THE Independent

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VOLUME LX, NUMBER 4 *Your Local News Source Since 1963* SERVING DUBLIN, LIVERMORE, PLEASANTON, SUNOL

Eden Housing Project

Judge Backs the City's Refusal to Process Vote on MEH's Referendum

Community Group Considers an Appeal

LIVERMORE – An Alameda County Superior Court judge on Jan. 19 rejected a community group's arguments that the Livermore city clerk should be required to continue processing a referendum petition submitted in July 2022 containing more than 8,000 signatures. The referendum would have enabled citizens to vote on whether the sale of the city-owned downtown property to Eden Housing should go forward as specified in the city council's May 24, 2022 resolution.

In a nine-page order following months of litigation, Judge Michael Markman ruled that City Clerk Marie Weber acted within the law when she declined to process Move Eden Housing's (MEH) signatures seeking the citywide vote. Weber at the time said the city council's approval to sell land for the project to Eden was an administrative act — not a legislative act — and therefore not eligible for a public vote.

MEH's principal officer, Maryann Brent, said her organization believes the court's ruling was incorrect. MEH is considering its options, including filing an appeal.

"The court's ruling quashes thousands of Livermore voters' constitutional rights to petition the government," Brent said. "More than enough signatures were obtained to qualify the refer-

(See REFERENDUM, page 7)

Ambulance Services

City Managers to Explore Possible Policy Changes

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL – The city councils of Livermore and Pleasanton authorized their city managers this month to join with the Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD) in devising a possible plan for how 911 ambulance and emergency medical services operate in their communities.

The moves in both cities aim to address to concerns regarding slow response times from the for-profit ambulance company Falck Northern California. The service provider contracts with the county to send ambulances to emergency incidents in the cities. The Southern California-based Falck holds a contract for ambulance service in Alameda County's unincorporated areas and eight cities — including Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton — through 2024.

"At multiple points during the contract term, Falck has had difficulty in meeting its contractual obligations primarily related to ambulance response times," a Jan. 17 staff report to the Pleasanton City Council stated. "Falck was out of compliance in October, November and December of 2021, such that Alameda County placed Falck on a monitored performance improvement plan intended to improve response times."

(See SERVICE, page 4)



Livermore Valley Arts and Las Positas College joined in a Lunar New Year event in front of the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Jan. 21. The festivities included Tai Chi lessons and a presentation of traditional Chinese dance and instruments by Xiaopei Chinese Dance. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]* (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

State, Local Authorities Seize More Than $3M Worth of Cannabis In Livermore Raid

LIVERMORE – State investigators and Livermore police announced Monday that they had recently seized more than $3 million worth of cannabis at an illegal indoor marijuana farm in an industrial area of the city.

Authorities did not reveal the farm's location. One person was detained and released during a Jan. 10 operation that was part of an ongoing investigation, said David Hafner, a spokesperson for the California Department of Cannabis Control (CDCC). The CDCC licenses and regulates cannabis businesses.

Livermore police, CDCC investigators and the state Department of Fish and Wildlife agents served multiple search warrants in connection with the probe. A photograph released by Livermore police showed a large room filled with plants and overhead lighting.

> *"(This) successful enforcement action in Livermore resulted in over 2,400 pounds of illegal cannabis being seized."*
>
> – Bill Jones, Chief of the CDCC's Law Enforcement Division.

"(This) successful enforcement action in Livermore resulted in over 2,400 pounds of illegal cannabis being seized," said Bill Jones, chief of the CDCC's Law Enforcement Division. "Illegal cannabis is tied to violent crime in our communities, harmful pesticides, and environmental damage, and (this) action represents an important step in our efforts to tackle the illegal market."

The raids resulted in the confiscation of 3,460 plants

(See RAID, page 7)

Local Recipients Honored with MLK Legacy Award

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative (PCCC) recently honored three Tri-Valley residents at the 23rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Fellowship Breakfast at the Doubletree by Hilton in Pleasanton.

The breakfast was held in-person after two years as a virtual event due to COVID.

Dr. William Nelson, Pleasanton Unified School District's Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, was the keynote speaker. The breakfast was attended by past recipients of the award, as well as local dignitaries including mayors Karla Brown (Pleasanton), Melissa Hernandez (Dublin), John Marchand (Livermore) and Alameda County Supervisors David Haubert and Nate Miley.

The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy award recipients were:

Matt Troiano, co-founder of the annual Tri-Valley Community Thanksgiving Dinner and active leader of the Knights of Columbus.

Ten years ago, Troiano worked as the co-founder of the Annual Tri-Valley Thanksgiving Dinner held at St. Raymond Catholic Church in Dublin, where hundreds of people in need of a place to go for Thanksgiving receive a turkey dinner served on linen and with silverware. Troiano organized the kitchen and made sure everything was properly cooked and prepared. After two years of COVID cancellations, the event resumed this year.

Troiano has been heavily involved with Special Olympics as a basketball and track coach, raising funds by participating in the Polar Plunge. He also served on the Special Olympics State Committee for two years.

He has helped veterans by volunteering at the Livermore Veterans Hospital and at the East Bay Stand Down to help homeless vets and has supported the Livermore Homeless Refuge with clothing drives, bag lunches and cooked meals. Troiano has been

(See MLK, page 8)

Weekends on Main Set to Return

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — First Weekends on Main, the popular weekly program that closes off Main Street from vehicular traffic in favor of pedestrians, restaurants and retailers, will return this spring.

In response to a business survey conducted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA), this year will offer fewer closures, with the program running from May through October, compared to last year's program that ran through December.

"Some comments noted adverse weather during the November and December months, which affects attendance, as well as express concerns by the retailers that this will interfere with their ability to maximize shopping during the holiday season," said Economic Development Manager Lisa Adamos at the Jan. 17 Pleasanton City Council meeting.

The council voted unanimously, with Mayor Karla Brown absent, to approve the closures.

The city will close Main Street on the first weekend of each month, beginning in May, from 4 p.m. on Fridays to 9 p.m. on Sundays. As with last year, the PDA will also offer event programming on Saturdays, similar to the brew crawls, park concerts and wine strolls held last year. September's closure will fall on the third weekend of the month to coincide with Amador Valley High School's centennial

(See WEEKENDS, page 4)

Altamont Open Space Throws Support Behind Wildlife Connectivity

By David Jen

REGIONAL — The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (RCD), in partnership with the University of California Davis, plans to protect wildlife in the East Bay by building three wildlife crossings throughout the county's Diablo Range.

RCD will apply for $3 million to $5 million in funding from the state Wildlife Conservation Board to develop a planning report with conceptual design plans for crossings over Interstate 580, Interstate 680 and State Route 84.

"This kind of funding has not been very available in the past, so this is a new era for California to be catching up with other states on wildlife crossing development and construction," said RCD Chief Executive Officer Katherine Boxer at the Jan. 20 Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee (ALOSC) meeting.

Should the team receive the funding, it expects project design to be completed by 2026 and construction done by 2030, said Fraser Shilling, director of the UC Davis Road Ecology Center.

ALOSC, which has previously hired RCD to pro-

(See ALTAMONT, page 9)

DHS Seniors Named Candidates in U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

DUBLIN – Siddharth Ajay and Katherine Cheng, graduating seniors at Dublin High School, have been named as two of more than 5,000 candidates in the 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The candidates were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2023.

Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors, stated a press release from the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD). Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

"Anytime one of our students is recognized for an accomplishment – be it artistic, athletics, or academic – it is a reflection not only of their abilities, but also all the educators who have influenced them over the years," stated DUSD Superintendent Chris D. Funk. "Congratulations to Siddharth and Katherine for this prestigious honor, and also to our staff for the role they played in this success."

(See SCHOLARS, page 10)

Firehouse Arts Center Looking To Partner with Bankhead Theater

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — City staff proposed a partnership between the Firehouse Arts Center and Livermore's Bankhead Theater at the Jan. 17 city council meeting.

The two venues will work together "to explore the possibilities in leveraging the strengths of the respective programs and services," said Recreation Supervisor Mark Duncanson.

While still in its early stages, Chris Carter, executive director for Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, welcomed the opportunity and said joint programming would likely happen in the fall, in an email to The Independent.

"I think it will be worthwhile, and I'm looking forward to seeing how we can work together," he wrote.

The partnership forms part of the Firehouse's three-year plan, shared at the meeting, that also envisions more partnerships with downtown businesses,

(See PARTNER , page 7)



Pleasanton's First Weekends on Main, seen above during an event last year, will return to downtown this spring. The popular program will run from May through October. (file photo)

PET OF THE WEEK



LICORICE

Laid-back and loquacious, limitless Licorice is looking for loving lodgings. He is a friendly almost five-year-old feline. Licorice has been in Valley Humane's care for over four months and is ready for a new forever family! Learn more about Licorice and other cats and dogs at valleyhumane.org. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. #ShareTheCare to help pets today!

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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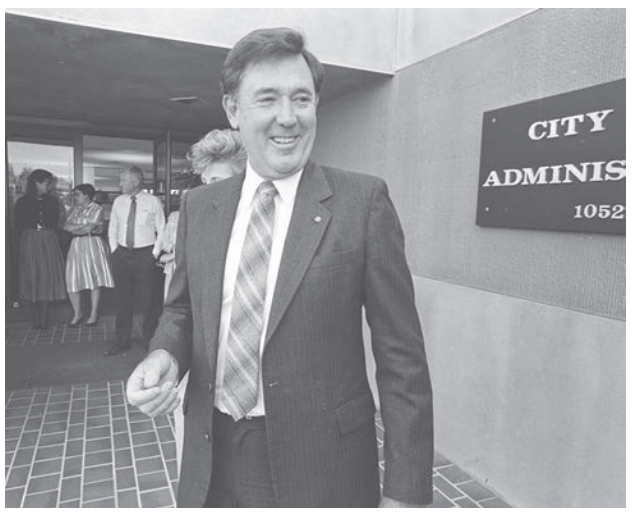
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Former Livermore Mayor Dale Turner Dies

The City of Livermore flew its flags at half-staff last week to honor the passing of former Livermore Mayor Dale Turner. Turner died at his home in New Mexico on Jan. 15. He was 85.

The longtime council member was first elected to the Livermore city council in 1974. He then served as mayor from 1978-1979 and again from 1980-1982 where he became the first direct-elected mayor of the city and served two terms from 1982-1989. Turner also sat on the board of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District for six years from 2001-2007.

Current Livermore Mayor John Marchand praised Turner's commitment to the city.



Dale Turner

"I was very sorry to hear of the passing of former Mayor Dale Turner," said Marchand. "He was a longtime community servant, and while I did not have the opportunity to serve with him on the council, I appreciate that he took the time to serve our community."

Turner supported development and in addition loved the country feel of Livermore. In an interview with The Independent in 1989, he boasted about the city's rural appeal.

"No matter where you live in Livermore, within five minutes you can be in the country," he said.

Turner was also well-known throughout the community for his work as a youth soccer coach and local volunteer.

His daughter Heather Bateson said her father was proud of his connection to the residents and community of Livermore.

"He loved Livermore with every fiber of his being," said Bateson. "He talked about the city and his friends here quite often and kept in touch with many. Our family is so proud of him and to see him recognized like this has meant so much to all of us. My dad would have been so grateful."

Turner's memorial service and burial will be held in Livermore.

Hu Foundation to Sponsor Suicide Prevention Seminar

The Pleasanton-based Alan Hu Foundation will sponsor a free, Zoom-based webinar on the prevention of adolescent suicide, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

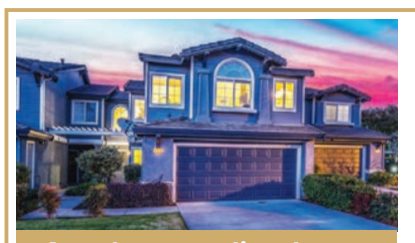
The online seminar, "Adolescent Suicide Prevention 101: Bringing the Science to Families, Teachers and Pediatricians," will be presented by Pamela Morris-Perez, a professor of applied psychology at New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. The presentation is designed to provide an introductory understanding of adolescent suicide, including why it's important to discuss the topic openly, and what steps schools, parents, and pediatricians can take to encourage adolescents receive mental health services.

"Suicidal ideation, plans, and attempts are far more common than many realize and are likely to be exacerbated in the wake of COVID-19," said Morris-Perez. "The prevailing suicide prevention paradigm entails identification and treatment within the formal mental health system, largely disconnected from the places and people where adolescents spend most of their time."

Morris-Perez, who lost her 17-year-old daughter to suicide in 2019, now focuses her research on how adolescent suicide is affected by developmental psychology, education, and public policy. The nonprofit Alan Hu Foundation was created by Xiaofang Chen and Chih-Ching Hu in memory of their son, Alan, who suffered from mental illness and committed suicide in 2018 at the age of 15.

To view the webinar, contact alanhufoundation.org to receive the Zoom meeting link by Feb. 14. The Mental Health Association for Chinese Communities, mhacc-usa.org, will also provide simultaneous Chinese interpretation.

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School Districts Make Plans for Bond Measure Expenditures

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Last November, voters in the Tri-Valley supported two bond measures for local school districts, while rejecting another.

"We have identified some quick start projects that essentially will allow us to hit the ground running and get moving a little quicker."

– PUSD Spokesperson Patrick Gannon

Pleasanton and Sunol successfully passed Measures I and J, respectively. Livermore's Measure G – a $450 million general obligation bond – failed.

PLEASANTON

In Pleasanton, voters passed Measure I, a $395 million bond meant to fund large scale improvement projects that state funding doesn't cover. The list of projects slated for bond funds were pulled from Tier One in the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) developed by the district in 2022. The bond received support from 57.2% of voters, 2.2% more than required to pass. Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) Spokesperson Patrick Gannon said the district appreciated Pleasanton's continued investment in students and the community. He also noted an oversight committee is already in place to manage expenditures from a 2016 bond; the same committee will oversee Measure I.

"Right now, the district is working on an implementation plan for the projects the bond will fund," Gannon said, adding that the plan will be created over the next few weeks. "We have identified some quick start projects that essentially will allow us to hit the ground running and get moving a little quicker."

The quick start projects are the refurbishment of fields at Pleasanton's middle schools, and the relocation of Horizon Preschool and the district's infant and toddler care to the existing preschool at Harvest Park Middle School.

"This will expand their footprint and allow us to centralize services in one location," said Gannon.

Larger projects – a new performing arts center at Foothill High School and new gyms at both high schools – still need to go through a design process with community engagement. Gannon said a timeline does not currently exist for those projects because there are still many important processes to go through before construction can begin.

SUNOL

Measure J is the Sunol Glen Unified School District's (SGUSD) $10.9 million general obligation bond written to modernize aging school buildings. Proponents of the bond cited leaking roofs, inadequate electrical systems, old plumbing and sewer systems and a lack of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. Opponents expressed concerns that the language in the bond was too general, without adequate accountability. In the end, 59.62% of voters passed the measure, which required only 55%.

SGUSD Superintendent Molleen Barnes said the district is currently working on creating committees to deal with the projects the bond will help facilitate.

"At our Jan. 11, 2023 board meeting, we did certify the election results and passed a resolution to move forward with establishing a Bond Oversight Committee," said Barnes.

She noted that while she's grateful for the district's passage of Measure J, she and her staff are more focused on repairing the extensive damage caused by a major storm event on New Year's Eve.

"At this point, we are focused on flood recovery," Barnes added.

LIVERMORE

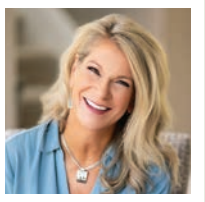
Livermore's Measure G failed in November, receiving only 50.12% of 33,995 votes, falling short of the necessary 55% to pass. The bond was meant to help the district move forward to replace aging school facilities with updated and flexible spaces to support students.

"In light of Measure G not passing on the November 2022 ballot, our district is committed to pursuing alternative capital funding options to meet some of our more urgent building improvement needs," said Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Superintendent Chris Van Schaack. "We anticipate receiving reimbursement from the state for some of the Measure J project costs, which will help us to fund additional projects."

At the Jan. 17 board meeting, the board voted unanimously to reactivate the LVJUSD Property Advisory Committee. The purpose of the committee is to analyze currently underutilized district properties and make recommendations that could result in sales that would fund facilities improvements.

"In 2015, the property advisory committee recommended the sale of our district's Sonoma School site," Van Schaack added. "The subsequent property sale resulted in more than $13 million for our district's building fund. While no current potential property sales could result in the $450 million in revenue needed to construct new, transformational projects as identified for the Measure G bond, committee recommendations could result in funding necessary to address high-need maintenance to our existing facilities."

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American Indian Center Under New Management

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Livermore American Indian Center (LAIC) recently welcomed a new program coordinator, Tina Henson – the granddaughter of past leader Mary Puthoff – and will soon hold an open house for the community on Friday, Jan. 27.

Henson said she was honored to take the reins of a program her grandmother led since 1978.

"I am very excited to see where I can take this program and really hope to help it thrive as much as she has," Henson said.

LAIC exists to provide K-12 students of Native American heritage in Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton and Castro Valley with academic and cultural support tailored to their needs. The resource center was founded by local Native American families in 1973 after the passage of the 1972 Indian Education Act. Puthoff, who was born on the Rosebud Lakota reservation in South Dakota, later took the helm and remained in the leadership position until last year.

Henson said students who come to LAIC can receive tutoring and help with scholarship and college applications. The center further provides after-school cultural education classes with Native American guest speakers, traditional arts and crafts, and traditional dances. It also offers scholarships for American Indian students in the Tri-Valley.

Allen Waters spent years offering his services as a tutor at LAIC and said understanding the Native mindset is an important aspect of working with Native children. He descends from the Oglala Lakota tribe and spent 40 years working in education with students ranging from kindergarten to college. While he's stepped back from his tutoring duties at the center, he hopes Henson is successful in her mission to keep the center growing and working.

"I've worked with several other Indian education programs, and Mary's is one of the most successful ones I've worked with," said Waters. "I hope it and other programs like it can continue to be successful and sustainable."

As she takes on her new role, Henson said she first wants to spread awareness of LAIC and become more immersed in the community. She said the Jan. 27 open house will provide an opportunity to introduce herself to the community and begin conducting a needs assessment. She said the information she gathers will help determine what types of services and events she should host in the coming year. Visitors will also be able to peruse the center's artifact collection and library.

"I grew up in this center — had it as part of my entire life — and I think it provides so many opportunities," Henson said. "I can't wait to provide that for the next generation … but the center has been around for so long, and most of the time, when I do an event, people come up and they've lived here for years and never knew there was a program, so one of my goals is to change that."

She added that she also wants to grow the program to include more participants, which is needed to sustain the program's federal funding. The center currently serves approximately 400 students.

Puthoff said she feels confident leaving the center in Henson's hands and will fondly remember the families and children of American Indian heritage she met during her time there.

"We had kids from over 100 different tribes in our program," Puthoff said. "We did what we could to help families educate their children and know their culture."

Puthoff hopes the knowledge passed on in the center will continue to uplift and support native children, while eradicating stereotypes.

The LAIC's open house will be Friday, Jan. 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. at LAIC, located on the Lawrence Elementary School campus, 2451 Portola Ave., Livermore, in Classroom 25. No registration required. For more information, call 925-960-2923, Ext. 7225, or email thenson@lvjusd.org.



Tina Henson, above, who was born on the Rosebud Lakota reservation in South Dakota, is the new program director of the the Livermore American Indian Center. The center was founded by Henson's grandmother Mary Puthoff. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Andrea Wilson Named PPIE Executive Director

Andrea Wilson has been named executive director of Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation (PPIE), a nonprofit organization that supports schools within the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD).

Wilson, who was events and outreach coordinator for PPIE, assumed her new position Jan. 9. She replaces Steve McCoy-Thompson, who announced his resignation last fall.

As events and outreach coordinator, Wilson was responsible for PPIE's Run for Education and its annual gala. She also has experience in nonprofit development and community relations with the American Cancer Society and Kent State University. She has three children in the PUSD and has been active in the PTA for the last seven years.

"I am thrilled about the opportunity to continue to serve our schools and community in this capacity," Wilson said. "We have such a wonderful and diverse community, and I am looking forward to continuing and expanding the great work that has already been done."

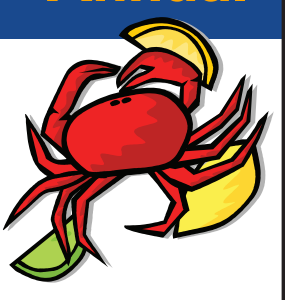
Since 1987, PPIE has raised over $8 million dollars for Pleasanton schools through corporate donations and community fundraising. PIE helps support supplemental staffing, including librarians, site technology specialists, and an intervention specialist.

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THANK YOU DALE TURNER!


PHOTO: My real estate mentor and father-in-law, Dale Turner.
The city of Livermore lost a legend last week. Dale was the first elected mayor of Livermore back in the 1970s and served as mayor with distinction for more than 10 years at a very pivotal time in our city's history. He had much to do with Livermore becoming the vibrant and beautiful place it is today. He will be missed.
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EDITORIAL

Animals Might Win Big with Future Funding

With cars zipping along overlapping freeway overpasses and buildings sprawling as far as the eye can see in most places in the Tri-Valley, it's hard to imagine a time when the nearby Mount Diablo was home to grizzly bears.

Whether we've hunted to the point of extinction or indirectly destroyed species by destroying their homes, our human presence has had a significantly negative impact on wildlife. East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) wildlife program manager Douglas Bell said this increased development in the Bay Area has surrounded natural areas with manmade barriers and roads that animals are reluctant to cross. This can result in isolation and, as a result, hampered genetic flow.

Fortunately, many are trying to repair the human-animal relationship.

The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (RCD) and UC Davis are currently working on an application to apply for $3 to $5 million in funding from the state's Wildlife Conservation Board to develop plans for wildlife crossing over Interstates 580 and 680. The Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee last week approved a letter of support to accompany the application. The conversation about creating connectivity for animals trying to cross habitats without crossing busy freeways has been in the works for years, but the move to obtain state funding could make the plan a reality.

RCD Chief Executive Officer Katherine Boxer noted that this type of funding has not been available in the past. If awarded, it could mean a new era for California that is presently behind other states when it comes to the development of wildlife crossings. This is a welcome era of change and continued growth toward a more harmonious relationship with the wild.

We hope to see this critical funding come through for the diverse species that roam the Bay Area. There is still a considerable number of creatures left in this area, and they're worth protecting.

MAILBOX

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Asbury's Field of Dreams and Its Tears

Greg Scott, Livermore

I am grateful to Asbury Church for having hosted Open Heart Kitchen, Partners for Change, Fertile GroundWorks, University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, and others. My survival would have been more questionable had Asbury Church not done these things.

Still, we do not have the political will and real intent to solve homelessness. We would all need to make transitions and implement structural changes to do so.

"The data has shown that you've got to provide someone with a house first. Then we can deal with all the mental health crisis and health crisis and disabilities." (Jake Medcalf in David Jen, "Church Envisions Tiny Home Project for the Unhoused", The Independent, 1/19)

Housing first policy is bunk! "[E]vidence based policy fails to integrate evidence and values into policy deliberations." (Stanhope and Dunn, "The curious case of Housing first: The limits of evidence based policy", International Journal of Law and Psychiatry, July-August 2011). (If you care to inform yourselves further, please read some of Tracy Kidder's book "Rough Sleepers", 2023, and note the references to "death by housing.")

"Specifically in Livermore, there were 174 individuals who were observed as being unsheltered during the count." ("Applied Survey Research's 2022 point-in-time-count," Jen, ibid.). For 16 residences at Asbury that could "typically run between $175,000 and $225,000" a total cost may be from $2.8 to $3.6 million. Thus, if you house 16 out of the 174 you have 158 remaining that could be equivalently housed for another $27.65 to $33.55 million. Where do we think we are going to obtain this monstrous financial resource? Tell me, from a Christian perspective: Who gets a room in the inn and who doesn't?

Homelessness is like a chain reaction, multiple injuries and fatalities accident. The problem is that more crashes are occurring than injuries are being attended to. If emergency medical personnel were as ineffective as the homeless advocates and homeless-industrial-complex professionals addressing the disaster of homelessness, then the crash victims would fare far worse. It is no wonder the homeless crisis is perpetual. Under this mode more will die at the accident site. With this management already too many homeless are needlessly dying. I was acquainted with six homeless that have died since the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic began.

The approach we are taking to homelessness is insane.

(Note: I referenced both Asbury pro-tiny house and anti-tiny house OpenAI ChatGPT (Generative Pre-trainer Transformer)-created letters to write this letter.)

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Asbury Livermore Tiny Homes – Rebuttal

Rich Buckley, Livermore

NO LONGER A CHURCH THAT TOLERATES INCLUSIVITY ?

I've been attending Livermore Asbury Methodist Church since I was 6 years old in 1949 when Dad moved us back to Livermore after WW2. A stint in military service and college being my only extended absence. I might be mistaken, but I think the record will show I am one of the longest attending souls....to this one church... and no longer welcomed. I write in two roles: (1) Asbury Member, (2) Pres., Peace And Conflict Resolution (dot) Org., Corp., https://tinyurl.com/haj73k6c.

The Church, in my opinion, has evolved itself away from me as much as I may have evolved away from what it proclaims to stand for today here in Livermore.

"Nonsense...Of course Rich is welcomed." Might be the words our minister would offer. But it's just a public relations line and not the truth ... is my intuition … Not once has anyone on the Tiny Homes Committee directly sought my input, even after offering half a dozen papers on the subject.

A DEADLY LAW

California is now facing a global transition. Renter housing applications that uncover criminal activity cannot be used as a basis to deny housing. I don't always disagree with that... as the other side of the story is important and I often respond.

THE PROBLEM IS

The problem is, we should not be providing housing for homeless that close to childcare centers and offering only partial supervision. You cannot have 100% security with cameras and guards with guns. There's always a way to defeat security sooner or later... as footnoted by some of my friends who were POWs in Hanoi during the Vietnam War where I served with them.

MISLEADING MEMES

Another issue I disagree with Livermore Asbury, is Tiny Homes create false meme's.... it's not...SHELTER AND FOOD... they intentionally speak it backwards... it's FOOD AND SHELTER. They plan to load up Tiny Homes granting multiple tenants lifetime residency rights... by default.... each of which cannot be evicted by our new Alameda County Woke Sheriff who refuses to serve eviction notices!

Political meme's have divided the entire country into tribal groups to control us. That tactic isn't going to cut it anymore. We are becoming that which organized religion will never give... we are becoming ENLIGHTENED. Seek truth … Namaste...

SERVICE

(Continued from first page)

Alameda County Emergency Medical Services reports online show Falck arrived late to Code 3 calls — priority responses requiring lights and sirens — 95 out of 611 times in Tri-Valley metro areas in October 2021. The 84% on-time response rate was below the required 90% in the contract. The Code 3 response time in November 2021 was 85% and 88% in December 2021.

The latest available report from August 2022 showed Falck improved its compliance to 92%, with 38 late responses out of 492 priority calls.

The county EMS reports and the Pleasanton staff report did not include the total minutes it took Falck to arrive at a call to join Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) firefighters at emergency scenes.

Under the current contract, LPFD firefighters and paramedics respond first to life-threatening calls, stabilize patients and place them on Falck ambulances that arrive separately. The contract requires the ambulance to arrive within about 10 minutes.

Pleasanton City Manager Gerry Beaudin told his city council during a Jan. 17 meeting that the city would partner with ACFD to potentially submit a new plan.

"We're having issues with the current model and the level of coverage that we're seeing in the City of Pleasanton," Beaudin said. "What we're suggesting is an open dialogue with Alameda County Fire, which is different from the EMS department. The fire department at the county level is talking about partnering with jurisdictions throughout the county to create a proposal that would be responsive to the county's request for proposals for the next ambulance contract, which would begin in 2024."

In a letter to the Livermore City Council before its Jan. 23 meeting, City Manager Marianna Marysheva advised the council members that their authorization would simply give her the opportunity to "enter into a discussion" with ACFD "as the agency contemplates bidding on a contract to provide countywide ambulance services."

"There could be different ways in which individual fire departments in the county could possibly participate with Alameda County Fire in their bid for ambulance services," Marysheva said. "The participation could be as simple as providing space for the ambulance vehicles and drivers, to potentially purchasing vehicles and, in some cases, providing staffing."

Each City Council voted 4-0 to enable the city managers to take part in the ambulance contract talks during their meetings. No one from the public commented on the issue, which was included on each city's "consent calendar" for routine decisions not requiring public hearings.

According to Pleasanton's staff report, the Alameda County Fire Chiefs, the ACFD, and local firefighter unions, have worked for about a year to implement recommendations from a task force formed to improve the ambulance transport system. The EMS Re-design Task Force — which includes representatives from cities, private ambulance providers, hospitals, special districts and long-term care facilities — concluded after an 18-month examination that the county's EMS system needed significant changes.

The report said it was unknown if Falck planned to bid for the next ACFD contract. The ACFD, meanwhile, saw an opportunity to devise its own plan to oversee ambulance services in the eight cities, including Livermore and Pleasanton.

Falck spokesperson Jeff Lucia, said Falck has made a long-term investment in Alameda County and is a vital member of the local healthcare community.

"Falck's top priority is the health and well-being of the people of Alameda County, and we have been compliant with our contractual response-time requirements since January 2022, at the end of the early winter COVID-19 surge," Lucia wrote in an email to The Independent. "As no one knows what the requirements for the next Alameda County EMS paramedic ambulance contract will be until the RFP is made public, so it would be premature to speculate on the actions of the city councils."

If ACFD is ultimately awarded the contract, the agency would staff and supply ambulances in the LPFD region. The ACFD provides fire and emergency services in Dublin.

During a discussion about LPFD contract negotiations with the two cities last summer, Joe McThorn, president of the International Association of Firefighters Local 1974, brought up concerns about Falck's service.

Alameda County holds the exclusive rights to determining ambulance services for the region, including in the Tri-Valley, so individual cities cannot negotiate their own ambulance services to work with their fire departments. Livermore City Manager Marianna Marysheva and LPFD Fire Chief Joe Testa wrote in reports to the Livermore City Council that they did not believe the county would break up those rights to allow individual cities to seek their own deals.

Testa wrote in response to a media question shared with the council that while the cities and county fire departments are looking at how ambulance transportation will occur once Falck's contract runs out, the fire agencies continue to work with Falck now to improve service during the next two years.

WEEKENDS

(Continued from first page)

celebration.

Weekends on Main arose during the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020, when the city explored ways to bolster downtown businesses in the face of state and county restrictions on indoor dining and gathering. That year, Main Street closures ran every weekend from mid-June through October and allowed businesses to expand outdoor dining and activities into the street.

"I think that the street closures on Main were one of the positives that came out of something as devastating as the pandemic," said Councilmember Julie Testa. "The vitalization of our downtown was a wonderful consequence of having to look for alternative opportunities for our restaurants in downtown."

The program returned in 2021 and 2022, although at a lower frequency.

This year's program will cost Pleasanton an estimated $54,000, consisting mainly of traffic barricade rentals, placement and removal costs totaling $47,000.

While Testa proposed possible cost savings through barricade purchases, Adamos explained that the six weekends this year were not frequent enough to make purchases cost effective.

Vice Mayor Jack Balch saw the program as one element among many in the city's economic improvement.

"We actually need, in my opinion, to do things to achieve vibrancy and improve the economic vitality of downtown and other areas of Pleasanton," said Balch. "So I see the Weekends on Main as one option and I see parklets as something else that we're doing and that's so that we're competitive with other areas."



The Livermore School of Dance Ballet and Jazz companies performed "Mary Poppins," a musical dance revue directed by Brittany Lee on Saturday, Jan. 21 and 22. The performances combined ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, modern, contemporary, lyrical and musical theater at the Livermore High School Theater. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]* (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

Art League to Display at Museum on Main

Works by members of the Pleasanton Art League (PAL) are on display at the Museum on Main in Pleasanton, now through Saturday, March 25.

"Imagination Expressed 2023" is the league's 14th-annual showcase of member artwork and includes paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, and jewelry. Many of the pieces will be available for purchase through PAL.

Several PAL members will also talk about their art and demonstrate their methods during the exhibit, including Wei-Ting Chuang, East Asian brush painting and watercolors; Rhonda Chase, wire-wrapped jewelry; Tuan Karsevar, landscapes in acrylics and canvas-as-palette technique; Peggy Magovern, colored pencil; Meghana Mitragotri, watercolor floral and landscape; Nancy Roberts, plein air; Deepti Saraswat, watercolors and acrylics; Olga Symonenko, soft pastel on paper; Lorraine Wells, plein air watercolors; and Eugenia W. Zobel, porcelain painting. Each of the artists will make two appearances during the exhibit.

For a schedule of demonstrations, visit museumonmain.org or pal-art.com. The museum is located at 603 Main St., and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.



This work by Tuan Karsevar (landscapes in acrylics and canvas-as-palette technique) is just one of several that will be on display at the Museum on Main in Pleasanton now through Saturday, March 25. (Photo courtesy of Museum on Main)

Glover to Perform Works by Rachmaninoff

Concert pianist Daniel Glover will perform selections by Russian American composer Sergei Rachmaninoff during a benefit for the nonprofit Valley Concert Chorale at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, on Saturday, Feb. 18.

Born in Russia in 1873, Rachmaninoff and his family left following the Russian Revolution and eventually settled in New York in 1918. He moved to California in 1942 because of ill health and died a year later, just weeks after becoming an American citizen. In honor of his 150th anniversary, Glover will play his most famous composition, "Prelude in C-sharp Minor," also known as "The Bells of Moscow," which was written when the composer was just 19.

Glover, who has appeared as a soloist with many Bay Area orchestras, will also play four additional Rachmaninoff compositions, originally published with "The Bells of Moscow" and known collectively as "Morceaux de Fantasie," or "Fantasy Pieces."

The second half of Glover's performance will include tribute to Austria's Franz Schubert by 19th-century Hungarian composer Franz Liszt. Schubert composed more than 600 songs and 400 dances during his short lifetime, and Liszt was instrumental in exposing Schubert's works to a larger audience.

The concert will conclude with Bach's "Fantasie in C minor," Haydn's "Sonata No. 48," and Debussy's "L'isle Joyeuse," or "Isle of Joy."

Glover is an internationally known pianist, having performed across the U.S. and in Europe, Asia, and South America. He holds a master's degree from The Juilliard School in New York, where he was a scholarship student. Among his numerous awards was first prize in the Liederkranz Competition in 1990.

Glover has also recorded eight CDs, including "Franz Liszt, The Profound and The Profane," "Spanish Impressions," "Romantic Russian Encores," and a live-performance recording of works for piano and orchestra by Mozart, Strauss, and Prokofiev. He has been the Valley Concert Chorale's accompanist since 1998.

Tickets are $30 at valleyconcertchorale.org. For more information, call 925-866-4003.



Concert pianist Daniel Glover, above, will perform selections by Sergei Rachmaninoff at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, on Saturday, Feb. 18. (Photo courtesy of Valley Concert Chorale)

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Pleasanton Reports Strong Turnout at Make A Difference Festival

Despite the rain, nearly 800 people attended Pleasanton's annual Make A Difference Festival on Saturday, Jan. 14, at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Nonprofits represented at the festival reported an increase in the number of people signing up to volunteer, according to the city, including 80 who expressed an interest in helping at a Special Olympics basketball tournament.

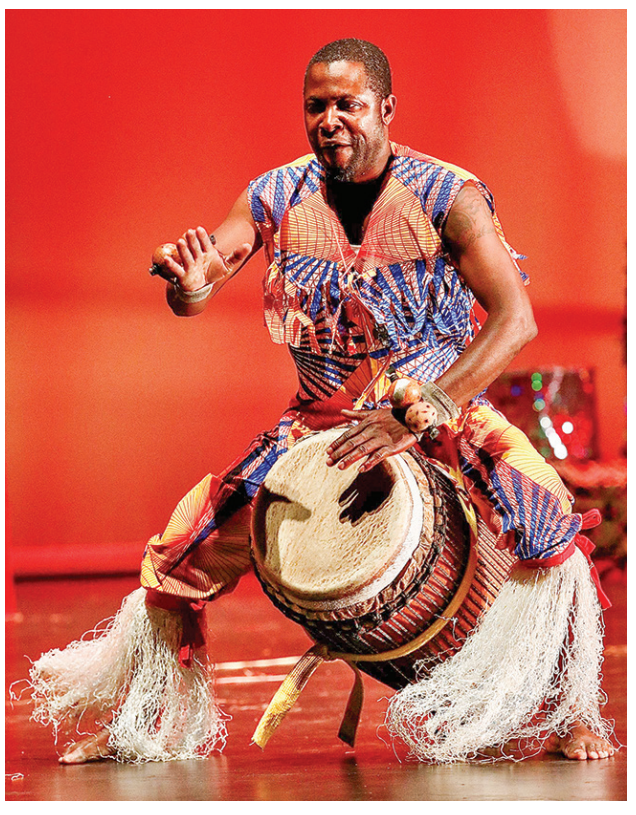
Sleep Heavenly Peace, a nonprofit that makes beds for children, was participating at the festival for the first time and said it left with two pages of potential volunteers. At the JustServe booth, volunteers could learn about opportunities to help senior citizens, victims of homelessness, cancer patients, people suffering with mental illnesses, recreational league, cultural arts and museums, and animals.

The Livermore/Pleasanton Fire Department and the Pleasanton Police Department also had displays about fire safety and Neighborhood Watch. For a complete list of participating organizations, visit mad4p.org.



Pleasanton's Make A Difference Festival at the Pleasanton Senior Center on Saturday, Jan. 14, drew nearly 800 people to the annual event. (Photo courtesy of Make a Difference)

Cheza Nami Foundation Hosts Community Engagement Dance Program



The Cheza Nami Foundation, above, will perform on Friday, Feb. 3, and Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Dublin High School Center for Performing Arts and Education. (Photo courtesy of Cheza Nami Foundation)

The Cheza Nami Foundation will present "Moving Together," a community engagement program of African Diaspora dance and drumming workshops, on Friday, Feb. 3, and Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Dublin High School Center for Performing Arts and Education, 8151 Village Parkway.

The Cheza Nami Ensemble and the Arenas Dance company will also present their spring "Essense Show" on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Cheza Nami, which means "Come play with me" in Swahili, is a Pleasanton-based nonprofit cultural organization that also sponsors the annual Taste of Africa celebration.

The workshops are free, presented with support from the California Arts Council and the City of Dublin, and will encompasses the dance and musical heritage of Cuba, Brazil, Haiti, and several West African cultures.

Tickets for the Saturday night Cheza Nami performance begin at $25 and are available online. To register, visit tinyurl.com/yuhw9bx8.

Symphony Helps Longtime Member Celebrate 90th Birthday

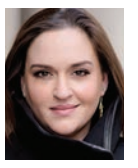
The Livermore-Amador Symphony (LAS) helped longtime orchestra member and assistant conductor Bob Williams celebrate his 90th birthday in November with a special rehearsal rendition of "Happy Birthday."

H. Robert Williams joined LAS as a horn player in 1972 and continued playing for the next 50 years, retiring at the end of the 2021 TO 2022 season. He also recently retired as pit orchestra conductor for the Valley Dance Theatre, including the annual performances of "The Nutcracker," and has been a member of the Pleasanton Community Concert band since 1989.

Williams taught music in public schools for 22 years and had an 18-year career studying nuclear materials at General Electric.

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Culinary Angels Founder Takes On New Role

Culinary Angels founder Lisa McNaney plans to step aside as executive director of the Livermore-based nonprofit organization after the board of directors completes a search for her replacement.



Lisa McNaney

McNaney, who has led the nonprofit she started since 2016, will remain with the organization in a marketing and communications strategy.

"I'm very excited to focus more fully on my founder role and spread the word about our amazing organization," McNaney said. "I expect to remain very active in the overall organization and tap into new resources and opportunities for Culinary Angels."

Culinary Angels provides nutrient-rich meals at no cost to residents of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and Danville who are undergoing treatment for cancer. Following McNaney's decision to step aside, the board of directors thanked her for creating such an amazing organization, as well as her commitment and efforts as executive director to develop infrastructure and expand services."

McNaney will also continue as a board member.



CityServe of the Tri-Valley is collecting coats and blankets to distribute to needy adults and children. The Pleasanton-based nonprofit, which helps coordinate resources and volunteers for other community organizations, is asking that new or clean, used coats be dropped off at the management office at the San Francisco Premium Outlets Mall, 2774 Livermore Outlets Drive, in Livermore, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Coats can also be dropped off anytime at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Pleasanton or the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Livermore. The nonprofit will be collecting coats through Jan. 31. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Pleasanton Public Library Prepares to Celebrate 'Paws To Read' Program's 20th Anniversary

The Pleasanton Public Library will be celebrating the Paws to Read program's 20th anniversary.

The program provides students in first through fifth grades the opportunity to read one-on-one with one of Valley Humane Society's Certified Canine Comfort teams. The celebration will begin with a brief ceremony and opening remarks, followed by a reading of Paws Goes to the Library by the author, KPIX 5 journalist Juliette Goodrich.

Attendees of all ages will be invited to experience the Paws to Read program by participating in a 15-minute reading session and the opportunity to meet and greet with the Paws to Read dog teams.

The Valley Humane Society will have a booth at the event for those interested in volunteering and becoming a Pet Therapy team. The event will feature various other activities, including interactive Bingo.

This event is open to the public at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., on Jan. 28, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Pleasanton Library was the first library in California to offer this program when it began in November 2002. It has since inspired many local and national libraries to implement similar programs to help children improve their literacy skills. The program removes the pressure of reading in the classroom, and studies show it leads to other positive results such as improved reading scores, decreased absenteeism, improved confidence and self-esteem. More than 15,000 children in first through fifth grades have benefitted from the Pleasanton Library's Paws to Read program over the past two decades.

Follow on Instagram @Pleasantonlibandrec and Facebook at facebook.com/PleasantonLibraryandRecreation.

East Bay Regional Park District Swears in New Board Members

Two new East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) board members were sworn into office on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

Democratic Rep. Mark DeSaulnier, whose 10th district represents most of Contra Costa County, delivered the oath of office to Olivia Sanwong and John Mercurio, elected to their first terms in November, as well as Colin Coffey, who was elected to a second four-year term.

Board Member Dennis Waespi was sworn in for his third term by Karen McClendon, who has worked for the EBRPD for 38 years. Waespi will also serve as president of the seven-member board for 2023. Board member Elizabeth Echols will serve as vice president, with Ellen Corbett as treasurer and Dee Rosario as secretary.

EBRPD is the largest regional park system in the nation, comprising 73 parks, 55 miles of shoreline, and more than 1,300 miles of trails in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.





TOP: Board Director Dennis Waespi, right, in his third term for Ward 3 was sworn in by park district employee Karen McClendon, left. ABOVE: New Board Directors Olivia Sanwong, Ward 5, John Mercurio, Ward 6, and Colin Coffey, Ward 7 were sworn in by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier. (Photos courtesy of EBRPD)

Library to Host Hunt for Waldo

Inspired by the "Where's Waldo" series of books, the Livermore Public Library will host a weekly scavenger hunt at the Springtown Branch Library, 998 Bluebell Dr., from Feb. 7 to May 25.

Those seeking Waldo will use the library catalog to find his hiding spot, after getting a clue at the information desk. Waldo's location will change every Tuesday during the scavenger hunt. Successful hunters will earn one raffle ticket per week. Tickets will be entered into a drawing for prizes like Squishmallows, LEGO mini-kits, and craft kits, with two winners chosen at the end of each month.

The hunt for Waldo is open to all ages and registration is not required.

OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS NEED YOUR SUPPORT, PLEASE DONATE IF YOU ARE ABLE!

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Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-201-6068
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7580 Driftwood Way
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Cantabella Children's Chorus
P.O. Box 131
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-292-2663
Cantabella.org

Cheza Nami
5424 Sunol Blvd. Suite 10-15
Pleasanton, CA 94566
chezanami.org

Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley
P.O. Box 1586
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-421-1351
cyttrivalley.org

Citizens for Balanced Growth
661 S. N St.
Livermore, CA 94550
CitizensForBalancedGrowth.org

CityServe of Tri-Valley
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Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-223-6947
cityservetrivalley.org

Community Health Education Fund
CHEF/TVNF
C/O Maria Mancini
P.O. Box is 420
Livermore, CA 94551

Culinary Angels
4435 First St., #142
Livermore, CA 94550
CulinaryAngels.org

Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club
PO Box 2443
Dublin CA 94568
gfwcdsr.org

Exceptional Needs Network
P.O. Box 3149
Livermore, CA 94551
925-215-2281
ennetwork.org

Feral Cat Foundation
P.O. Box 1173
Alamo, CA 94507
925-829-9098
Feralcatfoundation.org

Fertile GroundWorks
4743 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550
925-344-9090
Fertilegroundworks.org

Friends of the Livermore Library
P.O. Box 2483
Livermore, CA 94551
friendsoflivermorelibrary.org

Friends of Open Space and Vineyards
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fov.org

Goodness Village
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GVLivermore.org

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Livermore, CA 94551
l-ags.org

Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild
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925-447-6454
Livermoreamadorsymphony.org/guild

Livermore Area Recreation & Park District Foundation
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925-373-5730
Larpd.org/larpd-foundation

Livermore Art Association
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925-449-9927
Livermoreartassociation.org

Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Inc.
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Livermorefilam.org

Livermore-Granad Boosters
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Livermore, CA 94550
livermoregranadaboosters.org

Livermore Heritage Guild
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Lhg.org

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Livermore Jazz Society
info@livermorejazzsociety.org
503-459-2530
livermorejazzsociety.org

Livermore K9 Foundation
PO Box 1064
Livermore, CA. 94551
(925) 209-1029
livermorek9.org

Livermore Lab Foundation
c/o UC Office of National Labs
1111 Broadway, Suite 2130
Oakland, CA 94607
925-453-9382
Livermorelabfoundation.org

Livermore Lions Club
P.O. Box 975
Livermore, CA 94551
805-405-8743

Livermore Pleasanton Fire Fighters Foundation
4847 Hopyard Road
Suite 4, PMB 303
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Livermore Valley Education Foundation
849 East Stanley Boulevard
PMB Box 143
Livermore, CA 94550
LVEF.org

Livermore Valley Opera
P.O. Box 1002
Livermore, CA 94551
925-321-6964
Livermorevalleyopera.com

Livermore Valley
Performing Arts Center
2400 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-6100
LivermoreArts.com

Monthly Miracles
5211 Demarcus Blvd
Dublin, CA 94568
Monthlymiracles.org

Movements For The Mind
MovementsForTheMind.com
movementsforthemind@gmail.com

Museum on Main
603 Main Street
Pleasanton, CA 94566
902-462-2766
Museumonmain.org

NAMI Tri-Valley
P.O. Box 5563
Pleasanton CA 94566
925-980-5331
nami-trivalley.org

Open Heart Kitchen
1141 Catalina Dr. # 137,
Livermore CA 9 4550
(mailing address only)
925-580-1616
OpenHeartKitchen.org

Pacific Chamber Orchestra
PO Box 3134
Livermore, CA 94551
925-324-2775
www.pacificchamberorchestra.org

Pacific Locomotive Assoc., Inc. Operators of Niles Canyon Railway
P.O. Box 515
Sunol, CA 94586-0515
510-996-8420
NCRY.ORG

Parkinson's Network of Mount Diablo / Tri Valley PD Support
PNMD.net
trivalley@pnmd.net

Partners for Change Tri-Valley
4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
510-773-6356
pfctv.org

Paws In Need
Info@Paws-In-Need.org
925-551-1877
Paws-In-Need.org

Pleasanton Art League
P.O. Box 23
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Pal-art.com

Pleasanton Community Concert Band
P.O. Box 135
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@pleasantonband.org
PleasantonBand.org

Quest Science Center
P.O. Box 2129
Livermore, CA 94551
925-292-8099
Quest-Science.org

Reins In Motion
Therapeutic Riding Program
P.O. Box 1001
Livermore, CA 94551
reinsinmotionca.com

Robot Garden Makerspace
700 Terminal Circle
Livermore, CA 94551
RobotGarden.org

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore
P.O. Box 2181
Livermore, CA 94551-2181
rotarianfoundationlivermore.org

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation
5890 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 104
Pleasanton, CA 94588
866-862-7270
HealingTherapiesFoundation.org

School Of Imagination & Happy Talkers
9801 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568
925-829-9555
Schoolofimagination.org

Senior Support Program of The Tri-Valley
5353 Sunol Blvd.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-931-5378
SSPTV.org

Shakespeare's Associates, dba Livermore Shakespeare Festival
P.O. Box 2616
Livermore, CA 94551
925-443-2273
LivermoreShakes.org

Shepherds Gate
1660 Portola Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-443-4283
ShepherdsGate.org

Sleep In Heavenly Peace Alameda Co.
Daniel.curtis@shpbeds.org
510-827-7033
Shpbeds.org

SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc/Meals on Wheels
2621 Barrington Ct.
Hayward, CA 94545
510-881-0300
SpectrumCS.org

Sunflower Hill
info@sunflowerhill.org
925-800-1042
SunFlowerhill.org

The Taylor Family Foundation
P.O. Box 2450
Livermore CA, 94551
925-455-5118
TTFF.org

Three Valleys Community Foundation
5960 Inglewood Drive, Suite 201
Pleasanton, CA 94588
info@3vcf.org
www.3VCF.org

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue
P.O. Box 11143
Pleasanton, CA 94588
TVAR.org

Tri-Valley Conservancy
1457 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-449-8706
Trivalleyconservnacy.org

Tri-Valley Haven
3663 Pacific Ave.
Livermore, CA 94551
925-449-5842
TriValleyHaven.org

Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance
P.O. Box 2467
Livermore, CA 94550
TVNPA.org

Tri Valley Reach
P.O. Box 5564
Pleasanton, CA 94566
TriVallyReach.Org

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre
P.O. Box 1445
Pleasanton, CA 94566
info@trivalleyrep.com
Trivalleyrep.org

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare
1111 E. Stanley Blvd.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-4560
GiveValleyCare.org

Valley Concert Chorale
P.O. Box 286
Livermore, CA 94551
Valleyconcertchorale.org

Valley Dance Theatre
2247-B Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-243-0925
Valleydancetheatre.com

Valley Humane Society
3670 Nevada St.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-426-8656
ValleyHumane.org

FREE NONPROFIT LISTING FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.
If you would like to be added please email kim@independentnews.com

PARTNER

(Continued from first page)

a focus on local artists, and a pilot sponsorship and donor program.

Les Duman of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council welcomed the Bankhead idea.

"Anything that the Bankhead can assist with us, whether it's mentoring or suggesting or just putting our brains together — I think the Bankhead, nothing personal at all, has got us beat a little bit when it comes to marketing," said Duman. "So, we can learn things."

> *"We're happy and blessed to still be here. There are theater companies, venues that are struggling all over the country, let alone in the Bay Area."*
>
> – Mark Duncanson, Recreation Supervisor

Councilmember Valerie Arkin also called the Bankhead partnership "a great opportunity for us to pursue."

During the meeting, city staff provided performance data that showed a venue in rebound off pandemic lows.

Opened in 2010, the downtown arts center preserved Pleasanton's original Firehouse Station One with a vision to "serve as a multi-use facility, providing a broad range of arts opportunities, including musical and theater performances, lectures, films, comedies, youth performances, workshops, and demonstrations," said Civic Arts Manager Rachel Prater.

The venue, however, temporarily closed and shifted to virtual programming in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the civic arts program strives to minimize its reliance on the city's general fund, "unfortunately, during the pandemic, those numbers rose due to capacity restrictions and program closures," said Prater.

The percentage of the civic arts budget supported by the general fund rose from 58% before the pandemic to 93% in 2021, according to the staff presentation. This proportion, however, dropped down to 64% in 2022. The other portion of the civic arts budget comes from revenue earned from such things as arts programming.

Similarly, citywide civic-arts participation also saw an uptick from 2021 to 2022, but the most recent count of about 8,000 participants in 2022 still fell short of the roughly 37,000 seen in 2019. The pre-pandemic numbers, explained Prater, included large-scale events, such as the IGNITE! Art and Innovation Festival, which has yet to return.

Although incomplete, staff counted themselves grateful for the recovery.

"We're happy and blessed to still be here," said Duncanson. "There are theater companies, venues that are struggling all over the country, let alone in the Bay Area."

The Firehouse will also continue to offer exhibitions at the Harrington Art Gallery, contract art classes, theater rentals and youth programs.

RAID

(Continued from first page)

valued at more than $2.14 million; 683.1 pounds of processed flower with an estimated value of nearly $1.3 million; and $46,888 in cash, police said.

Law enforcement officers also seized two firearms and one assault rifle.

According to the CDCC, cannabis use is legal in California, but individual cities and counties can prohibit cannabis businesses. Alcala explained that the City of Livermore currently prohibits all commercial cannabis activities in the city; there is a minor exception for the delivery of medicinal cannabis from licensed dispensaries located outside the city to qualified patients and caregivers within the city.



Livermore Police and state investigators this week confiscated more than $3 million of cannabis from an illegal farm. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Police Department)

REFERENDUM

(Continued from first page)

endum for the ballot, but the clerk refused to validate the signatures or take any further action. In doing so, she did not comply with her duties under the Elections Code."

Brent added, "The law is clear that when a city or county clerk processes a voter-sponsored referendum or initiative, the clerk's duties are limited to determining whether procedural requirements have been met."

"The Livermore city clerk exceeded her duties by speculating as to the validity of the referendum if enacted and refusing to follow the California Elections Code," Brent said. "The court's ruling failed to acknowledge the clerk's unlawful acts."

On the other side, Linda Mandolini, Eden Housing's president and chief executive officer, said in a statement that Eden was pleased with the ruling "after nearly two years of meritless lawsuits to stall and delay our project in downtown Livermore."

"This is another big win for affordable housing and for the 130 low-income families that are now one step closer to having a place to call home," Mandolini said. "Had it not been for Move Eden Housing and Save Livermore Downtown's actions, we would already be welcoming them to their new homes this year."

In his ruling, Markman said he based his decision on California case law that "holds that a referendum that attacks an administrative act, rather than a legislative act, is inappropriate and subject to challenge even before it is approved for an upcoming ballot."

"The referendum in this case would reverse only an administrative act, and so was properly rejected for further time-consuming processing," Markman said.

Livermore City Attorney Jason Alcala said the judge confirmed that Weber acted appropriately.

"The decision is a candid rebuke of Move Eden Housing's petition and actions," Alcala said.

Markman's ruling follows an appellate court decision against Save Livermore Downtown's (SLD) lawsuit that would have compelled the city to require further environmental review for Eden Housing's project and to follow certain city design standards that in SLD's view were mandatory. The Eden Housing project is planned for the former Lucky site between L Street, Railroad Avenue, the extension of K Street and Veterans Way. MEH — along with SLD, a community group with a few of the same members — says it is in favor of affordable housing but prefers that the Eden project move across Railroad Avenue on the north or to another location. It believes that a visionary park rather than any housing should be located in the very heart of the downtown.

In December, a three justice panel at the California 1st District Court of Appeal voted unanimously to uphold Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch's March ruling against SLD's lawsuit. On Jan. 12, SLD filed a request to have the justices rehear their arguments and is awaiting a decision.

In the referendum litigation, MEH attorney Winston Stromberg — who also represented SLD — argued in November that a city's failure to process a citizen petition drive for a vote violated its residents' Constitutional right to free speech, and that the city clerk had a ministerial and mandatory duty to validate petition signatures and place the issue on the ballot. Stromberg said it was the citizens' right to collect signatures and have them processed for a vote.

"It's entirely appropriate for the city council to set this for a special election," Stromberg told the court. "The burden should not be on a proponent of a referendum to compel the city to take action and comply with the Elections Code." MEH argued that if the city believed the subject of the referendum was not proper, it had the burden to go to court to resolve this issue prior to any election, not the referendum proponent.

MEH's attorneys also argued that the city's decision to contribute millions of dollars to Eden for the housing construction "bears all the hallmarks of legislative action," not an administrative act.

Livermore's attorney, Steven Nguy, however, argued that Weber's decision was consistent with a 1st District Court of Appeal ruling in a similar 2017 case in San Bruno. In that case, a panel of justices ruled against proponents of a petition drive to stop a hotel development, saying San Bruno's city attorney was correct when he denied a ballot referendum because the city's resolution to sell land for the project was not a legislative act and, therefore, not subject to a public vote.

Markman said he followed that case law in making his Eden ruling.

"This case is substantially similar to San Bruno," Markman said. "It concerns the same sort of jurisdictional question — whether a referendum is permitted at all under California law to address an administrative act."

Markman, deciding the answer was 'no,' said San Bruno's decision to sell the land was administrative because the legislative vote to build the hotel had occurred seven years earlier. He said, in Livermore, the city's intention to sell land to Eden dated back to a legislative decision to build affordable housing in 2009.

"Given the similarity to the San Bruno case, the court cannot grant petitioners writ of mandate," Markman said. "The proposed referendum seeks to overturn an administrative act, making it something a referendum cannot constitutionally address."

Markman also rejected MEH's contention that the Weber's decision disregarded the will of the voters by not placing the Eden Housing project on a ballot.

Livermore residents, Markman said, had the opportunity to vote for mayor and two city council members on the November ballot and "can continue to hold the council accountable for the project in future elections."

Mandolini said Eden Housing was grateful to the City of Livermore for its "steadfast support and commitment to this project."

"We hope the multiple recent legal wins will cause others to think twice before intentionally trying to delay much-needed affordable housing projects throughout the greater Bay Area and California," Mandolini said.

In contrast, Brent stated that MEH disagreed with Markman's conclusion that the city's resolution was an administrative act and not subject to a referendum. The court, she said, was in error when it relied on the Court of Appeal's decision in the San Bruno case.

"The San Bruno court decision did not address at all the clerk's ministerial duties to process a referendum, and so the Alameda Superior Court erred in reading the scope of that decision to apply to MEH's proposed referendum in Livermore," Brent said. "And unlike in the San Bruno decision, here the City of Livermore did not engage in a typical property sale at market rate negotiated between a buyer and seller. Instead, the City is subsidizing Eden Housing's $7.8 million acquisition of Lucky site property with a 55-year low-interest loan, spending $5.5 million to finance the project's public park, which Eden itself was supposed to provide, and agreeing to spend up to $4.3 million to address pre-existing contamination on the property."

Brent said MEH believes it was inappropriate for the court to find that the clerk did not thwart the will of the voters because Livermore residents had an opportunity to vote for new city council members and a mayor in the November 2022 election.

She justified her conclusion by saying, "The election of individual council members and a mayor is unrelated to the referendum, which is based on an entirely separate fundamental right reserved to the voters under the California Constitution."

She also noted that construction of Eden Housing will not go forward until the L Street Garage is built across Veterans Way on the south side of the proposed residential development. It is needed to replace parking now located on the current Eden site. In addition to the 4-level garage, 16 wells have to be built on the garage land by the city's garage contractors to address contamination on the L Street Garage and Eden sites.

According to Brent, "The opening of the L Street Garage is well over a year away. Citizens would have time to express their support for a better plan."

She concluded, "In light of the court's decision, which we believe was wrongly decided, MEH will continue to assess our options for best ensuring that the voices of thousands of Livermore voters who petitioned for a citywide vote are not ignored."

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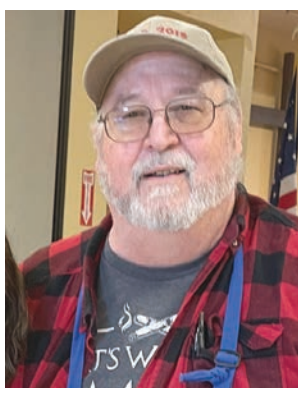
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MLK

(Continued from first page)

a coach for Little League baseball, Pop Warner football and youth soccer. He was named Citizen of the Year in 2009 by the City of Dublin. Troiano has been an active member of St. Raymond Catholic Church and a member and president of the Diocese of Oakland Pastoral Council.

"I'm usually not at a loss for words," said Forbes. "(But) when I was told I had been chosen for this honor I thought, "Wow." It was so overwhelming. I love what I do and enjoy helping people. I need to thank God for the gifts he gave me and that he showed me how to use them."



Matt Troiano



Ronnie Forbes



Kelly O'Lague

Ronnie Forbes, founder of One Nation Dream Makers, a food pantry in Livermore and President of the Livermore VFW.

Forbes joined the military in 1984 and served in Korea for three years. After being discharged by the Army, he suffered from PTSD, which led him to leave his wife, children, and support network, and to live on the streets. He was driven to self-medicate with drugs and alcohol. Living homeless in Oakland and Hayward, he found himself in and out of jail multiple times.

During his last stint in jail at Santa Rita, Forbes said God gave him a grace-filled moment of intense clarity. He went back to the places where he'd been homeless and started delivering food where he'd once stood in line for a meal himself.

Motivated by his experience of homelessness and having stood in those same lines where he was now delivering food, Forbes felt called to do even more. He organized One Nation Dream Makers, so that others could use their skills in service to their communities - mitigating food insecurity and helping those most in need.

During the height of the COVID-19 Pandemic, One Nation Dream Makers hit a record of 1,700 boxes of food delivered each week. Each one of these boxes feeds a family of four for a week, thereby allowing the organization to feed over 6,800 people during the height of the pandemic.

"You know I received a phone call that I was a recipient of the award. I had no idea it would be like this," said Forbes. "I want to say this, and I'll be short and sweet. You know it takes a village, and at every table here I am looking at someone who is finding the need and filling it … In all of the endeavors I go through, I just thank God every day that, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I am free at last, free at last. Thank God almighty, I am free at last."

Kelly O'Lague, formerly CEO of Hively, the YMCA and President of the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative.

When serving as the Executive Director of the Tri-Valley YMCA, she was promoted to Vice President of Youth Development for the YMCA of the East Bay.

O'Lague later helped establish the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative and served as a founding board member and later president. She was committed to helping children thrive. She was inspired by the work begun by long-time community leader, Juanita Haugen, to support and implement good character traits in every aspect of community life. In 2018, O'Lague was named CEO at Child Care Links, which she helped grow and expand. Eventually, it was re-branded into the organization named Hively. Hively later opened a family resource center, a free store for local families in need, where they could access necessary services, as well as get diapers, food, clothes and shoes, and necessary household goods and furnishings. Hively was recognized by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan as 2020 California Nonprofit of the Year.

While at the YMCA, she worked with former Dublin City Mayor Guy Houston to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through an annual fellowship breakfast. The event has become a tradition in the Tri-Valley, gathering elected officials, community leaders, philanthropists and business leaders who honor Dr. King's legacy each January.

O'Lague recently accepted a position as the President and CEO of the United Way of the Columbia-Willamette in Portland, Oregon. She is keeping her residence in Pleasanton and plans to continue to divide her time between the two communities.

"So many of you are worthy of this award and it is so humbling to stand here," O'Lague stated. "I really, really appreciate this award. It has been an absolute joy and privilege to serve this community."

Past recipients include Liz Buckley, Lynette Butsuda, John Chen, Children's Emergency Food Bank, Mish Denlinger, Roy Dronkers, Mark Duncanson, East Bay Volleyball Academy, Dale Eldridge, Nancy Feeley, June Fremer, Ruth Gasten, Gloria Gregory, Jim Hansen, Mirassou Jeffery, Ivery Johnson, Kay Ann King, Las Positas College Campus Change Network, Sandra Lepley, Kit Little, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Child Welfare and Attendance Specialists, Johanna Livingston, Janet Lockhart, Denel McMahan, Nate Miley, Lisa McNaney, Mony Nop, James Paxson, Danielle Pennewell Pleasanton Unified School District SEED Project, Gary Reznick, ROSS Stores, Inc., John Sensiba, Joan Seppala, Bob Shapiro, Vanessa Sinclair, Brenda Montgomery-Telfor, Toys for Tots – LPFD and ACFD Tri-Valley Haven, Sharon White Workday Foundation and Kathy Young.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Thursday, Feb. 23
CACTUS CORNERS SQUARE DANCING LESSONS
Cactus Corners, a nonprofit, is offering free square-dancing lessons to new dancers. Anyone age 8 and up is invited to this great activity for the entire family. Meetings take place on Thursday, Jan. 12, 19, and 26, and Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at 2253 5th Street, in Livermore, between south J and south I streets. This is at 5th Street School (now Del Valle Continuation High School). For more information or to be placed on the class notification list, email Margaret at mmiller1435@ gmail.com or call 925-447-6980.

Thursday, Jan. 26
LIVERMORE COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE
Join 16th District Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and staff for a casual conversation to share thoughts on legislation and other community issues. Staff will also be on hand to provide resources and assistance with state agencies. The event will take in Livermore, from 4 to 5 p.m. Exact location details will be sent to the RSVP list on Jan. 23. To RSVP, visit bit.ly/3iYKAyA.

Friday, Jan. 27
LIVERMORE AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER
The Livermore American Indian Center will host an open house on Friday, Jan. 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. The center is a resource center for K-12 students of Native American heritage. For these students and families, the organization provides tutoring or counseling if needed; helps Native high school students apply for college and scholarships; hosts after-school events with Native guest speakers and storytellers; and provides a safe space to learn about Native American traditions. The open house will be held at Lawrence Elementary School, 2451 Portola Ave., in Livermore. For more information, call 925-960-2923, extension 7225.

Sunday, Jan. 29
ST. MICHAEL'S OPEN HOUSE
Starting with Family Mass at 9:30 a.m. Livermore's St. Michael Church will host open house tours. Tours start at 10:45 and 11:30 a.m. Check-in is located at the welcome booth on the corner of 4th and Maple. Attendees can take a tour of the school and meet the principal and current school parents. For more information or to RSVP, visit smsliv.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 31
BRIGHT FUTURES FOR WOMEN CAREER SERIES
AAUW-Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin presents three Zoom sessions featuring a panel of professional women sharing their career experiences, from 7 to 8 p.m. The first of three sessions, it will feature Estelle Reyes, the vice president of Los Angeles CleanTech Incubator; Lynda Tesillo, a mechanical engineer with LLNL; and Sarah Palmer of the Zone 7 Water Board. To register, visit bit.ly/BrightFutures1. The cost is $5 per session. For more information or to request a fee waiver, email girlprograms@aauw-lpd.org.

Saturday, Feb. 4
CRAB SEASON: CLAWS FOR A CAUSE
The Assistance League of Amador Valley's second annual crab feast will take place at the Pleasanton Senior Center. The feast will raise funds for Tri-Valley Haven; schools participating in back-to-school shopping; and birthday bags for children in shelters and foster care. The event will include gift baskets, desserts, and dancing. Tickets are available at bit.ly/3kjwlzo until Jan. 20.

Sunday. Feb. 5
TU B'SHVAT SEDER AND POTLUCK
Celebrate the birthday of the trees at Tu B'shvat Seder and Potluck, at 10:30 a.m., at Creekside Park, in Pleasanton, for nature crafts and schmoozing. Please bring a dish to share. Masks are optional outdoors when social distancing is possible. The event is free to members, and $15 per non-member adult if you are able.Tri-Valley Cultural Jews is a secular humanistic community serving those who identify with the Jewish people through family, culture, and history, rather than through religion. For more information, email culturaljews@gmail.com, call 925-399-8029 or visit trivalleyculturaljews.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 8
BRIGHT FUTURES FOR WOMEN CAREER SERIES
AAUW-Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin presents three Zoom sessions featuring a panel of professional women sharing their career experiences, from 7 to 8 p.m. The second of three sessions, it will feature Carolyn Hall, an institutional biosafety officer at LLNL; Mekena Metcalf, a quantum computing scientist; and Anusha Iyengar, a PhD researcher of molecular biology. To register, visit bit.ly/BrightFutures2. The cost is $5 per session. For more information or to request a fee waiver, email girlprograms@aauw-lpd.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 8
INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT
All are welcome to join at 5 p.m. for this month's Religion Chat topic: How does your religion adapt itself to reflect changing times? Speakers will be Rev. Sangye Hawke of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore; and Rev. Kwame Assenyoh of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore. Optional breakout discussion groups will take place from 6 to 6:30 p.m., via Zoom at bit.ly/3XONWTx. The Zoom room opens at 4:45 p.m. Religion Chat is a free, interfaith forum presented by Interfaith Interconnect on the second Wednesday of most months. For more information, visit interfaith.interconnect@ gmail.com or facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect.

Thursday, Feb. 9 to Sunday, Feb. 12
PLEASANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY'S SUPERBOOK WEEKEND: BOOK AND MEDIA SALE
Over the Superbowl weekend, the Pleasanton Public Library will host the Superbook Weekend: Book and Media Sale, at 400 Old Bernal Avenue. The event will feature books for all ages, DVDs, and CDs — all in nearly new condition; and a 10% discount on book sale purchases, except for Sunday's bag sale, at which bags of books will be only $7. New memberships and renewals are encouraged. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own boxes and bags. Payment options include cash, credit, or debit card. The event runs Thursday, from 2 to 7 p.m.; Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org.

Saturday, Feb. 11
LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA PRESENTS THE ITALIAN AFFAIR
Be transported into an Italian dream for one night of glamour, fun, and drama at Livermore Valley Opera's The Italian Affair. The event will feature music and entertainment at Pleasanton's beautiful Club at Ruby Hill, located at 2400 Ruby Hill Drive, in Pleasanton. This magical evening begins with a sparkling wine reception, tasty hors d'oeuvres, games of chance and a musical concert featuring the three principal artists of Tosca. Purple and gold attire is encouraged for the glamorous night with black tie as optional. The event takes place from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are available at lvopera.com with a selection of reserved table seating options, such as Dine with a Diva or Divo. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Feb. 10.

Monday, Feb. 13
LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS SARA COCHRAN
From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sara Cochran will present "Shaky Leaf Syndrome: Using Website Generated Hints More Effectively," Learn how to use indexing, optical character recognition, and computer algorithms to make finding obscure records easier than ever. Cochran is a full-time professional genealogist with more than 28 years of research experience and holds a Boston University genealogical research certificate and a bachelor's degree in library science. The presentation is free. To register, visit bit.ly/3H3fON6. For more information, email program@L-AGS.org.

Thursday, Feb. 16
BRIGHT FUTURES FOR WOMEN CAREER SERIES
AAUW-Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin presents three Zoom sessions featuring a panel of professional women sharing their career experiences, from 7 to 8 p.m. The third of three sessions, it will feature Jessica Blois, a paleoecologist and associate professor at UC-Merced; Marylou Manzo, a mechanical technologist at LLNL; and Kyndra Cleveland, a developmental psychologist and lawyer. To register, visit bit.ly/BrightFutures3. The cost is $5 per session. For more information or to request a fee waiver, email girlprograms@aauw-lpd.org.

Saturday, Feb. 18
BINGO BASH
Bingo Bash is back at Pleasanton's St. Augustine's Catholic Church,3999 Bernal Ave. Doors open at 6 p.m., and games start at 6:30 p.m. The price is $10 per card, and pizza, snacks and beverages will be available. Seating is first come, first served. Prizes and raffles will be awarded. For more information, call 925-519-0435.

Saturday, Feb. 18
DANIEL GLOVER PERFORMS TO BENEFIT VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE
Experience a special musical event when concert pianist Daniel Glover performs musical selections of Rachmaninoff in celebration of his 150th birthday. Then concert takes place at 7:30 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, located at 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased in advance at valleyconcertchorale.org. Proceeds from the performance will benefit the Valley Concert Chorale. For more information, visit valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003.

Saturday, Feb. 18
TRI-VALLEY WRITERS PRESENTS BETSY GRAZIANI FASBINDE
Betsy Graziani Fasbinder will present "How to Be the Best Ambassador for Your Book: Pitfalls to Avoid, Practices that Pay Off" at the Tri-Valley Writers February meeting. Betsy is a communications trainer and licensed psychotherapist. The meeting will take place at 2 p.m., at Las Positas College, room 2470, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 for CWC adult members; $12 for nonmembers; $5 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and $8 for student nonmembers. To RSVP and pay, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Thursday, Feb. 16, and register at bit.ly/3CpD0UC.

Friday, March 10
TRINITY CONCERT SERIES: PATRICK BALL — THE CELTIC HARP
Trinity Lutheran Church will host the Trinity Concert Series: Patrick Ball — The Celtic Harp, at 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton, at 7 p.m. The Celtic harp has a broken and troubled 1,000-year tradition, which Patrick Ball now revives in the 21st century, reviving the ancient art of minstrelsy and storytelling. Ball is considered one of the premier Celtic harpers and storytellers in the world today and has recorded nine instrumental and five spoken word albums. The TLC Concert Series is free, but contributions are welcome at a suggested $20 for general admission, $5 for students, and free for those 12 and under. Concerts are in the sanctuary, and no one will be turned away. The venue is also accessible via the Dublin / Pleasanton BART and bus connection. Parking is accessible off Golden Road via Hopyard Road, or from Del Valle Parkway. For more information, visit patrickball.com.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
TOPSCIENCE
TOPScience is a group that partners with elementary school science teachers to enhance learning for both students and teachers. It is an opportunity to pass on skills and knowledge while having fun and contributing to schools in Livermore. For more information or to volunteer, contact Art Krakowsky at artkr@sbcglobal. net or 925-455-0486.

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

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

OBITUARIES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Doris Marie Lennon
Dec. 10, 1931 – Jan. 19, 2023



Mrs. Doris Marie Lennon passed away peacefully on Jan. 19, 2023.

Doris was born, the second child and only daughter, to James and Gertrude Lynch on Dec. 10, 1931, in Teaneck, New Jersey. She grew up in Teaneck and attended St. Cecilia's Catholic High School, where she met the love of her life, Joseph Lennon. Doris and Joseph were married June 5, 1954. They went on to have five children and over 68 years of marriage. The Lennons lived in Arizona, Washington and Santa Maria before settling in Livermore, California in 1964.

Doris earned her Associate of Arts degree from Chabot Community College and was an elementary school librarian in Livermore for many years.

Doris will be remembered for her love of gardening and tending to her rose garden; for her love of travel with Joe, friends, family, and solo trips with every grandchild; for being a football-baseball-soccer-swimming mom and longtime Granada High School Booster. She loved watching hockey.

She was a long-time and founding member of Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Community, where she volunteered in many ways over the years. Doris loved baking and reading. Her grandchildren will fondly remember story time, an abundance of chocolate chip cookies, trips to Loard's, and joining Grandma in making her famous parfaits.

Doris is survived by her husband, Joseph; her brother, Kenneth Lynch; her children Tom (Susan) Lennon, Kevin (Patty) Lennon, James (Julia) Lennon, and Maureen (Mark) Judd; eleven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. She will join her youngest son, Gregory John and her brother Donald Lynch.

A celebration of life and Mass for Doris will take place Friday, Feb. 3, 2023, at 11 a.m., at St. Charles Borromeo in Livermore with a reception immediately following. A family graveside service will be held Feb. 4. Donations in Doris's name may be made to Livermore Public Library or St. Charles.

Judith M. Williams
Nov. 15, 1942 – Jan. 4, 2023



Judy (Weisenberger) Williams, 80, passed away peacefully in Pleasanton with her husband of 59 years at her side. Throughout her life she consistently displayed kindness, humor and gratitude – all with a smile.

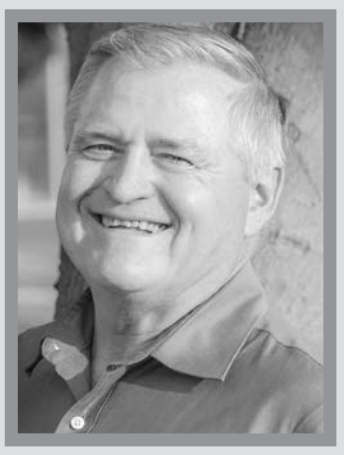
The second daughter born to Glenn and Gladys in St. Louis, Missouri., the family moved to Oakland when she was five and later to Modesto, where Judy graduated from Thomas Downey High School. After moving with her parents to Hayward, working in the Sears credit department, she met and later married George. They settled in the Tri-Valley, where she was a stay-at-home mother until her children were older, and then she later worked in retail.

Judy is survived by her husband, George; daughter, Joy (Berberich) and husband Steve of Pleasanton; son, Scott of Truckee; son, Pete and wife Kim of Camas, Washington; sister, Glenda Allard of Westley; along with other beloved family members. She leaves behind three grandchildren, Wes and Shelby Williams and Grace Berberich.

A Memorial Service will be held at Grace Way Church in Pleasanton on Jan. 28, 2023, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in her name to your favorite charity.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Gary Lee Cantrell
May 29,1948 – Jan. 6, 2023



Gary Lee Cantrell was born on May 29,1948 in Albany, California to James Arthur Cantrell and Anna Aileen Cantrell. He has one older brother, James Robert Cantrell, with whom he shared a birthday. They grew up in Richmond, California.

Gary served in the Army with two tours in Vietnam. On his second tour he was assigned explosive ordinance disposal instead of refrigeration repair.

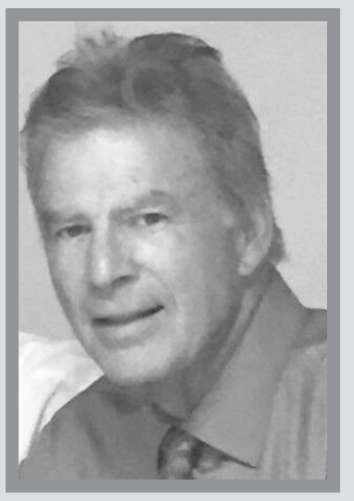
Gary was married to Nancy, the love of his life for 52 years and lived in Dublin for 46 years. He is survived by his son Casey Lee Cantrell, daughter-in-law Bethany Cantrell, daughter Heidi Allen (who was born on his birthday), son-in-law John Allen, and six grandchildren: Gabriel, Abigail, Sophia, Leticia, Camelia and Alice Rose.

For much of his career, Gary worked as a ceramic tile journeyman and later as instructor for the Tile Layers Union, then as a pest control specialist. He loved to fish, read, bake, garden, spend time with his family, sing and serve others, and worship Jesus Christ, his Savior.

Gary was diagnosed with cardiac amyloidosis in 2018 leading to many hospital stays, medical procedures, and was given two weeks to six months to live in April of 2020. However, our gracious Lord had other plans and allowed him to be on hospice at home for a year and a half, then live another year and a half at the VA Community Living Center in Livermore under the loving care of their wonderful staff. He went to be with the Lord on Friday, Jan. 6, 2023. A celebration of life service will be held at Valley Community Church 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton, on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, at 11 a.m.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Robert (Bob) Maguire
Dec. 25, 1942 – Jan. 3, 2023



Bob Maguire passed away peacefully on Jan. 3, 2023, after celebrating his 80th birthday on Christmas Day. His passing was unexpected as he worked his way through the many trials of dementia, constantly figuring out ways to "make himself better."

He is survived by his wife Linda, son Ryan, daughters Elayne Dimmitt and Elisabeth Heiner (stepdaughter), grandchildren Raven and Rena Maguire, Daniella and Darshana Dimmitt and Benjamin Heiner, and great-grandson Cody Dimmitt, along with family and myriad friends he collected and kept close, starting at age 5.

A wonderfully delightful, humorous, bigger-than-life husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, Bob was born in Santa Monica, California on Dec.25, 1942, to Gerald and Peggy Maguire. One of five children – Janet, Bob, Jimmy, Maggie and Karen - the first years of Bobby's life were spent in California, Texas, Virginia, and Missouri before moving to Olympia, Washington where his dad's military career continued.

Bob attended St. Michael's Catholic School, Washington Junior High and Olympia High School where he graduated in 1961. He earned an AA degree from Laney College (Oakland, California) in 1970 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in business management from St. Mary's College (Moraga, California) in 1994. He worked for New York Life Insurance in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 50 years, maintaining his own office in Livermore, California.

He served as president of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce in 1987 and recruited over 100 new members in one year as Membership Coordinator. He was also president of the Livermore Rotary Club (1996-1997). In addition to the above, Bob volunteered for many other community events, recruiting Rotary Club members and friends to help with a Boys' Club at Linda's elementary school, finding volunteers to deliver food baskets to families during the holidays, supporting the Big Brothers program, and saying 'yes' to anyone in need.

His passion for sports was apparent early on, from basketball and track and field in high school to basketball and football pick-up leagues in college. He developed a lifelong love of golf and tennis which he enjoyed immensely.

One of his proudest achievements was the 1994 purchase he and Linda made of The Frank A. Bartlett House (1883), a National Register of Historic Places that became a gathering place for friends and family and community fundraising events.

Bobby truly did collect family and friends his entire life, and never met a stranger. In notifying folks of his passing, he was described as "my best friend" over and over by those who will miss him greatly.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Feb. 11 at 11a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Port Townsend, with a reception following the service.

In remembrance of Bob, donations may be sent to the Swan School Scholarship Fund in memory of "Boppa", 2345 Kuhn St., Port Townsend, 98368.

Most importantly – please do something unexpected and kind in his memory.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Beverly (Smith) Lundell
Dec. 1, 1930 – Jan. 9, 2023



On the evening of Jan. 9, 2023, Beverly (Smith) Lundell of Livermore died at the age of 92. Born to Elmer and Nettie Lee Jernigan in Little Rock, Arkansas. The family moved to Oakland, California in 1938. After graduating from Oakland Tech, she and her high school sweetheart Darrell Smith, eloped. Together they had five children: Deborah Barbone, Teri Mello, Dave Smith, Liz Oettinger and Chris Lundell. Years later, Bev married Bud Lundell and helped to raise his three children; Ed Lundell, Judy Tanna and Lisa Lundell.

She was blessed with 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bev always said she had a gypsy soul and lived an exciting life. Spending most of her childhood in Oakland, California she shared memories of attending the World's Fair on Treasure Island, riding her bike around Oakland and Berkeley, and attending the movies with her brother, Homer Jernigan.

Darrell and Bev operated the Rock House Restaurant in Livermore during the early sixties until divorce struck in 1964. Later Bev married Bud Lundell from Piedmont, California. The family of five children grew to eight. Living on Monticello Avenue, the house was always full of family and friends.

In the early 1980's, Bev transitioned from homemaker to a career. She earned her degree in psychology from Mills College, followed by training under world-renowned PhD Hypnotherapists Helen Womback and Frieda Morris of Berkeley, California. Together they traveled throughout India and Europe teaching past-life regression hypnosis.

Having an adventurous spirit, Bev moved often, living in Piedmont, Berkeley, Oakland, Santa Cruz, Sunol, Pleasanton and Sonora, coming full circle back to Livermore to live out her final years being cared for by her children and a team of outstanding caregivers.

Bev's legacy is passed on through her children whom she taught to look for the best in people, be honest, work hard, follow your own path, and always give generously. Her friends were deeply loved and felt blessed to have her in their lives.

Loving, snarky and fierce at times, Bev always joked and laughed to lighten any heaviness. She loved wild birds, grew beautiful gardens, dabbled in photography, doted on her dogs and cats, was an avid reader and loved art.

Bev is dearly missed and lives on in our hearts. Look for her in the Silver Linings…

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, at 11 a.m., in Memory Gardens Cemetery, 3873 East Ave., Livermore, California.

The reception of life celebration immediately follows at the Hilton Garden Inn, Livermore, California.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests tax deductible donations be made to The Center for Re-Connecting with Nature, https//www.thecrwn.org.

ALTAMONT

(Continued from first page)

vide consulting services in support of its mandate to preserve native biological diversity and wildlife habitat, will provide a letter of support for RCD's grant application.

The committee voted unanimously, with Chair Shawn Wilson absent and Pleasanton Councilmember Valerie Arkin standing in for Pleasanton Councilmember Jeff Nibert, to draft and send the letter.

The offices of Alameda County supervisors Nate Miley and David Haubert have already sent their letters of support, said Boxer.

Shilling said that ongoing monitoring projects throughout the Tri-Valley, conducted by RCD at the request of ALOSC, will help improve the district's case for the funding.

"One of the most important parts of (those projects) has been recent demonstration of where species are occurring and also where they're not occurring next to the highway," he continued. "That's really critical, because it's hard to justify (to) the state to build multi-million dollar crossing structures without knowing what's going on at the highway in terms of wildlife movement and wildlife occurrence."

While WCB prioritizes projects that reduce animal-highway fatalities, increased wildlife connectivity also serves to maintain healthy genetic diversity in the area.

Douglas Bell, wildlife program manager with the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD), explained to The Independent how increased development in the Bay Area has risked wildlife isolation and hampered genetic flow, surrounding natural areas with human development which animals are reluctant to cross.

Wildlife crossings that provide safe and relatively inviting passage across highways therefore allow animals to combine adjacent natural areas to form larger spaces and interact with more individuals. EBRPD, independently of RCD, also keeps connectivity in mind when evaluating land acquisitions.

"One of our ideas has been to hook up as many park units to make it make sense," said Bell.

After securing funding, RCD will next pinpoint crossing locations and conduct feasibility studies prior to project kickoff.





The Foothill Falcons Varsity Boys' soccer team hosted Pleasanton crosstown rivals the Amador Valley Dons on Saturday, Jan. 21. Amador won 2-1. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]* (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Granada Girls Bball Win Against American High

By Nathan Canilao

The Granada High School girls' basketball team defeated American High School 53-49 at home on Jan. 19. The Matadors improved to 12-6 on the season with the win.

The game was neck and neck in the first quarter, but the Matadors started to make a run in the second quarter. At halftime, the Matadors led 26-18.

American made a run in the third, outscoring the Matadors 15-11. Going into the fourth quarter, the Eagles were only down four and had some momentum.

The Matadors locked down the defensive end in the fourth quarter and didn't let the Eagles pull away. Their offense helped Granada cruise to a four point victory.

Granada shot 36% from the floor and 36% from the 3-point line which jolted their offense over American. Defensively, they forced 12 steals and held American to just 31% from the field.

The Matadors will face San Ramon Valley High School next on Jan. 26 at home.

Cowboys Continue to Struggle in League Play

By Nathan Canilao

The Livermore Cowboys High School boys' basketball team lost their road matchup against Dougherty Valley High School 89-41 on Jan. 19. The Cowboys have yet to win a league game this season.

The Wildcats won this game very early on. After the first quarter, Livermore was down 34-8 and could not find a way to stop Dougherty Valley from scoring.

At halftime, the Wildcats led 58-15.

The early lead proved to be too much for the Cowboys as they were boat raced in the third quarter. The Wildcats offense remained hot and Livermore had no answer for the lights out shooting of Dougherty Valley.

The Wildcats defense was on point as they recorded 15 steals and held the Cowboys to 28% shooting from the field and 12% shooting from beyond the arc.

Offensively, Dougherty Valley had 21 assists and shot 46% from the floor.

Livermore remains winless in league play and dropped to 9-13 on the season. They will face California High School on Jan. 26.

Granada Students Inducted into Honor Society

More than 140 students at Granada High School were recently inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS).

The NHS is open to 10th-through 12th-grade students who post a cumulative 3.7 grade point average or better for the prior school year. Selection is also based on teacher recommendations, community and school involvement, and leadership experience. NHS members must reapply for membership in their local chapter every fall.

Granada High School teacher Heidi McMichael, who serves as advisor to the Granada chapter, said NHS members also learn to serve as role models in the community and become involved in local activities.

SCHOLARS

(Continued from first page)

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by executive order of the president to recognize some of the nation's most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments in many areas: academic success, leadership and service to school and community. The program expanded in 1979 to recognize students demonstrating exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. In 2015, it began to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields. Annually, up to 161 U.S. Presidential Scholars are chosen from among that year's senior class.

A panel of educators will review the submissions and select approximately 600 semifinalists in early April. The Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of up to 32 eminent citizens appointed by the president, will select the finalists. The U.S. Department of Education will announce the Scholars in May.

U.S. Presidential Scholars are honored for their accomplishments during the National Recognition Program each June. To commemorate their achievement, the Scholars are awarded the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

For more information about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, parents and students can email the U.S. Presidential Scholars Office at PSP@scholarshipamerica.org or call 507-931-8345.

Dublin High Bballers Lose to De La Salle

By Nathan Canilao

The Dublin High School boys basketball team lost their matchup to De La Salle 58-56 on Jan. 20. The Gaels suffered their first league loss and dropped to 14-7 on the season.

The Gaels got put in a hole early as the Spartans jumped out to a 19-9 lead in the first quarter. Dublin made up some ground in the second, but trailed 36-27 at halftime.

A strong second half push got the Gaels within striking distance in the fourth quarter, but it was too late as the Spartans' defense held Dublin towards the end of the game to close out Dublin at home.

The Spartans have now beated the Gaels in back-to-back years with Dublin's last win coming in the COVID-19 shortened 2021 season. The loss also snapped Dublin's four game winning streak.

The Gaels will go on the road next to face Amador Valley High School on Jan. 26.

Amador Girls Soccer Team Beats San Ramon

By Nathan Canilao

The Amador Valley girls' soccer team defeated San Ramon Valley High School 3-1 on Jan. 19 at home. The Dons moved to 3-2-1 with the win.

The Dons started the scoring with a goal in the 1st half of play. Their defense held San Ramon without a goal in the first half and went into halftime with a lead.

The Wolves started to make a run in the second half as they scored one goal to make the game competitive. The Dons would answer with two of their own and held onto their lead.

The Dons were able to find open spaces in the box to get clean looks and finish the game on a high note. Their defense propelled them to a big victory at home.

Amador gets their second league victory with the win. They will face Dougherty Valley High School on the road on Jan. 26.



Foothill High School's Maddy Rice, shoots for 2-points during the game against Dublin High School on Thursday, Jan 19. Foothill won in close game 54 to 53. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]* (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

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SUMMONS

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. 24405 Amador St., Hayward, 94544 Hayward Hall of Justice. Robert Sassen has exhausted all options and attempts to find his wife Danyelle Allen. He would like to get divorced. Danyelle Allen abandoned Robert Sassen on 10/15/2013. The court finds that Danyelle Allen cannot be served in any other manner specified in the California Code of Civil Procedure. Danyelle Allen, you are being sued. You have 30 calendar days after this summons and petition are served on you to file a response at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance, will not protect you. If you do not file your response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support in attorney fees and costs. For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California courts online self-help center.
The Independent, Legal No. 5347. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594365

The following person(s) doing business as: Smile More Dental Care, 1046 Murrieta Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sharma Dental Group, 2655 Henley Parkway #7312, Tracy, CA 95377. 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/: Ashu Sharma, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 28, 2022. Expires December 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5348. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594364

The following person(s) doing business as: PolishedCrete, 5637 La Ribera Street Ste B, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bay Area Concretes Inc., 5637 La Ribera StreetSte B, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 11/1/12. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ryan T.Chance, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 28, 2022. Expires December 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5349. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593893

The following person(s) doing business as: Robles Construction, 565 Empire St., San Lorenzo, CA 94580, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ma Del Carmen Robles Vazquez, 565 Empire St., San Lorenzo, CA 94580. 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: 12/1/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ma Del Carmen Robles, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 9, 2022. Expires December 8, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5350. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593965

The following person(s) doing business as: The Happy Broom, 2895 Carmen Ave # 105, Livermore, CA 94550-3166, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria D. Alfaro Ramirez, 2895 Carmen Ave #105, Livermore, CA 94550-3166. 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: 4/12/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maria D. Alfaro Ramirez, Sole Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 15, 2022. Expires December 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5352. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594000

The following person(s) doing business as: Makison, Inc., 7335 Lamar Loop, Castro Valley, CA 94552, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Makison, Inc., 7335 Lamar Loop, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/22. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hui Bao, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 15, 2022. Expires December 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5353. Published January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ARLEAN CLEO BAER Case No. RP22135011

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of **ARLEAN CLEO BAER**.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **KENNETH BRYCE BAER** and **ADAM WADE BAER**, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition for probate requests that **KENNETH BRYCE BAER** and **ADAM WADE BAER** be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representatives to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representatives will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
February 8, 2023,
at 9:45 a.m.
in Department 201
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representatives appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioners: KENNETH BRYCE BAER and ADAM WADE BAER
Attorney for Petitioners:
Steven L. Shahbazian
7600 N. Ingram Ave., Ste. 131
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 241-7000
The Independent, Legal No. 5354. Published January 12, 19, 26, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593994

The following person(s) doing business as: PLLHB Inc., 5003 Crystal Ridge CT, Oakland, CA 94605, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): PLLHB Inc., 5003 Crystal Ridge CT, Oakland, CA 94605. 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/: Preston Lew, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 15, 2022. Expires December 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5355. Published January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 593995

The following person(s) doing business as: Makon Construction, Inc., 4343 E Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley, CA 94552, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Makon Construction Inc., 4343 E Castro Valley, CA 94552. 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/: Henry Mak, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 15, 2022. Expires December 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5356. Published January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594378

The following person(s) doing business as: eWOW, 5871 Dresslar Circle, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rashim Mogha, 5871 Dresslar Cir, Livermore, CA 94550; Shweta Mogha, 5871 Dresslar Circle, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by Co-Partners. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/14/2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rasmim Mogha, Founder/CEO/General Parnter. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 28, 2022. Expires December 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5357. Published January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594460

The following person(s) doing business as: Optimal, 1111 Broadway, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): DSPolitical LLC, 1111 Broadway, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607. 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: 6/15/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Michael Bassik, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 30, 2022. Expires December 29, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5358. Published January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594310

The following person(s) doing business as: Bobby G's Pizzeria, 2072 University Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): JDyal Industries, Inc. 5660 Mount Day Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jagandeep S. Dyal, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 23, 2022. Expires December 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5359. Published January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594300

The following person(s) doing business as: Iron Horse Buitique, 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Starkey Holdings Inc., 305 Borica Dr., Danville, CA 94526. 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/: Erica Starkey, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 23, 2022. Expires December 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5360. Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594301

The following person(s) doing business as: Jpar Iron Horse Real Estate, 550 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Starkey Holdings Inc., 305 Borica Dr., Danville, CA 94526. 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/: Erica Starkey, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 23, 2022. Expires December 22, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5361. Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594379

The following person(s) doing business as: Olson Enterprises, 6500 Dublin Blvd Ste 200B, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan M. Olson, 102 Madelia Pl, San Ramon, CA 94583. This business is conducted by Co-Partners. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 12/7/2015. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jonathan M. Olson, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 28, 2022. Expires December 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5362. Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594743

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxe Notary, 6768 Edgewater Lane, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Elizabeth Cardona, 6768 Edgewater Lane, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Elizabeth Cardona, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 13, 2023. Expires January 12, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5364. Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594497

The following person(s) doing business as: Show Dog Prep School, 1226 Victor Ave, San Leandro, CA 94519, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rook T Holdings, LLC 1226 Victor Ave, San Leandro, CA 94519. 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: 1/1/2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Victoria Ronchette, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 4, 2023. Expires January 3, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5365. Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594591

The following person(s) doing business as: Magpie Bakery, 1491 Chateau Cmn, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Danitta O'Keefe, 1491 Chateau Cmn, 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: 2/2018. Signature of Registrant/s/: Danita O'Keefe, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 9, 2023. Expires January 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5366. Published January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594542

The following person(s) doing business as: Heavenly Care Home, 36857 Walnut Street, Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Heavenly Care Home LLC, 2899 Bethany Rd, San Ramon, CA 94582. 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: 1/5/2003. Signature of Registrant/s/: Shahid Abbasi, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 5, 2023. Expires January 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5367. Published January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594608

The following person(s) doing business as: Move Better - Live Better, 4068 Walnut Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joanne Olecko, 4068 Walnut Dr., 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Joanne Olecko, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 9, 2023. Expires January 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5368. Published January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 594788

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Wandervans; 2. Wandervans - SF/Oakland, 1166 Killarney ST, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Recreate Outdoor LLC, 1166 Killarney ST, Livermore, CA 94550 . This business is conducted by a limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/13/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Isaiah Davis, Managing Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 17, 2023. Expires January 16, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5369. Published January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2023.

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

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The Livermore Heritage Guild will host a self-guided walking tour of Hagemann Ranch, 455 Olivinia Ave. in Livermore, from 1 to 4 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 29. The guild manages the five-acre ranch which is the last remaining parcel of the original 1839 Bernal Land Grant, Rancho del Valle de San Jose, in Livermore. Some of the remaining buildings date back to 1869. Open houses are held the last Sunday of the month. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Frederick Douglass Coming to the Firehouse

Veteran Chautauqua scholar James Armistead will portray Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave and leader of the abolitionist movement in pre-Civil War America, at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Beginning in the 1840s, Douglass published an abolitionist newspaper in the North and was a frequent speaker for the American Anti-Slavery Society. By the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, he was arguably the most famous black man in the country. He also was an early advocate for women's rights and would advise six U.S. presidents during his lifetime.

Armstead is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a degree in history and anthropology and a has law degree from De Paul University. He also received a doctorate in public policy analysis and international relations from Pacific Western University.

Armistead has taught at the University of Nevada, Washington and Lee University, Virginia Military Institute, U.S. Naval War College, and the University of California at Santa Cruz. He has been a living history presenter for more than three decades. Chautauqua scholars remain in character from the moment they appear on stage, including when answering questions from the audience following their presentations.

Armistead's appearance at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., is part of the monthly Ed Kinney Speakers Series of historical character portrayals and speakers sponsored by Pleasanton's Museum on Main. Tickets for the "Afternoon with Frederick Douglass" performance at 2 p.m., or the "Evening with Frederick Douglass" performance at 7 p.m. are $25, with discounts for seniors, students, and museum members. Tickets are available at museumonmain.org or 925-462-2766.

Tickets are also available to view the performance online a week after the live show.



Veteran Chautauqua scholar James Armistead, above, will portray Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave and leader of the abolitionist movement in pre-Civil War America, at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, on Tuesday, Feb. 7. (Photo courtesy of Firehouse Arts Center)

Library to Host Discussion by Black Poets

As part of its observance of Black History Month, the Livermore Public Library will host a poetry reading and panel discussion on 'the exploration of liberation' at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 16.

Panelists will include Bay Area poets Alie Jones, Tongo Eisen-Martin, Landon Smith, and Meilani Clay.

Tri-Valley for Black Lives will also provide information about the organization's community engagement and advocacy efforts.

Jones is a self-described "self-care advocate, writer, artist, and Creole mermaid" who co-founded Black Freighter Press. She received a fine arts degree in creative writing and literature from Mills College in Oakland and is the host of the podcast "Chit Chat with Aliecat."

Tongo Eisen-Martin, a co-founder of Black Freighter Press with Jones, was San Francisco's eighth poet laureate. He is the author of "We Charge Genocide Again," described as a companion curriculum for the 2012 report "Operation Ghetto Storm" on the killing of Black people by police, security guards, and vigilantes. His poetry collections include "Someone's Dead Already," "Heaven Is All Goodbyes," "Waiting Behind Tornados for Food," and "Blood on the Fog."



As part of its observance of Black History Month, the Livermore Public Library will host a poetry reading and panel discussion on 'the exploration of liberation' at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 16. (Photo Courtesy of FreePik) Arts Center)

Landon Smith is an English instructor at Chabot College in Hayward. He has a bachelor's degree in language arts from the University of Michigan and a master's in English literature and languages from Mills College.

His first published collection of poems, "No Bedtime Stories of Soil," was released by Black Freighter Press in 2022 and examines 'the inheritance of grief, struggle, hope, and survival against oppression.'

Meilani Clay emerged from Youth Speaks, a Bay Area youth performance, poetry, and creative writing program. She later served on the SPOKES Youth Advisory Board and was a Bay Area representative at the ninth annual Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam Contest. She graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C. with a degree in English. She also graduated from the Urban Education and Social Justice Program at San Fransisco State University (SFSU), where she is currently working towards a master's degree in poetry. Her debut collection of poetry, "and the creek don't rise," was published in 2021 and received the Michael Rubin Book Award from SFSU.

The poetry reading and panel discussion are free and sponsored by Friends of the Livermore Public Library, and no registration is required. For more information, call 925-373-5505.

Foothill High DECA Competes at Career Conference

Six members of the Foothill High School DECA program earned first-place awards at the Northern California Career Development Conference in San Ramon this month, as the student organization captured a total of 46 Top 10 finishes in two days of written and role-playing competition.

Finishing first overall in their roleplaying competitions were Rushil Sahai in automotive services marketing, Pratham Chhabra in sports and entertainment marketing, Echo He in personal financial literacy, and Preksha Jain in accounting applications. The team of Prisha Bhandari and Anishka William finished first overall for integrated marketing campaign - product in the exam competitions.

DECA is an international program that helps prepare students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. More than 900 students from 14 in Northern California schools participated in the San Ramon conference.

Second-place finishers in role-playing competitions from Pleasanton's Foothill High included Mrina Shivanand in human resources management, Yash Shelar for business services marketing, Kate Clifford for marketing communications, and Pranesh Ragu and Ashwin Sriram for travel and tourism team decision making. In the written exam competition, Abhiram Pisipati and Yash Shelar finished second in integrated marketing campaign - product, while Pranesh Ragu and Ashwin Sriram were second in integrated marketing campaign - service. Joey Trueblood was second in professional selling.

Third-place finishers from Foothill for roleplaying were Arushi Arora for human resources management, Tanvi Kapse and Maanya Raghuram for hospitality services team decision making, Ojas Sathe and Gaurav Trikha for overall for sports and entertainment team decision making. Mrina Shivanand and Sarah Fikry finished third in the hospitality and tourism operational research written competition.

The next competitive challenge for Foothill DECA members will come in early March at the State Career Development Conference in Anaheim.

Former Poet Laureate Publishes Ninth Book

The New York Quarterly Foundation (NYQ) has published a collection of poems by Connie Post, who as Livermore's first poet laureate from 2005 to 2009.

"Between Twilight," published under the NYQ Books trademark, "delves deep into the difficult journeys of everyday life and intersects those with the difficult maps of the past," according to NYQ, which also publishes the New York Quarterly Magazine.

"Post explores the necessary truths, the ones we can no longer hide, the ones we've held on to, for too long," according an NYQ review. "In these poems, the reader will more fully understand Faulkner's 'The past is never past. It's not even dead.' Post's poems will seep into our subconscious and help us see how a room can be 'dark and iridescent all at once'."

This is Post's ninth published book of poetry. Her poems have also appeared in Calyx, 2 River, Cold Mountain Review, The American Journal of Poetry, River Styx, Slipstream, Verse Daily, and other publications. She has won the Crab Creek Poetry Award and the Liakoura and Caesura awards.

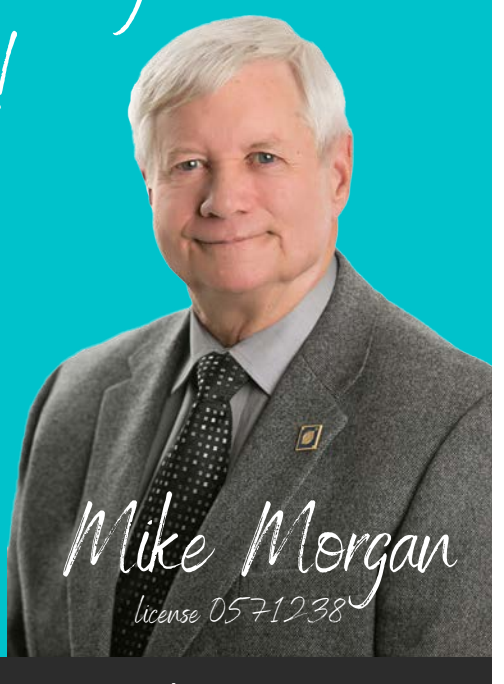


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