

Advocates Call On Community To Speak Out

By Aly Brown

LIVERMORE — Ahead of an East County Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA) meeting set for next week, Save North Livermore Valley — a grassroots open space advocacy group — called on the community to urge county officials to preserve agricultural land.

The BZA meeting will take place Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 1:30 p.m. At that time, the board is expected to vote on certification of a final environmental impact review (FEIR) for the Aramis Solar Energy Generation and Storage project. The BZA will further consider a 50-year conditional-use permit (CUP) to allow the power plant to operate on the site.

The Aramis solar utility-scale project is proposed for 580 acres of farmland — of which 410 acres would contain solar arrays and support facilities — located about 2 miles north of Livermore (See LIVERMORE, page 2)

School District Changes Plans For Donlon Site

By Ron McNicoll

PLEASANTON — Two years after committing to expand the Donlon Elementary School campus, the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) board has pulled the plug on the plan.

That plan entailed a remodel for the current Donlon building along with the addition of a brand-new school on the same site. The remodeled structure was set to house fourth and fifth grades. The new school would have served kindergarten through third grade. But trustees at their regular board meeting Nov. 12 voted unanimously to scrap the Donlon site plan, opting to evaluate the possibility of establishing a school on the eastside of town. With new housing developments expected near the Stoneridge (See PLEASANTON, page 8)

Programs Offer Incentives for Solar Installation

REGIONAL — When it comes to renewable energy, Tri-Valley residents and business owners can find certain incentives for going green.

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) now offers commercial and industrial customers a new program to connect with a vetted, experienced solar industry professional partner. The partner will provide no-cost assessments and pre-negotiated pricing. Panels help businesses continue to operate smoothly during an outage.

The State of California also offers other financial incentives to non-residential customers interested in installing battery backup through its Self-Generation Incentive Program. All non-residential customers in EBCE's service area can apply online. There are three incentive levels: Equity Resiliency — Up to 100% of battery backup costs (applications have eligibility requirements); Equity — Up to 85% of battery backup costs (applications have eligibility requirements); and (See SOLAR, page 8)



Denel McMahan (far right) speaks during a Tri-Valley for Black Lives event held Nov. 15 at Dublin Civic Center. Read the full story at right. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Alameda County Returns to Purple Tier Due To Increase in the Coronavirus Case Count

By Ruth Roberts

Alameda County has moved back into the most restrictive tier because of the rising surge of COVID-19 cases.

put into effect, Tuesday, Nov. 17.

"We are sounding the alarm," Newsom said. "California is experiencing the fastest increase in cases

overwhelm our health care system and lead to catastrophic outcomes. That is why we are pulling an emergency brake in the Blueprint for a Safer Economy."

The purple tier restric-

"While news of Governor Newsom's new mandate to move 41 counties back to the restrictive tier is disappointing, we understand that we must do everything in our power to help prevent the spread of COVID-19."

Previously in the moderate-risk Orange tier, Alameda County skipped down two tiers to Purple (widespread transmission risk) after Monday's edict from Gov. Gavin Newsom. The mandate was

we have seen yet — faster than what we experienced at the outset of the pandemic or even this summer. The spread of COVID-19, if left unchecked, could quickly

tions, which include 40 other counties in the state, will restrict retail locations to 25% capacity. Restaurants, museums, places of worship, gyms and movie theaters will

(See COVID-19, page 8)

District Met with Calls for Reopening Schools

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — Tensions ran high at a recent board meeting for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), as parents expressed their position on returning students to the classroom.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, Nov. 10, before Gov. Gavin Newsom announced on Nov. 16 that 41 counties, including Alameda County, must return to the most restrictive Purple tier. At the Purple level, increased in-class learning is prohibited. Effective Nov. 18, no additional schools may open for in-person instruction.

Since the change in tiers, LVJUSD Board Member

Emily Russo stated on Nov. 17 that the board has received emails from parents who expressed a desire to remain remote. She also expressed appreciation of those parents who did speak critically of the district during the meeting, noting some thanked the board for the opportunity to share their perspective. Those parents, Russo said, also asked how they could help.

"I think that's a great way for us to move forward as a community; we have to work together," she said. "We're all on the same side... there were great things that come out of the meeting."

At the school board meeting last week, the district's task force presented its plan

for schools to partially reopen Jan. 19, along with a recommendation to obtain a 67% approval from families. Before Deputy Superintendent Chris Van Schaack — head of the task force — presented the plan to the board, approximately 75 letters from parents to the board were read, most encouraging the district to bring kids back into schools, though some urged for them to be left safe at home.

LVJUSD Board Member Chris Wenzel said that while the district is listening to concerns, it's also doing its best under the circumstances.

"There is no manual for how to operate here; we are building it as we go," Wenzel

(See REOPENING, page 7)

Dublin Unified School District Successfully Restructures \$34 Million in Bond Debt

By David Chircop

DUBLIN — The Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) restructured nearly \$34 million in tax-exempt bonds earlier this month, taking advantage of historically low interest rates.

The move also avoids huge future balloon debt service payments on bonds issued in 2009 at the height of the Great Recession. It is expected to save taxpayers more than \$46 million in current value over the life of the obligations.

"We don't see any more dollars," said Chris Hobbs, interim assistant superintendent of business services. "This is purely a benefit to taxpayers."

Refinancing the debt fulfills one of the district's strategic goals of ensuring effective resource alloca-

tion and operating efficiency of the school system.

The Board of Trustees on Oct. 13 voted to authorize converting so-called capital-appreciation bonds (CABs) with interest rates of about 6.5% into current rate bonds. The funding was part of Measure C, the \$184 million in school facilities bonds approved by voters in the Dublin Unified School District in 2004.

The CABs, secured through property taxes based on valuation, deferred compounding interest and principal payments for decades with a massive payment of interest and principal due when the debt matures.

The California legislature in 2013 cracked down on the use of CABs by set-

(See SCHOOLS, page 8)

Teen's Activism Sparks Awareness, Controversy

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A 17-year-old Dublin High School student who helped organize a "traveling sign garden" outside Dublin City Hall this week said controversy over the event appeared to increase attendance and bring more attention to its focus — keeping the Black Lives Matter movement on people's minds.

The event was televised by KTVU.

Denel McMahan, who spoke at the Tri-Valley for Black Lives event, said about 350 people attended the Sunday program that planted about 50 signs on a lawn to promote justice and the need for systemic change.

"It went really well," Denel said. "There was a huge turnout. Some of my

teachers went. Some of my friends were there... Usually these are smaller community events. It ended up turning into a Bay Area event because of the news it made on other major news outlets."

Denel, a senior on the verge of selecting a college and president of his school's Black Student Union, found himself in the news when former Dublin online gun dealer, Mike Grant, criticized the Nov. 15 event at Civic Center Plaza. Grant posted Denel's picture on social media, called him a thug and invited far-right militia groups to protest it.

"Oath Keepers please bring your vests and helmets in case these BLM people start trouble," Grant wrote. "Remember this group is

(See ACTIVISM, page 7)

Community Says Goodbye to Former Mayor Bob Pearson

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — The city has lost an old friend and trailblazing advocate.



Bob Pearson

Former Mayor Robert Pearson died on Nov. 3 in Medford, Oregon. He was 90 years old.

Known for his strong opinions and unwavering

commitment to his community, Pearson arrived on the political scene in Pleasanton in 1970, where he quickly became a vocal critic of fast growth. At the time, Pleasanton was a sleepy hamlet of approximately 18,000 residents. Pearson, seeing the writing on the wall regarding city leaders' push to expand, jumped into the legislative arena with both feet.

"Bob was a rather unique individual that had very strong feelings about Pleasanton and the Valley and the way it should grow," said longtime friend Chuck Seymour. "In many respects, he set the tone for people that were yet to involve themselves in city politics concerning Pleasanton's growth and future. He was very forceful and outgoing with

(See PEARSON, page 7)

Panel Experts Explore Fire Management Best Practices

By Jeff Garberson

Fire has been part of the California landscape for millennia, but the past few decades have brought a new level of danger to the state as wildfires have become more destructive than ever before, according to a group of fire experts who spoke last week.

The experts participated in an online program of

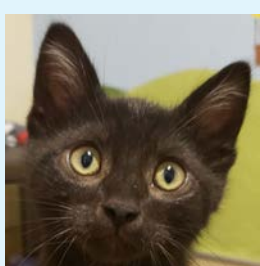
the Rae Dorrough Speaker Series, arranged and sponsored by the Quest Science Center and the Bankhead Theater.

There is no simple solution to the growing wildfire problem, the experts agreed. It has arisen because of a combination of factors including climate change, population growth, residential expansion into

(See EXPERTS, page 5)



Alameda County Fairgrounds is hosting Dinosaur Adventure Drive Thru, where attendees can explore life-size dinosaurs from the safety of their cars. The event opened Nov. 12. It runs through Nov. 29. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



Smoky

PET OF THE WEEK

Smoky is a purrfect mix of playful kitten and lap cat. His playful antics with a stuffed mouse will give you hours of entertainment, and afterwards he'll be looking for you to provide a warm spot for his nap! While Valley Humane Society remains closed during shelter-in-place, adoptions are coordinated by appointment with approved adopters. Contact info@valleyhumane.org for more information. (Photo - Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds..... 11
Editorial 4
Mailbox 4
Obituaries 9
Real Estate 11

Livermore to Consider Development Agreement Term Extension 2
The Rolling 9s Celebrate Veterans Day 3
LAVTA's Autonomous Vehicles Begin Operations 5
All Roads Lead Back to Las Positas for Basketball Coach 10
Pleasanton Arts Council Awards Youth 10
Scouts to Sell Christmas Trees 12

Council to Consider Catholic School Development Agreement Term Extension in Public Hearing

LIVERMORE — The council is set to hold a public hearing next week to amend a development agreement (DA) between the city and Adventus Corporation for the development of a Catholic High School in North Livermore near Las Colinas Road.

The Nov. 23 hearing will bring before the council a request to amend the DANo. 05-004 to extend the terms for five years.

The agreement was first approved in 2005 and included the terms and timing of on- and off-site improvements, including roadways, utility undergrounding, re-

gional trail improvements, and permanent preservation of approximately 75 acres of open space.

The site area consists of about 122 acres in an area zoned Open Space - Agriculture (OS - A), located at 3658 Colinas Road, north of Interstate 580 and west of Springtown. The project's on-site and off-site improvements include those related to public sewer, water, storm drain, street and trail segment.

To submit a public comment ahead of Monday's meeting, email cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net. Comments will also be accepted

via Zoom and Youtube during the meeting.

According to public hearing notices distributed to nearby residents, the full staff report and recommendation was set to be made available Tuesday, Nov. 17. For a copy of the agenda, call 925-960-4200 or email cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

The public hearing will take place Monday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. Zoom details for virtual access will be provided in the agenda. Viewers can also find the meeting live-streamed on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofLivermoreCalifornia>.

Council Interviews Applicants for Planning Commission

The Nov. 23 meeting will also see the appointment of a new member of the Planning Commission, following a special meeting held Nov. 16. No decision was made on Nov. 16.

During the special meeting, the council interviewed applicants Steven Dunbar, Thomas Cox, Alane Loisel, Elizabeth Weber and Stephen Wilde. Staff recommended the council interview the applicants for appointment to one vacancy of a regular term ending March 1, 2025.

Touchscreen Voting Causes Confusion

As many as 160 people who voted using the touchscreen at the Mills College Vote Center in Oakland took their ballots with them when they left, apparently believing the printout was a "receipt," instead of depositing them in the official vote trolley, according to Alameda County Registrar Tim Dupuis.

Dupuis said the county was able to retrieve 22 of the missing ballots, which had a distinct watermark for validation. He said the number

of unrecovered ballots was not enough to affect any of the races. About 300 voters used the touchscreen at Mills College.

Dupuis said nearly 800,000 of the county's 966,000 registered voters (81%) cast ballots in this year's election. Every registered voter received a mail-in ballot, which could be dropped off at one of 100 vote centers, 66 official drop boxes, or a U.S. mailbox. Dupuis said fewer than 57,000 people opted to vote in person.

LIVERMORE

(Continued from first page)

along Cayetano Creek, just west of North Livermore Avenue, with another section extending north of Manning Road.

Chris O'Brien, a member of the steering committee for Save North Livermore Valley, has been a staunch opponent of the Aramis project for its proposed land use and conflict with Measure D — approved by voters in 2000 to protect open space from sprawl. He stressed the importance of community input during the BZA meeting.

"For months the corporate executives behind the massive Aramis project have denigrated the value of the agricultural land in North Livermore Valley, falsely claiming our soil is of poor quality and our land is rarely used for cattle grazing. Meanwhile, the public is unaware that these same executives plan on selling 75% of the power generated by the Aramis project to San Francisco electricity customers," stated O'Brien. "The Aramis project is a monstrosity. It will destroy hundreds of acres of productive, environmentally important agricultural land and significantly and forever scar the scenic beauty

of North Livermore Valley. Even a senior Alameda County planner concluded that the Aramis project does 'not pass the laugh test' for compliance with the Alameda County Zoning Code, Measure D and applicable environmental policies.

"We can still save our valley. We ask the community to speak at the upcoming meeting the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments and call on the board members to reject the project."

Among the public agencies and environmental organizations that have submitted highly detailed and extensive criticisms of the environmental impact of the Aramis project are the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, Friends of Livermore, the Golden Gate Audubon Society and Save Mount Diablo.

Proponents of the project have pointed out the need for renewable energy. If built, the project could store and dispatch during peak demand enough electricity to power up to 25,000 homes with clean renewable energy harnessed from the sun.

The Board of Directors for East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) was scheduled to vote last Wednesday at its Nov. 18 meeting to authorize its CEO to enter into a 10-year power purchase agreement with the Aramis developer. To view a redacted copy of the agreement and a resolution supporting the contract, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_StaffReport.

In a recent interview with The Independent, Marisa Mitchell of Intersect Power — applicant of the Aramis project — stated that the site was carefully selected because it "has severely impaired soils and lack of habitat for protected species."

"Moreover, the EIR shows that the project will not be visible with the installation of extensive landscaping to screen the facility from public view," Mitchell continued. "(California Environmental Quality Act) is the toughest environmental standard in the country, and the project is fully compatible with the county's General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Measure D, which is a voter initiative approved in 2000 ... Measure D was intended to protect community open

space like parklands, not to force private property into serving as community open space."

The Nov. 24 meeting is set for 1:30 p.m. and will be conducted via Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92158285462>. The public will be given the opportunity to comment on the Aramis project.

Persons without internet access can attend by phone by calling 669-900-9128.

Those who cannot attend the meeting may contact the three members of the Board of Zoning Adjustments — Frank Imhof, Derek Eddy and Scott Beyer — in advance of the meeting by email at the following email addresses: timhof@earthlink.net, derek@purpleorchid.com, scott.beyer@wentevineyards.com

"Save North Livermore Valley fully appreciates the need to expand solar power," O'Brien continued. "However, it is foolhardy to destroy open space, agricultural land, wildlife habitat and scenic resources to generate renewable energy, particularly when alternative sites that would not result in grave environmental damage exist."

OUTSTANDING SOLD PRICE!
\$1,080,000



Another neighborhood record sell by Linda! 356 Hummingbird Lane in Livermore Call today!



Linda Diaz Futral
Broker/Realtor
925.980.3561
linda@diazfutral.com
www.lindadiazfutral.com
License #01257605

Alain Pinel is now **COMPASS**

JUST LISTED
SPRINGTOWN CHARMER



Nicole Sweeney
Realtor
925.518.2142
nicole@sweeneyshomes.com
DRE #01965816
Always There For You

1337 MORNING GLORY CIRCLE LIVERMORE
4 Bedroom • 2 1/2 Bath
1,568 Sq Ft • 7,535 Sq Ft Lot
Offered At \$869,000



COMING SOON!



2906 Lagiss Drive, Livermore
This 'Comers' gem exudes pride of ownership! Gorgeous home with stunning upgrades. 5 BD/4.5 BA, 4116 sq ft, 13,432 sq ft lot. South Livermore Neighborhood in Wine Country!
For more information Call 925-321-3296 or email sherrill.cody@cbmorcal.com



Sherrill Cody
REALTOR
925.321.3296
www.SherrillCody.com
CalBRE#01480559



Call for a **Free Market Analysis on Your Home.**

L I V E R M O R E
— arts —
BANKHEAD & BOTHWELL

BEST of the BANKHEAD

A VIRTUAL BENEFIT for Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center

favorite artists • 4-course delivered dinner & wine • diamond pendant raffle • live & silent auctions

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



FREMONT BANK Priem Family Foundation
Jean King • Lynn & Joan Seppala

Lance Cavalieri Jewelers • Denise Watkins • Bob & Patricia Zollars

The Independent • Pleasanton Weekly • Shea Homes • Topcon • Trutner Law Offices
UNCLE Credit Union • Dona Crawford • Phil & Muriel Dean • Steve & Melody O'Shea
Michael & Denise Weiner • Pat Wheeler

Event Partners: Advance Creative • BEETS+EATS • Freddie Silveria • Wente Vineyards



PAULA POUNDSTONE



THE CHOIR OF MAN



JAKE SHIMABUKURO



KEIKO MATSUI AND MORE...

LivermoreArts.org

TICKETS

925-373-6800



In observance of Veterans Day, the American Legion District 9 Contra Costa County, The Rolling 9s, rode through the Tri-Valley to honor and celebrate American veterans on Wednesday, Nov. 11. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

Supports COVID-19 Research

LLNL Unveils New High-Performance Supercomputer "Ruby"

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has deployed another high-performance computing cluster to perform functions for the National Nuclear Security Administration and support the laboratory's COVID-19 research. Nicknamed "Ruby," the liquid cooled HPC, with more than 1,500 nodes, is expected to rank among the 100 most powerful supercomputers in the world when an updated list is announced this week. Ruby will be used for unclassified work related to computer reliability testing and maintenance of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, and the search for therapeutic drugs and designer antibodies against the virus that causes COVID-19. "Ruby provides a substantial computing resource in our open col-

laboration zone, which has experienced a heavy increase in demand due to an uptick in telecommuting and a growth in external collaborations," said Chris Clouse, acting program director for LLNL's Advanced Simulation and Computing program. "A resource like Ruby provides a venue for leveraging expertise and tools in the open community for areas that are important to our programmatic missions." COVID-19 researchers have already begun using Ruby for the immense calculations needed for discovering small molecules capable of binding to protein sites in the structure of the coronavirus. "Ruby is excellent for running the molecular docking calculations," said LLNL Biochemical and Biophysical Sys-

tems Group Leader Felice Lightstone, who heads the COVID-19 small molecule work. "Our early access on Ruby is allowing us to screen about 130 million compounds per day when using the entire machine. As our COVID-19 therapeutic effort moves toward optimizing compounds we have identified as promising, Ruby allows us to maximize the throughput of our new designs." Other early applications include large-scale simulating of plasma dynamics and neutron production at and simulations for inertial confinement fusion (ICF) research. LLNL said additional work will be done on asteroid detection, moon formation, and high-fidelity fission. LLNL is partnering with Intel, Supermicro and Cornelis Networks. "The Ruby supercom-

puter is a great example of how the tech industry comes together to solve some of science's largest challenges," said Trish Damkroger, vice president and general manager of the high-performance computing organization at Intel. "Working closely with LLNL, Supermicro and Cornelis Networks has allowed us to deploy Ruby, which will make significant contributions in the area of COVID-19 research."

Thank You!

Leslie FAUGHT
REALTOR® | CRS, SRES®
925.784.7979
leslie@lesliefaught.com
Selling East Bay Homes.com
DRE01027778
Service. Experience. Results. **COMPASS**

"I'll find a buyer for your home and a home for you to buy"

Pianist, Fiddler Added to Bankhead Benefit

Two artists popular with local audiences – pianist Jon Nakamatsu and Celtic fiddler Natalie McMaster – have been added to the lineup for the "Best of the Bankhead," a virtual benefit for the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, at 6 p.m., on Saturday, Nov. 21. Designed to help set the stage for the organization's return to live performances next year, the event will be hosted by LVPAC Executive Director Chris Carter and emceed by auctioneer

Freddie Silveria, who will appear live from the Bankhead stage. Winner of the prestigious Van Cliburn Competition, Nakamatsu has a long history with the Bankhead Theater. He was the first pianist to perform a full concert on the theater's original grand piano in 2007 and helped with the selection of the new Steinway grand piano that was installed last fall. Canadian Natalie McMaster has performed at the Bankhead

both solo and with members of her family. They will join comedian Paula Poundstone, ukulele master Jake Shimabukuro, smooth jazz legend Keiko Matsui, the pub show group, The Choir of Man. "Pay What You Want" tickets for the online concert and auction, with a suggested \$25 minimum donation in support of the arts, will be available until the day of the event by calling the box office at (925) 373-6800

High School Robotics Team Inviting New Members

System Overload Robotics, a Tri-Valley team of high school students who participate in the annual FIRST Robotics Competition, will hold a virtual open house for prospective members at 6 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 20. For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) is an international organization with the goal of inspiring students through a mentor-based teaching system that includes a challenge to build and program a robot capable of fulfilling certain tasks. The 2021 challenge, a continuation of 2020, which ended early because of the COVID-19 pandemic, is to build robots capable of throwing balls into a pit, climb on hanging obstacles, and spin colored wheels. The local team, System Overload Robotics, operates as an Explorer Post of the Boy Scouts of America and draws members from Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin high schools. Members and their mentors are organized into subgroups, such as programming, manufacturing, research and development, and business. Although the team has been meeting virtually since last spring, prior to the pandemic, members worked out of a hangar at the Livermore Municipal Airport. The virtual open house for prospective members

will be held as a Zoom meeting. To sign up or for more information, go

to www.frc6059.com, or email sor.frc6059@gmail.com.

This year 6,000 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with ALS. They will die 2-5 years later.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or Lou Gerhig's disease is a tortuous enemy. There is no test for ALS. We don't know why ALS starts or why it progresses.

At the ALS CURE Project, we're on a mission to change that. Our 100 percent volunteer organization is working to discover the mechanisms of this deadly disease with some of the most brilliant minds in science and engineering. We're committed to leading cure efforts and funding vital research that can – and will – make the difference.

You can join us on the 'road to a cure' by remembering us in the corporate and employee giving campaigns now underway, or on Giving Tuesday – December 1, 2020. Every dollar, every pledge of support, goes directly to ALS research and getting us one step closer to the cure.

Help us fight this deadly disease and let's make a difference together. Learn more at alscure.net

"We can only cure what we understand."
— Mike Piscotty, President, ALS CURE Project



ALS CURE Project is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Federal ID # 84-3289802
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law

15% TO 40% OFF EVERYTHING

BAUGHMAN'S WESTERN OUTFITTERS
Special Anniversary SALE
SCRATCH for DISCOUNTS

Rock Revival Lucchese CORRAL Justin RESISTOL
STETSON. PENDLETON Wrangler

139TH ANNIVERSARY SALE!

EACH GUEST WILL RECEIVE A SCRATCHER FOR 15% TO 40% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE!

3 DAYS ONLY!

Fri., November 27th, 11am – 7pm
Sat., November 28th, 11am – 6pm
Sun., November 29th, 11am – 5pm

Baughman's Since 1881 **Christesen's**
2029 First St, Livermore (925) 447-1540
633 Main St, Pleasanton (925) 846-2169
WESTERN OUTFITTERS WESTERN OUTFITTERS

EDITORIAL

Prepare for the Surge

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced on Monday this week that about 70% of the state's counties have now fallen into the Purple Tier, representing a widespread transmission risk, which ultimately pairs with tighter restrictions.

He spoke about personal protective equipment (PPE) in a fashion that echoed the tone set in April — we must increase our supplies and prepare for a surge of hospitalizations.

Alameda County became one of those counties, as it jumped from its position in the Orange Tier (moderate risk of transmission) back to the most severe, all in one day. We won't face the same kinds of restrictions that we saw when we were last in the Purple Tier. According to the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, personal care services, hair stylists and barbers may remain open indoors with modifications for each business category. But we're saying goodbye to the small glimpse of indoor dining and gym activity, for example; now there's vague talk of a curfew.

Livermore School District Makes the Right Choice

School districts across the state are under tremendous pressure. They're charged with keeping pace with constantly evolving information as health officials provide ongoing updates. They're striving to balance the need for following safety mandates and the demand from many parents to return to the classroom for the mental well-being of the children. It's no easy task.

We're all on the COVID Express train, barreling down the tracks — metal screeching as Newsom pulls the emergency brakes. It could take a while to slow down.

At a citizen level — let's be honest — many of us have grown complacent. Our social bubbles have expanded to the point of bursting. A burst bubble does nothing to contain this virus. We need to practice stronger social distancing again.

At a municipal level, the Tri-Valley's leaders can support the effort to slow the train by enforcing mask compliance and helping those nonessential businesses with direction on how to survive yet another wave of closures. Cities could also continue to support local efforts to organize meal and grocery deliveries through their social media networks.

We're heading into the cold months, when many had predicted another surge, and now it's upon us.

Let's each do our part and fight this together.

But as the county moves into Purple again this week, we commend the task force and district officials in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District for recently proposing a return to school no earlier than Jan. 19 in order to preserve the safety of the children, their families, teachers and staff.

Doing the right thing is not always the most popular.

MAILBOX

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

What Do They Want? Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

Now that a historic and passionate election is behind us, I have been asking myself this question, "What sort of country do Trump and his supporters want to live in?"

It's easy to know what kind of country they do not want to live in:

They do not want universal health insurance ("socialism").

They do not want immigrants.

They do not want equal rights for non-white people, for women, or for LGBTQ people.

They do not want science or emphasis on education.

They do not want reproductive rights for women (certainly not abortion).

They do not want separation of Christian church and state.

I might add - they do not want to wear masks!

From my observation, here is what Trump and his supporters seem to want:

A white, male-dominated society, plenty of guns for white people, zero taxes (at least for corporations), Sharia law based on the Christian religion, dirty air, dirty water and fracking.

That's about it — a completely dumbed-down society run by (white) male gorillas with plenty of guns.

Wildlands Supports The Aramis Project Brian Monaghan, Livermore

I'm writing in response to an Oct. 21, 2020, story entitled, "Local Group Engages Solar Consultant for Alternative Options."

The article describes a solar siting study commissioned by the group Friends of Livermore, which opposes the proposed 100-megawatt Aramis Renewable Energy Project in the North Livermore Valley, for the purpose of identifying alternative locations for the project. The stated goal of the study is to identify locations so as to avoid controversy related to land use conflicts. The largest property identified in the siting study includes 381 acres owned by our company Wildlands Inc. As senior vice president at Wildlands, I must highlight these 381 acres — suggested as being suitable for solar development — are a fully protected habitat mitigation bank for western burrowing owl, American badger, and San Joaquin kit fox. Our property is comprised of high-quality habitat and is unsuitable for solar energy development. The property is restricted by a permanent conservation easement prohibiting any type of development.

As conservation land managers with experience in the region, the team at Wildlands has extensive expertise working with federal, state and local natural resource agencies in identifying lands that are appropriate for wildlife conservation and those that are not. We manage mitigation banks for important resources like wetlands, grasslands, habitat for California red-legged frogs, California tiger salamanders, and other species, and we have developed conservation easements for dozens of utility-scale solar projects throughout California that require the acquisition of compensatory habitat due to their displacement of habitat for threatened and endangered species.

We have reviewed the Aramis project, including the draft environmental impact report, and have concluded that the site would provide marginal value for habitat conservation. The solar development represents an

opportunity to balance the need for renewable energy and avoiding sensitive areas since the project site has been extensively grazed and disked, and that the proposed development footprint appropriately avoids the areas of the site with higher habitat potential such as Cayetano Creek.

We are encouraged to see that the project site strikes a balance between protecting raptor foraging habitat during long-term operations while meeting our states renewable energy goals. In fact, if all solar projects were sited as well as this one, the team here at Wildlands would be much less busy providing off-site habitat solutions. The developer has identified an appropriate site for critically important solar and storage development, and Wildlands supports the Aramis project.

Are You Tired? Tania Panarello, Livermore

By now, the 2020 General Election will have passed; the repercussions of the results, however, will have only just begun. Time for a community well-check.

Raise your hand if you're tired of being cooped up in the house or behind a mask ... I hear you. My coughing and sneezing from lifelong allergies and asthma have garnered disapproving looks from trail hoppers and grocery shoppers alike.

Raise your hand if you gained the "COVID-19" from supporting local businesses. (I do love my Loard's, DW, local brews, and Vine popcorn, though Rusty's salads provide a tasty option!)

Raise your hand if your mental health has suffered during this pandemic, transforming you into a NextDoor foul-mouthed, three-headed beast, or you rage-quit Facebook amidst offensive political posts ... yeah, me, too. (I traded my Facebook app for Lose It! - much healthier.)

We can ride this morale-bashing merry-go-round again and again and never jump off, but I'm going to throw in a monkey wrench and just stop.

Seriously, just stop. Stop the negativity. Stop the trolling on Facebook. Stop the criticizing. Stop and take a deep, cleansing breath. Stop the juvenile behavior, like vandalizing and stealing election signs. (Again, with the signs!)

Let's ask ourselves, my community friends: What part does each of us play in this negativity stew, this hot mess of raw emotions, bubbling over on the stove of consciousness?

If we're really 'in this together,' why is our world just one big hate sandwich right now? We keep cramming more and more layers of hate, stress, intolerance, and indifference into that sandwich; it will eventually fall apart. What will be the mustard or mayo that holds our sandwich of differences together?

Love. Seriously. "Love one another ..." (John 13:34). God made every one of us unique individuals; let's appreciate those differences and 'agree to disagree' respectfully.

Back to politics: Why can't candidates run a clean campaign focused on the goals they hope to accomplish? Don't we, as

constituents, deserve better? I wasn't happy with several candidate choices this year; there has to be better. I will not support mudslinging.

Whatever the official outcome of this election, please remain calm, respectful, and kind to each other. Reach out to others with kindness and an attitude of gratitude. Be civil and maintain our sense of community, because despite our differences, we truly are in this together.

Site 300: Confronting Toxic Pollution Mary Perner, Livermore

Site 300 is an 11-square mile experimental test site in the hills southwest of Tracy.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed Site 300 on its 'superfund' list, one of the most contaminated sites in the country. For decades, open air high explosives tests have released toxins into the air, soil, and water putting Site 300 and nearby communities at risk.

Recently, Livermore Lab and its parent agency, the National Nuclear Security Administration, have undertaken a new Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) to analyze operations at the lab's main site in Livermore and its Site 300 near Tracy over the next 15 years or more. This is the time for community involvement.

Join a virtual community meeting, at 7:30 p.m., on Dec. 1, to discuss early identification of concerns, potential impacts, relevant effects of past actions and possible alternative actions. For information on how to attend, visit trivalleycares.org

Concerns About Monte Vista Cemetery Proposal Jean King, Livermore

Monte Vista Memorial Gardens Project is being proposed at 3656 Las Colinas Road in unincorporated Alameda County just north of the City of Livermore between the North Livermore Avenue and North First Street exits of I-580. A funeral home building would include a morgue, crematorium, offices, chapel, other funeral facilities and a pavilion with table seating for 120 guests and associated facilities. This is on 47 acres of a 104-acre parcel.

Friends of Livermore has several concerns:

1. Is there a public need for a new cemetery in Alameda County? If so, then a simple interment site in a location that minimizes environmental impacts is appropriate. Modest headstones and minimal development should be the goal if a new cemetery is to be located outside the county urban growth boundary.

2. Funeral, mortuary, morgue, cremation services, etc., should be located inside the urban growth boundary in an appropriate commercial or industrial zoning district. The interment site should be restricted to burial and gravesite visitation only.

3. Not all buildings appear to be located within a 2-acre development envelope as required by Measure D. Under Measure D, only agricultural buildings necessary for agricul-

tural use and security buildings are permitted outside the 2-acre development envelope. Mausoleums are buildings and must be located within the development envelope.

4. The total floor area of all buildings including mausoleums may exceed the 1% Floor Area Ratio required by Measure D. (The cemetery project is proposed on 47 acres of a 104-acre parcel. The former would allow 20,473 sf of building area, the latter 45,302 sf.)

5. The site is not to be served by municipal wastewater services but uses septic to handle human waste. The parcel is transected by Arroyo Las Positas. Human wastewater could impact stream and groundwater quality. This is another reason why large public congregations should be located within the urban growth boundary, so they can be served by municipal services.

6. The proposed water features may create an attractive nuisance for amphibians whose life cycles require aquatic breeding locations. The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should provide more information on this potential impact. When the Draft EIR is released, our comments on this issue and others analyzed in the document will be provided.

The Election America Lost Greg Scott, Livermore

Democrats are now elated, along with some Republicans and most Independents.

The market is happy, because there is no 'blue wave', the Progressives are in check, there may be a coming effective vaccine for the pandemic, and there appears likely to be a more stable corporate shell to be president. Overall, America lost.

It is not the corporate media outlets or the so-called 'free press' that decides who is the president; it is the Electoral College, which does not cast their votes until Monday, Dec. 14, with an omen of a total solar eclipse in the southern hemisphere.

If Mr. Biden is preaching 'patience' in the name of democracy, then we all can wait, as can President Trump and his supporters and sycophants. Perhaps even Secretary of State Pompeo could refrain from his neofascist remarks regarding the 'transition.'

America lost in that the institution of elections, an American ideal, has been seriously eroded with this last election by President Trump, the Republican Party, and the Democratic Party. Voter suppression seems to be the way of the day. Consider that in American history the presidential election used to go on for weeks. Why not count all votes? The American ideal of its elections has also been greatly reduced in the eyes of the world. This is very dangerous.

Cleverly the Democratic Party oppresses third parties. If the Green Party was on the Wisconsin ballot, Joe Biden probably would have lost this state, as Hillary Clinton did in 2016. The trouble with the Democratic Party is that it is not democratic.

Joe Biden lost New Hamp-

shire, Iowa and Nevada Democratic Primaries badly. Then, suddenly, by epiphanies in the ether, the candidates Senator Klobuchar, Mayor Buttigieg, and the numbskull Robert "Beto" O'Rourke coincidentally endorsed Mr. Biden right before the primaries of Super Tuesday. The Democratic National Committee did its job in destroying the candidacy of Senator Sanders to promote the power of the corporate oligarchs.

Good thing there were not any emails exposed. That again would be embarrassing.

The pressing question is what is a President Biden going to do for our current dilemmas? Restructure the economy? Solve the pandemic and its longed-for aftermath with for-profit healthcare? Magically mend race relations?

Capitalist democracy is now dead with this past election. It is a new era, and Joe Biden has offered little in solutions to the problems of our times.

Shortage of Poll Workers Julie Perea, Livermore

Over the summer, I learned that there was projected to be a nationwide shortage of poll workers due to Coronavirus and the potential risk to our older population.

At the end of July, I signed up to be a poll worker through powerthepolls.org. By October, I learned that I was not alone - volunteer poll workers turned out in record numbers in Alameda County, and I was assigned to be a 'stand by judge.' Sadly, I never got the call to work on any of the four days of in-person voting, even though more people turned out to vote during the 2020 election than ever before. I was excited about being a frontline worker for democracy!

Hundreds of thousands of Americans stepped up to help at the polls this year. These record numbers prevented election administrators from closing polling places, ensured polling sites were appropriately staffed to minimize lines and delays, and helped neighbors in their communities navigate issues when voting. Poll workers are critical for ensuring a fair, safe, and accessible election for all. This new wave of poll workers recruited by Power the Polls were critical for not just this election, but will strengthen our democracy for decades to come.

Thank you to all who stepped up.

When the next election rolls around, I will again volunteer my time and energy and hope that you will consider joining me. Visit powerthepolls.org for more information.

Missing Man Ministry A. Smith, Former Livermore Resident

Missing Man Ministry (MMM) is a wonderful local organization that helps widows, fatherless children, and others in need.

Its members provide emotional support through the grieving process as well as home and auto repair and maintenance, emergency financial assistance, and long-term financial or life

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

THE Independent

INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala
EDITOR: Aly Brown

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: David T. Lowell (In Memoriam)
EDITOR: Janet Armantrout (In Memoriam)

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925)243-8000. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. For more information or to sign up visit www.independentnews.com. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925)243-8000 during regular business hours or by emailing info@independentnews.com. Editorial information may be submitted by emailing editor@independentnews.com

www.independentnews.com



Livermore Valley Transit Authority's Shared Autonomous Vehicle began public operations on Monday, Nov. 16. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Autonomous Vehicle Now Offering Rides

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority began offering rides this week in a self-operating shared-ride vehicle.

The transit authority's Shared Autonomous Vehicle, or SAV, was recently certified for use on public streets by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It is designed to carry passengers between the East Dublin/Pleasanton BART station and nearby locations. The initial route extends just under a mile and includes two stops and one traffic light. A roundtrip takes about 10 minutes.

Although the electric vehicle runs autonomously, the transit authority said a safety operator will be aboard. Only three passengers will be allowed at a time and they must wear facemasks.

Initially, the vehicle will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Reservations are required and can be made at www.wheelsbus.com/sav/. A short video about the project is available at <https://vimeo.com/478683023>

EXPERTS

(Continued from first page)

risky fire areas, unsafe vegetation near structures and the use of flammable building materials.

Remedies will require dealing with all these factors and more.

One of the experts, William McDonald, Chief of the Alameda County Fire Department, noted that four of the five most destructive wildfires in California history happened this summer.

The biggest of the fires, labeled the August Complex, started in mid-August and was not finally extinguished until a week ago. By then it had consumed an area greater than the state of Rhode Island — more than a million acres of six northern counties, or roughly 1% of California.

Fires like these are many times bigger and more destructive than the wildfires of a few decades ago, said Stewart Gary, former chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and moderator of the evening's discussion.

He recalled the Laguna fire of 1970, one of the largest fires in state history until then. It consumed some 175,000 acres in eastern San Diego County.

A decade later, driven by 90 mph Santa Ana winds, the Panorama fire in the San Bernardino Mountains destroyed a much smaller area, 29,000 acres.

"Fire today is a phenom-

enally different problem than it was," Gary said.

To Alameda County Fire Chief McDonald, "We aren't going to be able to stay ahead of this (problem) by fighting the fires only. We have to find preventive measures, ways to reduce impacts and hazards."

Crystal Kolden, a wildfire expert from the University of California at Merced, said it is a mistake to blame a single factor like climate change or allowing residential expansion into wilderness areas.

"It's not just that it's hotter and drier, which it absolutely is," Kolden said. "California just had its hottest August-September-October on record ... But there are many components (to reducing wildfire dangers). At center is how humans are functioning on this landscape and how we have altered California from what it was 200, 300, 500 years ago, before European colonization."

She went on to note that Indigenous Californians "used fire to clear land, for agriculture, to regenerate grasses, for grazing and livestock, to create space for safety."

"There are lots of human factors that are changing and helping create that risk matrix," Kolden continued.

She rejected what she considers a false solution, that people "should just stop

living in high-risk areas." For one thing, she said, most Californians already live in areas considered high risk by Cal Fire, the state Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Eliminating homes in fire prone areas won't work "unless 20 million people that live in these areas want to all get up and move somewhere else."

Also, she said, many places not designated high risk have "actually burned in the past several years." From 2013 through 2018, including the destructive Woolsey and Camp fires, "over half the structures that burned ... were in areas that Cal Fire had designated as unburnable."

Kolden does not believe fires can be eliminated entirely — there will always be lightning strikes — but the state has already taken effective steps to reduce the numbers of fires ignited by people.

Now questions remain around how to mitigate fires and reduce their impact.

Some of the fire prevention remedies raised by the speakers included prescribed burns, creating defensible space around structures, planting with fire resistant vegetation and building with fire-resistant materials.

Kolden suggested air filtration to protect human health in urban areas,

"where the impact has been tremendous."

Gary described this multi-pronged approach as "a layered system, anticipating more than one thing occurring."

Fire detection technology has advanced far beyond spotters on hilltop towers, with GPS systems and hiker cell phone reports bringing prompt and often valuable information to firefighters.

Still, Kolden said, fire crews can face major challenges simply reaching the scene of a fire. Fires can break out in rugged terrain miles from roads or aircraft landing sites. Sometimes high winds, dense smoke and darkness make access by fire teams or tanker planes difficult or impossible.

Beyond the physical challenge of fighting fires, the firefighters themselves can experience personal stress because of long absences from home and everyday worries about child care and other domestic issues.

McDonald, chief of some 500 personnel in the Alameda County Fire De-

partment, worries about these issues and calls them "cumulative."

Stuart noted that communities forced to evacuate pay huge disruptive costs. Some residents are displaced for months at a time.

He concluded, "When we talk about costs, we

often talk about the direct (fire) suppression cost, but social costs, property, rebuilding headaches are just immense to the communities involved."

To view the discussion, visit the Quest site at quest-science.org/science-stories/#wildfires-event.

**MY BUDDY'S BIKE SHOP
IN DOWNTOWN LIVERMORE**

**LOTS IN STOCK:
16, 20 & 24"
KIDS BIKES
AND ADULT
E-BIKES!**

FREE Pick Up & Delivery in the Tri-Valley
Service All Brands
Skilled Service Technicians.
Service Department Open
No Appointment Necessary.



Facebook
Instagram



GIANT
BICYCLES
SANTA CRUZ

1601-B Railroad Ave, Livermore
Hours: Tues-Sat 10am-6pm
Closed Sundays and Mondays
925.583.5454
mybuddysbikeshop.com

Dublin Seeks Applicants for City Positions

The City of Dublin is seeking applicants for the positions of poet laureate and city historian.

The application deadline for both positions is on Friday, Nov. 27, at 5 p.m.

The city poet laureate serves as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of literary arts in the City of Dublin. Responsibilities include:

- Create and read poetry for civic events, public ceremonies, and dedications, as coordinated through city staff.
- Serve as a resource to staff, city council, and commission; may act as a liaison between the city and local schools, literary organizations, and bookstores.
- Assist with the development of classes and workshops devoted to poetry; potentially coordinate and participate in staged poetry readings.
- On an annual basis, have

at least one original poem displayed in a city facility.

If more than two applications are received, a selection committee coordinated by the Heritage and Cultural Arts Manager will review all applications and submit the top two choices to the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission for final recommendation. The Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission will present their preferred poet laureate to the mayor for recommendation to the city council. Following city council approval, the poet laureate will formally begin the two-year term in January of each appointment year.

The city historian will assist researchers, students, librarians, and members of the public and press in accessing resources for historical information. Responsibilities include:

- Maintain, add to, and facilitate access to city historical records.
- Respond to inquiries re-

garding the city's past.

- Serve as a resource to staff, city council, and the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission; may act as a liaison between the Commission and local schools, genealogical groups, and members of the media and the public.

Review of applications and selection of the city historian will be recommended by the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission, which will put forward a maximum of two applicants to the mayor. The mayor will recommend final appointment for approval by the city council, with the city historian formally beginning the four-year term in January of each appointment year.

To apply for the poet laureate position, visit <https://bit.ly/2K7AHwM>. To apply for the city historian position, visit <https://bit.ly/3ngtN6y>. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3njnxxr>.



James J. Phillips*



Katelyn M. Phillips

Father — Daughter
Estate and Trust Law Firm
Phillips & Phillips
A Professional Corporation

Practice Areas

- Trust & Estate Planning
- Trust Administration & Probate
- Conservatorship & Elder Law

James J. Phillips & Katelyn M. Phillips
30 Years in the Tri Valley

*Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law
State Bar Board of Legal Specialization
LL.M. in Taxation

2811 Castro Valley Blvd., In the Breilh Bldg. • (510) 886-2120
4900 Hopyard Rd., Suite 260, Pleasanton • (925) 463-1980
www.phillipslaw.us



LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

DID YOU KNOW

To help you graduate, Las Positas College offers over 20 student and academic support programs.

Invest in you

Register Today www.laspositascollege.edu



MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

planning. During these tough times, their mission is more important than ever.

MMM's dedicated volunteers cleaned up the yard of an elderly widow with serious health problems. This widow is a good friend of mine. She had sought help from other organizations, but MMM was the only group that came to her aid. She told me that their unselfish work 'renewed her faith in humanity.'

If you are one of those fortunate people who has not been affected by the current economic downturn, please consider making a donation to Missing Man Ministry. They will put it to excellent use, and they can always use more volunteers. Go to www.missingmanministry.org for more information.

What Trump Aims For Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

Trump is already planning to run for president in 2024.

I have been wondering what sort of society Trump aims for. Here is my conclusion.

We know that Trump judges everyone by the amount of dollars they have. He sees a binary society: if you are rich, you are a 'winner.' If you are not rich, you are a 'loser.' In fact, he only respects people whose aim in life is to enrich themselves. He has made it clear that he looks down on people (like members of the military) who are making altruistic sacrifices for the country and do not get rich in the process. Greed is good - altruism is stupid.

Trump's society will reward the winners and penalize the losers. The rich (winners) will be rewarded by making them even richer - at the expense of the non-rich (the losers).

If you are a 'winner' (rich), you can afford expensive private health insurance. If you are a 'loser' (not rich), you should be penalized. The government should not invest in affordable health insurance for the non-rich (the losers). After all, that would siphon money away from the winners!

In fact, get rid of all social programs; they only benefit the losers!

Only the winners, the rich, deserve any rewards from the government - the losers, the non-rich, have forfeited the right to get anything from the government. The reward for the winners: zero or very low taxes. The penalty for the losers: high taxes.

Any deviation from this society, any attempt to improve life for the middle class and the poor, will be denounced as 'socialism' and must be fought tooth and nail.

Do We Deserve Honest Elections?

Louis Dentici, Livermore

Government of the people, by the people and for the people expresses our nations values and is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution.

Fair elections must protect the will of the people, and tens of millions of people feel the 2020 election has been stolen by those who seek to support the vision of the New World Order. The software voting machines are made by Dominion and is named Hammer and Scorecard.

This program was first used in Venezuela by Hugo Chavez to secure his election in the '80s. With the help of outside governments and very wealthy investors, its use has grown widespread and is currently used worldwide to ensure vote outcomes favoring the progressive agenda. When used, it is digitally able to switch the vote count from one candidate in nano seconds to another in the exact same amount. This methodology was used in the 2016 election; however, the algorithms underestimated the support for candidate Trump and the increase in fraudulent votes was incorrect.

In the 2020 election, the well-funded opposition overestimated, the deception became

obvious, and now they have been caught cheating.

In one instance, thousands of votes in Pennsylvania switched by an equal number of votes, in the middle of the night, from Trump to Biden. More than 20 states have used the Dominion software program and equipment. Millions of U.S. citizen votes have been fraudulently switched from President Trump to Joe Biden.

If this election is not corrected and prevented to safeguard future elections, our country will no longer exist as a republic and voter confidence in the election process irreparably damaged. Let's get this mess straightened out; the evidence is growing. Let's allow the experts to do their jobs for the sake of citizens to see and know that justice has been carried out.

We must arrest, indict and convict those that are responsible for trying to overthrow our system of justice.

Shutting Down East Avenue Winslow Brough, Livermore

To improve bicycle safety in Livermore, the city is conducting a study to make changes to East Avenue, the only east-west corridor from the downtown area to the eastern parts of the city.

Two of the current three proposals reduce motor vehicle lanes from the existing four (two lanes in each direction) to just two lanes (one lane in each direction). The third option maintains the four lanes but eliminates street parking along the length of East Avenue to just eight.

I applaud the city's effort to improve bicycle safety, but to remove 50% of the motor vehicle corridor along the busy and only major east-west corridor in East Livermore to help a much smaller population of bicyclists is unreasonable, given the motor vehicle congestion that I believe will result from the reduction to one lane in each direction. R

I would encourage those that will be impacted by the proposed changes to go to eastavecorridorstudy.com and take the short survey to express your opinion before the city council decides on what will be done.

Reformatting the Traffic Patterns on East Avenue Owen Brovont, Livermore

Is the problem of altering the traffic patterns on East Avenue the city is trying to solve greater than the problems the city is creating for the citizens who live along and frequently use East Avenue?

A detailed justification is warranted owing to the dislocations this plan will inflict on those who live on or just off east avenue, and those non-avenue residents who use the street frequently. It also seems that there are better ways to spend \$100,000 of the city's money than to hire a 'consultant' to come up with a palatable plan to implement a scheme that popped into of someone's head.

There are far more important issues the city should be tackling with its limited resources than the ginned-up issue of public safety on East Avenue.

If bicycling is the real issue, there are multiple alternative routes just a couple of blocks south of East Avenue that lead to the same goal, South Vasco Road. One of them is called the Arroyo Bike Trail. All of the alternative bike routes both north and south of East Avenue carry substantially less vehicular and pedestrian traffic and thus are already consistent with the desire for a safer route to South Vasco Road and the two laboratories.

A biker can pick up the Arroyo Bike Trail on the south side of Stanley Boulevard, just west of Murrieta Boulevard, and north of Granada High School. Besides providing a trail to the east to South Vasco Road, the Arroyo Bike Trail continues on the north side of Stanley Boulevard all the way

to Isabel Avenue where it turns north and continues up to Jack London, whence it goes left and heads to Pleasanton.

One wonders if we are not really talking about convenience for bikers travelling east and west to their laboratory employment? The statistics comparing bicycle to vehicular traffic argue very strongly against the suggested permanent disruption of the residents who depend upon East Avenue to access their homes and businesses.

Finally, there is the issue of unimpeded accessibility to East Avenue for Station 6 of the LFPD.

In sum, an unneeded to solution to a nonexistent problem, irrespective of the added sugar, is still unnecessary. Whether you agree or disagree, give the city council the benefit of your opinion - that is what democracy is all about, so use it while you still have it.

Alameda County Rushing Decision on North Livermore Solar Projects Susan Springer, Livermore

The Alameda County East Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA) will review the environmental impact report (EIR) for the Intersect Power Aramis industrial solar power plant and lithium-ion battery station complex proposed for North Livermore Valley on Tuesday, Nov. 24. The discussion of this project is being accelerated by Alameda County at a pace beyond the normal review process. The final EIR was released on the evening of Friday, Nov. 13. The scheduled discussion less than ten days from the release at a special meeting of the BZA during the week of Thanksgiving scarcely allows the public sufficient time to review the voluminous documents and provide comments regarding the project.

The unusual push by certain officials from the Board of Supervisors raises concern regarding who will actually benefit from the project. It is certainly not the citizens of Livermore, or even Alameda County since most of the energy generated will go to San Francisco. There are claims of temporary construction jobs created by the project. Those jobs, while important, are short-term and will occur if the solar project is erected in a less conflicted location. Initially, it was stated that all jobs would be coming from Alameda County, and now that too has changed to include Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties.

A project of this magnitude and irreversible detrimental impact to North Livermore Valley should be allocated sufficient time for careful consideration and discussion. It is disrespectful to the citizens in Alameda County to rush a decision on the project to satisfy the short-term selfish benefit of officials with no investment in the outcome.

From more information on the solar project see <https://www.savenorthlivermorevalley.com/>

City Continues to Undercut Residents, Businesses William Beiriger, Livermore

Our Great City Fathers have done it again. As soon as the elections were over, they announced that two of our city employees are getting a pay raise of \$15,000 and \$16,000 per year. That gives them a rounded off salary of \$300,000, plus about \$100,000 in their retirement and medical fund. At the same time, because of the COVID-19 crises, many of the general public in town whose taxes would normally pay for these raises, have no jobs and may not have one in the near future to help pay for those unreasonable raises.

Then these same public employees keep asking us to conserve water, only to announce that they plan to build more than 4,000 homes off Isabel

Avenue. They want people to shop in downtown Livermore, but with these new homes they are planning a whole new series of restaurants, gift shops, hair salons and other shops that people in the new housing area can shop at; that means they won't have to come into That Great Downtown of Livermore. All they want is the added tax revenue from the new homes and people spending money. And one reason why all of this is being proposed is to get a new train into Livermore to take us to BART; the only problem is it will be filled up with passengers from the Central Valley before it even gets on the Western side of the Altamont Pass, where Livermore taxpayers will have to stand up to ride to BART.

Speak Up for Agriculture Merlin Newton Sr, Livermore

The East County Board of Zoning Adjustments (ECBZA) will hold a public Zoom hearing on Nov. 24, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., to consider whether or not to approve the massive Aramis Solar Facility in North Livermore Valley. The solar facility will occupy over 700 acres of agricultural land off North Livermore Avenue and will include 320,000 solar panels and thousands of lithium-ion batteries stored in over 50 trailer truck-size battery stations. The facility will also be surrounded with miles of wire fencing and plant materials to create a solid visual barrier approximately 15 feet high.

Over a half century ago Alameda County designated North Livermore Avenue as a "Scenic Corridor" through its "Scenic Route Element," which it adopted as part of its General Plan in 1966. The purpose of the designation was for the protection and enhancement of the scenic views. If approved, the project would not only destroy the scenic views, but it will carve out a mass amount of land used by wildlife and endangered species for the next 50 years. Just this past weekend my wife photographed and filmed a red fox hunting for prey on our property, which is adjacent to one of the proposed solar facilities. The miles of fencing, alone, will be devastating to the survival of wildlife and other species in the area.

Additionally, the land where the proposed solar facility is to be constructed is surrounded

by no less than 6 preserves in all directions (Dublin Ranch, Livermore One, Livermore Two, Collier Canyon, Eagle Ridge and Eagle Ridge North) and the land has also been identified by the Association of Bay Area Governments as a "Priority Conservation Area," which are regionally significant open spaces vital to the SF Bay Area's natural systems, rural economy, and health of all residents. This all comes at the same time Governor Newsom is calling on us to preserve and protect 30% more of the state's lands to expand and restore biodiversity.

We all support renewable energy, but we do not have to destroy the environment to protect it. We ask the community to speak at the upcoming ECBZA public hearing and call on the board members to reject the project. For additional information please visit www.SaveNorthLivermoreValley.com.

City Needs a Fair Appeal Process Kirk and Pam Pope, Livermore

Dear Neighbors, Friends, and Citizens of Livermore

We have recently signed a Settlement Agreement with the City of Livermore regarding the city fence that is being constructed on our Holmes Street property line. The city staff demanded a 10-foot slope easement into our backyard, with us to pay the substantial cost (\$70,000) of the city's slope work. Beware if your property backs up to a thoroughfare and your wood fence or block concrete wall is in disrepair.

We compromised with the City of Livermore because the city refused to hear our appeal of the City Compliance Order,

and the city charges for appealing the Abatement Order to follow are punitive and potentially massive charges on each abatement order.

By making the compromise we made, which was for us to build a retaining wall at the property line, we could save 10 feet of our backyard. So, we had no choice.

We want to remind all of our neighbors that, absent your specific agreement, the Holmes Street fence is a city fence, which the city is obligated to maintain in perpetuity under Civil Code Section 841. All homeowners are responsible for the fence that the city insisted on having on property line.

We also want citizens of Livermore to know the city refusal to accept our appeal of a Compliance Order was made possible by the city council's adoption of a COVID-19 emergency ordinance, now made a permanent ordinance. Instead of allowing citizens to appeal a Compliance Order from any city big man, the ordinance now denies any appeal of a Compliance Order, because it may eventually lead to an Abatement Order.

This also took all our legal rights to go to court. We are not sure how this involves COVID-19 since the sidewalk on Holmes has been closed for at least seven years now.

Then, when the Abatement Order comes, unlike with a Compliance Order appeal, the appellant is not entitled to a neutral judge; is subject to \$100 per day fines during the appeal period; and the appellant pays the city cost of the hearing. We ask the city council to restore a fair appeal process for citizens the city staff claims are violating city ordinances.



RETZLAFF
Estate Wines

OPEN FOR
WINE TASTING &
BOTTLE SALES.

RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY!

Please visit our website to reserve.

RetzlaffVineyards.com



MONY NOP
TURKEY
DROP 5th Annual

"Helping Tri-Valley Families...One Turkey at a Time"

HELP
LOCAL
FAMILIES
IN NEED!

DONATE:
FROZEN TURKEYS
GIFT CARDS | CASH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

LIVERMORE POLICE STATION
1110 S. LIVERMORE AVENUE

Throughout the month of November, make a donation to Tri-Valley Haven at Grocery Outlet, Livermore!



All Proceeds Benefit Tri-Valley Haven's Holiday Program

MNRE will be donating \$5 for every turkey donated in celebration of our 5th Annual Turkey Drop

SPONSORED BY:   

Compass | 144 South K Street | Livermore, CA 94550 | DRE# 01813021

TIRED OF
NO BURN DAYS?



MENIOTIA

WE SELL AND INSTALL
FIREPLACE INSERTS* AND FIREPLACES.
SAVE UP TO \$400.00 ON SELECT UNITS.

JERRY'S
FIREPLACES

Locally owned by Livermore resident, happily servicing the Tri-Valley since 1982

*Gas, Wood and Pellet

23585 CONNECTICUT ST # 15, HAYWARD
510.471.5601 www.jerrysfireplaces.com

REOPENING

(Continued from first page)

said. "We have to work with the county and the state education system... I understand the frustration. It's difficult, and no one there is not trying to get the kids back to school. But there are so many concerns. (We) have to build a contingency plan and (we) have to have a contingency plan if something goes wrong."

Following the presentation, dozens of parents and students commented on the topic of in-person learning. Many criticized the district for what they saw as its lack of transparency, and for putting up hurdles for children whose families want them to return to school. Those who spoke in favor of reopening in a hybrid setting, in which students can attend school part time and learn from home part time, took issue with the task force's recommendation to gain a strong majority from families.

"The real point of contention is the two-thirds super majority vote was never really discussed," said Morgan Crinklaw, an LVJUSD parent. "It was almost as if the board was in agreement, saying let's get kids back to school and give them a choice and submit a plan, and yet this two-thirds majority threshold was still looming."

In addition to the recommended majority vote, Van Schaack noted some children might be asked to switch teachers, or even schools, under the hybrid learning plan. With 84 district teachers no longer returning to teach because of health concerns, along with health mandates for reduced class sizes, enough classrooms and educators may not be available at

certain campuses.

Crinklaw and other parents were concerned these obstacles would cause some parents to vote against bringing children back on campus, even if they supported in-person learning, making it more difficult to reach a super majority.

Nobella Baba, whose children attend school within LVJUSD, said she cannot sit by and watch her children suffer while they miss out on social and academic opportunities. She is a firm proponent of schools reopening for those families who feel comfortable attending and started a Facebook page called "Reopen Livermore Schools." The group currently boasts 520 members.

"The district never indicated there would be obstacles to reopening... they made it sound like they had it all together," Baba said, noting many parents in the district were surprised and angry. "We always knew it was a possibility that teachers may get shuffled around... the major thing that bothered us and took us by surprise is the fact that they are requiring a 67% supermajority vote and the other thing was switching schools."

Van Schaack noted the 67% majority approval for the district to move to a hybrid learning model was simply a recommendation conceived by the task force to ensure a major change was not undertaken unless desired by a strong majority.

"It was the parents who said, 'If we are going to do something as monumental as this - something that has an impact on the entire commu-

nity - it shouldn't be 50% plus one person; it has to be very clear and convincing community support for a change,'" Van Schaack said, noting the original suggestion was a 75% majority. "The task force, as a whole, was very clear on their support for a super majority. It was as close to unanimous as you can get from people who wanted much broader support in our parent community for a significant change in the way we do education."

The task force is an advisory group comprised of 64 parents, teachers, administrators and other district stakeholders. Van Schaack has coordinated meetings and disseminated information into a plan for hybrid learning for kindergarten through high schools that was submitted to the county office of education last week.

LVJUSD Board President Craig Bueno noted going back to school is no simple matter, nor will it be forced on any family who would prefer to stay in distance learning. Between ever-changing guidelines and many families with vulnerable members, a return to the previous norm is still a long way off, he said.

"The health department doesn't run the school district, but they do set the parameters," Bueno noted, adding that Superintendent Kelly Bowers and her staff are keeping a close eye on guidelines and ordinances. "It's not as simple as the parents want to go back, so we are going back... it's very difficult, because with 14,000 kids, it's a large and diverse group."

Bueno stated that when it came time to make a decision, all information will be taken

into account, including the task force's recommendation for a super majority.

"The super majority suggestion is not to be disregarded, but it's not a mandate," he said. "67% is considered a normal super majority. You have to have a mark, so we know where we are at, so we don't disrupt 95% of people to accommodate 5%. It's fluid right now."

LVJUSD Board Member Anne White noted that she wished the students could return full time.

"Right now, we can't do it because of the Alameda County health rules," she said. She further noted that it's up to the superintendent to decide if the super majority is a good idea. "Part of the people who voted for the super majority business will be able to stay in their distance learning no matter what. Also, there were many people on the task force that were not parents; that were staff. So it's hard to know the relevance, and it's important to know whether an overwhelming number of people want to do one thing or another. It's a really mixed group."

Russo said she was supportive of the hybrid plan, but one point made her uncomfortable. Even though she

said she understood the 67% recommended approval rate, she didn't agree.

Moving forward, the district will need to receive approval for its hybrid learning plan before taking any more steps toward bringing students back in January.

Wenzel reiterated that he completely understands this

issue is personal for all families.

"I totally get how this is affecting people's lives," said Wenzel. "It will get better, but we understand it's tough right now."

Outgoing Board Member Chuck Rogge declined to offer a position on the reopening plan.

\$3400

IMPLANT



SINGLE TOOTH REPLACEMENT

SMILES
by Design

(925) 443-4182

RICHARD D. HOWES, D.D.S.
www.smilesbydesigninlivermore.com

NOVADONTICS
START TO FINISH EVERYTHING INCLUDED*
*Extractions & Bone Grafting Are Not Included

PEARSON

(Continued from first page)

his comments, and he wasn't shy or bashful about expressing them. He was good at taking the criticism."

So good in fact, that his run for city council in 1970 landed him in the mayor's seat where he advocated for the city to work on its general plan and implement infrastructure ahead of rooftops.

"He liked the original small-town atmosphere; he was from a small town in Oregon himself and didn't want Pleasanton to turn into the Santa Clara Valley," said his son, Edmund.

After four years on the city council, Pearson turned his attention to the growing Zone 7 water district, and in 1974 became a board director. There, he continued his support and advocacy for his town and its residents.

But for those who re-

member him best, Pearson was more than a political force: he was a man who loved music, his family and a good story.

"They were a lovely family," said Alice Morrison, a family friend. "Bob loved the Big Bands. He and my husband would listen to their records for hours on end, and we would go hear any that came to the Bay Area. He was a lot of fun."

Highly educated, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a doctorate in physical chemistry from UC Davis. Pearson, his wife Helene and their three sons, Edmund, John and Christopher, moved to Pleasanton in 1968, where he ran the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Lab at Kaiser Aluminum and

Chemicals Corporation. After leaving Kaiser, he served as vice president of Auburn International, running its NMR division before starting his own research and consulting company, Tri-Valley Research. In 1996, Pearson and Helene moved to Medford, where they eventually retired.

"For a kid from southern Oregon, he did pretty well," said Edmund. "He was the first generation in his family to go to college, and he went on to get a doctorate... he was an incredibly bright guy. Professionally, and politically, Dad probably could have gone quite a bit further. But he turned down offers, in both areas, because of the impact it would have had on our family. Both my parents always put family above everything else."

ACTIVISM

(Continued from first page)

known as a left-wing anti-government group. Take Dublin back!"

Grant made his social-media post after seeing the garden display proposal on the Dublin City Council's Nov. 3 meeting agenda, where it was listed for approval as a "Public Art Display to Honor Community Efforts for Racial Justice." Tri-Valley for Black Lives organizers, calling the display a "Sign Garden for Justice," said in a statement they wanted to "remind our community that the fight for racial justice is a movement, not a moment." Participants were asked to make signs expressing what racial justice meant to them and plant them in the garden.

Denel, who was working at a polling station on Election Day when the council met, wrote a letter to councilmembers in support of the week-long display, which was held previously in Livermore and Pleasanton. The council approved the sign garden display to take place in Dublin.

Grant's social media post, however, created a stir in the community and a scare for Denel.

"That post got 29 shares," Denel said. "For me, that was 30 people that could be seeing me as some thug trying to destroy Dublin... I was really shaken up. I couldn't process the moment because I was so nervous."

Grant drew immediate backlash, including from Congressman Eric Swalwell, who represents the Tri-Valley in Washington.

"It's disgusting that so-called 'adults' would organize to come ready for a fight with a local teenager exercising his First Amendment right — with the City of Dublin's permission — to nonviolently

express the truth that Black Lives Matter," Swalwell posted on Facebook. "These aren't patriots; they're bullies bent on intimidation and division, and they should be ashamed of themselves. Fortunately, they in no way represent the generous and inclusive people of Dublin."

Denel's father, Jamar McMahan, contacted Grant. Grant apologized, Denel said, and agreed to meet with him at some point. Grant then called upon his supporters not to disrupt the Sunday event, and none showed up.

Attempts to reach Grant were unsuccessful. Grant's online gun sales sites show him with a Dublin address, but his Facebook page lists him in Colorado. The Independent has photographs of Grant speaking at a Swalwell town hall meeting, where he talked of his support for President Donald Trump and the Second Amendment. He told KTVU that he did not intend to hurt Denel or his family, but opposed signs promoting any cause on government property.

Participants at Sunday's event, wearing masks and attempting to social distance, carried and planted signs for Black Lives Matter and others that made statements including, "For Racial Justice," "Will you stand against racism?" and "Black Trans Lives Matter."

Denel took part in the summer's nationwide protests following the killing of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police. He said he and the sign garden received support from city leadership, school board members and teachers who said, "They were proud of me."

"We are still fighting for justice and just because it's not in the news as much,

doesn't mean it's not an important topic," Denel said. "It should always be mentioned. It should always be fought for. It should always be acknowledged that things are still happening, even if there's no news coverage."

Tri-Valley for Black Lives issued a statement that said the sign garden enabled community members to join in a "peaceful expression of what justice means to them."

Denel has applied to Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Howard University in Washington D.C., and UCLA. He has plans to go to law school and expressed an interest in pursuing a political career.

He said he still plans to meet with Grant.

"It will open his mind up to the ways that he can change his viewpoints and support this community," Denel said.



Free Grief Support Services

For people who have experienced the death of a loved one, the winter holiday season can be painful. Grieving a loss at this time may intensify feelings of loneliness from isolation during the pandemic, or anxiety about being asked how you are coping with the loss of your loved one.

Hope Hospice invites you to engage in our support groups, even if your loved one was not on our hospice service. For your safety, we are meeting online via Zoom. Please register in advance.

Winter Sessions

Handling the Holidays Grief Workshop December 7, 2-3:30 p.m.	Loss of a Child February 3-March 24 Wednesdays, 6-8:30 p.m.
Spouse/Partner Loss January 12-March 2 Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.	For Teens February 3-March 24 Wednesdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
General Grief January 12-March 2 Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.	For Children By individual appointment.

Register by calling (925) 829-8770

Did your insurance premium with California Earthquake Authority (CEA) **DOUBLE** this year?

You DO have options!

Contact us today for a free quote.

(925) 447-2565

or email us at:
save@genemorganinsurance.com
to save over **50%** on your premium!

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency
www.genemorganinsurance.com



LIC#0M28209

COVID-19

(Continued from first page)

only be allowed to serve the community outdoors. Bars that serve food follow the same guidelines as restaurants. Hair salons, barber shops and personal care services may remain open indoors with modifications. For a complete list of businesses and services permitted to reopen under each of the four tiers, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_Tiers.

According to Alameda County Public Health Services, schools that currently have students attending classes in-person may continue to do so. Effective Nov. 18, no additional schools may open for in-person instruction. Alameda County is not offering a waiver process for elementary schools. Schools that are not open are encouraged to utilize the state's school-based small cohort guidance.

"The California Depart-

ment of Public Health has modified its Blueprint for a Safer Economy to allow for a faster, more nimble response to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Neetu Balram, public information officer for the Alameda County Health Department. "Rather than using data from two weeks ago and moving only one tier at a time, the state is now using data from the past week and moving counties into multiple tiers if necessary. These significant changes allow for a timelier response that will protect our communities, save lives and keep our health care systems from becoming overwhelmed."

Local officials in the Tri-Valley responded quickly to the updated orders.

"While news of Governor Newsom's new mandate to move 41 counties back to the restrictive tier is disappointing, particularly for

our businesses and faith communities, we understand that we must do everything in our power to help prevent the spread of COVID-19," said Dublin City Manager Linda Smith. "The city will comply with all orders from the health officer."

In Pleasanton, the response was similar.

"The city has always and will continue to comply with the state and county health orders," said Cindy Chin, public information officer for the City of Pleasanton. "The city will continue to help educate businesses and sectors impacted by the roll back to Purple tier through direct communication with businesses and working with our business partners like the Chamber, Pleasanton Downtown Association, Hacienda Business Park and Visit Tri-Valley."

Livermore City Manager

Marc Roberts said that his city will work with the local business community to make sure everyone understands the updated regulations.

"Beginning Wednesday, we will be adjusting city operations to suspend in-person visits to city offices and transition back to providing all of our office services virtually," Roberts said. "At the library, we will suspend in-person library visits and will expand curb side pickup appointments. We will monitor case rates over the coming weeks, and we will continue to adjust our operations to keep the public and our employees as safe as possible."

As of Tuesday, Nov. 17, a total of 25,872 COVID-19 cases had been reported in Alameda County, along with 490 deaths linked to the virus. County health officials are urging residents to get a flu shot, stay home when

sick, wear masks, maintain a distance of six feet from those not in their household bubble, wash their hands frequently and review guidelines on holiday travel.

"We need Alameda County residents and businesses to, once again, rise to the challenge and help flatten the curve," said Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County

Health Officer. "Now more than ever, we must protect ourselves, our loved ones, and our neighbors with these simple strategies. We all must recommit ourselves to the safety measures that helped us lower case rates in September and October."

For more information, visit <https://covid-19.acgov.org/recovery>.

PLEASANTON

(Continued from first page)

Mall, a new school on the eastside would accommodate that increased population. The possibility of this eastside school site won't be known until the city makes a decision, which is expected in two years, said PUSD Assistant Superintendent of Finance Ahmad Shakeholsami.

Prior to the change in plans, the district had earmarked \$35 million in proceeds from the passage of Measure I-1, along with \$1 million to conduct studies and drawings of a new school and its impact.

The district so far has spent \$575,000 of the \$1 million for studies and drawings. It's expected that,

when the final bill arrives for other work, the total sunk into the project will amount to \$750,000.

The \$35 million for bonds has not been sold, so the district does not owe any repayment of them. Trustees knew two years ago when they approved the Donlon plan that \$35 million would not be enough to pay for new school construction, but they were hoping they could swap enough of the district's land with the city for new headquarters and a corporation yard. District officials had planned to sell off old facilities at the current headquarters to developers who would seek rezoning to make it

profitable.

A public speaker at the Nov. 12 meeting, who said she has been on a committee of neighbors to give feedback on the plan, noted that abandoning the project will eliminate certain problems. One would have been the lack of site parking for faculty. Another was adequacy of street width in the area, since the Donlon site would have drawn more traffic. Some of the traffic would have to cross I-680.

A Farewell to Arkin

The meeting was the last for Trustee Valerie Arkin, who will be sworn in as a new city councilmember in December. She led the field

in the council race. Fellow trustees praised her for her leadership and for listening to all sides of an issue.

Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan made an appearance via Zoom. She congratulated Arkin for her 12 years on the school board and eight years on the city library board.

SOLAR

(Continued from first page)

General Market — incentive rates decrease over time.

Another avenue for assistance is the property assessed clean energy (PACE) model, found through the Department of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. PACE is a mechanism for financing energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on private property. PACE programs exist for commercial and residential properties. The program allows a property owner to finance the upfront cost of energy or other eligible improvements on a property and then pay the costs back over time through a voluntary assessment.

Alameda County's Climate Action Team focuses on sustainability. One of the solar programs in the county has seen the installation of solar panels at two community housing projects, along with 11 county-owned buildings. On its webpage for local governments, the county team further encouraged cities to work on strategic climate change to

influence policy makers at the federal and state levels.

In addition to these regional programs, residents and business owners in the Tri-Valley could benefit from municipal plans when available.

Dublin City Manager Linda Smith said she would love to see incentive programs developed within her city.

"I'm hopeful that we will implement Measure CF-2 of the CAP, Renewable Resource Buildout Plan, within the next year or so and create an incentive program as part of that measure," she said.

Pleasanton Public Information Officer Cindy noted that her city does not have any current programs for solar specifically. Pleasanton will provide a free home efficiency audit for PG&E customers, including those enrolled in EBCE. Visit https://bit.ly/Indy_Energy-Audit for more details.

Livermore Director of Innovation and Economic Development Adam Van de

Water said his office does not administer incentives for solar installation for businesses.

Cities around the nation that boast incentive programs include Boulder, Colorado; San Antonio, Texas; Honolulu and Maui, Hawaii; and Burlington, Vermont. Programs range in their options, but some entail offering decreased or no lease payments on publicly owned areas, such as parking lots or rooftops. Sales and use tax rebates for businesses that add solar is another option, along with low or no interest loans for installation, rebates for low-income housing, and solar water heater rebates.

To learn more about the EBCE program, email local-programs@ebce.org or visit <https://ebce.org/resilient-business>. For more information on the Self-Generation Incentive Program, visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/sgip>. For more information on PACE, visit https://bit.ly/Indy_PACE.

Your Daily Online Local News.



independentnews.com

Follow us on

Partner for Change Tri-Valley Poverty Alleviation Program

During COVID-19 restrictions - PFCTV is hosting ZOOM weekly meetings! Send a text, call or email 650-474-9962, director@pfctv.org and you will get sent the Zoom Link



Are you or someone you know facing continuous financial hardship, and feel like the constant cycle of poverty is endless?

Looking for a long-term solution to lift you out of your current situation so that you and your family can be less stressed? Partner for Change is a long-term effort to create community, support, encouragement, empowerment, and most importantly, education around poverty. We are committed to helping every individual and family we work with a wraparound support system that improved lives, income and stability.

For more information visit: www.pfctv.org or Call/Text or Email Annie Corbett, Executive Director, Partners for Change Tri-Valley 650-474-9962 - director@pfctv.org

SCHOOLS

(Continued from first page)

ting the maximum maturity date to 25 years, limiting the debt service to principal ratio to 4-to-1, increasing disclosures to school boards and allowing districts to pay them off early, as Dublin is now doing. The Election 2004 Series "E" Bonds issued in 2009 were originally scheduled to mature in 2039 and 2044.

Sales of the new general obligation bonds took place on Oct. 27 and 28 and closed on Nov. 12, carrying interest rates ranging from about 1.8% to a little over 2%, according to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's market access website. Factoring in nearly \$300,000 in fees, charges and commissions paid to third parties, the true interest cost of the 2020 bonds is estimated to be just a hair above 2%, based on a calculation from the district's municipal advisor.

Hobbs said the bonds were sold through a competitive bidding process and awarded to the bidder providing the lowest interest cost to the school district, resulting in the greatest savings to property owners in the district.

For more information, visit <https://www.dublin.k12.ca.us>.



Campaign of Caring

Missing Man Ministry provides assistance to families following the loss of a husband or father, connecting survivors to its network of care & services.

How You Can Help

Spread the word to your neighbors, friends and anybody you think would be interested in supporting our mission.

Contribute financially yourself, or as a family. Select us on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com)

You shop, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

M3 Missing Man Ministry
5424 Sunol Blvd, Ste 10-107,
Pleasanton, CA 94566-7705

www.missingmanministry.org/campaign-of-caring.html
ddoyle@missingmanministry.org 925.399.5473



LLNL Scientists Say Solar System Took Less than 200,000 Years to Form

The sun and the solar system may have taken less than 200,000 years to form, according to scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory after studying isotopes of the element molybdenum found on meteorites.

Scientists believe the material that makes up the sun and the rest of the solar system came from the collapse of a large cloud of gas and dust about 4.5 billion years ago. By observing other stellar systems similar to the Earth's, astronomers have estimated that it can take between 1 million and 2 million years for a cloud of gas to collapse and a star to ignite. But this is the first study to provide

numbers for the formation of the Earth's solar system.

"Previously, the time-frame of formation was not really known for the solar system," said LLNL cosmochemist Greg Brenneka, lead author of a paper appearing in Science. He said the study suggests the collapse that led to the formation of the solar system "happened very quickly, in less than 200,000 years."

"If we scale this all to a human lifespan, formation of the solar system would compare to pregnancy lasting about 12 hours instead of nine months. This was a rapid process," Brenneka said.

The oldest dated solids

in the solar system are calcium aluminum inclusions, millimeter-sized objects found in primitive

meteorites (and their parent bodies) formed, and where they are found today.

"If we scale this all to a human lifespan, formation of the solar system would compare to pregnancy lasting about 12 hours instead of nine months. This was a rapid process."

chondrite meteorites, that provide scientists a record of solar system formation. The inclusions formed in a high-temperature environment (more than 1,300 degrees Kelvin), probably near the young sun. Scien-

ists believe they were then pushed out to the region where carbonaceous chondrite meteorites (and their

parent bodies) formed, and where they are found today. The majority of CAIs formed 4.567 billion years ago, over a period of about 40,000 to 200,000 years, according to scientific

studies.

This is where the LLNL team comes in. The international team measured the molybdenum (Mo) isotopic and trace element compositions of a variety of CAIs from carbonaceous chondrite meteorites, including Allende, the largest carbonaceous chondrite ever found on Earth.

Because the distinct Mo isotopic compositions of CAIs cover the entire range of material that formed in the protoplanetary disk, instead of just a small slice, the LLNL scientists believe they must have formed within the time span of cloud collapse.

Since the observed time span of stellar accretion is

much longer than the CAIs took to form, the scientists were able to pinpoint which astronomical phase in the solar system's formation was recorded by the formation of CAIs, and ultimately, how quickly the material that makes up the solar system accreted.

Former LLNL scientist Thomas Kruijer, now at the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, also contributed to this study, as well as researchers from the University of Münster, California Institute of Technology and the University of California, Santa Cruz. The work is funded by LLNL's Laboratory Directed Research and Development program and NASA.

OBITUARIES

Jean Frances Tucker

April 10, 1931 – Aug. 26, 2020



Jean Frances Tucker passed away peacefully in her sleep of cancer on Aug. 26, 2020, at her home in Rome, Georgia.

Jean was born to Harry and Olive Bendix (Dixon), on April 10, 1931, in Oakland, California. Jean attended Oakland schools, graduating from Fremont High School in 1949.

On Nov. 28, 1952, Jean married Richard (Dick) Tucker of Portola, California. Together, they enjoyed almost 68 years of a very happy and successful marriage. To this union were

born Mark, Eric (Rick), and Kathleen (Kathy).

Jean worked briefly for Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco, followed by a job at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. Her primary career was supporting the City of Livermore's Emergency Services Department for 28 years. After her retirement from the City of Livermore, she worked another 19 years for several travel agencies, enjoying the benefits of a world traveler. Jean and Dick traveled the world for many years, making new friends and enjoying life.

In 2018, Jean and Dick moved from Livermore to Rome, Georgia, to be closer to their daughter, Kathy.

Jean was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore and enjoyed singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school. She was an avid golfer and member of the Las Positas Ladies Club. Jean was also a contributing member of The Golden Follies which performed Las Vegas style musical and dance revues. Jean enjoyed life to its fullest – she celebrated her 85th birthday by skydiving!

Jean's priorities in life were family and friends. Jean made sure the Tucker home was always welcoming and filled with love, especially during the holiday season, when the Tucker home was always open to family as well as old and new friends.

Jean is survived by her loving husband Dick of Rome, Georgia; children Mark of Dolores, Colorado; Rick (Lisa, grandson Kyle) of Livermore; and Kathy (Steadie) Howie of Kingston, Georgia.

Jean was preceded in

death by her parents, Harry Bendix and Olive Dixon; and a brother, Howard Bendix. The family plans a private service. The Tucker family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you for all the cards and condolences. Jean was a loving, gregarious, and kind woman, wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She will forever be in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers or other condolences, the family asks that friends donate to Heyman Hospice, Floyd Healthcare Foundation, 400 Turner McCall Blvd. Suite 102, Rome, Georgia, 30165.

Lila Dorothea McAlhany

Dec. 19, 1927 – Nov. 11, 2020

Lila Dorothea McAlhany, a 51-year resident of Pleasanton, passed away on



Wednesday, Nov. 11, after a six-month battle with cancer. She was 92 years old.

Lila was born Dec. 19, 1927, in Watsonville, and was the only child of Howard and Agnes (Hansen) Meade. She grew up in Santa Clara and Los Gatos and graduated from Los Gatos High School in 1945. Desiring to be a nurse, she applied for and was accepted to the US Cadet Nurse Corps, which provided tuition, room and board for her to attend the nursing program at Santa Clara County Hospital, which was operated in conjunction with San Jose State University.

After graduation in 1948, she worked for several years in San Francisco as a registered nurse before joining the Air Force, where she obtained the rank of captain and spent two years

in Alabama, and then two years in Germany, where she met her husband, James C. McAlhany. They were married in 1961 in Switzerland and returned home to California in 1964. Lila worked at several hospitals and clinics in San Leandro, Oakland, Danville and Pleasanton, working for 17 years at Kaiser Permanente's Pleasanton facility before retiring in 2007.

Lila enjoyed being an active member of the Jose Maria Amador Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and American Legion Post 237. She was also a member of Alameda Oak Leaf Chapter #8 of Eastern Star for 66 years. She enjoyed spending time with a large circle of friends and in the earlier years of her retirement enjoyed traveling.

Lila will be deeply missed by her family and friends. She is survived by a son, Craig McAlhany and a daughter, Karen McAlhany, both of Pleasanton. She was preceded in death by her husband James, in 1994.

The family would like to thank the remarkable healthcare professionals at Kaiser's Cancer Center in Dublin. They are all truly dedicated and compassionate people.

Friends and family are invited to a visitation on Friday, Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. At her request, no service will be held. Burial will be at a future date at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno. In lieu of flowers, she had requested that donations be made to a charity of your choice.

Joseph "Joe" Meredith Dirks

March 12, 1930 – Oct. 2, 2020



The family also spent two years in Fairbanks, Alaska, from 1975 to 1976, while Joe worked on the pipeline. They were together until her death in 2011.

Joe worked in the Non-Destructive Testing field, primarily Industrial Radiographies. He x-rayed various components associated with space launches at Cape Canaveral during the early 1960s. He moved up to become Radiation Safety Officer for an international NDT Corporation during the late '60s and early '70s. Next in his career, he performed as an independent international specialist working in Industrial Radiographic interpretation from Alaska to Singapore, and Hawaii to Louisiana during the mid '70s to late '80s. Finally, in semi-retirement he successfully assisted a friend as vice president in a catalytic converter design and manufacturing business venture during the 1990s. The friend became a multi-millionaire with Joe's help.

Joe fully retired at age 70 in 2000. Joe was always honest and helpful with people and his family. Outgoing, he maintained an optimistic attitude, which he correctly claimed, contributed to one's overall health. He loved to play golf (had four holes in one), watch football, and play the horses at the Pleasanton track during the fair. He was nick-named "Lucky Joe D" by friends for his aptitude at poker. Joe was a gifted gardener with beautiful roses and thriving fruit trees.

Joe was preceded in death by his mother and father, Ardyce and Joseph; brother, Ted; sister, Marcia; and wife, Sharon. He is survived by his children, Mark Dirks, Erin O'Moore, Clayn Dirks; and grandchildren, Heather and Galen O'Moore and Ella and Aislyn Dirks; and his sister, Chloe Jacobson.

He will be interred at Veteran's Cemetery in Dixon California.

Robert "Bob" Pearson

1930 – 2020



Robert "Bob" Pearson died at his home in Medford, Oregon, on Nov. 3, 2020, at the age of 90. Originally from southern Oregon, he graduated from Medford High School in 1948 and enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving in the Sixth Army Band from 1948 to 1952. After leaving the Army, Bob attended the University of Nevada, Reno, and supplemented his GI Bill stipend by playing trumpet in an "off-night" band at various Reno area clubs.

While at UNR, he met a young nurse, and later his wife of 47 years (until her death in 2006), Helene Dilts. After Bob earned bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry, he and Helene moved to the Sacramento area, where he worked for Aerojet-General as a chemist, and earned his doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of California, Davis.

In 1968, the Pearson family (now including three sons) moved to Pleasanton, where Bob ran the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance lab at Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical's Center For Technology. In 1970, Bob was elected to the Pleasanton City Council, and eventually became Pleasanton Mayor (at the time, the mayor was a council member, chosen by the other council members). In 1974, Bob was elected to serve as a board member of the Alameda County Zone 7 Water District.

After leaving Kaiser, he served as vice president of Auburn International, running their NMR division, before starting his own research and consulting company, Tri-Valley Research. In 1996, Bob and Helene moved to Medford, where they eventually retired.

Bob enjoyed his grandkids, Big Band music, Western movies ("hay-burners", as he liked to call them), a spirited scientific or political discussion, spoiling the family pets, and telling a good story.

Bob is survived by his sons, Edmond, John, and Christopher; daughters-in-law, Joan and Julie; and grandchildren, Katherine, Maxwell, and Mellena.

Theodore Charles Woy

April 8, 1932 – Nov. 11, 2020



Theodore Charles Woy of Dublin died on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020, at his home. He was 88.

He was born on April 8, 1932, in Oak Park, Illinois. The oldest of six, he was preceded in death by William, Carol, and Sue, and is survived by John and Pamela.

Moving to San Mateo in his teens, Ted attended San Mateo High School, where he met the love of his life, Virginia Denson. In 1953, he married Virginia and together they had four children, Jeremy Anne Jones (Steven), David Woy (Rosalie), Mark Woy (Chris) and Amy Garrigan (Bob). He graduated from UC Berkeley in 1954, and from George Washington Medical School in Washington, D.C., in 1958. After returning to California and living in San Francisco, the young family moved to Dublin in 1961.

Ted worked as a physician at Kaiser Hayward for

33 years, dedicating himself to the compassionate and thorough care of his patients. A resident of Dublin since 1961, Ted was very active in community service. Ted was named Dublin's Citizen of the Year in 1970, recognizing his many contributions to the young Dublin community as a member of the Dublin/San Ramon Lion's Club and 12-year member of Murray School District (now Dublin Unified) Board of Education.

When Dublin attained cityhood, Ted was elected to the city's first Planning Commission. In 2015, Ted was recognized by the city as a Founding Member of the Senior Center Foundation. He was formerly on the board of Hope Hospice and was an active member of S.I.R. He retired from Kaiser in 1995. He and Virginia spent the ensuing years traveling and enjoying all of the new members of their growing family.

Ted enjoyed coin collecting, bird watching, his grandchildren (and greats!) and was always up for a healthy debate on any number of topics. O'Doc, Grampa Doc, Ted, T.C., Dad will be greatly missed by his six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren and all the members of his extended family grateful for being a part of his life.



In Memoriam

One year ago
11/16/19 we lost
Gertrud (Margret)
Marsh (nee Hart).

Missing you every
day especially during
the holidays.

Love, Mary Kay & David Hanson

All Roads Lead Back to Las Positas College for Assistant Men's Basketball Coach

By Matt Schwab

Las Positas College assistant men's basketball coach Spencer Wood is not all that much older than the Hawks players.

In fact, during pregame warmups the past two seasons, fans often wondered if the athletic-looking Wood would be draining a few three-pointers in the contest. No such luck. Wood would take a seat on the bench when the game began.

The 24-year-old wears many hats in the program as Hawks social media ace, technology guru, photographer, and a players' coach, who helps guys trust the process because the same process worked for him as a Las Positas competitor only a few years ago.

Head coach James Giacomazzi can't say enough good things.

"He's in charge of all our computer stuff. He's great at social media. Personable with the guys. He's really gifted with photography; he has a great eye for it," Giacomazzi says of Wood's

many talents. "Whatever he chooses to do, I'm sure he'll be successful at it."

Coaching is in Wood's blood, it turns out.

"From when I was young, I always wanted to be a PE teacher and a coach," says Wood, who was a team captain his senior season at California High in San Ramon.

Wood played two seasons for the Hawks in a reserve role, including competing on the 2016-17 Las Positas team that won 22 games. He joined Giacomazzi's staff, fresh-faced, for the 2018-19 season.

"He can tell players, 'I was there not long ago. Coach is going to challenge you. He wants what's best for you, but he has your back.' He knows that because I had his back," Giacomazzi says.

The upcoming Las Positas season was pushed back to the spring due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Last season, Las Positas (20-8) finished second in the powerful Coast-North Conference for the second consecutive year.

After a knee injury ended his playing career at Simpson

University in Redding early in his junior season, Wood was welcomed back into the Las Positas basketball family at the age of 21, when he found himself guiding some of his old Hawks' teammates.

"I don't know if I'd I really call it like I was a 'coach,' I was more like a mentor," Wood recalled of the role. "It was almost like a big brother-type thing because they know that I was in their shoes not that long ago, so it wasn't a player-to-coach relationship, it was more personal. They knew they could relate to me a little more and they could ask me things that maybe they didn't feel comfortable asking coach James and Coach Jordan (Whittenburg) who were a little older," he continued.

Coach Wood has been a sponge for knowledge on an accomplished staff. Giacomazzi, for one, had an extensive playing career at Washington High, San Jose City and UC Riverside before amassing over 300 career victories at the community college level.

Whittenburg has also

coached at Northwest Christian University in Oregon, University High (San Francisco), and Cornerstone Christian (Antioch). He starred as a player at Berean Christian (Walnut Creek) and Los Medanos College and Northwest Christian.

What's Wood learned so far?

"The list goes on forever," Wood says. "A lot of work ethic. Coach James is one of the hardest working people I know. He's taught me a lot. There's a lot more that goes into a basketball program, especially with a junior college program, than most people think. It's not just basketball either. Coach Giacomazzi is in the office from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., is a good day for him."

Wood said Giacomazzi, also the Athletic Director, also has to focus on keeping players eligible and marketing the program. Sometimes his days stretch until midnight.

As a high school player,

Wood set the tone for his future by coaching at youth basketball camps. He also coached the Cal High freshman team after graduating before returning to playing at Las Positas.

Giacomazzi admires how Wood, with an unassuming nature, loves to play and compete. He calls him a worker and a grinder from a supportive family that attended Las Positas games even after Spencer stopped playing.

Obviously, Wood's path to coaching was expedited after he suffered a torn meniscus at Simpson, followed by surgery a month later. Then six months into his rehab he re-injured his knee and had two more surgeries

- and that was that.

"The doctor told me no more, no more basketball," Wood recalled of the bad news.

But the road led back to Las Positas. Right where he belongs.



Reed Plumbing
LIVERMORE, CA
(925) 371-5671
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com
LICENSE #601931



MILLER'S SERVING TRI-VALLEY SINCE 1960
AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING
925-447-3000
www.millersacandheating.com
License #253756

Pleasanton Arts Council Awards Local Youth

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) conducted a virtual Zoom competition, "Youth Excellence in Arts Awards" in Music and Literary Arts, on Nov. 6 and 8.

The Visual Arts competition was conducted on Nov. 7. Prior to the judging, student artists submitted three pieces of their art for adjudication. The judges viewed the submitted work, without student comments.

Pleasanton students attending Amador and Foothill High Schools demonstrated their incredible talents and won praise from the expert judges. A well-defined rubric scoring model was used for all contestants.

The winners of the Max Bigges Award in Literary Arts were Milla Zuniga, who placed first was awarded \$750; Alison Gable, who placed second and was awarded \$500; and Jocelyn Zhu, who placed third

and was awarded \$300. The winners of the Phyllis Wentworth Awards in Visual Arts were Jocelyn Tao, who placed first and was awarded \$750; April Gong, who placed second and was awarded \$500; and Jiahua (Will) Liang, who placed third and was awarded \$300. The winners of the Rene and Gordon Smith Awards in Music were Haoran (Tony) Li, who placed first and was awarded \$750; Hana Lee, who placed second and was awarded \$500; Mattias Bengtsson, who placed third and was awarded \$300.

"We love to champion the talent, discipline, and creativity of Pleasanton's young artists," said Teri Dunne, PCAC event chair. "Some of their performances and works actually sparkled."

Not only had the contest been delayed since March, but the musicians and literary performers were asked to perform on-line from their

homes, while the judges were miles away. For the literary submission, Jim Ott from Las Positas College and Anita Bergh, emeritus from the Fremont School District, judged, and for the music competition, Bob Williams, conductor of the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, and Lee Carpenter from Livermore adjudicated.

Visual Arts experts, Nancy Scotto and Anne Giancola evaluated the actual visual art pieces.

All awards were from endowments received by PCAC over the years. After three days of competition, PCAC was able to once again offer cash awards to talented students and continue our mission to encourage, support and promote the Arts in schools and the Pleasanton community.



Your local news source is delivered free to readers in the Tri-Valley.

We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary subscription of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.

You can sign up online at www.independentnews.com/contribute/ or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550

THE Independent
independentnews.com | 925.243.8000
Follow us on  

Sunflower Hill Receives Grant

Sunflower Hill has received a Vision 2026 grant of \$60,000 from Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley.

The county funds will be used for individual and small-group virtual programming for residents of Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch in Pleasanton and other Sunflower Hill participants in the Tri-Valley area.

The Pleasanton-based Sunflower Hill is nonprofit providing independent living communities and vocational programs for adults with developmental disabilities. Sunflower Hill

at Irby Ranch is a 31-unit apartment complex and was the first independent residential community for people with developmental disabilities in the Tri-Valley. The organization also operates the Sunflower Hill Garden in Livermore, which raises organic produce that is then donated to other nonprofits.

Rachel Clark, communications manager for Sunflower Hill, said the programming will focus on building independent living skills, fostering communication, and engaging others in the community.

Music Keeps Seniors Connected Online

Music is helping a group of seniors in Pleasanton stay socially connected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Stoneridge Creek senior living community choir has spent the last eight months meeting and performing online.

During their weekly Zoom meetings, Director Darita Seth discusses musical styles, and the 30 choir members plan the next se-

lection to perform virtually. Each member is then given a few weeks to practice and record themselves. The videos are combined into a virtual performance.

The group recently performed Elvis Presley's "Can't Help Falling in Love," which can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGeq7Aehtw. They are now working on a holiday concert for December.



GAY NINETIES
Pizza & Pasta Co.
gayninetiespizza.com

Delicious Pizza Made Fresh For You!

OPEN FOR TAKE OUT AND PATIO DINING!

288 Main Street, Pleasanton | (925) 846-2520
Hours: Sun-Thu 11am-7pm, Fri & Sat 11am-8pm

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, Nov. 20 to Sunday, Nov. 22

Lynnewood United Methodist Church in Pleasanton is hosting a virtual 5K and 10K walk, run or bike fundraiser for Rise Against Hunger at 4444 Black Avenue. They cannot meet to package the 10,000 meals we normally do at our events, but still want to make a difference for the children in underdeveloped countries by providing donations for life-changing programs that support them. This virtual event invites anyone to join in and take your walk, run or biking any of the three days of the event. It is a safe way to enjoy time with family and friends, and honor the children who are longing for nutritional meals to sustain them and a good education to give them hope. Their goal is \$3,500. Registration is free. To register or for more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3pyRhFQ>.

Friday, Dec. 4 Community Blood Drive

The City of Dublin is supporting the American Red Cross at a Community Blood Drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Dublin Senior Center (7600 Amador Valley Blvd.). The Red Cross is currently testing successful blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies. Test results will be available within seven to 10 days on the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. While the Red Cross is testing for COVID-19 antibodies, it is not testing donors to diagnose illness. Those who feel unwell for any reason should postpone their donation. To make a reservation, visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code, Dublin-Community, or call 1-800-733-2767. While reservations are encouraged to donate, drop-ins are welcome. The Red Cross has enhanced its sanitization process, and follows social distancing rules. The staff and volunteers sanitize in between every donor. Donors must have their temperature checked upon entry, and everyone must be wearing a mask. Any guests of donors (e.g., spouses, children) who are not donating, are not allowed in the room. Donors may streamline

their donation experience by visiting www.redcrossblood.org/Rapid-Pass on the day of the blood drive to complete pre-donation reading and health history questions.

Monday, Dec. 7 Coping with Loss During the Holiday Season

For people who have experienced the death of a loved one, the winter holiday season can be painful, especially for those navigating the first year of loss. Hope Hospice has annually offered a special Handling the Holidays workshop to teach healthy coping strategies to help the bereaved during this difficult time. With physical distancing still essential in our region, Hope will present the workshop virtually this year through Zoom, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. As always, the program is offered to the local public at no cost. Space is limited, so call 925-829-8770 as soon as possible to secure a spot.

Friday, Dec. 11 Virtual Hanukkah Celebration

Join the Tri-Valley Cultural Jews for a Virtual Hanukkah Celebration that includes a secular humanistic menorah lighting and naming ceremony. Bring your menorah and candles. Organizers will also play dreidel virtually. A \$10 donation is suggested for non-member adults. For the registration link, contact Jamie at culturaljews@gmail.com. For more information, visit trivalley-culturaljews.org.

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

Dublin Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Thursdays, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Emerald Glen Community Park, 4201 Central Parkway.

Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season

Open Sundays, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Carnegie Town Square. Open Thursdays, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Carnegie Town Square (South K Street between Third and Fourth St.) 2155 Third St.

Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

Livermore Valley Opera airs Friday Episodes

If you need a dose of opera while on lock-down, check out LV Opera on YouTube. There are new releases every Friday at 7 p.m. To subscribe, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

Six Feet Apart Productions Shares Art From a Distance

Sunday Night Stories is an online show with people sharing true stories, poetry, comedy, music and more, featuring an eclectic mix of entertainment to feel connected in times of social distancing and self-isolation, live every week, on Sundays, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit [facebook.com/pg/Six-Feet-Apart-Productions](https://www.facebook.com/pg/Six-Feet-Apart-Productions) or [eventbrite.com/e/sunday-night-stories](https://www.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. Get guidance on practicing a method developed 80 years ago by psychiatrist Abraham A. Low to replace the 'defeatist babble of the brain, with secure thinking to help cope with the stressful events in our everyday lives. Call 925-515-604-9094, ID 192451547#.

VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME

Register for Virtual and Outdoor Activities

Do you want to learn a new skill, dabble in a new art form, get into shape, or finally take up that new hobby you've pushed back for so long? The Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department is now offering a wide variety of virtual and outdoor in-person courses this fall. Registration is open for everything from coding, web design

and engineering courses to art, public speaking, and outdoor group exercise. There are even courses on LEGO and Minecraft. Sign up now at <https://bit.ly/33BNAoU>.

EBRPD Brings "Parks to People"

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

LARPD Now on YouTube

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

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 www.musictogether.com.

Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring everyone beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcasts of musician interviews and conversations about the music. Subscribe to listen at www.pacificchamber-orchestra.org.

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

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573733

The following person(s) doing business as: Color Creations Body Shop, 727 Industrial Pkwy West, Unit 5, Hayward, CA 94544, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rene Garcia Ortiz, 329 Laurel Ave, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Andres Gonzalez Garcia, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2020. Expires October 13, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4784. Published October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573738

The following person(s) doing business as: Gem's Mobile Notary, 1392 Fairbrook CT, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gemma Houser, 1392 Fairbrook CT, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Gemma Houser, by the individual. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2020. Expires October 13, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4785. Published October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 2020.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Cause No. RG 200774453

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Stacey Marie Aboujoudom 994 Lisbon Avenue Livermore, CA 94550 (408) 799-0907, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Stacey Marie Aboujoudom Proposed Name: Stacey Marie Aboujoudom Younan THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 12/18/20 Time: 11:00 AM Dept: 17 The address of the court is: Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612 A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on

the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: September 16, 2020 /s/: Judge Desautels, The Independent Legal No. 4786 Published November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573509

The following person(s) doing business as: Beets + Eats, 316 Stealth CT, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Beets Catering, Inc, 316 Stealth CT, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: September 25, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Read H Phillips, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 5, 2020. Expires October 5, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4787. Published November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573897

The following person(s) doing business as: Beautiful Green Plants.online, 4043 Guilford Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Delfina Calderon, 4043 Guilford Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: October 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Delfina Calderon, Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2020. Expires October 13, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4788. Published November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2020.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Cause No. HG 20077564

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner/Attorney: Arjun Verma, Attorney at Law State Bar No. CA 194411 1754 Technology Dr. Ste. 214 San Jose, CA 95110, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Petition Of: Sushil Tarkeshwer Mahato Proposed Name: Sushil Tarkeshwer Mahato THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 12/11/2020 Time: 11:00 AM Dept: 17 The address of the court is: Alameda County Administration Building 1221 Oak Street Oakland, CA 94612 A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four

successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in Alameda county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 Dated: October 21, 2020. /s/: Judge Desautels, The Independent Legal No. 4789 Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 574240

The following person(s) doing business as: First and Final Driving School, 4183 1st Street #F, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Assem Rayan, 1326 Gentry Lane, Tracy, CA 95377. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Assem Rayan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 2, 2020. Expires November 2, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4790. Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573897

The following person(s) doing business as: Global Eyecare Optometry, 4299 Rosewood Drive, Unit 105, Pleasanton, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dr. Helen Cheng Optometrist, Inc., 4299 Rosewood Drive, Unit 105 Pleasanton, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: August 27, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Dr. Helen Cheng Optometrist, Inc., Helen Cheng, CEO/President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 19, 2020. Expires October 19, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4791. Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573701

The following person(s) doing business as: The Great Greek, 4527 Livermore, Outlet Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wazeri, LLC, 470 Palo Alto Street, Mountain House, CA 95391. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Waid Wazeri, Sole Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 12, 2020. Expires October 12, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4792. Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 573855

The following person(s) doing business as: ImageSetters 1920 Mars Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Computer Technology Specialists Inc. 1920 Mars Road, 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: 1984. Signature of Registrant/s: Erin Soto, Corp. Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 19, 2020. Expires October 19, 2025. The Independent, Legal

No. 4793. Published November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 2020.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

Cherie Lea DeWees Case No. RP20079395 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of CHERIE LEA DEWEES. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: ARLENE F. DEWEES, 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. THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date January 26, 2021, TIME: 2:00 p.m. at: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, Dept. 201 County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704 Berkeley Courthouse. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. (X) Petitioner: Attorney for Petitioner: Pogue, Calvert & Associates LLP Steven R. Pogue 2150 Trade Zone Blvd., Suite 102 San Jose, CA 95131 408-258-3250 The Independent, Legal No. 4794 Published November

19, 26, December 3, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 574361

The following person(s) doing business as: Cut Once Customs Fencing, 1315 Lambaren Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Pavis, 1315 Lambaren Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: July 30, 2019. Signature of Registrant/s: Michael Pavis, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2020. Expires November 6, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4795. Published November 19, 26, December 3, 10, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 574217

The following person(s) doing business as: Dar Luz Music, 6873 Brighton Drive, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Davis Zambonga, 6873 Brighton Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: October 23, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Davis Zambonga, Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 30, 2020. Expires October 30, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4796. Published November 19, 26, December 3, 10, 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

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



Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on

Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

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

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE 114) FOR SALE

115)ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

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

127) LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

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

REAL ESTATE

170) LAND FOR RENT















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

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

160) BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

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

COMPASS

	Barbara Benotto 925.337.3770 barbara@barbarabenotto.com barbarabenotto.com DRE 01966040		Marti Gilbert 925.216.4063 marti@homesbymarti.com compass.com DRE 01520061
	Tracey Esling 925.366.8275 tracey.esling@compass.com compass.com DRE 01219100		Cherie Doyle 925.580.2552 cherie.doyle@compass.com compass.com DRE 01950716
	Leslie Faught leslie@lesliefaught.com lesliefaught.com DRE 00971395		Linda Futral 925.980.3561 linda.futral@compass.com lindafultral.com DRE 01257605
	Kat Gaskins 925.963.7940 kat@katgaskins.com katgaskins.com DRE 01137199		Gail Henneberry 925.980.1900 gail.henneberry@compass.com compass.com DRE 00693908
	Eva Tia 510.847.4310 eva.tia@compass.com compass.com DRE 02072764		Linda Traurig 925.382.9746 linda.traurig@compass.com lindatraurig.com DRE 01078773
	Jo Ann Luisi 925.321.6104 joann.luisi@compass.com joannluisi.com DRE 01399250		Lily McClanahan 925.209.9328 lily.mclanahan@compass.com compass.com DRE 01975835
	Kris Moxley 925.519.9080 kris.moxley@compass.com moxleyrealestate.com DRE 00790463		Maureen Nokes 925.577.2700 maureen.nokes@compass.com compass.com DRE 00589126

 **Don Faught**
V.P./Managing Broker
925.872.7070
don.faught@compass.com
DRE 00971395

Your Pleasanton/Livermore Valley Support Team



Our mission is to help everyone find their place in the world. Compass is continuing to expand our California presence through new partnerships with local firms Alain Pinel Realtors®, Paragon, and Pacific Union International. Aided by our technology, service, and access to more agents in the region, you can now go further in your home search.

Your home. Our mission.

Pleasanton/Livermore Valley
2059 3rd Street
Livermore, CA 94550
925.251.1111

Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 00790009.

Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

Local guide to the Valley's Leading Real Estate Professionals & Services

 MIKE FRACISCO (925) 998-8131 Fracisco Realty Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt MikeFracisco.com DRE #01378428 REALTOR®	 Sande Utterback (925) 487-0524 CalBRE#00855150 WWW.SANDEU.COM Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Drysdale Properties
 Cindy Greci (925) 784-1243 www.GreciGroup.com	 Dominic Greci (925) 525-0864 www.GreciGroup.com
 JENNY HO REALTOR® DRE #020010 510.386.4090 Cantonese Mandarin English 通曉中文 LEGACY Jenny@JennyHoLY.com www.JennyHoLY.com	 DENNIS SERRAO Broker Associate /REALTOR Serving Livermore & Tri-Valley since 1999 dennis.rebroker@gmail.com TriValleyHomeSellers.com (925) 876-3756 Cal BRE#01251442
 THE KRISTY PEIXOTO TEAM Luxury homes, Ranches & Land Realtors (925) 621-1210 TheKristyPeixotoTeam@gmail.com TheKristyPeixotoTeam.com	 Linda Newton REALTOR®, GRI, SRES (925) 216-2015 LindaNewtonRE@gmail.com CalBRE# 01312631 Better Homes Reliance Partners REAL ESTATE
 Nick and Barbara Lymberis www.nickandbarbara.com 925-495-9832 40 Years Combined Experience Seniors Specialists CalBRE 01342934 Broker, CRS, SRES, GREEN® COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE	 Gail Henderson BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL (925) 980-5648 homes@gailhenderson.com www.gailhenderson.com J. Rockwell
 Michelle Elliott Senior Home Lending Advisor 925-212-6907 Fax: 866-378-1616 michelle.d.elliott@chase.com homeLoans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott NMLS ID: 694685 Mortgage Banking Serving Livermore and Danville areas	 Gordon Corsie Real Estate Broker Scotsman Realty Group CA DRE Lic # 0091100 Call/Text: 925.202.5497 www.thescotsman.com SCOTSMAN REALTY GROUP (925)390-8410

To Place Your Ad, Call or Email:
925.243.8010 kim@independentnews.com



As the seasons change to fall, the beams of sunrise illuminate the hills on the north side of the valley underneath rain clouds. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Winery Luncheon to Benefit Brain Tumor Society

The Lineage Collection will host an “End of Harvest” celebration from 1-4 p.m., on Saturday, Nov. 21, to benefit the National Brain Tumor Society and Culinary Angels.

The celebration will include shucked oysters from Bodega Bay Oyster Co. and a French-style lunch prepared by chef Francis X. Hogan of Sabio on Main in Pleasanton, including his

signature potato leek soup and braised coq au vin. Seventh-generation winemaker Aidan Mirassou will also pour his Nina Angel, a Bordeaux blend in honor of his later mother, June Mirassou, who died of brain cancer in 2016.

Culinary Angels is a Livermore nonprofit group that provides nutrient-rich meals to people with serious health issues, including

those going through cancer treatments.

Tickets, which include the meal and two bottles of wine per table, are \$130. The meal will be served on the covered and heated patio at the winery, 5443 Tesla Road in Livermore.

For more information, go to www.exploretock.com/thelineagecollection/event/private/bf6852d0-3716-4417-810e-351a770e2b24.

Alameda County Announces Art Relief Grant Program

The County of Alameda announces the Alameda County Arts Relief Grant Program to assist nonprofit arts and cultural organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This program is managed by the Office of the Alameda County Arts Commission, under the leadership of Alameda County Auditor-Controller Melissa Wilk and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Through this CARES Act-funded grant program, it is anticipated that up to \$900,000 will be granted to support the survival and sustainability of arts and cultural nonprofits throughout the county, with additional support provided to organizations located in the county’s unincorporated areas. The arts in Alameda County and

nationally have been particularly hard hit, as arts and cultural venues were among the first to close and are among the last designated for reopening. The county recognizes that the arts and cultural organizations are an essential part of our community and an instrumental aspect of our economic recovery.

The Arts Relief Grant Program will award grants between \$5,000 and \$25,000 to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations. Award amounts will be based on the organization’s budget size and demonstrated need. Grants will be awarded to qualifying organizations providing arts programs and services in the areas of visual art, dance, theater, music, literature, poetry, cultural traditions, and other related forms of arts, culture and cre-

ativity. This grant program is intended to provide support for expenses and income loss from business interruption due to COVID-19 between March 1, 2020, to December 30, 2020. This is a granting program and therefore repayment of the funds will not be required.

The program guidelines, including all eligibility and application requirements, and a link to the online application can be found on the Arts Commission website at www.acgov.org/arts (click on “Programs”). Applications will be accepted online beginning Friday, Oct. 30, and ending on Friday, Nov. 20, at 5 p.m. For all questions or assistance with the application, contact the Alameda County Arts Commission Director Rachel Osajima via email at rachel.osajima@acgov.org.

Scouts Prepare for Joyful (and Safe) Tree Sales

Livermore’s BSA Troop 900 has been working like Christmas elves, preparing to deliver beautiful trees and the exceptional service that they’ve offered their city for decades.

Living up to their ‘Be Prepared’ motto, they will have procedures in place to ensure a safe tree-selection experience for all their customers.

“We had to be creative in coming up with ways to make Christmas tree shopping fun, safe and accessible

for everyone” said William Arnold, the Troop 900 Senior Patrol Leader. “In addition to our traditional walk-in lot, with our awesome ‘Scout Service’ and even greater spacing than normal, we’ll actually have a drive-thru section. Scouts will set up some trees in stands, and customers can select their Christmas tree from their car. Customers can even order a Christmas tree online for pickup or delivery.”

As in previous years, the

Scouts will help with tree selection, provide fresh-cuts and safely load the trees for transport. The troop’s adult leaders have been supporting the scouts to make sure nothing is overlooked.

The Troop 900 Christmas Tree Lot will be located, as usual, at the intersection of East and Hillcrest avenues. Online sales and hours of operation are available at www.troop900treelot.com. For more information, visit www.troop900livermore.com.

Assistance League Seeks Donations for Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry in Livermore

The Assistance League of Amador Valley, which helps support the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry in Livermore, is urging the community to help feed families in need.

When the league started its Food for Families Program to support the food pantry five years ago, Tri-Valley Haven was helping feed about 500 families a month. According to the league, that has now grown to more than 1,200 families.

The food pantry on Junction Avenue serves Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

Donations can be sent to the Assistance League at Box 11843 in Pleasanton, or by going to www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley.

CALIFORNIA DERMATOLOGY CARE
Advanced Care with a Personal Touch

Center of Excellence for skin cancer, acne and psoriasis

NEW LIVERMORE LOCATION
Text/Call 925-328-0255 for APPT

A place where beauty and healthy skin meet.
We are dedicated to Medical, Cosmetic and Surgical Dermatology. A place for medical skin consultation, aesthetic rejuvenation and face & body contouring. Visit us online for an extensive list of procedures, treatments, product lines, lasers and therapies offered.

www.DrWilliamTing.com Schedule your consultation appointment today!

Dr. William Ting, MD
Board Certified Dermatologist and Mohs Micrographic Surgeon

Livermore, 48 Fenton Street
Text: 925-328-0255
Office: 925-359-6255
Email: staff@CalDermCare.com | www.DrWilliamTing.com

San Ramon, 2262 Camino Ramon
Text/Phone: 925-328-0255



Home has never been more important.

Home. It’s the keeper of your moments and milestones. It’s the constant in all this change. It’s why we do what we do, and why we’re committed to helping everyone find their home whenever they’re looking. While things may look different right now, what remains the same is our commitment to you. To your families. To your celebrations. To your peace of mind. To your investments. To your home. Because wherever the world goes, home is where you stay.

[compass](https://www.compass.com) | [compass.com](https://www.compass.com)

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Numbers 01079009 and 01272467. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

COMPASS