

In the Cities of Dublin and Livermore

Protests Against Police Brutality are Peaceful

By Ruth Roberts

Protestors gathered at Dublin’s Emerald Glen Park Monday afternoon in solidarity against police brutality in the wake of the May 25 death of George Floyd, a Minneapolis black man who died while in police custody. Approximately 500 peaceful demonstrators walked from Emerald Glen Park up to the intersec-

tion of Dublin Boulevard and Dougherty Road, many holding signs and chanting “George Floyd” and “Black Lives Matter.” Dublin Mayor David Haubert took a knee with the crowd, and the participants observed 8 minutes of silence. From there, the crowd marched to Dublin City Hall, then back to Emerald Glen Park.

“During the planned

protest that took place in Dublin on Monday, Dublin Police worked with the protest organizers to ensure that the participants had a safe and welcoming experience,” Dublin Councilmember Melissa Hernandez said, referring to the California Highway Patrol and Alameda County Sheriff’s Office officers who were on scene at the time. “The actions of

Dublin Police have been above reproach, as they have kept the safety and security of all Dublin residents in mind.”

On Tuesday, June 2, a similar protest took place in downtown Livermore on South Livermore Avenue, where dozens of demonstrators converged in a nonviolent assembly.

Two young women, high

school students Alex Miller and Hailey Johnson, were responsible for organizing that demonstration, which involved collaboration with members of the city council and the police department. Alex said the police called her the morning of the event to ask if they were planning to stick to the sidewalks and to see if they needed anything. The Livermore protes-

tors also observed 8 minutes of silence in the intersection at South Livermore Avenue and First Street.

While both events were peaceful, threats of looting and violence in other areas caused the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office to issue a curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. effective through June 5.

The proclamation reads, (See PROTESTS, page 10)

Impact Review For Mega Solar Farm to Begin

By David Chircop

A plan to transform hundreds of acres of leased ranchland into a massive solar farm is drawing concern from residents of the North Livermore Valley who want to protect property values, viewsheds and a way of life they say is under threat.

Environmental review began last week for the proposed Aramis Solar Energy Generation and Storage Project on 750 acres of private land mostly along Cayetano Creek west of North Livermore Avenue a little more than two miles north of town. It stretches for 1.5 miles from its southernmost to northernmost points and more than a mile at its west-end point from east to west.

The review period is

(See SOLAR, page 8)

Livermore-Pleasanton Interfaith Clergy Association Calls Community to Join in Prayers and Vigil

In a show of solidarity with African Americans, the Livermore-Pleasanton Interfaith Clergy Association calls the community to step outside their homes, Thursday, June 4, at 7:30 p.m., to be visible on the street.

People are encouraged to light candles and kneel for five minutes in addition to offering prayers.

Participating faith organizations include: Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Community, Unitarian Universalist Church, The Lighthouse Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley, Asbury United Methodist Church, St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church and Congregation Beth Emek.



In the wake of tragedy, the community came out to protest the death of another unarmed black man, George Floyd, who was killed by a Minneapolis police officer last week. Protestors in Dublin are seen here kneeling to show solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Pleasanton Unified School Board Weighs Budget Reduction Options

By Ron McNicoll

With a \$11.5 million hole left by Gov. Gavin Newsom’s May budget revision, the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) board recently considered its 2020-2021 fiscal options.

While no decisions were made, the board met May 26 and heard Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Ahmad Sheikholeslami review categories

for potential reductions.

One simple suggestion was to reduce such fixed expenditures as supplies, materials, utilities and insurance. A 10% reduction on that list could save \$2.11 million.

Increasing revenue, such as passage of a parcel tax would help. A \$100 parcel tax would raise \$2.1 million. The district presently has no parcel tax, and passage would need a two-thirds

vote.

Another source of revenue could include increased contributions from Pleasanton Partners in Education (PPIE), which this year gave the district \$725,000. PPIE

activism has grown over the years, with 20% of its members donating to education.

In regard to possible teacher salary adjustments, the district requested input from its classified and in-

(See SCHOOL, page 5)

Kelly Mokashi to Run for PUSD School Board

Kelly Mokashi, resident of Pleasanton, announced her plans to run for the Pleasanton Unified School Board (PUSD) Board of Trustees in the upcoming Nov. 3, 2020, election.

Mokashi currently works as an e-learning education professional, both as a writer and instructor. She has held that role for more than a decade.

“I stand for governance

policies that will ensure learning environments are safe and flexible, regardless of the delivery method, while cultivating meaningful social and emotional peer and student-teacher interactions for our children,” she said.

If elected to the PUSD Board, Mokashi intends to leverage her 25 years of educational experience as a teacher and national

education consultant. She has worked directly with school and district leaders nationwide to improve best practices and curricular initiatives.

“Change is hard for everyone, but it can also cultivate new opportunities for our students that will be beneficial for everyone in our school community, especially when all stake-

(See MOKASHI, page 8)

Livermore Skilled Nursing Facility to Close While Other Programs Expand

By Aly Brown

Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare announced its skilled nursing facility at the Livermore campus will officially close June 27, but officials report the city will see other enhanced medical services.

Rick Shumway, ValleyCare CEO, noted the pandemic brought about an evaluation of the health system that has served the community of Livermore since 1962. Alongside all health care organizations,

ValleyCare halted elective procedures and turned its focus to emergent and urgent needs in preparation of a possible surge of COVID-19 cases.

“As we got further into pandemic, we wanted to make sure we were appropriately addressing what is one of the highest risk populations, and that is individuals in a congregate living situation, like a skilled nursing facility,” Shumway said.

(See NURSING, page 10)

Alameda County Struggles With Increase in COVID-19

By Tony Kukulich

As much of the state is on a path toward easing shelter-in-place restrictions, Alameda County is struggling with an increase in COVID-19 infections and resultant hospitalizations that make it difficult to get the county moving toward recovery.

“We are seeing an increase in reported COVID-19 cases in Alameda County,” said Neetu Balram, public information manager with the Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD). “While our shelter-in-place measures and other interventions greatly slowed the epidemic, the increase highlights the difficulty in containing COVID-19.”

The county is reporting 3,470 confirmed cases of COVID-19 as of the end of May. Additionally, 96 deaths have been attributed to the disease.

The cities of Oakland and Hayward account for just over half of the county’s COVID-19 infections. Locally, Pleasanton has reported 62 cases; Livermore, 54; and Dublin, 27. There have been no reported cases in Sunol.

ACPHD does not provide information regarding the number of deaths by city.

Among the Bay Area counties, Alameda is now reporting the highest number of cases, recently surpassing Santa Clara County, which held that distinction from the start of the pandemic. There are 2,805 cases reported in Santa Clara County, with 142 associated fatalities as of May 31.

For the last two weeks, the rate at which new COVID-19 infections were reported increased. For the week ending May 16, the weekly growth rate was 16.9% across Alameda County. The rate increased to 18.8% the following week. For the week ending May 30, it jumped again, this time to 20.2%. Said another way, infections are increasing at an increasing rate, a worrisome trend 11 weeks into broad-based efforts to control the spread of the virus.

“Some of the increase in cases can be explained by increased testing and improved case detection,” Balram said. “Increased testing is showing us what we’ve always expected to find; that COVID-19 is prevalent in our

(See ALAMEDA, page 8)

Pet Adoptions and Rescues Clearing Out County Shelter

By Aly Brown

When it comes to animals in the Tri-Valley, COVID-19 hasn’t resulted in an influx of surrenders, as some might have feared.

In fact, with only four dogs presently available for adoption at the county’s East County Animal Shelter, located in Dublin, quite the opposite is true.

Jennifer Wills, East County Animal Shelter animal services supervisor, said the 42-kennel shelter has been cleared out thanks to adoptions and foster parents willing to take the animals home to prepare them for future adoptions.

“A lot of rescues stepped up and cleared out what we have,” Wills said of the animals.

Wills named Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR), Pleasanton’s Valley Humane Society and Allie’s Pals Cat Rescue as the three main foster programs through which the county shelter animals have found homes. The volunteers TVAR deploys to the Dublin shelter work to socialize the animals and coordinate adoptions with the public. The group indicates its mission is to end the unnecessary euthanasia of homeless

(See SHELTER, page 7)



The Pleasanton Unified School District decided to host a sparkling show of fireworks at the fairgrounds on May 29 to celebrate its graduating Class of 2020, which missed out on many rites of passage this year. See story on page 2. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

City of Livermore Residents Appeal Compliance Order

By Aly Brown

The City of Livermore issued a compliance order to residents along Lomitas Avenue last week, but the group plans to appeal, claiming the city has no right to demand they fund a public project.

A wall alongside the public sidewalk on Holmes Avenue, which backs up to the properties of homes with Lomitas Avenue addresses, is in disrepair. The city is requiring the homeowners to stabilize the slopes on their properties prior to April 20, noting a land-use nuisance.

(See COMPLIANCE, page 2)



Joey

PET OF THE WEEK

Joey is an outgoing and athletic dude. His playful antics go too far at times, but he’ll make it up to you with a cuddle afterward. One part rascal, one part sweetheart, this 1-year-old domestic short-hair has more than enough personality for the whole family! While Valley Humane Society remains closed during shelter-in-place, it is coordinating adoptions by appointment with approved adopters. If you are interested in adopting Joey, email info@valleyhumane.org. (Photo - Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz)

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Class of 2020 Still to See Graduation Ceremonies and Support

By Dawnmarie Fehr

This year’s high school graduation class has missed out on events many consider rites of passage. As June slips by and summer takes over, area high schools are making a strong effort to send their students off in socially distanced style, and the community stepped up to help. In Livermore, Superintendent Kelly Bowers of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) said this year’s class has been in the spotlight since kindergarten. “When we realized they were the Class of 2020, we took a picture (in kindergarten), and we don’t normally do that,” said Bowers. “We were just thinking of the future, and we took the same picture again this year. All the

kids in the second picture are in the first one.” Bowers further noted this year’s class includes the children of three LVJUSD board members, making this board of trustees one that especially understands the current challenges facing both parents and students. In their effort to make their seniors feel special, both Granada and Livermore high schools planned graduation ceremonies that took place over three days, allowing students and their families to choose a time slot to walk onstage and receive their diploma. The three days culminated in a virtual streamed ceremony for both schools. “I’m really proud of these students,” Bowers said. “They have a lot of class and grace, and they are imaginative and gave input about

what we could do, focusing on what can we do to make this special and commemorative, rather than dwelling on what they missed out on. And that takes a lot of resilience and grit, which are character traits we focus on.” Further west, Dublin Unified School District hosted its virtual graduation ceremonies at the end of May. The district also celebrated students earlier in the month by hosting a drive-thru awards ceremony and honoring students who have received college scholarships. Superintendent Dr. Dave Marken said he was proud of Dublin’s senior class entering the next phase of their lives, adding he expects the resilient group to be highly successful. “Although this is a bitter-sweet end to their academic careers in Dublin, it is also

a triumphant culmination of years of hard work,” Marken said. “The challenges, victories, friends, mentors, setbacks, tests, teachers, essays and moments of parental support have formed incredibly capable young adults, ready to overcome whatever obstacle the world places in their path.” Pleasanton also chose a virtual ceremony to send off its senior class. The district and city pooled their resources and capped the event off with a fireworks show launched from the Alameda County Fair Grounds and twice as high as the Fourth of July fireworks. The increased height gave the show increased visibility from homes in the area to discourage large gatherings. The fireworks were streamed online and aired on local television.

Superintendent Dave Haglund of the Pleasanton Unified School District said the senior class has faced current challenges with aplomb while continuing to move forward in their lives. “They were asked to walk away from all the typical things a senior would experience,” Haglund said. “It almost sounds silly, but it’s not. There’s a fair amount of grief they are going through – having to let go of these rites of passage they’ve been looking forward to for so many years. They’ve been asked to persist, and they know they need to, because they have future plans they need to meet.” Haglund said the senior

class is a unique and tough group, coming into the world on the heels of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and now graduating amidst a pandemic paired with social unrest. “I know a lot of these kids, and they are going to be fine, and we are going to be fine because of them,” he added. Residents driving through the Tri-Valley can see efforts made by community to place yard signs and send messages of encouragement to the outgoing high school class. Local businesses and private citizens have come forward, funding mementos and continuing the spirit of strong community prevalent in the among the three cities.



As part of the Only Up Mural Festival, Ricky Watts created this stunning work of art on the California Water Service building at South N and Second streets. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

COMPLIANCE

(Continued from first page)

Those affected must choose from three options: stabilize their slope using the city-provided engineering solutions; obtain their own engineering solutions, which must be approved by the city; or allow the city contractor to perform the work at a cost of between \$57,506 and \$112,836, paid in full or through a fixed-rated 10-year Treasury Bond Note. Attorney Peter MacDonald, who is working with residents Pam and Kirk Pope and a handful of their neighbors, said the project of replacing the wall is a public one, and the city is not within its rights to ask private homeowners to pay for it. “We got a compliance order from the city telling us to basically do it or they’re going to abate the nuisance on their own and put a lien on the property,” MacDonald said. “They’re basically trying to force an adjacent property in order to pay for, for this stretch, two-thirds of the cost of a city project. They’re also condemning a slope easement on (the Popes’) property that doesn’t exist; a city doesn’t have the right to insist on a slope easement. Pam and Kirk Pope are not willing to pay for the cost of a city project on their property that would cost them \$170,000 and the loss of about 10 feet of their property.” Prior to the city’s issuance of the compliance order last week, the Popes and a handful of neighbors had signed a petition, indicating they were willing to sign right of entry, allowing the city to perform the project as planned on the lots, as long as the city confirms it will bear the expense. “They’re really doing a different wall than the wall that was initially put there,” MacDonald said. “It’s a

different wall that requires different engineering and among other things, a slope easement and \$170,000 worth of retaining walls that are needed to protect the city project, which, again, should be a city cost. Livermore staff is trying to hoist off the cost of a public project on innocent adjacent property owners.” But Livermore City Attorney Jason Alcalá said the project’s history is more complex and goes back to 2014, when the city began working with residents to address soil loading and deterioration of the public right-of-way due to insufficient private property care. He noted the matter to be a public nuisance, which the city has worked to help address with a variety of options offered to the property owners. “The wall (on Holmes Avenue) had been failing for a number of reasons,” Alcalá said. He listed those reasons to be age, eroding soil, damage by private and public trees and the fact that property owners had affixed things such as trellises, rabbit hutches and other personal items that required drilling into the wall. He noted a number of other property owners in that area had installed retaining walls on their side of the property over the years to prevent the slope from creeping into the public right-of-way. The city had reviewed options to address the matter, including which types of fencing to build. One option was to follow Hayward’s lead and simply take down the crumbling wall without replacing it. “Our city leadership, both staff and the council, didn’t really like that option,” he said. “We thought we could do better.”

He stated the city provided options to the residents and said the residents whose properties were in need of repair could use the city’s engineering study or fund their own privately. They were allowed to utilize the city contractor. “Now we get down to the issue of how it gets accomplished, as there could be a financial hardship,” Alcalá said. “The city said it would help them, using funds available through the city, which would have to be repaid because it’s for private improvement, and public funds can’t be used for that. But we said we could make it available to (them) should (they) need financial options ... We created an opportunity to help private property owners, and it’s being turned around and twisted against the city, and that’s why I’m concerned with the messaging.” But MacDonald asserted there is no dirt piled against the city masonry wall behind the Pope’s house, and claims the wall has not been damaged in any way by the homeowners’ current use of their own property. “These properties and their owners have paid property taxes and sales taxes to the city since the early 1970s,” MacDonald wrote. “These homeowners, in fairness and in law, cannot be required to shoulder the cost of maintaining and upgrading (if a wood fence is an upgrade from a masonry wall) the city’s arterial street.” Alcalá added that he hopes it will not come to legal action to gain compliance. “We’d rather not be in a situation of suing homeowners to help them,” he said. “I would like to say we appreciate working and col-

laborating with the neighborhood. I think there’s been a recognition that this is a challenging issue to solve ... it’s just unfortunate that we have some hesitancy now that we’re actually at the point of moving forward.”

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It may not be business as usual, but we’re still here protecting open space and vineyards as circumstances permit. During this crisis, FOV is also supporting the Las Positas College Foundation’s COVID-19 Giving Initiative to provide distance learning equipment and materials to students in need. This is our community. Together we will get through this challenging time!



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Clarification

In regard to a May 28 story about the May 21 meeting of the Pleasanton Unified School District, the job title for Board Vice President Jamie Yee is policy and program analyst in the office of the director of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency. The student board member at the meeting who commented about pre-Katrina and post-Katrina approaches to schooling in New Orleans was Derek Dressler, who represented Foothill High School during the school year now ending. Regarding the May 28 Livermore solar story, the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments Agenda can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2Bk862L>. The correct link to the agenda item can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2U3y5SM>.

Livermore Schools Serve 125,000 Free Meals Since Campuses Closed

By Deborah Finestone

The Livermore schools lunch program has served more than 125,000 meals since March to students who usually receive free school lunches, filling in a gap since campuses had to close to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Besides serving up to three meals a day at four sites, the lunch program has aided others in need due to economic difficulties. It's also become a conduit for special donations from various organizations and businesses wanting to help their neighbors.

Staff and volunteers enable drive-thru, curbside pickup for breakfast and lunch at four sites: Junction Avenue K-8 School, Marylin Avenue Elementary School, and East Avenue and Christensen middle schools. They provide supper at Junction and Marilyn, taking the place of meals provided during after-school programs. And unlike other years, the service will continue through the summer.

"We've always served breakfast at some sites and lunch at all sites, and this emergency took all of that away," said Dana Dodge, child nutrition director for Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD).

Now they're able to serve free meals to any children 18 and under without asking for identification.

"Of course, we have to follow a lot of procedures, but loosening up the rules makes feeding the community seamless," Dodge said. "This has brought my team together, and people are stepping up."

As of last week, they had served 125,771 meals since schools closed in March.

Several community organizations and business have donated to the program, including:

- Wentz Foundation for Arts Education: 1,200 art supply kits
- The Taylor Foundation: \$30,000 in Lucky grocery gift cards
- Casa Orozco: Provided 50 meals daily April 6-10 to

families at Junction

- Starbucks on Airway: Daily donations of pastries, bagels, protein boxes, sandwiches and coffee
- Rotary Club of Livermore: 1,000 thermometers by Kinsa
- Fertile GroundWorks: Fresh, organic produce from their garden
- Girl Scouts: 2,000 boxes of cookies
- Safeway: 3,700 paper bags
- The CORE Group: 300 reusable bags
- Alameda County Community Food Bank: 300 grab-and-go food bags
- See's Candies: Candy to give away at the sites
- National Charity League, Livermore chapter: Decorated lunch bags to brighten everyone's day.

"The art kits from Wentz brought a smile to so many faces," Dodge said. "The gift cards from The Taylor Foundation were so generous — people really couldn't believe it. And we were surprised by the beautiful, fresh produce from Fertile GroundWorks that we weren't expecting at all."

"We're grateful for the opportunity to continue sharing with children in our schools and look forward to the day we can be back helping in school gardens," said Brenda Kusler, executive director of Fertile GroundWorks, which provides education and support to schools and other organizations to create their own sustainable gardens.

Another gift that was deeply appreciated by parents were the hard-to-find thermometers, Dodge continued.

"So many parents have taken the time to stop and say what we're doing has made a huge impact on them," she said. "Just hearing that means the world to us, because we know all the work is worth it. During this crisis all over the country, our lunch ladies and men are getting that title of hero and the acknowledgement for being there every day for the kids."

Continuing the lunch program has been an extraordinary

undertaking, and so many people have risen to the challenge, said Craig Bueno, school board president.

"The number of meals we have served far exceeds what some bigger districts are doing, just because we have a higher need," he said. "There's so much stress and pressure on people at this time. Despite that, we get volunteers, teachers, maintenance people and the school staff to come out and help distribute food. We're trying to create some stability and normalcy for these kids."

Bueno continued to say a greater sense of community is going to come out of the shelter-in-place.

"This is a great example of selflessness and positivity," he said. "The people participating are grateful to be able to help others."

Still, the lunch program is losing money, because it hasn't been selling meals to other students on campus, said LVJUSD Superintendent Kelly Bowers. Normally, it's a self-sufficient operation, but revenue to the general fund budget has fallen \$90,000 in the current fiscal year.

"For the district, yes, we're suffering, financially," Dodge said. "The beautiful thing is that it's brought everybody together and we've received lots of donations. Emotionally, it feels good to be able to serve the community. It's been an honor, and I'm thrilled to be part of it. I'm thankful we have such a wonderful community in Livermore that has stepped up to help us provide this for kids."

For more information about the lunch program, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_LunchProgram.

BART Unveils Plan to Ease Riders' Safety Concerns

With restrictions on work and travel because of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning to ease, Bay Area Rapid Transit is hoping to ease riders' concerns with an extensive plan to ensure health and safety.

BART said the steps begin with using hospital-grade disinfectant in stations and on trains. The agency said train poles are being wiped down at the end of the line during service hours. Crews are also using electrostatic foggers on train cars to spray a disinfecting mist that coats and clings to surfaces. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available at all BART stations.

The agency is also introducing personal hand straps that riders can take home for cleaning after every trip. BART will initially hand out straps to welcome riders back to the transit system; later they will be offered for sale at

the Lake Merritt station or through a soon-to-be-launched online store.

All riders 13 and older will be required to wear face masks, according to the agency, even if individual counties relax their regulations, and BART police will have masks to hand out. Riders should also expect to see a greater police presence, with more attention paid to keeping station entryways clear and safe.

The agency said it is also ensuring that every run has enough cars for riders to spread out for social distancing. BART said 30 riders per car would allow for social distancing of six feet, while 60 riders per car still allows for social distancing of three feet. BART is currently running trains at 30-minute intervals on weekdays, but said it would increase frequency to every 15 minutes during commute times

if trains consistently exceed more than 30 riders per car.

BART will continue to post daily ridership numbers at www.bart.gov/covid, including data showing the number of riders on specific trains and how those riders can spread out among the cars. While not available in real time, the agency said the data would allow people to make informed decisions about what time of day they want to ride.

Although BART doesn't plan to block off seats to maintain social distancing, its new cars allow for modular seating, and the agency said it would "pilot a new configuration of seats" to create more space between riders.

BART continues to encourage riders to use its reloadable Clipper smart card to pay for transit fares, instead of cash, to reduce lines at ticket vend-

ing machines, and said it would speed up efforts to go to Clipper-only at stations systemwide in the coming months.

Station agents have been instructed to stay inside their booths as much as possible to avoid physical contact with riders, and BART employees are being offered personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID-19 testing.

BART said it would be encouraging large employers to adopt staggered shifts to spread out ridership and avoid crowding at peak times. The agency still plans to end service at 9 p.m.



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EDITORIAL

It's Time to Listen

“A riot is the language of the unheard.” — Martin Luther King Jr.

We’ve seen this quote resurface in recent days as protests, riots and looting sweep the nation in the wake of George Floyd’s death. It’s clear that what we’re seeing now is a “fed up”-rising — the revolution of a people treated unjustly by their government.

No one wants to see more people hurt or buildings and businesses destroyed. It isn’t something to be accepted or condoned as we stare down the barrel of the racial tension gun that’s been pressed to this nation’s cheek since inception. We support city leaders who are doing what they can to mitigate more loss and violence to protect their citizens. But when we look across the history of America in regard to black people, it’s clear that we still need to wake up.

Dr. King — whose pacifist work during the Civil Rights Movement propelled significant discussions and actions that changed modern society — saw this truth before his tragic death.

In a speech that addressed the language of the unheard, he noted riots do not develop out of thin air and that “certain conditions continue to exist in our society, which must be condemned as vigorously as we condemn riots.”

His words still ring true. Without accepting the violence, we can seek to understand it and use that knowledge to empower positive change. Footage of crowds cheering for those officers who decide to kneel alongside protesters showcases the desire on both sides for healing and unity.

Former NBA player Stephen Jackson, who called himself Floyd’s “twin” brother since childhood, publicly addressed the lack of officer accountability in the U.S. when he said: “You can’t tell me, when that man has his knee on my brother’s neck — taking his life away, with his hand in his pocket — that that smirk on his face didn’t say, ‘I’m protected.’”

It’s time to stop protecting those officers who use their power and authority to do harm. When we go to clean up the broken glass, we need to come away with a promise to do better by one another.

While King condemned the rioting, as do many of today’s protesters, he was very cognizant of why some felt scared, angry and helpless enough to act violently. He posed the question that still needs asking today: What is it that America has failed to hear?

He answered, “It’s failed to hear that the promises of freedom and justice have not been met. It has failed to hear that large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquility and the status quo than about justice, equality and humanity ... As long as America postpones justice, we stand in the position of having these recurrences of violence and riots over and over again.”

CPUC Approves PG&E Reorganization Plan

The California Public Utilities Commission has approved Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s proposed reorganization plan after seeking Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection following the disastrous and costly wildfires in 2017 and 2018. The plan still must be approved by U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

“The PG&E that emerges from bankruptcy must be a re-born utility with safety as its top priority,” said CPUC Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen. “Its future depends on it.”

PG&E’s aging power system was blamed for almost two dozen wildfires over the past decade, leading to massive liabilities and mounting lawsuits for the investor-owned utility. Ultimately the utility is expected to pay nearly \$29 billion in penalties and compensation

to wildfire victims.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court in San Francisco has scheduled closing arguments on the reorganization plan for next week. PG&E needs court approval by June 30 to take advantage of a wildfire insurance fund established by the state Legislature last year. The fund was designed to allow for prompt payment to future victims of wildfires, while benefiting ratepayers by reducing financing costs for utilities that invest safety and other infrastructure improvements.

The plan approved by the CPUC requires that PG&E make significant changes to its board of directors. PG&E recently announced that only three of its 14 current directors would remain once it emerges from bankruptcy protection.

The plan also requires

the utility to submit to greater CPUC oversight with PG&E’s operating permit subject to ongoing review focused on its safety performance. In addition, the plan requires PG&E to establish local operating regions with the goal of changing the utility’s management culture to better reflect the diverse values and needs of its customers.

“PG&E needs to transform into a well-run company that has at its core the safety, caring, and knowledge of its customers,” said CPUC President Marybel Batjer. “This will take leadership with a vision and discipline to transform the company into a model of good corporate citizenship, where Main Street is far more important than Wall Street.”

CPUC said the plan would result is a “modest”

reduction in ratepayer costs by replacing nearly \$12 billion of existing long-term debt with lower interest rates, offset by PG&E’s associated financing fees.

“In order to ensure safe and resilient natural gas and electric service, PG&E will require greater investments into infrastructure, maintenance, and workforce development,” said CPUC Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves. “But we must also keep service affordable for Californians. This decision, coupled with pending legislative action, provides the tools for replacing PG&E if they cannot maintain safe service at an affordable rate.”

The PG&E plan as approved by the CPUC is available at: <https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M338/K382/338382613.PDF>.

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Another Health Crisis

Ann Laye, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

We have another national health crisis in America besides COVID-19. It is one that has been with us for a long time and kills a hundred Americans a day. It can happen to anyone, just as COVID-19 can affect anyone. It happens in schools, churches, on our streets, and in our homes. I am talking about America’s gun-violence problem. We have the distinction of this being unique to America of all civilized nations.

Tuesday, June 5, was National Gun Violence Awareness Day. We wore orange to memorialize the victims of this health crisis and raise

awareness. Orange was the favorite color of Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old victim of gun violence in Chicago, killed one week after participating in the second inaugural parade for President Barack Obama.

Her friends and family adopted wearing orange in her honor. It is the color that hunters use for safety as well. It has become the color that gun safety groups wear to remember all victims now. We listen prayerfully and thoughtfully to the thousands of stories of lives ripped apart from this violence.

We recognize the rippling effect on every parent, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, grandparent, friend and community of those lost. And we cannot help but be touched and driven to act to reduce the violence.

Please join gun safety groups such as Everytown for Gun Safety, the Brady Campaign, Sandy Hook Promise, Giffords, Students Demand Action, and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America in remembering the victims of gun violence. Listen to their stories online, and get involved to end this other national health crisis. There are many ways to reduce this violence. Gun owners and non gun owners alike are working together in these organizations to make it happen.

Protect Youth from Nicotine Candy

George Hawley, Livermore

A couple days ago, you ran an article saying it is now not allowed for minors to buy this new “candy” that contains nicotine and other addictive drugs. I agree with Pleasanton, but I am thinking further and have all our schools in the Tri-Valley follow Pleasanton’s example. Then I thought wouldn’t it be great if we could get all of the school districts in the Bay Area. Big dream, yes. But we could get it started with our Tri-Valley schools. It would be work, yes, but our young people’s health is more than worth it.

Save Livermore Schools

Maurice Duenas, Livermore

Yes, the budget needs to be cut to protect the investment that teachers put into teaching. Start with Kelly Bowers. As superintendent, she is paid a gross amount of money for the work she does for our relatively small school district. She is in the top 10 in pay for all school superintendents in entire state. There are dozens of significantly larger districts where the superintendent is paid significantly less than the \$355,000, plus benefits, we pay her.

We also have an absurd number of assistant and deputy superintendents who can take a pay cut and go back to teaching. Total compensation for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District’s 10 highest-paid employees last year totaled more than \$2 million, with all of them in the district office as superintendents and directors.

District level positions were created for several poor performing school principals were created to protect them and to advance them into needless positions. We have about 10 secretaries at each high school, we have four vice principals at each high school. We have duplicate administration at each middle and elementary school.

Eliminate the waste in the district office and school offices. Let the teachers do what they do best – teach. How many secretaries and administrators at the school and district level do we need? Cut the fat at the top! Give the teachers the tools they need to teach and the salaries they truly deserve.

A memo to Mr. Robert Gage:

Please call 925-243-8000 or email virginia@independent-news.com, regarding your letter, “Bringing the Community Together – A Reply.” We do not have your contact information. Thank you.

Actions speak louder than advertisements.

There is a time for talking about being part of the community. And there is a time for taking action. Since shelter-in-place started, Fremont Bank has been proactively providing the Bay Area community with much-needed support. For example:

- » Through the Fremont Bank Foundation, we’ve donated over \$1,000,000 to support the Bay Area with COVID-19 relief.
- » We’ve bought 15,000 lunches from our local restaurant clients, giving them financial support while enhancing employee safety.
- » We’ve helped thousands of Bay Area businesses secure Paycheck Protection Program funds.
- » We’re offering extra financial support to employees who continue to provide essential services in our branches and offices.

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THE Independent

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Granada High School Matadors honored the baseball team’s graduating seniors last week, May 27. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Education News

Pleasanton Student Receives Master’s Degree

Fredran Matthew Patton, of Pleasanton, has received a master’s degree in engineering management from Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York.

Pleasanton Student Receives Degree from UCB

Savannah Gray, Pleasanton resident and former Amador High Student graduated from UC Berkley with a degree in economics and data science. Savannah will be starting with IBM as a technical consultant.

Five Area Students Receive Degrees from Georgia Tech

Five area students have earned degrees from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, including Edward Chen and Karthik Ramkumar, of Pleasanton, and Wei Long and Pradeep Murti, of Dublin, who received their master’s degrees in computer science. Emily Lopez, of Livermore, received her bachelor’s degree in international affairs and modern language.

Livermore Student Earns Degree from Vermont

Sara Briggs, of Livermore, has received a bachelor’s degree in health sciences from the University of Vermont in Burlington.

Local Students Named to Dean’s List at Utah

Fourteen local students were named to the Dean’s List

at the University of Utah, in Salt Lake City, for the Spring semester. Among them were:

Ben Hatch (computer science), Amir Kholdi (film and media arts), Katrina Makarewicz (computer science), Deanne O’Callaghan (social work), Christopher Tam (sociology and criminology), from Livermore.

Madelynn Crimi (theatre), Bryce Larsen (biomedical engineering), Tyler Loll (health and kinesiology), Kennedy Scofield (pre nursing), Alyssa Serrao (psychology), and Morgan Werder (theatre), from Pleasanton.

Derek Dayton (information systems), Andrew Saake (computer Science) and Ally Slayday (nursing), from Dublin.

To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Livermore Senior Receives Scholarship from Fil-Am

Livermore High School senior Peyton O’Callaghan has received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Livermore Fil-Am Organization.

The nonprofit Filipino-American cultural organization also awarded a \$700 scholarship to Livermore senior Ariana Lapena and a \$500 scholarship to Granada High School senior Caitlin Sobrepeña.

O’Callaghan has been consistently on the Principal’s Honor Roll throughout high school. She was softball team

SCHOOL

(Continued from first page)

structional unions. District staff launched an online “Thought Exchange” at https://bit.ly/Indy_ThoughtExchange for anyone interested in making comments.

Board members encouraged the public to carry the budget ideas directly to their elected state representatives, since the legislature will vote on changes. Staff will compile a presentation for the public to discuss how to get in touch with the politicians.

Despite some public opinion that the board is responsible for communicating with legislators, PUSD Board Vice President Jamie Yee noted the direct message from the public is crucial.

“I’m on a first-name basis with (legislators’) staff members,” Yee said. “But (the officeholders) need to hear from people.”

Review of the Graduation Fireworks

On another item, the board voted unanimously to approve a fireworks show at the county fairgrounds, which was held May 29 as a special graduation obser-

vance for the virus-sequestered Class of 2020.

Although the ceremony’s \$45,000 cost was split by PPIE and the City of Pleasanton, some objected during the public comment period of the virtual meeting.

One man said in a letter read into the record that, with serious needs for money in the Valley, it would be better to form a committee of graduating seniors and let them select a project that would help people in need. Another public speaker agreed.

However, Haglund said that would not be legal, as the money already had been determined by donors for the express purpose of the fireworks.

“We are not in the habit of receiving donations for one purpose and spending it for something else,” said Haglund.

Yee acknowledged speaker concerns, but noted so much was already taken from the students this year.

“(The fireworks) will uplift the spirits of the community,” she concluded.



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Livermore Thursday Evening Farmers Market Set to Open

Livermore’s Thursday evening market is set to open June 18, from 4 to 8 p.m., in Carnegie Park. This market is an essential food outlet and will be filled with 35 local farms, bringing the best of their spring harvest: Sweet corn from Brentwood; apricots and award-winning jams, from Patterson; and crisp fresh vegetables from the Central Valley. The first of the season’s vine-ripened tasty early girl tomatoes will be in as well as the famous crispy Stockton red onions. Marketgoers are encouraged to pick vine-ripened organic strawberries and the season’s incoming sweet stone fruit

from Reedley. Spring crops of fresh picked coastal lettuces, English peas from Half Moon Bay, flavorful green garlic and leeks are currently in abundance. The community can look forward to two full bountiful markets of local family farms as summer approaches. The Sunday morning farmers market is open on Second Street, between South J Street and South K Street, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Follow Livermore Downtown Certified Farmers Market on Facebook or Instagram @livermore-downtownfarmersmarket to stay up to date with market and crop news.



CONGRATULATIONS DEL VALLE HIGH SCHOOL 2020



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Sierra Diane Bach
Omar Ignacio Baltazar
Michael Anthony Balzarini
Kaitlyn Lucille Barnett
Dylan Thomas Beatty
Gage Michael Berg
John Ivan Satomi Borja Juan
AnaKarla Canada Monroy
Yarine Carbajal
Cameron Patrick Collins
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Iris Sky Flores
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Koston Trevor Markham
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Kayla Lerie Mick

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Britney Sandoval
Monique Khrystal Santy
Caelob Sterlin Stimpson
Josiah Micah Thomas
Joseph Gregory Thompson
Elijah Togia'i
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Joshua Adams
Sarah Adams
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Madeline Addington
Traice Addington
Claire Aguiar
Gabriel Aguilar
Marissa Alcantar
Ruth Alfonso
Madeline Allum
Stephanie Alvarez
Genella Mae Alviad
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Danielle Anderson
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Jennifer Brown
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Joshua Brum
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Blake Stokes
Devin Stone
Rachelle Stone
Kyle Stow
Liam Strait
Shelby Straume
Sierra Street
Peyton Stultz
Alexandra Swanson
Alyssa Swinkels
Ashraf Syed
Saifulla Syed
Jasmine Tai
Yahir Telesfor
Katherine Terry
Amy Tet
Rebecca Therrien
Samantha Thomas
Erin Thompson
Tait Thorvund
Grant Thraillkill
Jaclyn Tolido
Vanessa Torres
Emerson Toscano
Vanessa Tostado
Kylie Tran
Jorge Trujillo Gonzalez
Quinn Tudor
Aleí Tuia
May Anne Tulagan
Madeline Turk
Caleb Ussery
Shaylin Vadney
Joshua Vail
Emilio Gabriel Valenzuela Beltran
Rafael Valle
Ryan Van Bladel
Damian Varnum
Sebastian Vasquez
Mariana Vega Morillon
Isaac Velles
Carlos Ventura
Angelina Vierra
Erin Vigil
Edward Vilchis
Alicia Villanueva
Thea Vinluan
Jack Volponi
Uyen Vu
Keegan Waklee
Jacob Walker
Jessica Warren
Jesse Watson
Maxim Weasner
Vivien Wenneker
Ryan Wenzel
Megan Wharton
Claire Wiedenfeld
Caitlin Wiesner
Karra Wilcox
Mateo Wilde
Katie Wilson
Nasir Wilson
Cameron Winter
Nathan Woolsey
Sebastion Wright
James Wu
Douglas Wynne
Mandy Xu
Joshua Yepiz
Kyle Yerby
Brent Young
James Young
Roman Zaderei
Carla Zaragoza
Luke Zelichenok
Noah Zika
Jessica Zogaric
Nikita Zuanich

SHELTER

(Continued from first page)

animals. Valley Humane Society is a nonprofit that’s been active in the community since 1987. Its programs and services are made possible solely through private donations. And Allie’s Pals focuses primarily on the feline crowd, in devotion to the well-being and rescue of cats and kittens in the Tri-Valley region.

Wills encouraged the public to adopt a homeless animal, but noted hopeful owners should consider carefully what their schedule will look like after shelter-in-place.

“Before adopting a pet, people should know it’s a lifelong commitment,” she said. “People are thinking now is a good time to

adopt a dog, because they’re home and they’ll have more time to help the dog adjust, which is great, as long as they understand that, hopefully, once the world goes back to some semblance of normalcy, a dog or cat still needs a home.”

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) named this weekend, June 5 to 7, National Adoption Weekend to further aid animal shelters and rescue organizations across the country as they work to connect animals with homes, while conducting services virtually.

“National Adoption Weekend is designed to help shelters conduct virtual adoptions and enable their

foster communities to perform adoptions from home — critical innovations that will save lives in the short term and change the ways pet adoptions are conducted in the future,” said Matt Bershadker, president and CEO of the ASPCA. “The public can provide critical help by adopting homeless animals and by sharing news of this event with their friends, family and neighbors.”

To participate in National Adoption Weekend, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_ASPCA. For more information on animals available for adoption in the Tri-Valley, contact the Dublin shelter at 925-803-7040, TVAR at contact@tvar.org, or Allie’s Pals at 925-226-8637.



CONGRATULATIONS
VINEYARD ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL 2020

Bryant Aguilar
Lydia Benton
Cedar Berkey
Keliss Bradley
Ryan Brady
Rahul Brar
Isabelle Chuck
Jillian Collom
Melissa Dooley
Matthew D’Anjou
Sephia Alnes Dy Cruz
Marissa Fernandez
Hannah Gaouette

Jazmin Garza
Lily Gimenez
Brian Goodman
Ethan Haines
Grace Hall
Katelin Hurst
Malikai Jackson
Ashley Jensen
Ava Krikos
Kylie L’Abbe
Tyler Lacy
Payton Lemmons
Abigail Lentz

Jared Lopez
Karmen Lower
Jessa Lyons
Kaitlyn Miller
Lyia Miller
Anna Sagert
Savannah Simon
Devian Sykes
Kiana Torrez
Angela Traugott
Sarah Udoutch



CONGRATULATIONS
LIVERMORE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2020



Edgar Aguilar Gonzalez
Hunter Ainsworth
Christopher Alamilla Oliver
Callum Allen
Bryan Alvarado
Rafael Alvarez
Damian Anderson
Leah Anderson
Rosendo Angelo Anonuevo
Bilal Aoucher
Briana Arguello
Maximiliano Arias
Cole Arnold
Dale Bagunu
Timothy Baker
Mason Bammer
Gino Barbalinardo
McKenzie Barker
Joseph Bartoni
Cole Bauer
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Michael Bearden
Anna Beers
Sean Beggs
Christopher Bepple
Jessica Bepple
Chalayna Bergh
Priya Bhatia
Nathan Blackmore
Timothy Blanton
Tyler Blue
Chelsea Bohling
Zoey Bost
Dylan Breesch
Nemoani Briones Suarez
Charles Brown
Emily Brown
Jackson Brown
Keith Brown
Michael Bryson
Erik Buenrostro
Myah Bullis
Wyatt Bullis
Blake Burrell
Samuel Bush
Thomas Butler
Jonathan Cadrecha
Elizabeth Caine
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Jordan Canning
Michael Carena
Jake Carmichael
Lizbeth Carmona
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Anthony Casillas
Ramsy Castillejos
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Jared Logan Dalusong
Matiya Danilovic
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Alexander Gallegos
Cooper Gamble
Ayushmaan Gandhi
Pamela Gaoiran
Alana Garcia
Dreanna Garcia
Miranda Garcia
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Ethan Gibbons
Cassidy Gilles
Ariadna Giron Martinez
Hailey Glace
Taylor Glace
Hugo Gloria
Madelyne Gold
Cameron Gomes
Grant Gomes
Anthony Gomez
Laura Gonzalez
Chloe Graham
Siliyah Greer
Cleo Grimes
Mason Groom
Daniela Guardado Olmedo
Vanessa Guerrero Ramirez
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Eugene Ha
Jacob Hager
Madison Hales
Garrett Hamer
Younus Hamid
Ryan Hanley

Julia Hanson
Madeline Hanson
Chance Harmon
Zachary Harris
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Zahid Hashimi
Isabelle Hayes
Morgan Hayes
Ashley Heikila
Nicholas Hermann
Victoria Hernandez Jaimes
Nathan Hernandez
Neena Hernandez
Angel Herrera
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Cora Holt
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Michael Hout
Alyssa Hughes-Fernandez
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Emma Hyde
Vicente Ibarra
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Morgan Labrucherie
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Ariana Lapena
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Julia LeDesma
Jennifer Lee
Eric Lessard
Noah Lignell
Natalie Lloyd
Carli Loge
Christian Lopez

Amanda Ludwig
Laisha Luevano Jimenez
Makenna Luke
Marisol Luna
Kyle Lund
Amanda Maass
Jackeline Macias
Megan MacLean
Chad Madrid
Isabelle Madruga
Alexandrew Mahler
Keely Maloney
Elijah Maravilla
Brandon Martin
Christofer Martinez Moreira
Emilio Martinez
Nacole McAlister
Katarzyna McCoy
Devyn McCune
Natalie McDaniel
Dylan McGrory
Jessica McIntyre
Jacob McMillin
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Siosi Meafou
Julia Meamber
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Sophia Miano
Celine Millan
Christopher Miller
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Nirbhay Misra
Brian Moeller
Mateo Moncada
Analy Monges
Sandra Montes-Brizuela
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Sara Morris
Sandhya Murugavel
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Nimra Nazar
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Samantha Nieto
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Justin Pestana

Melane Pham
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Zoe Potter
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Canyon Prusso
Robert Purcell
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Tyler Ramirez
Shayla Revoreda
Ashley Reynoso
Zoe Richards
Aracely Rios
Jared Rittenmeyer
Brisa Roach
Meagan Roddewig
Diego Rodriguez
Edgar Rodriguez-Ortiz
Morgan Rogge
Gage Rohrbacker
Sebastian Rojas Lopez
Lisseth Rojas
Ramasrith Rompicharla
Mallory Rowe
Brian Roxas
Marisa Rubalcaba
Samantha Ruelas
Eric Ruloma
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Antonio Ramirez
Jordan Redditt
Annette Rizzo
Elbert Rucker
Arpanjot Singh
Aidan Vierra

SOLAR

(Continued from first page)

expected to last about six months culminating in an environmental impact review (EIR) with analysis of the project’s potential adverse effects on aesthetics, agriculture, air quality, wildlife, water quality and other resources.

The developer, San Francisco-based Intersect Power, LLC, says the 100 megawatt solar photovoltaic project brings many benefits. It would harness enough clean energy from the sun to power up to 25,000 homes, help the state meet its climate goals, grant an easement for public use as a new hiking trail, and create up to 400 mostly local jobs using union labor during the expected nine-month construction period.

To soften the facility’s visual impact, the developer will plant a vegetation buffer of native wildflowers along public streets. It also committed to adhere to an agriculture management plan, calling for the inclusion of beekeepers and sheep operators on the land to “ensure consistency of the facility with adjacent agricultural land uses.”

Even so, the prospect of hundreds of acres of solar panels blanketing farmland, security fencing and large buildings to house batteries does not sit well with some.

“It’s not a farm. It’s a power plant, and it’s not agriculture,” said Chris O’Brien during a virtual public hearing before the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments on May 28.

His family’s modest ranch on Manning Road would be fronted on two sides by fields of solar panels. O’Brien questioned the commercial viability of sheep grazing and bee operations amid the solar arrays and described the idea as “a ploy” to allow development of the large-scale industrial facility on agricultural land.

Tensions over solar facilities in the North Livermore Valley were already high with an unrelated application by SunWalker Energy seeking county permission to build a 60-acre commercial solar installation across the street. A final EIR for that project, Livermore Community Solar Farm, is

nearing completion.

The area is attractive to solar project developers with its flat topography, open pastures, abundant exposure to sun and close access to PG&E’s Cayetano substation where they can interconnect with the public’s distribution system.

Marisa Mitchell, a principal with Intersect, said the Bay Area company has a track record of developing viable projects that get approved, financed and constructed. She noted the company places a “huge emphasis on being a good neighbor” and shared specific benefits of the project, including how it plans to design the facility to protect the water quality of Cayetano Creek.

“We are passionate about developing clean energy infrastructure in an environmentally responsible manner, with the local community in mind,” she said.

The purpose of the zoning board hearing was to provide input on the scope and content of a pending EIR for the Aramis project. A draft EIR is expected to

be circulated in early fall with a final EIR set to go before the zoning board for certification in late fall.

Derek Eddy, a member of the East County zoning board with jurisdiction over the Aramis application, asked whether the lot coverage of solar arrays is calculated to determine compliance with floor area ratio requirements of Measure D. The 2000 law approved by voters known as the Save Agriculture and Open Space Lands Initiative places strict limits on the development of nonresidential building intensity on agricultural land outside the urban growth boundary.

Andrew Young, a senior planner with the county, said ground-mounted solar arrays, which are not enclosed, are not considered buildings for that purpose, and the development restrictions are not applied.

Frank Imhof, chair of the three-member zoning board for Eastern Alameda County, noted the land at a failed solar project site near Mountain House was left with base rock and pillars sticking out of the

ground when the developer vacated its plans. He asked if anything could be done to prevent something similar from happening again.

Young said the zoning board could make clearing the site at the end of operations a condition of approval, and require a bond to pay for it if the developer goes bankrupt.

Of the 750 acres, the proposed solar project site covers approximately 580 acres, according to public records. This excludes protected lands along the creek

and other environmentally sensitive portions of the land. Those areas are not suitable for solar panel development, according to county planners.

The energy storage portion of the proposal calls for four new single-story buildings to house lithium ion batteries with a combined total of 72,000 square feet of floor space. An existing building would also be retrofitted.

To read further details on the project, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_SolarProject.

MOKASHI

(Continued from first page)

holders are involved with the change process,” Mokashi said.

Mokashi is a busy parent of three children who attend PUSD schools.

“I advocate for e-learning and hybrid learning models that are foundationally solid,” she said. “Our students desperately need varied instructional strategies that can effectively engage them virtually, while establishing valid assessments and maintaining a high level of rigor, tailored to meet the demands of our students’ personal learning needs. Our teachers will also need more ongoing professional development as well.”

Mokashi served as an executive director for a nonprofit organization dedicated to the adoption of orphans with special needs, which she said has broadened her perspective.

“Every child has unique individual needs,” she continued. “One of my priorities

is to ensure innovation, creativity and inquiry-based learning is not pushed to the wayside, especially during these challenging times.”

Another priority of Mokashi’s is to ensure successful programs and initiatives are available for all district students.

As a result of the significant education budget cuts from the state, which are expected to impact PUSD, Mokashi pledges to support clear transparency in any decision-making processes.

“I believe it’s essential to be a collaborative team member of the board, while engaging with all stakeholders to ensure sound financial decisions are made in the best interest of the students,” she said. “Our students come first in the line of our educational priorities.”

Mokashi is active at the city level as a member of the Youth Commission for the City of Pleasanton. As

a candidate, she is a strong supporter of banning vaping and flavored tobacco products to protect the health of local youth. She works as the co-fundraising chair for Troop 911, Boy Scouts of America - Pleasanton.

Mokashi holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Education (Simpson Col-

lege, Iowa), a Master of Education, Supervision and Administration (Rutgers University, New Jersey) and a Master of Education, Curriculum, Instruction & Technology (Houston Baptist University, Texas).

To learn more, visit www.VoteKellyPUSD.com.

ALAMEDA

(Continued from first page)

communities. This is why it’s so important to act with caution and move slowly through any relaxation of the shelter-in-place order. The goal is to protect our most vulnerable community members and prevent our health care systems from becoming overwhelmed.”

As Alameda County works to reverse this trend, health officials are reinforcing the core preventative measures that have been the mantra since the start of the pandemic.

“With the recent relaxation of shelter-in-place restrictions on May 4 and May 18, our residents are likely interacting with each other more often and in more settings,” Balram said. “It’s important to remember that the virus is highly contagious and spreads easily. Now more than ever, it’s best to stay home if you can, maintain 6 feet of (social) distance, and cover your face when out in public.”

Balram noted in a May 29 ACPHD emergency press release that Alameda County currently has the highest increase in confirmed COVID-19 infections among Bay Area counties. Additionally, the county has seen a troubling and dramatic increase in hospitalizations – a critical measure of the virus’s impact on a community, and a key indicator for the loosening of shelter-in-place restrictions.

Until the final week of May, the average number of hospitalizations related to COVID-19 for the month either fell slightly or grew in the low single-digit range. By example, for the week ended May 23, average hospitalizations in Alameda County grew 3.5%. Just one week later, the average num-

ber of hospitalized patients spiked by 19%. After seeing approximately 80 hospitalized patients per day for several weeks, the county suddenly reported a new peak of 105 hospitalizations on May 30, far outdistancing the prior peak of 93 recorded April 10.

“We are watching our COVID-19 hospitalizations closely because this indicator provides a clearer picture of the burden of severe illness in Alameda County and is less likely to be influenced by increases in testing,” Balram explained. “And we are also seeing an increase in hospitalizations in recent days.”

The county’s shelter-in-place order was originally issued with an expiration date of May 31. The expiration date was removed from the order when ACPHD issued an update May 18 – an indication that the county has a long way to go before activities considered moderate- or high-risk can again become part of everyday life.

A joint statement released Monday, June 1, by health officers from five Bay Area counties, including Alameda, read, “We are carefully tracking data related to the spread of COVID-19 in our region and in each of our own communities. We are encouraged by what we are seeing in some areas and concerned about what we are seeing in others. As we move forward together, we will each make choices about what to do so. Those decisions will be based on the data related to the specific conditions in our communities, as well as our joint assessment of broader regional trends.”



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OBITUARIES

Kevin Peter Gosney May 28, 1960 - May 1, 2020



Kevin Peter Gosney passed away May 1, 2020, at his home in Livermore, California. He was 59.

He was born May 28, 1960, in Tacoma, Washington, to Joby and Max Gosney, the third of five children, all boys. When Kevin was in grade school, his family moved to Livermore. He graduated from Granada High School in 1978. Kevin married his high school sweetheart, Kathy (Johnson) Petersen in 1980. They had two children, Kristina and Kellan, before divorcing in 1997.

After high school, Kevin worked as a plumber until being injured in 1989. He had played baseball and football in high school and slow-pitch softball in his 20s. He also loved to golf and play darts. From 1999-2004, he attended California State University, Hayward in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in recreation.

His favorite sports teams were the Atlanta Braves, the Los Angeles Rams, and the Golden State Warriors.

He is survived by his daughters, Kristina Gosney Frame and Kellan Gosney; two grandchildren, Charlotte Frame and Penelope Frame; his oldest brother, Charles "Chuck" Gosney of Kalispell, Montana, and his youngest brother, Richard Gosney of Livermore. He was

preceded in death by his parents and brothers Patrick and Timothy.

Kevin had a close relationship with his Savior and spent many years volunteering at Valley Christian Center in Dublin, California. He had recently found a home at Celebration Christian Center in Livermore. Kevin was an avid volunteer, not only donating his time to the church but also to his children's schools and the VA Hospital in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his name to a favorite charity, including Special Olympics, K9's for Veterans, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and the Alzheimer's Association. Callaghan Mortuary is handling arrangements and an online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com

George Stella Feb. 14, 1934 - May 23, 2020



Heaven welcomed a great man on Saturday, May 23, 2020, -- George Stella, age 86.

He is now reunited with his wife, Patricia, who died six years ago. He leaves behind his two sons, Jon Stella (Gayle) of Livermore, and Michael Stella (Sherry) of Pleasanton, and a daughter, Stephani Aronson of Brentwood, California. He is also survived by two sisters, Pauline Cullen (Don) of Riverside, California, and Rose Frasier of Carlsbad, New Mexico, and a brother, Lawrence Stella (Dolly) of Price, Utah. George enjoyed his final days at home surrounded by family and friends, thanks to Hope Hospice.

The youngest of six siblings raised by Italian immigrants in the central Utah coal-min-

ing community of Columbia, George was stationed at Fort Ord during his time in the Army and fell in love with California. After leaving military service, he moved his young family to a new home in Livermore, the same home he died in. He worked many years as an ac-

countant, before becoming a craftsman and cabinetmaker in retirement.

George was a terrific cook, skilled with numbers, and loved to pay golf. He was blessed with an ability to remember hundreds of jokes and to tell stories laced with humor and insight.

Due to shelter-in-place restrictions, a Celebration of Life will be scheduled later with friends and family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in George's name to Hope Hospice of Dublin, California.

Callaghan Mortuary is handling arrangements and an online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Richard Fletcher Nov. 21, 1949 - May 5, 2020



Richard Sills Fletcher, a long-time resident of Livermore, California, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family at his home, on May 5, 2020, from valley fever.

Rich was born to Nelson and Betty Fletcher on Nov. 21, 1949, in Livermore. He attended school in Livermore, playing football, baseball, and the trumpet. He graduated Livermore High School in 1967.

After high school, Rich attended the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, followed by Nuclear Power School. He served five years aboard Navy submarines and submarine support ships.

During his years in the Navy and later, Rich enjoyed fishing along the East coast and the Gulf of Mexico. When California beckoned, he hooked his whaler behind his truck, and towed it to the West Coast. Once in California, he began a career in real estate, while continuing to spend as much time as possible in the outdoors.

In 1991, Rich met the love of his life, Linda. They married in 1993 and spent the next 28 years hosting family and friends for gatherings that featured Rich's smoked or grilled duck, deer, boar or fish recipes. They journeyed around the world, enjoying a safari in South Africa, a walk-about in New Zealand, and fishing in Kauai, Hawaii and Alaska.

Rich and Linda's long-time dream of owning a home on Lake Almanor in northeastern California finally came true in 2018. In addition to hunting,

fishing and hiking, Rich loved teaching his grandchildren about nature.

He played a pivotal role in fundraising and leadership for the Mule Deer Foundation, dedicated to the preservation of wildlife and wild lands. He was one of the first board members when the organization was founded in 1988, and served several terms as chairman. He was also instrumental in starting and supporting several chapters in California and other states. Most recently, he was involved with the Mule Deer Foundation National Endowment Fund.

As a member of the KDC Duck Club, Rich spent hours hunting with his dogs, Val and Lola. His work to conserve the club's lands has helped to protect a variety of endangered species and native habitat. He leaves a legacy of wildlands preservation that will go on for many years to come. He was also an author, writing several books about hunting, along with a blog that spanned 10 years. His blog can still be read at www.hunterlandowner.wordpress.com.

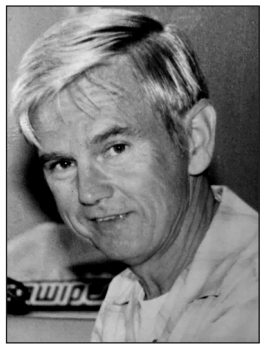
Rich is remembered as a

positive, genuine person, who had a smile for everyone he met, even when he was at his sickest. He had a talent for putting people at ease, and loved to tell a good story. He was especially fond of tales laying bare the secrets of those involved that were a tiny bit inappropriate. He had a big heart, and was known to sob his way through a movie. Rich particularly loved music, filling every silence with humming or whistling, and sometimes adding a little jig. Most of all, Rich was a content, joyful person. He made it a priority to do what he thought was right; he chose people, places, and activities that made him happy, and he believed that life is lived in the moment. He is already sorely missed by the many who love him.

Rich leaves behind his wife, Linda Fletcher; his father, Nelson Fletcher; brother and sister-in-law, Rob and Tish Fletcher; and his beloved dog Lola. He is also survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Betsy and Brett Kelly; step-daughter and son-in-law, Shannon and Tim Rice; stepson and daughter-in-law, Aaron and Allison Riche; and four grandchildren, Summer and Brooklyn Riche and Fergus and Rose Kelly.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his Rich's name to the Environmental Sciences Support Fund at the University of California, Berkeley, for valley fever research, or to the Mule Deer Foundation Endowment Fund. A Celebration of Life is planned for later this year.

Donald F. Hein March 26, 1933 - May 13, 2020



Donald Franklin Hein, 87, passed away peacefully at home on May 13, 2020, in Livermore with May, his loving wife of 61 years, by his side.

He was born March 26, 1933, in Wadena, Minnesota, to Marguerite Demask Hein, the fifth of six children. Donald worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as an electrical testing technician from 1979 until his retirement in 2001. He had previously worked at the Nevada Proving Grounds, now the Department of Energy's Nevada National Security Site, in the same capacity.

Donald served in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Korea. After leaving the service, he took a job in Taiwan as an electrical contractor with Philco Electronics, where he soon met his neighbor, May. They were

married in 1959.

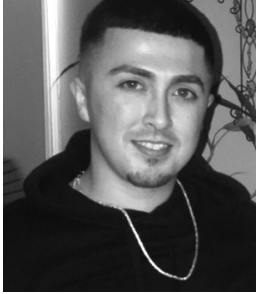
After retirement, Donald and May traveled throughout North American America and Asia. They eventually built a second home in May's hometown of Taichung, Taiwan living for many years in Livermore and Taiwan depending on the seasons.

Donald is survived by his wife, May; adopted son Donald Fong (Wendy), of Orinda, California; sisters Dorothy and Betty of Fremont, California; nephew John Michael Dangler (Karen), of Placerville, California; grandsons Donald C. Fong, of Orinda, and Casey K. Fong, currently stationed at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and nieces and nephews in America, Taiwan and Canada.

Donald is now eternally resting in peace at Lone Tree cemetery in Hayward, California, with his son, Daniel Gene Hein (1961-1962).

The family extends its appreciation to the staff at Hospice East Bay in Concord, California, for their care in Donald's last days and request that any donations be made to the organization in his memory.

Vincent Naples Dec. 3, 1995 - May 24, 2020



ter, Sophia Riley; his daughter's mother, Kaitlyn Bulhoes; his dad, Mario (Mimo) Feliciano; and his stepdad, Ruben Rodriguez.

He is also survived by his

Vincent Naples was born Dec. 3, 1995, in Pleasanton, California, and resided in in Livermore for 24 years. He entered into rest May 24, 2020.

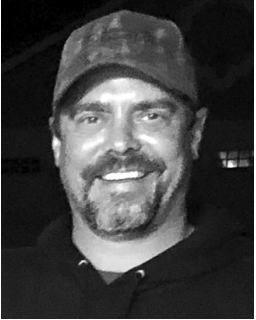
Vincent was a loving dad and family man. He loved his baby girl, Sophia Riley, more than anything.

He worked at Kaiser Permanente and was a member of Local #3 Painters Union.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jimmy Naples III; his godmother Cecilia Garcia; a cousin, Martin Espinoza Jr.; his grandfather, Jimmy Naples Jr.; and his papa, Joey Feliciano.

He is survived by his mother, Christina Chavez; his daugh-

Johnathan Mark LaFountain Livermore Resident



All God's creatures brought him joy, and he had many pets. He was an avid outdoorsman and motorcycle rider, street and dirt, which led to his nickname

Johnathan Mark LaFountain, 43, went to be with the Lord on May 11, 2020. He battled depression and tragically took his own life.

He grew up in Pleasanton, California, and was a resident of Livermore. He was a sweet soul who brightened the lives of those lucky enough to know him. If you knew Johnny, you loved Johnny. You never smiled faster, laughed louder, or hugged harder than when you spent time with him.

He deeply loved his two teenage boys and spent his free time creating outdoor adventures with them.

grandparents, Jose and Kathy Chavez and Sheri Naples; a great grandmother, Willie Orcutt; his nana Lisa; sisters Jazmine and Alyssa Feliciano (Bryce Disbrow); brothers Jojo, Isaac and Julian Feliciano; stepbrother Ruben Jr., and step-sister Natalie Rodriguez; nieces Janessa, Jazelle, and Jaylene; nephew Jordan; godparents Martin and Adrienne Espinoza; his nana Marina Lopez; tios Jose Chavez Jr. and Anthony Maniz Jr., and his uncle Jeremy Meeks; his aunt Jennifer Naples; cousin J'Dion; tias Laura Lopez, nina Mainz, and Desari Chavez; and many more aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends.

"J Wheelie." He was also a talented artist, and family and friends often received one of his metal creations. Johnny lived life large and will be forever missed.

Johnathan is survived by his wife, Jamie; sons Mark and JJ; his father, father LaFountain; his mother Kerry LaFountain and her husband Jim Moore; sisters Aimee Ose (Scott) and Sara Brown (Matt); and his in-laws, Steve and Lee Anna Englebreton. The family's hope is that being open about his suicide may encourage others to get help with depression or to cope with a similar loss.

Evelyn B. Foster July 14, 1924 - May 22, 2020.



living in Albuquerque. Evelyn attended Albuquerque Beauty College, becoming a certified beautician, and used the skills she learned there throughout her life, even bartering haircuts for piano lessons.

In 1959, Kenneth transferred to Sandia National Laboratory in Livermore, where he worked until his retirement. An accomplished seamstress, Evelyn worked at World of Fabric for several years before being hired at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, where she worked as a procurement specialist until her retirement.

As retirement approached, Evelyn took up golf, and she and Kenneth enjoyed playing together for the rest of their lives. Evelyn continued to play golf into her late 80s with the Springfield Ladies Golf Club in Livermore.

Evelyn enjoyed tending to her roses and having family over for Sunday and holiday

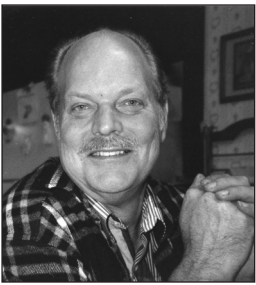
dinners. Her backyard became the site of many family celebrations, and Evelyn became "Grandma Great" to her great grandchildren.

Evelyn and Kenneth were active in the San Francisco Chapter of the Submarine Veterans of WWII, traveling to conventions and always taking their golf clubs. Evelyn was also active in the organization's Dolphin Women's Club, serving in local and national offices. She was also a member of the Livermore Symphony Guild and "The Red Hatters," a social group. She played bridge in a women's group in Livermore for 57 years, and continued playing at Sagewood until the last few months of her life.

Evelyn is survived by a brother, Burton Guymon (Karen) of Cedar Hills, Utah; a son, Kenneth Gene Foster (Patricia) of Woodland, Washington; three daughters, Diana Zirkle (Lynn) of Livermore, Susan Cannon (Val) of Saratoga Springs, Utah, and Carrie Fritsch (Timothy) of Livermore. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband of 60 years, Kenneth.

Callaghan Mortuary is handling funeral arrangements. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Paul Arthur Lyons Dec. 17, 1948 - May 14, 2020



ever, instead of pursuing a career in that field, Paul joined the IBEW Local 6 as an electrician in 1974 and retired in March 2004. During his time with the union he loved spending his lunches at Red's Java House on Pier 30 for their \$3 cheeseburger and a cold beer.

After retirement, Paul and his adoring wife, Pat, spent time remodeling their home in the Sunset West neighborhood of Livermore. Paul had a heart of gold and was an amazingly talented and smart man with skills in any trade. A talented craftsman, carpenter, electrician, mechanic, plumber, chef, and so much more. He would lend a hand to anyone who needed it and spread his knowledge to everyone around him. If it wasn't working right, he would fix it. He spent much time in his garage working with family and neighbors on projects, doing woodworking and fixing cars, oftentimes alongside his cherished grandson, Joshua, who

had the privilege of being raised by Paul. When not working on a project or making a repair, Paul loved spending time at his beloved cabin with his family and never missing an NHRA funny car or monster jam race on TV.

Paul is predeceased by his mother and father, Edythe (Simmons) and Eric Lyons Sr.; his brother, Eric Jr.; his brother-in-law, Nick Vallindras; and his mother-in-law, Jean Mullin. Paul is survived by the love of his life, Patricia Ann (Mullin) Lyons; his three daughters and two sons-in-law, Heather Lyons, Elizabeth and Eric Gillihan, Rebecca and T.J. Deniz; Pat's children, Michelle, Michael and Mark Funk; sister, Sandra (Lyons) Vallindras, and nieces, Christina Maillet and Katherine Tappen; sister-in-law, Jan Ataway, and nephews, Greg and James Lyons; sisters-in-law, Nancy and Sandy Mullin; brother-in-law, Brian Mullin; and seven grandchildren, Joshua, Vanessa, Myah, Brooke, Brody, Carsen and Brayden.

Per Paul's wishes, no services will be held. However, charitable contributions can be made to the UC Davis body donation program in his honor at bit.ly/US_Davis_Foundation or Send a check made out to the UC Davis Foundation, to: UC Davis Gift Administration 1460 Drew Avenue, Suite 100 Davis, CA 95618

Livermore Rotary Club Honors Grand Marshall and Community Service Winner

The Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association has already begun a countdown for the 2021 Livermore Rodeo on its webpage, with 372 days to go as of Thursday this week. But the Livermore Rotary Club isn't quite ready to forget about the now-cancelled 2020 Rodeo Parade.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on public gatherings forced sponsors to cancel the both the rodeo and the annual parade, which had been scheduled for Saturday, June 13, the Rotary Club had already selected a grand marshal and the winner of its Community Service Award.

Those honors, this year, went to Keith Anderson and John Gordon.

The 94-year-old Anderson, a second-generation life-long resident of Livermore, would have been Grand Marshal. His parents were born and raised in

Livermore, and Anderson was born in their home on North N Street on Sept. 2, 1925.

He attended Livermore Grammar School (now the Fifth Street School) and Livermore High School, where he played basketball ran track. His senior year, Anderson also volunteered with the Alameda County Fire Department and vividly recalls battling a grass fire in Altamont Pass the night of his high school graduation in 1943.

Anderson enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduation, rising to quartermaster third class and serving until 1945. After leaving the Navy, he returned to Livermore where he married his former classmate, Ramona Regan, in 1947. They would raise two children, Tom and Peggy, at their home on Oregon Way, and were married for 62 years, until his wife's death in 2010.

Anderson was a back-

hoe operator for PG&E for 30 years, retiring in 1988. He was also a fireman for Livermore from 1947 to 1982, when the entire force was still comprised of volunteers.

Over the years, Anderson volunteered and helped organize many of Livermore's charity and community events, including the annual Fishing Derby at Shadow Cliffs to benefit special needs youth in the Tri-Valley area. In 1946, he was a founding member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Livermore Post #7265, and continues to be an active member today. He is one of only two surviving members from the original group of 200.

Anderson has been involved with the Livermore Rodeo weekend festivities for most of his life. He remembers as a child traveling the parade route in his father's Union Oil truck and watching the rodeo where the municipal

offices now stand. As part of the VFW color guard, he participated in many opening ceremonies, and he only recently retired from walking the parade route. Since 2016, he has been riding in the VFW vehicle. This year, as grand marshal, he would have led the parade.

John Gordon, this year's recipient of the Rotary Club's Community Service Award, was born in Washington, D.C., attended Pennsylvania State University, and moved to California in 1979. In 1987, he settled in Livermore after purchasing the Camino Press print shop.

Gordon joined Livermore Rotary in 1992, was Rotarian of the Year in 1998, received the John Shirley Service award in 2004, and served as president in 2004-2005. He also served six years on the board of the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore. As Rotary Club pres-

ident, Gordon commissioned the life-size wood carving of Robert Livermore that stands in the lobby of the Robert Livermore Community Center. He also launched an annual recognition program that honors outstanding teachers from Livermore schools. As president of the foundation, Gordon started the annual holiday party for children.

Although the Rotary Club will select a new grand marshal and Community Service Award winner for next year's Livermore

Rodeo Parade, the service organization said Anderson and Gordon would also be honored in 2021.

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PROTESTS

(Continued from first page)

"Sheriff Gregory J. Ahern, as the county's Director of Emergency Services, finds that, in the days immediately following the tragic death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property arose as a result of civil unrest that has resulted in numerous acts of violence, ... a curfew is necessary to preserve the public order and safety in the county."

The Tri-Valley police were out in force over the weekend and early this week creating a presence at local retail establishments rumored to be possible targets of looting, including

Stoneridge Mall and the San Francisco Premium Outlets in Livermore. As of press time, none of the businesses had reported any damage.

One Livermore resident, Kelly Homan, who went to the Fallon Gateway in Dublin Monday afternoon, was surprised to find the Target and Dick Sporting Goods stores closed.

"I had heard that some of the other areas had closed but had no idea it was happening here," said Homan. "It was a very strange thing to see."

On June 2, the Livermore Police Department issued the following statement on social media after the first

night of the imposed curfew: "We had no reports of civil unrest, looting or vandalism in our city, and the Livermore Police Department will continue our increased staffing and increased high visibility patrols for as long as it takes."

Livermore Police Sergeant Steve Goard said the community support for the department has been welcome and gratifying.

"The community response has been fantastic," Goard said. "They are still waving at us, still smiling and I'm not going to lie, it's been very nice and reassuring and just goes to show what a special community

we live in."

In Pleasanton, a peaceful protest is scheduled for Friday, June 5, in front of Amador Valley High School. The police department issued the following statement Tuesday on social media:

"Fortunately, we have not seen any civil unrest at this time and have additional staffing roaming the city to protect critical infrastructure. We are committed to helping our community and are aware of the peaceful protest planned for Friday. We've reached out to the organizer to ensure the anticipated event is safe, peaceful, and a success for all involved."

NURSING

(Continued from first page)

He added that the admissions office began raising restrictions in early April in an attempt to decrease the risk COVID-19 imposed on elderly patients.

By the end of April, ValleyCare had no patients in the skilled nursing facility.

"Over the course of the month, we have evaluated this seriously," Shumway continued. "Rather than introduce another congregate living situation back into the community, we decided we would re-evaluate our clinical protocols internally, we would manage patients at hospital and, if we felt it was appropriate to discharge them home or into another skilled nursing facility in the community, then we would be able to do that."

The 40 employees staffed at the facility received 30 days paid notice and transition packages for medical and vision benefits. Shumway indicated the staff adjustments to be a large consideration and that, if applicable, some might transition into different areas within the organization.

Shumway further stated the decision to close the nursing facility did not reflect its larger vision for the Livermore community, which involves an expansion of services rather than a discontinuation.

"This was really focused on the right thing to do for this patient population, and that is what drove this decision," he said. "As it relates to our view of Livermore as a really important part of our health care system, there are a few things I would share. Number one, we still have a very world class presence in Livermore. That old hospital building on that campus is only one part of that campus; we have a lot of other services we're continuing to provide there — things like urgent care, ambulatory surgery center, a lab, pharmacy, physicians offices, programs, significant physical therapy and sports medicine programs. Just what's there right now, I think it's indicative of how critical we believe this community to be and how important it is to continue to serve the community of Livermore."

Shumway also detailed the plans for enhancing or implementing new services. A program underway right now includes bringing in pain management specialists to serve in the chronic pain clinic. The group is growing its orthopedic program, along with building a pulmonary clinic to serve patients suffering from minor to acute issues. The Stanford School of Medicine faculty and university health system associate physicians will manage the pulmonary clinic.

The Livermore campus currently boasts diagnostic imaging, a laboratory, an outpatient surgery — ambulatory surgery center, a gastroenterology lab, an urgent care, a pharmacy, LifeStyleRx medical fitness center, cardiac rehabilitation, sports medicine, pulmonary rehabilitation, a sleep center, medical


offices, food and nutrition services, ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, a staff development and education center, digital solutions, telecommunications, health information management, government and community relations and space provided to Open Heart Kitchen and Spectrum/Meals on Wheels, among other services.

"I am excited that our affiliation with Stanford is allowing us to make investments in the Tri-Valley," said John Sensiba, Stanford Health Care — ValleyCare Board of Directors Chair.

Back in 2015, as ValleyCare Board Chair, Sensiba led the negotiations that resulted in Stanford's acquisition of ValleyCare. As a result, the quality of medical care in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin increased substantially.

"I'm especially excited

about the build-up of services in Livermore, the birthplace of ValleyCare." Sensiba continued. "Livermore residents will see broader and more robust offerings close to home in coming years."



ATTENTION LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESS!

Let us know what activities, classes, entertainment and virtual events you are offering as we shelter in place.

Get the word out about your event by entering it online at independentnews.com/calendar or emailing it to calendar@independentnews.com for print.

THE Independent

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, June 4, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Conscious Parenting Circle - Online

Athens Rising will provide insight and active practices to become more aware of how you can be a better parent for your child and for yourself. This conscious parenting circle is about providing an inspiring space for parents to be supported and inspired to live and life you love. Hosted by Lia Venet, CHHC, Connector, Speaker, Women's Empowerment Leader, Life Change Catalyst & Transformation Initiator. Free to ALL to sign up log into the AROC and RSVP to the event <https://athensrising.mn.co/>.

Friday, June 5, and Saturday, June 6, 8:45 p.m.
Alameda County Fairgrounds Drive-In Movies

"Pop-Up-Drive-In-Movie!" Watch a new classic movie at the Fairgrounds from your car. Pay to park and watch a FREE classic movie and receive 1 General Admission to the 2021 Fair next summer. Corner of Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information visit <https://alamedacountyfair.com/>

Saturday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.
Valley Dance Theatre's Celebrates 40th Anniversary Season

Join Valley Dance Theatre in celebrating 40 years. Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals offers a delightful menagerie, from playful hens and hilarious donkeys to a regal elephant and graceful swan. Masquerade and Less is More, inspired by Khachaturian's Cavane Ballet Suite with its famous Sabre Dance, uses simple black and white costumes to highlight the precision and beauty of ballet technique. Live music will be provided by the Valley Dance Theatre Orchestra. For more information, visit <https://www.valleydancetheatre.com/>.

Sunday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m.
Starbright Entertainment presents Life in the Fast Lane

In a tribute to one of the most successful bands of all times, The Eagles, this production is truly the most authentic. Performances will be held at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore. For more information, visit www.livermorearts.org or call 925-373-6800.

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS
Christian Youth Theater Offers Online Program

CYT Tri-Valley has moved to online programming to a virtual format. Students receive unlimited access to both prerecorded and live courses, geared for kids ages 4-18. CYT online provides opportunities to learn about theater arts and build character, from the comfort of your own home. Leadership

encourages kids to take advantage of every class through June 6. Visit <https://www.cyttrivalley.org/>, call 925-421-1351 or email trivalley@cyt.org.

Dublin Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m., at Emerald Glen Community Park, 4201 Central Parkway.

Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Carnegie Park, 2152 Second St.

Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Saturdays, at Main Street and West Angela Street. Hours are 9 to 10 a.m. for seniors 60 and over, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the general public.

Livermore Arts Bankhead & Bothwell Hold Online Classes

Online art class for kids ages 5–10. All skill levels are welcome. Two online classes for just \$15 per week are taught by visual arts manager Anne Giancola. Sessions run weekly through June 11. Sign up for one or more. Registered participants will receive a Zoom link each week via email for these monitored sessions. To sign up, visit <https://livermorearts.org/event/online-art-classes>.

Livermore Valley Opera Aired Friday Episodes

Need a dose of opera while on lock-down? Check out LV Opera on YouTube. New releases every Friday at 7 p.m. Pacific Time. To subscribe, visit <https://www.livermorevalleyopera.com/>.

Six Feet Apart Productions Shares Art From a Distance

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

Stress Relief Recovery International

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

Telling the Story: Memoir and Fiction Writing - An Online Zoom Class

June 11 – July 16, 7-9:30p.m. (last ½ hr. optional Q and A) This zoom class teaches writing techniques used by pros to turn stories into page-turners. Mastering the art of storytelling also benefits the nonfiction writer. Class consists of lecture, writing exercises and class critiques of student writing. \$123. \$135 for non-residents of Livermore. Fee includes professional editing of your work by instructor Barbara Flores, an award-winning four-time published author. 6 classes. Sponsored by the Robert Livermore Community Center. Register at: 925-373-5700 or visit LARP.D.ORG

VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Virtual Tour

Looking to break away from traditional "mow and blow" yards? For beautiful ideas on how to create a sustainable yard, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_Native_Gardens. Or visit <https://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/>.

EBRPD Brings "Parks to People"

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

LARPD Features Stay & Play

Livermore Area Recreation & Park District virtual recreation program "Stay & Play" is loaded with opportunities for learning, exploration and fun while you shelter-at-home. This site will be updated weekly with new educational, activities to do at home, social media challenges and special events, check in often for new activities visit <https://www.larpd.org/Stay-n-Play>.

LARPD Now on YouTube

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

Livermore Public Library Summer Reading

2020 Summer reading program has four program levels all free of charge. From June 1 to Aug. 12, pre-readers, independent readers, teens and adults may register for their summer reading game boards on the library's website at www.

LivermoreLibrary.net. For more information, call 925-373-5500.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival Launches Video Series

Explore Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Video Series for second to fourth grade. New lessons added weekly. Visit <http://livermoreshakespeare.org/educates/>.

Music Together Tri-Valley Supports Early Childhood Development

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

Online Yoga with Lakshmi Sajith

Find free online yoga live sessions or recorded on Lakshmi Sajith's blog. Specifically designed for those who are going through stress and anxiety, yoga practice creates a sense of well-being. For more information, email lakshmi2sajith@gmail.com.

Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring you beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcast of musician interview and talks about the music. Subscribe to listen at <https://www.pacificchamberorchestra.org/>.

Sandra J Wing Healing Therapies Foundation Hosts Virtual Meditation

During these unprecedented times, SNHWF continues to look to therapies for hope and healing. Ira Stein offers 30-minute meditation, entitled: Concentric Circles. Visit <https://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org/concentric-circles/>.

Sun's Out Fun's Out 5K Virtual Fun Run

Alameda County Fair Benefiting Sunflower Hill Virtual Fun Run June 19th – June 28th. Choose to run or walk, choose to race a 5k or 1 mile, choose your own trail, choose a day and time between June 19th and June 28th. This is a race for all athletic abilities and ages. Receive 1 FREE 2021 Fair Admission Ticket when you register, Free virtual fitness class, downloadable race bib, downloadable finisher certificate, downloadable medal, hashtags to post your accomplishment, downloadable spirit signage. Support a good cause while enjoying the outdoors and staying healthy. To register visit <https://alamedacountyfair.com/>

Enter events online at www.independentnews.com/calendar or email calendar@independentnews.com for print.

Alameda County Fairgrounds to Become Drive-In Theater on Friday and Saturday Evenings

The Alameda County Fairgrounds will become into a drive-in movie theater every Friday and Saturday night, beginning this weekend through July 25.

Movies will be shown on both sides of a 40-foot by 20-foot screen, with two parking lots in use at the fairgrounds, with the audio available over a vehicle's radio. Movie titles will be announced weekly on the fairgrounds' website, www.alamedaountyfair.com.

Drivers will be checked in and directed to available parking by fairgrounds staff, and all moviegoers must remain in their vehicle,

except to use the restroom. Concessions will not be available.

Fairground gates will open at 7:30 p.m., with the movie beginning at dark, but no earlier than 8:45 p.m. No movie will be shown on Friday, July 4.

Tickets are \$25 per vehicle if purchased in advance online, and \$30 per vehicle on site, although space is limited. Each carload is limited to the number of people who may legally ride in the vehicle. Recreational vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles and convertibles with the top down will not be allowed.

Each vehicle purchasing admission to the movie will receive one free admission to the 2021 Alameda County Fair.

The Alameda County Fairgrounds is also sponsoring a virtual fun run that registrants can complete on a treadmill or in their neighborhoods from June 19 through June 28.

Those who register for the "Sun's Out, Fun's Out" virtual run will receive one free admission to the Alameda County Fair in 2021. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 for youths, with proceeds benefiting Sunflower Hill, a nonprofit organization that develops independent residen-

tial communities for adults with developmental disabilities.

After registering, runners will choose between a 5K or one-mile run or walk. They can also download a race bib, and take advantage of pre-race virtual fitness classes from Dragon Yoga in Livermore or Joya Yoga. Runners are encouraged to post their times on social media, and after the virtual Fun Run ends, they will be able to download a finisher certificate and a do-it-yourself medal.

For more information, go to alamedaountyfair.com.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DARELL RANDY GOTT Case No. RP20061091

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **DARELL RANDY GOTT**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **KERRY NORMAN GOTT**, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **Date: JUNE 23, 2020, TIME: 9:31 AM Dept 201, at: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley BHC.** If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Petitioner. **KERRY NORMAN GOTT, PRO PER 6023 Hellman Ave ALTA LOMA, CA 91737**

(909)-268-5645.
The Independent, Legal No. 4742 Published May 28, June 4, 11., 2020.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: PAUL M. SARUBBI, aka PAUL SARUBBI and as PAUL MICHAEL SARUBBI, Decedent Case No. RP20061361

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **PAUL M. SARUBBI, aka PAUL SARUBBI, and as PAUL MICHAEL SARUBBI**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **CHRISTINE PIMENTEL**, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **Date: JUNE 23, 2020, TIME: 9:31 AM Dept 201 at: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley Courthouse.** **MANDATORY REMOTE APPEARANCE** THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE ABOVE DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURT'S WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Petitioner. **KERRY NORMAN GOTT, PRO PER 6023 Hellman Ave ALTA LOMA, CA 91737**

statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Attorney for Petitioner: **MICHAEL CRAMER, Esq. 151 Callan Ave., Ste. 106 San Leandro, CA 94577 Phone: 510-351-2844** The Independent, Legal No. 4743 Published May 28, June 4, 11., 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 570206

The following person(s) doing business as: **McIntyre Insurance Services, 277 McLeod Street, Livermore, CA 94550**, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): **Timothy D. McIntyre Inc., Inc. 2478 Robinson Circle, 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: **December 31, 1999**. Signature of Registrant/s: **Timothy D. McIntyre, President/CEO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2020. Expires May 4, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4714. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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



Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

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

EMPLOYMENT

Engineer II, QA sought by Elie Mae Inc in Pleasanton, CA. Develop test plans, test scenarios and test cases for capabilities of our products. Execute test scenarios/test cases during formal test periods for every release. Diagnose problems and report bugs and enhancements to Development. Apply @ www.jobpostingtoday.com (ref# 96799)

Associate Architect: S2SOFT LLC has openings for the position Associate Architect with Associates degree in Computer Science, Any Analytical Science or related and 3 yrs of exp to analyze and design complete flow of information systems including external systems like Imagine, Calypso, and Wallstreet, etc. Develop UI layer using MVC / Angular with validation, Custom Routes, and Log4Net. Define the process for development and deployment of the application to QA, UAT and PROD environments. Responsible for design and modify UI using SharePoint Designer. Create store procedures, functions, triggers and constraints which provide data integrity. Work location is Dublin, CA with required travel to our client sites throughout the USA. Please send the resumes to 7567 Amador Valley Blvd, Suite 111, Dublin, CA 94568 (OR) e-mail: jude@s2soft.com

65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

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155) NOTICES

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REAL ESTATE

170) LAND FOR RENT

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

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

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