



Last October, BART celebrated its upgraded swing-style plexiglass barriers designed to greatly reduce fare evasion at the West Dublin/Pleasanton and other BART stations. This year, the station faces possible closure amid financial mismanagement woes. (Photo — Leah Silveira)

Study Points to Tennis, Hansen Parks as Optimal Sites for Pleasanton's New Wells

Zone 7 Proposal Aims to Restore Water Supply Lost to PFAS Contamination

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — Plans to drill groundwater wells in southwest Pleasanton are settling on two new wells, one at Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park and another at Hansen Park, at a cost of around \$40 million split between the city and the Zone 7 Water Agency.

The two-well recommendation comes from a feasibility study completed on Dec. 31, 2025 by Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers. The study ruled out a previously considered well at Del Prado Park based on criteria around capital costs, operations and maintenance costs, operational flexibility and resilience, implementation schedule, community

and environmental impacts, and water quality and treatment risk.

At their Feb. 3 meeting, city council members praised the cooperation between the city and Zone 7 in completing the study. The two agencies are exploring a plan to build and operate the new wells as a partnership, although the exact split for the costs and water produced is still to be determined.

"I hope that the coming discussions between the city and Zone 7 reach an amicable conclusion that we are both very happy with, and I have every confidence they will," Councilmember Jeff Nibert said.

Mayor Jack Balch said, "I do hope this turns into a win-win, and I appreciate the cooperation we've demonstrated so far," adding that

both agencies are looking to diversify their water supply and pass on cost savings to their ratepayers.

Together, the new wells could produce up to 8,200 acre-feet of water per year during drought conditions if pushed to their practical limit of 18 hours of operation per day, according to the study.

If built, each well would be entirely enclosed by a small building, similar in size to those housing restrooms at some city parks, said Pleasanton Utilities Planning Manager Todd Yamello.

The City of Pleasanton shut down the last of its three existing groundwater wells in November 2022 in response to PFAS, or forever-chemical, contamination in the area's aquifer. The city has since

(See WELLS, page 7)

Conservancy Discusses Health, Future of S. Livermore Wineries

Local Leaders Applaud Funding for Replanting Signature Varietals

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE- The Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) hosted a community forum on Feb. 10 in Livermore titled "What's Happening in South Livermore's Vineyards?"

"We started getting a number of calls several months ago, people asking, 'What's going on? Why are vineyards being pulled out and what can and cannot be done on some of these lands?'" said the evening's moderator, Rebecca Spector, executive director of the Tri-Valley Conservancy.

It was standing room only at the Robert Livermore Community

Center during the panel discussion, which included Brandi Lombardi, executive director of the Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association; David Kent, owner of Darcie Kent Winery and Almost Famous Wine Co.; and Diana Roberts, conservation manager for the Tri-Valley Conservancy.

Current Crisis

Lombardi reiterated growing concern in the community. Her office, too, has received phone calls. "What's going on with vineyards being ripped out? Everyone wants to know that answer," Lombardi said. Before answering, she pro-

vided an overview of what's happening in the industry as a whole.

"Livermore is one piece of the wine industry. It's not the whole piece in our state, our country or the world. And there's a lot going on," she said.

To address any misconceptions around the role of the TVC, and the "does and does not" of the agricultural land trust that protects over 6000 acres in the Tri-Valley, Roberts provided an explanation.

"A large part of our mission is the protection of land under conservation easement," she said.

For the most part, conservation easements came out of the

(See WINERIES, page 9)

BART Staff Proposes Possible Closure Of Tri-Valley Stations

Tax Failure May Trigger Full Blue Line Elimination

By David Jen

TRI-VALLEY — Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) staff has proposed cutting off the Tri-Valley if a regional tax measure fails at the ballots in November. The plan drew criticisms and pleas last week from both the public and the BART Board of Directors, who asked to maintain support for those dependent on the train service.

BART staff has proposed a phased "Deep Cuts" strategy, closing its Castro Valley and West Dublin/Pleasanton stations in January 2027. This first phase would also close its North Concord, Oakland International Airport, Orinda, Pittsburg Center, San Bruno, South Hayward, South

San Francisco and Warm Springs stations. The station closures, along with the removal of evening service and running peak-hour trains in only one direction, would cut train hours by 63%.

BART fares and parking fees would also increase 30% in January 2027.

The strategy would discontinue the Blue Line, the only line serving the Tri-Valley, entirely in July 2027 by closing the Dublin/Pleasanton station. This phase would also end the Yellow Line at Concord, end the Orange Line at Bay Fair and close most stations south of Daly City.

If BART proves unable to operate its second phase safely or legally, a proposed third phase would stop all

(See BART, page 6)

LVJUSD Board Names Acting Superintendent

Teachers Voted No-Confidence for Previous Leader

By Vivien Weneker

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) board has named Michelle Pechette as acting superintendent, moving swiftly to stabilize leadership after faculty groups delivered a resounding vote of no confidence against her predecessor.

The decision, announced at a Feb. 10 board meeting, comes just days after 90% of union members — representing 1,271 teachers and staff — signed a petition citing budget mismanagement and a breakdown of trust under former Superintendent Torie Gibson. Pechette, previously the assistant superintendent of educational services, will handle all oversight responsibilities until an interim is selected. "The board greatly appreciates Ms. Pechette's willingness to serve in this capacity," board President Steven Drouin said

in a message to district staff. "We will work closely with her to ensure she receives the support and direction needed to continue the...ongoing operations of the district during this time of transition." Additionally, the board voted to form an ad hoc committee comprised of its most senior members, Craig Bueno and Emily Prusso, to reach out to county and professional organizations to find and recommend to the board a prospective candidate.

"The board values the work of all staff and the support of our community and recognizes the impact that leadership transitions have on an organization," Drouin said. At the meeting, presidents of the Livermore Education Association (LEA) and the Livermore chapter of the California State Education Association (CSEA) expressed relief at the board's swift action following the departure of former Superintendent

(See LVJUSD, page 8)



Workers prune vines on Feb. 3 at Wente Vineyards near Concannon Blvd. and South Livermore Avenue. The Tri-Valley Conservancy held a public forum on Feb. 10 at the Robert Livermore Community Center to address concerns regarding the recent removal of grapevines by local wineries. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)



A worker at Meadowlark Dairy's new Livermore location stocks fresh bottles of milk. The new, larger space occupies the site of the former Bank of the West Building. The historic dairy has been serving patrons in Pleasanton at its iconic drive-thru since the 1960s. (Photo — Jacob Clouser)

New Meadowlark Dairy Opens in Livermore

Pleasanton Institution Brings its Famous Soft Serve to Former Bank Building

By Kathryn Stroud

LIVERMORE — Meadowlark Dairy opened its Livermore location in December 2025, and even on chilly days, customers lined up outside with ice cream in hand.

"It's been great," said owner Jesse Takens about the process of opening a new location.

For Takens, the space made an impression long before the doors officially opened. He first saw the building in 2023 and said he "fell in love with it right away."

"I mean, it's an old bank—how cool is that?" Takens said with a laugh.

The Livermore shop occupies the former Bank of the West building, marking a notable new chapter for a business that has long been a fixture in Pleasanton.

Meadowlark Dairy's roots in the community stretch back more than a century. Founded in 1919 by Walter Briggs senior, Meadowlark was the first certified dairy in California and supplied the community with milk,

butter and cream. The original dairy operated at what is now Alviso Adobe Community Park.

In the late 1960s, the dairy was purchased by Dutch immigrants Jannes and Janna Takens, who had previously worked at, and later leased, the business. Shortly after acquiring it, the Takens family moved the operation to downtown Pleasanton, opening the now-iconic drive-thru.

The shift toward ice cream began in the 1980s with a chance discovery: an old ice cream mix-

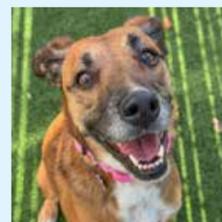
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DTA Votes to Move Toward a Strike As Negotiations Reach an Impasse

Educators Frustrated with Superintendent Funk's Refusal to Prioritize Budget, Invest in Smaller Class Sizes as District Faces an \$8.4 Million Deficit

By Sanestina Hunter

DUBLIN — The Dublin Teachers Association (DTA) voted to authorize a strike if a student-centered agreement cannot be reached in ongoing contract negotiations with the Dublin Unified School District, union leaders announced Feb. 5.

According to the association, more than 98% of eligible members participated in the vote, with over 95% approving strike authorization.

The vote follows months of stalled negotiations between the union and district leadership.

Brad Dobrzanski, DTA president, said that responsibility for negotiations currently rests with Superintendent Chris Funk.

“At this stage, decisions related to negotiations are still Superintendent Funk’s responsibility,” he told The Independent. “Removing that responsibility would allow someone with more student-centered decision-making to take the lead and help bring both sides closer together. We need a leader who invests in Dublin students.”

“For more than 18 months, DTA members have put forward solutions to help the district increase revenue and reduce costs, including changes

to independent study to recover funding from student absences and early retirement incentives,” Dobrzanski said.

“Superintendent Funk has failed to implement these ideas in a way that would meaningfully support students.”

State-mandated mediation took place Jan. 6 but did not result in progress toward an agreement, according to the association.

Union leaders said the strike authorization reflects growing frustration with proposed budget reductions, which they argue would increase classroom overcrowding and reduce student supports.

DTA declared an impasse in November 2025, citing unresolved issues educators say directly affect students, including class sizes, special education caseloads and educator health care.

Dobrzanski said the vote reflects broader concerns about Superintendent Chris Funk’s leadership, including the district’s acknowledged \$3.6 million budgeting error and what he described as a failure to act on cost-saving and revenue-enhancing proposals offered by educators.

District budget documents presented in December 2025 show Dublin

Unified is facing sustained fiscal pressure beginning in the 2026–27 school year, including a projected \$8.4 million multiyear structural deficit.

To address the shortfall, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved approximately \$6.6 million in ongoing budget reductions on Jan. 27, including position reductions, nonessential spending cuts and programmatic changes.

The union has also criticized proposed reductions to teaching positions.

Dobrzanski said that for the third consecutive year, the district has proposed eliminating teaching positions — a move he said would increase class sizes — while maintaining high executive compensation.

In response, Superintendent Chris Funk said the strike authorization vote is a procedural step commonly taken during the impasse process and does not change the district’s financial realities.

“We remain far apart,” Funk said.

“The current proposal from the Dublin Teachers Association would require ongoing expenditures that our budget cannot sustain without deeper cuts to student programs and school sites.”

“Our responsibility is

not only to reach an agreement, but to reach one that is fiscally responsible, legally compliant and sustainable over time,” he added.

Funk also addressed union concerns about consultant spending, saying those costs are not discretionary and include legally required services.

These services include special education providers, mental health professionals, transportation, technology systems and audit functions the district cannot staff internally due to credentialing and compliance requirements.

Negotiations will next move into the state-mandated fact-finding stage, where both sides will present their positions to a neutral panel.

If no agreement is reached, the panel chair will issue a nonbinding recommendation, after which the union would have the legal right to strike.

“Dublin students, staff and families deserve the very best, and they have it,” Funk said. “Our responsibility now is to protect that excellence, ensure long-term stability, and make decisions that preserve the high-quality educational experience our community expects and deserves.”



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City of Dublin Mourns the Passing of Beloved Former Mayor, Janet Lockhart

By Sanestina Hunter

DUBLIN — For more than a decade, Janet Lockhart guided Dublin through steady growth and transformation, earning a reputation as a hands-on leader deeply invested in the community she served.

with special needs,” Hu said. “She will be remembered as a compassionate, hands-on leader whose dedication strengthened our partnerships, elevated our services and enriched the lives of Dublin residents.”

A founding board member and emeritus advisor,

Charlene. “When Happy Talkers outgrew our home, it began an eight-year journey across seven moves as we searched for a permanent place where children could access therapy and education under one roof,” Sigman said. “Janet understood that vision instantly.”

“She became our greatest ally and advocate, introducing us to the right people, guiding our project through leadership transitions and helping secure a permanent home that will serve families for generations,” he said.

“As founders new to the region, Lockhart gave us credibility, guidance and unwavering support. Most importantly, she embraced our family and this mission with her whole heart. We are deeply grateful for her leadership, her friendship and her lasting legacy in the Tri-Valley community,” Sigman said.

In addition to her public service, Lockhart was a local business owner at Lockhart & Associates LLC. She also served as president of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and worked as superintendent of the Enrichment Academy for Dublin Partners in Education.

In honor of her service, the city flag was flown at half-staff at the Dublin Civic Center and Dublin Police

Services from Feb. 4-9. “I am deeply grateful for her vision and service,” Hu said. “Dublin is better because of her.”



Former Dublin Mayor, Janet Lockhart, is shown at the School of Imagination groundbreaking in 2008. Lockhart died earlier this month at age 78. (Photo courtesy of School of Imagination).

Lockhart died in early February at 78. She is survived by family and friends, and by the lasting work she helped create across the Tri-Valley.

Lockhart was elected to the Dublin City Council in 1996 and served as a councilmember from 1997 to 2001, as the city expanded its housing, retail corridors and public infrastructure. In 2001, she was appointed mayor and later elected to the position, serving through 2007.

During her time in office, Lockhart helped advance several of the city’s most visible developments, including Hacienda Crossings, the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART station, Dublin Ranch, a master-planned community, and the opening of the Dublin Senior Center.

Her leadership helped steer Dublin through a period of planned growth that strengthened the city’s economic vitality.

“Lockhart played a key role in projects that continue to define our community,” Mayor Sherry Hu told The Independent. “I am deeply grateful for the legacy Lockhart leaves behind.”

“She championed efforts close to her heart, including the School of Imagination and its work with children

Lockhart helped guide the School of Imagination, which grew out of the Happy Talkers childcare and clinical program, into its permanent Dublin facility through partnerships with city officials and developers.

“Former Mayor Lockhart was one of the earliest champions of the school and a founding board member,” said Mitch Sigman, who co-founded the School of Imagination and Happy Talkers with his wife,

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PUSD Reallocates \$35.3 Million in Bond Savings for Upgrades

By Sanestina Hunter

PLEASANTON — Pleasanton Unified School District trustees approved a reallocation of approximately \$35.3 million in Measure I and Measure II bond contingency funds at their Jan. 29 meeting, allowing the district to expand modernization projects across multiple campuses.

According to district staff, the additional contingency funds stem from under-budget project savings, updated projections for interest earned on unspent bond proceeds and revised estimates for available state facility grants.

“Our goal during the budget reallocation was to address immediate facility needs, reduce operating expenses and improve the educational experience of our students,” Executive Director of Facilities and Construction Aaron Kael told *The Independent*.

“We prioritized work that was occurring at sites with ongoing projects to help maximize the scope we could complete with our available funding.”

As part of that process, district staff conduct annual reviews of completed proj-

ects, including finalizing invoices and closing unused purchase orders to identify savings.

“Through that review, the district identified \$681,521 in project savings between the December 2025 facilities committee meeting and the Jan. 29 board meeting, when trustees formally approved the budget allocation,” Kael said.

In addition, changes to projected interest earnings on unspent bond proceeds and updated estimates for available state funding contributed another \$6,889,399 to the program contingency.

When combined with the district’s existing contingency balance of \$27,759,041 and the identified project savings, the total available contingency reached \$35,329,961.

“Reallocating these funds is a reflection of the sound fiscal management employed by PUSD,” Kael said, noting that several projects were completed for less than originally anticipated.

From that contingency, trustees approved \$17,423,622 for new and expanded projects, leaving approximately \$17.9 million remaining in contingency reserves.

The largest allocation, \$7.05 million, will fund dry

rot repairs, pool deck repairs and improvements to the large gym at Amador Valley High School.

Another \$6.5 million is earmarked for improvements to the Early Childhood Education Center at Harvest Park, including parking lot upgrades, pickup and drop-off improvements and modernization of iPals classrooms.

Additional allocations include \$2.6 million for a new basketball court and amphitheater-style outdoor seating at the Educational Options Center.

The district also approved \$600,000 for districtwide LED lighting upgrades and \$500,000 for parking lot improvements and campus enhancements at Valley View Elementary School.

Smaller allocations include \$133,622 for site fencing and telecommunications projects and \$40,000 for transitional kindergarten furniture adjustments.

Kael said the district prioritized projects that address immediate facility needs, reduce long-term operating expenses and enhance the student experience.

“For example, LED lighting upgrades are expected to lower electricity costs and re-

duce maintenance expenses due to longer bulb lifespans, freeing up more general fund resources for classroom use,” Kael said.

While reallocating funds, district leaders noted maintaining appropriate contingency levels. Kael said approximately 68% of bond dollars have been expended or encumbered, with about 32% remaining.

Bond program contingencies are set aside to address unforeseen construction conditions, cost escalations and scope adjustments.

The current contingency balance exceeds that percentage, which he said aligns with industry standards for bond program management.

Each individual project also includes its own built-in contingency to address unforeseen conditions.

Measure I, a \$395 million general obligation bond, was approved by voters in 2022. Measure II, a \$270 million bond, was approved nearly a decade ago.

District officials said the ability to redirect savings and updated revenue projections toward additional improvements demonstrates long-term stewardship of voter-approved funds.

Those adjustments, Kael said, have allowed the district to complete more projects than originally anticipated while maintaining fiscal safeguards for remaining bond work.

In October 2025, the district unveiled a completed Measure I-funded athletic field at Pleasanton Middle School as part of the first phase of middle school facility upgrades.

In January, the district completed a \$9.7 million renovation of the athletic field and track at Harvest Park Middle School.

Additional projects underway in the planning stages include a transitional kindergarten project at Walnut Grove Elementary School,

campus renovations at Amador Valley High School and athletic field renovations at

Hart Middle School, according to the district’s facilities planning documents.

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Swirl on the Square in Livermore helps close out Valentine's Day weekend Sunday, Feb. 15, with a love letter to live music. The community gathered at Gabe Duffin's twice-monthly open mic held at the wine bar in Blacksmith Square. (Photo — Christina Cavallaro)



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EDITORIAL

BART Still Needs to Put Its House in Order

It's no secret that BART has been struggling with financial management for years now. The agency has long been required to put its financial house in order, but so far, it seems, that has come to nought.

Last week, we learned that BART is holding out for another voter-approved financing measure for the fall. And if it fails to pass, the agency will punish the Tri-Valley by cutting off all service on the Blue Line, the only BART route that reaches our area.

That's simply an unacceptable outcome for a service that has long suffered under financial mismanagement, despite measures put into place to prevent that.

There have been at least three initiatives in the past decades that aimed to rein in the agency's out-of-control finances: a Citizens Oversight Committee created with 2004's Regional Measure AA; in 2016, the Measure RR Bond Oversight Committee; and a bridge toll increase in 2018 that required the agency to create an independent inspector general's office.

That office's 2025 investigations covered a wide range of subjects, including recovering unpaid park-

ing permit fees, updating its procurement manual, to investigating alleged workers' compensation fraud by employees. That office appears to have prevented or reversed illegal or unethical practices, but it is far below the level of the \$376 million deficit BART is expected to have by July.

All three of those measures have been criticized for various reasons; most notably, the Office of the Inspector General has been hampered by BART officials blocking access to records, which is what prompted the former state senator for the Tri-Valley, Steve Glazer, to resign his seat from the Senate Select Committee on Bay Area Public Transit. Despite reporting \$2 million recovered in the first semiannual report for 2026, the office has noted it still lacks the staff and funding to investigate the high volume of reports of waste that it receives

Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal, Connect Bay Area, would raise sales taxes by 0.5% to bring in up to \$980 million annually over 14 years just to maintain BART's current level of service. The measure also calls for yet another citizen oversight committee to monitor spending of

those funds.

The alternative, as the Connect Bay Area website blares, is widespread reduction of services and the closure of up to 15 stations, including those serving Castro Valley and Tri-Valley, plus Oakland International Airport and numerous other locations in the five counties served by BART.

We understand the need to close the deficit. We also recognize that deficits are unsustainable. But if Newsom believes that making threats is going to get people to raise taxes just to maintain a level of service, he might need to think again. The message is simply: Raise Taxes and Nothing Will Change.

But this is repeating the mistakes made with the failure of a 2024 ballot measure that would have raised taxes for 30 years to provide \$1.5 billion annually to transit services in nine Bay Area counties. That was a case of putting all the eggs in one basket, and then dropping it.

In 2023, Assemblymember Scott Wiener pulled the plug on his own bill to raise bridge tolls by \$1.50. BART doesn't deserve a bailout until it can get its own house in order, said Steve Glazer, the state senator rep-

resenting the Tri-Valley at the time.

And yet, here we are again. It seems that the lesson BART learned from two failed measures isn't that people weren't given enough reasons to support them, but that the threats weren't severe enough.

Well, the threats are clear this time, and the Tri-Valley would be singularly punished for the failures of BART to rein itself in.

There has to be a better way, because the problems BART is dealing with are institutional. What we need — what voters need — is to see what BART's plan is to prevent further waste. Just jacking up taxes and fees every time spending gets out of hand isn't going to do it. Neither is threatening to seriously curtail or eliminate BART service for millions of people.

Newsom should go back to the drawing board, and come up with a financial reform plan that will bring accountability agency-wide, and show how such a plan will eliminate the need for most service cuts. The goal is to go big on financial accountability, and only then can we talk about taxes. Otherwise, we're just slapping a Band-Aid on the problem and hoping it stays on.

MAILBOX

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Plant-Based Milk in School Lunches

Lex Manwill, Livermore

A recent move to expand access to non-dairy milk in school lunch programs is a long-overdue step toward healthier, more inclusive nutrition. Millions of students are lactose intolerant, allergic to dairy, or come from families that avoid animal products for ethical or cultural reasons.

Offering plant-based milk isn't radical—it's practical. These options provide essential nutrients without the saturated fat and cholesterol found in dairy, and they come with a much smaller environmental footprint.

School meals shape lifelong habits. When we normalize plant-based choices early, we teach children that compassion, health, and sustainability can co-exist on the same tray.

In a time when childhood health concerns and climate anxiety are rising, modernizing school nutri-

tion just makes sense. Giving students plant-based options empowers families, respects differences, and quietly models a kinder way forward — one lunch at a time.

Livermore's Financial Health Report

Patricia Munro, Livermore

It really doesn't matter what any city wants to do. Without money to accomplish those goals, nothing will happen. Livermore is fortunate: its financial health is so good that we often take it for granted. A few weeks ago, the City of Livermore published its Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025, a 12-page, very readable document. Here are six highlights from the report, showing how we have used our funds:

- Ensuring clean water is, arguably, the single most important thing a city does for public safety and health. In the past year, Livermore modernized the pumps, clarifiers, electrical systems and mechanical equipment

for the Water Reclamation Plant.

- A recent Community Risk Assessment provided data for Livermore to secure almost half a million dollars from a FEMA grant. That money will enable our first responders to train and certify EMTs as paramedics, thereby increasing advanced life-support care for the community.

- The California Cities Helen Putnam Award for Excellence recognizes outstanding efforts by city governments to improve the quality of life in local communities. Livermore received this award in 2024 for expanding access to mental health services through Horizons Family Counseling for youth and families.

- Vineyard 2.0 continues to grow in its role as a service hub that has become a national model for dignity and stability. However, while an effective crisis response is essential, permanent stability is the goal. Livermore's Affordable Homeownership Program helped eleven families buy their first homes this year, while the Pacific Senior Project broke ground on 79 affordable units for low-income seniors.

- With new state guidelines in place regarding housing, having a clear and up-to-date set of standards is more important than ever. To that end, Livermore recently adopted citywide Objective Design Standards and a modernized Plan Check Manual, which will streamline and simplify the review process while still ensuring that every project feels uniquely like Livermore.

- Finally, Livermore is integrating bike lanes and pedestrian connections to develop walkable, connected communities. In addition, in the past year, Livermore purchased 330 acres across four key properties to extend a permanent "green belt" and protect wildlife habitats.

Want more, especially about income and spending allocation? Here's the link: https://www.livermoreca.gov/home/showpublished-document/1360_3/63_90_62447800870000

Cruelty and Intimidation

Barry Brynjulson, Pleasanton

ICE is a private, masked, paramilitary operation seemingly without rules, legal consequences, or congressional oversight. It is funded by taxpayer dollars. Cruelty and intimidation seem to be the points.

Concurrently, there is a nationwide ICE-related, private prison system under development that will financially benefit the Administration's insiders. It also will be funded by taxpayers. Many speculate that it, too, will operate without oversight and normal prison/prisoner safeguards.

While the prisons are purported to be for illegal immigrants, they will also be visible reminders of what could happen to protesters, unflattering media, and others that this Administration deems worthy. Cruelty and intimidation will likely be in play.

Silence is compliance. Fact Checking

David Marco, Livermore

The Feb. 12 editorial has some allegations that are incorrect.

On Jan. 6, 2020, Trump did NOT send people to riot. The video of Trump saying this is a fraud. The real video shows him telling people to demonstrate peacefully. On the whole, most surveillance videos show Capitol police letting people into the building, guiding them through the building peacefully. Why did they do this? The people arrested and jailed since then did not have due process. The people actually committing violence have not been arrested. Why? In 2020, Trump, Patel and others recommended deployment of the national guard due to the size of the crowd. Nancy Pelosi declined that request.

Trump does not have a "lust for power." He has a passion for America, and that passion was shared by 77,000,000 Americans last November. He's doing what he promised and what many of us voted for. Even California had many more Republican leaning voters than recent elections. Is "The Independent" actually inciting people to violate the laws of the land and

resist a duly elected President? How sad. Here are people The Independent is trying to defend. Their crimes include 399 homicides, 3,313 assaults, 3,171 burglaries, 1,011 robberies, 8,380 dangerous drug offenses, 1,984 weapons offenses, 1,293 "predatory" offenses. Ignoring the detainers has allegedly led to the release of 4,561 illegal migrant criminals since Jan. 20 of this year. This is harming the safety of our communities.

The Election Integrity Project® California has data showing that California elections "are not fair, honest, and transparent, but rather chaotic, imprecise, and fraught with opportunities for wide-spread manipulation." People were canvassed in a previous election using house-to-house visits. The results were compared to official election tolls, and they did not match. It was estimated that California had over 400,000 ballots that could not be proven accurate.

Examples of acts of congress affecting federal elections: 18 USC 10307 bans false registration, multiple voting, intimidation or fraud in federal elections. 18 USC 611 prohibits non-citizens from voting in federal elections. The editorial accused Trump of intending to "rig upcoming elections." Why did Newsom and California Democrats prohibit poll workers from asking voters if they were U.S. citizens? Was it to ensure illegal immigrants could vote? It's an insult to say that poor people cannot get a legal ID when they do it all the time

Afraid of Becoming a Minority?

Elizabeth M. Judge, Livermore

Yes, the current administration ran on an immigration platform to limit border crossings and rid the country of illegal, violent criminals to provide safety from the "worst of the worst."

Once elected, however, it defined anyone who had come here illegally a "criminal." That meant that even those who had come here decades ago, worked hard (often exploited), but never violated the law otherwise, have been searched out, de-

tained or deported all without due process. The law requires due process.

This lawless immigration "crackdown" has fingerprints all over it from Stephen Miller, the white supremacist who is currently the deputy chief of staff for President Trump. Consider that of the thousands of people taken into custody, only 14% are convicted criminals. The real effort here is not about citizen safety; it is a racist purge complete with concentration camps!

The population of this country has been changing, and because many white folks have treated current minorities with no respect and much worse, they are scared to death that eventually they will wind up in that category themselves.

Many consider themselves White (so-called) Christian Nationalists who want to roll back the attempts at righting the wrongs of the past by denying they ever happened. Fear is at the forefront of this effort to restore white male-only privilege, negate any black or brown history, challenge religions other than theirs, etc. etc. What ever happened to "Love Thy Neighbor?"

In a democracy, there is free speech, and folks frustrated with the current abuses of the law should protest or be considered complicit. No one is above the law, especially one who took an oath to uphold the Constitution.

Hate Filled Editorials

Philip LaScola, Livermore

My hat is off to Anthony Beckett (Letters, Feb. 12) for bringing attention to the editorials written in this paper.

These editorials are filled with outright lies, bias, ignorance of the facts, and pure hate for Donald Trump.

What is pure hate? It's filling the editorial page with everything that is negative about the current administration even if it is not true or facts are twisted. It's never acknowledging in the one-year Trump has been office that some of his policies have improved the life of all Americans. No matter what he does, what is good for the country will never

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

THE Independent

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Amador Valley Quilters recently presented World War II and Korean War veteran Larry Ulibarri (center) with a handmade Quilt of Valor. Ulibarri, who celebrated his 100th birthday on Jan. 29, enlisted in the Army as a teenager in 1945. Deployed to the Pacific Theater just as WWII ended, he was stationed in the Philippines. In 1950, when war broke out in Korea, Ulibarri volunteered for the Marines and saw action at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. He received an honorable discharge with a 100% disability in 1951. He and his family have lived in Livermore since 1954. Quilts of Valor is a national program to honor current and former members of the military who have been “touched by war.” Members of Livermore VFW Post 7265 attended the presentation, along with Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Councilman Steven Dunbar, and representatives of the Las Positas College Veterans First Program. For more information about Amador Valley Quilters and the Quilts of Valor program, go to amadorvalleyquilters.org. (Photo by Barbara Grimes)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

be included in any editorial; count on it. For example, he secured the border.

Yet in the Biden years, with a wide-open southern border, with all kinds of criminals coming across our border, not a word in any editorial mentioned what was happening. The alleged border czar and the Director of Homeland Security outright lied to the American people that all was well; their hands were tied, they could do nothing. This newspaper was silent.

I can only conclude that the individual who is responsible for allowing these lying, hate filled editorials to continue supporting every word in every editorial, or else the person writing them would be shown the door.

Response to Letter Patrick Weidhaas, Dublin

Here are my thoughts on last week’s letter “The ICE Student Rally” by Mr. Owen Brovont, Livermore.

Mr. Brovont proudly introduces the males in his family. He, his brother and his son are veterans; his father and father-in-law were WWII veterans. I salute them, especially the WWII veterans. After all, my partly Jewish family in Germany owes their survival from the Nazi terror to the U.S. troops under General Patton! Sadly, several members of my family perished in the Holocaust.

But isn’t it strange how Mr. Brovont and I react so very differently to the current political climate in this country?

We both decry the level

of confusion and ignorance among U.S. citizens, young and old. According to Mr. Brovont, “propaganda” and “fifth columnists” are foisting ideological misrepresentations on our poorly educated population. I, however, place the source of this “misrepresentation” in the highest levels of our government — from President Trump on down. While Mr. Brovont worries about “fifth columnists”, I worry about Mr. Trump being a “useful idiot” for Putin. Remember how Ukraine’s President Zelensky was (mis)treated by Trump and Vance during his White House visit, while warmonger Putin received the royal treatment. I was disgusted.

Mr. Brovont, along with so many in the MAGA crowd, lose sleep over the

fact that so many undocumented immigrants roam this country. I worry far more about climate change and the dangers of AI! I have good experiences with immigrants. Sadly, the treatment of immigrants by this administration, with Trump labeling them “rapists and murderers”, evokes parallels to Hitler’s propaganda, labeling Jews as “vermin”. First you rob a group of “undesirables” of their classification as humans, then you blame them for all of society’s problems, and finally you round them up and get rid of them — in inhumane and cruel ways.

Like Mr. Brovont, I frown on people wearing masks at public events. However, we disagree on who should and shouldn’t wear masks. I do not want ICE hiding behind masks — it leads to actions we witnessed in Minneapolis!

I suspect Mr. Brovont is familiar with columnist George Will, who in a recent column in the Washington Post criticized the “moral slum” of this administration! The historian Jon Meacham calls this administration an “aberration” in U.S. history!

Our New Class Frank Cannella, Livermore

Most Americans are tired of hearing about the release (or lack thereof) of the Epstein files. Whether redacted or not unredacted, the files reveal an appalling truth. There is a class of people in our country whose wealth, power and influence make them above the rest of us. Some may call them “Epstein class”. The members of this class are not accountable for their actions; they are above the law and are to be protected by our current national leadership. You need only look at the videos as our pathetic

Attorney General testifies before Congress about her handling of the files. Does anyone believe her Department of Justice is not doing its level best to protect the Epstein class, headed by our current president, from any accountability for actions mentioned in those files? AG Bondi would not even look at the victims seated behind her, all of whom expressed a willingness to testify about their harrowing experiences during the Epstein conspiracies, nor had they been contacted by the AG’s office. No, she thought it best to insult members of Congress (probably from notes she brought to the hearing) rather than answer the questions from our elected officials.

Then she left the hearings and received rave reviews from our president, class leader.

People are Dying... Ward Kanowsky, Pleasanton

Let’s talk about deaths, specifically, preventable, pointless, illegal deaths in

(See MAILBOX, page 6)

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Ryan Kim, a member of Troop 939 in Livermore, has achieved the rank of Eagle, the highest rank in the traditional Scouts BSA program of Scouting America. Kim, the son of Becky Yoo and Patrick Kim, is a sophomore at Granada High School. To be awarded the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges and complete a community service project. For his project, Kim organized the construction of two flower beds for the Sycamore Grove Park entrances in Livermore. He led a team of 22 volunteers who spent almost 150 hours on the project. (Photo courtesy of Patrick Kim)

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

three categories: measles, boats, and immigration.

The first category has been flying under the radar. According to a measles tracker maintained by NBC News based on data from the Centers for Disease Control, measles infections in 2025 totaled 2,276, the highest level in 34 years. Three people, including two children, died from measles. Even more alarming, there are already over 700 reported cases for 2026, putting us on track to far exceed last year's numbers of infections and deaths especially given that vaccinations have dropped dramatically (well over 90% of those infected in 2025 and this year were either not vaccinated or their status is unknown.)

Coverage of the second category has quieted somewhat due to the ongoing flow of new, sensational, and outrageous actions by the Trump administration. Starting in September 2025 and going through December 2025, the U.S. conducted 35 known strikes against alleged drug smuggling boats in South American waters killing at least 115 people. This was all a prelude to the Jan. 3 attack in Venezuela to kidnap the country's president and wife.

And of course, the third category, immigration, has a body count that will likely continue to grow given ICE abuses and the horrific conditions of detention centers. In January 2026, the number of people in immigration detention centers was at an all-time high of 73,000, an increase of 84% since Trump took office. And last year, at least 32 people died in ICE custody while another six have died in detention through late January 2026. The number of people shot and killed by ICE is at 13, bringing the overall total to 51.

Unfortunately, these categories are only a part of this story. Across the world, people are dying due to the actions of the current regime. The dismantling of the U.S. Agency for International Development has resulted in hundreds of thousands of deaths; according to Harvard's school of public health, 600,000 people, two-thirds of them children, have died due to infectious diseases and malnutrition since USAID was gutted.

So 3, 115, 51, and

lots are the only way we can ensure total transparency and integrity in elections.

Senator Schumer left out an important part of the Constitution's election law.

Article I, Section 4, Clause 1 says: "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators."

The Congress can make election integrity laws such as the Save Act, which is being totally misrepresented by the Democrats.

Jimmy Carter chaired a commission on election integrity. These are two things they recommended: mail-in ballots and voter ID. Both of these are now being described as voter suppression. When the U.S. elections are less secure than Mexico and most of the E.U., which all require voter I.D., something is wrong with our system.

Look With Your Own Eyes
Keith Jackson, Dublin

Who knows best? Trump supporters are really starting to squirm now. They can tell that they are on the losing side and it is making them mad as hell. "Why are the editorials all against Trump," they ask. That is because a large majority of the public are against Trump. They say that anyone against Trump is ignorant and uninformed. Only they are smart enough to know what is true. Where do all these people get these crazy ideas that Trump is a lying grifter who only cares about himself? They get them from watching videos of Trump, Kristi Noem, Pam Bondi, and his other cohorts lying constantly; watching him extort payoffs from anyone who wants to do any kind of business; videos of ICE goons abusing and even killing people. People believe what they can see with their own eyes rather than what they are told by some MAGA supporter with delusions of superiority. I keep hearing that we must engage with Trump supporters to come to some kind of mutual understanding. I do not agree. Maybe some of them voted for Trump wanting some change and believing he would do some good. But after the last year, in my opinion, anyone who still believes that is a fool. We do not need to engage with them. We need to defeat them at the voting booth. If Trump cannot rig the next election, that will surely happen. We all need to decide what side of history we want to be on during these difficult times. You don't need to believe me or anyone else. Look with your own eyes and decide what is right. See which politicians are trying to help you, and which ones are just trying to help themselves. And whether you are on the right or the left or somewhere in between, the most important thing any of us can do is, when the opportunity arises, VOTE.

LHS Orchestra Selected for Esteemed National Festival

LIVERMORE—The Honors Chamber Orchestra at Livermore High School (LHS) has been selected to perform this month at the 2026 American String Teachers Association (ASTA) National Orchestra Festival in San Francisco.

The orchestra will also offer a free preview of its festival appearance at the LHS theater at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 25. The session is open to the public.

Orchestras will perform live at the festival, held in conjunction with the ASTA National Conference, and receive a specialized workshop.

The LHS orchestra is directed by Justin Enright. The orchestra festival will be held Thursday, Feb. 26, and Friday, Feb. 27.

BART
(Continued from front page)

service.

Director Melissa Hernandez, whose district includes the Tri-Valley, said at the Feb. 12 BART Board of Directors workshop that the cuts would unfairly hit the Tri-Valley the hardest.

"When you look at (Alameda County) sales-tax revenues, the majority of the funding is coming from the Tri-Valley and Fremont," Hernandez said. "So, I do believe that when you're looking at cutting my lines, that one: it's unfair, two: we are generating the majority of the funding coming forward."

Hernandez said that BART staff had also failed to engage the multi-billion-dollar Valley Link Rail Project — a proposed 42-mile rail line that would connect the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station with the North Lathrop Alameda Corridor Express Station in San Joaquin County — as it developed its strategy.

"The reason why Valley Link was created was when the previous BART board decided not to extend to Livermore, knowing that our Livermore residents vote, our Livermore residents generate a lot of sales tax revenue, and they have no BART stations at all, whatsoever," Hernandez said, asking staff to engage in more conversations.

Directors Liz Ames and Mark Foley urged staff to return with options that do not involve station closures.

Proposed 'Connect Bay Area' Tax Measure

The ailing BART agency has failed to adapt to post-pandemic norms of hybrid work, currently serving a ridership about half as large as its pre-pandemic size. While prior to the pandemic, BART saw roughly two-thirds of its operating costs covered by fares, it will face a \$376 million annual deficit beginning in July.

Gov. Gavin Newsom authorized in October 2025 a regional tax measure to rescue Bay Area transit systems using sales-tax revenues. Known as Connect Bay Area, the measure will ask voters in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to increase their sales taxes by 0.5%, and voters in San Francisco County to increase their sales tax by 1%. The funds would go toward preserving service on BART, Muni, Caltrain, AC Transit and other smaller transit agencies.

Some public speakers at the workshop viewed the Deep Cuts strategy as a threat aimed at tax-measure voters.

BART engineer Barney

Smits said, "BART management needs to find better options than the doomsday 'If this measure doesn't pass, we are shutting down the BART system.' There must be better options." He added that mismanagement and a lack of oversight on BART projects, such as the Traction Power Stations, fare gates, Clipper 2.0 and train-control modernization have eroded public trust.

Metropolitan Transportation Commissioner Gina Papan said that ballot-measure campaigns based on threats tend to fail.

"BART needs to gain the public trust at this point in time, not a doomsday threat of closures," Papan said, adding that BART needed to increase its transparency and present an efficiency plan.

The calls for improved efficiency echoed those made by former State Senator Steve Glazer, who almost three years ago, resigned from the Senate Select Committee on Bay Area Public Transit just days after being named to the committee.

"I recognize and support the pressing need for the state to invest in public transit agencies throughout the Bay Area given the financial uncertainty that looms over these systems," Glazer wrote following his resignation. "However, there is no guarantee that these agencies will spend taxpayer dollars sensibly without adequate oversight of their expenditures. I point to the recent alarming reports from BART's Inspector General regarding BART's financial mismanagement and brazen defiance of voter-mandated oversight."

At the time, he criticized BART's obstruction of its independent inspector general, as the agency prevented then-Inspector General Harriet Richardson from receiving the records needed to complete her investigations into BART financial mismanagement.

Richardson resigned in

March 2023, the month following Glazer's statements.

Symbiotic Relationships

Speakers from the Tri-Valley highlighted the symbiotic relationships threatened by the Blue Line closure.

"Visitors come to the Tri-Valley via local transportation and BART, especially international travelers — they don't know how else to get there," said Tracy Farhad, president and CEO of Visit Tri-Valley. "They are bringing jobs, new investments; they're maintaining our quality of life."

A proposed 100,000-square-foot event center strategically located near the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station now faces uncertainty with the proposed closures.

"If you do cut the two BART stations into the Tri-Valley, we are going to lose a significant generator of innovation, talent acquisition, tourism revenues, and decades of progress," Farhad said.

Christy Wegener, executive director of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, said, "Removing all Blue Line service would be extremely detrimental to my riders, the majority of whom are low income."

BART staff plans to present a two-pronged budget for adoption in June, including a base scenario for if the tax measure passes and another scenario for if it fails. If it fails, the board will adopt a revised budget in December and begin implementation of service cuts and layoffs on Jan. 11, 2027.

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Miguel Lopez left in the photo, next to his son, Julian Lopez, and his wife, Rosa Lopez.

Livermore Wente Winery worker, married father of three and grandfather
Miguel Lopez
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Council Allocates \$319,000 to Aid Two Area Nonprofits

By Sanestina Hunter

DUBLIN — The Dublin City Council allocated \$319,000 in federal grant funding in early February to two Tri-Valley nonprofits supporting domestic violence services, homeless shelter reconstruction and special education classroom expansion.

The funding comes through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County program, a federal initiative overseen by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and administered locally by Alameda County.

“The city approved the full amounts requested because the projects address critical, documented community needs and meet CDBG eligibility requirements,” Dublin Parks and Community Services Manager Shaun Chilkotowsky told The Independent.

Of the total allocation, Tri-Valley Haven will receive \$269,000 to rebuild and expand its domestic violence and homeless shelter, increasing capacity from 30 to 45 beds.

The project includes demolition of the existing shelter and full reconstruction on the current site, according to the staff report.

violence shelter in the region and the only one that accepts families with teenage boys.

“This year’s funding helps close a remaining gap, allow-

expand access to safe shelter for survivors, Chilkotowsky added.

Including this year’s allocation and prior CDBG Urban County capital project funding, Dublin’s total contribution to the project will reach \$787,494. Additional funding sources include Alameda County, the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, Measure A and private entities, according to the staff report.

The remaining \$50,000 was approved for the School of Imagination to expand classroom space, enabling the facility to serve additional children with special needs.

The School of Imagination, which opened in 2001, provides therapy and early childhood education programs for children with autism and other developmental delays.

“This funding allows us to move from planning into construction and bring this new space online for children and families,” said Mitch Sigman, who co-founded the School of Imagination with his wife, Charlene.

The funding will support

architectural and engineering work, permits and plan checks, and building systems such as electrical and HVAC improvements at the Vogt Family Center, located at 9801 Dublin Blvd., Sigman said.

Once complete, the additional classroom will allow the school to serve 1 to 3 more children at a time, translating to more than 30 additional children annually, depending on scheduling and service intensity.

Demand for services in the Tri-Valley continues to exceed capacity, with more than 100 families currently on the school’s waitlist, Sigman said. The expansion is expected to reduce delays so children can begin services sooner.

“Early support is most effective when families can access it without long delays,” he said. “By fully building out our campus, we can keep high-quality early support available locally and reduce the need for families to travel long distances for care.”

“These investments reflect the city’s broader commitment to supporting those

most in need,” Chilkotowsky said. “Both projects directly support vulnerable residents, survivors of domestic violence and children with special needs, and align with the city’s long-standing goal of ensuring access to safe, supportive environments and essential services.”

That commitment dates back to the early 2000s, including the completion of human services needs assessments, the formation of the Human Services Task Force and Grant Program, establishment of the Human Services Commission and, most recently, the 2024 Eastern Alameda County Human Services Needs Assessment.



From left, Mitch and Charlene Sigman, Councilmember John Morada, Councilmember Michael McCorristen, Mayor Sherry Hu, former Mayor Melissa Hernandez, and Alyssa, Stephen and Payton Vogt stand with Jackson Berg at the dedication of the Vogt Family Center at the School of Imagination in Dublin on Feb. 1, 2025. (Photo courtesy of School of Imagination)

Construction for the organization, which has served the Tri-Valley for more than 40 years, is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

Chilkotowsky said Tri-Valley Haven operates the only confidential domestic

ing work to continue without delay,” he said.

Dublin has supported the shelter project for three consecutive years, alongside contributions from Livermore and Pleasanton, reflecting a regional partnership to

WELLS

(Continued from front page)

relied on Zone 7, which removes PFAS at its treatment plants, for the entirety of its water at a higher cost.

Prior to the shutdown, the city used its annual 3,500-acre-feet groundwater allotment for as much as 20% of its water supply. In an effort to restore that flow, city staff have explored drilling new wells outside of the contamination plume after abandoning a plan to install its own treatment systems due to costs.

If the city council decides to go ahead with the new wells through a partnership with Zone 7, it would receive its groundwater quota through Zone 7 infrastruc-

ture. The setup would need to improve some water connections between Zone 7 and the city at additional cost.

Last September, Zone 7 and its consultant EKI Environment and Water, Inc. completed a new model of the Tri-Valley’s groundwater basin based on the area’s most recent geophysical studies and pumping tests. The model updated Zone 7’s understanding of how water — and any PFAS within it — flows through the varying layers of sediment underground.

When applied to Pleasanton’s proposed wells, the model predicted that the

Tennis and Hansen wells would remain PFAS-free for at least 20 years, said Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor.

Pleasanton councilmembers shared community concerns that, if the model proves wrong, ratepayers may be saddled with the expense solution that the new wells sought to avoid in the first place: PFAS treatment at the wells.

While Zone 7 Water Resources Manager Ken Minn acknowledged the imperfections of modeling in general, he said that Zone 7’s model predicted observed conditions 97% to 98% of the time in an industry where model-

ing accuracy above 70% is considered “good.” Zone 7 will also design each of the wells with enough room to add treatment equipment, if needed.

“Our goal is to defer or not have to treat those kinds of PFAS at all,” Minn said. “If that comes into the picture and we have to treat it, we will. City costs will be proportional to whatever we agree upon based on the production capacity split.”

After city staff complete their analysis of the feasibility study, it will return to the city council in March or April with a recommendation on how to proceed with the project.

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Sea parte de la visión de Livermore para calles más seguras
Livermore Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP)

Be Part of Livermore's Vision for Safer Streets
Livermore Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP)

Reunión comunitaria (presencial)

La Ciudad de Livermore está desarrollando un Plan de nombre Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP), una estrategia integral para reducir y, en última instancia, eliminar las muertes y lesiones graves por accidentes de tránsito. Reconociendo que las muertes y lesiones graves por accidentes de tránsito son prevenibles, el VZAP prioriza la seguridad y apoya acciones que crean una comunidad más segura, sostenible y habitable para todos los usuarios de la vía pública.

¡Su opinión es importante para nosotros!

El 15 de diciembre 2025 y el 28 de enero 2026, se llevó a cabo dos jornadas de divulgación comunitaria para presentar el VZAP y compartir cómo la Ciudad está trabajando para mejorar la seguridad vial. El equipo del proyecto analizó los objetivos y el proceso de desarrollo del Plan e invitó a la comunidad a compartir sus comentarios y sugerencias sobre la Red de Alto Riesgo de Accidentes, los perfiles de colisión, las áreas prioritarias y las contramedidas de seguridad propuestas para guiar los próximos pasos del Plan. También se compartió la plataforma de divulgación pública para que los residentes puedan seguir aportando sus opiniones durante todo el proyecto.

El video y la presentación están disponibles en el sitio web del proyecto mediante el código QR o en www.LivermoreCA.gov/VisionZero

¡Próxima reunión comunitaria!

¡Únase a nosotros para la próxima reunión de extensión en febrero de 2026.
¡Los detalles se encuentran a continuación!

Community Meeting (In-person)

The City of Livermore is developing a Vision Zero Action Plan (VZAP), a comprehensive strategy to reduce and ultimately eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Recognizing that traffic deaths and severe injuries are preventable, the VZAP prioritizes safety and supports actions that create a safer, more sustainable, and more livable community for all road users.

Your Input is important to us!

Community outreach meetings were held on December 15th 2025 and on January 28th 2026, to introduce the VZAP and share how the City is working to improve traffic safety. The project team discussed the Plan’s goals and development process and invited community feedback and input on High Injury Network, collision profiles, priority areas, and proposed safety countermeasures to help guide the next steps of the Plan. The public outreach platform was also shared so residents can continue providing input throughout the project.

The video and presentation are available on the project website at - www.LivermoreCA.gov/VisionZero

Upcoming Community Meeting!

Join us for the next Outreach Meeting in February 2026. Details are provided below!

Miércoles 25 de febrero a las 7 p.m.

Livermore City Council Chambers
Mendenhall Meeting Room
1016 S Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA, 94550

Nota: Visite el sitio web del proyecto para obtener actualizaciones sobre el desarrollo del proyecto.

Wednesday, February 25 at 7 p.m.

Livermore City Council Chambers
Mendenhall Meeting Room
1016 S Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA, 94550

Note: Please visit the project website for updates on the development of the project.

- Proporcionar comentarios y sugerencias sobre la Red de Alto Riesgo de Lesiones
- Preocupaciones sobre el tráfico en la comunidad (Resumen)
- Borradores de recomendaciones de seguridad
- Áreas de acción y acciones de implementación

¡Esperamos saber de usted! Para obtener más información, visite el sitio web del proyecto en www.LivermoreCA.gov/VisionZero o consulte el código QR a continuación:

¡Escanee el código QR para visitar el sitio web de nuestro proyecto aquí!

Se centra en accidentes fatales y graves evitables en lugar de eliminar todas las colisiones. Actualiza datos de colisiones y áreas de PREOCUPACIÓN. Tiene como objetivo ESTABLECER SISTEMAS SEGUROS. Integra el ERROR HUMANO en el enfoque.

Please scan the QR code to visit our Project Website here!

Focuses on PREVENTABLE FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES rather than eliminating all collisions. Updates collision data and areas of CONCERN. Aims to ESTABLISH SAFE SYSTEMS. Integrates HUMAN ERROR into the approach.

Carin Elam Runs for U.S. Congress

By David Jen

TRI-VALLEY — Nonprofit founder and business consultant Carin Elam announced this month plans to run for U.S. Congress in hopes of representing California District 14, which includes the Tri-Valley.

Congressman Eric Swalwell, who currently represents the district, announced in November 2025 his bid for Governor of California and will vacate his congressional seat at the beginning of next year.

Elam, a Pleasanton resident, draws upon her experience working in both politics and the nonprofit sector in forming her campaign. Motivated by the current state of the federal government, she said she would bring a different perspective to the House of Representatives.

“We keep losing, and we keep losing to someone that’s so unqualified,” Elam said. “We also have his enablers (who) aren’t telling the truth around him, and I would like to become a part of the solution addressing that. I feel that I have a different angle on this because I grew up outside of politics. I think I’m a good representative of those who actu-

ally live in the district, given my background, and what I’ve done today, and what I’ve been able to accomplish.”

Her prior consultant work in healthcare insurance convinced her of the need for af-



Carin Elam

fordable healthcare. She said that many of the affordability problems stem from the privatization of the industry, putting shareholders’ interests ahead of the care provided.

Her master’s thesis, completed while living abroad in the Netherlands, focused on fair elections in the U.S. She concluded that the rarity of voter fraud calls for better messaging to instill trust in voters.

“If people think, for example, that there’s fake voters in

California, what’s the credibility of the election that we just won? Because that’s the topic of conversation,” Elam said. “Instead of getting back to what the voters care about, we’re distracted by it, and it feels like it’s a big distraction. ... The most important person in our democracy is our voter. It’s the most important person, and it makes me sad when someone doesn’t trust it, when someone doesn’t want to vote, when they’re disengaged, when they’re not paying attention.”

During the 2020 election cycle, she worked with Democrats Abroad to support then-presidential candidate Joe Biden, and she also started her own platform, Women2Win, focused on supporting Democratic women looking to flip seats in the House and Senate.

Upon her return to the U.S. in 2022, driven by her daughter’s diagnosis with an eye disorder called retinitis pigmentosa, she joined nonprofit LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, rising to acting vice president within six months. She also founded nonprofit RP Hope, which continues to raise awareness for the disease and raise funds toward treatment research.

In addition to affordable healthcare, she calls for the return of norms to governing the presidency by codifying traditions into law.

Elam also said that Congress should take back control of the country’s tariff policy to, among other things, alleviate the suffering caused by its increased prices.

In the Tri-Valley, she suggested public-private partnerships to improve bus and bicycle infrastructure, including “disruptive” ideas such as a massive, transit-oriented bicycle-parking structure to improve both congestion and climate goals.

“I think we need some creative ideas like that and some new ideas,” Elam said.

The District 14 race now includes former Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez (D), Fremont business owner Rakhi Israni (D), San Leandro digital-services entrepreneur Matt Ortega (D), Union City resident Wendy Huang (R) and Concord attorney Abra Qadir (D) in addition to Elam. Candidates have until March 6 to file to run. The top two candidates from the June 2 primary election, regardless of party, will face off in the general election on Nov. 3.

LVJUSD
(Continued from front page)

Torie Gibson.

“Despite considerable fear of retaliation, the signatures...include 90% of permanent LEA members and 90% of CSEA members who voted no confidence in Dr. Gibson as superintendent of LVJUSD,” said LEA President Aimee Thompson.

Among the reasons listed in the petition, according to CSEA President Mamie Kristovich, were mismanagement of the district budget, including fiscal decisions that resulted in reduced resources, staffing challenges or negative impacts on classified and certificated services and student support, failure to meaningfully engage and collaborate with certificated and classified staff and leadership in decision making, decisions that negatively impacted staff morale, retention, workload, and workplace safety. While the district’s financial struggles predated Gibson’s 18-month tenure—which began in July 2024—union leadership emphasized that the “no confidence” vote was primarily a response to a critical breakdown in trust and collaboration. Thompson and Kristovich also requested that the board include LEA and CSEA in the process for selecting both an interim and permanent superintendent.

“As we all know, this work needs to begin immediately, but the district has kept us at arm’s length,” Kristovich said. “Nevertheless, we are confident that together we will be able to provide different points of view that may not have been considered previously, and would like to request on behalf of our joint

1,271 members to be included in the selection of the interim superintendent, as well as the long-term superintendent.”

Alongside choosing an interim superintendent, the district is also under pressure to address its \$14.8 million deficit for the 2026-27 school year. The district faces a March 15 deadline, when it is required to announce whether there will be staff cuts.

Although some board members, namely Christiaan VandenHeuvel, voiced support for exercising caution, and not rushing ahead purely for the sake of filling the interim position prior to the March 15th deadline, others reiterated the scope and urgency of the situation.

“I think trying to find somebody to calm the waters and empower them to help us through these challenging times is best,” Drouin said. My preference would be for us to appoint an ad hoc committee who can work nimbly and flexibly in reaching out to the County Office of Education, our leadership associates, community and bringing that recommendation to the board.” In moving forward, both with the interim selection process, and addressing the budget challenges, the board outlined its priorities, including rebuilding trust with the community and fostering meaningful public engagement.

For further information, and to view the latest updates in the district’s budget and reductions process, visit: <https://www.livermoreschools.org/departments/fiscal-services-payroll/budget-updates-and-engagement>.

New Radiation Sensor to Help Cancer Patients, First Responders, and Military

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — A new type of radiation sensor out of Sandia National Laboratories could yield benefits in applications ranging from cancer treatment to military operations.

Working out of Sandia’s Livermore facility, researchers Patrick Doty and Isaac Avina built off polymers originally developed to detect nuclear material at border crossings. By integrating the polymers with microelectronic grids, they were able to create a disposable, flexible patch that can electronically measure, in real time and with great detail, the radiation flowing through the different parts of the patch.

“(We) started to take a closer look at these polymers and try to understand what other applications these polymers contribute to,” Avina said. “We knew that they were special. They had a very unique way of detecting radiation that had not been done before, which has more this real-time aspect to it. They’re very accurate and reliable from what we could tell with our data that we were producing.”

Partly because of their

personal experiences with cancer, the team investigated how such a sensor patch might benefit radiation oncology. Cancer-radiation treatment currently relies on scans of a tumor completed before a treatment session, leaving room for errant irradiation of healthy tissue during the actual session.

“We realized that there was actually a really big need to do accurate, precise detection of the radiation as it goes into the body, because right now there’s a lack of it,” Avina said.

Real-time monitoring of the radiation beam relative to the tumor could reduce the risks to the surrounding healthy tissues, he continued. The reduced risks, in turn, could allow oncologists to deliver more radiation per treatment and reduce the number of treatment sessions needed per patient.

Such benefits could have an even bigger impact in pediatric oncology. With smaller bodies and organs, children undergoing cancer treatment call for even more precision in radiation delivery. Oncologists also normally administer general anesthesia to children prior to each treatment to minimize movement and errant

radiation exposure, adding to the burdens endured by the young patients.

Through a cooperative research and development agreement with Sandia, start-up Wearable Dose Inc. is now hoping to take the polymer technology through FDA approvals and into hospitals. By linking the sensor patch with the radiation beam, the WearableDose Patch will allow doctors to administer radiation more accurately at lower costs with improved outcomes, according to the company.

Over the next 24 months, WearableDose will work with the FDA through a clinical validation process toward FDA clearance. The process will collect real-world data in hopes of establishing real-time dose monitoring as a

new standard in radiation therapy, Wearable Dose Founder and CEO John Sanwo said.

“The motivation is personal,” Sanwo continued. “Cancer touches families in uneven ways, and radiation therapy — used in over half of cancer treatments — still lacks real-time verification at the patient level. We believe patients deserve to know that what was planned is what was delivered. That belief drives everything we’re building.”

In addition to cancer treatment, Avina envisions the patch assisting military personnel or first responders who might be exposed to harmful radiation. Funded by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, the Sandia team is currently working on producing and developing a similar patch for firefighters.

City of Dublin to Host A Safety Prep Class

DUBLIN — In coordination with the Alameda County Fire Department, Dublin will host a Personal Emergency Preparedness (PEP) class to help residents prepare for emergencies and natural disasters from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4.

The PEP class is free and will include information

on reducing hazards in the home, assembling a disaster supply kit, creating a family communication plan, and how to safely manage utilities following an earthquake.

The class will be at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza.

Registration is required. To sign up, go to tinyurl.com/ebxht359.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, Feb. 22

SUNDAYS AT HAGEMANN RANCH

Come celebrate everything Spring at ‘Hello Spring’ on Feb. 22, from 1-5 p.m. at Hagemann Ranch. The kids can fly a kite in the big arena and watch a portrayal of the ‘Ox Cart Man’. Parents can bring a plant and take one at the plant exchange and enjoy the Plain Gold Band. Culinary Angels and Sunflower Hill will have displays. Always free and family friendly. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

Friday, Feb. 27

TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS

Tommy Castro is the guitar slinging, soul-singing leader of the tight and raucous Tommy Castro & The Painkillers. Performing live at Almost Famous Wine Company, 2271 S. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.; tickets are \$39.19-71.21. See www.almostfamous.wine for complete performance information.

Saturday, Feb. 28

RONNIE BAKER BROOKS

Firmly rooted in the blues, Ronnie Baker Brooks incorporates his own brand of rock, funk and soul to the mix. Performing live at Almost Famous Wine Company, 2271 S. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.; tickets are \$44.52-65.87. See www.almostfamous.wine for complete performance information.

Saturday, Feb. 28

VFW PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

The VFW Post 7265 Auxiliary will host a Pancake Breakfast on Feb. 28, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 S. L St., Livermore. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, tater tots, juice, and more. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$8 youth (ages 4-10), free for children under four. Tickets available in advance or at the door. Proceeds support VFW Auxiliary programs and community outreach. For info contact Jan at 925-989-6039.

Saturday, Feb. 28

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

Make simple dresses for girls in Third World countries! The next monthly Sew-Fest is on Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocha St., Livermore. Bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands. Come for an hour or all day! (Please bring a bag lunch if you plan to stay all day.) Cheerful cotton fabric donations are always welcome. Contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447, or suzbeck@yahoo.com for questions or kits that you can sew from home.

Wednesday, March 4

DROP-IN GENEALOGY ASSISTANCE

Begin your family history search with assistance by members of the Livermore-Amador Valley Genealogy Society. On March 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Livermore Public Library, Civic Center Branch, 1188 S Livermore Ave, Livermore, Room 135.

Saturday, March 14

14th ANNUAL LIVERMORE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CRAB FEED

Come to a fun night of live and silent auctions, DJ, games and dancing! March 14 from 6-10 p.m.; doors open at 5:30. At Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. \$80 per person. Ticket includes crab, pasta, salad, bread and dessert. For more info, contact lhslumniassoc@gmail.com or Duane at 925-724-4251.

Saturday, April 18

8TH ANNUAL TRI-VALLEY INNOVATION FAIR

Quest Science Center is thrilled to announce the 8th Annual Tri-Valley Innovation Fair, on April 18 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This community program brings together students, families, educators, and local businesses for a free day of 70+ interactive exhibits, live demonstrations, performances, and learning moments. Attendees can dive into everything from engineering challenges to creative tech, meeting the scientists, educators, students, and companies who bring big ideas to life here in the Tri-Valley.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD RELIEF SERVICES

Local residents can access vital food-assistance services to help meet basic needs. Food relief services can be found at: Children’s Emergency Food Bank; 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin; appointments M-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 925-828-5363; St. Raymond Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin; third Sat. of the month, 8 to 11 a.m.; Open Heart Kitchen; M-F, 1 to 5 p.m.; 450 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore; Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry, 150 N. “L” Street, Livermore; 925-449-1664 — M-Th, 1 to 5 p.m.; Fri/Sat 12 to 4 p.m.; Alameda County Community Food Bank; 510-635-3663; M-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

In AA, we don’t tell anyone to do anything. We talk about our own drinking, the trouble we got into, and how we stopped. To find a local meeting in person or online, visit valleyservicecenteraa.org or call the 24-hour hotline at 925-829-0666.

SATURDAY PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

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

SUNDAY LIVERMORE DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

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

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



American Legion Post 47 of Livermore selected Mathew Parr and Damian Latora for the 2026 American Legion California Boys & Girls State citizenship and leadership program. The selection interviews were held on Feb. 14. (Photo courtesy of American Legion Post 47)

Candidates Chosen For Post 47 Program

LIVERMORE — American Legion Post 47 held interviews with high school juniors interested in attending the 2026 American Legion California Boys & Girls State program on Saturday, Feb. 14. The selective program is a weeklong citizenship and leadership training focused on government instruction, with students elected to city, county and state offices and participating in mock legislative and judicial sessions. Targeted to

juniors who can bring their learnings with them into their senior year, the curriculum also provides a positive addition to college applications and resumes. This year’s program will be Saturday, June 20, through Saturday, June 27, on the campus of California State University, Sacramento. For more information, go to CaliforniaBoysandGirlsState.org or visit legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/boys-state-boys-nation.

OBITUARIES

Michael Arthur Revelli
Oct. 24, 1949 — Jan. 30, 2026



Michael A. Revelli, lovingly known as Mike, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Jan. 30, 2026. He was born on Oct. 24, 1949, in Oakland, California, to Charles Edward Revelli and Shirley Addie (Archambault) Revelli.

Mike grew up in the Oakland hills and graduated from Skyline High School in 1967. He went on to pursue his passion for science, studying Physical Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1971. He continued his academic journey at the University of California, Santa Barbara, receiving his Ph.D. in Chemistry with a focus on Laser Spectroscopy in 1976. After completing his doctorate, Mike accepted a postdoctoral position in the Chemistry Department at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and moved to Livermore. That same year, he met his future wife, JoAnne (Rodriguez) Revelli, who also worked at LLNL in the Supercomputing Center. They were married in September 1983 in Berkeley, California.

Mike dedicated more than 40 years of his professional life to LLNL. His career included several years working

and later worked alongside several Livermore winemakers, learning the craft and savoring the fruits of his labor. Mike is survived by his beloved wife, JoAnne Revelli; his daughter, Kristyn Tran; son-in-law, Quang Tran; and granddaughters, Sutton and Sofia Tran. He is also survived by his brothers, Tom Revelli (Robin) and Peter Revelli (Vera); his sister, Nancy Elam (David); and several loving nieces and nephews.

on the Yucca Mountain Project in Nevada, followed by working in the Environmental Department's Waste Management Program. He retired in 2017, leaving behind a legacy of dedication, integrity, and scientific excellence. Even after retirement, Mike continued his involvement with LLNL through the Public Affairs Science Outreach Program. In this role, he found great joy in sharing his love of science with elementary school students at LLNL's Discovery Center, inspiring curiosity and wonder in young minds. Beyond his professional accomplishments, Mike had a deep appreciation for wine and enjoyed applying his chemistry background to another lifelong passion. He began with home winemaking

A vigil service will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026, from 6 to 8 p.m. (with Rosary at 6:30 p.m.) at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton. A funeral Mass will follow on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1415 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. (Note: the funeral mass will be live-streamed on the St. Charles website).

In lieu of flowers and in recognition of Michael's passion for Science and Education, the family invites memorial gifts to:

The Livermore Lab Foundation, Stem Fellowships and Student Research: livermorelabfoundation.app.neoncrm.com/forms/6 or

The Pedrozzi Foundation: pedrozzifoundation.org/donate/

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Sue Escover

May 22, 1959 — Jan. 24, 2026



Sue (Allen) Escover passed away peacefully at her home in Livermore, California on Jan. 24, 2026, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Sue was the type of person who would give you the shirt off her back and was genuinely kind, hard-working, and full of love. She was the greatest mother, wife and friend, and her presence brought light, comfort, and joy to those around her. Sue cherished her family, animals, and friends above all else, holding them close to her heart and making each feel deeply seen, valued, and loved. Sue's passing leaves an immeasurable void in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Sue was born on May 22, 1959. In her early years, her family moved from San Leandro to Oakland, in 1965, and later to Pleasanton in 1968. She graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1977 and later settled in Livermore in 1980, where she met her husband, Eddie Escover and where they raised their daughter Jessica. Sue

devoted 35 years of her career to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, retiring as an executive assistant in 2017. She took great pride in her career at LLNL and treasured the many friendships she built there.

From a young age, Sue was active and adventurous. She was an avid tennis player as a girl and discovered a love for horses and riding that remained with her throughout her life. In her twenties, she played slow-pitch softball in Livermore, always enjoying the camaraderie and compe-

titition. Sue felt most at home outdoors — riding horses, walking with friends, working in her garden, or taking a drive to the mountains or the ocean. She enjoyed the thrill of treasure hunting at antique fairs and cherished her life in the Livermore hills. If good music was playing, you could almost certainly find her on the dance floor, and she never passed up a game of pedro or 1-4-24. More often than not, Sue could be found wearing a baseball cap and if she wasn't, she was counting down the minutes until she could put one on.

Sue is survived by her loving husband of 41 years, Eddie Escover, and beloved daughter, Jessica Escover.

Her family invites all who knew and loved Sue to attend a celebration of her life on Saturday, March 7, 2026, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Del Valle Winery, 4948 Tesla Road, Livermore, California.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to your local pet rescue or to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

CELEBRATING OF LIFE

Jeffrey Scott Greenhagen

Oct. 11, 1955 — Jan. 31, 2026



Born in Petaluma, California on Oct. 11, 1955, Jeff Greenhagen was raised on the same rural property where his father, Stan Greenhagen, lived his entire life. His mother, Cherrill Greenhagen, devoted herself to her children, Jeff and his siblings, Steve and Sharon. Jeff graduated from Petaluma High School in 1973, earned an associate's degree from Santa Rosa Junior College in 1975, and completed a bachelor's degree in business/marketing at Sacramento State in 1977.

After a brief backpacking adventure through Europe, Jeff began what he declared would be "not a job but a career" with Lever Brothers (later known as Unilever) in 1978. He spent 34 years, his entire professional career, with the company.

In 1979, Jeff met Linda, a schoolteacher newly arrived from Illinois. They married in 1980 and built their life in Livermore, where they raised their daughters, Rochelle and Kristin. Jeff was a proud grandfather, known as "Bop-pa," to Kristin's daughters, Hailey (7) and Reese (4).

Diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease in 1982, Jeff entered remission after surgery and radiation, though the long-term effects shaped much of his adult life and brought multiple health issues and hospitalizations. Significant medical challenges in 2025 ultimately led to his death on Jan. 31, 2026. Through it all, Jeff remained joyful, grateful, and always sought to "touch a life, make a difference."

During his childhood, Jeff found his first love in the game of basketball. He was a lifelong player with a lethal three-point shot. He also refereed over 2,500 games. As an adult, Jeff developed a

passion for red wine and became a beloved fixture in the Livermore Valley wine community. A devoted member of Our Savior Lutheran Church for 45 years, he served on the Board of Elders, taught Sunday school for 25 years, and ministered to youth for decades in various roles. Jeff embraced each day as a gift from his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Linda; his daughters, Rochelle (and husband Kevin), and Kristin (and husband Jon); his granddaughters, Hailey and Reese; his brother, Steve; and his sister, Sharon. He is also survived by many beloved extended family members and dear friends.

A celebration of life will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livermore on Saturday, Feb. 28 at 1:00 p.m. To honor Jeff and his deep commitment to ministry, donations may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Ministries. Please designate your gift to the School Scholarship Fund, Youth Ministries, or Endowment Fund — all areas that were close to his heart.

Tri-Valley Haven Will Host a Workshop on Opioid Abuse

LIVERMORE — Tri-Valley Haven (TVH) will host a free community workshop on opioid and substance-use awareness, overdose prevention and local treatment resources at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

The workshop will be led by Dr. Andrea Silva, an addic-

tion specialist, and Elizabeth Wilson, a substance abuse specialist, both with TVH.

It will focus on understanding opioid and substance-use disorders, including early warning signs and practical prevention strategies. The workshop will also cover how to respond to an overdose, the use of Narcan (naloxone), local substance abuse re-

sources and treatment options available through TVH. Free naloxone kits will be available while supplies last.

To register, contact Tri-Valley Haven at 925-449-5845.

TVH is a Livermore-based nonprofit that provides shelter and support services for the homeless and victims of domestic and sexual abuse throughout the Tri-Valley area.

Blood Center Supplies are Short

DUBLIN — The Stanford Blood Center, which has a collection site in Dublin, needs type O blood donations.

The blood center, which supplies area hospitals, said last week that its blood and platelet inventories were at critically

low levels after two patients required a high number of transfusions, using about 140 units of type O blood.

Type O is the most common blood type.

Stanford Blood Center is asking that donors schedule

an appointment "as soon as possible" by calling 888-723-7831, texting 999-777, or going to stanfordbloodcenter.org. Walk-ins are also accepted for blood donations, although platelet donations require an appointment.

WINERIES

(Continued from front page)

original South Livermore Valley Area Plan for the protection of agriculture. And while they encourage agricultural production, they don't require it as a constant. "Landowners are absolutely allowed to let that soil rest and regenerate before they plant again."

The TVC also protects against residential development. "Subdivision kinds of things that you would normally be doing with land to make more money off of it. So we're giving a little bit of that incentive to be able to keep it in open space, habitat land and agricultural production," Roberts said. Thatcher Bay Vineyards was the recent recipient of the first low-interest loan awarded by the TVC as part of its new Sponsored Replanting Program.

Spector pointed out the importance of the vineyards. The wineries extend beyond the wine in the bottle. "Here in South Livermore, they don't just produce wine," she said. "They produce local livelihoods, tourism, tax revenue and community gatherings. Everything from local meetings, parties, to date nights, family events and weddings, which bring people from around the world, and we're all super proud of that."

Global Context

Lombardi recently returned from the Unified Wine Symposium in Sacramento, which provides area leaders with an annual state of the wine industry report.

There has been a slowing of global wine consumption. "This has happened before in the wine industry, but it's very much a crisis for some wine regions."

Multiple factors are to blame, including a shift toward craft cocktails and lower-carb options among younger demographics, Lombardi reported. She added that while the industry is down by as much as 21%, Livermore's decline is

significantly lower at 2.81%, signaling a more stable local boutique winery market.

"The big shift isn't about reacting to disruptions or reacting to a decline in the wine industry," she said, "but rather planning for stabilizations and future opportunities."

Historical Perspective

Kent provided context around what those future opportunities might be and offered a look at history and how the South Livermore Plan shaped the valley of today.

Fifty years ago, he said, Livermore was on track to become another Silicon Valley. "The assumption then was that farmland would be converted to housing and light industrial uses," Kent said. "But our community didn't want that vision." And the South Livermore Area Plan was born to preserve 5000 acres of farmland and open space in South Livermore forever.

There was an initial boom that grew the area from 1000 to 4000 acres, but some structural flaws in the plan, which Kent described as "naive", meant restrictions on winery and restaurant size made business economically unfeasible. And eventually, the demand for commodity grapes by large-scale outside wine producers dried up.

Kent was the one to answer the burning question.

"It's with great sadness that I see my friends and neighbors pulling out vineyards, sometimes perhaps sooner than they would otherwise have been removed," said Kent. But he also said that as farmers in the business of cultivated agriculture, it's not uncommon every 20 to 40 years to remove vineyards.

"Old vines will need to be pulled and the soil needs to be left fallow for several years so it can regenerate and heal itself."

The Livermore wine community is now focusing

efforts on what gets replanted. A comprehensive University of California study that began in 2019 and ended in 2021 referenced cabernet franc and sauvignon blanc as the optimal varieties to be grown in the area.

"The selected varieties have long storied histories in Livermore, and we have to get back to the roots of what we can do in the Livermore Valley better than any region in California and possibly as good or better than many of the regions in the world, like Loire," Kent said.

Looking Ahead

But to get to that future, some major infrastructure changes must be addressed, Kent said.

"I think it's well known that we've never been named one of the best wine regions of the world because we don't meet the minimum standards of having suitable accommodations for people to stay at," he said. A major missing piece in the agritourism puzzle is hotels and destination restaurants, he said.

A major step in the right direction is the scheduled extension of a sanitary sewer line that is currently in the design phase, slated for completion by the end of the year.

"You can't build a hotel without a sanitary sewer. You can't have a Mustard's or a Brix, let alone a French Laundry style restaurant without a sanitary sewer system."

"A lot of people call us asking what they can do, how they can change the landscape of what's happening," Lombardi said. "What you can do is visit our wineries, visit those small businesses, buy the wine for your special event directly from one of our wineries and make sure that you're supporting them in any way you can to sustain the beautiful vineyards and wineries that are right here in front of us. And that's something that we can all do."

MEADOWLARK

(Continued from front page)

er found in the back of a school van.

"We still have that mixer!" Takens said, smiling, though it no longer works.

Today, Meadowlark Dairy is operated by third-generation owners Jesse and Kelsey Takens, who are enthusiastic about what the new Livermore space allows them to do. One of its biggest advantages, Takens said, is the size of the new space.

"It's enough to grow into," Takens said, contrasting it with the Pleasanton store, where expansion is limited by size and location. He added, "It lets us get back to our roots."

By "roots," Takens is referring to Meadowlark Dairy's beginnings as a working dairy, when the business focused on producing and selling staples like milk, butter and cream alongside its growing ice

cream offerings. While ice cream has become the business's signature product over the years, Meadowlark has continued to sell a range of dairy items, including bottled milk and seasonal specialties.

In addition to its size, another notable difference between the two locations is the absence of a drive-thru in Livermore. Asked whether that could change, Takens said it's something they're considering, but "it's not a priority right now."

As Meadowlark expands, Takens said he's mindful of how the business fits into its new surroundings. That consideration is especially important when thinking about a drive-thru. While the model helped make the Pleasanton location famous, it also comes with challenges. During the summer,

Pleasanton creates traffic detours to accommodate long lines of cars.

"We know it's really helpful—especially for folks with kids or people who can't get out of their cars as easily," Takens said. "But we want to do it right. There are people and businesses that have been here for decades, and we want to respect that."

The Livermore store held a soft opening in December. Asked about a grand opening, Takens smiled.

"We're hoping for spring," he said, before adding, "but I've said that before. Right now, we're just focused on filling the store."

For now, the process itself is part of the fun.

"We're just having fun," Takens said. "Seeing what'll work and what doesn't."

Las Positas Star Jaden Woodard Shines On the Court and in the Classroom

By Matt Schwab

Jaden Woodard is a picture of academic and athletic success at Las Positas College.

Not only does he average over 18 points a game on one of the state's top community college basketball teams, but he's also carrying a 3.8 grade point average.

"I've always taken academics super serious," said Woodard, a 6-foot-3 sophomore guard from Sheldon High in Sacramento. "When I came to Las Po', my goal was to maximize my success. I knew that doing it off the court as well would help me reach my goals overall in life."

One of three Hawks team captains, he is also a leader on

campus as president of the African American Male Education Network & Development (A2MEND) Program, which is focused on mentor/mentee relationships that improve educational outcomes, graduation, transfer, and persistence rates. Many of his teammates are in A2MEND as well.

"We talk about topics and empowerment and how we can stay successful in the classroom and just about life," he said of the program. "I took on the role of being the president this year."

Woodard is interested in starting his own business in social media and marketing. He's off to a great start.

"I do social media on the side and content creation,"

he says. "I've made a good amount of money doing that, making videos about music or my personal life, like wearing (stylish) clothes and stuff. I have over 100,000 followers just off that. It's not very basketball related, kind of some hobbies I have."

Woodard made the 2024-25 California Community College Men's Basketball Coaches Association Academic All-State Team, along with former Hawks player Zach Shamieh of Fairfield.

In recent basketball action, he scored 26 points and had seven assists in the powerful Hawks' 97-58 blowout of visiting Skyline in the Coast Conference-North Division, improving their record to 23-2

overall and 10-1 in conference. They were ranked tied for seventh in the Feb. 9 California Community College Men's Basketball Coaches Association Top 30 poll.

On Feb. 6, Woodard scored 21 points, shooting 7-for-10 from the field, with four steals, four assists and five rebounds in an 86-60 rout of district sister school Chabot in Hayward. His teammate Kodey Weary also had 21 points.

Woodard does a lot of things well on the court. He's strong, athletic, and has a fierce will to win. Hawks head coach James Giacomazzi attests to all of that.

"He's been our leading scorer consistently this season, bringing a lot to the team, a lot of leadership not only as a captain, but also as president of the A2MEND Program on our campus," Giacomazzi said. "He's doing real, real well academically. He's creating a lot of opportunities and avenues for himself for academic four-year institutions." Terrance Thompson, career and transfer center coordinator on campus, has been instrumental in Woodard's success with A2MEND.

"He's guided me from almost the first day I got here. I've always connected with him," Woodard said. "He gave me good advice to just stay focused and strive to be successful here at Las Positas."

Woodard — whose goal is to play basketball at the four-year college level in the state — poured in 30 points



Las Positas basketball player Jaden Woodard competes against San Jose in a nonconference game on Jan. 3. (Photo courtesy of Alan Lewis)

and had eight rebounds in a conference win over Cañada College in Redwood City on Jan. 30, as the Hawks rebounded strongly from rough loss to reigning state champion City College of San Francisco, 78-59.

Las Positas will get another shot at CCSF when the teams meet again on Feb. 20 in San Francisco to close out the conference season.

The Hawks basketball program has produced about 25 Academic All-State athletes, Giacomazzi said, "and we take great pride in that."

Last season, Woodard

came off the bench on a strong team that advanced to the 3C2A state championship playoffs, or Elite Eight. This year, he carries more of a leadership role after learning a lot from the sophomores last season.

"Going into this year, I made it one of my top goals to be a captain just for the team," he says. "My character development, I want to learn how to be a leader and just help my team in the best way possible. It's not even about my individual success... It's definitely a huge jump from last year."



Granada Wrestling Wins Big

When your principal has been inducted into the California Wrestling Hall of Fame, it makes sense that your high school excels at the sport.

Granada High School has definitely followed the path of its fearless leader, Clark Conover, last week taking home both first- and second-place team trophies at the first-ever North Coast Section divisional championships. The Mats competed in the Division 1 East Bay competition at Newark Memorial Feb. 13-14.

This was a week after sweeping the boys and girls East Bay Athletic League tournament championships.

All qualifiers from divisionals advance to the NCS Masters Championships at James Logan-Union City Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20-21.

"I am very proud of our wrestling teams," said Conover, a 1990 Livermore High School graduate who won three East Bay Athletic League titles and placed at NCS three times with a title his senior year, the same season he medaled at state. "Our coaches and kids work very hard."

Coaches Sean Jackson and Spencer Philllips had good training themselves as wrestlers under Conover, who coached at Granada from 2000-2012. He was also an assistant at Livermore from 1990-1992.

In 2019, he was inducted into the state's Hall of Fame for 35 years of service to the sport as an athlete, coach, tournament director and athletic director. He took over as the school's principal in July of 2022.

Besides overseeing the campus, he also spent more time around the Granada wrestling practice because his daughter, Taylo was a member of the team, winning an EBAL JV title.

"It was great being able to work with all the kids," he said. "I was able to attend the last hour or so of most practices and attend the tournaments."

The divisionals were especially gratifying, as the girls finished with 185 points to win

handily over Dougherty Valley-San Ramon (147.5), College Park-Pleasant Hill (146.5), California-San Ramon (143) and Pittsburg (139). Dublin placed sixth (128.5), Foothill (66.5) was 16th and Amador Valley placed 20th (29.5).

Granada's girls crowned two champions — SJ Martin (120 pounds) and Malle Nguyen (125) — and added two second-place wrestlers in Piper Anderson (130) and Sierra Monaghan (135). Anderson lost to Dublin champion Nana Nguyen via a pin in just 34 seconds. Other Tri-Valley finalists included Alina Guillen (125) of Foothill.

Granada's boys claimed four champions: Grant Langstaff (120), Jack Baker (132), Jack Bronte (138) and Charlie Herrington (150). Tri-Valley second-place wrestlers were Dublin's Lytning Hazen (120), along with Amador Valley's Nathan Marek (138) and William Chandler (190) and third-place wrestlers were Dublin's Yousuf Amin (132), along with Granada's Jack Schwabenland (215) and Luke DeBenning (285).

"To say Granada is proud of our wrestling program is an understatement," Granada Athletic Director Eileen Greenlee said. "We are incredibly excited to see how our 19 qualifying wrestlers perform Friday and Saturday at the NCS championships."

"Being at the top of the heap isn't just about trophies. It's about honoring a 60-year town tradition while paving the way for the next generation of athletes."

More wrestling: In the NCS Division 2 East Bay divisional meet, the Livermore boys placed ninth with 97 points. Elham Hashimi won the 106-pound championship for the Cowboys, while Ronan McAllister took the 190-pound crown. The Livermore girls, led by a championship at 112 pounds by Diana Zarco, placed 10th.

Have high school varsity sports news of note? A good human-interest story? Email Mitch Stephens at mitch@scorebooklive.com

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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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owner(s): NGO Big LLC, 2297 American Avenue, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s: Trung Viet Tran. Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2026. Expires January 21, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6692. Published January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 619521

The following person(s) doing business as: Whitelaw Glass and Aluminum, 145 Barber Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Whitelaw, 145 Barber Street, 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: 12/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s: Michael Whitelaw, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January December 16, 2025. Expires December 15, 2030. The Independent, Legal No. 6693. Published January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 2026.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) (SCH# 2023020424)

Date: January 16, 2026
To: California State Clearinghouse, state Responsible and Trustee Agencies, federal agencies, county clerks, local jurisdictions and interested individuals and organizations

Subject: Notice of Availability of Draft EIR for public review to receive comments on the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area Resource Management Area Program Draft EIR

Lead Agency: DPR is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Draft EIR. Applicant: DPR, Diablo Range District, 15751 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550

Project Location: Diablo Range mountains of unincorporated eastern Alameda and western San Joaquin counties, California
Project Description: Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) is a 1,533-acre off-highway vehicle (OHV) park in eastern Alameda and western San Joaquin counties. The park is operated by the Diablo Range District of California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). The SVRA is divided into Management Units to provide a structure for implementing natural resource management activities. Some of these Management Units have been further subdivided into smaller resource management zones (Resource Management Areas; RMAs) to actively manage the road and trail system through recontouring, erosion control, revegetation, and use control in order to meet the Soil Conservation Standard and regulatory requirements of stormwater runoff. Currently, the SVRA has 14 RMAs. The Diablo Range District proposes to establish RMAs throughout the hillside riding areas of the park as part of its ongoing effort to manage soil erosion and the water quality of storm water runoff. The proposed project would progressively establish new RMAs to provide ongoing sustainable OHV recreation management through reducing trail density, increasing vegetation cover, creating sustainable trails, enforcing trails-only riding, and implementing loss and erosion control measures that disperse storm water runoff to prevent accelerated erosion, and rehabilitate damaged soil surfaces.

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Draft EIR identifies potentially significant biological and geological impacts associated with the proposed new project activities. All impacts can be reduced to less than significant through mitigation measures.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment, beginning January 21, 2026. Your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 5PM, March 9, 2026. Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines

Section 15088.5(f)(2), CDPR is recirculating the entire Draft EIR and requests that reviewers submit new comments. The Final EIR will only provide responses to comments submitted on the Draft EIR. Please send your comments to comment@carnegierma.com. You may also send written comments to April Mason, Altamont Sector Manager, California Department Parks and Recreation, Diablo Range District, 15751 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550. Emailed comments are preferred.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft EIR and all documents referenced in the EIR are available for review at the address shown above. Draft EIR documents may also be reviewed or downloaded from the following address: www.oceanoduneshcp.com. The Independent, Legal No. 6694. Published February 5, 2026.

Superior Court of the State of California
Case No.: 25FL03171
Companion Case: 24AD00093

For the County of SACRAMENTO. IN THE MATTER OF NOVA RAE EDMONDS A.K.A. OCEAN NOVA GARDENAS. A minor person who should be declared free from the custody and control of her presumed father). CITATION RE HEARING ON PE-

TITION FOR FREEDOM FROM PARENTAL CUSTODY AND CONTROL PURSUANT TO FAMILY CODE SECTION 7822.
TO: Ward Allen Keck: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that it is alleged that you are the presumed biological father of Baby Girl Keller a.k.a. Baby Girl Edmonds a.k.a. Nova Rae Edmonds a.k.a. Ocean Nova Cardenas ("Minor") born May 24, 2024, in San Francisco, California, a child who was placed for adoption. BY ORDER of this Court you are hereby cited and required to appear before the Judge Presiding in Department 125 of the above-entitled court, located at the **William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, California 95826, on March 10, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.** of that day, then and there to show cause why the court should not make an order terminating your parental rights to the Minor child on the grounds of abandonment pursuant to Family Code Section 7822. The Independent, Legal No. 6695. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620397

The following person(s) doing business as: Fairfield By Marriott Livermore, 220 N Greenville Road, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Blue Diamond Management Inc., 3446 Zaccaria Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/22/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Novedep K. Sanghera, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6696. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620397

The following person(s) doing business as: Fairfield By Marriott Livermore, 220 N Greenville Road, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Blue Diamond Management Inc., 3446 Zaccaria Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/22/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Novedep K. Sanghera, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6696. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 6119968

The following person(s) doing business as: AFSS, 350 S0nic Avenue, Suite 101, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Consumer Credit Counseling Foundation, Inc., 350 S0nic Ave, Suite 101, 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: 12/15/2025. Signature of Registrant/s: Porus Engineer, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 7, 2026. Expires January 6, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6637. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620459

The following person(s) doing business as: Stoic Rebel Financial, 3245 Bayo Vista Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Daniel Heller, 3245 Bayo Vista Ave, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Daniel Heller. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2026. Expires January 26, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6698. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620472

The following person(s) doing business as: GI Specialists, 15035 E 14th St, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): GI Ghevariya, PC, 15035 E 14th St, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Vishal Ghevariya, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2026. Expires January 26, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6699. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620469

The following person(s) doing business as: Reeds Logistic Ride, 1601 165th Ave, APT 107, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Moufeed M. Ismail, 1601 165th Ave #107, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/7/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Moufeed M. Ismail, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2026. Expires January 26, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6700. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 619853

The following person(s) doing business as: Alameda Perio and Implant Center, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, Ste C, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): DU Dental Group, Inc, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, STE C, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 586914
The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Valley Brokers on Main, 855 Main Street #204, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Registered by the following owner(s): Gerald Smith, 1761 Schantz Way, Tracy, CA 95376. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 03/03/2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Pam Dew-Smith, Executor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jan 14, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6706. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620477

The following person(s) doing business as: Sentinel Skills Systems, 1445 34th Ave #7891, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sentinel Skills Systems, 1445 34th Ave #7891, Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Ronald Rivers, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 28, 2026. Expires January 27, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6701. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620259

The following person(s) doing business as: Ollie and The Court LLC, 1361 Park Street STE 218, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ollie and The Court LLC, 1361 Park Street Ste 218, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/20/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Everett Alfonso Herbert, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 20, 2026. Expires January 19, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6702. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620405

The following person(s) doing business as: Redwood Creative Therapy, 4133 Mohr Ave, Suite 1, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brittany Tachkov, 2295 Camino Brazos, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/20/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Everett Alfonso Herbert, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 20, 2026. Expires January 19, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6702. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620203

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. JRM Drywall; 2. JRM Builders; 3. JRM General Contractor, 3437 Zion Canyon Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): JRM General Contractor Inc., 3437 Zion Canyon Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 12/2/2025. Signature of Registrant/s: Jose R. Mendola, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 16, 2026. Expires January 15, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6703. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620497

The following person(s) doing business as: Biryani Bliss, 1536 N Vasco Rd, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bajrangji LLC, 1536 N Vasco Rd, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/21/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Vivekanand Vennam, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2026. Expires January 26, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6704. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 605794
The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Jet Restoration, 24547 Amador ST #7, Hayward, CA 94544. Registered by the following owner(s): Melanie Dominguez, 24547 Amador #7, Hayward, CA 94544. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 04/24/24 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Melanie Dominguez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jan 2, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6705. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 619853

The following person(s) doing business as: Alameda Perio and Implant Center, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, Ste C, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): DU Dental Group, Inc, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, STE C, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620572

The following person(s) doing business as: Covenant Assembly of Churches World - Wide, 230 Crolls Garden CT, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Goshen Faith Assembly MBC, Inc, 1740 yth Ave, Oakland, CA 94606. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Erol K. Bullen Jr., President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2026. Expires January 29, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6709. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620428

The following person(s) doing business as: CRE Shoppe, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lahkar RE Shoppe LLC, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 586914
The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Valley Brokers on Main, 855 Main Street #204, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Registered by the following owner(s): Gerald Smith, 1761 Schantz Way, Tracy, CA 95376. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 03/03/2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Pam Dew-Smith, Executor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jan 14, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6706. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to section 21707 of chapter 10 to division of 8 of the business and professions code, notice is hereby given by the undersigned that a public lien sale of the following described personal property will be held at the hour of 9:00 am PST on March 5th, 2026. The sale will be conducted by John Cardoza, auctioneer, (209)667-5797, bond number 5860870, located at:
UNITS East Bay 6011 Las Positas Rd, Livermore, CA. 94550
The items to be sold are generally described as follows: Household/Miscellaneous goods Unit B0524 Elaine Salmassian Unit R0117 Ronnie Collier Unit B0518 Debra Powers The Independent, Legal No. 6707. Published February 12, 19, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620629

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Youngwinks; 2. Worksknow; 3. Young Winks; 4. Prowinks; 5. Edoptin; 6. Ed Optim; 7. Vinterview; 8. College Dev; 9. Testwatch, 6920 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 219, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Worksknow LLC, 6920 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 219, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Cindy Lu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 14, 2026. Expires January 13, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6713. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620145

The following person(s) doing business as: Echo Esthetics, 2690 5th St, Unit A, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cindy Lu, 1777 Clement Ave, APT 227. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Cindy Lu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jan 9, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6721. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620655

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Kaneta Optometry; 2. Rachel Kaneta OD, 2800 Dublin Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rachel Kaneta, 2800 Dublin Blvd, 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: 2/4/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rachel Kaneta, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2026. Expires February 3, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6718. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620513

The following person(s) doing business as: Wam Digital, 1050 Larkspur Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wam Digital LLC, 1050 Larkspur Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Roy Solorio, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2026. Expires January 28, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6714. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620611

The following person(s) doing business as: Salon Du Monde, 37627 Niles Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Minh Chau Vo, 37627 Niles Blvd, CA 94536. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/26/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Maghe Premmanisakul, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6711. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620428

The following person(s) doing business as: CRE Shoppe, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lahkar RE Shoppe LLC, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 619853

The following person(s) doing business as: Alameda Perio and Implant Center, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, Ste C, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): DU Dental Group, Inc, 2238 Santa Clara Ave, STE C, Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620428

The following person(s) doing business as: CRE Shoppe, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lahkar RE Shoppe LLC, 4198 Rennelwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rick Lahkar, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6710. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/1/2025. Signature of Registrant/s: David Du, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 5, 2026. Expires January 4, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6711. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620597

The following person(s) doing business as: Hawaiiki Industries, 321 Clay Street, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Contance McComb, 321 Clay's street, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/28/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Contance McComb, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2026. Expires February 1, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6712. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620629

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Youngwinks; 2. Worksknow; 3. Young Winks; 4. Prowinks; 5. Edoptin; 6. Ed Optim; 7. Vinterview; 8. College Dev; 9. Testwatch, 6920 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 219, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Worksknow LLC, 6920 Koll Center Pkwy, Ste 219, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Cindy Lu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 14, 2026. Expires January 13, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6713. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620655

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Kaneta Optometry; 2. Rachel Kaneta OD, 2800 Dublin Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rachel Kaneta, 2800 Dublin Blvd, 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: 2/4/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Rachel Kaneta, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2026. Expires February 3, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6718. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620513

The following person(s) doing business as: Wam Digital, 1050 Larkspur Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wam Digital LLC, 1050 Larkspur Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Roy Solorio, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2026. Expires January 28, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6714. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620611

The following person(s) doing business as: Salon Du Monde, 37627 Niles Blvd, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Minh Chau Vo, 37627 Niles Blvd, CA 94536. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/26/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Maghe Premmanisakul, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2026. Expires January 25, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6711. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/5/2016. Signature of Registrant/s: Minh Chau Vo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 3, 2026. Expires February 2, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6715. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620405

The following person(s) doing business as: Volvo Construction Equipment & Services, 1944 Marina Boulevard, San Leandro, CA 94577 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SABA Holding Company LLC, PO Box 60577 Fort Myers, FL 33906. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2014. Signature of Registrant/s: Sherry Lowe Johnson, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 22, 2026. Expires January 21, 2031. The Independent, Legal No. 6716. Published February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 620145

The following person(s) doing business as: Echo Esthetics, 2690 5th St, Unit A, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cindy Lu, 1777 Clement Ave, APT 227. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2026. Signature of Registrant/s: Cindy Lu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Jan 9, 2026. The Independent, Legal No. 6721. Published February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

Livermore Women in Wine Gather at Table in Support

Inaugural Celebration to Feature Eight-Course Tasting Menu, Honor Local Female Vintners, Name Valley's First Woman of the Year

By Dawnmarie Fehr

LIVERMORE — The women of the Livermore Valley wine community are hosting a special event to showcase female winemakers, chefs and artisans.

Scheduled for March 7 at the Martinelli Event Center in Livermore, Terroir at the Table is a culinary celebration with an eight-course tasting menu showcasing the best of what Livermore Valley has to offer, from soil to table. During the event, the Women's Wine Collective (WWC) will make its inaugural presentation of the Women of the Year award, honoring a local woman whose contributions make Livermore a better place for the entire community. Proceeds from the event will be donated to a charity of the winner's choice.

Winemaker Alexandra

Henkelman, co-owner and co-winemaker at Omega Road Winery, said the award is especially appropriate because March is Women's History Month.

"We are excited to introduce the first Woman of the Year," Henkelman said. "Livermore is home to a number of female winemakers, female owners and a host of incredible chefs as well, so we conceived this event as a way to celebrate the women in this valley and highlight their work."

One woman receiving support from this platform is chocolatier Larissa Milano, owner of Bluebirds Chocolate. Milano specializes in wine and chocolate pairings, often encouraging her customers to "play" with their chocolate to find unusual pairings. She is responsible for the eighth and final course at the event — dessert.

"This is my niche," Milano said. "I do a lot of pairing classes. I am still working through the final parts of this dish, but I want to make it interactive so the guests can really get into what chocolate and wine pairing can be."

Milano noted events like Terroir at the Table, that draw in an audience for local businesses, help increase exposure and support owners. Milano does not have a storefront, which can put her at a disadvantage, compared with other catering businesses and tasting rooms. She also said chocolate often gets a backseat at the table, where wine and food take the spotlight.

"This will help me showcase the amount of work and creativity and even food science that goes into good chocolate, while also promoting my business," she said. "I want to push people toward learning about and

appreciating chocolate and what being a chocolatier means."

Henkelman, too, is a smaller spot on the map compared with some of the larger area wineries. Omega Road Winery is a boutique winery producing fewer than 10,000 cases each year. As part of her journey to serve great wine to the community and promote small wineries like hers, Henkelman helped found the WWC several years ago. She is excited to see nominations coming in for the Woman of the Year and hopes to see more.

"There are so many great women doing great things here, and we want to hear about all of them," she said.

The Woman of the Year award is open to any woman living in the Tri-Valley area. Henkelman said the award ties in nicely with the overall theme of the evening. Each of the eight courses will be

created by a local female chef and paired with wine from a female-led winery.

"This will be a showcase of some of the most talented women in the Livermore Valley, an opportunity we know our guests won't want to miss," Henkelman said. "It's a one-of-a-kind dinner, a chance to enjoy something truly spectacular and an amazing way to support what's being done and grown and created in Livermore."

Terroir at the Table will include local musicians and community-style tables, with elevated casual attire. Organizers hope to embody the "beauty of Livermore's hospitality and approachability."

Terroir at the Table will take place on Saturday, March 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the

Martinelli Event Center, 3585 Greenville Road, Livermore. For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit lvwine.org.

To nominate a woman for the WWC Woman of the Year, visit bit.ly/4rkCkqx. For more information on Blue Birds Chocolates, visit bluebirdschocolate.com.

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Mendenhall Middle School Sweeps Top Honors at Livermore MathCounts

By Vivien Weneker

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District hosted its 30th Annual MathCounts competition on Jan. 31 at Granada High School.

For this milestone year, 149 Livermore middle school students participated, showcasing their problem-solving skills, enthusiasm for math, and analytical mindsets.

awards were given to the top five students in sixth grade, and the top 10 in the combined seventh- and eighth-grade category. Team awards went to the top three teams in each division, with teams from William Mendenhall Middle School placing first in both the Grade 6 and Grade 7-8 categories. A complete list of the individual finalists and team rankings can be found at livermoreschools.org/district/press-releases.

students across the U.S. to "build confidence and improve attitudes about math and problem solving," according to the foundation's website.

Over 100,000 students participate in its programs annually, and thousands more use its free math resources. MathCounts also plans to launch a pilot program in 2026 for grades three through five to reach students even earlier, and help foster the foundational skills they will need to become confident learners.

"Reaching the 30-year mark highlights a long-standing commitment from local educators, volunteers, and the STEM industry (including support from the national labs) to foster mathematical excellence outside the traditional classroom," said Jason Krolikowski, LVJUSD director of secondary education. "It speaks volumes about the Livermore community and the dedication to our students."

Krolikowski added that for many middle schoolers, events like the MathCounts competition and its programs are their first time seeing math as a "sport."

"It gives visibility to their intellectual interests and connects them with a peer group that shares their passion for logic and mathematics," Krolikowski said.

While the program is specifically geared toward students interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, the MathCounts mission is to make math more accessible to all students through fun, hands-on collaboration.

"We are proud to see continued enthusiasm for MathCounts across our district," said Michelle Pechette, as-

sistant superintendent of educational services. "Events like MathCounts highlight how learning can build both confidence and community, while encouraging students to see themselves as capable problem solvers."

For those interested in supporting LVJUSD's MathCounts program, contact Janine Mains at jmains@lvjUSD.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities.



Sixth-grade individual finalists shown at the 30th annual MathCounts competition held on Jan. 31 at Granada High School. (Photo courtesy of School of Imagination)

"It's amazing to see MathCounts reach its 30th year in Livermore," said MathCounts coordinator Robyn Schlichter. "For decades, this program has helped students challenge themselves, build confidence, and see that math can be both rigorous and rewarding. It's a special tradition for our schools and community."

The competition featured a range of individual and team challenges designed to test students' knowledge in algebra, geometry, probability and number theory. They were tasked with solving problems ranging from sixth- to eighth-grade math standards, presenting an equally difficult challenge for students of all levels.

Individual achievement

livermoreschools.org/district/press-releases.

In February, finalists from the Livermore tournament will compete in regional competitions for an opportunity to advance to the state competition.

Each middle school supports its own MathCounts program, giving students the chance to participate through clubs that take place before or after school. During the school year, teachers and volunteer mentors also help coach and prepare students by building confidence and strengthening their math skills through resources from mathcounts.org.

The MathCounts foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides engaging math programs for middle school

LVO to Present Mozart Comedy

LIVERMORE — The Livermore Valley Opera (LVO) will perform Mozart's two-act operatic comedy, "Cosi fan tutte," at the Bankhead Theater the first two weekends in March.

The opera centers around two young officers, Ferrando and Guglielmo, who are engaged to two sisters, Dorabella and Fiordiligi.

Confident in their lovers' faithfulness, they accept a bet from a cynical old philosopher who insists that all women are fickle. The two officers pretend to leave for war, only to return in disguise and attempt to woo each other's fiancée.

Initially, the sisters resist, but over time, they falter in their fidelity, leading to confusion, remorse and ultimately forgiveness.

The opera will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, followed by 2 p.m. matinees on Sunday,

March 1, Saturday, March 7, and Sunday, March 8.

Tickets start at \$65

and are available online at livermorearts.org or lvopera.com.

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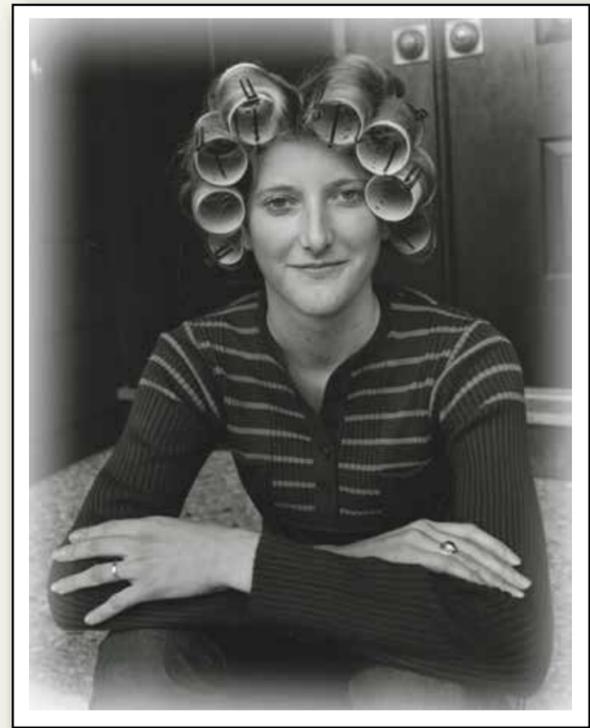
Saturday, March 7

Tickets: Ann (805) 405-8742 or Ben (805) 405-8743

Order now through March 4: \$75 dinner for 4 for 64 oz container
Drive by pick up from 10:30am-1pm on Saturday, March 7
at The Singing Wine Maker, 5143 Tesla Rd., Livermore.
Delicious seafood stew chock-full of shellfish with tomatoes, wine, spices, and herbs. Each order comes with a sourdough bread round.
Proceeds benefit Livermore Lions Club charities.

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BILL OWENS – Photographer for The Independent from 1968–1984, during which time he produced Suburbia (published in 1972) and The Legacy of Suburbia: Photographs 1964–2022 (published in 2022). Bill also worked as a photojournalist for Life Magazine and Newsweek, published multiple photography books, authored and published additional works, and even established one of the nation's first brew pubs. You won't want to miss his photography exhibition.

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