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THE Independent — SECTION A
The Special Consensus; Grammy-Nominated Bluegrass Band Returns to the Firehouse
Proposed Downtown Livermore Science Museum Named

See Inside Section A

Section A is filled with information about arts, people, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board.

Lab Retirees Settle Lawsuit with UC

By Jeff Garberson

Nearly a decade after they first sued to regain University of California health care, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory retirees have reached an $84.5 million settlement that provides a range of benefits: reimbursement for those who lost financially, support for future medical premium payments and a promise of future medical coverage if the federal government should ever drop its support for health care.

The settlement is subject to approval by the court, and the retirees themselves will be able to review and comment.

Absent major changes or objections, the first benefits to the roughly 9,000 retirees could come through in mid-2020, according to those familiar with the anticipated schedule.

The earliest payments are likely to be $1,000 to each retiree, to compensate for the added expense they incurred as a result of losing UC health care. This benefit would also be paid to the estates of qualified retirees who passed away.

The settlement provides for creation of a $60 million trust fund that can be used to lower the cost of medical care for retirees for the next 20 years; and another $20 million to cover past damages.

It also provides for what is being called a "backstop," a court-supervised requirement that University of California will reinstate UC-sponsored programs if retiree health care benefits are terminated or materially changed by LLNL's operating manager.

Beyond the $84.5 million settlement, the University will also cover attorney's fees of $12 million.

Asked why it had accepted an agreement that fell short of its original goal of reinstatement in the UC health care system, the retirees said in their prepared comments that the settlement "provides health coverage equivalent to that offered current UC retirees."

The University and the partnership that operates LLNL today "will remain under court monitoring to assure this result," according to the retiree statement.

"Continuing to a trial might have required another four years… We wished to provide closure and repayment to both the deceased and the living as soon as possible."

To Ernest Galvan, a San Francisco attorney who has argued retiree benefits cases before the state Supreme Court, the settlement is very impressive, a successful David vs. Goliath case.

Galvan did not represent any of the parties in the retiree lawsuit, but acknowledged sympathy for the retirees' cause.

The attorneys for the retirees "were extremely well prepared… against the much better funded

(See LAWSUIT, page 9)

Awaiting New Kidney, Coomber Finds Comfort in Mountain Treks

By Larry Altman

Bob Coomber has faced some challenges in his life – he's had Type 1 diabetes since his teens, and a resulting shattered leg put him in a wheelchair, and, oh, his recent efforts to hike across the Kearsarge Pass in the Sierra Nevada by wheelchair.

So, the Livermore City Councilman kind of shrugged it off about a year ago when given a diagnosis for why he felt tired – chronic kidney failure.

"It was more just, laughing, 'Oh, what's next?" Coomber recalled during a recent interview. "My wife, she was far more concerned about it than I seemed to be."

Coomber, who regularly heads out in his wheelchair to hike along wilderness trails to experience the mountain views and nature up close, learned he would need a new kidney to stay alive. He said he doesn't see his predicament as something insurmountable.

"Everything is like a big trail," the outdoorsman said. "I have to figure out how to make it happen."

Coomber's slowed down his pace a bit since he was featured last year in the documentary "4 Wheel Bob," which chronicled his attempt to become the first person in a wheelchair to cross the nearly 12,000-foot elevation Kearsarge Pass in the Inyo National Forest. So far, he's staved off dialysis, but is on the kidney transplant waiting list at Stanford University Medical Center, where the nation's first was performed in 1960.

(See COOMBER, page 7)

In spite of the rainy weather, Pleasanton celebrated the holiday season by lighting up a new tree. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore City Clerk Bunting Moves On, But Her Lawsuit Against Residents Will Continue

By David Chircop

The Livermore elections official who is suing five residents over language in a ballot initiative argument they prepared resigned from her post last week.

Sarah Bunting, Livermore's city clerk, who also is the elections official, left the city to accept employment from another public entity, Livermore City Attorney Jason Alcala confirmed. Alcala said Bunting did not submit to the city a resignation letter. He did not say where Bunting is going to work.

Bunting's departure will have no effect on her Sept. 30 lawsuit against William Dunlop, Calvin Wood, Jeffrey Kaskey, Jeanette King and Jose Barrientos, Alcala said.

The writ was filed by the city clerk in her official capacity as a statutory and constitutional officer, he wrote in response to questions from The Independent. "That position continues to exist, and the writ will proceed with the acting city clerk filling that role in her official capacity," he stated in the email. Marie Webber, a deputy city clerk, was appointed acting clerk.

As the case moves forward, the lawsuit will retain Bunting's name as the sole petitioner, Alcala said. While the law allows a lawsuit to

(See BUNTING, page 2)

LVJUSD Joins Other Districts In Suing Juul

By David Chircop

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District is suing the nation's largest e-cigarette maker, Juul Labs, Inc., alleging the San Francisco-based company's marketing strategy deceptively targeted its minor students, in violation of federal racketeering laws.

In a complaint filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on Monday, attorneys for the school district describe Juul's use of social media, paid influencers, and viral hashtag advertising as a highly-coordinated youth-oriented marketing campaign to persuade young people into believing that Juuling was the latest cool trend — and healthy.

It further states Juul intentionally facilitated underage use in schools by designing easily concealed e-cigarettes. Schools have incurred substantial expenses combating the use of its products by students. According to the lawsuit, these include the costs incurred through increased security and monitoring protocols, student suspensions and other disciplinary programs, and the addition of educational programs warning of the health effects of vaping.

The lawsuit seeks recovery for damages on several theories,

(See JUUL, page 8)

PUSD Survey Shows Strengths And Challenges

The second annual survey of parents, staff and students in the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) showed some strengths and also areas for improvement. Patrick Gannon, the district's coordinator of communication and community relations, discussed the survey results at the board's Dec. 10 meeting.

The online survey was not created scientifically to measure a cross-section of opinion, the way that a presidential poll would do.

Participants rated overall school quality high, with 84% of the parents ranking the quality excellent or good, joined by 75% of students and 88% of staff members.

Family involvement in such things as back to school nights were rated highly by parents, with 94% enthused about the category; 86% agreed that staff members and families treat each other with

(See PUSD, page 8)

New Bridge at Sycamore Grove Fills Last Gap in Regional Trail

The final link connecting five parks and 44-miles of regional trails from Livermore to Fremont is complete.

After more than four months of construction and years of coordination, a new 135-foot single-span bridge at Sycamore Grove Park in Livermore officially opened last week with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The project was spearheaded by the Tri-Valley Conservancy. The nonprofit named it the Edward R. Campbell Bridge in honor of the late Alameda County supervisor. Campbell's efforts to establish the South Livermore Valley Area Plan helped permanently protect from urban development thousands of acres of open space and agricultural land south of Livermore, including the area where the bridge is located.

An inscribed granite slab next to a stone etched with Campbell's likeness includes an inspirational message about his legacy. It ends: "May this foot bridge inspire all of us to take the steps to build bridges, connect paths and preserve the beauty in the Tri-Valley."

The span will provide year-round access to the park. It replaces a narrow footbridge that was not passable for much of the year due to high water. Unlike the old bridge which could

(See BRIDGE, page 2)

LLNL Ranked Sixth Best U.S. Place To Work

Glassdoor, the international jobs and recruiting company, has ranked Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory the sixth best place in the U.S. to work.

The ranking was done by current and former employees who offer comments to Glassdoor on working conditions at their companies.

Within the Bay Area, the Laboratory was chosen the top employer among large government or government contractor facilities; it was ranked the second best among all large employers.

The top-ranked large Bay Area employer is DocuSign, a San Francisco-based company that manages electronic documents and records.

To qualify as "large" under Glassdoor rules, employers must have at least 1,000 workers.

LLNL also ranked high in last year's survey, 24th in the U.S.

This year's ranking is clearly pleasing to those responsible for retaining and recruiting staff.

With about 7,500 employees, LLNL currently has 339 job openings. It is "growing like crazy and will continue to do so in the next few years," said Renée Breyer, director of strategic human resources management at LLNL, in a statement.

"Having the recognition of being the No. 2 'Best Place to Work' in the Bay Area is an honor that we hope will attract a diverse applicant pool for our hundreds of job openings," Breyer said. "We look forward to growing our workforce and hopefully many new candidates will look to the Laboratory as an employer of choice."

To LLNL Director Bill Goldstein, the Laboratory "will always strive to be both a leader in science and technology in service to the nation, and a place where people can thrive, have an impact and enjoy the work."

Glassdoor's Best Places to Work were determined using company reviews shared by U.S.-based employees between Oct. 23, 2018 and Oct. 21, 2019.

Pro-Impeachment Rally Draws Big Crowd in Livermore's Downtown

By Bruce Gach

Tri-Valley residents joined cities across the country in rallies demanding President Trump be impeached and removed from office on Dec. 17, the day before the House of Representatives scheduled its vote on the question.

The rally in Livermore took place at the flagpole downtown where over 300 people of all age groups gathered. Multiple signs and banners supporting impeachment were visible throughout the crowd.

"I think that people have finally had enough of Trump not seeming to care about this country's values and his behaviors," Livermore resident Helen Machuga said. "We watch and listen to what goes on in Washington and it just gets worse with no consequences. This and other rallies are to tell the House and Senate members to develop a conscience.

"Put your country above your party," she said.

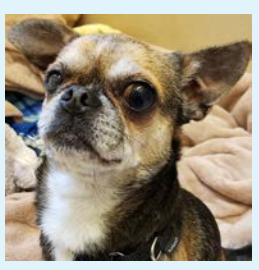
Cheryl Cook-Kallio, California State Coordinator of We the People/Project Citizen, agreed. "This is tragic," she said. "It is up to We the People to make sure our government works. No government official, especially the President, should be above

(See RALLY, page 7)

A Livermore rally on Tuesday evening brought activists to the downtown at the flagpole, supporting the impeachment of President Trump. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK

GEORGE



George is looking for his new best friend. Whether or not you wear a yellow hat, this dog's for you! He would love to go on adventures and explore new places. At only 7.6 pounds, he's easy to take along! George is estimated to be 3 years old. Meet George at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am – 4pm. Visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information.
Photo credit: Valley Humane Society / E. Scholz

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BRIDGE

(Continued from first page)

A new 135-foot single-span bridge at Sycamore Grove Park in Livermore opened last week with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

only be crossed on foot, the new bridge, with ramped pathways, provides safe access to the park for people in wheelchairs, bikes and on horseback.

The bridge fills the final gap in what the Tri-Valley Conservancy calls the Valley Trail Connections program, a continuous trail across Sycamore Grove Park, Del Valle Regional Park, Ohlone Regional Wilderness, Sunol Regional Wilderness, and Mission Peak Regional Preserve.

The route will also become part of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail — one of just 30 National Historic Trails in the country.

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To learn more about Tri-Valley Conservancy and the Valley Trail Connections project visit TriValleyConservancy.org.

BUNTING

(Continued from first page)

be amended to substitute a departed official's name after a case is filed, it is not required, Alcala noted. For this case, the case title will not be changed.

Attorneys for the residents named in the lawsuit did not return a call or email seeking comment. The residents authored rebuttal arguments in favor of a November 2020 Central Park ballot initiative that asks Livermore voters to amend the city's land use regulations and to change the mix of land uses and development standards for both downtown Livermore and the Pacific Avenue areas.

The lawsuit alleges the proponents used false and deceptive language in rebuttal arguments they prepared for official voter information materials. Following a process prescribed by the state elections code, Bunting filed a writ of mandate with Alameda County Superior Court, asking for a judge to intervene and order the authors to delete or change the language included in the ballot arguments.

The bulk of the challenge centers on what Bunting's suit claims are political arguments and opinion, improperly labeled as fact. The lawsuit also challenges some statements the proponents assert as fact, claiming the statements are "demonstrably false."

As of press time Tuesday, Bunting's online resume on LinkedIn had not yet been updated to reflect her new position or departure from employment with the city of Livermore. She did not return a message seeking comment.

Bunting worked for the city of Livermore in various positions almost exclusively since 2001, according to her online resume. Her only break from employment with the city was for a year and four months in 2017 and 2018 when she worked as an assistant city clerk for the City of Berkeley. She returned to Livermore in April 2018 when she served as city clerk until last week.

Members Sought for Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), operator of the Wheels Bus system and Dial-A-Ride paratransit service in the Tri-Valley, is seeking applications for alternates to serve on the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC). Members on the TAAC represent the cities of Livermore, Dublin, and Pleasanton, unincorporated Alameda County, and Tri-Valley social/human services agencies. Vacancies are for the following representatives: City of Dublin resident (one alternate needed), and City of Livermore resident (one alternate needed) The committee members are expected to provide a forum and advise LAVTA staff on accessibility issues facing senior and disabled residents on LAVTA fixed route buses and Dial-A-Ride paratransit services. The committee meets six times each year for approximately 90 minutes. TAAC members will receive a free annual LAVTA fixed route bus pass. In addition, ADA paratransit eligible members can ride Dial-A-Ride service to and from TAAC meetings free of charge. Candidates must reside in the city they represent and must be able to solicit and disseminate information effectively to their constituents, be able to meet during regular business hours (typically 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.), and be able to analyze complex issues and reports to make recommendations regarding LAVTA services. Candidates must currently use LAVTA fixed route buses or Dial-A-Ride paratransit services or represent those who do. Candidates do not have to be disabled or over 65 years old. Interested candidates should request an application by calling (925) 455-7555 or download an application from the Wheels website, www.wheelsbus.com. Applications should be submitted to LAVTA by January 15, 2020. LAVTA's Board of Directors approves the selections.

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ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CAMP) ADVISORY BODY

RESIDENTS OF LIVERMORE: The City of Livermore is accepting applications for the Community Asset Management Program (CAMP) advisory body. The deadline to apply is December 20, 2019. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's office by 5:00 pm.

CAMP's role is to create a group of well-informed, interested participants; share information between the community and City Staff; brainstorm ideas and solutions to infrastructure problems; obtain community feedback on various infrastructure strategies and priorities; and to assist in fostering an open dialogue with the community regarding the state and management of the City's various infrastructure systems.

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be held the evening of January 8, 2020. For more information or to apply, please visit www.cityoflivermore.net/AB, call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email us at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

The Livermore Science and Society Center
is proud to announce its new name

quest
SCIENCE CENTER 2.0

Question. Understand. Explore.
Science & Technology

It will be a place where you can and should...
Question Everything
After all, isn't that what Science is all about?

Join us on a journey of everyday exploration and experiential learning – at a place designed for everyone at any age. As we work towards the completion of our new physical space, Quest will be launching a number of community science engagement opportunities, 'pop-up' exhibits and educational partnerships.

Join us! And help provide innovative and inclusive science exploration at a 2.0 level!

To find out more, visit: **quest-science.org**

Architectural Rendering of Quest in Stockmen's Park, Downtown Livermore. Estimated completion date is 2023.

On March 3rd Vote YES on Measure P

Right Size, Right Place, Right NOW!

The **Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead** is an upscale, three-story hotel intended to fill a niche long missing from downtown Livermore. It will provide a comfortable and inviting place to stay for out-of-town guests visiting our wineries, restaurants, shops and theaters.

The Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead will bring to life a vision shared by a broad cross-section of Livermore residents for more than 20 years. It also is consistent with the Stockmen's Park Plan adopted by the City Council that was ***overwhelmingly supported*** by voters in the last election.

The hotel is the ***right size*** and in the ***right place***, adjacent to the Bankhead Theater, a short walk from nearby restaurants and shops, and just across the street from Stockmen's Park. It will be an attractive complement to what already exists downtown.

The hotel will feature 130-135 comfortably appointed rooms and a ***scenic rooftop lounge*** that is sure to become a fun gathering spot after a show or before or after dinner.

What the hotel will ***NOT include*** is acres of meeting rooms for traffic-congesting conferences or a stuffy restaurant to compete with our family-owned eateries already in the downtown area. A massive, sprawling conference center hotel is not what residents want, nor what visitors need downtown.

WINE COUNTRY HOTEL AT THE BANKHEAD

The Bankhead Hotel – in conjunction with local wineries and restaurants – also will allow our city to become a Wine Country destination, a prestigious designation on par with other wine regions.

Artist Concept

"The Bankhead Hotel is exactly what Livermore needs! As Livermore continues to grow as both a family-friendly city and tourist destination, it would be beneficial to have a local hotel that everyone could recommend. The Bankhead Hotel would be the perfect addition to Livermore."

Harrison Wood
Wood Family Vineyards

Let's Keep a Great Hotel Plan Moving Forward Without Further Delay

- Our City Council has already signed a development agreement with the respected Presidio Hotel Group, which operates beautiful properties in six states in partnership with some of the nation's leading hotel companies.

- Unfortunately, a handful of opponents have been spreading misinformation about the Wine Country Hotel in an effort to bully the Council into building a wasteful parking garage next to the Bankhead at taxpayer expense.

- Don't be fooled by lies and half-truths. Not a single developer has stepped forward to build a hotel at any other downtown location since the request went out in 2015. A "no" vote means the four year process starts over, the divisive debate rages on and local family businesses suffer.

On March 3, vote "yes" on Measure P for the Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead

www.BankheadHotelNow.com • *VoteYesForTheBankheadHotel*

Paid for by: Vote YES on the Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead sponsored by the Presidio Group • FPPC # 1423160

EDITORIAL

A Settlement Worth Noting

Congratulations to some 9,000 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory retirees who reached a settlement with University of California that provides support for health care that was promised, but lost after a 2007 contract change. The settlement, valued at $84.5 million, includes provisions for reimbursing past costs and contributing to future premium expenses, as well as insurance against a hypothetical future cutoff of health care support.

The settlement is the outgrowth of a lawsuit filed in 2010. It has been something of a David and Goliath battle, as the retirees had to form a grassroots organization and raise their own funds. UC's stable of lawyers fought the retirees from the start. Four years ago, they even hired Crowell & Moring, the law firm that defended Blackwater Security Co. when it was accused of killing Iraqi civilians in 2007. But the retirees persevered. They became a certified class, won two key legal appeals and ultimately persuaded the University to negotiate an agreement that is satisfactory to both sides.

Observers tell us that the settlement may have wider implications, as public employers around the state learn about it. If the University of California, with all its resources, was left with an $84.5 million obligation after a decade-long battle, towns and counties considering saving money by abandoning retiree benefits may want to think again.

The settlement is still subject to court approval, after which there will be time for court-directed communications to and from class members. If all goes smoothly, payments to retirees might start in mid-2020. In the meantime, the retirees can feel content that they have fought a worthy fight and brought a measure of justice to thousands of men and women whose work was in the service of their nation.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them and city of residence. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be limited to 600 words or less and should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com.)

Vote NO on Measure P

Maryann Brent, Livermore

Livermore voters, you want adequate parking downtown. You made this abundantly clear as the #1 priority of the City's outreach project.

The City's DA (development agreement) with Presidio Companies for a hotel next to the Bankhead Theater will eliminate parking where it currently exists and create a need for even more parking.

Alternatively, a parking structure with cultural amenities and/or retail on the ground floor, next to the Bankhead Theater, can provide parking where it is urgently needed.

On the March 3 ballot, backers of the City Plan are asking your support for a small, inadequate hotel which makes our parking congestion worse. Vote NO on Measure P and have the parking space you want downtown. A hotel worthy of our wine region can then be built on the west side of Livermore Avenue at Railroad and L Streets. The City Council is clever enough to switch plans quickly and efficiently when directed by you.

Vote Yes!

Nancy Morgan, Livermore.

Our March election day will be here before you know it and I would like to encourage you to Vote Yes to complete our downtown. Our City leaders held many community outreaches meetings & listened & came up with this compromise plan to benefit a viable and lively downtown. The plan includes a much-desired new hotel with a commitment from a hotelier right near our Livermore Performing Arts Theatre - the Bankhead - along with Stockman's Park, etc. Let us not forget another parking garage located right off L Street which will help benefit businesses further west down First Street. Veteran's Way has already been dedicated & is already there (thank you) and your YES vote will make this beneficial community plan get completed.

Grateful for an Amazing Gift

Patti Cole, Livermore

I am so grateful for the amazing gift Tri-Valley Conservancy has provided to our local community and the region overall. The new Edward R. Campbell Bridge in Sycamore Grove Park (near the Arroyo Road entrance) is beautiful! Having this enormous project successfully completed, making it possible to travel so many miles along trails through open space and Tri-Valley cities, is truly the best Christmas gift ever. Thank you to everyone at Tri-Valley Conservancy.

Stop the Charade, Vote Yes

Katie Lewis, Livermore

I first visited Livermore in 1996 and officially moved here in 1998. I have seen much change to our downtown over the years. I remember Highway 84 going through downtown on First Street, with two lanes of traffic in both directions. I remember when the "old Lucky parking lot" was actually a Lucky supermarket. There has been so much progress over the years that it is hard to believe the things that are still incomplete. I enjoy walking through our downtown, taking visitors to restaurants and wine shops. Then, we have the awkward moments, like walking through the gravel parking lot that was a grocery store about 20 years ago or being asked why there isn't a hotel within walking distance of our vibrant downtown or why they didn't know that Livermore was wine country.

The people of Livermore want to move forward with the Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead. Citizens already decided this through an open process with expert reviews. We have a real plan and a real hotel to move forward, unlike the fictional Central Park plan. If we do not move forward with the existing hotelier, we do not know when or if this progress will ever be realized. The Bankhead hotel is the right thing for our winegrowers, our small businesses, and our community as a whole. Stop the charade and vote YES for the Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead in March so Livermore can realize the potential that is so long in the making!

Tri-Valley Conservancy Has Lost Its Way

Thomas Jefferson, Livermore

Sadly, the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) has lost its way. A November 12, 2019 letter to the editor by TVC Executive Director Laura Mercier lobbies the public to support a hotel in downtown Livermore in one particular place--next to the Bankhead. Such lobbying by TVC, a 501(c)(3) organization, is completely inappropriate. Her letter even says the TVC Board endorses that specific hotel site.

The TVC website (trivalleyconservancy.org) has in bold print "Protecting the Tri-Valley's Open Space Forever". Lobbying the public for a hotel next to the Bankhead has nothing to do with preserving open space forever.

If Executive Director Mercier is responsible for this lobbying, she should be replaced. If she was pressured by TVC Board members to write such a letter, they, too, should be replaced. Don't support TVC, an organization that has, sadly, lost its way.

Watch Out for Misinformation Regarding the Downtown Referendum Vote

Richard Ryon, Livermore

It is sad to contemplate the state of political discourse in Livermore lately. There is a lot of back-room maneuvering, misinformation, and outright lies in letters to the Independent Editor, at City Council meetings, and elsewhere regarding the referendum described by City Attorney Jason Alcala as "Ordinance 2089". This is an ordinance to approve a development agreement to build a Wine Country Hotel at the Bankhead project." (See www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/clerk/elections/ballot_measures.htm for description of the ballot measure and pro- and con- statements.)

Right there is an example of back-room maneuvering. The City knows that people are more inclined to vote *for* something rather than *against*. Thus, the wording. If you are *for* a large central park, *for* only the required minimum amount of housing in the core of our city, and *for* a larger, better-located hotel, it is necessary to vote *No on this issue at the March 3, 2020 election.*

The reason this referendum is needed is because the City Council unanimously refused to put the Central Park Initiative on the March 3 ballot, on the advice of City Attorney Jason Alcala. The Council then approved a development agreement with the hotel developer that effectively negates the initiative. By the time of the November vote on the initiative, activity on the development agreement will have progressed to the point that the initiative will have no effect. Thus the need for the referendum to reject the development agreement.

In refusing to put the initiative on the March 3 ballot, the Council relied on the bad advice of its in-house attorney Jason Alcala. He asserted that State Law treats *initiatives* and *referenda* differently, and it was impossible to legally put the *initiative* on the March ballot.

On August 28, 2019, I emailed City Attorney Jason Alcala that, according to the California Government Code, he mistakenly advised the City Council. The Government Code is clear: While there are separate sections in the code for initiatives and for referenda, *they both state the same thing:* elections "shall be held at the next statewide election occurring not less than 88 days after the date of the order of election." That was March 3 for the initiative. By postponing the vote until November, combined with signing the development agreement for the hotel with the developer, the City Attorney and City Council knew they were making the initiative meaningless.

I assert, the City Council acted on advice the City Attorney knew was a lie. Why the lie? I wish I knew, but the question is open to speculation and suspicion.

The result of the back-room intrigue is that if you are *for* a large central park to augment the small Veterans Park that all agree is desirable, and if you are *for* a larger, better located wine-country hotel to enhance tourism that supports the viability of vineyards and wineries, then you *must vote NO* on the development agreement contained in the March 3 ballot.

Precious Downtown Land Deserves to Be Shared

Susan Putnam, Livermore

Accessible, affordable housing should be a priority for Livermore; there are many other places to build than smack in the center of downtown. As our population continues to grow and young families plant their roots, keep in mind that Livermore has just one small park in downtown, Carnegie Park. An expanded area for downtown gatherings and a place to enjoy warm, sunny days would be a treasure for decades to come. Dense housing and concrete do not serve to make a beautiful downtown environment. Vote NO on the development agreement with Presidio. Vote NO on Measure P on March 3.

Since When Is Adverse Publicity Illegal?

Pierre Bierre, Pleasanton

Are candidates and campaigns allowed to procure oppo-research resulting in adverse publicity when it involves overseas actors? The answer is "yes" with only three exceptions. The first is you cannot obtain dirt through espionage and cyberattack. The second is you cannot orchestrate a deceptive misinformation campaign made up of whole cloth (defamation). And the third is that foreigners cannot donate money or professional campaign services. Otherwise, the overseas adverse publicity info space is protected by the 1st Amendment.

Nixon's re-election campaign illegally spied on the Watergate DNC HQ using CIA-trained operatives — nobody argued this wasn't criminal spying.

An example of defamation was Lee Atwater's push-poll in the 2000 South Carolina primary suggesting that John McCain had fathered an illegitimate child. This was harmful to McCain, and something Atwater admitted to regretting in his final years. In the post-Sullivan era, the key elements needed for a candidate to prove defamation are 1) spreading falsehood meant to deceive (without any glint of truth), and 2) malicious intent to inflict reputational harm. You need both elements for defamation.

To exemplify the ban on foreign money, Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman are currently indicted for planning to steer funds from a foreign government to U.S. candidates. Some on the left want to broadly interpret "donations" to include adverse publicity, however the adjective "adverse" presumes a partisan interpretation or perspective. Bad news for one side is good news for the other. Therefore, there is no objective, consistent way to extend the ban on donations to cover adverse publicity.

Asking Ukraine to talk publicly about the Bidens, Burisma, and the Shokin firing?...not even close to meeting the bar for spying, defamation, or foreign donations. (It would be different if Trump had asked Ukraine to work together to frame Hunter Biden). All candidates need clear red lines laid down about disallowed behavior in the global competitive info space.

This, not impeachment, is what House Dems should be working on. Is it asking too much that the rules for campaigning be made clear in advance? The last thing we need are murky, nebulous rules that the party controlling the House gets to creatively interpret to try to unseat a duly-elected President of the other party.

Yes, the President asked Pres. Zelinsky for fact-finding that could result in a more informed public, with possibly adverse news for some Dems...what's wrong with this?

The Perfect Location

Ellen Goold, Livermore

The proposed Wine County Hotel at the Bankhead is in the perfect location, exactly where it has been planned for the past 15 years. Imagine being a guest in our beautiful city, enjoying a home-away-from-home experience, within steps from a walkable downtown, unique boutique shops, wonderful restaurants and coffee shops, and outdoor areas for people-watching and children playing. Bay Area residents love weekend getaways! Why not make Livermore an attractive option? It's easy to see why hotel experts and city planners alike preferred this central location next to the Bankhead back in 2014 and again last year in the public outreach. It makes our downtown vibrant and unique which is definitely better for all of us.

Not Next to the Bankhead

Cynthia Talaber, Livermore

Livermore does not want a small hotel next to the Bankhead. It is a waste of space and money because it is in the wrong place, and the cramped area will exacerbate the traffic headache we already have. VOTE NO on P.

Beware Eastside Hotel

Elizabeth Judge, Livermore

Wineries, admittedly, just want a downtown hotel so they can get coverage in the Wine Spectator Magazine. As soon as they get this coverage, they will build and advertise their own B&B's. So they push for an eastside hotel next to the Bankhead assuming it is more expedient. Making it successful is obviously not their concern.

To begin with, a successful hotel would need to have ease of access for private vehicles and wine country buses. There is NO on-site parking for the wineries' eastside hotel. This would require guests to abandon personal vehicles to a valet service to park in a garage across Railroad Ave. Talk about congestion!

Tight driveway layouts would make it difficult for wine country buses to maneuver. Experts warned early on that making the situation easy for buses was required for their return business.

In addition, the wineries' eastside hotel would not have a restaurant. Therefore, guests in their boutique hotel would have to depend on the likes of DoorDash for "luxury" room service. Moreover, the hotel's location next to the brick wall of a theater denies it the likelihood of hosting weddings, said to be the most lucrative functions for a hotel.

The full page ad in the Independent for the eastside hotel next to the Bankhead also failed to reveal that this hotel is tied to the rest of the Council's Approved Downtown Plan allowing affordable housing to take up nearly half of the site between Livermore Avenue and L Street. This omits, forever, any possibility for a Central Park in a city soon to be of 100K residents and soon to be inundated with many other housing requirements.

As the late Jim McGrail bravely let on: wineries just want a hotel; they don't care which side of Livermore Avenue it is on. Had wineries respected the preferences from the Public Outreach, they could have sponsored a more potentially successful westside hotel. Doing so two years ago would have been much more expedient!! Vote NO on their inconsiderate hotel plans March 3.

The Real Poison Pill

Allie Felker, Livermore

I am sure you have seen plenty of ads warning of the "Poison Pill" in the hotel initiative. I find this hilarious given the toxicity that started this initiative in the first place. Here is the simple truth: A Yes vote would allow a hotel to get built. One that has been promised to our family owned restaurants, wineries, and small businesses. One that actually has a developer lined up and would fit the spirit of our downtown.

So where is this poison pill? A No vote on the Bankhead Hotel would block progress and delay this process for years. A No vote prohibits the development our small businesses need by re-zoning the area. A No vote is the real poison pill. This process has been venomous from the beginning but we have our antidote: A Yes vote on Measure P.

We don't need a parking garage across the street from an existing parking garage. We don't need a large, 5-star hotel with a giant conference center. We need a plan that is executable, affordable and fits our downtown.

Maybe you are tired of talking about all this. Maybe you don't care where the hotel goes or don't even like where it is positioned in the approved plan. Even if this is the case, I ask that you think of our downtown businesses and vote Yes on Measure P. It simply is not worth the delay to vote No. Progress isn't poison but holding our downtown hostage sure is. Please vote YES on P!

Appreciation for The Independent

Ann Brown, Co-Leader, Citizens' Climate Education, Tri-Valley Chapter, Livermore

I read the Independent weekly, expecting to find a balance of coverage and perspectives on local, regional, and even global issues. I am rarely disappointed! I really appreciate all of the articles that you are printing about activism, communication, and solutions regarding climate change. Keeping this topic alive with your frequent updates is key to reminding us of this threat to our children's' future and what we can do about it. For example, your December 12 article on local participation in the International Climate Rally highlights how our local actions are a part of a worldwide movement to build political will for the changes we must make to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

If anyone doubts the urgency of this goal, please simply visit the websites of any environmental organization. Some examples include: Audubon, The National Wildlife Federation, Nature Conservancy, Union of Concerned Scientists, Earthjustice, Environmental Defense Fund, and Ocean Conservancy. You can also learn more about regional and global environmental issues at the "Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour", coming to the Bankhead Theater on January 24, 2020. Preview the films and Eco-Fair at https://trivalleycce.

Setting the Record Straight

Mayor John Marchand, City of Livermore

I find it necessary to correct a misquote and several inaccurate statements from Elizabeth Judge in the most recent Independent Mailbox. Ms. Judge has confused the Development Agreement for the hotel with the referendum against it. The two of these are separate and very distinct actions. She stated that I (the Mayor) "emphasized that the Development Agreement (D.A.) for the hotel has nothing to do with a park because the word "park" does not appear in the D.A.".

What I actually said, which can be verified by the video of the council meeting, was "in the 58 pages of the referendum, the word "park" does not appear once". This is important because the signature gatherers told voters that this referendum was about a larger park. However, if their referendum really was about a park as they said it was, the word "park" should have been included in it. There is no reason for the word "park" to appear in the Development Agreement for the hotel. The Development Agreement is and has always

(See MAILBOX, page 7)

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ON MARCH 3RD **VOTE NO** ON
THE PRESIDIO DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

The March Referendum Isn't Just About A Hotel, It's About The Right Plan For Livermore

COMPARE & DECIDE

Two plans for downtown. Both develop the same 8-acre site and include housing, Stockmen's Park, open space, retail, a science museum, a black box theater, a hotel, and new parking garages on I Street near the railroad tracks and on L Street.

Both can be constructed in a similar time frame. Here's where they're different:

CENTRAL PARK PLAN		THE CITY PLAN
160-room full-service destination hotel with restaurant on the west side of Livermore Avenue, with nearby parking.	HOTEL	**125 to 135-room hotel** with no restaurant and no on-site parking on the east side of Livermore Avenue.
84 units of housing in 3-story buildings, on the edge of the site.	HOUSING	**130 units of housing in 3 and 4 story buildings,** at the center of the development area.
3-acre central park continuous from the Bankhead Park Plaza to L Street, including Stockmen's Park.	PARK	**No large park,** just the same 1.1 acre Stockmen's Park as the Central Park Plan and open space among housing units.
244 space parking garage with restaurant on Livermore Ave. to support Blacksmith Square, BankheadTheater, Livermore 13 Cinema, and neighboring downtown businesses.	PARKING	**316 fewer parking spaces than needed near Livermore Ave.** compared to those provided in the Central Park Plan.
$15.04 million more tax revenue for Livermore over 30 years, a result of larger, higher-quality hotel.	REVENUE	**Less tax revenue** due to smaller hotel, fewer rooms, and less retail.

ON MARCH 3RD, VOTE NO ON P

IT'S THE WRONG PLAN FOR LIVERMORE

Ad Paid for by Protect the Central Park Vote

SPORTS NOTES

Fusion Soccer Club 2009 (U12) Boys Black

2010 WCS Earthquakes Aftershocks, Coach Nolan Parker

West Coast Soccer Earthquakes Avalanche win (U11) Bronze State Cup.

Livermore Fusion Soccer Club

Throughout the fall season, Fusion SC's 2009 (U12) Boys Black played superb defense, conceding only 8 goals in 8 league games. During the December 14 weekend, dominant defense propelled the team to a State Cup championship! After defeating San Ramon FC 1-0 and Ballistic SC 4-0 in preliminary State Cup matches, Fusion beat Lodi United FC 2-1 in overtime in the finals. Goalie Jake M starred for Fusion. "The boys had a phenomenal year," said Coach Scott O'Shaughnessey. "Almost all players scored goals and we allowed less than a goal per game, with 3 different keepers gaining experience. The boys' commitment to make each other better and willingness to do anything to help the team was on full display during our State Cup run."

West Coast Soccer Club

West Coast Soccer has a long standing tradition of success with multiple state, regional & national championships. Last weekend the boys had the ball rolling in the same direction, towards the goal! All three West Coast 2010 boys teams made the semi finals during their State Cup run. West Coast Team Rumble, Aftershocks and Rapids all won their quarterfinals games to advance to the semifinals in three different divisions Gold, Silver and Bronze.

The West Coast Avalanche 2009 Boys team won their state cup finals game on Saturday 12/14/19 in Modesto at Mary Grogan Sports Complex, defeating Danville Mustangs 2-1. Both of the West Coast Avalanche goals came in the first half. The first goal came off a pass from Santiago Gomez to Conner Giuliacci who hit a shot from the top of the goal box past the arms of a diving Mustangs goalie. After some back and forth play between the two teams the West Coast boys got a second goal when Daniyaal Malik took the ball up the left side of the field dribbling the ball towards the near post of Mustangs goal and then laying off a nice pass to Santiago Gomez who was making a run up the middle and passed it by the Mustangs goalie for the Avalanches second goal. In the second half Mustang increased the pressure and did find a way to score but in the end were not able to get the equalizer as they were turned away by a strong defense led by Goalie Neil Mishra, and defenders Jackson Adams, Bryce Perry, Masyn Hoxworth, Yusif Kalil, and Marcus Malogan.

Norcal State Cup finals provided some intense championship games in the U11 Boys age group. West Coast Earthquakes Explosion took on Heritage Wolves to see who would claim the Gold 2 State Cup. West Coast arrived at Mary Grogan park in style in the club bus and set the tone for the match. Coach Curt Cox had his team fired up from the start with support from Rob Hansen, Rafael Zamora and Thomas Roett. In a action packed game, the first goal against Heritage came from a cross by WCS Earthquakes forward Daen Hansen, to mid-fielder Brian Oliveira who first time volleyed the shot into the back of the net. As Heritage picked up momentum West Coast defenders Nathan Bone, Brandon Gobea and Carter West continued to hold off attacks preserving the one goal advantage in the first half. West Coast continued to apply pressure against the Wolves with passing and ball control from forward Cameron Cordero, forward Zachary Dimas, forward Connor Shenave, and midfielder Julian McCall. Heritage Wolves began to apply pressure but goal keeper Gianni Brewster made some incredible stops on multiple attempts. West Coast Forwards Jude Malson, Santiago Cerventas, Brody Thompson and midfielder Dinolen Shang began to get control of the game and with a quick pass from Carter West, Santiago Cerventas sprinted up the line and scored the second goal giving West Coast a 2-0 lead. Herritage Wolves began to push forward and scored a goal bringing it to 2-1 and with just a tick on the clock Heritage scored the tying goal ending regulation 2-2. Both teams battled in two overtime periods but no one could score and the game was going into penalty kicks. West Coast Earthquakes Explosions, Jude Malson, Santiago Cerventas and Brody Thompson made their penalty shots. With the game on the line goalie Daen Hansen was faced with the final shot from herritage, the shot hit the crossbar and West Coast Earthquakes ran onto the field taking home the Gold Division 2 State Championship, placing overall 9th in the state.

West Coast Soccer (U11) Earthquakes Explosion pictured after their win of NorCal Gold 2 State Cup.

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RALLY

(Continued from first page)

the law. If we wait until the next election, he will continue to abuse his office and obstruct justice."

During the rally, Mary Perner, a member of Livermore Indivisible and volunteers passed out information with phone numbers for U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, Sen. Diane Feinstein and Sen. Kamala Harris, urging people to send messages that nobody, even the President, is above the law.

"It is obvious Trump doesn't care about how wrong his decisions are, or about the consequences of his actions," Perner said.

Livermore Mayor John Marchand was among those who addressed the crowd. "It is time for the members of Congress to live up to the oath that they swore, which was to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States," he said.

"President Teddy Roosevelt observed that the White House was a 'bully pulpit,'" he continued, but "for Teddy, the word 'bully' meant excellent or great. In the last three years, we have seen Donald Trump turn the White House from a bully pulpit to the pulpit of a bully."

COOMBER

(Continued from first page)

"I saw my doctor (last week)," Coomber said. "He is still mystified that I don't feel awful."

An athletic and strong teen, Coomber began losing significant amounts of weight when he hit 20. Doctors diagnosed him with juvenile diabetes. He's taken insulin and kept track of his blood sugar levels ever since, and wears an insulin pump.

Coomber is shown rolling in the Relay for Life event.

As a young father, Coomber's left leg gave way on a hike. The diabetes had resulted in osteoporosis, which ravaged his legs and shattered his bones. He has spent the rest of his life using a wheelchair.

That hasn't stopped him from his passion: spending time hiking the trails in the nearby Sycamore Grove Park.

"As often as I can," said Coomber, who will turn 65 in January. "I'm out there almost every morning… It's several hundred acres of open space. You see a fascinating amount of stuff. Nature is still a fascinating force for me."

The kidney problem has sapped him of some of his strength. He no longer goes to the gym to lift weights as chronicled in the movie.

At home, Gina, his wife of almost 25 years, creates meals to satisfy the requirements of his diabetes and kidneys.

Although his siblings and daughter have offered to give him a life-saving kidney, Coomber said he told them 'no.' Coomber's siblings are all in their 60s, and his daughter has three children — 5 year old twins and an 8 year old.

"I'd rather she pay attention to her family than me," Coomber said.

In the meantime, Coomber needs a volunteer who would become a perfect match. Or, he must wait for another family to donate a loved one's organs, likely following a tragedy.

Coomber said he "aggressively passively" lets it be known that he needs a donor but does not seek out publicity. The Independent contacted him to do this article.

"The most I've ever done is go on Facebook to publish the link to the Stanford transplant center," Coomber said. "I don't have the ego to think I am so damn important I am going to go to those lengths. I know people in far worse shape than me."

He said he knows anyone willing to give him a kidney would be making a huge decision. A donation would lead to immediate surgery. A cadaver donation could require 6 to 10 years on a waiting list.

Coomber said his doctor considers him a good candidate for a transplant. Despite his diabetes, Coomber does not smoke or drink and is in excellent physical shape. Fortunately, Coomber has medical insurance through his wife's job and will soon be eligible for Medicare.

As Coomber waits, he spends his time outdoors, looking for bighorn sheep, Canada geese and a good view. On his most recent attempt, Coomber became stuck on a 400-yard area of rocks while trying to make it through the Sierra Nevada and had to give up. He wants to go back and try again, but his body won't let him. At least not now.

He might try again if he receives a new kidney.

"I'm used to facing difficulty and things out there on the trail, just getting over a two-foot rise," he said. "You find a way to do it."

Anyone interested in becoming a living kidney or liver donor should go to https://www.stanfordhealthcarelivedonors.

MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

been solely to support the construction of a hotel on South Livermore Avenue. Furthermore, placement of the hotel with "an iconic presence on South Livermore Avenue" was supported by over 80% of those who provided input during the City's outreach program.

It is apparent that the "central park" group, of whom Ms. Judge is a member, is deliberately misleading and trying to rewrite the narrative to confuse the public. The fact is, according to an independent analysis, placing the hotel on the east side of S. Livermore creates a larger park.

Contrary to her accusation, the City Council has not and will not use public funds in any campaign regarding the referendum. However so far, the Friends of Livermore and the "central park" proponents under various names have spent over $1.3 million trying to defeat the approved downtown plan.

The time is now to keep up the momentum on the improvements in our downtown. The approved City downtown plan and its costs have been carefully analyzed and rigorously verified. There will be more parking, more park, and more amenities for all who visit the area. The approved city plan is more than just a picture in a weekly paper.

On March 3rd, for continued progress on our downtown vote "Yes" on P.

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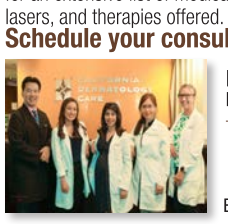

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CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
Wednesday, December 25th
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JUUL

(Continued from first page)

including violation of the Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organizations "RICO" statute, gross negligence, public nuisance, strict product liability, and unjust enrichment, for which the lawsuit claims the district is entitled to disgorgement of Juul's ill-gotten profits.

"We still do not know the extent of vaping's health consequences for our kids, but we know the results are serious," Livermore School District Superintendent Kelly Bowers said. "Educators see the impact of Juul's teen-focused marketing efforts firsthand every day. Our schools must hold Juul accountable for misleading the children we serve."

The lawsuit calls out Juul's patented manufacturing method that increases the potency of nicotine with the use of benzoic acid to produce nicotine salts. The lawsuit claims that this process makes Juul's products highly-addictive. Juul controls nearly three-quarters of the e-cigarette market, according to the lawsuit.

For years, Bowers said that tobacco use in schools had dwindled almost out of existence. That changed when the vaping trend became widespread among young people. She credits concerned high school students in the district with first opening her eyes to the prevalence of vaping on social media platforms. As a result, more students who otherwise made wise choices were lured into vaping and becoming addicted to nicotine, she said.

Twenty-five percent of Livermore School District high schoolers report that they currently use some form of tobacco, according to a survey taken during the 2017-2018 school year. E-cigarettes often contain nicotine and are considered tobacco products.

Livermore is not unique. A recent University of Michigan study revealed: increases in adolescent vaping from 2017 to 2018 were the largest ever recorded in 43 years for any adolescent substance use in the United States. The study noted the percentage of 12th graders who reported vaping nicotine in the past 30 days nearly doubled rising to 21% in 2018, from 11 percent% in 2017.

While Livermore is the only school district named in the lawsuit, several other Bay Area school districts filed their own lawsuits in federal court this week including: San Francisco Unified School District, Cabrillo Unified School District, San Mateo-Foster City School District and Jefferson Union High School District in San Mateo County.

All of the lawsuits are being filed by the Renne Public Law Group, a public interest law firm in San Francisco, in collaboration with other law firms. The firms are handling the cases on a contingency basis, which means the school districts will only pay for the legal representation from any damages awarded if they prevail.

Juul has recently adopted voluntary measures to reduce the access of its products to young people. It also has stopped selling sweet flavored pods that became popular among high school users, including mango, fruit medley, cucumber, creme brulee and mint.

"Our customer base is the world's 1 billion adult smokers and we do not intend to attract underage users. To the extent these cases allege otherwise, they are without merit," a Juul Labs spokesperson said in a written statement in response to the lawsuit.

In July, the Livermore City Council unanimously adopted Ordinance 2088, which requires every retailer selling tobacco products in the city to obtain a city tobacco license; every retailer to be more than 1,000 feet from schools and locations where youth gather; and prohibits the sale of all flavored tobacco products, e-cigarettes and e-cigarette liquids.

The law was supposed to go into effect this past August, but a challenge by Juul, which was later abandoned, delayed its implementation. It is now set to take effect Jan. 1, 2020.

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PUSD

(Continued from first page)

respect; and 84% said their school has high learning standards for all students.

This was the first year everyone living in the district could participate. Previous surveys were limited to parents, students and staff. This year, 5,731 people participated, compared to just under 4,000 last year.

The survey was taken in April and May. Gannon said the district will include more questions next year, and drum up more interest in taking the survey.

In other action:

Board Vice-president Steve Maher moved up to president, and trustee Jamie Yee was elected vice-president. Votes on both were unanimous.

The board approved a 2.75% pay boost for teachers and other certificated personnel, such as counselors. The 2.75% increase applies to each of three years of the contract, retroactive to July 1, 2019; it is not compounded annually. The agreement will expire June 30, 2022. The vote was unanimous. The item will have its second reading at the board's Jan. 14 meeting.

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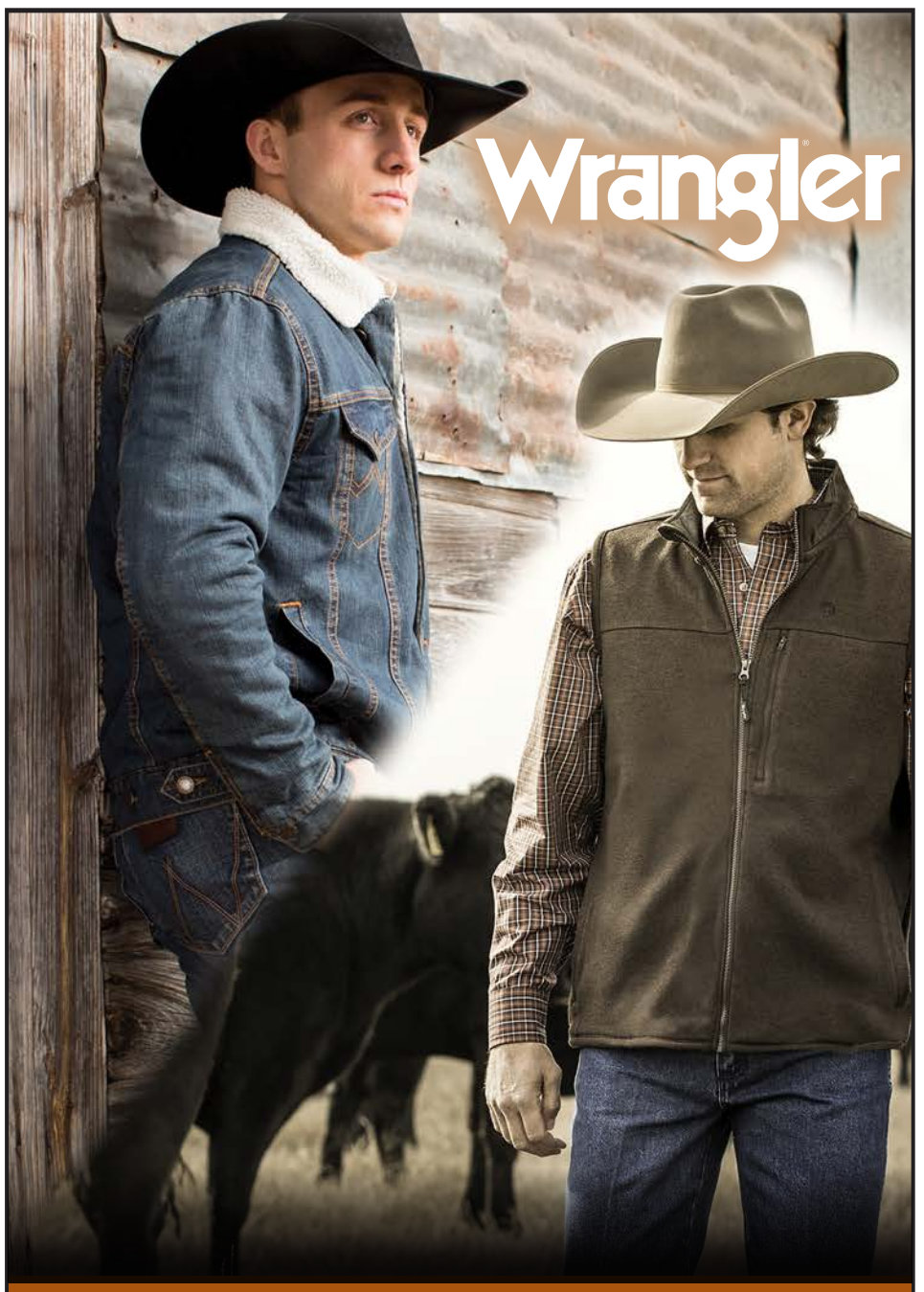

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LAWSUIT

(Continued from first page)

University of California attorneys, so they had to be twice as smart and twice as nimble… They did a great job," he said.

He believes public employers around the state will now be on notice that they cannot simply decide to save money by eliminating retiree benefits.

If the University of California, with all its resources, has ended up with an $85 million obligation plus $12 million in attorney's fees after a lengthy lawsuit, he reasoned, city and county benefits managers should be aware that they may be legally vulnerable and financially exposed if they act without considering retiree interests.

LLNL declined comment on the settlement on the grounds that it was not a defendant and had not reviewed the decision.

A spokesperson for the University California said that "we are pleased to have reached an agreement with the retirees of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory that provides them and their families security for their health care benefits."

The spokesperson restated UC's institutional position that "these retirees do not have a vested contractual right to University-sponsored retiree benefits," but the settlement "will help offset cost" of the benefits.

He said that the National Nuclear Security Administration "is providing the majority of the funding" for the settlement, but declined to be more specific on the ground that the agreement will not be complete until the court finally approves it.

UC managed the Laboratory from its founding in 1952, so LLNL employees were University employees just as they are at Berkeley or UCLA. In 1961, the University's Board of Regents authorized the expansion of health care benefits to cover UC retirees as well as active employees.

Laboratory retirees enjoyed UC health care benefits until 2008, shortly after a for-profit consortium called Lawrence Livermore National Security LLC replaced UC as manager. Retirees were then forced to find health care in individual, industrial-style programs, some of which were less reliable and more expensive than UC's had been.

In addition, there was no certainty of continued health care coverage, which many of the retirees felt they were promised as UC employees – and which they later documented in court.

Then and later, many of the retirees claimed that they had made career decisions at least partly on the basis of these promises.

In face-to-face meetings with senior University managers in Oakland in 2008-9, they tried to negotiate a return to UC health care. When that didn't work, they formed a grassroots organization called the UC Livermore Retiree Group under the leadership of retiree Joe Requa. They began raising funds and, in 2010, filed suit.

The fundraising was remarkably effective, eventually bringing in more than $900,000 from more than 1,000 donors.

The suit became a class action in 2014. As the years dragged on, the retirees experienced both wins and losses. Significantly, they won two major court of appeal decisions, including one that reversed a ruling that would have decertified the class.

To Jay Davis, one of the named retiree plaintiffs in the lawsuit, the financial support provided by the Retiree Group was invaluable for making it possible to bring in actuarial expertise.

This was used to analyze benefits, project medical costs and predict survival rates, according to a Retiree Group statement.

The analyses "gave us the resources to outthink and outfight the University of California," he said.

"The University was just not prepared for a lawsuit by people who could do that depth of analysis... The problem they got into was that when we had an argument, they had to argue with our numbers."

Two other named plaintiffs, Wendell Moen and Donna Ventura, felt a strong connection with the old Laboratory that had been operated by the University of California. They felt little allegiance to the for-profit partnership, Lawrence Livermore National Security LLC, that took over in late 2007.

Ventura recalls her 32 years at the Laboratory as "a good career." It felt like something of a "betrayal" when "the LLC took over" and UC health care suddenly was no longer available.

To Moen, anxiety among class members grew out of the recognition that future contractors might have no loyalty to retirees — and that their health care could disappear.

"I think that's where the lawsuit drew its support from so many people," he said. "There was nothing that would compel another organization (in the future) to respect the employment that we had with the University."

Davis finds it both sad and ironic that if the current settlement had been offered at the start of the lawsuit nearly a decade ago, "we would have taken it in a minute.

"In the meantime, 2,500 retirees have died. That, I think, weighs on us more than anything else. We have lost friends who will never know how this came out."

OBITUARIES

Esther Ann (Tikkanen) Milosky

Esther Milosky, 90, of Livermore died peacefully in her home on Thursday, December 12, 2019.

Esther was a native of Brisbane, CA and later moved to Fremont, CA to raise her family. In 1989, she and her husband retired to Copperopolis and the Lake Tulloch community where they spent many happy years. Following the death of her husband, she moved to Livermore, CA to live with her daughter and grandson.

Esther was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She enjoyed gardening, home improvement projects,

boating, fishing, and waterskiing. However, her real passion was bowling. She coached youth bowling for many years, was involved in many bowling leagues at Cloverleaf Family Bowl in Fremont and Granada Lanes in Livermore, and made many close friends through her years of bowling.

She is survived by her children: Ken Milosky of Kauai, HI; Cathy Gomez of Livermore; Dennis Milosky of Foster City; Rick Milosky of Johnstown, CO; and 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Esther is reunited with her loving husband Victor "Ski" Milosky, her parents, Eino and Myrtle Tikkanen, her brother Harold Tikkanen, and her grandson Sion Milosky.

Remembrances may be made to the American Cancer Society. A celebration of life will be planned in early 2020.

Hollis Harold Beckett Jr.

Hollis Beckett loved to fly, and his life personified flying. He always wanted to become a pilot, and he was granted his dreams to fly.

Hollis Harold Beckett Jr. passed peacefully on November 19th, 2019 at the age of 98 years young. He lived the life of a dedicated member of the Armed Forces. Enlisting in the Army the day after Pearl Harbor, he was probably surprised when some time later he took a test and was accepted into the Army Air Corps, spanning over 30 years of service with what later became the Air Force. He switched to the Air National Guard, ending at the 234th Mobile Command Squadron at Hayward, CA in 1976 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Cataloging over 6600 hours in flight, Hollis had flown most every airplane, including the AT-6, the U-10, and the C-45. He served as a flight instructor for many of his years, such as for the B-25. His personal manual on technical instruc-

tion and pre-flight checks gave directions in preparing lesson plans for his students.

Hollis married Nadine in 1954 in a chapel at March Army Air Base in Riverside, CA, and celebrated 65 years of marriage, amazingly the second marriage for both of them. They raised their two daughters, Heidi and Holly, mostly here in Pleasanton, while Hollis was serving with the Air National Guard with his unit based in Van Nuys, CA. He worked out of the Naval Air Station in Alameda as an NTSB Accident Investigator for some years after his honorable discharge. On his last day of civilian retirement in June of 1986, Nadine hired a limo: "...not a fancy one, the girls and I arrived at the gate and received permission to enter". Hollis was so surprised and happy to receive a grand send-off, even the Gate Guard looked back and said 'wow!'

Hollis enjoyed his retirement while worshipping at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore but loved 'serving' as an original member of the Balloon Platoon, marching for over 30 years here in Pleasanton and in places around the globe.

His Celebration of Life and full military honors will be given at 1pm on December 29th, 2019 at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Hall in downtown Pleasanton, 301 Main Street. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Hollis' name be sent to VFW Post 6298 or American Legion Post 237 in Pleasanton.

Susan Elaine Wilson

of Livermore and Crockett
July 8,1952 to December 7, 2019

Susan was born in Kentucky, attended the University of Kentucky, Louisville and graduated with a degree in English.

Susan was the former Director of Logistics with Stanford University Medical Center.

Susan Elaine Wilson, Medicine Dreaming Woman, was of Cherokee and Choctaw heritage, was a native trained Medicine Woman practitioner, poet, writer, playwright, meditation and creative writing teacher, astrologer, massage therapist, medium, and healer.

Susan is a five-time winner of the Lydia Wood award

for poetry and prose, the 1997 winner of the Stanford University Medical Center Poetry Award, and published author of a book of poetry "Like a Woman".

Susan touched, healed, and changed the lives of all who came in contact with her. She believed in Angels, The Seven Directions, and animal spirits. She was an Angel herself.

Susan is survived by her brother, Larry Wilson, who resides in Texas and her loving husband and soul mate, Leo DeLong who resides in Crockett.

For information concerning a memorial celebration to be held in Livermore, please contact her husband at MIKMAQMAN@Comcast.net

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Wilson family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Jane King Cupps

June 12, 1934 - December 10, 2019

Jane King Cupps passed away on December 10th, 2019 after an unexpected illness. Jane was born in Gallup, New Mexico on June 12, 1934, the youngest of four daughters born to Richard Lang King and Mary Biffle King. Jane spent her childhood in Gallup, New Mexico and Durango, Colorado before moving with her family to Herlong, California where she attended high school. She later moved to Reno, Nevada to study chemistry at the University of Nevada. It was in Reno that she met and married her husband Frank (Jerry). After living in New York City for two years, Jane and Jerry moved to Livermore where they raised four children and where Jane enjoyed a 25 year career as an analytical chemist at Livermore Lawrence National Laboratories. In 2013, after the death of her husband, Jane moved to the Stoneridge Creek Community in Pleasanton.

Jane was a voracious reader all her life and had an innate curiosity that was apparent from an early age. Having learned to read before reaching school age, she exhausted all the children's books in the Durango public library by the third grade. As an adult, her varied interests

took her to every section of the library and there wasn't a table, desk, or bookcase in her home that didn't groan under the weight of her current selections. She loved music and the arts, and was a season subscriber and patron to the SF Opera, Ashland Shakespeare Festival, and SF Symphony. Her musical interests spanned a wide spectrum from classical to folk and rock. She also had an exceptional singing voice and played the guitar. She loved to play games, and hotly contested matches of dominoes, marbles, poker, and bocce ball were regular events with family and neighbors. Jane and Jerry also shared a passion for bridge and were duplicate bridge partners for more than 50 years. They earned Life Master status and were active members in two weekly bridge games. Savvy investing was another of Jane's interests, and she and like-minded friends formed a women's investment club long before those were common. In retirement, Jane enjoyed traveling and taking in the museums, architecture, and other points of interest in countries around the world. Her favorite trips were to the cultural centers of Europe, China, Russia, and Egypt.

Jane had many interests and talents, but her unconditional love and support for her family and close friends was at the center of all she did. She was the heart of our family and she will be sorely missed. She was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Jane is survived by her son, Pete Cupps (Kelly); daughters Sue Sower (Mark) and Sharon Dutton (John); daughter-in-law Gina Bonanno; grandchildren Melissa Battles, Jill Burns, Jordan Cupps, Megan Gabrio, Rebecca Gall, Jessica Vallincourt, Alex Cupps, Alexandra Gallagher, Emily and Tyler Dutton; great grandchildren Blaire and Nash Battles, Max Burns, Avery and Eleanor Gabrio, Sadie Gallagher; and many nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by her husband, Jerry; sisters Kay, Elizabeth, and Patricia; and her daughter, Kimberly.

Terry Munoz Zavala

Terry Munoz Zavala passed away Friday, November 1st, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease and multiple medical issues. He touched many lives with his gentle spirit and his religious devotion.

Terry was born in Asherton, Texas, and graduated from Asherton High School. He was drafted in the U.S. Navy in 1955. Towards the end of his tour, he met his wife, Charlotte Gallardo, while stationed at Point Mugu, in Southern California.

Terry was a natural-born salesman. He started working for J.C. Penney's in Texas, prior to being drafted. After being Honorably Discharged from the Navy, he returned to J.C. Penney's in Southern California. He became a store manager for Beno's Inc. and moved about opening different stores for the company. He worked sales his entire life, from Value Giant, Pay-Less, Ross Stores, Sears,

Macy's just to name a few. He worked up until his 70s with Macy's, selling shoes to suits. He truly loved interacting with people. He often left jobs for companies he worked for when he felt their policies were not fair to the employees, even if it had no direct effect on him.

He loved barbecuing, riding his bike, watching or listening to boxing, baseball and football, and especially dancing. He loved the Oakland Athletics and the San Francisco 49ers. You could often hear him yelling at the TV screen as if they could hear him. He was a regular member of Trinity Church in Livermore.

Terry is survived by his loving wife, Charlotte, devoted children, David Zavala of Livermore, Robert and Ann Zavala of Castro Valley, and grandchildren Megan Zavala of Ventura, Justin and Kiew Elrod of San Ramon, Jesse Kot of Manteca, Charity Hanky of Snohomish Washington, and Amber Gonzalez of Patterson, Ryan Zavala of Castro Valley, and Nick Zavala of Santa Rosa and great grandchildren Lola and Lucy Rain, Zachary Neely and Dannica Searcy. He is also survived by his brothers Daniel Zavala of Crystal City, Texas and David Zavala of Eagle Pass, Texas, and sister Maria Luisa (Mary Lu) Zavala of Crystal City, Texas. He is preceded in death by his son, Daniel Zavala of Ventura, California, his brother Isaias (Chay) Zavala of Crystal City, Texas, and sister Eloidia Zavala.

Lloyd Martin Jantzen

Lloyd Martin Jantzen passed away on November 12, 2019 at the age of 83 after a long illness. A resident of Pleasanton for over 50 years, Lloyd was a gentle soul with a positive outlook on life who made friends easily throughout the community. He was born in Seminole, Oklahoma and lived in Colorado in his youth.

Lloyd was a veteran of the United States Navy which brought him to the Naval Air Station in Alameda. While in the service, he was trained at various Aviation Electrical Schools. Upon completion of his tour of duty, Lloyd continued to expand his technical education working as an engineer. He worked for 30 years in telecommunications with Pacific Telephone, Telegraph Company and Pacific Bell. For 22 of those years, he worked in different management capacities. When his children were young, he volunteered with Alameda County 4-H, was active with Livermore Lions Club, and with Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Lloyd is survived by his children Cindy Ford (Jim), Catherine Rivenes (Andy), and Jeffrey Jantzen (Christine), along with his grandchildren Collin and Keith Lewis, Logan (Kirsten) and Drake (Tara) Rivenes, and Haley and Reed Jantzen. His surviving sisters, Ronna Cornella, Evelyn Bonnie Beasley, and Karen Jantzen will miss him very much. He was preceded in death by his wife Sally, parents Martin and Ethel Berneice Jantzen, brothers Dell, Dale, and Kenneth Duane Jantzen. Lloyd will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

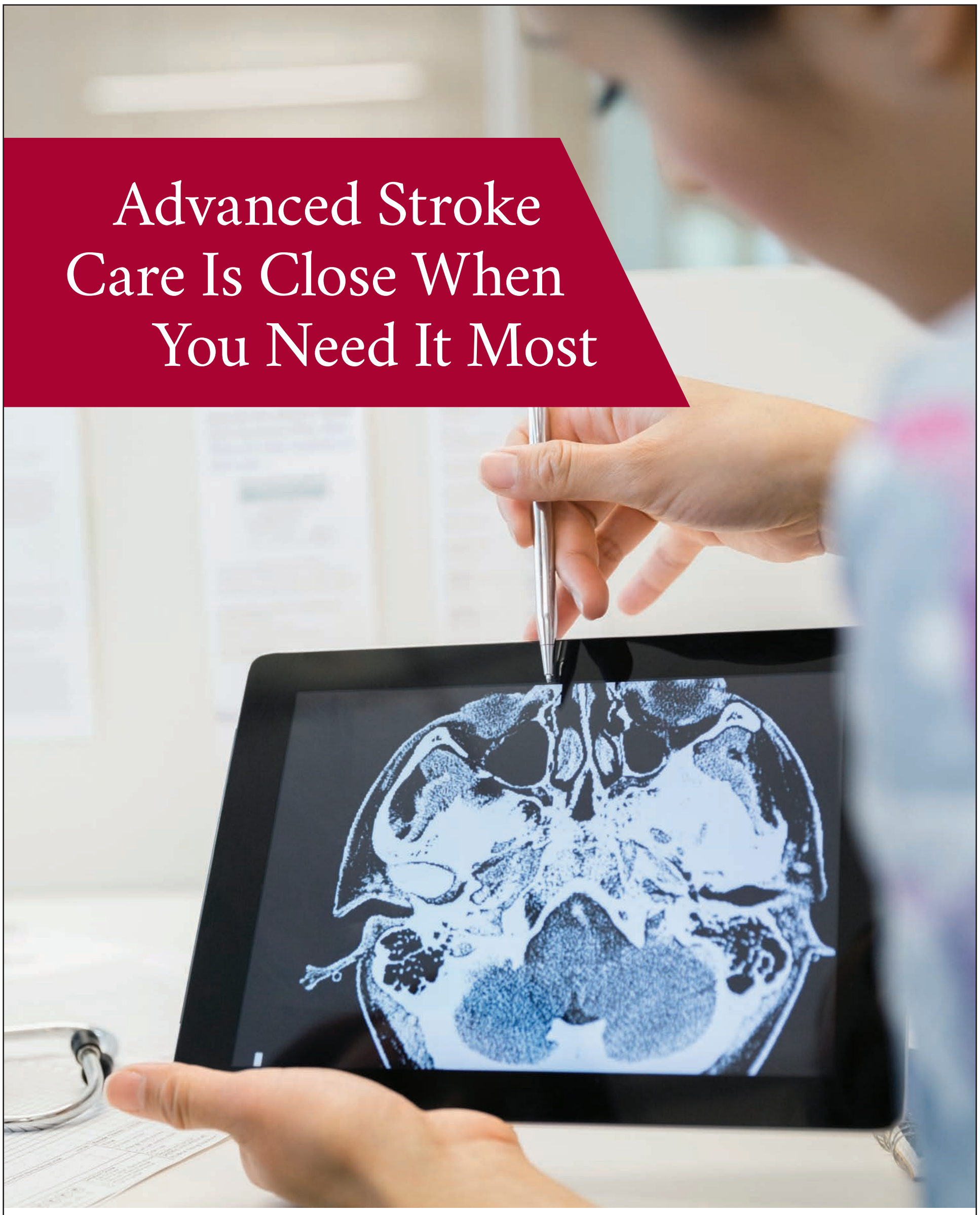
A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Honor Your Departed HOPE Hospice | Home Health

As a non-profit agency serving the Tri-Valley for 40 years, Hope Hospice relies on donations to help provide end-of-life care and support to all who need it. If your family is designating charitable donations in memory of a departed loved one, please consider Hope Hospice. Your generosity will allow us to continue providing excellent care, grief support, and caregiver education to the local community.

6377 Clark Ave. Suite 100 Dublin, CA 94568
(925) 829-8770 | HopeHospice.com

Hope Hospice is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency.
IRS Tax ID# 94-2576059



Good news for all of us in the Tri-Valley:
Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare in Pleasanton has been certified a primary stroke center*

Being a primary stroke center means we provide high-quality care to stroke patients around the clock.

Exceptional treatment close to home

Having access to quality care is extremely important for individuals suffering from a stroke. Getting treatment sooner can be life-changing.

Stanford neurovascular specialists and our entire 24/7 stroke response team are ready to help. We all share the Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare commitment: to ensure that every person in every community we serve has access to the best possible care.

*Certification by the Joint Commission, the independent body that accredits health care organizations and programs worldwide, including more than 21,000 in the US.

Stanford HEALTH CARE
STANFORD MEDICINE
ValleyCare

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES Call 925-243-8000

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. HG19043936 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Han Suk Cho
3891 Milton Terrace
Fremont, CA 94555
(510) 396-1447,
sj_72@yahoo.com
filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name:
Han Suk Cho
Proposed Name:
Stephen Jo
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 01/24/2020
Time: 11:00 AM
Dept: 17
The address of the court is:
Alameda County
Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulatition printed in this county:
The Independent Newspaper
2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550. Dated: November 20, 2019
/s/: Wynne S. Carvill, Judge of the Superior Court.
The Independent Legal No. 4664 Published November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565299

The following person(s) doing business as: Phil Doyle Photo, 1122 Batavia Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Tri-Valley Studios, 1122 Batavia Ave, 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: 2006. Signature of Registrant/s/: Phil Doyle, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 8, 2019. Expires November 8, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4665. Published December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565787

The following person(s) doing business as: Bytes for Bits Digital Creations, 2439 Valentano Dr., Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Keith Kong, 2439 Valentano Dr., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Keith Kong, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 25, 2019. Expires November 25, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4666. Published December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565281

The following person(s) doing business as: Bobi Gentry Goodwin Publications, 4971 Hollice Court, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Electra Gentry, 4971 Hollice Court, CA 94550.This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Electra Gentry, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 7, 2019. Expires November 7, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4667. Published December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565581

The following person(s) doing business as: Pristine Pools Complete Pool Maintenance and Repair, 3985 1st Street, Suite S., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pristine Pools, Inc., 3985 1st Street, Suite S., 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: November 7, 2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Matthew K. Vieira, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 19, 2019. Expires November 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4668. Published December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2019.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566032

The following person(s) doing business as: Good Morning Maxwell, 2220 Second, Suite I, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joanne Tan, 573 Bernal Avenue, 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/: Joanne Tan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 3, 2019. Expires December 3, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4669. Published December 12, 19, 26, January 2, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566032

The following person(s) doing business as: Gay 90's Pizza Company, 288 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): RSLE Entrerprises, Inc., 5875 Lausanne Dr., Reno, NV 89511. 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: June 30, 1986. Signature of Registrant/s/: Robert L. Earnest, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 4, 2019. Expires December 4, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4670. Published December 12, 19, 26, January 2, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566215

The following person(s) doing business as: Crescent Bloom Doula, 860 N O Street, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kymberlie Fleming, 860 N O Street, 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: December 1, 2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kimberlie Fleming, Owner, Doula. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 6, 2019. Expires December 6, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4671. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566195

The following person(s) doing business as: Sole Natural Wellness, 23916 Fairlands Road, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vikki Klingenberg, 23916 Fairlands Road, Hayward, CA 94541. 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/: Vikki Klingenberg, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 6, 2019. Expires December 6, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4672. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566094

The following person(s) doing business as: A Kid's Village, 1023 Dublin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christine D. Charron, 1023 Dublin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christine Charron, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2019. Expires December 5, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4673. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565704

The following person(s) doing business as: October Jae & Company, 325 Robert Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Morgan Krowel, 325 Robert Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. 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/: Morgan Krowel, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 21, 2019. Expires November 21, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4674. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 566427

The following person(s) doing business as: Sonicsol, 6183 Oakville LN, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sonicsol IT Support, Inc, 6183 Oakville LN, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Hovhannes J. Berejiklian, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 12, 2019. Expires December 12, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4675. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 565937

The following person(s) doing business as: Curry Leaves Bistro, 884 Herman Avenue Apt 109, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Annapoorni LLC, 884 Herman Avenue Apt 109, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability. 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/: Jaimohan Kandayah,Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 27, 2019. Expires November 27, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 4676. Published December 19, 26, January 2, 9, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that this is an Online Bid Process; only bids submitted through the online portal will be accepted. Please logon or register at https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/. NON-MANDATORY VENDOR OUTREACH AND NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCE for RFP #901857 Juvenile Facility Food Services – VENDOR OUTREACH: Wednesday, December 11, 2019, at 10:30 AM at San Lorenzo Library 395 Paseo Grande San Lorenzo, CA 94580 NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCE: January 8, 2020 at 10:00 AM at GSA-Procurement Room 1107, 11th Floor 1401 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612 Response Due by 2:00 PM on February 21, 2020 OR online - see webpage COUNTY CONTACT: Jacqueline Favela at (510) 208-9612 or via email: Jacqueline.Favela2@acgov.org. Attendance at Vendor Outreach and Bidders Conference are NON-MANDATORY. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 12/19/19 CNS-3322294#.The Independent, Legal No. 4677. Published December 19, 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

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

EMPLOYMENT

FormFactor, Inc. in Livermore, CA seeks Principal Metrology Process Engineer. Apply measurement sci, math & physics for the dvlpmt, implementation, & cont imprvmt. Reqs incl MS or frgn equiv in Indtrl Eng, Mnufctrng Eng, Mech Eng or rel + 3 yrs rel exp. Send resume with job code 3008-R to Attn: S. Shields, 7005 Southfront Rd, Livermore, CA 94551. EOE.

FormFactor, Inc. in Livermore, CA seeks Principal Test Engineer. Develop in-house probe card test solutions for new architectures & test dvpt for future new design & current products. Reqs incl BS or frgn equiv in Eltrcl Eng, Mech Eng or rel + 5 yrs prog rel exp. To apply, mail resume with job code 3007-R to Attn: S. Shields, 7005 Southfront Rd, Livermore, CA 94551. EOE.

Systems Engineer, Inertial Navigation Systems (Livermore, CA). Dvlp & implmt set of navigation & sensor fusion algorithms (GPS, Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) navigation systems, encoders, laser tracking sensors) for bare-metal & real-time operation systems for ARM Cortex M architectures & for post-processing. Dvlp, implmt & debug navigation algorithms for mobile mapping systems using Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), laser scanner, inertial navigation systems, & video cameras measurements. Master's in Robotics or Electrical Engg & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp working w/ GNSS products & IMU receivers. Mail resumes to: Topcon Positioning Systems, Inc., Attn: Cheryl Erickson, 7400 National Dr, Livermore, CA 94550

65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

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

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

114) FOR SALE

115)ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

18) FREE SECTION

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

127) LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

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

REAL ESTATE

168)LAND FOR SALE

170) LAND FOR RENT

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

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

160) BOAT / RV RENTAL SPACE

Inland Valley Publishing Co.
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Swalwell Says Trump 'Crime Spree' Justifies Impeachment

Swalwell's "Cocoa with the Congressman" in downtown Pleasanton on Dec. 14 drew a crowd of about 200 people.
(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

The two articles of impeachment that were brought forth against President Donald Trump are justified because the president is "on a constitutional crime spree," said Rep. Eric Swalwell, the Democratic incumbent in the 15th Congressional District, which includes the Tri-Valley.

Swalwell is a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The committees sent the request for the full House to vote on impeachment on two charges: abuse of power and obstruction of justice. Both committees voted 25 -17 on strict party lines. The full House is expected to vote on impeachment on Dec. 18, after The Independent's deadline.

"Fortunately, America's founders did not leave the people helpless to an executive's abuses," Swalwell said. "Our Constitution provides the power of impeachment and removal. President Trump is on a constitutional crime spree, jeopardizing our national security and the integrity of our elections. We have no choice but to act."

Trump is accused of enticing the president of Ukraine to dig up information about the business activities of former Vice President Joseph Biden's son, also named Joseph Biden, in a supposed attempt to smear the senior Biden, a major contender for the Democrats' 2020 presidential nomination. The younger Biden was doing business for a firm operating in Ukraine.

Allegedly, Trump used the threat of withholding $400 million in military aid for the country's battle against Russian military pressure in eastern Ukraine. Trump is also accused of stonewalling federal investigators looking into the incident.

"No critical fact in this investigation is in dispute," Swalwell said in a statement. "And this case is no longer about what the president did. We know what Donald Trump did; he admitted it. As these articles move to the full House of Representatives, this is now about what we must do to protect our national security and our elections."

Trump responded in the news media that "it's a witch hunt, a sham, a hoax. Nothing was done wrong; zero was done wrong. It's a scam. It's something that shouldn't be allowed and it's something that is a very bad thing for our country. You are trivializing impeachment."

A Senate trial would end the matter, assuming a straight party vote. Senate Leader Mitch McConnell told Fox News that "there is no chance that that the president will be removed from office."

Meanwhile, Swalwell's "Cocoa with the Congressman" in downtown Pleasanton on Dec. 14 drew a vocal crowd of about 200 people, with the overflow spilling out of Peet's Coffee onto Main Street. An eyewitness account estimated that about two thirds of those attending were there to support Swalwell, who is seeking re-election, with about one third opposed to his stances on impeachment and gun control. Swalwell favors a national program of getting semi-automatic guns off the streets by buying them back from owners.

People on opposite sides of the issue reportedly were respectful, and the conversations civil, though a few people were intense and insistent in their tone.

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THE Independent

SECTION A

Thursday, December 19, 2019

The Special Consensus; Grammy-Nominated Bluegrass Band Returns to the Firehouse

Bluegrass band The Special Consensus will be featured at the Firehouse Arts Center Theater on January 17.

The band known for their "bluegrass with attitude" returns to the Firehouse Arts Center Theater in downtown Pleasanton. Fresh off their 2019 Grammy Award nomination, The Special Consensus plays the Firehouse on Fri, January 17, at 8 p.m.

Led by Greg Cahill, banjo legend and recipient of the prestigious Distinguished Achievement Award from the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA), Special Consensus has received five awards from the IBMA and two Grammy nominations, among many other honors and accolades. Their most recent album Rivers and Roads, the band's 19th recording, was nominated for a 2019 Grammy, received five 2018 IBMA nominations, and was awarded the 2018 IBMA Album of the Year. The single 'Squirrel Hunters' was also named 2018 IBMA Instrumental Recorded Performance of the Year.

Boasting a repertoire that features traditional bluegrass standards, original compositions, and songs from various other musical genres performed in bluegrass style, the band also includes Rick Faris (guitar), Dan Eubanks (bass) and Nick Dumas (mandolin).

The Special Consensus has appeared on numerous National Public Radio programs and cable television shows—including The Nashville Network—and have been featured on the cover of the renowned bluegrass publication, Bluegrass Unlimited, three times. They received a standing ovation after their first performance on the Grand Ole Opry stage at Nashville's historic Ryman Auditorium. They have toured Australia, Canada, Europe, South America, Ireland, and the United Kingdom. The Special Consensus has appeared in concert with symphony orchestras nationwide since

(Continued on page 3)

Proposed Downtown Livermore Science Museum Named

The Livermore Science & Society Center has created a new logo and is changing its name to Quest.

The nonprofit — which formed a few years ago to finance, build and operate a new science education center in the heart of downtown Livermore — is unveiling a rebrand today, ahead of a $15 million fundraising campaign for its proposed facility: Quest Science Center 2.0.

Its new name and logo more accurately describe the anticipated journey where everyone is encouraged to Q (question) U (understand) and E (explore) S (science) and T (technology), according to the organization.

Quest is a collective of retirees from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, California, community leaders, and educators dedicated to bringing a science and technology center to the Tri-Valley.

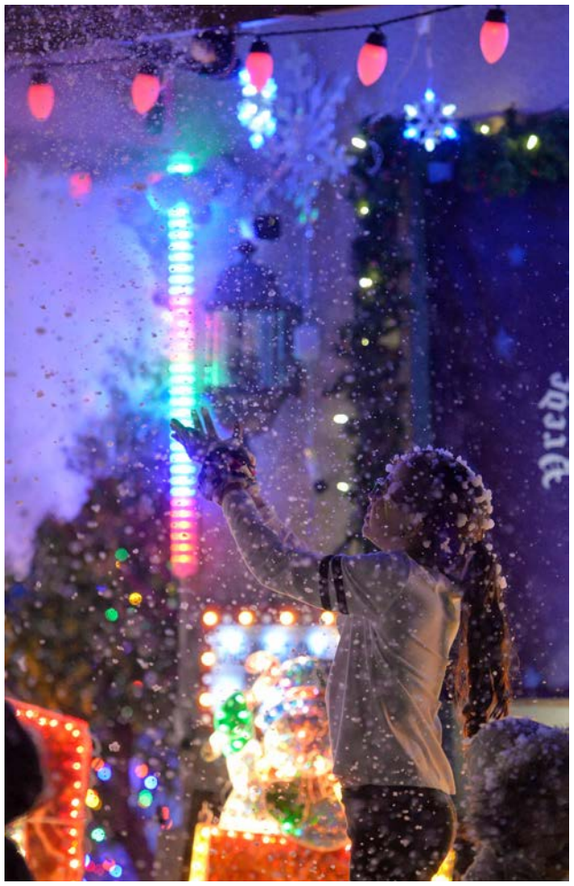
"We want science to be accessible and approachable, and to show how it impacts the way we learn, work and live in our ever-changing world," said Alan Burnham, Quest founder and chief financial officer, in a written statement. "We also want to spark interest in working in science and technology fields by collaborating with local educational partners, as well as Tri-Valley companies that are leaders in the STEM fields." STEM Stands for science, technology, engineering and math.

Burnham started the effort to build a science center in 2017 when he enlisted the help of fellow LLNL colleagues Monya Lane, now the CEO and president of Quest, and Vaughn Draggoo, along with David Kent, a board member of the Tri-Valley Conservancy. Since then, Jay Davis and Rick Stulen joined the effort. When the City of Livermore announced redevelopment plans for downtown, the group advocated for the addition of a science center.

Since July 2018, the organization has been in negotiations with the City of Livermore on a long-term land lease deal. They hope to build and operate a roughly 20,000-square-foot, two-story building on about a third of an acre next to Stockmen's Park, south of Railroad Avenue between South L Street and South Livermore Avenue. Early plans call for flexible exhibit and museum space to promote scientific learning through interactive displays, speakers, discussion groups and children's activities.

The City Council in July approved continued negotiations on a development agreement between Livermore and Quest that requires completion of design by August 2021, building permit issuance by August 2023 and opening of the center by August 2025. Quest's goal is to

(Continued on page 2)



Children and adults were transfixed by the elaborate displays up at Knottingham Circle.

Amador to Perform at Prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago

By Carol Graham

What began in 1946 as 120 music directors meeting for six hours in a Chicago YWCA gym has now become the annual four-day music band and orchestra conference known as The Midwest Clinic International Band, Orchestra and Music Conference.

For over 70 years, musicians, educators and people passionate about music education have gathered in Chicago for the largest music conference of its kind.

This year, on Friday, Dec. 20, Pleasanton's Amador Valley High School Wind Ensemble I will be performing at the clinic, featuring conductors Jonathan Grantham, Patrick Dendrea, Kevin Sedatole, David Vickerman, and Paul Perazzo, with Brooke Emery on clarinet.

The music will feature: Celebrations – John Zdechlik, Music Aurea – Travis J. Cross, Rhapsody for Solo Clarinet and Band – Patrick Burns, Court Jester March – Karen Kachelmeier Robertson, The Ash Grove – Julie Giroux, Autumn – Cait Nishimura, California – David Maslanka, The Big Cage – Karl King (arr. Glover), Pipe and Thistle – Carol Brittin Chambers, and Pineapple Poll – Arthur Sullivan (Duthoit/Mackerras).

Amador is one of 20 bands invited, including high schools, middle schools, universities and Air Force Bands.

The Midwest Clinic International Band, Orchestra and Music Conference offers guests interested in music education an array of clinics and exhibits, as well as access to music and teaching icons. The conference will also focus on industry trends and future topics in business and music education. With more than 18,000 attendees from all 50 states and more than 30 countries, The Midwest Clinic offers music educators and musicians alike an unmatched networking opportunity.

To learn more, visit www.midwestclinic.org.

SCIENCE MUSEUM

(Continued from first page)

open well ahead of deadline, breaking ground in 2022 and opening the doors in 2023.

Livermore Science & Society Center raised more than $136,000 between March 6 and Dec. 31 last year, and had about $15,000 in total expenses, including educational outreach at science fairs, according to its most recent filing with the IRS.

While Quest's primary goal is to raise funds and operate a science center, it also has an ongoing mission to engage in educational activities before it has a permanent home. This year, it brought traveling hands-on activities teaching science lessons on water and wind to thousands of residents at the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's Science Odyssey expo and competition in February, and the Livermore Innovation Fair in May.

"Our approach ensures that anyone — regardless of their age, education or knowledge of science fundamentals — can explore and learn at a level that's right for them," said Lane in a written statement. "They can go as far as their curiosity or interests take them — all the way to technical explanations or practical applications."

Artist's rendition of the Quest Science Center 2.0.

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TriValley Repertory Theater To Present Mamma Mia!

On the eve of her wedding on a Greek island paradise, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. ABBA's musical hits tell the hilarious story of this young woman's search.

MAMMA MIA! is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International. Music and lyrics are by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, based on a book by Catherine Johnson.

Performances are January 18, 25 and February 1 at 8:00pm, and January 19, 26 and February 1, 2 at 2:00pm.

For tickets, visit the Bankhead Theater box office at 2400 First Street, Livermore, CA or call 925-373-6800, Tuesday thru Saturday, noon to 6pm, or visit online: www.lvpac.org. For more information, visit the TVRT website: www.trivalleyrep.org.

San Francisco Premium Outlet stores in Livermore light up for the holidays.

The Nutcracker Continues to Thrill Audiences

An annual Tri-Valley holiday event, the Nutcracker continues to enchant audiences of all ages, bringing Tchaikovsky's well-known music and ballet to life with all of its elegance and beauty. Thrill to a stage filled with one magical Nutcracker, a swirl of lovely snowflakes, adorable mice, dancing soldiers and a glittering sugar plum fairy. For over 30 years, Valley Dance Theatre's full production of The Nutcracker,accompanied by the Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra has entertained families each holiday season. The elaborate sets, skilled dancers and beautiful costumes have established Valley Dance Theatre as the premier ballet company of the Tri-Valley. Shows will continue to run December 20-22 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. See lvpac.org for more information..

SPECIAL CONSENSUS

(Continued from first page)

the early 90's.

"Special C" promises high-energy, top-notch bluegrass heaven on tap, to kick off the New Year right.

Reserved seating tickets are $15-$25. Tickets online are available at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave., in downtown Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wed – Fri noon-6 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and two hours prior to performances if not sold out. Free parking available in the center lot with the entrance on Spring Street.

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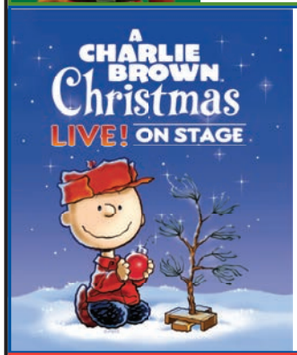

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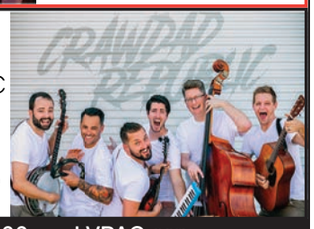

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Santa Claus came to celebrate with families in Dublin last Saturday with a hot pancake breakfast at the Shannon Community Center.

Carolers from St. Michaels Church brightening up downtown Livermore.

'Nature's Way' Takes Readers Back to a Special, Simpler Time

By Carol Graham

The first time Scotty noticed the raggedy little gray animal at the edge of the clearing, he wasn't altogether sure what he was looking at.

As the Scotsman went about his daily work in the cookhouse of a lumber camp high in the western mountains nearly a century ago, he kept an eye out for the scrappy creature. After all, winter was coming hard and fast.

He soon saw the scraggly creature again, creeping low to the ground in a furtive, fearful manner, gradually venturing farther into the circle and surveying the camp. Expecting it to flee back into the forest, Scotty was surprised when it turned and crept toward the cookhouse. As it drew nearer, Scotty discovered it was a cat, but a most peculiar-looking one, for one ear was completely missing, giving it a lopsided, grotesque appearance that might have been amusing if not for the panic-stricken terror in the cat's eyes.

There could be only one proper story befitting this pitiful miscreant who was up against so much in life: the icy cold, the equally-hungry bigger animals, and the loneliness of surviving without a pack. Scotty threw to it little scraps of meat, and the friendship between the deformed little cat, soon named Tom, ripened into a warm companionship welcomed by the lonely Scotsman.

For Livermore resident Bob Cach, discovering a typewritten manuscript written by his father's mother was like finding a treasure.

"I am touched by the fact that Grandma Kitty wrote such a wonderful book," Cach said.

Cach's strongest memory of his colorful grandmother, who died in 1964, was of her playing honky-tonk music on the piano. Reading her stories later in his life was like sharing her experiences.

Cach found the manuscript when he inherited it from his father's estate, and knew he'd like to honor his grandmother by having it published. Though he worked with an editor, the adventures and tone continue to reflect a different time and place.

"I hope 'Nature's Way' takes readers back to a special, simpler time," Cach said. "It will appeal to a broad range of readers."

As for Tom, he remained Scotty's companion and protector for many years. Once, when Scotty was drowsing outside, he was awakened by a nearby rattling sound and became just about paralyzed with fear.

"Then, without any warning," writes Grandma Kitty Robson, "a little gray shape frantically dashed over his shoulder and leaped with deadly aim for the venomous rattler. Spitting and growling as though to intensify his extreme hatred of the reptile, the cat jumped, and in one bound, had a firm grip with his teeth on the back of the snake's head, all the while clawing and tearing at its coiled body."

With the snake near death after a terrific fight, it lashed its tail, throwing Tom high into the air. Seconds later, Tom managed to weakly sit up, shaking his head as though to regain his senses.

"Scotty, tearfully caressing the little protector, realized with sudden clarity that the age-old supposition, stoutly proclaimed by scientists, that animals do not have the intelligence of humans, but live by instincts alone, had just been discounted beyond a doubt, by the little disfigured gray cat. The Scotsman wondered if it were really true, after all, that only human have souls."

To order "Nature's Way," email Bob Cach at cachbox@comcast.net. Books (signed if you like) will be mailed to you for $15.

Nature's Way can be ordered by emailing Bob Cach at cachbox@comcast.net3.

TV30 Now Airing Broadcasts Of the City of Dublin's Holiday Tree Lighting Event

If you missed the City of Dublin's Holiday Tree Lighting earlier this month featuring performances by the Dublin Unified School District Children's Choir and ensembles from the Dublin High School Irish Guard Band, you may view broadcasts of the event on TV30 or at TV30.org. Dublin's Holiday Tree Lighting will air Thursday, Dec. 19, at 1 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 20, at 4 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 21, at 9 a.m.; Sunday, Dec. 22, at 4 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 23, at 9 p.m.; and Wednesday, Dec. 25, at 2 a.m., 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., and 10 p.m..

The Pleasanton Downtown Association held the Spirit & Sweater Stroll last Saturday. Guests busted out their craziest holiday sweaters while enjoying spirits and craft cocktails at over 20 downtown locations throughout Main Street.
(Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

LA-Based Gypsy-Klezmer Band Mostly Kosher Brings a Musical Feast For Hanukkah to the Bankhead

Mostly Kosher bring their mix of jazz, Latin, rock and folk to the Bankhead on Dec. 23.

Acclaimed klezmer gypsy-rock band Mostly Kosher has been described as delivering a musical feast that explodes into a global food-fight of jazz, Latin, rock, and folk. The Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore will welcome their radically reconstructed Judaic and American cultural music, filled with what have been called "ravishing klezmer beats and arresting Yiddish refrains," on the first night of Hanukkah, 7:30 pm December 23, 2019. All seats are just $40 with $20 tickets available for students up to 21 and all military.

Led by frontman Leeav Sofer, one of Jewish Journal's "30 under 30" most accomplished professionals in the Los Angeles Jewish diaspora, Mostly Kosher includes violinist Janice Mautner Markham, drummer Eric Hagstrom, bassist Adam Levy, trombonist Mike King, and Will Brahm on guitar, with guest artists Aníbal Seminario and Anderson Quintero.

The music of the Jewish people from Eastern Europe, Klezmer grew to popularity in the 1800s and has enjoyed an American resurgence in recent decades. As Markham said in an interview last year, Mostly Kosher fits comfortably under the World Music tent. "Jews have lived all over the globe. Our music is far from a one-size-fits-all," she said. "But the common denominator is that it comes from the core of the Jewish cultural heritage, we just pick it up from whatever country of origin we find it, and then drive it to a whole new destination."

The band has appeared extensively in Southern California and their performances at Dorothy Chandler Pavilion were broadcast live in 2015 and 2017. Mostly Kosher was the first Jewish music ensemble to perform during the Festival of Holidays at Disney's California Adventure in Anaheim, and then at Epcot Center in Florida. The first track off their debut album, Ikh Hob Dikh Tsufil Lib (I Love You Much Too Much), was one of World Music Network's Top 6 Songs of 2014.

For tickets, call 925-373-6800 or visit www.lvpac.org

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Yesterday into Today

By Sarah Bobson

The Band and The Last Waltz: Part II

The *Last Waltz* opens with The Band shooting pool. Is Martin Scorcese, the film's director, providing symbolism for the idea that life is a game of chance, that you can hit the black eight-ball into the pocket at any moment and it's game over? Perhaps. This scene is followed by The Band walking onto the stage at the Winterland, not at the beginning of the concert, but at the end of it. Robertson says, "We're going to do one more song. That's it." Rick Danko follows with "Happy Thanksgiving." Members of The Band, three sporting beards (Levon Helm, Richard Manuel, and Garth Hudson), rip into "Don't Do It." They have chosen the song perhaps in sympathy with their fans who they figure must be thinking just that: "Don't do it. Don't make this your last concert". After The Band finishes singing, exhaustion dripping from their faces, Robertson says simply into the mic, "Thank you. Goodbye."

And so, the documentary, interspersed throughout with interviews of members of The Band, does not proceed in chronological order in terms of the concert's program. That was Scorcese's prerogative to take poetic license. It begins, rather, at the end, which is perhaps fitting because it is also the end of The Band as a group.

Pulling the concert together proved to be a daunting task. Friends and people who had influenced The Band's career had to be contacted. Songs for the show still had to be written. Rehearsing at the Winterland had become difficult due to ongoing work on the set and the lighting. Time clicked away like a berserk metronome. Members of The Band were so busy, in fact, with last-minute details that they barely had time to scoot out to vintage stores to buy the second-hand clothes they ended up wearing on stage.

But the big day finally arrived. Bill Graham greeted Robertson and his wife Dominique at the entrance to Winterland wearing a white tuxedo and a top hat, hardly the usual garb for a rock concert, but befitting perhaps the newly installed, elegant chandeliers and the importance of the evening.

Then it was showtime. Graham walked up to The Band waiting in the wings and said, according to Robertson in his memoir *Testimony*, "'Gentlemen, are we ready?'" The Band took their places on a completely darkened stage, the lights came up, the cameras began to roll, and Levon Helm leaned over and announced into a mic: "Good evening." As might be expected, the audience of devoted fans erupted.

For their first number, The Band kicked into the guitar intro for "Up on Cripple Creek." They followed with 11 more of their songs, some of their biggest hits, including "The Shape I'm In," "It Makes No Difference," "Ophelia," and "This Wheel's on Fire." By the time they sang "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down," Robertson could feel each member of The Band was in his groove. Hoping that the emotion of the evening was being captured on film, he glanced toward the wings to see Scorsese talking in a flurry into his headset, wildly waving pages of the script, with the camera crews scrambling to reload film before the next song.

The Band played for about an hour, then headed backstage for a little breather while a number of San Francisco poets that Emmett Grogan, founder of the Diggers, had brought together to recite their work.

After the break, Ronnie Hawkins began the guest portion of the program, which Robertson says was appropriate since Hawkins had given The Band members their first break, allowing them to cut their musical chops playing with The Hawks. To relive old times, Robertson zipped through some old Hawks-style guitar licks while, as he says, "Ronnie growled like a mad dog." The Band's long-time friend Mac Rebennack, otherwise known as Dr. John, the Night Tripper, followed, singing "Such a Night." He was dressed, Robertson says, "... to thenines for the occasion, with a pink bow tie, a frilly shirt, a black jacket with pink flecks, dark shades, and a French beret." Paul Butterfield joined in with Little Junior Parker's song "Mystery Train."

And then the dreaded thing happened, what Scorcese and his film crew had feared beforehand. The electrical circuit blew a fuse and the Winterland went dark, all except for one spot light coming from the back of the house, which gave the stage a noirish look. The situation was, nevertheless, remedied, and a number of other great musicians took the stage, including Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Neil Diamond, John Simon, Ringo Starr, and Stephen Stills.

For me, the highlight of the evening, in addition to The Band's numbers, were the solo and group performances of Eric Clapton, Van Morrison, and, of course, Bob Dylan. Clapton sang "Further On Up the Road." Morrison walked out onto the stage unannounced, wearing, as Robertson describes it, "a snug-fitting maroon outfit with sequins—something like a trapeze artist might wear," and slammed into "Caravan." As I watched the documentary, I hoped that Clapton would sing either "Layla," "Lay Down Sally," or "I Shot the Sheriff," and Morrison would sing "Into the Mystic," but they didn't, at least not on the film version.

According to *Testimony*, Muddy Waters masterfully hammered out the lyrics of "I'm a man, I'm a full-grown man" from "Mannish Boy," but, unfortunately, it was not caught on film because, as Robertson explains, there was so much hollering of directions and cues back and forth between Scorsese and the film crew that cinematographer László Kovács took off his headset to relieve his throbbing ears and never got the message to reload his camera.

Around the program's four-hour mark, The Band sang the two songs Robertson had finished composing only moments before the start of the program: "Angeline" and "The Last Waltz Theme." Following that, they played the introduction to "The Weight," and the crowd, Robertson says, "... let out a roar like they had just arrived."

Then Bob Dylan walked onto the stage, wearing a red and white polka-dot shirt, black leather jacket, and a white fedora, "and the energy in the air," according to Robertson, "turned electric." The energy backstage was also electric, but for a different reason. There was a discrepancy, it seems, between Dylan's manager Albert Grossman and Graham as to whether Dylan's appearance should be filmed. Dylan and Grossman oscillated between preferring no filming and the filming of only certain segments. Graham wanted Dylan's appearance to be shot in toto. In the end, only certain portions of Dylan's performance made it into the film.

The farewell concert ended after almost five hours (although the documentary showed less than two hours of it) with The Band and their musician friends all gathered on stage to sing what they thought would be their last song, "I Shall Be Released." The audience, however, would have none of it. They hung on until The Band returned to sing "Don't Do It." Then, at two in the morning, Danko stepped up to the microphone and said, "Good night—Good-bye."

The Last Waltz, The Band's farewell performance!

Charlie Brown, Linus, Snoopy and the Gang Come to The Bankhead on December 29

The Peanuts Gang arrives at the Bankhead Theater for three performances of "A Charlie Brown Christmas Live On Stage".

In a fresh take on a timeless classic, A Charlie Brown Christmas Live On Stage brings to life the beloved animated characters of the Emmy and Peabody award-winning story by Charles M. Schulz. The familiar story, with actors who convey the spirit of each character and backed by the unforgettable Vince Guaraldi musical score, will be presented at Livermore's Bankhead Theater on Sunday, December 29, at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. A long-standing annual tradition that has warmed the hearts of millions of fans since it first aired on television over 50 years ago, the theatrical production will provide a loving close to this holiday season.

Despite the coming of Christmas and Snoopy's decorated doghouse, Charlie Brown is feeling depressed. When he brings his chosen tree to decorate for the Christmas Pageant, the others scorn its small thin branches, leading him to question what Christmas is really all about. After a failed attempt to decorate the tree, Charlie Brown gives up in despair, but soon his friends demonstrate that supporting each other is the real meaning of Christmas.

Schulz first introduced the world to the Peanuts characters in 1950. The comic strip debuted in just seven newspapers but soon became a worldwide phenomenon. Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang have made an indelible mark on popular culture and earned a warm place in all our hearts. A Charlie Brown Christmas Live On Stage brings the whole Peanuts gang to life. After the final bow, the audience will be invited to join the Peanuts gang in singing Christmas favorites.

Tickets are $20-95, $20 for students to age 21 and military with ID. Call 925-373-6800 or visit www.lvpac.org.

Roaring 20s Singles Party Will Benefit Seva Foundation

Single Professionals of all ages are invited to start off 2020 with a bang at the Bay Area's first singles party of the year, Saturday, January 4, 2020, 8pm at Faz "Speakeasy" in Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 5121 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton.

Attendees are encouraged to get into the spirit of the night's theme by dressing up in Prohibition Era style. Gangsters, Flappers, and Great Gatsbys are most welcome, with prizes for the most innovative attire.

This is a fundraiser for The Seva Foundation, www.seva.org. Every $50 raised finances a cataract surgery for one blind person in one of the world's poor countries.

The party is co-sponsored by Society of Single Professionals, the world's largest non-profit singles organization; and by many other singles organizations and meetups. Tickets are $20 at the door and includes dancing to your favorite hits. Anyone wishing a discount or more information may visit www.ThePartyHotline.com.

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Livermore Art Association Gallery, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2155 Third Street, Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sat. 11:30 to 4 pm and Sunday 10 to 2:30 pm. For information call 925.449.9927.

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at five businesses in the area. Viewing locations are: The Stanford Health Care Dermatology Clinic, 1133 E. Stanley Blvd. Suite 111, Livermore; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 183, Pleasanton; The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton; and The Bagel Street Café at 4101-A Dublin Blvd., Dublin. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimingham at 510.877.8154.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

The Young Artists' Studio has openings in its 2018–2019 school year art classes. Artist Peggy Frank offers small group, individualized instruction in art to students ages 7 through high school, and adults. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. Contact Peggy at 925.443.8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost $20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info: 925.373.9638 or microangelo@earthlink.net.

Preschool Art Classes, Thursday mornings 9:45–10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at 925.216.7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com.

Art Classes, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and Keyboard Lessons, for children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. 925.216.7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the last Saturday of each month from noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First Street, Livermore.

New Year's Eve with Crawdad Republic, Dec. 31, Bankhead Theater

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Mostly Kosher, Mon., Dec. 23, 7 p.m., Acclaimed klezmer gypsy-rock band; amusical feast that explodes into a global blending of jazz, Latin, rock, and folk. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925.373-6800.

New Year's Eve with Crawdad Republic, Tue., Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925.373.6800.

The Heart of Rock & Roll: A Tribute To Huey Lewis and the News, The Heart of Rock & Roll has established itself as one of the most accurate and entertaining tribute acts around. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. January 10-11, 8 p.m. Tickets: $25-$35, firehousearts.org.

The Special Consensus: Bluegrass with Attitude! Friday, Jan. 17 at 8 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. "Special C" proudly celebrates 4 decades of Bluegrass in classic vein, with modern edge, spotless vocals, and boundless energy. The Firehouse welcomes back the four-man acoustic bluegrass band. Reserved Seating Tickets $15-25; available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Free parking.

International Guitar Night's (IGN), February 21 at 8 p.m. in the Bankhead Theater. A cast of guitar luminaries from around the world will highlight the diversity of the acoustic guitar. IGN celebrates its 20th year of US tours with guest host Mike Dawes (England) and his incredible two-hand contemporary style. Tickets start at $20.

Retzlaff Estate Winery, Live music every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave. retzlaffvineyards.com.

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at Old Mexico Bar & Grill in Livermore on Portola Avenue – the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

ON THE STAGE

Disney's Frozen JR, presented by Pleasanton Youth Theater Company, Dec. 13 -22. The enchanting modern classic from Disney. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton.

The Nutcracker, presented by Valley Dance Theatre, Sat., Dec. 14 to Sun. Dec. 22, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore.

The Nutcracker, Valley Dance Theatre, Dec. 14-22

For more information, visit www.valleydancetheatre.com.

A Charlie Brown Christmas Live on Stage, Sun., Dec. 29, 1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m., Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.lvpac.org or 925.373.6800.

COMEDY

Big Fat Year End Kiss Off! 2019, Stand-up, improvisation and loosely written sketches guaranteed to mock, scoff and taunt with taste. PG-13. Fri., Dec. 27, 8 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 925. 931-4848.

Free Comedy Show every Thursday at Rebel Kitchen & Libations, 2369 First St., Livermore 7:30pm.

MISCELLANEOUS

Spread Cheer with Beer, the Tri-Valley Beer Trail's annual charitable campaign, through Jan. 31. Pick up a passport at any stop on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail or download a passport at www.trivalleybeertrail.com.

Heart of Rock & Roll, Jan. 10-11, Firehouse Arts Center

LumiNight Lantern Festival, Nov. 29, 2019 to Feb. 2, 2020. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday hours are 5 to 10 p.m.; Friday, Saturday and holiday hours are 5 to 11 p.m. LumiNight takes place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 2100 Valley Ave., Gate 12, Pleasanton.Visit www.LumiNightLanterns.com.

Race to the Flagpole, Sat., Jan. 25. The event offers several distances that include a 5K run/walk, 10K run, and one-mile fun run. All events start at Independence Park and go through Livermore's Sycamore Grove Park. These events are open to all ages and abilities.

A Writers Meetup for Adults, meets on the first Tuesday of every month at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Leran more at Livermorelibrary.net or call the library at 925.373.5500.

Hagemann Ranch Open House, Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 p.m. Go to www.livermorehistory.com for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

LumiNight Lantern Festival, through Feb. 2, 2020, Alameda County Fairgrounds

CHABAD OF THE TRI-VALLEY EVENTS

Last year's Chanukah celebrations included the lighting of a giant menorah.

Chanukah Parade and Menorah Lighting - Sunday, Dec. 22

Put an electric menorah on the roof of your car join the parade through Pleasanton.
5:30 p.m.: Parade departs from Tornado Acro Gymnastics Sports Club (530 Boulder Ct)
6:30 p.m.: Parade arrives at Chabad for a menorah lighting on Hopyard Rd.
with latkes and doughnuts. Limited space.

Chanukah Wonderland at Stoneridge Mall - Monday, Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.

Arts 'n craft center, holiday games, dress-up and photo-op, live musical entertainment, face painting, chanukah balloon entertainment
Grand 9-ft menorah lit at 6:30 p.m.

Chanukah On Ice at Dublin Iceland - Thursday, Dec. 26, 5:30 p.m.

Skate to Jewish and Chanukah Music
Fire on Ice" Menorah lighting on the rink
Kosher dinner concession stands; latkes and doughnuts

Chanukah Under The Stars Outside The Bankhead Theater - Saturday, Dec. 28, 7:30 p.m.

Latkes and doughnuts,Chanukah treats and raffles, glow-in-the-dark Chanukah fun
Live musical entertainment and performance
Join dignitaries and the community for the lighting of Livermore's menorah at 8 p.m.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley (925) 846-0700

BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to editmail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

Livermore Community Blood Drive, Fri., Dec. 20, 12-6 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue. The Red Cross critically needs donors of all blood types to give now to keep the blood supply stable during the holidays. Blood donations traditionally decline from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. Register at www.redcrossblood.org and use ASBURY925 as the Sponsor Code, or call Tony Gnecco at 925-895-7794 for help registering. Do you know someone who has never donated before? Please encourage them to make an appointment with you. Donors will receive a free long-sleeve t-shirt, while supplies last.

Del Arroyo 4-H Club meets once a month at 6 p.m., usually on the third Wednesday, at Arroyo Seco Elementary School, 5280 Irene Way, Livermore. All member families and potential member families are welcome. 4-H is a national program which encourages members to learn by doing, offering a variety of projects, events, and community service activities. For more information, contact Miranda Munro at delarroyo4hclub@gmail.com.

The Mount Diablo Rose Society meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June at 7:30 pm in the Community Room of the Dublin Public Library at 200 Civic Plaza in Dublin. For more information, visit our website at www.mtdiablorosesociety.org or email secretary@mtdiablorosesociety.org .

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Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs, both national and international Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 925.872.7923.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. No dues, fees, or weigh-ins. Join us on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Multi Service Center, 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Visit www.foodaddicts.org.

ClutterLess (CL) Self-Help Group meets every Monday (excluding post office holidays) at 7 p.m. at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, in Pleasanton.

LifeRing is a secular recovery group, an alternative to the 12-step program that accepts all people with drug and alcohol issues. We meet in a friendly, down-to-earth atmosphere to create a sobriety program that works for YOU. Meetings are every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from noon to 1 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Contact is Steve Bowman, 925.207.2430.

Tri-Valley Fly Fishers (TVFF) invites everyone, at no charge, to the regular monthly meetings featuring guest speakers who share their knowledge of the sport. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month, September through June, at the Livermore-Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club, 4000 Dagnino Rd., Livermore.

Livermore Valley Coin Club, Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you enjoy collecting coins or other numismania this is the place for you. The meetings incorporate shared numismatic knowledge, various club raffles, a Coin of the Month and a club coin auction. For information contact: Gary Antone 925.373.6758.

Valley Children's Museum, a community based, non profit, children's museum for children 3 to 10 years old, offering fun and educational STEAM based play activities. Located in Emerald Glen Park, Dublin, off Gleason Dr. Open Thursdays 4 to 8 pm during Dublin Farmer's Market & third Saturday of the month. Volunteer opportunities for teens and seniors. For more info visit http://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org or contact Linda Spencer, 925.683.4741 or linda@valleychildrensmuseum.org.

Livermore Lions Club meets for dinner every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at Emil Villa's Restaurant, 3064 Pacific Ave. in Livermore. Lions are the world's largest service organization. Livermore Lions support the needs within the community and state, the nation and the world. Funds provided to support the homeless, the fire victims, and the hurricane and earthquakes victims. Charities include: Canine Companions, Blind Centers, and the Ear of the Lion. Check out our website (livermorelionsclub) for up-coming projects and events. All are welcome.

Master Gardeners Talks, Demonstration Garden, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Trained Master Gardeners are on site at to answer question and give tours of the garden 9:30am-11:30am on the second Saturday of the month; talks on seasonally appropriate topics. All Talks are 10 -11 am on the second Saturday of the month Mar-Nov.; Oct. 12 Propagation: Seed Saving; Nov. 9 MG Plant Favorites.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley's Connections Support Group, meets every Wednesday, from 7:15pm - 8:45pm at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. This group provides support and education for anyone experiencing a mental illness. For further information, visit www.nami-trivalley.org or contact Kendall @ 925.872.0170.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), DAR was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the world during the past three years. For more information, please visit https://josemaria.californiadar.org/ or contact Debbie Janes at jmadar.regent@gmail.com.

DAR Jose Maria Amador, Pleasanton Chapter. The local Jose Maria Amador chapter meets on the second Saturday of the month from September to May, with a short business meeting and a program.

DAR Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter. Meets September through May on the first Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit http://jhl.californiadar.org.

Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group, those with Parkinson's or a variant diagnosis plus their care partners meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center on the second Saturday of every month from 10am - noon. Hear speakers on a variety of related topics and share challenges, solutions, and triumphs! Contact mary.behrendt@comcast.net or 925.462.5081 for more information. No cost.

Pleasanton Amer. Leg. Post 237 located at 301 Main St. is looking for few good veterans to join us. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 1900 hr. or consider joining us for coffee/donuts every Saturday 0700-0830. All veterans all welcome to join us at coffee. You qualify to attend if you served. Come and meet other veterans and you will hear and see nothing has chan. We guarantee you will enjoy being around veterans. Visit our post at americanlegionpost237@comcast.net.

Alcoholics Anonymous If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call AA: 925.829.0666.

Native Daughters of the Golden West, (California born Women) is a fraternal and patriotic organization founded on the principles of : Love of Home; Devotion to the Flag; Veneration of the Pioneers; Faith in the Existence of God., Angelita Parlor No. 32, Livermore, meet first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, I.O.O.F Hall, 2160 First St., Livermore (easy entrance from back of building) Rec. Sec.: Shelley Buchberger, 925.698.4345, NDGW.org.

Scottish Country Dancing in Livermore. Enjoy the lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Make new friends and have fun while you exercise. Join us Mondays 8:00 to 10:00 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience or partner required. We welcome new dancers at any time. Call Margaret Ward at 925.449.5932 or Sheena MacQueen at 925.784.3662 for more information.

Wednesday Night Run with Sunrise Mountain Sports, every Wednesday night (rain or shine) at 6:30PM. Start/End Location: Sunrise Mountain Sports 2184 First Street Livermore. The run/walk will start at 6:30PM, but come hang with us around 6PM to socialize/warm-up/change. There are a variety of distances starting at 2 miles and they go up to 9 miles. The most popular is the 3.5 mile course (that does have two water fountains along its route). Dogs, kids, and people of all paces are welcome. More information located on Sunrise's Facebook event page: www.facebook.com/events/237597100263100/.

The City of Pleasanton Library's Literacy Program is searching for patient, caring volunteer tutors to help adults practice and improve their English reading, writing, and conversation skills. Volunteers will work one-on-one with students, lead small group conversation practice, conduct citizenship test preparation, or lead book clubs. No advance preparation is needed. Find more information contact the Adult Literacy team literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov, or 925.931.3405.

Livermore Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post 7265, seeking returning Veterans from foreign conflicts who are interested in staying engaged with other Veterans and their families. The VFW is one of the strongest Veterans organizations in America but is in serious decline because of lack of membership. Meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month with a light dinner social at 6:00pm followed by a business meeting at 7:00pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 522 So. L. St. (corner of So. L & 5th Street-enter on 5th St.). For more information contact Commander Hank Jean: 480.585.8970 or Service Officer Ron Gillette: 925.443.4444.

Tri-Valley Haven Individual Counseling & Group Therapy Openings. Tri-Valley Haven, a non-profit agency provides free, professional individual and group therapy for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and poverty. For more information on Tri-Valley Haven's Support Groups and Individual Counseling, please call 925. 449.5845.

Docents for the Livermore History-Mobile. Volunteers interested in Livermore history and/or like working with children (mostly 3rd graders) are needed. Mission is to teach children the history of Livermore and instill in them a sense of pride in the city. There will be training. Time commitment could be as little as a few days a year. There are usually have 3 docents at each school. If interested, call Nancy Mulligan, 925.443.3076 or email n.mulligan@comcast.net.

Sing for Fun, Music Sing-a-Long, sing familiar tunes with other folks along with piano accompaniment. The words of the songs will be provided. No musical experience needed. Most Mondays, from 11:00-12:00 at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Small fee.

Counter Point (Addiction Family Support Group), a free faith based, Christ centered (Al Anon based) program designed to help individuals with family members who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at the St. Michael Convent building, first floor (375 Maple Street, Livermore). For further information contact Rachel at 510.501.1411.

Tri-Valley Geeks, group of adults who get together for events like board games, movies and fan conventions. Meetings every Tuesday at 5:30 for dinner and board games A schedule of upcoming events can be found on Facebook at: Facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks. Text Melody Evenson at 925.209.1214 for more information.

Golden Circle Seniors, meetings Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Sewing, knitting and crocheting all year, saving items for the annual bazaar in November. Ninety-five present of the proceeds are donated to local charities.

Pleasanton Lions Club, meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m at Inklings Coffee Shop, 530 Main Street, Pleasanton. Check website for meeting updates pleasantonlionsclub.org. Pleasanton Lions Club is a non-profit organization that seeks to identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. All are welcome.

Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. www.AlanonTriValley.org, 925.277.7661, help@AlanonTriValley.org.

Recovery International (RI) is a free weekly self-help group, led by a trained, peer volunteer leader, for people who want to reduce their stress. Anyone 18 or older is welcome; just drop in. Meetings every Sunday 2:00 to 3:30 PM at Arbor Vista library room, 1300 South Livermore Avenue. Call Barbara, 916.335.8836 or Dave, 415.948.9462.

Ethos, free and confidential services related to pregnancy include guidance and referrals, baby clothing, and diapers. 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore. Call 925.449.5887 for an appointment..

Meals on Wheels Volunteers are needed to deliver fresh meals to homebound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 p.m. For more information, please call 925.483.1989.

Rotary Club of Livermore Valley invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to www.livermorevalleyrotary.org, or Jill Duerig at 510.378.7243 or jillduerig@hotmail.com.

Del Valle Folk Dancers: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. $3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel 925.447.8020 or george.pavel@gmail.com.

Square Dance Lessons in Livermore, 7 p.m. at Del Valle High School, 2253 5th Street. All ages welcome. Dancing Thursdays weekly from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. No partner or special attire needed. For more information call Margaret 925.447.6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com.

Shepherd's Gate New Life Thrift Store, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9-7 Monday through Friday, 9-5 Saturday, closed Sunday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. M-F, 8–2:30 p.m. Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 925.462.2487.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group (CL) is a non profit,peer based, all volunteer, self help in-person support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings at Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton, every Monday 7- 8:30 p.m. (except postal holidays). See clutterless.org (national) ClutterlessEastBay.org.

Questers is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. Members learn about antiques, share and view members' collections, visit historic sites, museums and antiques shops and help non-profit organizations with restoration and preservation work. Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday monthly from September to May. If interested call President Rickie at 925.292.8123 or e-mail rjfgiono@comcast.net.

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 p.m. For more info visit us at www.trivalleystargazers.org.

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at 925.443.0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men

BULLETIN BOARD

living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at www.trivalleysir.org and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925.967.8177.

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans' causes. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to www.calegion.org/ or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or 925.443.2330 or Roy Warner at 925.449.6048.

Eric's Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30 -8;00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericscorner.org.

Assistance League of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call 925.461.6401.

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net .

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925.215.8405 or visit www.PleasantonNewcomers.com.

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community. CRIL has offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore, providing information and referrals, community education at senior centers, and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550. Phone: 925.371.1531, fax: 925.373.5034, e-mail: abril.tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Contact Edith Caponigro at 925.998.3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925.621.8946 for additional information.

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC), Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. www.trivalleytriclub.com.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collects supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925.784.5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.

RELIGION

Lighthouse Center for Spiritual Living Christmas Eve service, 7 p.m., and the annual Burning Bowl Service on Monday, Dec. 30, 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. 628 Enos Way, Livermore. See https://csllvlighthouse.org/

Asbury United Methodist Church 4743 East Avenue, Livermore Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 for a shorter interactive Christmas Story Family Candlelight Service. 7p.m. is the Christmas Eve Traditional Candlelight Worship Service with a montage of "God Comes to Livermore." Childcare is available for the 7:00pm service. The 11:00pm Christmas Eve Contemplative Candlelight Worship Service will feature montage and communion. All are welcome! For more information visit our website at www.asburylive.org or call 925-447-1950.

Asbury United Methodist Church Christmas Caroling fun around Livermore on Sunday, Dec. 22 at 3:30 p.m. Everyone and all singing abilities are welcome! For more information on this event or other Christmas events visit our website at www.asburylive.org or call 925-447-1950.

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information: www.fpcl.us or 925.447.2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 925.449.4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. Sunday Service 10:30am. Church of the open mind, loving heart and helping hands. All are welcome. Childcare, and religious education for children as well as adults are offered. For more information, visit www.uucil.org or call 925.447.8747.

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information: 925.931.1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 925.485.1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. 925.447.2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 am. Spanish service starts at 9:30 am. Nursery and children's church provided. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. For information, call 925.447.6282 or visit www.sunsetcc.org.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information at 925.447.8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925.447.1246.

Calvary Tri-Valley, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. www.calvarylivermore.org or 925.447.4357.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school – 9:45 a.m.; worship service – 11 a.m. All are welcome. 925.447.3428.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org. All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, Pleasanton, 6656 Alisal Street. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 10:35 a.m., Nursery, Children's Church (ages 3-12) at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday Women's Bible Study will be taking a break, Senior Adult Ministry every other month. Call for date and time and other church programs at 925.846.8650.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. New Sunday Worship Services & Children's Ministry times now at 9 a.m & 10:30 a.m. Small Groups also meet on Sundays, and during the week at various times/locations. Trinity Student Ministries (7-12th Grade) meet on Sundays at 9 a.m and on Weds. eve. from 7-9 p.m. Awana meets Sundays from 3:30-5:30PM trinitylivermore.org or 925.447.1848.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 925.447.9800.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or contact Father Augustine Lewton at 925.400.8119 or pateraugustine@gmail.com

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925.462.4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church , 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. www.saintbartslivermore.com. Sunday service with Rev. Andrew Lobban, pastor and priest, 10:00 am Eucharist with music, childcare and Godly Play children education.

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Kilkare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org or 925.862.2580.

Pathway Community Church, 1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday, 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcome. www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org 925.322.1222.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd-livermore.org or call 950.371.6200.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925.449.4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. 925.227.1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 925.447.2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center Ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at 925.479.1414 Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

Lynnewood United Methodist Church offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Their winter schedule has begun, with Sunday services held at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. Lynnewood is located in Pleasanton at 4444 Black Ave. Visit www.lynnewood.org or call 925.846.0221.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints – Livermore Stake: Sunday services –1501 Hillcrest Ave: Sycamore Grove Ward 9:00 am; Windmill Springs Ward 10:30 am. 950 Mocho St.; Valley View Ward 9:00 am; Vineyard Hills Ward 10:30 am; Del Valle Branch (Spanish) first meeting 11:40, Sacrament meeting 12:40; 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 12:30.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org 925.828.1846.

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) – 8:30 a.m. Communion – 9:30 a.m., 925.906.9561, stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley - A Lighthouse to the world. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Parish Hall, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at http://csllvlighthouse.org.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4481 E. Avenue, Livermore.

Christ Church (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0665.

GraceWay Church worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at 1183 Quarry Lane in Pleasanton. Services include band-led worship music, Bible-based messages and Sunday School for pre-schoolers and elementary through high school students. Infant care is provided. www.gracewaylife.org or 925.846.4436.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church, meets at 1759 Locust St., Livermore. 925.667.1610. www.gracembc.com. Sunday School, 9:45 am; Sunday Worship, 11 am. Relevant and refreshing Bible teaching. Pastor: Jeff Barger.

Discovery Church of the Nazarene, 5862 Las Positas Road, Livermore. Pastor Curtis Lillie, 925.449.5256. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Gateway Church, 811 Marylin Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit gatewaylivermore.org or call Larry Trummel at 925.449.1444.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Livermore invites members of the community to Wednesday evening study, "Discovering the Bible." Currently, the subject is , "The Holy Spirit and His Work." The church address is 1759 Locust Street in Livermore. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 6:30 p.m., www.gracembc.com.

Celebration Church, 1135 Bluebell Drive, Livermore. 925.455.4250. Sunday Service: 9:45 a.m.; children's programs: 9:45 a.m.; Spanish service at 1:00 p.m.; Jr. & Sr. High: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information or weekday Bible study and Prayer group schedules, go to www.celebrationcc.org. Welcome home.

B'rit Ahabah Messianic Congregation, worship every Saturday, 11 a.m. at 193 Contractors Ave., Livermore. Congregation and Jews and Gentiles. Liturgy presented in both Hebrew and English. Families are welcome. Blessing of bread and wine (or grape juice) follows each service and all are invited to Oneg, a fellowship meal.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews - Jewish Culture School The school-wide curriculum for the 2019-2020 (Jewish year 5780) will be "Jewish Ideas." It will cover topics like Jewish views of Justice, Learning, Family, Being a Mensch, Israel or Diaspora and the Jewish Community. Contact culturaljews@gmail.com, or call 510.384.8756 with any questions.

Milestones

Pleasanton Police Department Welcomes Police Officer and Community And Public Relations Coordinator

The City of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Police Department welcomed Police Officer Justin Qualle and Teri Yan, Community and Public Relations Coordinator.

Officer Qualle was sworn in in a special ceremony Wednesday morning. Born in Stockton and raised in Ripon, he graduated summa cum laude from CSU-Stanislaus with a BA in Criminal Justice. In 2017, he graduated from the San Joaquin Delta College POST Intensive Academy and was hired as a reserve officer by the Ripon Police Department. He earned a fulltime position and received the American Legion's POST 190 Officer of the Year Award. Qualle became interested in a career in law enforcement after being hit by a drunk driver when he was in the fourth grade. That made him appreciate the care and service provided by first responders.

Officer Yan, a Bay Area native, graduated from California High in San Ramon. She earned a BA degree in Radio and Television from San Francisco State University. She has worked in the marketing department for news agencies such as KTVU's FOX2 and FOX23 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Most recently, Yan worked for the San Francisco Police Department and spent three and a half years producing digital content targeting officers and the public.

Police Officer Justin Qualle

Community and Public Relations Coordinator Teri Yan

FormFactor Announces Board Member Changes

FormFactor, Inc. (Nasdaq: FORM), a leading semiconductor test and measurement supplier, announced the appointment of Sheri Rhodes to its Board of Directors and the departure of Mike Zellner. FormFactor serves customers through its network of facilities in Asia, Europe, and North America

"Ms. Rhodes brings strong leadership and expertise in the management of multi-national public companies, especially her skills in aligning information technologies with business strategies," said Tom St. Dennis, Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Rhodes has over 25 years of leadership experience in well-known companies and is currently the Chief Information Officer at Workday, overseeing global information technology. Rhodes served as Chief Technology Officer at Western Union (2017-19), as Chief Information Officer at Electronics for Imaging (2015-17), and held roles of increasing responsibility at Symantec (2009-15). Rhodes earned a BS in Business Administration and an MBA from San Diego State University.

Greg Adams Named Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals

The Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals Boards of Directors have named Gregory A. Adams as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Kaiser Permanente (Kaiser), one of America's leading integrated health care providers and nonprofit health plans, is a nonprofit organization serving more than 12.2 million members and generating $82 billion in revenue. Kaiser has 225,000 employees plus 25,000 physicians who are part of the Permanente Medical Groups.

"Mr. Adams is an accomplished leader with deep experience across Kaiser's health plan and hospital operations," said Edward Pei, Chair of the Executive Committee and Governance, Accountability, and Nominating Committee of the Boards of Directors. "For over a decade, Mr. Adams worked on a wide variety of major initiatives and areas of focus, and has led Kaiser's work on growing membership, affordability, and transforming and expanding access to care."

Adams has 30 years of experience as a senior health care executive and has been a key leader in driving the organization's mission forward, strengthening company culture, and ensuring Kaiser continues to be a great work place. Since 2016, he has served as Executive Vice President and Group President, with responsibility for health plan and hospital operations in all eight Kaiser regions. Adams' co-lead Enterprise Shared Services, and led Kaiser's national Medicare care delivery strategy. He was named Regional President of Kaiser for Northern California in April 2008. In July 2013, he was appointed Executive Vice President.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Gregory A. Adams

A nationally recognized leader and a champion of health care transformation, improving access, and pushing for better health outcomes, Adams is past Chair of the California Hospital Association's Board of Trustees and serves on the executive committee. He is a member of the National Association of Health Services Executives and The Executive Leadership Council, and also serves on the board of directors for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association and the American Nurses Foundation. He is a past member of the California Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.