



Members of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College Board of Trustees, Foundation, staff and local government representatives on April 15 celebrate the groundbreaking of a new state-of-the-art STEAM Complex set to be built on the Livermore campus. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Las Positas College Groundbreaking Honors New Multi-Million Dollar STEAM Complex

Students, Faculty, Staff and Foundation Join Board of Trustees to Celebrate

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — Las Positas College marked a significant milestone with the official groundbreaking ceremony for its new STEAM Complex on April 15.

The event brought together students, faculty and staff alongside members of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees, the Las Positas College Foundation, local government representatives and community members to celebrate the start of construction on the state-of-the-art facility.

The project, funded by Proposition A, an \$845 million bond passed by voters in 2020, is expected to cost \$92 million.

Attendees gathered at the construction site to hear remarks, view

renderings of the new building and commemorate the occasion with a ceremonial turning of the soil.

“This is a very exciting event because it signifies the beginning of our newest building project,” Dyrrell Foster, president of Las Positas College, said in his opening remarks. “Last week was our spring break, and it was also demolition week here on campus as we witnessed the demolition of the former 800 building, which housed our Viticulture and Winery Technology program, which is now located in our new, beautiful 3600 and 3700 buildings at the top of our campus.”

The college welcomed the new-and-improved winery facility with a ribbon-cutting event in November.

“As you can see, we are well

on our way, as the construction work (for our STEAM Complex) has already begun,” Foster added.

The STEAM Complex, designed to support interdisciplinary learning in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, represents a major investment in the future of education at Las Positas.

The new complex will house cutting-edge laboratories and preparation spaces for STEAM-related programs, along with classrooms, computer labs, shared meeting rooms and faculty workspaces. It will also feature dedicated areas for arts, media and photography programs, an outdoor garden and a display area. As part of this project, renovations to the amphitheater and Building 1800 (the current Science Technology

(See STEAM, page 6)

National Day of Prayer Slated Next Week at Pleasanton’s Alameda County Fairgrounds

Event ‘Transcends Religious and Political Affiliations, Reminding Us Of Our Shared Values and the Need to Come Together in Unity’

By Vivien Wenneker

PLEASANTON — An annual National Day of Prayer event is set for Thursday, May 1 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Amphitheater.

This year marks the sixth anniversary of the event in Alameda County. It will be hosted by Alameda County District 1 Supervisor David Haubert and District 1’s Interfaith Advisory Council.

“The National Day of Prayer has a rich history dating back to the founding of our nation,” Haubert said in a statement. “During

times of national strife, our country’s leaders have sought this day to bring the country together in prayer and reflection. It is a day that transcends religious and political affiliations, reminding us of our shared values and the need to come together in unity.”

Similar to Thanksgiving, the National Day of Prayer has its roots in a national proclamation. The first such event occurred in 1775, when the Continental Congress proclaimed that a day of fasting and prayer should be observed in all the colonies on July 20, 1775.

“This was the first true National Day of Prayer scheduled for a Thursday, which would surface again 212 years later,” Gloria Gregory, the Tri-Valley Community Liaison Director for the Office of Alameda County District 1, said in a statement.

The decision came three months after the British invasion of Boston, which marked the official start of the American Revolution.

The practice of calling for national days of prayer and fasting was abandoned from 1784-1789,

(See PRAYER, page 6)

Tri-Valley Clean Tech Braces for Cuts From Energy Department

House Democrats Raise Concerns That Moves Would Increase Costs for Local Businesses

By David Jen

REGIONAL — Several billion dollars in funding cuts to the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations, proposed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) at the request of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), could torpedo climate-tech industries nationwide.

Companies in danger, including many in the Tri-Valley, are already being threatened by tariffs imposed by the Trump administration. The cuts would pull funding from nascent energy-storage, transportation and carbon-capture projects, according to a list obtained by Reuters.

Julio Friedmann, a 20-year Livermore resident and chief scientist at Carbon Direct, a carbon-management

company with a large Bay Area presence, explained the problem.

“The threat of rescission has meant that a lot of these projects are now at risk,” Friedmann said. “Their funders and sponsors are concerned. ... It will undercut American competitiveness for a generation. We will lose workers; we will lose money; investors will flee. It will take the United States a very long time to rebuild.”

Carbon Direct, headquartered in New York, works with companies to help manage their decarbonization efforts.

In an April 2 letter to DOE Acting Inspector General Sarah Nelson, six House Democrats formally raised concerns that the cuts, if taken, would immediately impose greater energy costs on American residents and busi-

(See CLIMATE, page 7)



Activists gathered on April 16 outside the shuttered Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin to call for a rejection of any plans to use the former prison as a detention center for illegal migrants. (Photo by Peg Hunter)

Religious Leaders, Activists Oppose FCI Housing Migrants

Vigil Calls for Demolition of Aging, Rundown Facility

DUBLIN — Interfaith religious leaders and community activists held a vigil outside the shuttered Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) last week, calling for the Trump administration to reject any plans to use the former prison as a detention center for illegal migrants.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) shut down the minimum-security prison for women last year after investigations revealed years of sexual abuse by correctional officers.

As the Trump administration has continued to deport immigrants and legal questions have mounted, however, officials for a prison workers’ union expressed concern in February that FCI Dublin could be used to house immigrants facing deportation.

At the time, FBOP would not directly address FCI Dublin, but confirmed “we are assisting the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) by housing detainees and will continue to support our law-enforcement partners to fulfill the administration’s policy objectives.”

An ICE spokesperson also declined to specifically address whether FCI Dublin would be used, but said ICE’s operations had “resulted in a significant number of arrests of criminal aliens that require greater detention capacity.” ICE said in a statement that the agency was exploring all options to meet its detention needs.

At the time FBOP closed the building, officials said the decision was based on the structure’s condition and an inability to staff it. The

(See PROTEST, page 8)



Sarah Hosterman, landscape architect assistant for the City of Pleasanton, educates the public about the city’s Urban Forest Master Plan in 2024. (Photo courtesy of City of Pleasanton)

Arbor Day Festivities Arrive in the Tri-Valley

Tree Giveaways, Plantings and Educational Events Highlight Local Celebrations

By Jessica Zimmer

REGIONAL — April 25 marks National Arbor Day, a secular holiday that environmental organizations, schools and cities across the Tri-Valley are observing with tree giveaways, tree plantings and tree-centered educational events.

Las Positas College in Livermore and the City of Pleasanton combined their respective Arbor Day and Earth Day events, holding them close to Earth Day on

April 22. Pleasanton on April 19 gave away 50 trees that were adapted for the local environment at the Pleasanton Library.

On Saturday, April 26, the City of Livermore will host the first “Celebration of Trees” in the Sycamore Grove Park amphitheater between noon and 3 p.m. The event will involve live poetry performances and a residents’ display. Livermore Valley Arts and the City of Livermore’s beautification committee jointly organized the effort.

The Tri-Valley’s observance of Arbor Day comes at a critical point for residents and local governments. Property owners are balancing the aesthetic, financial and ecological benefits of trees against keeping their property insurance and avoiding rate increases. With insurers writing fewer policies in California, some property owners are removing, severely modifying or deciding against planting trees.

“This year, we’re focusing on introducing the concept of

(See ARBOR DAY, page 5)

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PET OF THE WEEK



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Ready to say, “I’m lovin’ it?” Come meet the original icons, Big Mac and Filet-o-Fish, at Valley Humane Society. This bonded pair of cats is the ideal value meal: one part snuggle, one part sass, and all heart. They’ve been sharing the same PlayPlace since day one and are ready to supersize your life together. Call Valley Humane at (925) 426-8656 or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process. (Photo courtesy of Valley Humane)

Local Libraries Are Feeling the Effects Of Widespread Federal Funding Cuts

By Ruth Roberts

The impact of President Donald Trump’s executive order last month to defund the Federal Museum and Library Services (FMLS) — the agency that provides grants to local libraries — has hit the Tri-Valley. The majority of local libraries are experiencing immediate reductions in funding, which might lead to the elimination of vital services and programs.

“We are deeply disappointed by this ill-informed decision, which affects critical programs supported by these funds,” California Deputy State Librarian Rebecca Wendt said in a state-

than a million children and teens, and programs that help at-risk youth develop workforce-readiness skills.

Under the FMLS, the state library system was set to receive \$15,705,702 in funding to assist local libraries for fiscal year 2024-25. Now, given the current circumstances, local libraries are preparing to do what they can with the available funds at hand.

In Pleasanton, the news is a mixed bag.

“This will have an impact on funding for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, which are slated to be completely eliminated,” said Heather Tiernan, Pleasanton’s communications manager. “For

Services (CLLS) funds originate from the state and are allocated directly to CLLS libraries, including Pleasanton.

Pleasanton’s Literacy Initiatives Project, however, is funded by the LSTA and provides support services to these CLLS libraries. So, with the elimination of LSTA funds, Tiernan said the expectation is for several support services to be cut. Some of those include statewide membership to ProLiteracy, a learning platform for adult literacy; subscriptions to learning services; online trainings and California Library Association conference supersessions for literacy

acquisition budget. The library cuts involve the elimination of 20 temporary staff positions, one full-time position and one vacant position.

In Dublin, where the city’s library is run by the Alameda County Library system, the news is much the same.

“We expect the impacts felt by community members will be limited,” said Ben Gomberg, division director for the Alameda County Library. “Most library funding from FMLS flows to state libraries, which then use it for statewide programs and to fund grants and projects more locally ... In Alameda County, we make good use of many of these services. Some of the most visible are the statewide NYT subscription, grants for other electronic resource access, the Braille and Talking Book Library, and grants for training and services. These losses can be significant for those who rely on them, and we are already investigating ways to maintain access with other funding and group purchasing models used by libraries in the region.”

The Livermore Public Library is a city-operated department, primarily funded through the City of Livermore’s General Fund. To date, staff say the library has not been directly impacted by federal budget cuts, although it does indirectly benefit from federal programs, such as the E-rate program, which helps support broadband access. While broader federal decisions can influence the economy and, in turn, city revenues, the library’s core funding remains stable.

There have been no reductions to staffing or hours of operation so far, although programs that rely on grant funding might be affected if state funds are reduced. The library does, however, receive approximately \$80,000 a year in grant funding from the state to support adult literacy and English language programs that are partially supported through federal funding administered by the state. The fate of those dollars has yet to be determined, according to city staff.



A visitor pours through a bin of books during a past Friends of the Dublin Library book sale. Recent funding cuts from the Trump administration are threatening local library programs and events. (File photo — Doug Jorgensen)

ment. “The California State Library remains committed to serving all of the people of California and will explore alternative means to ensure continued access to essential library services.”

Each year, federal funding supports approximately 6% of the state library budget, with funds then allocated to individual branches based on a combination of factors, including the library’s budget, income, population served and a percentage of state aid. Those funds support early learning and literacy programs, summer reading initiatives that engage more

Pleasanton specifically, these funds help pay for the transportation of materials between libraries with the LINK+ service. It also supports our statewide subscription to the New York Times (NYT) and offsets a portion of our high-speed internet.”

LINK+ is a free service that allows library cardholders to borrow materials from other county branches.

Tiernan noted that while the library does not anticipate significant impacts on their adult literacy and ESL programs, all California Library Literacy

staff; new coordinator/director orientation (with travel reimbursements) and site visits and traveling advisor programs.

While the demise of the FMLS funds was not earmarked for staff or hours of operation, the City of Pleasanton, which operates the library, has recently announced its cuts to the library budget due to the city’s financial shortfalls. Future changes include paring the library’s hours from 62 hours across seven days a week to 48 hours across six days a week, along with a 50% cut to the library’s collections

New Principal, Norrington, Set to Take the Reins at Amador Valley High School

By Ruth Roberts

Amador Valley High School (AVHS) in Pleasanton has named a new principal.

Malcom Norrington, former vice principal at Foothill High in Pleasanton and current principal at El Cerrito High, is set to take the helm at AVHS for the 2025-26 school year.

Norrington is in line to replace interim Principal

community partnership,” Norrington said, in a press release. “I am thrilled to join the dedicated students, staff and families of Amador Valley High School, and I look forward to building upon its strong traditions while fostering a culture rooted in connection, collaboration and care. I am committed to serving with transparency, integrity and love, and I am confident in our shared ability to ensure every student thrives.”

Norrington previously served as a summer-school principal at AVHS, and a former middle and high school teacher in the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD). Known for his student-centered approach to education and focus on equity, effective communication and community-building relationships, Norrington is scheduled to complete his doctorate from UC Berkeley in 2026.

“Malcolm Norrington brings strong administrative experience and an understanding of our PUSD community that will allow him to hit the ground running at Amador,” Interim Superintendent Maurice Ghysels said in the same press release. As a former Don, I am excited for his leadership to strengthen our already stellar team at Amador Valley High School.”



Malcom Norrington

Seewing Yee, Jr., who took over from retired Pleasanton Middle School Principal John Whitney and former AVHS Principal Joshua Butterfield. The two had been serving as substitute administrators following former Principal Jonathan Fey’s abrupt leave of absence in August.

“It is truly an honor to come home to a district I hold in such high regard — one that prioritizes academic excellence, equity and



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It's That Time of Year for Seasonal Allergy Sufferers, Who Know All Too Well What the Spring Can Bring

By Ruth Roberts

Spring has sprung in the Tri-Valley, but for those who suffer from seasonal allergies, it is a less-than-idyllic time of year.

April and May mark the peak of allergy season, primarily due to the presence of oak, cedar and ash pollen in early spring, followed by ryegrass pollen in late spring. Despite high pollen levels this season, it is relatively moderate for allergens, thanks to an average winter rainfall, which helps reduce pollen levels and limits plant growth, according to Dr. Eric

Chen, chief of allergy and immunology at Kaiser Permanente's Diablo location in Dublin.

With a little planning, allergy sufferers can fight back.

"Try to close windows when indoors and you can wear a mask when outdoors," Chen said. "If you have allergic eye symptoms, then taking an over-the-counter antihistamine eye drop daily (or when needed) can also be very effective."

A 2024 report from the Mayo Clinic highlights strategies for minimizing allergy triggers during springtime

and throughout the year. Recommendations include staying indoors on dry, windy days. The optimal time to go outside is after a good rain, which helps clear pollen from the air.

Allergy sufferers are also advised to avoid mowing the lawn and gardening during peak pollen days. When coming in from outdoors, remove clothing and shower. It's also a good idea to skip hanging laundry outside, as pollen can adhere to sheets and towels, and keep doors and windows closed at night or during periods of elevated pollen counts whenever possible.

Chen added that in some cases, inoculations can be helpful.

"Shots can also be effective, but those are a longer-term solution that may require treatment for three to five years," Chen said. "Patients should consult their physician for further treatment options."

According to the Centers for Disease Control, approximately 25.7% of adults are affected by seasonal allergies. Among adults, White, non-Hispanic individuals are more prone to seasonal allergies, with a prevalence of 28.4%, compared to 24% of

Black, non-Hispanic adults, 18.8% of Hispanic adults and 17.0% of Asian, non-Hispanic adults. Nearly one in five children, or 18.9%, are reported to have seasonal allergies.

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Hey Girl! Math Is Cool, Even if You Don't Realize It

By Ruth Roberts

Math for girls is cool. Just ask Sophia Henningsen, founder and president of Project Noether, the student-based math club aimed at encouraging girls in their pursuits of math and STEM-based careers.

"I've done a lot of competitive math growing up, and I've been in rooms with a ton of boys and just a few girls," Sophia said. "I just wanted girls to know that math can be fun and that they are not alone."

For Sophia, a Dublin High School junior, math has always been part of her life equation. Growing up with parents who work in the computer-science field, Sophia always found math to be an interesting and easy subject. But as she got into high school, Sophia discovered a distinct lack of confidence and interest in many of her female peers when it came to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) studies.

Enter Project Noether. Sophia set out to enlist

like-minded girls to join the project, which is named after the famous German mathematician Emmy Noether. The result has been gratifying.

"I first reached out to my friends, and since I am also a math coach for the Fallon Middle School Math Club, I was able to recruit from my contacts



Sophia Henningsen

there and then just some of my friends from school," Sophia said. "It's been a lot of fun."

So fun, in fact, that Sophia is preparing for the group's first math competition later this month. Crafted for girls in grades three through six, the prob-

lems will be designed in a puzzle format, ensuring participants are using skills such as logical thinking, pattern recognition and number sense.

Students who sign up for the free contest can expect to receive emails with the problems enclosed on April 26. They then will have until May 11 to solve the puzzle and email it back to the group of judges at Project Noether. Sophia has also included a bonus question for each participant, which will serve as a tiebreaker if necessary. So far, Sophia said, 80 students from 16 schools have registered for the contest.

While the club is focused on getting girls to tap into their inner Noether and embrace all things squared, there is also a healthy dose of girl power thrown into the equation.

Evelyn Wang is an eighth grader at Fallon Middle School, a member of Project Noether and one of the contest judges. She said she is excited to shine a light on the wonders of arithmetic and the cama-

radierie such clubs provide.

"I'm super excited for this competition because it's such a fun way to get more girls interested in math," Evelyn said. "A lot of the time, girls my age don't see math as something fun, but this puzzle contest completely flips that idea. It shows that math can be creative, challenging and even exciting. I love that it's not just about solving equations but about thinking in new ways and using creativity to solve interesting puzzles. I can't wait to be a part of helping younger girls see how amazing math can be."

Sophia agreed.

"My message to all girls is to sign up, have some fun and don't give up. You've got this," she said.

The contest is open to all students, not just Dublin-based residents.

To sign up, log onto <https://forms.gle/scHcYYhGkDVLsMTbA>. For additional information on Project Noether, visit <https://projectnoether.org/> or Instagram @project_noether.

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EDITORIAL

Pleasanton Service Cuts Should Be Temporary, and So Should Borrowing City Pension and Maintenance Funds

Pleasanton residents will soon feel the effects of some \$6 million in annual budget cuts necessitated by lasting economic damage from a range of income declines and increased costs. Insufficient planning prevented remedial actions sooner.

The Eide Bailly accounting firm confirmed in February that Pleasanton’s annual budget deficit would average approximately \$10 million over the next eight years. Eide Bailly’s independent assessment validated the city’s previous figures that had been projected as part of a detailed financial forecasting model developed in 2023.

The deficit is attributed to both declining city incomes and increasing expenses. The loss of Nordstrom, Sears and JCPenney from the Stoneridge Shopping Center, for instance, has reduced city sales taxes. Hotel taxes have also fallen.

City expenses have risen because of increased personnel costs, as well as mounting pension and retiree medical liabilities. They exceed \$200 million. A trust currently holds \$51.1 million to help cover these obligations. However, current market instability is expected to lower the value of city pension funds, which are subject to stock-market selloffs.

Underfunded infrastructure maintenance expenditures are also climbing. The city’s aquatic center, fire stations, sports fields, water wells, pipes, streets and sidewalks will continue to

accrue risk if they are not repaired.

Earlier this month, the Pleasanton City Council provided direction for the shaping of the city’s next two-year budget to be adopted in June. Among the \$6 million annual service cuts, the city will reduce library staff and hours, scale back funding for the Museum on Main and reduce donations to senior-support services. Residents will also see contributions decreased for school crossing guards, civic arts and citywide landscaping. City donations to nonprofits that help the vulnerable population, such as CityServe, will be lowered, as well.

To cover the estimated \$4 million annual deficit that remains, a 3-2 city council majority deferred appropriate payments to both the pension trust and infrastructure maintenance fund. Pleasanton will continue to accrue risk as allocations are postponed. The city is now in debt to its future self, and must be paid back.

While we recognize the need to balance the budget within these challenging conditions, we agree with the city that service cuts, borrowing from the pension trust and postponing maintenance of city-owned infrastructure must be temporary. Hopefully, the city will work to restore them in short order.

We appreciate the efforts made to preserve fire and police services at their full levels, as well as the decision to keep the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center open. But whether

the short-term reprieve — achieved by borrowing from the city’s pension and capital-improvement funding — proves judicious will depend on what the city does in the near future following its balanced-budget adoption.

The city’s actuary, Doug Pryor, advised against the early withdrawal of millions of dollars in pension funds annually over the next two years. Recognizing the city’s dire need, the council accepted the city borrowing money from the trust, voting 4-1 while describing the pension and capital-improvement fund transfers as temporary solutions to buy time for the city to fix its structural deficit.

Residents have stepped up to offer their own creative funding ideas, such as corporate sponsorships or savings measures at the aquatic center. In addition, some have said that a sales tax should be reconsidered. Pleasanton resident T.J. McGrath, at the April 8 city council meeting, suggested consolidating the city’s police services with those of Livermore as a potential cost-cutting measure. The cities in 1996 merged their fire departments with great success.

If at least some improvements in income and expenses are found, the tax increase could be smaller than the one proposed last year. City staff calculated that the 0.5% rate increase would have raised \$10 million annually.

Much has changed since the November election, when voters rejected

the proposed sales-tax increase. The annual \$6 million level of service cuts was not known by voters until recently, nor was the decision to borrow from the pension fund and postpone capital improvements that together might total up to approximately \$4 million annually.

Also, the validity of the unexpectedly large \$10 million annual deficit had not been confirmed. Many might not have understood that the cost of the sales tax paid by an average resident was estimated to be less than \$125 annually. As a result, it’s reasonable to include a sales tax in the list of options to reduce a \$10 million annual deficit so that service cuts, pension borrowing and maintenance postponements can be reduced. The council and staff need to listen to all the income suggestions. And listen to which cuts hurt the most.

Finally, public transparency will prove instrumental over the next two years. We would like to see updates at least every six months on how the city tracks against its projections, especially as we ride potential challenges from the broader economy.

The City of Pleasanton is beginning to take actions to restore its financial health. Courage and leadership will be needed to take additional steps to assure that Pleasanton remains an enviable community — one known for being a great place to live and work, with a small-town charm and family-friendly atmosphere.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

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Celebrating Earth Day Lucas Nelson, Livermore

This Tuesday, April 22, we celebrated Earth Day by reducing our driving, reusing shopping bags, and cutting back on consumption of animal products.

Yes, that too!
A 2023 study in the respected journal Nature Food found that even a

50% reduction in our meat and dairy intake would lead to a 60% decrease in associated greenhouse gas emissions. A 2022 study in Environmental Research Letters found that livestock farming accounts for 80% of global deforestation.

Animal agriculture generates a large portion of our greenhouse gases. Animal waste contaminates our waterways. Production of corn and soybeans to feed animals raised for food exhausts our croplands and aggravates world hunger. Deforestation to create animal pastures reduces absorption of greenhouse gases and destroys wildlife habitats.

It’s not just about preserving our personal health and avoiding animal cruelty anymore.

Fortunately, our local supermarket offers a rich variety of vegetables, grains,

legumes, nuts, and fruits for our dining pleasure. The dairy isles contain plant-based milks, cheeses, and yogurts. The frozen foods section displays lots of plant-based healthy, eco-friendly, cruelty-free meats and ice creams.

Let’s use April 22nd as the turning point for our new lease on life.

Make America Chaotic Again Ann Britton, Livermore

I don’t mind saying, as a woman who is 77 years old, I fear for my family. I fear for my family, my children, my grandchildren. I fear for this country. Under the guise of cutting out waste in the Federal Government, Trump is allowing Musk to destroy our earned benefit of Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid. He is destroying our healthcare, our education, our voting rights, our laws, our freedoms, our very Constitution! Recently, Trump has caused the loss of \$6 trillion from our investments on the stock market. On the national security front, Trump has turned his back on our friends and allies in Europe and Canada and fired military leaders responsible for cyber security. We voted, against the rest of the world, with Russia and North Korea in the UN! Do you feel that Russia shares your values and freedoms? Would you like to live in a country like Russia? If so, I’m sure they would love to have you. If you don’t like what’s happening and if you would like to save our country, our freedoms, our laws, our Constitution, then find ways you can fight for it! Take back the flag from the violent thugs and insurrectionists who defiled it on January 6th. Fly it proudly for our freedom and our Constitution! As Corey Booker said during his 25-hour speech on the Senate floor, “This is a moral moment! It’s not left or right, it’s right or wrong!”

Pleasanton Budget Situation TJ McGrath, Pleasanton

My name is TJ McGrath and I am a 40-year resident of Pleasanton. Since my wife and I raised our children here, I have to say that we came to appreciate all of the small things that made this city so special. When I say small things, they end up becoming big things when they might be cut or eliminated.

I personally feel that residents of Pleasanton did not approve Measure PP because they thought some organizational consolidations would take place to balance the budget, instead of the elimination and reduction of services.

Whether it be high school resource officers or crossing guards, those are areas that are critical to safety and we will regret those cutbacks if anything happens. After listening to city residents last week, it appears the library, pool hours and the Firehouse Arts Center activities are also sacred.

I have an idea that is worth consideration. Let’s take a moment and go back to 1996.

The Livermore Fire Department and the Pleasanton Fire Department joined forces as an effective and cost-reducing way to serve both communities with efficiency and compassion. That move was very “pro-active” since it is an effective use of resources to maximize the outcome.

Now with development plans pending for east Pleasanton, it makes me wonder if a joint police force, between both cities, could also be a cost-effective way to cover the area and at the same time save money and preserve some of the planned cuts to services.

If a consolidation of police services is not practical, then I ask if we can identify the individual costs of the cut/reduced programs so we can ask

for sponsors from the business community who might want to help support those areas. The parents of Pleasanton students deserve this.

Misleading Editorial Philip LaScola, Livermore

In the April 17 issue of The Independent, another misleading and error filled editorial was published.

To state that Kilmar Abrego Garcia was in this country legally is an outright lie. He is an illegal alien who was subject for deportation in 2019, a deportation order that is still legally in effect.

In a 2019 court hearing, a judge reviewed all the evidence and determined that Mr. Garcia was a member of MS-13 and due to that, and that he was in this country illegally, he was issued a deportation order. The deportation was delayed, not cancelled, only when Garcia pleaded for his life. He admitted to being in the MS-13 gang and feared he would be a target and killed by a rival gang.

If he was ever brought back to this country, he would be deported.

Is The Independent going to correct the error in this editorial about Garcia or is this editorial board going to continue to print factually challenged commentary?

Trump Demands a Loyalty Oath Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

I never thought I would live in these United States — the shining city on the hill, the cradle of freedom — and witness a wave of fear taking hold of the country, particularly law firms, the media, scientific institutions, and our revered centers of higher education, like Harvard University.

Recently, I listened to an interview with Prof. Michael Roth, the President of Wesleyan University in Connecticut. In a

few well-chosen words, he expressed what I have been feeling. He made it clear that federal funding for universities must not depend on a loyalty oath. I quote Prof. Roth, “The health of our democracy depends on the freedom to work with the federal government without having to follow the ideological dictates of those in power.”

Prof. Roth, himself Jewish, also warns of Trump’s supposed fight against antisemitism. Roth, the first Jewish president of Wesleyan, asserts that the White House is “using antisemitism as a cloak” to force universities to get rid of “DEI” (diversity, equity, and inclusion) and to swear a loyalty oath to Trump. Roth does not believe that Jews are protected from Trump’s despotism.

Let’s face it: Two men with essentially unlimited funds use their power to rule by blackmail. They threaten any group or institution that might oppose them with costly lawsuits, withholding of federal funds, removal of their tax-exempt status. They rule by intimidation and fear. This is not the America to be proud of—this is wrong!

Where are the Democrats? Colette Flores, Livermore

Dear people, my grandfather often stated, “There are a lot of educated fools out there.” I believe that was true then and is true now. Lately I hear on the news, “Where are the Democrats?” They do not have much power now; they are giving speeches and attending town halls for Republican voters because their congressmen do not want to hear the truth. It does not take a genius or a PhD to know right from wrong. Sad to know our dictator got voted for. Many people were unaware of what they were voting for, believing

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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Children took part in various activities during the Dublin Spring Eggstravaganza at the Dublin Heritage Park & Museums on April 19. (Photo – Leah Silveira)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

the lies that they would get help and be able to buy eggs. Forgetting he was a convicted felon, rapist, cheating on three wives, and known as a chronic liar. So where are the Democrats? They are fairly well-educated, sound of mind, dedicated to our constitution, supporting laws, and caring for unfortunate citizens needing shelter, and healthcare. Basically, aware of what’s right for humanity. I feel I’m living in a nightmare! Republicans are supporting our dictator, who now shows his worse cruelty — just two examples: allowing his VP Pence to be hung, and now robbing citizens of our retirement money that we paid for. Basic fairness? So where are the Republicans? Do they have the brains to unite and refuse to support a dictator? They are afraid to lose their jobs caring for us or are being bullied. They surely have common sense. “Power in numbers! Unite Republicans!” I am ecstatic to see the millions protesting in the states. People expressing the concerns of our existence. Do you see and hear us? Use your power and do the right thing. P.S. Stocks up — stocks down. Fired — oops, come back! Poor man; mental decline, unstable, gone nuts? Fire him, relieve him, he needs help. We can be lenient with a care home and a golf club, never more to be seen again. New election — my choice is Kamala. I am a staunch Democrat, but I would even take a Republican; Liz Cheney, that I admire immensely. People, contact your congressman!

God Bless the Homeless Vets
Barbara Dyer, Livermore

Let us take care of our own first. It seems that The Independent is less supportive of the needs of the citizens of our community, particularly the homeless vets, than interlopers. It appears to me that migrants have better housing, healthcare, etc. than what we as citizens do... homeless and veterans left behind. Sad that The Independent’s democrat heroes, those that have the power, haven’t addressed these issues.

Welcome to Trump World
Rosario Milelli, Pleasanton

The most incompetent cabinet ever assembled in recent U.S. history. Trump sure knows how to pick them. It seems two criteria which are prime factors in their selection: demonstrate undivided loyalty to Trump and none to the Constitution. My favorite this week is Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Measles cases now exceed 600 and growing, with two deaths so far. This is a direct result of his anti-vaccine rhetoric and lack of leadership to control the pending epidemic. He has fired the scientists tasked with fighting bird flu, a potential pandemic of major proportions. And now he promises to have the answer to autism, by September. This, after years of study and effort by scientists have failed to completely understand the causes of autism. Obviously, he already has a position, which has no basis in science. His belief in vaccines as being the cause has been completely de-

bunked, and the emphasis on environmental issues as a leading candidate would require studies which typically take years to complete. And of course, no administrative experience to manage a budget of nearly \$150 billion. As stated in previous letters, this is MASA, Make Americans Sick Again.

Next on the list would be Secretary of Defense Hegseth. Reports by knowledgeable persons have stated the Pentagon is in “total chaos”, “a near collapse of the Pentagon’s top ranks” (John Ulyot, 4/20/25) under Hegseth’s leadership, or lack thereof. Fired many of the top leadership in the military because they were perceived as not loyal to Trump. Fired three of his most loyal staffers, claiming they leaked sensitive information, which was untrue. Then Signalgate, where Hegseth shared operational plans over unclassified media, twice, including wife and brother. Brought his wife to meetings with foreign military counterparts, again disclosing classified material. Set up a top secret briefing for Musk to reveal war plans regarding China. Rewriting history by removing references to black, women, and Native American contributions to our military.

Of course, Education Secretary Linda McMahon, whose only role is to eliminate the department. According to Azcentral, Trump’s pick for Secretary of Education was attending the ASU & GSV Summit, where, among other things, she said, “A school system that’s going to start making sure that first graders, or even pre-Ks, have

AI teaching in every year. That’s a wonderful thing!” Yes, that is correct, confusing AI Steak Sauce with Artificial Intelligence-AI. Just brilliant.

Have We Lost Our Humanity?
Abdul Awwal

A few years back, I was attending a college graduation ceremony, which had an array of cookies, baklava, and tea as refreshments. As I was enjoying the tea, I overheard a scholar talking to a small group of guests. He mentioned that ancient grammarians used to argue about what is more important in a language. Some said the verb is most important, while other groups said that the noun is the most important.

Those who said verbs are important gave this example. When we say, “A sniper murders a child,” here, the act of murder is more important — this act must be condemned. Those who say that the noun is more important will say if “A child is killed by a sniper,” it is OK if the sniper is from a certain group of people. But if the child threw a stone at a tank, he must be a terrorist because he is from a certain group.

Martin Luther King hoped that a black child will not be judged by the color of his skin, but by the content of his character. We can go a step further and say that whether you are black or white or in between, you are judged by your actions, and not what group you belong to. In the Western world, people have gotten used to associating certain actions with certain groups, whether the individuals do that action or not. In the same token, they automatically disassociate certain groups from certain actions, although the action may be as bad as genocide.

In the book “The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine”, Ilan Pappé, a highly respected Jewish scholar, gives a village-by-village account of how Palestinian villages were systematically ethnically cleansed by terrorizing the local Palestinian population. Some people were gathered as the enemy by the various Israeli terrorist groups and killed in front of the villagers, who were then told that they would have the same fate as those killed if they did not leave the village. Some of these terrorist groups would even dress as Arabs and take their old cars to Palestinian car shops after filling the car with explosives to blow them up. The perpetrators also not-

ed that most villagers were peaceful, and surprisingly did not fight back. Intentionally starving people to death out of political gain should be condemned by people of conscience! Have we lost our humanity?!

Why I Protest
Eloise Hamann, Dublin

Our country elects presidents, not kings. No one is above the law nor our constitution. I want to live in a civilized society. A civilized society takes care of its weaker members and promotes a better life for everyone. That means access to healthcare, decent education, safe neighborhoods, and respect for all people no matter their race, gender, sexual preference, or religious belief. It means due process. Thomas Jefferson inserted the sentence to the prologue to the constitution that all men are created equal. Further, civilized countries must care for our environment including enforcing laws against pollution by corporations and individuals. There is no Planet B.

Despite the election, we Americans cannot tolerate the destruction of everything that was decent about our country. Federal dollars for schools helped even out the quality of education between wealthy and poor neighborhoods. Obamacare has helped make medical care affordable. Federal dollars have supported research to find new cures for disease, safer cars and roads, appliances, and homes. Our country needs workers who will take jobs in hot fields; nursing homes, road construction

and repair, jobs that most of our citizens will not.

I find it difficult to believe that we elected someone who feels he is above the law. He demonstrated it before he left office by inciting the horror of J6. WaPo and NYTimes kept track of over 30,000 “untruths” during his first administration. Now he is lying about the tariffs charged by other countries. In particular, he claimed Canada charged a tariff over 200%. (Oddly, that was on the books if the U.S. wanted to sell an ocean’s worth of milk.) What farmer would sell a quart of milk for a dollar if there was a \$2 tariff, i.e. pay Canada a dollar to take the quart? Now he is ignoring court orders.

No doubt our government could be more efficient. What organization is perfect? However, Trump and Musk are taking a wrecking ball to everything that makes me proud of our country. They both have said out loud how much they love to fire people, i.e. destroy lives and further the incivility of my country.

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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 1/1/2029
Meets 4th Tuesday of each month at 4:30 PM

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.
(2) Regular Terms ending 5/1/29
Meets 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM
Next meeting: May 1st

Library Board of Trustees (3 Vacancies)
Join us in helping to set goals and objectives for the broad variety of services and programs the Livermore libraries provide.
(1) Unexpired Term ending 6/1/26
(2) Regular Terms ending 6/1/28
Meets 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM
Next meeting: April 24th

Livermore Housing Authority (1 Vacancy)
Join us in administering and overseeing affordable housing for low-income families, seniors, and persons with disabilities in the City of Livermore.
(1) Unexpired Term ending 1/1/2028
Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM

SAVE THE DATE! In-person interviews are scheduled for May 14, 2025, 5:00 PM. For more information or to apply, please visit www.livermoreca.gov/AB, call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email: cityclerk@livermoreca.gov.

ARBOR DAY

(Continued from front page)

‘the right tree in the right place,’” said Ann Brown, a member of the Livermore beautification committee. “Trees can provide shade to combat heat due to global warming, as well as habitats for native insects and animals.”

Brown said planting and maintaining trees also offers students hands-on experience in applied mathematics, landscaping and gardening.

Arbor Day’s promotion of knowledge about trees helps households and communities make informed decisions. These include not planting too many trees of one species, which could lead to widespread blight, avoiding ‘nuisance’ trees that drop messy fruit and reducing fire risk by cutting back trees growing close to structures.

Sarah Hosterman, landscape architect assistant for the City of Pleasanton, said small-canopy trees with relatively small root systems such as Western Redbud can be ideal for compact spaces. Large-canopy trees with extensive root structures such as Camphor are ideal for park-like settings.

“Realizing the maximum benefit from a particular tree requires care-

ful planning of resources, which includes spacing and soil volume as well as water availability,” Hosterman said.

Ways to develop tree education

Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton all have paths to inform residents about trees because they are designated Tree City USA communities. Earning this label, which comes from the National Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters, requires a community to have a tree board or department, an ordinance for tree care, a community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation by city officials.

The City of Pleasanton has created an interactive tree map that allows the public to identify approximately 25,000 public trees along public rights of way, parkland and medians.

“Tools like these help engage residents, sparking curiosity about Pleasanton’s urban forest,” Hosterman said. “The city’s first ever Urban Forest Master Plan will be published this summer. That will be another key resource for our community. Residents can call the City’s landscape

architecture division to learn more.”

At East Avenue Middle School in Livermore, school staff see Arbor Day tree plantings as a way to bring students together.

“Planting a tree allows our students to leave a legacy,” said Marion Adams, the school’s garden coordinator. The trees become something they see every day and years afterwards.”

This year, students and staff planted eight trees donated by Western Star Nurseries’ Sunol store in the campus quad, seven Chinese Pistache trees, which turn red and orange in the fall, and one Western Redbud tree, which blooms pink in spring.

At Las Positas College in Livermore, students and staff joined on April 17 to plant a large valley oak tree near the college’s horticultural facility. This species is the largest of the North American oaks, reaching up to 20 feet in five years.

“It’s a keystone species for wildlife. It should also add shade and a gathering space to our campus,” said Laura Cornett, adjunct professor of horticulture and head of Las Positas College’s horticulture facility.

Cornett said the presence of trees relaxes peo-

ple and improves mental health.

“Consider a place without trees and you’ll see how barren it feels. Now picture that same spot with trees, and you see how trees create calm,” Cornett said.

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Camp Parks Amenities Receive Makeover, Shift to New Location

By Ruth Roberts

The gate sign and guard shack at Camp Parks in Dublin are finally getting a makeover. After decades of discussion and plenty of red tape, the Dublin City Council unanimously approved the project during its regular April 1 meeting.

“I am very supportive of this,” Dublin Vice Mayor Kashef Qadri said. “I know, having served on the Federal Military Community’s Commission, that it is a long time coming and I am excited to see it come to fruition.”

Originally located at Camp Parks’ main entrance, the World War II-era sign will be dismantled, moved to a new site and reconstructed. According to city staff, the project will involve repairs, restoration of historic features and the replacement of specific elements to align with existing historical characteristics.

The proposed new location is adjacent to the Parks

Reserve Forces Training Area (PRFTA) entrance at Dougherty Road and Camp Parks Boulevard, just outside the Dublin Camp Parks Military History Center. The work is expected to begin this summer and be completed in the fall. The historic preservation team of Page and Turnbull has been awarded the contract.

In 1944, Bruce Goff, a Navy Seabee (a member of the Navy’s construction force), designed the original sign and guard shack. Years later, in 1998, the U.S. Army deemed the structures eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a decision confirmed by the State Historic Preservation Office in 1999. As a result, members of the PRFTA and Fort Hunter Liggett, the Army Reserve’s largest training installation, began the initial work, which included environmental reviews, hazardous-material sampling and evaluation of the impacts on historical and cultural

resources.

But the bureaucratic wheels turned slowly. Because the restoration was not just a city decision or investment but also involved the leadership and buy-in of the Army base, the project has not moved quickly.

Originally approved as part of the city’s 2024-29 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the total budget, according to staff, was \$500,450. Today, however, the project has grown to an estimated \$780,248. Because there are not sufficient funds to meet the shortfall, the city council approved the transfer of \$180,000 in available funds from completed Public Art CIP projects and added \$100,000 from the Public Art Fund.

Kim Hudson, president of the Dublin Historical Society, said the restoration project is a welcome one.

“We at the Dublin Historical Society are absolutely thrilled with the recent decision to restore and honor

the former entrance gate to Camp Parks,” Hudson said. “This iconic structure has stood resiliently through countless changes, both nationally and locally, serving as a steadfast reminder of our community’s rich history. As a society, we are deeply passionate about collaborating with our city and county representatives to preserve and celebrate our past, just as we’ve seen in this remarkable example.”

While the renovation of the Camp Parks sign and guard shack has many historical and artistic elements, the city has decided to add a public art mural to enhance the overall site. The city council has chosen artist James Dinh of StudioFolia in Australia to create the “Guards of Camp Parks” mural. It is expected to meet the same timeline as the sign and guardhouse installation and is included in the revised budget.

Built in 1943 and named after Rear Admiral Charles W. Parks, Camp Parks was



The original Camp Parks gate sign and guard shack, circa 1944, are being restored and relocated to the Dublin Camp Parks Military History Center. The work is expected to be completed by early fall. (Photo courtesy of City of Dublin).

established as a military base during World War II. Informally known as “Fleet City,” the East Dublin site included Camp Parks (1942-1946), a training center for the U.S. Navy’s Seabees; Camp Shoemaker (1943-1946), a person-

nel distribution center; and Shoemaker Naval Hospital (1943-1946), which accepted women in military service. Since then, the area has housed several facilities, including the Santa Rita Jail, Parks Air Force Base and PRFTA.

Charlotte’s Web Fair to Feature Cantabella Children’s Choir

Hagemann Ranch will host a Charlotte’s Web Fair with the Cantabella Children’s Chorus from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday April 27.

Hagemann Ranch in Livermore is a historic site operated by the Livermore Heritage Guild. Sundays at Hagemann Ranch is a free, monthly program that offers family-friendly activities.

This month’s Sundays at

Hagemann Ranch activities will focus on the popular children’s story about a barn spider, Charlotte, and her efforts to save a pig named Wilbur. Written by E.B. White, the tale is one of the best-selling children’s books ever published and has been adapted into both an animated and full-length live-action film.

The Cantabella Children’s Chorus will perform

several songs celebrating nature, including “Red Dragonfly,” “Edelweiss” and “De Colores,” with performances at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. The Lions Club Chuckwagon will be serving pigs in a blanket and other booths will also offer free fair food.

The children’s chorus, featuring students from fifth through eighth grade, will also perform its annual Spring POPS Concert, “True

Colors,” at Valley Community Church in Pleasanton on Saturday, May 10. A 1 p.m. performance will feature students in kindergarten through fifth grade, while a 3 p.m. performance will feature students in fifth through 12th grade.

Adult tickets to the Spring POPS Concert performances are \$20, with children admitted free. To purchase tickets, go to cantabella.org.

Colors,” at Valley Community Church in Pleasanton on Saturday, May 10. A 1 p.m. performance will feature students in kindergarten through fifth grade, while a 3 p.m. performance will feature students in fifth through 12th grade.

Adult tickets to the Spring POPS Concert performances are \$20, with children admitted free. To purchase tickets, go to cantabella.org.

May 1 are \$50, with a discount for those 65 and older. For tickets, go to lhg.org.

Proceeds will support the symphony’s concerts and outreach programs and Livermore Heritage Guild efforts to move the 150-year-old Midway School, the last one-room schoolhouse still standing in Livermore Valley, from Altamont Hills to Hagemann Park, adjacent to the Hagemann Ranch.

STEAM

(Continued from front page)

center) will also be completed.

The amphitheater will be upgraded with a stage canopy to support lighting and sound systems. Additionally, a new storage facility for the outside stage and a control booth will be constructed to support stage productions.

“Bond funds, approved by our community for the improvement and development of learning spaces for our students, are making it possible to build this brand-new STEAM Complex right in the heart of campus,” Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Chancellor Ronald Gerhard said. “But this is more than just new construction — the project also includes major renovations to Buildings 500 (Fine Arts), 600 (In-

tegrated Learning Center, Open Math Lab) and 1800, giving new life to spaces that have served our college for decades.”

Dr. Nan Ho, vice president of Academic Affairs, shared some perspective on the architectural design inspiration for the new facility.

“Our new STEAM facility is multi-disciplinary, manifesting in physical form the interconnectedness of diverse disciplines in the endeavor of teaching and learning,” she said.

Ho emphasized the unique design decisions made by user groups and the design team.

“You will see in the next few years, arising from the ground we break today, how (they) have strived to connect academic programs with each other,” she said.

“Some of these may seem obvious, others perhaps less so. For example, anatomy next to physiology, studio art next to chemistry, photography next to graphic design, engineering next to physics. As we bring all these diverse perspectives together, some for the first time, the natural collision of ideas promises to become an incubator of innovation and creativity.”

Dr. Michael Ansell, a chemistry professor at Las Positas for the past 24 years, spoke about this unique intersection between disciplines that the new buildings will provide.

“I’m excited about the interface between science and art,” he said. “I’ve had honors students look at the science behind their art already, and I’ve always

taught my students that much of our laboratory work is an art, as well as a science. Teaching itself is both an art and a science. I believe that being next to each other in the new STEAM building will make both programs better, open new doors for our students and help enlighten our community.”

Art faculty member David Wagner shared similar thoughts from his department’s point of view.

“One of my newest friends teaches physics and chemistry here, and we’re continually shocked at how much overlap there is between our disciplines, yet how little we know about what the other teaches,” Wagner said. “With the integration of the arts and STEM (Science, Tech-

nology, Engineering and Math), we have an awesome opportunity to allow our professors and students to learn from each other. Our new building is a launch pad for future generations, and I’m excited to see what happens.”

Gerhard said, in closing, “This is a big moment for

our college district. This is the largest building project in the college’s history. It’s a bold investment in our students, our faculty and the future of STEAM education on our campus.

“This investment will help us foster a STEAM ecosystem right here in the Tri-Valley.”

PRAYER

(Continued from front page)

though Thanksgiving continued to be observed each fall. Thereafter, Presidents George Washington and John Adams continued the event, but Thomas Jefferson did not through the course of his two terms, considering it a matter of personal rather than state involvement.

President James Madison resumed the day of prayer three years later, following

the War of 1812, and continued it for three years. There were no further presidential prayer proclamations until Abraham Lincoln issued one in 1863, when he declared April 30 a national day of prayer and fasting. That same year, the fall observance was officially established as the Thanksgiving holiday.

The National Day of Prayer continued to be is-

sued as a proclamation until 1952, when President Harry Truman signed it into law at the recommendation of Reverend Billy Graham. The law stated that each subsequent president “shall set aside and proclaim a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer.”

This was amended in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan, who established the day to be observed on the first Thursday of every May. Since then, each U.S. president has signed a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray for the nation on this day.

“The National Day of Prayer belongs to all Americans. It is a day that transcends differences, bringing together citizens from all backgrounds,” according to the National Day of Prayer Task Force website.

Thirteen faith leaders are scheduled to participate in this year’s Alameda County event. A reception, including a light dinner, is set to begin at 5 p.m., with patriotic music at 5:30. The program is scheduled to start at 6.

There is no charge to attend and free parking will be available across from

the fairgrounds entrance at 4501 Pleasanton Ave. An RSVP is requested for food choice, but walk-ins are welcome. To RSVP, go to <https://forms.office.com/g/cjF2FkJEu>.



Pastor Timothy Inman of Harbor Light Church in Fremont is among the religious leaders expected to participate in the National Day of Prayer event on May 1 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Amphitheater in Pleasanton. (Photo by Sarbhjot Malhi)

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LVA Announces its Bankhead Presents Shows for 2025-2026

Following the announcement last week that award-winning recording artist LeAnn Rimes would headline the annual “Brilliance at the Bankhead” fundraiser in August, Livermore Valley Arts (LVA) also announced its Bankhead Presents lineup for the 2025-2026 season, leading off with the return of actor/comedian Jason Alexander on Friday, Sept. 5.

Alexander, who was the “Brilliance at the Bankhead” headliner in 2023, will take the stage for a Rae Dorough Speaker Series presentation, “As Long as You’re Asking,” at 8 p.m.

The evening will include comedy and conversation with the award-winning star of stage and screen, with the audience choosing the topics.

Alexander, best known for his role as the bumbling George Costanza on the long-running TV sitcom, “Seinfeld,” will also talk about his life, career and social activism.

In addition to “Seinfeld” Alexander also appeared in numerous Broadway productions, including “Jerome Robbins’ Broadway” in 1989, earning a Tony

award for Best Actor in a Musical.”

He also starred in several hit films, including “Pretty Woman,” “Jacobs Ladder,” “Coneheads,” and “Shallow Hal,” and was the voice of the gargoyle in Disney’s “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”

On Saturday, Sept. 6, the Bankhead Theater will host comedians Jane Lynch and Kate Flannery in a stage show, “The Trouble with Angels,” that’s described as “part cabaret, part stand-up comedy, and all sass.”

Flannery, a former member of The Second City’s national touring group, played Meredith Palmer on the hit TV show, “The Office,” was a guest star on “Young Sheldon” and the 2018 remake of “Magnum P.I.,” and competed on the 28th season of “Dancing with the Stars” in 2019.

Lynch is best known for her recurring roles in several long-running TV series, including “Two and a Half Men,” “Glee,” and “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel.”

She also hosted “Hollywood Game Night” from 2013 to 2020, and is the host and executive producer of “The Weakest Link.”

The Bankhead will host the San Francisco Comedy Competition on Friday, Sept. 12, a tribute to the music of the 90s, “90s Mix Tape Live,” on Saturday, Sept. 1, and a Rae Dorough Speaker Series talk with Luis Elizondo, a media personality and former civilian intelligence worker, who argues that the Pentagon is hiding evidence about the non-human origins of UFOs, on Thursday, Sept. 18

Elizondo published a memoir, “Imminent: Inside the Pentagon’s Hunt for U.F.O.s,” was published last August, debuting at No. 1 on the “New York Times” Best Seller List. The History Channel also ran a series, “Unidentified: Inside America’s UFO Investigation,” in 2019-2020 that featured Elizondo.

“Funny Women of a Certain Age” will return to the Bankhead for the third time on Friday, Sept. 19, followed by actor and comedian Jon Lovitz in an R-rated show on Friday, Sept. 26.

For a complete list of more than 30 Bankhead Presents shows and presentations scheduled for the 2025-2026



Funny women Kate Flannery and Jane Lynch will bring their brand of humor to the Bankhead stage in a show that weaves in cabaret and stand-up comedy on Saturday, Sept. 6. (Photo courtesy of LVA)

season, go to LivermoreArts.org. Tickets go on sale to the public at noon on Wednesday, April 23.

LVA is a Livermore-based nonprofit organization that

operates the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center.

Bankhead Theater to Celebrate Cinco de Mayo Weekend

The Bankhead Theater in Livermore will host two celebrated bands playing traditional Mexican folk and dance music for Cinco de Mayo weekend in May.

Las Cafeteras, a Chicano band from East Los Angeles, featuring a fusion of traditional Mexican folk music and electronic dance beats, will take the stage on Friday, May 2, followed by Mariachi Herencia de México and its La Nueva Generación Tour on Saturday, May 3.

Cinco de Mayo – the fifth of May – initially commemorated

the Mexican army’s victory over French forces in 1862, although a larger French force eventually defeated the Mexicans and occupied Mexico City the following year. It has since grown to become a celebration of Mexican American culture.

Las Cafeteras, formed in 2005 by students taking Veracruz folk music classes at a community center, released its third studio album, “A Night in Nepantla,” in 2024.

“Nepantla” is a Nahuatl word that means “in between” or “in the middle,” and the

album, and the group’s current tour, explores themes of mixed cultural identity.

“As a band, we deeply resonate with the land of ‘Nepantla’ and feel that we live in the middle of multiple worlds, sounds, and identities,” said band member Hector Flores.

Denise Carlos, another band member, added, “We welcome our fans into a different world, and it’s a profound experience for all of us. We create a space where we can connect, share, and celebrate our common humanity.”

Tickets to the 8 p.m. performance range from \$25 to \$65.

The Chicago-based Mariachi Herencia de México released its first album, “Nuestra Herencia,” in 2017, earning the band a Latin Grammy nomination.

The 14-member band received a second Latin Grammy nomination in 2018 with the release of “Herencia de la Tierra Mía,” which was followed by the chart-topping “Esencia” and “Esencia Vol. 2” in 2019 and 2020.

The band is known for com-

bining traditional mariachi with vibrant percussions influenced by the music of Cuba and Spanish Harlem.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. performance range from \$25 to \$90.

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



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Train Robbers Will Raise Money for Red Cross

The Niles Canyon Railway will host the 14th annual “Ride the Rails for Relay for

Life,” a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, on Sunday, April 27.



Volunteers accept donations in costume as train robbers aboard the Niles Canyon Railway during the annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. This year’s “Ride the Rails for Relay for Life” will be held on Sunday, April 27. (Photo courtesy of the Red Cross)

During the railway’s hour and 30-minute roundtrips from Sunol to Pleasanton, Red Cross volunteers posing as train robbers will ask riders for donations.

The Niles Canyon Railway Museum will also be open, and the Nile Canyon Artisans will offer handmade jewelry, paintings and other goods for sale at the Sunol Depot.

Food and beverages will also be available for purchase, although passengers are also welcome to bring a picnic to eat on the train or in the Sunol Depot Gardens. There will be a free wine tasting for those 21 and older.

The nonprofit Pacific

Locomotive Association operates the Niles Canyon Railway as a living history museum, preserving railway equipment in use from 1910 to 1960.

Both enclosed and open-air railway passenger cars will be in operation for the fundraiser and will depart from Sunol at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for those 13 and older and \$15 for children 3 through 12. Children 2 and younger ride free but must sit in a guardian’s lap.

Tickets are available online at ncr.org.

Relay for Life is the annual volunteer-run American Red Cross walkathon fundraiser.

CLIMATE

(Continued from front page)

nesses. The letter also called such cancellations of awards and contracts “a dereliction of the Department’s responsibility to carry out duly enacted laws.”

The DOE did not return requests for comment.

The House letter, authored by Zoe Lofgren, Rosa L. DeLauro, Marcy Kaptur, Frank Pallone, Jr., Kathy Castor and Deborah K. Ross, reiterated concerns that the funding will be cut along party lines, undermining the bipartisan decisions that originally awarded it.

“Troubling reports have also surfaced suggesting that the review and subsequent cancellations may be politically motivated, targeting projects in Democratic states and districts,” the letter stated. “If this is the case, it would represent a serious abuse of power and an attempt to manipulate federal funding for partisan purposes. ... The politicization of financial assistance and contract awards is deeply concerning, as it could harm not only the progress of critical energy initiatives, but also erode public trust in the impartiality of federal agencies. As a nation, we must ensure that such decisions are made based on objective

criteria, rather than political considerations.”

Friedmann stressed that the original awards were merit-based for clean-energy projects around the country. “To cut only democratic-district projects runs against the charter and purpose of the Department of Energy, the workers there and the express will of Congress.”

Locally, the threats of rescission have weighed on DOE-dependent startups, creating serious doubts.

“I think, generally speaking, federal funding cuts create uncertainty for companies,” Daybreak Labs Executive Director Yolanda Fintschenko said. Based in Livermore, the nonprofit Daybreak incubates life-science and deep-tech startups in the Tri-Valley, providing laboratory facilities and other resources to help build companies.

“I think for startups, it’s especially true, because early-stage investors do not typically take on technical risk,” she continued. “So, that means where the funding will come from to de-risk technology — that is, ensure that there are lab and pilot-scale demonstrations — is up in the air. ... Typically, investors do

not fund at that stage.”

While Daybreak continues its efforts to connect investors with founders, and to explore alternative funding sources, such as the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Friedmann expressed less optimism at weathering the DOE withdrawals.

“If the government money pulls out, none of this makes economic sense; all the projects die,” Friedmann said. “There is no other alternative to this money. These projects received investment on the expectation of government grants and government incentives. If those grants and incentives are removed, there is no backfill. It will not be filled by philanthropy; it will not be filled by private capital. The private capital and philanthropic capital are already committed on the basis of federal match.”

Brandon Cardwell, Livermore’s innovation and economic development director, said that although the city has yet to notice any direct impacts, “uncertainty is always challenging for business investments.” His department will continue to keep in touch with the local business community as the DOE proposals unfold.

Even without actual cuts, the news has already begun to take its toll.

“We’re seeing founders and investors just trying to figure things out right now,” Fintschenko said. “For startups, time is (the) enemy, so anything that makes investors slow down their decisions is going to make it harder for startups to succeed.”

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By Christina Cavallaro

As April rolled around into my second year of writing this Heart of the Valley column, I’ve been reminded (not in a good way) of a lyric from the song “These Days,” by Jackson Browne.

“Don’t confront me with my failures I had not forgotten them.”

Early into my Heart of the Valley column-writing process and my joy at getting a shot at having my very own writing corner, I fell into a funk after my first couple of successful columns. I kept missing the mark for my next submission and couldn’t seem to get my piece out of the editor’s inbox. As a result, I missed two months on the printed page as I worked to find my flow and for a while now, I’ve been tormented by lingering feelings of disappointment about my lack of completion — because I can never log the April entry that I missed.

A friend of mine likes to remind me that perfection is the enemy of progress, but I keep forgetting.

I recently had a chance to meet Richert Lumber’s second-generation owner, Matt Richert, for a story about the local Pleasanton business that began in 1976, and its role in the building of a town. I was joined by The Independent’s staff photographer, Leah Silveira, on a comprehensive tour of the complex that started with a small shack and has grown to encompass multiple added-on buildings and outdoor display areas, plus the expansive lumber yards. Richert took us on a circuitous journey through a labyrinth of upstairs offices that had been unconventionally tricked out with mini-bathrooms and kitchenettes.

Turns out the lion’s share of the quirky construction projects was conceived and built by a carpenter nicknamed, “The Dog,” who passed away about six years ago but had been known for his passionate and creative ideas and for never quite finishing them. As we went through door after mysterious door of his clever projects in what felt like a game of Clue, Richert pointed to one and said with a laugh, “This door literally goes nowhere.”

Another door did open though, and into a completely hidden soundproof break room, the walls of which were covered with wood flooring that had been left over from a different job. That’s when

These Days

Leah whispered to me, “This feels like the Winchester Mystery House.”

Richert pointed to some beautiful hand-milled floor molding that ran along one wall and then stopped abruptly, leaving the remaining walls without any.

“He literally never finished anything, but we all loved him,” Richert said.

Apparently, one day Dog’s penchant for coming up with exciting new ideas before completing the ones that came before reached full circle when he literally painted himself into a corner.

As the story goes, he finished the impressive new breakroom and even added a couple of snazzy employee restrooms before realizing that in his exuberance, he’d built the only entry and exit point through the bosses’ offices. So, all day every day, the staff would have had to tromp through the offices to get to their lunches.

It has been said that Rome wasn’t built in a day, but apparently the set of stairs Dog had to sheepishly construct went up in about that length of time.

Now that Dog is gone, the little unfinished design quirks are the visible reminders of the man behind the big dreams, Richert said. “My house still isn’t finished. My Dad’s still got stuff that isn’t finished, but that’s okay. We’re never gonna forget Dog.”

A Spanish friend of mine with whom I shared a flat in Madrid used to ritualistically paint the ceiling of every bedroom in every apartment or house she lived in with clouds or stars under which to dream. But she would curiously always leave a small patch unpainted. She explained once why she did it. For her, adding that last bit of paint meant the creativity and dreaming was done and there was nothing more to add.

So these days, I’ve been thinking that maybe those two months of my column that I missed and can never mark as complete means there will always be room for more discovery here in the Tri-Valley — and behind every hidden door and unchecked box will be new things to learn and add to this column.

Do you have tidbits about the Tri-Valley or know of interesting people, places, events or unique perspectives that should be featured in the Heart of the Valley monthly column? If so, we want to hear from you. Please email me at christina@independentnews.com.

ITV to Host Eighth Annual #GameChangers Awards

The Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV) will host the eighth annual #GameChangers Awards at the Roundhouse Market and Conference Center in San Ramon from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 8.

The ITV, a collaborative group of industry leaders, said the awards program recognizes “disruptors, founders, funders, mentors, entrepreneurs, influencers and civic leaders” in the Tri-Valley contributing to global solutions.

“This event always serves as a ‘shock and

awe’ demonstration of how much innovation and global impact our region produces,” said ITV CEO Katie Marcel. “The #GameChangers Awards serve as an annual reminder that the municipalities of Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon punch far above their weight as an innovation economy.”

According to the ITV, the Tri-Valley is home to 730 technology companies, including “some of the world’s most exciting brands,” with a gross domestic product of nearly

\$50 billion.

The Roundhouse Market and Conference Center is part of the Bishop Ranch business park, which ITV said “reflects the very spirit of transformation.”

“This iconic location is evolving into a vibrant mixed-use destination rooted in convenience, quality, and connection, making it the perfect stage for a celebration of visionary leadership,” according to the ITV.

Tickets to the awards ceremony are \$93 and are available at innovationtri-valley.org.

Pleasanton Will Celebrate Juneteenth

Pleasanton will host a Juneteenth Celebration at the Firehouse Arts Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, June 14, as part of the city’s Cultural Celebration Series.

Juneteenth is a federal holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States.

It’s officially celebrated on June 19, the day in 1885 when the Army declared the Emancipation Proclamation

in force in Texas.

The first Juneteenth celebrations took place as early as 1866 at church gatherings in Texas and quickly spread to other states. But Juneteenth did not become a federal holiday until 2021.

Pleasanton said the city-sponsored event would celebrate African American freedom and achievements and would include a themed story time, music, arts and crafts, and cultural perfor-

mances.

The city is also encouraging individuals and community organizations to help plan the Juneteenth event.

Groups or individuals interested in performing, hosting a booth or table, providing hands-on activities, or helping with set-up or other volunteer duties should contact Recreation Manager Rachel Prater at rprater@cityofpleasantonca.gov by April 25.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 24

WOMEN IN BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM

Connect with Tri-Valley women in business! The second annual Women in Business Symposium will begin with four breakout sessions with women business executives on several tracks and will then lead a panel discussion with four prominent women leaders to learn about their trials and tribulations in the business world. Featuring speaker Jacqueline Brown, multifaceted corporate professional, entrepreneur, author, and certified leadership coach. Check-in/networking at 2:30 p.m., program from 3:00-6:30 p.m. To be held at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$50 per person. Register at livermorechamber.org.

Thursdays, April 24 | May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

GRIEF WORKSHOP

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Although there is no right or wrong path, there are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey which will be explored in this workshop. Held at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., in Pleasanton at 7 p.m. on April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Space is limited, pre-registration is required. \$20 donation is requested. For more information, please call Catherine at 925-846-8385.

Sunday, April 27

HAGEMANN RANCH FAIR

Come to the “Fair” at Hagemann Ranch on April 27 from 1-5 p.m. and recall the story of Charlotte’s Web. Special guests will be the award-winning Cantabella Children’s Chorus and a skilled face painter. Fair food will be available at various booths, and the Lions Club Chuckwagon will be serving Pigs in a Blanket. Visit with the Ranch’s resident chickens, ducks, goats, and horses. You never know for sure if Wilbur will put in an appearance, but Charlotte’s and Templeton’s relatives are guaranteed to be wandering around the historic Hagemann Ranch. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Always free and family friendly.

Thursday, May 1

ALAMEDA COUNTY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Join Alameda County Supervisors and District 1’s Interfaith Advisory Council at the 6th Annual gathering to pray for our country. 5 p.m. reception & dinner / 6 p.m. program begins. No charge for this event. At the Alameda County Fairgrounds Amphitheater, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton. Free parking across from gate on Pleasanton Ave. RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/g/cjFE2FkJEu>. Contact Gloria Gregory, gloria.gregory@acgov.org or 925-998-3785 with any questions.

Friday-Sunday, May 2-4

‘TWO DAY TOWN’ FAMILY CAMPING AND COMMUNITY MUSIC

Come to a leave-no-trace family-oriented camping and community live music event in the Livermore hills. Enjoy three days of original music from local and regional artists while surrounded by the beauty of the Livermore hills with a family-oriented community. With two stages, family activities, morning yoga, and lots of spontaneous unplanned activities, along with the support of Chef Sean’s Three Day Cafe and all the restrooms, hot showers and infrastructure the beautiful Rancho Los Mochos wilderness camp has to offer. Gates open at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 2, and close at 8 p.m., so you can set up when convenient. Tickets MUST be purchased in advance; visit twodaytown.com. Held at Rancho Los Mochos, 18450 Mines Road, Livermore. Single weekend pass: \$115; friend/family pack of 10 tickets: \$1,000; kids 12 and under: free.

Saturday/Sunday, May 3 and 4

PLANT AND GARAGE SALE

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club’s annual plant and garage sale will be held on May 3 and May 4 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be an amazing selection of food, plants, flowers, landscape plants and houseplants for sale, along with gently used garden-related and household items. Come rain or shine! 2450 Merlot Lane, Livermore. Cash preferred /cards accepted.

Thursday, May 8

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Michelle Waters, owner of The Succulent Experience, will be demonstrating how to prepare succulent terrariums. Come join the fun! This is a hands-on event limited to the first 55 members. On May 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Crosswinds Church, 1660 Freisman Rd., Livermore at the Red Farm Theater Building.

Saturday, May 10

COCO MONTOKA PERFORMANCE

Award-winning, internationally renowned blues-rock guitarist, singer and songwriter Coco Montoya will perform live in Livermore on May 10 at 7:30 p.m. Mentored by Albert Collins and schooled by a decade on the road with John Mayall, Montoya has a hard-edged sound and style all his own. Montoya’s endlessly inventive guitar work and passionate, hard-hitting vocals have kept him at the top of the blues world. At Almost Famous Wine Company, 2271

S. Vasco Rd., in Livermore. Tickets are \$23.18-\$55.20. See www.almostfamous.wine for more information, or call 925-344-5870.

Saturday, May 17

DUBLIN COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Registration is now open for the 2nd Annual City of Dublin Community Garage Sale. Don’t miss the chance to find incredible bargains or to sell off your own “treasures” at this one-of-a-kind shopping experience. On May 17 at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Pkwy., from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration information can be found at dublin.ca.gov/2709/Community-Garage-Sale.

Thursday, May 22

DUBLIN’S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM OPEN OFFICE HOURS

Drop-in anytime during Open Office Hours to grab a snack and connect with the City of Dublin’s Economic Development team. This casual, come-and-go event is a great opportunity to ask questions, share feedback, or just touch base with staff. For new or long-time Dublin businesses, or those simply curious about available resources. At 100 Civic Plaza, 1st floor, Bray Community Room, from 12 to 2 p.m.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LIVERMORE HISTORYMOBILE

The Livermore HistoryMobile needs docents who are available during the day to guide and engage Livermore’s third graders. These visits take place during the months of April and May when the schools are visited. The kids love being in a “touch me” museum; something exciting in our virtual age. The experience is very rewarding. If interested, please contact Nancy Mulligan: n.mulligan@comcast.net.

QUEST SCIENCE CENTER

Quest’s vision is to connect everyone to the value of science. Volunteers are needed to facilitate science activities at community events. For more information or to volunteer, contact the Director of Education, Dan, at dgolub@quest-science.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

THURSDAY DUBLIN FARMERS MARKET

The seasonal Dublin Farmers’ Market will run each Thursday, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, from April 3 through Sept. 25, rain or shine. Come out to find your farmers’ market favorites, such as locally grown fresh produce, baked goods, honey, nuts, pasta, and more. Pick up some delicious hot foods from vendors for dinner each week. In addition to the Thursday night markets, the City of Dublin is excited to bring back the Summer Concert Series at the Emerald Glen Amphitheater, which will run for eight weeks in June, July, and early August.

SATURDAY PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

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

SUNDAY LIVERMORE DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

Open year-round on Sundays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in downtown Livermore, on Second St. between J St. and L St.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

The Unitarian Universalist Church is welcoming to all. Join in on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for music, singing, and conversation. The church is located at 1893 North Vasco Rd. in Livermore. For more information, visit uucil.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING

The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from Sept. to May. The DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women’s service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America’s future through better education for children. For more information, visit jhl.californiadar.org or email jane.everett@sbcglobal.net.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and nursery care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit asburylive.org.

WINGS — WOMEN IN GOD’S SPIRIT

WINGS is a faith enrichment group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet October thru May on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Attendees can enjoy a variety of speaker presentations and topics, small group discussion, fellowship and more. All are welcome! See www.stcharleslivermore.org/wings for more information.

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

CattleWomen Sponser Annual Dutch Oven Contest

The annual Dutch Oven Cooking Contest sponsored by the Alameda County CattleWomen will be held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton on Saturday, June 28.

Competitors will be

asked to prepare a main entree with beef.

To enter, go to the Alameda County Fair competitions page at tinyurl.com/3u4evn74.

The deadline to enter is Tuesday, June 24. There is a

\$2 entry fee.

First place will receive \$100, with \$75 and \$50 prizes for second and third place.

This year the Alameda County Fair will run from Friday, June 13, through Sunday, July 6.

PROTEST

(Continued from front page)

agency said it had identified considerable repairs needed to reopen the facility. U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier, whose district includes Dub-

lin, said the prison should remain closed. He cited deplorable living conditions, including crumbling infrastructure and mold.

The April 16 vigil, dubbed “From Harm to Liberation,” called for the permanent closure and demolition of FCI Dublin.

“As we move through the sacred seasons of Ramadan, Passover and Easter, we are holding this vigil to resist ICE’s attempt to reopen (FCI Dublin) as an immigration detention center,” said the Rev. Deborah Lee, co-executive director for the Oakland-based Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity. “A repurposing of (FCI Dublin) into a detention center would endanger California communities and contradict the values of a majority of the California populace, who see immigrants as an integral part of our economies and communities, deserving of freedom from harm and discrimination.”

In addition to opposing an ICE detention facility in Dublin, speakers at the vigil said places of worship and religious observance should be “free from the reach of immigration enforcement” and called for an end to the “ongoing terror and criminalization of immigrant communities.”

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Joe Callahan, Patrick O'Brien Will Receive Patriot Awards

Developer Joe Callahan and community activist Patrick O'Brien will receive the 2025 Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards, to be presented by the Pleasanton non-profit organization, Make A Difference, Today & Always, on Monday, April 28.

The awards presentation and reception will be held outside the Pleasanton Museum on Main, 603 Main St., from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Callahan and the Prudential Realty Group developed the 875-acre Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton that now includes more than 11 million square feet of commercial space and is home to 650 companies with 18,000 employees.

The Hacienda team also worked with the city and other commercial and industrial property owners to form the North Pleasanton Improvement District (NPID), funding upgrades to arterial roadways, interstate interchanges at Interstate 680 and Interstate 1-580, and putting utilities underground at no cost to taxpayers.

Callahan was also involved in development of

what is now the Ken Mercer Sports and Recreation Community Park.

When Pleasanton acquired what had been a military pilot training site during the Korean War, the Hacienda team arranged for mature trees from the business park, then under development, to be transplanted to what was then a long patch of bare dirt.

"Looking back, I'd say the success of the tree relocation effort has had a far greater impact on the sports park than I expected," Callahan said. "It took a large area that tended to feel forlorn and gave it a sense of place."

Callahan and the Hacienda team were also involved in efforts to restore the city-owned Amador Theater at Amador Valley High School and converting the former Pleasanton town hall and police station into the Museum on Main, now owned and operated by the Livermore-Amador Valley Historical Society.

Patrick O'Brien, chief financial officer at Pleasanton-based Leisure Sports, serves on several community boards, including the Alameda County Fair Foun-

dation Board and the California Exposition and State Fair Board.

He is also treasurer for the Three Valleys Community Foundation, which supports local nonprofits groups, and is on the board of the Martin C. Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County, which provide financial support to spouses of police officers and firefighters in Alameda County killed in the line of duty and college scholarships for their children of the police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty in Alameda County.

In addition, O'Brien is on the boards of Tri Valley REACH, which provides housing for disabled youth, and the George A. Spiliotopoulos Memorial Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to graduates of Pleasanton high schools.

The Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards, which recognize individuals who demonstrate "love, pride, faith, belief, and devotion" to the Pleasanton community, are named for former mayor and civic leader Ed Kinney, who died in 2005.

BioBlitz Planned for Springtown Preserve

The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) and Swaim Biological will hold a BioBlitz at the Springtown Preserve in Livermore from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 26.

A BioBlitz is an effort to record all living species in a designated area. The term was coined in 1996 by a U.S. National Park Service naturalist who was helping identify species at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in Washington, D.C.

The Springtown Preserve BioBlitz is part of Livermore's participation in the City Nature Challenge, an annual event coordinated by the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to document wildlife in urban areas.

The City Nature Challenge began in 2016 as a competition between Los Angeles and San Francisco for the first-ever

Citizen Science Day and has now spread around the world. Nearly 700 cities in 51 countries participated last year, according to challenge organizers.

Volunteers will meet at the Springtown Preserve, near the intersection of Bluebell Drive and Hartford Avenue, to collect as much data as possible on plants and animals in the alkali sink ecosystem. In the past, more than 270 species of plants, birds, reptiles and small mammals have been identified in the preserve.

This is a free, family-friendly event, but registration is required. To register, go to acrcd.org.

The ACRCD is an independent, non-regulatory agency that works to conserve wildlife, natural resources and agricultural lands in the county. Swaim Biological is an environmental consulting service based in Livermore.

Guilds to Host First Livermore Historic Pioneer Homes Tour

The first Harmony & Historic Home Tour, sponsored by the Livermore Heritage Guild and the Livermore Amador Symphony Guild, will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 10.

The self-guided tour will feature eight pioneer homes in downtown Livermore, including an early 20th century Craftsman built from a mail-order Sears, Roebuck and Co. kit, with live musical interludes at each stop.

The tour also includes homes owned by former Livermore mayors, William Mendenhall's daughter, Robert Livermore's granddaugh-

ter, a descendent of the Bernal family, and the first female attorney from Livermore.

All homes are within walking distance of the Carnegie Library, the starting point at 2155 Third St., where the Amador High School Alumni Band and Element 116, a youth band formed by former professional musician Matt Finders, will also be performing in Carnegie Park.

Proceeds from the tour will go towards the Livermore Historic Guild's efforts to move the Midway School, the last remaining one-room schoolhouse in

Livermore Valley, from the Altamont Pass to Hagemann Park, next to the 150-year-old Hagemann Ranch in Livermore, and restore it for use as a museum and third-grade field trips.

Proceeds will also support the Livermore Amador Symphony's concerts and community outreach programs.

Tickets are \$60 for adults and \$50 for seniors, with a \$10 discount on tickets purchased before May 1.

Tickets are available online at on sale at lhg.org or livermoreamadorsymphony.org.

Insurance Agency to Offer Document Shredding

Gene Morgan Insurance will host a free paper-shredding event to help prevent identity theft from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 3.

This will be a drive-through event at the agen-

cy's downtown Livermore office, 2020 Fourth St.

The agency recommends shredding old bank statements, bills, and other private documents.

There will be a limit of five file-sized boxes per

household, according to the agency, and binders, spiral-bound notebooks, binder clips and metal pronged folders will not be accepted.

The agency will offer light refreshments.

OBITUARIES

Edward Patrick Shannon, Jr. March 31, 2025

Edward Patrick Shannon Jr., 84, passed away peacefully on March 31, 2025, in Pleasanton, California, surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Jamestown, California, Edward lived a life defined by devotion — to his family, to his country, and to the simple joys that brought him happiness. He served honorably in the Air Force Reserve, reflecting a steadfast sense of duty and patriotism that remained with him throughout his life.

Edward's greatest pride was his family. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and brother. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Wilma Shannon; his son, Edward Shannon; and his daughter, Denise

Disbrow. His legacy lives on through his grandchildren — Brandon (Rachel), Taylor, Bryce (Alyssa), and Carli Disbrow—and great-grandchildren, Jordan and Elijah Disbrow. He is also survived by his brother, Michael (Chris) Shannon, and nephew, Sean Shannon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Mary Shannon.

A man of quiet passions and thoughtful craftsmanship, Edward found joy in restoring and driving Model A cars — a hobby that combined his love of history, hands-on work, and timeless beauty. He also cherished time spent boating and visiting Oregon, always finding peace in nature and the water.

Edward's warmth, humor, and steady presence

touched everyone who knew him. Whether sharing stories, fixing something with care, or simply sitting with loved ones, he made the everyday moments count.

Visitation will be held on Monday, April 28, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Graham Hitch Funeral Home, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, California. A funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 10 a.m. at St. Raymond's Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin, California. Burial and a reception will follow the service.

May Edward's memory be a source of comfort and inspiration and may his legacy of love and quiet strength continue in the hearts of all who knew him.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

William (Bill) Charles Behrendt Feb. 25, 1952 — April 5, 2025

William (Bill) Charles Behrendt, beloved husband, father, brother, and friend, passed away from complications of Parkinson's Disease / Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at the age of 73, at his home in Livermore, California.

Bill was the fourth of eight children born to Annetta and Hubert Behrendt on Feb. 25, 1952, in Athens, Wisconsin. In 1960, the family moved to a hobby farm in Wausau, Wisconsin, where he spent his childhood. While he helped care for the animals and crops, Bill's true passions lay in science, mechanics, and photography. He loved capturing special moments for others — not just because he was good at it, but because he genuinely cared about doing it well.

He graduated from Wausau Senior High School and went on to attend North-central Technical College, completing the Laser Program.

In 1980, Bill moved to California to pursue a career in laser optics and nuclear fusion science at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In his final years before



retiring in 2009, he supported the development of the National Ignition Facility (NIF) project as a Senior Electronics Engineering Technologist.

Bill spent his life embracing the outdoors and the people he loved. An avid hiker, camper, and canoeist, he found both joy and purpose in nature — a passion he shared generously through his long-standing dedication to the Sierra Club, the American Red Cross, and the Boy Scouts of America. As a leader and mentor, he guided countless youth and adults through outdoor adventures with patience, wisdom, and a deep love for the wilderness.

He was also a devoted member of Lynnewood United Methodist Church, where he lived out his faith

through years of active service. Whether on mission trips, through community outreach, or during hands-on church projects, Bill was always ready to lend his time and skills to those in need.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; his children, Kevin and Stephanie, and their families; and his siblings Carol, Sheila, Miron (Mike), Jeanice, Jim, and Laurie, along with their families.

Bill leaves behind a legacy of unwavering service, kindness, and devotion to family and community. His spirit lives on in every campfire story, river trip, and quiet act of generosity inspired by his example. He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

A Celebration of Life and reception will be held at Lynnewood United Methodist Church in Pleasanton, California, on Saturday, May 17, at 10:30 a.m. A live-stream option will be available. Please RSVP at: bill-behrendt.rsvpify.com.

"Everyone should believe in something — I believe I'll go canoeing."

— Henry David Thoreau + Bill Behrendt

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Forrest Sass 1950 — Jan. 1, 2025



Forrest Sass, known for his deep devotion to family, faith, and his community, passed away in Pleasanton, California, on Jan. 1, 2025. He was treasured by family and friends alike, and left behind a legacy of love, thoughtful guidance, and integrity.

Born and raised in Alameda, California, Forrest carried the values of his upbringing with him throughout his life. A proud graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he went on to build a fulfilling career in electronics engineering—a field that satisfied both his inventive spirit and his quiet intelligence.

He spent most of his adult years in Pleasanton, where he became an integral part of the community. He led Boy Scout troops in Sunol, piloted small planes out of Livermore airport, and sang with the East Bay Broadway Chorus. He was a dedicated member

of First Church of Christ, Scientist in Livermore, a familiar face at the Pleasanton farmers market, and never missed the Alameda County Fair.

Forrest was a man of many talents and boundless curiosity: an engineer, entrepreneur, inventor, businessman, musician, and mentor. He approached every endeavor with principle and perseverance.

Forrest was a unique soul, known for his routines and cherished habits that endeared him to all who knew him. As a friend,

he was the most steadfast and loyal companion one could ask for. He embodied the true essence of a Christian, living his values through kindness, selflessness, and quiet acts of goodness.

Above all, Forrest was devoted to his family. He took immense pride in his children and grandchild and cherished his role in their lives. His presence brought warmth and laughter, and his absence leaves a void that words cannot fill.

His memory will live on in the hearts of those who loved him, in the lives he touched, and in the countless stories of his generosity, humor, and ever-present support.

May he rest in peace, knowing he was deeply loved and will never be forgotten.

Please email COL.Forrest.Sass@gmail.com for Celebration of Life details.

Arnold Charles Lange Feb. 11, 1938 — April 18, 2025



Arnold "Whitie" Lange, 87, of Livermore, California, passed away on Good Friday, April 18, 2025. Arnold was born in Lodi, California on February 11, 1938. He was a graduate of Sequoia High School in Redwood City, and earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in electrical engineering from San Jose State University, where he met his wife of 60 years, Joan.

Arnold worked for 30 years as an electrical engineer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, retiring in 2002. In addition to lifelong interests in gardening and World War II aviation,

after retirement Arnold busied himself with researching his family's genealogy and enjoying his grandchildren. Arnold and Joan have been members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Livermore for more than 60 years.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, son David (wife Lori), daughter Jennifer, and grandsons Ian, Otto, Aaron, and Ezra. Arnold was preceded in death by his brother Elden and sister Luella and is survived by sister Laurene.

Memorial services will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Arrangements will be coordinated by Callaghan Mortuary. The interment will be a private ceremony.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to Our Savior's Lutheran Church or to the charity of your choice.

Beach Volleyball Crashes Ashore in the EBAL As Every League School Gets Feet Wet While Riding First-year Wave

By Phil Jensen

Beach volleyball has found its way to the East Bay Athletic League.

The EBAL has a girls beach volleyball schedule this spring, with all the schools involved. It is the first year that the league has offered the sport.

“It’s awesome,” said Dublin High School coach Kevin Kramer, who as a coach at Gavilan College-Gilroy and a president of the California Community College Coaches Association was instrumental in the adoption of women’s beach volleyball as a sanctioned sport in California’s community colleges about 13 years ago. “In the community-college level when we started it, ... the players got better faster. I can already see it with this group. Their skill level has increased.”

Some EBAL schools had club teams before this first official season, while for others, this is their first season period. Each team has nine scheduled league dual matches. The season started March 27 and is scheduled to end May 1. There are no North Coast Section playoffs for the sport.

At the Dublin-Foothill dual match on April 17 at Fallon Sports Park in Dublin, there were three scoring matches, and three exhibition matches. Dublin won the scoring matches 3-0 and was 4-2 overall at the event. Dublin had a 4-1 EBAL mark and

Foothill was 2-2 entering this week.

In beach volleyball, two opposing players are on each side of the net. The matches are a best two-out-of-three sets. The first two sets go to 21 points (a team has to win by two points in any set) and if a third set is needed, it goes to 15.

“I like beach volleyball because you have to be good at everything. You have to be good at passing, setting, hitting. You have to be a very well-rounded player to be able to play beach,” Foothill’s Lulu Hoenninger said. “It’s way different than indoor and it’s a breath of fresh air.”

Kramer elaborated. “Every time the ball comes over, they have to pass, set and hit. Indoor, you have one of those responsibilities,” he said. “Here, you’ve got to do everything.”

But beach volleyball is also a mental game.

“It’s basically about placing the ball in spots where the other team is not,” Foothill coach Emerson Salonga said. “It’s being strategic. It’s very hard to move in the sand.”

“I feel like in terms of teamwork, it’s like a big mental game,” Dublin’s Sophie Casanas said. “A lot of communication, I feel like that’s a big key.”

The elements, such as wind and the sun’s glare, also have to be taken into consideration. The teams switch sides every seven points to help equalize those conditions.

Coaches are only allowed to talk to athletes during timeouts, side changes and between sets.

“You’ve got to train (players) when to call timeouts, and how to manage the games, how to problem-solve, how to figure out what the other team is doing because you can only talk to them every seven points,” Kramer said.

The matches are scored by players, usually from the home team, who are not competing at that time, Salonga said. They usually use a flip scoreboard so players and spectators can see the score.

Both coaches talked about the opportunities for high school beach volleyball players to compete in college. Both teams have more than 15 players on their rosters.

At the Dublin-Foothill match, the sun broke out from the clouds about halfway through the competition, and music from a single speaker provided a lively background.

“I love the relaxed vibes,” Dublin’s Sammy Wang said. “I love the community.”

Granada has sand volleyball courts on campus, the jewel of the league,” Salonga said, but the rest of the local teams play at parks. Foothill and Amador Valley, for example, share use of the courts at the Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park, and Dublin’s home site is Fallon Sports Park.

The league players can

be proud that they are part of the first official season of a sport in the EBAL.

“I told these girls ...

‘How often do you get to be on the very first team in a varsity sport at a school?’”

Kramer said. “How cool

is that to say forever that I was on the first (Dublin beach volleyball) team that won a game.”



Dublin’s Sophie Casanas delivers a serve against Foothill in East Bay Athletic League girls beach volleyball action at Fallon Sports Park in Dublin. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Falcons, Gaels Continue Quest for EBAL Baseball Playoff Berths

By Phil Jensen

Foothill High School’s baseball team gained a split of its series with visiting Dublin on April 18 as the East Bay Athletic League squads continued their battle

to earn spots in the league playoffs, which start May 13.

In past seasons, six EBAL teams advanced to the league tournament, three from the Valley Division and three from the Mountain Division. This season, the

number of league playoff teams has been cut to two from each division. Foothill coach Zeke Palma said that decision was made by a vote of league athletic directors approximately a week before the season started.

Granada had a 2½ game lead in the Valley Division entering this week, with three weeks left in the regular season. The Valley Division includes the Matadors, Livermore, Amador Valley, Foothill and Dublin. EBAL teams that don’t qualify for the league playoffs can still be considered for spots in the North Coast Section playoffs.

Entering this week, Dublin was second in the Valley Division with a 5-3 EBAL mark and Foothill wasted for third with Livermore at 4-3.

“Every game is going to be a battle like this,” Palma said after his team’s 8-7, walk-off, victory over Dublin on April 18. “It’s going to be one-run games, two-run games. Every game, we’re going to have to find a way to get a win.”

Dublin coach Greg Oravetz offered similar sentiments.

“We’re not going to know who those two (playoff teams) are until after the last game is played,” Oravetz said, speaking about

the Valley Division. “That’s also why we can’t look ahead. We’ve got to just stay focused on what’s in front of us right now.”

In the April 18 game at Foothill, there was scoring in only three innings.

Foothill, which improved to 14-4 overall, scored four runs in the first inning. Key hits included an RBI double by Aiden Tavares and run-scoring singles by Landon Comeford and Hudson Flora.

But Dublin, which had a 16-3 overall record after the game, turned the tables with seven runs in the top of the fifth inning. The Gaels sent 12 batters to the plate. Elijah McNeal slammed the team’s first home run of the season, a two-run shot. Matt Phelps added a two-run double, and Kolby Breining and Wyatt Metz added RBI singles.

“Their ability to compete in tough spots and how they play hard for each other, I’m very proud of them for that,” Oravetz said of his players.

A solo home run by Tanner Tarpley in the bottom of

the fifth narrowed Dublin’s lead to 7-5. Then the Falcons scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh, Tarpley had a sacrifice fly before Tavares and Grant Hoenninger worked bases-loaded walks to bring in the tying and winning runs.

On April 16, Dublin won the first game of the series, 1-0, behind a one-hitter from sophomore Dalton Doyle. Phelps drove in the run in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Foothill will have to face the rest of the season without senior pitcher Charlie Stearns, who owns a 4-0 record and 0.55 earned run average. Stearns suffered a season-ending knee injury against California on April 2, Palma said.

Foothill is set to travel to Granada on April 25 and Livermore on April 30 before hosting the Cowboys on May 2. Dublin is scheduled to host Amador Valley on April 25, travel to Granada on April 30 and host the Matadors on May 2. All games are set for 4 p.m. starts.



Foothill High baseball players celebrate their 8-7, walk-off victory over visiting Dublin on April 18. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 25CV116175
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner or Attorney:
Gerald E. Brunn, SBN 107004
Law Offices of Brunn & Flynn
928 12th Street, Suite 200
Modesto, CA 95354

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner (name):
Kazys Jonas Razma filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Names:
Kazys Jonas Razma

Proposed Name:
Casey Jonas Razma

THE COURT ORDERS

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

at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 07/25/2025
Time: 9:30 AM
Dept: 514

The address of the court is:
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
Administration Building
24405 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550

Dated: 3/20/25 s/ Thomas Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court. The Independent, Legal No. 6361. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 612742

The following person(s) doing business as: Green and Safe Party Rentals, 34548 Palomares Rd, Castro Valley, CA 94552 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Green and Safe Car Share LLC, 34548

Palomares Rd, 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: 1/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Peter Banh, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2025. Expires February 26, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6362. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613103

The following person(s) doing business as: Eco Peak Roofing Solutions, 5242 Sunol Blvd, STE 10-642, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eco Peak Solutions LLC, 5242 Sunol Blvd, STE 10-462, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Margo Linette, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2025. Expires March 11, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6363. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 613121

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunrise Mobile Home Park, 856 Sundial Circle, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sunrise Mobile Home Park LLC. 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: 6/13/2002. Signature of Registrant/s/: Frank Prince, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 13, 2025. Expires March 12, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6364. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613364

The following person(s) doing business as: PCBA Board Repair, 37538 Cape Cod Rd, Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joseph Christopher Nieras, 37538 Cape Cod Rd, Newark, CA 94560. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Joseph Christopher Nieras, Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2025. Expires March 23, 2030. The In-

dependent, Legal No. 6365. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613359

The following person(s) doing business as: Windward Enterprise, 528 Madison Street, Albany, CA 94706 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Willie Tang, 1164 Solano Ave, Ste 155, Albany, CA 94706. 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/: Willie Tang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2025. Expires March 20, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6366. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613184

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxurios Barber Shop, 2586 Foothill Blvd, Unit S, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marlon Vanegas Alvarado, 2586 Foothill Blvd, Unit S, Oakland, CA 94601. 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: 3/17/25. Signature of

Registrant/s/: Marlon Vanegas Alvarado, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 17, 2025. Expires March 16, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6367. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 612949

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Orthopedic Trauma and Reconstruction, a Division of BASS Medical Group, 19842 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BASS Medical Group, 2637 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. 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: 1/23/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rajiv Nagesetty, M.D., CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2025. Expires March 5, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6368. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613415

The following person(s) doing business as: Weinuo, 573 Lower Vintners Cir, Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Custom Craft Solution, 573 Lower Vint-

ners Cir, Fremont, CA 94539. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/24/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Zhicheng Gong, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 25, 2025. Expires March 24, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6369. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613459

The following person(s) doing business as: Bay Area Jumpers, 30675 Huntwood Ave, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bay Area Jumpers LLC, 30675 Huntwood Ave, 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: 1/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Otto D. Castillo, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2025. Expires March 25, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6370. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613458

The following person(s) doing business as: Good Events LLC, 30675 Huntwood Ave, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Good Events LLC, 30675 Huntwood Ave, 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: 11/19/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Otto D. Castillo, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2025. Expires March 25, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6371. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 613305

The following person(s) doing business as: Slice House Livermore, 1948 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pizza Craft LLC, 290 Walnut Meadow Lane, Danville, CA 94506. 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/: Ranjan Bhasin, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2025. Expires March 19, 2030. The In-

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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dependent, Legal No. 6372. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 612749

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Leadership Excellence Institute; 2. Parmeides Consulting Group, 43555 Grimmer Blvd, Suite D235, Fremont, CA 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hamidreza Gharid, 43555 Grimmer Blvd, Suite D235, Fremont, CA 94538. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/27/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hamidreza Gharib, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2025. Expires February 26, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6373. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 602080

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). First Stop Locators, 17535 Tallac Way, Hayward, CA 94541. Registered by the following owner(s): Joe Sisk, 17535 Tallac Way, Hayward, CA 94541. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 11/14/2023 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Joe Sisk, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 6374. Published April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25CV116412 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Steven James Morrow
1387 St Mary Dr.
Livermore, CA 94550
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Names:
Steven James Morrow
Proposed Name:
Steven Ramon Temores

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 07/25/2025

Time: 9:30 AM

Dept: 514

The address of the court is:
Hayward Hall of Justice
24405 Amador Street
Civil Division
Hayward, CA 94544

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 3/28/25 /s/: A. Thomas Nixon, Judge of the Superior Court.

The Independent, Legal No. 6375. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613571

The following person(s) doing business as: Exprima, 1311 Park ST #1164, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Exprima, LLC, 1311 Park ST #1164, Alameda, CA 94501. 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: 3/28/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Elliot Matlice, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 1, 2025. Expires March 31, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6376. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613585

The following person(s) doing business as: Banh Mi Republic, 2700 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Banh Mi Republic LLC, 2576 La Don Court, Castro Valley, CA 94546. 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/: Luan Truong, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 1, 2025. Expires March 31, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6377. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 613595

The following person(s) doing business as: Pop'N Soda Lounge, 5860 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Janessa Villa, 5860 East Ave, 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/: Janessa Villa, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 1, 2025. Expires March 31, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6378. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613004

The following person(s) doing business as: Clear and Present Productions, 3336 San Leandro Street, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bryan Blum, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 7, 2025. Expires March 6, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6379. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613331

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Head and Neck, a Division of BASS Medical Group, 2316 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BASS Medical Group, 2637 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. 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: 01/29/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rajiv Nagesetty, M.D. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2025. Expires March 20, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6380. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613320

The following person(s) doing business as: NorCal Urology, a Division of BASS Medical Group, 3300 Webster Street, Suite 710, Oakland, CA 94609 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BASS Medical Group, 2637 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. 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: 01/29/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rajiv Nagesetty, M.D. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2025. Expires March 20, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6381. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613622

The following person(s) doing business as: Dominiology Centro, 1510 Webster ST, 416, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dominiology, 1510 Webster ST, 416, Oakland, CA 94612. 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/: Gerald Cager, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 2, 2025. Expires April 1, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6382. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613515

The following person(s) doing business as: BTV Construction, 1023 Versailles Ave, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Benjamin Villegas, 1023 Versailles Ave, Alameda, CA 94501. 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: 3/10/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Benjamin Villegas,

Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 28, 2025. Expires March 27, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6383. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613610

The following person(s) doing business as: Linden and Rose Floral Design Studio, 1125 Peralta Street, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Durja Duranovic, PO Box 70211, Oakland, CA 94612. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Durja Duranovic, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 1, 2025. Expires March 31, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6384. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613650

The following person(s) doing business as: Element Heating and Air, 6114 La Salle Ave #310, Oakland, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Element Home Solutions Inc, 6114 La Salle Ave #310, Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/2/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Eitan Uzan, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 3, 2025. Expires April 2, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6385. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613341

The following person(s) doing business as: Star Protection Agency California, 7901 Oakport ST, STE 2000, Oakland, CA 94621 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Spaca, Inc, 7901 Oakport ST, STE 2000, Oakland, CA 94621. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Nicole Alameda, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2025. Expires March 20, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6386. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613568

The following person(s) doing business as: California Fence Builder, 5340 Brisa ST, Suite B, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Zeluggio, Inc, 5340 Brisa ST, Suite B, 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: 3/05/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Luciano Zeluggio, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 1, 2025. Expires March 31, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6387. Published April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613682

The following person(s) doing business as: Photoessence Photography, 221 Isleton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Trevor Gerstenberg, 221 Isleton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603. 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: 3/10/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Trevor Gerstenberg, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 4, 2025. Expires April 3, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6390. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613724

The following person(s) doing business as: Little Learners, 1482 Rhododendron Dr, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nupura Gaidhani, 1482

Rhododendron Dr, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Nupura Gaidhani, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2025. Expires April 6, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6391. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613619

The following person(s) doing business as: Bennie's Bakery, 2250 Kilowatt Way, Unit 410, Fremont, CA 94539 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Congyi Wang, 2250 Kilowatt Way, Unit 410, Fremont, CA 94539. 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: 3/3/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Congyi Wang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 2, 2025. Expires April 1, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6392. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613753

The following person(s) doing business as: Stavert Legacy, 1550 Elm St, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ryan Stavert, 1550 Elm St, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ryan Stavert, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 8, 2025. Expires April 7, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6393. Published April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613766

The following person(s) doing business as: Stitch & Revel, 474 Lindbergh Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sanjani Ramkissoon, 474 Lindbergh Ave, 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: 3/15/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erica Starkey, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2025. Expires March 15, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6400. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613390

The following person(s) doing business as: Supreme Glass Company, 1661 20th Street #5, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ba Glazing Inc., 1661 20th Street #5, Oakland, CA 94607. 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/: Gregory Scharlemann, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2025. Expires March 23, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6395. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613759

The following person(s) doing business as: Aperture Design, 37317 Gosling TER, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tsai Ling Teng, 37317 Gosling Ter, Fremont, CA 94536. 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/: Tai Ling Teng, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 9, 2025. Expires April 8, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6396. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613720

The following person(s) doing business as: Sabre Partners, 5327 College Avenue, Oakland,

CA 94618 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sabre Foods International Inc., 5327 College Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: John M. Marcone, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2025. Expires April 6, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6397. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613875

The following person(s) doing business as: Myeongdong Ja Jang, 2725 Stoneridge Dr #104, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Denim Jajiang, Inc., 2106 Harvest Moon LN, San Ramon, CA 94582. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/31/25. Signature of Registrant/s/: Young Do Park, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2025. Expires March 23, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6398. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613292

The following person(s) doing business as: Pijja Paradise, 922 Larkspur Dr. Ste A1, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Delicious Eatery LLC, 5675 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pavesh Kumar Bansal, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2025. Expires March 19, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6399. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613927

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Horse Real Estate, 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Starkey Holdings Inc., 550 Main Street, 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: 3/15/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Erica Starkey, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2025. Expires March 15, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6400. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613310

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. GU Energy Labs; 2. Sports Street Marketing, 1609 4th ST, Berkeley, CA 94710 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Advanced Food Concepts Incorporated, 1609 4th ST, Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1. 3/24/1994; 2.

11/24/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Emily Strayer, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2025. Expires March 19, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 66401. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613850

The following person(s) doing business as: A1 Home Health Services, 4049 First Street, Suite# 229, Livermore, CA 94551-5363 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A1 Home Health Services, 4049 First Street, Suite# 229, 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: 4/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s/: Josekutty Jose, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6402. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613843

The following person(s) doing business as: Olive Oil Pantry #2, 2053 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Aok Investments Corp, 1040 Lona Way, Tracy, CA 95376. 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: 6/15/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Arnold O. Kaufman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2025. Expires April 13, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6403. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613541

The following person(s) doing business as: Leo "The Lion" Music & Entertainment, 2150 Portila Ave Suite D-138, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leo Brown, 2150 Portola Ave, Suite D-138, 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: 9/28/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Leo Brown, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 31, 2025. Expires March 30, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6404. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613534

The following person(s) doing business as: Tero's Remodelation's, 2032 96th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alejandro Barretero, 2032 96th Ave, Oakland, CA 94603. 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/: Alejandro Barretero, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 31, 2025. Expires March 30, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6405. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 613975

The following person(s) doing business as: Livermore Live Scan, 4047 First Street, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 94551. 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/: Maninder Singh, Managin Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 17, 2025. Expires April 16, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6406. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 584985

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Livermore Live Scan, 4047 First Street, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 94551. Registered by the following owner(s): Readymade Services LLC, 4047 First Street, Suite 208, Livermore, CA 94551. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/13/2021 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Signature of Registrants: /s/: John Dan McDowell, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 17, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 6407. Published April 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2025.

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Local Small Family Business Earns Big-Business Distinction

By Christina Cavallaro

For a lumber company that owner Tom Richert started in a tiny shack in 1976, Pleasanton-based Richert Lumber Co. & Ace Hardware has reached the pinnacle of good business, literally, by achieving Ace Hardware’s “Pinnacle Performance Retailing” store designation for its outstanding performance this past year.



Second-generation Richert Lumber owner Matt Richert points to a photo of the original shack his father, Tom, worked out of for five years while building the business that has become a Pleasanton community retail hub. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Earning Pinnacle status more than two years in a row is achieved by fewer than 1% of all 5,000 Ace stores in 60 countries, and Richert Lumber has received the award five years in succession.

Second-generation owner Matt Richert credits the ongoing recognition of excellence to the privilege and fun of serving his hometown community and the unique opportunity afforded only to small businesses to choose their work families, as his own family has done for nearly half a century.

“It’s a fun place. And the people who work here ... that’s the greatest thing, my dad always said,” Richert said.

Tom Richert now spends part of each year in Arizona, leaving the day-to-day

operations largely to his eldest son.

“He says, ‘The greatest thing about running your own business, and there’s a lot of pitfalls and it’s a lot of work and a lot of stress, but one of the greatest things is you get to pick who you work with,’” Richert said. “And you kind of don’t think about that. If you work for a big organization, you’ve got different locations and everything.

employee for four years, just about as long as the cats, who he said do their work at night.

“They catch a few things, but their (main) job is to entertain the little kids that come in here,” Dreyfus said, adding that he enjoys the small-family-business feel of the store even as the space itself has grown significantly.

The original lumber company eventually added many more building extensions,

But Tom Richert had a vision as a young man from very humble beginnings working for the now-shuttered Western Pine Lumber Company, his son said.

“He realized in every town he went to, the richest guy owned a lumberyard, because most of the cities built up through the local lumberyard. So, he figured he might as well start a business where he could make money. I mean, if you’re selling all this stuff to build a town, that works out pretty well.”

Those were the days before technology and big-box hardware stores.

“So, most lumber companies, first or second generation, kind of cashed out,” Richert said. “If I wasn’t here, my dad would have sold it because there’s nothing else you’re going to do with it, right? And then most of the time (the land) would go and become houses or whatnot. But if the second generation is around, they’re like, ‘Hey, let’s keep it going.’”

The walls of the store are covered with old black-and-white family photos, as well as plaques with pictures of all the sports teams the company has sponsored over the decades. In the corner of a stairwell sits a noticeably large panda sculpture that Richert said his dad bought from a fundraising auction in honor of servicemen in World War II.

The store is also home to a quirky array of giant wooden stick figures, made by local artist Gary Winter, that top each aisle. The action figures constructed out of 2x4’s are propped atop each category of hardware in all manner of activity from mowing the lawn to planting flowers to flying a kite.

“Just silly stuff,” Richert said.

He said he’s always asked if they will ever expand, “but I like being the hometown guy.

“This can easily afford to support me and what I want

have some fun with it,’ and make it, hopefully, feel a little more homey.”



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The ensemble was established in 2001 by trumpeter Philip Shoptaugh and trombonist Jim Jaffe and since 2012 has been under the artistic leadership of Dean Boysen.

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Construction Begins on Luxury Senior Housing Project in Dublin

By Vivien Wenneker

Construction of the Whitford of Dublin, a new luxury senior housing project, began earlier this month, with an expected opening planned for fall 2026.

Located at 5751 Arnold Road, the Whitford is designed to be a two-story building consisting of 114 assisted-living units, 38 memory-care units and a total of 173 beds. The site is within a short drive of multiple medical centers, Interstate 580 and two community parks.

The facility promises a refined living experience, complete with a range of upscale amenities, including several private dining options, an indoor pool and spa area, dog runs, a hair salon, movie theater and multiple outdoor courtyards.

“With so many Baby Boomers reaching an age where they can no longer

live by themselves, assisted-living projects like the Whitford are in high demand,” said Shari Jackman, communications manager for the city of Dublin.

“The Project will allow for elderly residents of surrounding neighborhoods to continue to reside in Dublin and will provide employment opportunities,” a June 2022 city council staff report said.

The original project proposal was first submitted to the city in October 2021 and approved by the city council in June 2024.

The community-care facility was found to be consistent with the existing campus office land-use designation for the site,” according to the staff report.

Plans call for a parking lot, landscaping and a graded pad for what is to be a future office building. A sidewalk is to be installed along the project driveway from Arnold Road to the

building entrance, as are curb ramps at the intersection of Arnold Road and the driveway.

The facility is also expected to “provide plentiful green space and natural habitat that utilizes a native and climate-adaptive planting palette to Dublin and is considered moderate or low water use.” There are also plans to preserve existing trees where possible and enhance the landscape buffer in order to better integrate the new development into the surrounding community.

“This is an exciting project for Dublin families and our aging population,” said Amy Million, assistant community development director for the City of Dublin. “Communities thrive when they offer housing and care that support aging in place, and we look forward to welcoming The Whitford — and more senior living options — in Dublin.”

Star Trek Science Astrophysicist, Advisor to Speak at the Bankhead

Dr. Erin Macdonald, an astrophysicist and science advisor for the Star Trek television and movie franchise, will give a matinee Rae Dorrough Speaker Series presentation at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Sunday, May 4.

Macdonald, who has a doctorate in Gravitational Astrophysics from the University of Glasgow in Scotland, hosts the YouTube channel “Dr. Erin Explains the Universe.”

She is also the founder of Spacetime Productions

in Los Angeles and has been a consultant for science fiction TV and film productions, including the Star Trek franchise, since 2019. Macdonald had cameo “appearances” in “Star Trek Online,” a multi-player online role-playing game originally released in 2010, and “Star Trek: Prodigy,” an animated Sci-Fi series that debuted in 2021.

In 2022, Macdonald wrote “Star Trek: My First Book of Space,” a 23-page primer for preschoolers

with illustrations that include the starship “Enterprise,” a Klingon Bird of Prey, the Sun, moon, and the planets.

Macdonald’s appearance at the Bankhead is sponsored in part by Jean King and the Quest Science Center.

Tickets for the 3 p.m. presentation range from \$25 to \$55 and are available online at livermorearts.org, by phone calling 925-373-6800, or at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First St.



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