantage to two points with 7:10 to go in the game on a three-pointer by Langowski.

San Ramon Valley was deadly from the free-throw line, as it connected on 17 of its 19 attempts in the fourth quarter alone and 25 of its 28 attempts in the game. Isaak led all scorers with 28 points, and Mason Thomas added 19, including 9-for-10 free-throw shooting in the fourth quarter.

The Wolves advanced to the NCS Open Division semifinals, where they faced No. 1 seed Salesian-Richmond at Contra Costa College-San Pablo on Feb. 21 after this article went to press.



The Granada Matadors boys varsity basketball team traveled to San Ramon on Feb. 15 for a rematch with the Wolves, in the North Coast Section, CIF 2024 Boys Open Basketball Championship, first round. Above, the Matadors Lennon Lomba works the ball to the basket. San Ramon won 77 to 68. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

# Stokes Leads Dublin Boys Basketball Against Campolindo

By Phil Jensen

An example of Jalen Stokes' talent occurred in the second quarter of the Dublin High School boys basketball team's North Coast Section Division I quarterfinal game on Feb. 16 against Campolindo-Moraga.

Stokes, a 6-foot-5 junior, grabbed an offensive rebound while he was falling with his back towards the floor. In one strong move, he shot the ball as he fell quickly back, and it went through the net for two of his game-high 26 points.

Stokes was a consistent leader for the Gaels in their impressive 61-38 home victory.

"I think his greatest contribution was on the defensive end," said Dublin coach Tom Costello about the multi-talented Stokes who limited Dylan Mansour, Campolindo's leading scorer this season, to eight points. Then Costello said, "He's one of the most competitive kids I've ever had. The rest of the team can attest to that. He hates losing. ... He's the ultimate competitor."

Dublin (23-8), the No. 3 seed in Division I, hosted No. 7 Liberty-Brentwood in a semifinal game on Feb. 20 after this article's deadline. Liberty upset No. 2 seed Berkeley 63-48 on Feb. 16.

Against Campolindo, the Gaels were playing their second game without sophomore starter Cameron Anderson, who has a shoulder injury. But Dublin's rotation stepped up. For example, sophomore Jaiden Jones came off the bench to produce 12 points in the victory.

"Our guys in the rotation, we're deep, we're young," Stokes said. "Hopefully Cam gets back soon. I think we're deep enough to where we'll be okay."

Stokes said the team's "energy, defense, rebounding" made the difference in the game. He had eight rebounds,

a block and a steal in the win. Additionally, Stokes passed for five assists.

Costello also pointed out the team's defense, as it allowed only 15 total points in the first half and didn't allow more than 12 points in any quarter.

"That was a pretty impressive defensive effort," he said. "They're so well-coached and (Coach Steven Dyer) gets the most out of his guys."

The game was tied at nine with close to two minutes re-

assists in that period. Tim Smith led Campolindo in scoring with 10 points.

Dublin easily beat No. 14 James Logan-Union City 80-37 in the first round on Feb. 13. Stokes reached the Dublin High 1,000 Point Club for his career with 23 points. Damase Coly had 11 points for the Gaels, and Jones added nine points and seven rebounds. Wong had eight points and seven assists in the victory.

Foothill advanced to the

Division I quarterfinal round before falling to No. 1 California 48-38 on Feb. 16. The Gaels, seeded eighth, defeated No. 9 Clayton Valley Charter 63-39 in the first round on Feb. 13. Dublin finished the season with a 17-13 overall record.

Foothill, the No. 5 seed in Division II, beat No. 12 Antioch 53-39 in the first round on Feb. 14 to reach the quarterfinals. But the Falcons' season ended with a 65-44 loss to No. 4 Moreau Catholic-Hayward on Feb. 17. Foothill finished with a 20-9 overall record.

## Boys Soccer

Granada, the No. 10 seed in the NCS Division I playoffs, upset No. 7 Pittsburg 4-3 in a first-round game on Feb. 14. But the Matadors' season ended with a 2-1 loss to No. 2 Monte Vista on Feb. 17. Granada finished with an excellent 13-5-2 overall record.

Amador Valley, the No. 14 seed in Division I, fell to No. 3 Redwood-Larkspur 1-0 in the first round on Feb. 14 and ended the season with a 12-10 overall record.

Livermore, the No. 8 seed in Division II, was edged by Alameda 3-2 in a first-round match on Feb. 13. The Cowboys finished with a 5-7-5 overall record.

## Girls Soccer

Amador Valley, the No. 1 seed in the NCS Division I playoffs, edged No. 8 Clayton Valley Charter 1-0 in the quarterfinals on Feb. 17 to advance to the semifinals. The Dons hosted No. 4 San Ramon Valley on Feb. 21 after this article's deadline. Amador Valley split matches with San Ramon Valley during the regular season, losing 1-0 on Jan. 18 before winning 2-1 on Feb. 8. In the first round of the NCS tournament on Feb. 14, the Dons shut out No. 16 San Leandro 8-0.

Dublin, the No. 12 seed in Division I, upset No. 5 Castro

Valley 1-0 on Feb. 14. But the Gaels' season ended with a 4-0 loss to San Ramon Valley on Feb. 17. Dublin finished with a 6-6-5 overall record.

Foothill, the No. 11 seed in Division I, fell 1-0 to No. 6 Berkeley in first-round action on Feb. 14. The Falcons finished the season with a 6-7-6 overall record.

Livermore, the No. 14 seed in Division II, was edged 1-0 in overtime by No. 3 Branson-Ross in the first round on Feb. 13. Cowboys goalkeeper Madelyn Funk had eight saves. Livermore finished the season with a 3-10-3 overall record.

## Boys Wrestling

Granada's Jack Baker and Dublin's Yousuf Amin both placed second in their weight classes at the North Coast Section championships at James Logan-Union City on Feb. 17 and qualified for the California Interscholastic Federation State championships on Feb. 22-24 in Bakersfield.

In the 108-pound final, Baker was edged 6-5 by Castro

Valley's Connor Jeong. But in the true second-place match, Baker produced a 16-0 technical fall of Windsor's Antonio Garaventa to qualify for the state championship. Baker had three first-round pins and a 13-3 major decision in his first four matches of the tournament.

Amin, in the 122-pound class, produced a technical fall in the first round and had 11-2 and 15-5 major-decision wins in his next two matches before pinning Liberty-Brentwood's Christopher Anderson in the third round of a semifinal match. But De La Salle's Martin Martir defeated Amin 9-0 in the final.



Last Friday, the Dublin Gaels varsity boys basketball team hosted the Campolindo Cougars in the quarter finals of the 2024 North Coast Section Division 1 Boys Basketball Championships. Justin DeGuzman, above, helped Dublin win 61 to 38. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

maining in the first quarter, but a drive for a basket by Stokes started a 6-0 Gaels run. Campolindo, the sixth seed which finished the season with a 22-8 overall record, moved to within two points at 15-13, but another basket by Stokes started the pivotal 20-2 Gaels run in the second quarter, and Dublin led by double figures throughout the second half. Stokes had nine points in the second quarter and teammate Isaiah Wong passed for two of his game-high six

NCS Division I quarterfinals on Feb. 16 before falling 64-47 to No. 1 seed Bishop O'Dowd-Oakland. The Falcons, who are the No. 8 seed, finished the season with an 18-13 overall record.

The Falcons edged No. 9 Amador Valley 63-61 in the first round on Feb. 13. Amador Valley finished the season with a 17-12 overall record.

## Girls Basketball

Dublin advanced to the NCS

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<p><b>LEGAL NOTICES</b></p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603485</b> The following person(s) doing business as: Trend event Collections, 4577 Las Positas Rd. Ste. A, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pleasanton Rentals, Inc., 4577 Las Positas Rd. Ste. A, 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/: Sherri Creighton, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 19, 2024. Expires January 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5769. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603376</b> The following person(s) doing business as: AireServ of Pleasanton, 7026 Koll Center Parkway, #211, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tri Valley HVAC, LLC, 7026 Koll Center Parkway, #211, Pleasanton, CA</p>	<p>94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Najib Rahmatti, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 16, 2024. Expires January 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5770. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603473</b> The following person(s) doing business as: TATAIWCareCo-ordination, 25706 Lewis Dr., Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Above and Beyond Senior Services LLC, 25706 Lewis Dr., Hayward, CA 94544. 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: 1/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Nicole Fauss, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 19, 2024. Expires January 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5771. Published, Feb-</p>	<p>ruary 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603248</b> The following person(s) doing business as: Mad River Technology, 1280 Gusto Loop, #4, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Daniel Purdy, 1280 Gusto Loop, #4, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Daniel Purdy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 08, 2024. Expires January 09, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5772. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603536</b> The following person(s) doing business as: TeaOvation, 30971 San Benito St., Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): IBEV LLC, 30971 San Benito St., Hayward, CA 94544. 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/: Francis Ho, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2024. Expires January 22, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5773. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p>	<p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603266</b> The following person(s) doing business as: Boba &amp; More, 5286 Iron Horse Parkway, Suite B, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Boba &amp; More Franchising LLC, 5286 Iron Horse Parkway, Suite B, Dublin, CA 94568. 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/: Farid Turangan, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 09, 2024. Expires January 08, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5774. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603518</b> The following person(s) doing business as: Trend event Collections, Ace Medical Consultants, 4900 Hopyard Rd, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miguel Alvarellos, M.D., A Professional Corporation, 4900 Hopyard Rd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 09/13/2010. Signature of Registrant/s/: Miguel Alvarellos, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2024. Expires January 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5775. Published, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.</p> <p><b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603608</b> The following person(s) doing business as: eSail Consult-</p>
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# LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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ley, 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: 9/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Aqshems Meten Nicholas, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2024. Expires January 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5786. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

above: 1/22/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brui Shen, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2024. Expires January 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5786. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5792. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

Landible, Inc., 1400 Shattuck Ave. Ste 12, Berkeley, CA 94709. 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: 1/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mary Muszynski, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2024. Expires February 6, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5793. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 07/10/1979. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tatiana Toro, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2024. Expires February 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5803. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

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/: Miguel A. Escamilla. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2024. Expires January 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5807. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

Munger, 3406 Redhook Lane, Alameda, CA 94502. 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: 11/1/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Austin Munger, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2024. Expires January 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5811. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603464**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Xpro Auto Glass; 2. Gateway Auto Glass, 5820 Stoneridge Mall Rd #106, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Everloop Capital, LLC, 2511 Brenford Drive, San Jose, CA 94511. 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: 12/12/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: David, Loo, Owner/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 19, 2024. Expires January 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5782. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603465**

The following person(s) doing business as: United Smiles, 1523 N Vasco Rd., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shah Doshi Dental Corporation, 1523 N Vasco Rd., 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/: Hetal Shah, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2024. Expires January 29, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5787. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603993**

The following person(s) doing business as: Sherry's, 2213 Via Espada, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lingying Xia, . 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/: Lingying Xia, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 6, 2024. Expires February 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5808. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604070**

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603673**

The following person(s) doing business as: Koffee Time, 618 Main Street, Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Olguin & Hernandez LLC, 618 Main Street, Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/29/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ruth Olguin, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2024. Expires January 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5783. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603710**

The following person(s) doing business as: star Tae Kwon Do Academy, 1490 N. Vasco Road, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Seong Gon Ha, 1490 N. Vasco Road, 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: 1/25/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Seong Gon Ha, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2024. Expires January 29, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5794. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603914**

The following person(s) doing business as: AMS Construction Services, 1063 Serpentine Lane, Ste. B, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Association Maintenance Services Inc., P O Box, 157, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Michelle McNamara, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2024. Expires January 22, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5809. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603571**

**NOTICES**  
**"NOTICE TO READERS:** California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603424**

The following person(s) doing business as: Apex Pools, 1183 Kottlinger Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eric Beau Hoff, 1807 Santa Rita Rd., Unit H276, 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: 1/5/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Eric Beau Hoff, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 17, 2024. Expires January 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5784. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603654**

The following person(s) doing business as: EMC2E Universe Publishing, 3051 Quantum Dr. # 4503, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sabrina Relan, Inc., 3051 Quantum Dr., #4503, 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: 1/13/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Aya Bhargava, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2024. Expires January 29, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5795. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604017**

The following person(s) doing business as: Heartbeat Health Education, 309 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brandon Recht, 309 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/12/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brandon Recht, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2024. Expires February 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5806. Published, February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603839**

**REAL ESTATE**  
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**HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE**  
**BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603768**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Rhythm Quest; 2. Livermore Drum Circle; 3. Drum Innovation LLC, 1401 21st Street, Ste R., Sacramento, CA 95811 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Drum Innovation LLC, 1401 21st Street, Ste R, Sacramento, CA 95811. 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/: Philip Didlake, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 1, 2024. Expires January 31, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5789. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603656**

The following person(s) doing business as: Afloravida, 720 Aileen St., Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Paola Ester Flora Tisker, 720 Aileen St., Oakland, CA 94609. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Paola Ester Flora Tisker, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 1, 2024. Expires January 31, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5801. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603501**

The following person(s) doing business as: Onix Concepts, 2022 Elm Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miguel A. Escamilla, 2022 Elm St., Livermore, ca 94551. This business is conducted by an individual.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603752**

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
**ANIMALS**  
**CATS/DOGS**



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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603697**

The following person(s) doing business as: Sparkling Clean Mobile, 2275 Stoneridge Road, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joel Huerta, 2275 Stoneridge Road, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kathy Lam, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2024. Expires January 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5785. Published, February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603657**

The following person(s) doing business as: Save Plumbing, 213 Dutra Vernaci Dr., Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mohammad Hussainkhalil, 213 Dutra Vernaci Dr., Union City, CA 94587. 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: 7/19/2017. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mohammad Hussainkhalil, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2024. Expires January 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5802. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603671**

The following person(s) doing business as: Onix Concepts, 2022 Elm Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miguel A. Escamilla, 2022 Elm St., Livermore, ca 94551. This business is conducted by an individual.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603750**

**REAL ESTATE**  
**LAND FOR RENT**  
**OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO / DUPLEX / APT RENTAL**  
**HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE**  
**BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603657**

The following person(s) doing business as: Butterfly Knoll, 7373 Lambert Hills Ct., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Borui Shen, 7373 Lambert Hills Ct., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/11/2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Verencie Alvarez, Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2024. Expires January 30, 2029.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603331**

The following person(s) doing business as: Kant Kaw, 5811 Highwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amy Sano, 5811 Highwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94552. 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/: Amy Sano, Engineer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 12, 2024. Expires January 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5797. Published, February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2024.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603992**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Mathematical Sciences Research Institute 2. MSRI, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Simons Laufer Mathematical Sciences Institute, 17 Gauss Way, Berkeley, CA 94720. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603945**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 603945**

## HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LIVERMORE

**THE LIVERMORE HOUSING AUTHORITY (LHA) IS ANNOUNCING A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND HEARING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN UPDATES.**

The Housing Authority of the City of Livermore (LHA) will be opening the public comment period for the draft Administrative Plan starting on Thursday, February 22, 2024 and ending April 7, 2024.

The Administrative Plan is the policy document implementing the federal regulations for the Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 program. It will be available for public review at 3203 Leaky Way, Livermore, CA 94550 during normal business hours and online at [www.livermoreha.org](http://www.livermoreha.org).

For public comment submissions, please send an email to [HYPERLINK](mailto:HYPERLINK) or mail to: Livermore Housing Authority, Attn: Admin Plan, 3203 Leaky Way, Livermore, CA 94550.

All public comments must be received on or before April 7, 2024 at 5pm.

There will be an optional Public Hearing held at the Livermore Housing Authority office at 3203 Leaky Way in Livermore regarding the Admin Plan on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:30pm.

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<p><b>Wanda Thompson</b> 925.858.9128 411 So L St, Suite E, Livermore BRE#00983781 / NMLS#244633</p>	<p><b>MARTI GILBERT</b> <b>IRON HORSE REAL ESTATE</b> 550 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON marti@homesbymarti.com DRE 01520061 925.216.4063</p>
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