

Bay Delta Rules Are Debated

State Regulations On Water Availability Still In Contention

By David Jen

REGIONAL — On Oct. 25, the State Water Resources Control Board released regulatory options intended to protect beneficial uses of the waterways that feed much of the Tri-Valley's water supply. At issue is the second phase of the Bay Delta Plan update. The proposed regulations seek to improve the conditions of aquatic ecosystems in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the tributaries of the Sacramento River. The Zone 7 Water Agency, which man-

(See DELTA, page 6)

Dublin Candidate Quits In Final Days

Jeff Clark Was Running Unopposed For School Board

By Ruth Roberts

DUBLIN — Jeff Clark, Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) candidate for Area 3, dropped out of the race just days before the Nov. 5 election.

"I can confirm that Jeff Clark has withdrawn," said Chip Dehnert, DUSD's director of communications. "How to address the situation will be discussed in a future board meeting ... the next meeting is on Nov. 12, so that is the earliest it will be discussed."

Dehnert added that since the Area 3 position is not on the ballot and since Clark ran unopposed, the two options left to the DUSD board are to appoint someone to the seat or hold a special election.

Clark was running unopposed for the position, which became available after DUSD Trustee William Kuo said he would not seek re-election. Kuo is the husband of Catharine Kuo, a DUSD Trustee who was killed in 2021 following an accident at Fallon Middle School. Kuo was appointed by the board to finish his wife's term.

Clark would have taken Kuo's seat in December. Clark had not returned requests for comment as of press time.



Members of Danza Kalpulli Kiaketzalli, an Aztec dance group based in Hayward, performed on Saturday Nov. 2 at the Rincon Library in Livermore for the Día de los Muertos Community Celebration. The day included dance performances, crafts for kids, a parade, and offerings placed at a community altar. [See photo gallery at independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

2024 Election Results

Unofficial Count as of 11 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, 22.4% Turnout

Mail-in ballots are required to be received by Nov. 12 and will continue to be tallied in the coming days. California counties must certify local election results by Dec. 5. Results will be updated on The Independent's website: <https://independentnews.com>. Estimated Alameda County turnout: 22.4%

City of Dublin

Mayor

Shawn Costello: 3.25%
Tom Evans: 32.71%
Sherry Hu: 37.04%
Jean Josey: 27.01%

Council District 1

Michael McCorriston: 100%

Council District 3

Razi Hasni: 45.95%
John Morada: 54.05%

Measure II

Yes: 58.01%
No: 41.99%

Measure JJ

Yes: 79.79%
No: 20.21%

City of Livermore

Mayor

John Marchand: 100%

Council District 3

Steven Dunbar: 39.44%
David Farley: 29.25%
Jeff Kaskey: 31.31%

Council District 4

Tom Soules: 44.18%
Kristie Wang: 55.82%

City of Pleasanton

Mayor

Jack Balch: 54.92%
Karla Brown: 45.08%

Council District 2

Valerie Arkin: 42.28%
Craig Eicher: 57.72%

Council District 4

Matthew Gaidos: 53.05%
Vivek Mohan: 46.95%

Measure PP

Yes: 46.11%
No: 53.89%

Dublin Unified School District

Area 1

Kristian Reyes: 57.43%
Rannath Shanbhogue: 42.57%

Area 3

Jeff Clark: 100%

Area 4

Gabi Blackman: 100%

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District

(Two at-large seats)

Tara Boyce: 18.10%
Deena Kaplanis: 25.83%
Jean Paulsen: 3.87%
Amanda Pepper: 7.09%
Maggie Tufts: 23.21%
Christiaan VandenHeuvel: 21.90%

Pleasanton Unified School District

Area 1

Mary Jo Carreon: 100%

Area 3

Donnalyn Harris: 44.09%
Kelly Mokashi: 55.91%

Area 4

Jen Flynn: 48.47%
Charlie Jones: 51.53%

Sunol Glen Unified School District

Erin Choin: 59.26%
Ryan Jergensen: 40.74%

BART Board of Directors

District 5

Joseph Grear: 31.34%
Melissa Hernandez: 68.66%

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Area 4

Joseph Grear: 35.33%
Maria Heredia: 64.67%

Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District

(Two at-large seats)

Matt Bogdanowicz: 20.64%
James Boswell: 32.37%
Jan Palajac: 33.98%
Jacob Vital: 13.01%

Recall District Attorney Pamela Price

Yes: 64.76%
No: 35.24%

California State Assembly

16th District

Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D): 64.6%
Joseph Rubay (R): 35.4%

20th District

Liz Ortega (D): 68.6%
Sangeetha Shanbhogue (R): 31.4%

California State Senate

District 5

Jerry McNeerney (D): 53.0%
Jim Shoemaker (R): 47.0%

U.S. Congress

10th District

Mark DeSaulnier (D): 67.4%
Katherine Piccinini (R): 32.6%

14th District

Vin Kruttiventi (R): 35.6%
Eric Swalwell (D): 64.4%

California Proposition 5

Yes: 43.5%
No: 56.5%

U.S. Senate

Steve Garvey (R): 40.8%
Adam Schiff (D): 59.2%

Homeless People In Shelters Rose By 40 in 2024

But Overall, 26 More People Experienced Homelessness in Tri-Valley Cities Since '22

By Ruth Roberts

REGIONAL — The number of people experiencing homelessness in the Tri-Valley rose slightly over the previous two years, according to preliminary results of Alameda County's Point in Time count.

The overall numbers are small: the number of unsheltered people in Dublin fell from 29 in 2022 to 24 in 2024. In Pleasanton, the number fell from 72 two years ago to 69 this year.

Livermore's numbers on the whole would appear to have grown — 242 people were reported unsheltered in 2022, and 276 in 2024. How-

ever, a different picture emerges when the count is broken into unsheltered people (those without shelter, including those camping) and sheltered (those with temporary shelter who could fall back into unsheltered homelessness).

In Livermore, the number of unsheltered individuals fell from 174 in 2022 to 168 in 2024 — less than 4% — but those in temporary shelter rose from 68 to 108, a gain of 59%, or 40 people.

The upshot is that even with an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in Livermore, a greater number are finding shelter in the city.

(See HOMELESS, page 5)



Pleasanton Military Families took part in the 27th Annual Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 2 on Main Street. The parade theme focused on thanking military chaplains. [See photo gallery at independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore

Livermore Settles Suit Over Police Use of Force

City Will Pay \$550,000 to Person Shot By Officer With a "Less Lethal" Round

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE — A seriously injured man who sued Livermore after a police officer shot him with a beanbag round in the back of the head will receive \$550,000 to settle his excessive force lawsuit against the city.

Lysabeth Bun, who suffered brain damage and the loss of half of his skull in the Nov. 2, 2015, confrontation, agreed recently to resolve his federal civil rights case against the city, its police department and three officers, including former Police Chief Michael Harris.

City Attorney Jason Alcalá announced the settlement during the Oct. 28 city council meeting.

U.S. District Court Judge Edward Chen had ruled in favor of the city and its officers in 2022, but Bun appealed the decision to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The city and Bun's attorneys settled the pending matter during mediation to end seven years of litigation.

"The City Council considers a variety of factors when deciding whether to settle litigation," Alcalá told The Independent. "The primary factors being the

(See SETTLEMENT, page 6)



A Gulf fritillary butterfly gathers nectar from a passionflower in the yard of Livermore resident Alicia Wistrand. Wistrand has been cultivating the passionflower vines to draw the brilliant butterflies, then makes cuttings to give to friends and neighbors so that their yards also become de facto butterfly sanctuaries. [See photo gallery at independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

Livermore Resident Spreads Butterfly Sanctuaries to Neighbors

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — When Alicia Wistrand and her husband moved into their house in Livermore in 2017, she didn't realize she had a nascent butterfly sanctuary on her hands. She was doing some pruning one afternoon about four years ago with her neighbor Karen Persson, who had been a Master Gardener in Illinois, and they discovered that the vine she had been cutting down at the base because it was growing so tall was the

purple passionflower, host to a Florida butterfly.

"I was helping Alicia prune, and I saw that they (the leaves) were being eaten and I realized what they (the caterpillars) were — the Gulf fritillary butterfly," Persson said. The Gulf fritillary is a midsize bright orange butterfly with black markings that is most often found in the southern United States, Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and South America. It eats the foliage of the passionflower vines in the larval stages to

complete its life cycle.

Wistrand said Persson helped her learn how to grow the vine correctly. "It was beautiful, just with the flowers alone," she said. Except the beauty didn't stop there: "We started to notice when people would come into my backyard, they'd have to stop and stare because they'd see all these butterflies — like ribbons of butterflies — they were literally looking at like 40 butterflies among them. It was magical."

And that's when Wistrand

(See BUTTERFLY, page 7)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds	11	Cantabella Choir Going to Carnegie Hall	2
Editorial	4	Livermore Sets Human Services Priority List	8
Mailbox	4	Foothill Volleyball Team Defeats Redwood Giants	10
Obituaries	9	Sunol Glen School Celebrates 100 Years With Art	12
Sports	10	Mounted Police Ride Into Livermore	12

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PET OF THE WEEK



BOB REDELL

Today in the Bay, or rather, the Tri-Valley area, we want to introduce you to Bob Redell. Bob is an energetic guy who loves chasing a toy almost as much as he loves chasing a story. With his beautiful coat and striking eyes, he is always ready for prime time. If you're in need of a great co-host in life, visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process. (Photo courtesy of Valley Humane)

Local Children's Chorus Is Heading to NYC's Carnegie Hall

By Christina Cavallaro

The Tri-Valley's own international award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus, which has training centers in Livermore and Pleasanton, just announced it has been invited to sing at Carnegie Hall next year.

Twenty-five of the group's choristers will be performing on June 29,

2025, in the large historic "golden" Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall, conducted by Cantabella's Artistic Director, Clement Cano.

Cantabella is a chorus composed of children from 5th to 8th grade in the treble vocal range, a term most often used in reference to youth singers that is normally the highest-pitched

part of a choral piece.

The chorus's name comes from the Italian "canta bella," which means "sing beautifully."

Cantabella earned the invitation to the famed New York performance hall after placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in select categories during the July 2023 Golden Gate International Choral Festival. MidAmerica Productions

Inc. took notice and contacted Cano with the invitation to conduct Cantabella at Carnegie Hall.

"We are very pleased that our artistic director and choristers have been recognized in this way," Cantabella President Denise Leddon said. "Mr. Cano has worked very hard to successfully put this project together. The choristers always do their best and perform so beautifully. Everyone at Cantabella works well together to ensure our successes. Scores of people are traveling from the San Francisco Bay Area to see Cantabella perform at Carnegie. We are very excited."

After three rehearsals and some sight-seeing in New York City, the group of young singers will be performing Elaine Hagenberg's "Illuminare." It is a 24 minute, 5-movement piece for soprano, alto, tenor and bass chorus and chamber orchestra. The music takes the listener on a journey through beauty and goodness, which gets disturbed by darkness and chaos. Eventually, light returns, illuminating the path to peace. The performance is expected to sell out with a full audience of 2,800.

Cantabella Children's Chorus has an upcoming concert, "Elements," songs related to the weather of the season, on Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. at Valley Com-

munity Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$20 for adults and children are free at www.cantabella.org/performance.



Cantabella Children's Chorus Artistic Director Clement Cano will conduct the group's performance of Elaine Hagenberg's "Illuminare" at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 29, 2025. (Photo courtesy of Cantabella Children's Chorus)

2024 Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit Offers Insight on Investor Funding in Health Sector

The 2024 Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit last month offered an insider's perspective on Suncoast Ventures' first-round Series A funding for the San Ramon-based medical technology company, Raydiant Oximetry.

Held at the Rosewood Commons Conference

Raydiant, which develops technology to monitor the health of unborn children.

The conversation between LeMarchal and Ray also focused on how unmet needs in women's and fetal health are driving both company and investor.

Based in San Diego, Suncoast Ventures was

ser Permanente, the City of Pleasanton, and Startup Tri-Valley, a nonprofit encouraging innovative startup businesses. Startup Tri-Valley is a cooperative effort led by i-GATE, a regional incubator for technology companies, along with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, and the communities of Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton and Danville.

Yolanda Fintschenko, i-GATE executive director, said the annual Life Sciences Summit "celebrates the connection between human health care and the Tri-Valley life sciences leaders by bringing founders, funders, and ecosystem members into the same room, creating the opportunity for connection, innovation, by building this community."

After a welcome from Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, Ken Grullon, physician-in-chief for the Permanente Medical Group, gave opening remarks stressing the symbiotic relationship between health care and life sciences innovation.

The summit also included a panel discussion on how unmet human health-care needs drive entrepreneurial endeavors and how the region's talent pool and quality of life are factors in attracting startups to the area.

Panel members included Yash Vaishnav, LLNL

business development executive; Reem Mahrat, Daybreak Labs advisor and founder of EGE, a Pleasanton diagnostics company; and Nan Su, founder and chief executive officer of Aopia Biosciences, a Pleasanton life sciences tools company. Paco Cifuentes, a partner with Genoa Ventures, moderated the panel discussion.



Lead investor Genevieve LeMarchal (right), managing partner of Suncoast Ventures, addressed the summit audience in conversation with Raydiant Oximetry Founder and CEO, Dr. Neil Ray. (Photo courtesy of Advance Creative LLC)

Center in Pleasanton, the conference featured a conversation between the venture capital firm's managing partner, Genevieve LeMarchal, and Raydiant founder and CEO, Dr. Neil Ray.

According to Crunchbase, a San Francisco company that tracks investment data, Series A funding pumped an additional \$7.5 million into

founded in 2020 by a group of scientists and engineers to encourage early-stage health care startups, especially in the areas of digital health, diagnostics, medtech, machine learning, artificial intelligence and biotechnology.

Raydiant was founded in 2016.

More than 200 people attended the summit, which was hosted by Kai-

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EDITORIAL

Zone 7 Should Withdraw Its Support of Voluntary Agreements And Set Limits on Diverting Water from the Bay Delta

The State Water Resources Control Board is currently considering two options for its plan to preserve the Bay Delta. What the board decides will affect the Tri-Valley's ability to secure safe water.

One option, proposed by agency staff, would increase the minimum amount of water that must flow from the Sacramento River through to the San Francisco Bay without being diverted along the way for human uses. This approach is also supported by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Sierra Club.

The other option, favored by Zone 7 and other utilities, is to enact what they call "voluntary agreements." The name refers to plans that each of the participating agencies would create separately to restore habitat on their properties. What the voluntary agreements don't do is set hard limits on the

total amount of water diverted to our local water systems or to agricultural uses; it replaces them with wide ranges that are sometimes higher or sometimes lower than what is proposed in the staff option. A lot depends on the kind of weather being experienced that year, but also on shifting needs in the community. Advocates of this approach say this adds flexibility to the system, and also would better ensure that our communities and agriculture get enough water.

The voluntary agreement approach lets local agencies pursue their own plans, and its advocates claim that the needs of the communities and agriculture will come first. The problem with that approach is that it prioritizes human use over the health of the already stressed delta ecosystem. As the climate continues to change, more frequent droughts, ocean acidification, and saltwater

infiltration will increasingly damage the ecosystem of the delta and the species that depend on it, such as salmon and endangered delta smelt. Lower water flows can lead to more frequent algae blooms. If we continue to draw water from the estuary at the rate we have been doing, we and other communities will have access to even less water than if we capped diversion. Harming the delta ultimately harms us as well.

Habitat restoration projects can be very effective, but what those hypothesized projects would be is unknown, nor is their effectiveness a given. If a river becomes a dead zone, restoring habitat won't have much benefit.

Setting a hard limit on the total amount of water that can be diverted by all the agencies, even if that limit can be adjusted in times of drought, would be the most effective way over the long term to preserve local water

quality and quantity. Higher flows in the Sacramento River will more quickly reverse ecological damage than unspecified restoration projects might sometime in the future.

Finally, there's another issue at stake: our communities, businesses and local governments all need to work together, and share the burdens of restoring our ecosystem. We can't all just go our own way and hope it works out in the end.

We've learned the hard way that when it comes to climate change, the time for action is now, and that every delay only compounds problems in the future.

As the water board considers its delta plan, it should set a limit on withdrawals from the watershed, so that we can continue to have one.

And Zone 7 should change its position and strongly advocate for this direction.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Letters may not contain advertising. Abusive letters and letters containing ad hominem attacks may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed or not run at all. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com or submitted using the form below. The letters to the editor deadline is Monday at 10 a.m. If you wish to submit a letter pertaining to a special event or meeting taking place on a Monday before any given Thursday print edition — and you would like your letter to run that week — please contact the editor (editor@independentnews.com) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 10 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.

Retired Teachers Donate More than \$40 Million Worth of Volunteer Time! Bill Britton, Livermore

Teachers never stop caring...

The week of Nov. 3-9, 2024, is California's 26th annual Retired Teachers Week. As a member of the California Retired Teachers Association (CaRTA), I urge everyone to find a way to give back to our community. Last year, CaRTA members logged more than one million volunteer hours. That's worth more than \$40 million in services! This special week, during CaRTA's 95th

anniversary year, is dedicated to honoring the commitment, dedication, and lasting impact of retired teachers, whose influence extends far beyond the classroom.

Anywhere you go in the Tri-Valley, you are likely to find retired teacher volunteers. They tutor in the local schools, distribute food to those in need, drive seniors to appointments, and work at hospitals.

Since 1998, CaRTA has sponsored Retired Teachers Week as a way to not only spotlight our members' extensive volunteerism, but to encourage others to do the same. We cared about our students and our communities while we worked as educators, and that caring doesn't stop at retirement! Join our call to give back. You'll find the effort is well worth your time.

Celebrating Palestinian Culture Sarah Zahran

I am writing my letter today to express my gratitude and love to the Livermore community that showed up and joined us in celebrating Palestinian Culture at Asbury United Methodist Church.

For the first time in my eight-year residency in Livermore, I feel included and at home. My kids were so happy to see their cultural symbols on display, to listen to our music while people from all backgrounds are learning and dancing our traditional dance (Dabkeh) and enjoying our delicious Palestinian food.

I found out that our community from all backgrounds is getting educated about the Palestinian struggle, and they came together once they heard about the event to learn about our rich history and mourn our martyrs and stolen land.

The past year has been so hard for us, the hardest we have ever lived. Watching the genocide of our people on live television and social media platforms, while none of the people who can actually stop it are willing to, has been very frustrating and depressing.

My husband lost 17 family members, second cousins and their families in one airstrike, at the same building a year ago. My sister-in-law lost nine family members, her uncle and his daughters and grandchildren. I still can't tell my children about it. I don't know how their little brains will ever comprehend such atrocities.

It takes a toll on parents to set their grief aside, to be parents. To be there and present, while craving the community's support and acknowledgement.

Such events are so important for Livermore residents to come together, unite and have a dialogue about how to help our Palestinian community that is growing in the Tri-Valley.

So we hope that this event was the beginning of many more to come.

The 2024 U.S. Presidential Election Disaster Greg Scott, Livermore

"[W]e never actually listen to what somebody else is saying. We are always translating what others are saying." (Joseph Campbell, "Myths to Live By," 1972)

It is the day before the election and I can make one prediction: America will elect great evil to the White House. The United States and the world will bear the consequences for generations. The vote is for genocide, war, exploitation, rapaciousness, and power. The resentment created against this is enormous and ominous. Why an electorate with so many freedoms would do this is predominantly from the basis of fear.

"[W]e never actually listen to what somebody else is saying. We are always translating what others are saying." (Jiddu Krishnamurti, "On Fear," 1994)

The vote is as if we are continuing in normalcy, when we are in great crises. Power is currently rendered through delusion and the falsehoods thereof.

"A society that fails to value communality — our need to belong, to care for one another, and to feel caring energy flowing toward us — is a society facing away from the essence of what it means to be human. Pathology cannot but ensue. To say so is not a moral assertion but an objective assessment." (Daniel and Gabor Mate, "The Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness, and Healing in a Toxic Culture," 2022)

If we do not learn to adequately analyze our dire situations and problems, we are

on no pathways to solutions, no matter how much forgiveness and unconditional love there may be. We need true listening for there to be adequate love for the required beneficial actions.

American Democracy Has Perished Rosario Milelli, Pleasanton

American democracy has perished; the memorial service is long overdue.

It doesn't matter who won the presidential election. I am quite confident historians will publish hundreds of books, millions of pages explaining how and why it died. But I am offering a simplified version before they get a chance to weigh in.

The official date of death in my version is Jan. 20, 2017, the day Donald Trump was inaugurated. This is the day the lust for power and overwhelming greed was victorious over truth, the day the loyalists completed the development of the anti-democracy vaccine and successfully inoculated almost half of the voting public. The vaccine disconnects the brain, causing the "patient" to not believe what they see, hear or read and to hate.

How effective is the vaccine? Almost 100%. Where is the proof? Right in front of us. Here we are in 2024, and Donald Trump is the selected candidate. This is the person who constantly lies, cheats in nearly everything he does, morally bankrupt (mirroring multiple financial bankruptcies), an election denier, Putin lover, retained state secrets, attempted a coup, convicted felon, deranged, the list is seemingly endless. And yet he is the Republican Party leader, totally immune for official acts.

The reality is that as far as democracy is concerned, it really doesn't matter who won. You have American oligarchs, in their lust for power and greed, still in place, in total control of the politicians. The key Republicans, all election deniers, willing participants in the coup attempt, will still be there. The corrupt Supreme Court will still be there, along with MAGA justices placed in key positions. The cursed internet, spawning the Fox propaganda network and other media (Musk's X) will still be there. The Heritage Foundation's Project 2025 will still be there, just waiting. The infiltration of corrupt election officials will still be there. The real enemies (Russia, China, and Iran) of the United States, sowing discord and disinformation will still be there.

It is now time to mourn

the wasted sacrifice of our servicemen and women in defense of democracy. Time to mourn the fate of our children and grandchildren; they are stuck here. The oligarchs can escape to their villas and compounds around the world.

Per John Adams, "There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself." We are now there.

AI Could Make Humans Lose Their Humanity Abdul Awwal, Pleasanton

Recently, AI has been a winner of multiple Nobel prizes this year. Two giants in the field, John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton, received their Nobel prizes in physics for their works in machine learning and neural networks. As a graduate student, I was attracted to do some work on Hopfield's network because of its applications in optical computing. Three other people who received the Nobel in chemistry also did work that was connected to machine learning. Recently, some of these pioneers, such as Hinton, have warned us about the dangers of AI. Yuval Abraham, an Israeli journalist, reported such dangers in the ongoing war in Gaza. (www.972mag.com/mass-assassination-factory-israel-calculated-bombing-gaza/). Whistleblowers inside the IDF informed him how AI was used to generate as many human targets as possible, and then 2,000 pounds of bombs were unleashed on very low-level operatives while they were sleeping with their families. Journalists working for Western news media outlets living in Gaza report how, as a result of such policies, they lost hundreds of relatives (www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/terror-and-security/gaza-palestinian-deaths-destruction-israel-hamas-war/). This has also created something we have never heard of before — children with no known relatives. Although Hinton's warning was that AI could be more powerful than humans and take over, my worry is that AI makes human lose their humanity and perpetrate crimes against humanity such as genocide!

Abusive Speech Should Have Consequences Owen Brovont, Livermore

It is not logical to argue that speech should have any limitations or boundaries — think Nazi propaganda, Soviet propaganda, and our own home-grown brands,

especially of political and social propaganda. Speech is a means of communication that can be, has been, and is used to misinform, confuse, deceive, as well as to enlighten. When misinformation leads to errors or improper or illegal behavior, there should be corrective action authorized and implemented in the best interests of the stability and health of society. To knowingly deceive someone, with premeditation, should be condemned in the strongest language. Abusive speech by social and political leaders should require formal response by agencies responsible for monitoring the standards of law and ethics — usually elected leaders of society — and possibly administer appropriate corrective action if the transgression has caused palpable harm to individuals or the society at large. Of course, the determination of what does, and what does not, constitute a transgression is the pivotal point which initiates the relevant analysis and discussion. Unfortunately for society, that pivotal point may be rife with possibilities of abuse because it could be, as political correctness has been, a political tool turned on its ear and used as a weapon to deliver the very opposite result from what was originally intended. In western culture, we have so far been unable to fully develop, enunciate, and implement effective and reliable processes for identifying and correcting — or at least minimizing — information abuse, especially that from much of the news media and many ideologically dedicated politicians. We still depend upon less effective analytical processes and procedures to detect and eradicate social and political abuses in our public life. Our attempts to do so, have included Christian dicta, such as "thou shalt not bear false witness against your neighbor," but that has evidently fallen by the wayside both individually and socially, along with "thou shalt not steal" and "thou shalt not murder," and a few other "thou shalt nots" covering other social and personal behaviors. The "Law" has also been unable to correct this common weakness of human societies. This frame of reference can be thought of as a social and moral thermometer used to identify patients with dire — quite possibly fatal — illnesses, requiring a doctor's immediate intervention. This same perception can be accurately and usefully applied to virtually any given society as the common thread of humanity runs through all of them.

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“Gadgets Galore! Transforming the American Household,” an exhibit hosted by the Museum on Main in Pleasanton, showcases items from the past that once represented cutting-edge technology. (Photo Courtesy of Pleasanton’s Museum on Main)

Early Household Technology on Exhibit

The Museum on Main in Pleasanton is hosting an exhibit of late 19th and early 20th century inventions that changed the American household.

Although many items on display in the exhibit, “Gadgets Galore! Transforming the American Household,” are almost unrecognizable today, at one time they represented the latest in technology, according

to the museum.

The exhibit includes items from the Hayward Area Historical Society and Los Altos History Museum, along with the Museum on Main’s own collections.

The museum also borrowed early household appliances and other items from members of the community, including a 1930s Kenmore washer.

“This show was origi-

nally developed for historic homes,” said museum curator Ken MacLennan. “But it’s proved easy to adapt for our exhibit galleries.”

MacLennan said the greatest challenge was to adapt a scavenger-hunt activity to a static exhibit.

“The historic-home version invites you to find the predecessors of modern gadgets in the home’s own fur-

Novel ‘Wild Robot’ Selected for Library Reading Program

“The Wild Robot” by Peter Brown will be the featured book in the 2025 Livermore Reads Together program sponsored by the Livermore Public Library.

The library announced last week that The New York Times best-selling novel received the most community votes of seven titles suggested for the program.

The novel, the first in a trilogy, tells the story of Roz, a robot that washes ashore on an uninhabited island and is accidentally activated by the local wildlife.

As Roz learns how to survive, she discovers friendship,

compassion, and the meaning of life.

It is the first middle-grade book chosen for the community reading program.

An animated movie based on the 2016 novel was released this fall and is now playing in theaters.

In addition to encouraging members of the community to read “The Wild Robot,” the library will host several events in March that reflect themes drawn from the novel.

Copies of “The Wild Ro-

bot” are available from the Livermore Public Library.

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LIVERMORE RESIDENTS: Share your talents with the community by volunteering on one of the City of Livermore’s advisory bodies. We are accepting applications now through November 14, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

Human Services Commission (2 Vacancies)

Join us in discussing community social needs, assisting local agencies in procuring grant funds, and more.

(1) Unexpired Term ending 11/1/26

(1) Unexpired Term ending 11/1/28

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM

Livermore Housing Authority (2 Vacancies – 1 Tenant - 62 Years Old+ and 1 At-Large)

Join us in administering and overseeing low-income housing units and the Section Eight Voucher Program for subsidized housing.

(1) Regular term ending 1/1/2029

(1) Unexpired term ending 1/1/27

Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM

SAVE THE DATE! In-person Interviews are scheduled for November 20, 2024. For more information or to apply, please visit www.livermoreca.gov/AB, call the City Clerk’s office at (925) 960-4200, or email: cityclerk@livermoreca.gov.

HOMELESS

(Continued from front page)

Over the past year, according to the City of Livermore, the city received approximately \$2 million from myriad funding sources to support low-income residents. The funds were distributed among 12 nonprofits and facilitated the opening of Vineyard Housing and Resource Center (also known as Vineyard 2.0) which features a 20-bed overnight shelter. Tri-Valley Haven’s emergency shelter was also rebuilt with some of that funding.

“For those of us on the ground, the (Point in Time) Count provides a temperature check as to whether or not our interventions are working,” said John Bost, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen, which runs Vineyard 2.0. “The count also allows unhoused folks to have voice and power in a process that ultimately impacts them the most.”

The numbers for Dublin and Pleasanton are only for unsheltered individuals. Most, if not all housing services in Tri-Valley are located in Livermore, although Dublin and Pleasanton have contributed funding for related services.

“Similar to the Census, this provides data that we use to inform decision-making at all levels,” said Lia Bushong, Pleasanton’s assistant director of library and recreation services, which oversees programs related to homelessness.

The Point in Time count is conducted on a single night in the first few months of the year and offers a snapshot of homelessness (both sheltered and unsheltered) in the community and nationally. The findings are then collated by the Alameda County’s Continuum of Care team, an organization led by county and city stakeholders. The final data helps steer policy and funding, and measures progress in eliminating home-

lessness and increasing public awareness.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires communities to conduct a count of individuals, youth and families experiencing homelessness every two years, and provide specific data about their demographics and characteristics. That data is used to determine funding needs going forward, both from federal and state sources.

Overall, the number of unhoused in Alameda County is down 3% from 2022, according to the county’s preliminary data for 2024, with 9,450 people found to be experiencing homelessness, 6,343 of whom were unsheltered. The 2022 count identified 9,747 people experiencing homelessness, including 7,135 unsheltered.

In the Tri-Valley, the reduction in the number of unsheltered people is partly attributable to COVID-19 funding and increased state and federal dollars, which allowed the county to expand its outreach services and add additional shelter capacity.

According to EveryOne-Home.org, the group that organizes the biannual survey in Alameda County, the official report is expected to be finalized by the end of the year; local cities and agencies are eager for the full results.

“Obtaining the Point in Time Count report from the county will better inform us about our unsheltered population in Livermore and help guide future funding and program decisions to best serve those who are experiencing homelessness,” said Josh Thurman, Human Services program manager for the City of Livermore.

Alongside the drop in the number of unsheltered residents, there was also a 19% increase, or 3,107 people

countywide seeking and accessing shelter, according to the report.

All of which spells cautious, but optimistic news for Alameda County.

“I believe the importance of the PIT count is to determine where federal, state, county fundings are most needed and therefore most awarded,” said Gloria Gregory, Tri-Valley homeless, housing and senior services for Supervisor David Haubert’s office. “The count is also an important gauge of progress in how those fundings have or have not been effectively used to reduce homelessness since the previous PIT count.”

Nate Miley, president of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, said earlier this year that recent counts demonstrated the effectiveness of investing in programs that work.

“While we’ve made progress in some areas, there’s much more work to do,” Miley noted.

Last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom also announced a new round of funding for local communities and Continuums of Care totaling \$827 million statewide. Approximately \$56 million of that was earmarked for providing services in Alameda County. The money comes from the state’s Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants, which require counties, cities and organizations to work together on their grant applications. This is the fifth round of funding under the HHAP grants since July.

Dublin Mayor Michael McCorriston agrees that the Point in Time report offers a valuable window into the services and funding needed to assist those in need.

“The report provides the city with vital data of how many individuals and families are either facing homeless-

ness or are unsheltered in Dublin, enabling us to identify critical areas of need,” McCorriston said. “With this understanding, we can advocate for targeted federal, state, or county resources, develop local policies aimed at supporting unsheltered individuals, and work collaboratively with other agencies to find constructive solutions to address homelessness in our communities.”

For more information, visit <https://everyonehome.org/main/continuum-of-care/point-in-time-count-2024/>.



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Diwali, the Festival of Lights that marks the start of the Hindu new year, was celebrated on Nov. 3 in Bankhead Plaza in downtown Livermore. The event was hosted by Livermore Valley Arts. [See photo gallery at [independentnews.com/multimedia](https://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

Veteran's Day Celebrated Nov. 11

Veterans Day, also known as Armistice Day, is a day of celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

A ceremony presented

by Livermore's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7265 will be presented on Monday, November 11, 2024 at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ceremony is for all who have served. Military veteran groups and vehicles will

be present. The public is invited to attend.

Also on November 11, American Legion Post 47 will be presenting a Veterans Day program at Heritage Estates for those that are not able to attend the VFW program.

Tri-Valley Haven Nonprofit Seeks Support From Community for Holiday Programs

Tri-Valley Haven is asking the community for donations of cash, gift cards, and toys for its annual holiday food and gift-giving programs.

A Livermore-based nonprofit, Tri-Valley Haven provides housing and support programs for homeless and low-income families and victims of domestic or sexual assault.

Tri-Valley Haven said it hopes to help more than 2,900 local residents this holiday season. The program is designed to allow families who sign up to choose their own gifts, cook their own food, and develop their own holiday traditions.

New toys and gift items for all ages can be dropped off at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East

Ave., Livermore, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday, Dec. 2, through Friday, Dec. 6, and Monday, Dec. 9. For a list of suggested items, go to tinyurl.com/4rebvjb6.

Canned goods can be dropped off at the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry, 150 N. L St., Livermore, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., now through Wednesday, Nov. 13.



Livermore wide receiver CT Harper runs toward the end zone in the Nov. 1 game against visiting Foothill. The Cowboys beat the Falcons 31-14. Livermore next plays at Granada Nov. 8. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

DELTA

(Continued from front page)

ages and wholesales water in the Tri-Valley, relies on water pumped from the delta for as much as 90% of its supply.

Before the state board are two options. One would set firm limits on the amount of water that can be withdrawn. The other would involve voluntary agreements that are less restrictive, and possibly more harmful to the environment.

Eric Oppenheimer, the state water board's executive director said, "With the release of these possible updates to the Sacramento/Delta portions of the plan, the board would like to hear significant public input, which will be carefully considered as we work toward a comprehensive update that provides for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses of water in the watershed."

As one of the largest estuaries along the west coast of the Americas, the Bay Delta drains the Sacramento and San Joaquin river watersheds, accounting for nearly half of the freshwater in California. Human water diversions throughout the state's rivers have altered saltwater levels in the delta and pushed some river and ocean ecosystems near collapse. These systems include those that support salmon, which are needed to bring nutrients downstream to support the bay's health.

In 2018, as part of the Bay Delta Plan's first update phase, the board adopted new regulations that set river flow targets for the Lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries, as well as salinity limits for the southern portions of the delta.

The San Joaquin River drains areas south of the delta, including the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced tributaries, while the Sacramento River drains areas to the north, including the American, Cosumnes and Mokelumne tributaries.

The latest plan update includes a proposal from the water board's staff for the Sacramento River watershed and the northern parts of the delta to require river flows to average 55% unimpaired — meaning more than half the water would remain undiverted by human activity. The new regulation would allow for a range between 45% and 65% of unimpaired flow, with a provision relaxing the requirement to 35% during extreme droughts.

The proposal would also require that these inflows actually flow through the delta to San Francisco Bay to protect fish and other aquatic species within the delta itself. Another provision would require reservoirs to time their cold-water releases during critical periods in the salmon life cycle.

Some public water agencies, plus state and federal government departments, have proposed an alternative set of requirements known as voluntary agreements. These agreements would enable participants to establish their own habitat restoration projects without a mandatory minimum unimpeded flow.

Voluntary agreement proponents, such as the State Water Contractors, the nonprofit coalition of water utility

districts that includes Zone 7, view the alternative proposal as a more flexible set of regulations that can quickly direct funding to habitat projects. They state that the communities and industries that depend on the same river water as the delta's ecosystems will continue to be protected.

Environmental groups have characterized the voluntary agreements as an evasion of the higher flow requirements recommended by the staff of the State Water Resources Control Board.

In 2022, one state water board employee resigned over what he said was political pressure from Gov. Gavin Newsom influencing board decisions. Voluntary agreements, the employee said, are designed to avoid regulatory oversight and put as little water back into the rivers as possible.

The Sierra Club described the voluntary agreements as "basically a way for some water districts and agribusiness interests to continue diverting water that needs to be reallocated to the delta to save endangered species." The Environmental Protection Agency has also supported a minimum flow level.

The state water board has yet to decide which path to pursue.

Comments for the latest updates are due on Dec. 19. The earliest the board expects to consider the plan's adoption is in early 2026, with the regulations possibly going into effect in the middle of that year.

Tiny Homes Community Brings a Halloween Tradition to Residents

Goodness Village, a tiny homes community in Livermore, held its fourth annual Halloween parade and trick-or-treat event last week, which organizers called "a meaningful step in the journey toward healing and community reintegration" for its previously homeless residents.

"For our neighbors, it has been years since they've had their own door or porch to welcome neighborhood kids for Halloween candy, a simple joy that many cherish," said Jackie Ayo, community engagement manager for the nonprofit Goodness Village. "I remember the first time we were able to organize this trick-or-

treating event back in October 2021, and how excited the neighbors were to be able to participate in a cherished tradition after such a long absence."

"Having the chance to bring 'normalcy' and dignity into our neighbors' lives again is such an amazing experience to witness, and we know how much it means to them," Ayo added. The 28-unit tiny homes community is adjacent to, and on land owned by, CrossWinds Church.

Children from the CrossWinds Kids program also participated in the afternoon trick-or-treating.

"Seeing how the neighbors' faces light up when the kids come by is an ex-

tremely special moment," Ayo said. "Not only do the kids have a great time, but having their parents interact with our neighbors in this way is a very humanizing and humbling moment too."

Ayo said this was also the first year the event was opened to the broader Tri-Valley community.

"Sometimes when we think of people being unhoused, we forget that there are little things that they haven't been able to enjoy that we take for granted," she said. "Something as simple as having trick-or-treaters knock on your door after not experiencing that for so long makes the holiday season at Goodness Village so much more special."



Residents of Goodness Village enjoy once again the popular Halloween parade and trick-or-treat event. (Photo courtesy of Goodness Village)

SETTLEMENT

(Continued from front page)

likelihood of success given the uncertain nature of litigation, the potential damages and attorney's fees that could be awarded by a jury, and the city's defense costs and attorney's fees. For this case, the City Council accepted the plaintiff's offer to settle. (The decision is supported by both the city's legal team and the city's excess liability pool.)

Attorney Gordon Fauth, who represented Bun, was not available for comment. The case recently was delayed in court when the appeals court directed Chen to appoint a guardian ad litem, a legal term for someone named to represent the interests of a person who cannot care for himself.

Bun's injuries stemmed from a shooting that occurred shortly after California Highway Patrol officers found Bun's car parked on the side of the westbound I-580 Freeway near Greenville Road on a dark and rainy night. According to Chen's 34-page ruling, which provided a synopsis of the case, Bun had pulled over because the black Mercedes he was driving was inoperable. Officers suspected the vehicle was stolen because it had dealer plates, was heavily damaged, and its four tires were shredded and flat.

Officers used a public address system to order Bun to get out of the car, but, when he did not respond,

they broke his windows. Bun, who claimed to be a descendant of Cambodian royalty, later said he did not know they were officers, and he feared they were attempting to kill or rob him of his jewelry. Bun escaped the car through the passenger side window and slid down a 150-foot embankment into the Club Moto property.

Three Livermore officers arrived to assist the CHP to chase him down. They climbed a fence and spotted Bun lying on his stomach with his hands under him. Officer Michael Busavec, who was carrying a "less lethal" gun that fires projectiles filled with cotton instead of bullets, slipped in the mud and broke his leg. Another officer, Daniel Tabak grabbed the gun and ordered Bun to stop, but Bun got up and walked away from them.

As officers ordered Bun to stop and put his hands up, Tabak tried to shoot him with a bean bag round. The gun misfired twice, but a third attempt hit Bun in the upper left arm. Bun fell to the ground but got up and continued to walk away.

At that point, a woman on the property yelled "he's got a gun." Tabak fired again, hitting Bun. The judge wrote that Tabak aimed for Bun's back, but hit him in the back of the head, cracking his skull and causing a traumatic brain injury.

Bun was later charged with misdemeanor offenses for driving under the influence, hit-and-run driving, and resisting arrest. The charges were ultimately dismissed.

Bun, who was unarmed, claimed in his lawsuit that the officers terrified and tormented him before committing "police brutality."

According to the judge's written ruling, Livermore Police Department policy advises officers to use less lethal rounds when possible to avoid deadly confrontations, but to not intentionally target the head or neck.

Chen wrote that officers argued Bun posed a threat to them, but the facts indicated Bun never threatened them, did not have a gun, and never charged them. Officers also never saw a weapon.

Despite that, Chen ruled for the officers, saying that because of the report of a gun, "under the circumstances, a reasonable officer could have mistakenly but reasonably thought immediate action using a less-lethal weapon was warranted."

Bun appealed to the Ninth Circuit, where judges said he needed someone to look out for his interests before they could hear the case. Chen appointed a representative who assisted him and his attorneys in mediation until the case was settled, court records showed.



Students and teachers at the Sunol Glen School held their annual Halloween parade through the town on Oct. 31. (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)



Shown above, a scene from the short film, "Madhavi," released in 2022. The award-winning film will be screened at 2 p.m. Nov. 16 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza. Admission is free. (Photo courtesy of the Dublin Library)

Dublin Library to Screen South Asian Film on Domestic Abuse

The Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, will screen the award-winning short film "Madhavi," which will be followed by a panel discussion with the director and members of the Bay Area Muslim community, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16.

Written and directed by Jacintha Charles, the film deals with the aftermath of domestic abuse as an Indian

divorcee, struggling to raise her daughter, is forced to confront her painful past at a gathering of old friends.

During the post-screening discussion, Charles will be joined by representatives of Narika, a Fremont-based group that addresses domestic violence in South Asian American communities, and the Muslim Community Center East Bay.

Released in 2022, the

14-minute film won the award for Best Short Film at the UK Asian Film Festival, Best Drama at the Oregon Short Film Festival, and Best Social Impact/Justice Short Film during the online Phoenix Shorts festival the following year.

The screening is free.

Pre-registration is encouraged. To contact the library, call 925-803-7252 or email dublin@aclibrary.org.

Red Cross to Host Blood Drive on Dec. 6

The American Red Cross will be accepting blood donations at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6.

To schedule a donation, go to redcrossblood.org

and enter the sponsor code "dublincommunity" or call 800-733-2767.

Blood donors are also asked to streamline the donation process by going to redcrossblood.org/rapidpass on the day of the

blood drive to complete the pre-donation reading and health questionnaire.

Dublin hosts regular blood drives at the Civic Center on the first Friday of February, April, June, October, and December.

Agency Launches Annual Warm Coat Drive

The Gene Morgan Insurance Agency in Livermore has launched its annual Warm Coat Drive to benefit needy children and adults this winter.

The agency is accepting donations of used or new coats at its downtown office, 2020 Fourth St., through Wednesday, Nov. 27. Office hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

After hours drop-offs can be arranged by calling 925-447-2565.

BUTTERFLY

(Continued from front page)

started making cuttings and began to share the gift of the butterflies with others, like Persson, who moved the following year to Plymouth in Amador County.

Persson said, "When I moved up here Alicia brought me a piece of the vine and it's growing like crazy. This is the third year and there are times when I have about 100 caterpillars on it." Persson propagated the vine and last December gave her entire book club cuttings as a Christmas gift. "They were like, 'oh, this is exciting.'"

Wistrand's other neighbor, Romar De Claro, didn't have nearly the gardening expertise of Persson, but had just as much success with a cutting he received from Wistrand last April.

"Yeah, it's crazy. As soon as she gave it to me, she said, 'Expect butterflies to come around.' And oh my gosh, I have not seen butterflies in Livermore for over 20 years and then as soon as we planted it — good enough." He potted his vine, which is now 12 feet tall. "I was quite amazed with even just one flower, deep red, almost copperish colored

butterflies started to come."

For some, the gift of Wistrand's butterfly sharing has transcended beyond the joy their colorful presence brings. Laura Lembo, retired principal of Joe Michell School in Livermore, met Wistrand while volunteering with the Kindness Flower Project, a nonprofit organization founded by Livermore resident Molly Fisher that delivers fresh bouquets to senior health facilities and other organizations.

"Our first grandson passed away in 2021," Lembo said. "To celebrate his birthday, my husband and I would release butterflies into our garden, in hopes they would stay awhile." But they always flew away within a few hours. Wistrand gave some of her passion-flower vine to Lembo last spring and Lembo now has been able to share the caterpillar's journey with her surviving grandson, Parker, who just turned two in September.

"He loves the Eric Carle book, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar.' This was the very best opportunity for the concepts we were reading about to come

to life." Together they have watched the new life change from caterpillar to chrysalis and emerge as a butterfly before their eyes, all from the cuttings they planted at her home in Mountain House. "This experience has helped Parker understand and appreciate a small part of the environment in which he lives in this great big world. I'm so grateful to have met Alicia. She has started something very special, and I am so appreciative of her generosity."

Wistrand can't even see out her back windows anymore because there is so much life on the passion-flower vine. "I'm really, really lucky. But anybody can do this; it's all attainable," she said.

Wistrand and her husband have occasionally found butterflies in the house. "And then they go to the windows, and we release them."

Before her gardening knowledge grew, the butterflies would emerge, but then leave her yard and go to other people's who had more flowers blooming.

Now she has purpose-

A Cappella Women's Chorus to Perform at Livermore Church

Harmony Fusion Chorus, a women's cappella chorus, will present "Season of Song," featuring winter holiday favorites, at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries in Livermore at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16.

The Hayward-based group will be joined by Musicology, a men's quartet, and a clarinet choir, Clarinet Fusion.

"It's been like a tradition for Harmony Fusion to have a show every year, usually in late fall, when we perform a variety of songs including holiday favorites," said director Barbara Vander Putten. "Why not get in the holiday spirit a little early?"

Harmony Fusion Chorus, which performs four-part barbershop-style harmonies, is a chapter of Sweet Adelines International.

Putten said the church, at 1385 S. Livermore Ave., "provides the perfect acoustics for a cappella music."

Harmony Fusion will also host a reception for the audience in the church's fellowship hall following the performance.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Children under 12 are \$10.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at harmonyfusion.org, by calling 925-719-1250, or by emailing kenitgolabi@gmail.com.



Local a cappella chorus group ushers in the holiday season with song. Harmony Fusion Chorus will present "Season of Song" at Our Saviour Lutheran Ministries in Livermore at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16. (Photo courtesy of Harmony Fusion Chorus)

Pleasanton Author Publishes a Second Collection of Her Poems

Linda Drattell, a board member for the Tri-Valley Writers Branch of the California Writers Club, has published a second book of poetry, "The Lighter Side of Horse Manure."

In the collection of poems, Drattell reflects on the life of her aging horse, Vegas.

"I imagined him tossing quips with his field buddies as they endured indignities, put up with each other's orneriness and envy, and suffered through flies, dental visits, trimmed hooves, and more," Drattell said.

"A barn manager, annoyed by the fact that I would not put my horse down when he got too old to ride, questioned the worth of keeping an old horse around. My response is this book of poems, describing the treasured memories my beloved horse provided me with until

the day he died (two years ago) at age 34."

Last year, Drattell, who splits her time between Pleasanton and Barcelona, Spain, published "Remember This Day," a collection of poems that examines the moral questions people face and the emotional toll crossing those fault lines can take on their lives. "Remember This Day" received a 2023 Bronze Award for poetry from the online Reader Views.

Drattell is also the author,

with Eve Marie Little, of "Who Wants to Be Friends with a Dragon?"

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Dr. Chirag Pandya, board certified in Pulmonology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, has moved to a new location.

He has been serving the patients in the Tri-Valley area for the last 15 years and has held several leadership roles at Stanford Tri-Valley (ValleyCare) hospital.

Dr. Pandya specializes in asthma, emphysema/COPD, trouble breathing, lung infections, lung cancer, interstitial lung disease, snoring, sleep apnea, trouble sleeping (insomnia), narcolepsy and restless leg syndrome.

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Please email Chris@independentnews.com with your resume and at least 3 writing samples, with the subject line "Freelancer Application."

Livermore Approves New Human Services Priorities List

By Ruth Roberts

The City Council has given the green light to Livermore's Housing and Human Services grant priorities list for fiscal years (FY) 2025-'27.

During its regular meeting on Oct. 28, the council unanimously approved a resolution adopting a prioritization of services for the coming two-year cycle.

"For the needs outreach and formation of the grant priorities for the next two fiscal years, staff engaged Livermore residents at community events to hear the needs of our residents," Amy Walker, management analyst for the Housing and Human Services Division, told the council. "We considered the findings from the 2024 Eastern Alameda County Human Services Needs Assessment outreach and nonprofit providers provided valuable input through the Homeless Roundtable."

The roundtable, Walker added, formed four working groups to prioritize universal basic income, mental health and substance use treatment services, collaboration and outreach efforts, and alternatives to affordable housing.

As entitlement recipients, Livermore is also required to have a Citizen Participation Plan that describes the policies and procedures for public involvement in the grant process.

"Prior to each grant cycle, Livermore's Citizen Participation Plan requires us to do community outreach and a public hearing regarding the pressing housing and human services needs in the community," said Walker. "On September 10, 2024, the Human Services Commission considered the outreach results and recommended a set of four funding priorities for the next grant cycle."

Those four priorities are:

Housing Services

This includes affordable housing units for low-income families, people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities and seniors. It also folds in rental assistance and housing services.

"This is to keep low-income families, people with disabilities and seniors housed," Walker said.

Homeless Services

This category highlights emergency shelter and temporary/transitional housing; basic needs such as food services, showers/restroom and storage; employment services and support services such as counseling.

Health Care Services

Navigation of mental health services and substance use programs for low-income people, people experiencing homelessness, youth and seniors are part of this category, which also includes providing medical and dental assistance and support for people with disabilities, seniors, low-income families and survivors of domestic violence.

Service Provision, Awareness and Navigation

This category is about creating food security and the access to critical safety net services for non-English speakers, people with disabilities, seniors, and low-income families and youth. It also includes access to and navigation of social services and government-sponsored programs, transportation services and access to programs that promote and support economic stability.

The grant funding process offered through the City of Livermore has several funding sources to address capital projects and public service programs for low-income residents, but just 15% of those funds (state and federal) are semi-discretionary. The remainder is mandated to address housing needs, as opposed to other issues, such as sanitation, for example.

According to the staff report, in FY2024-'25, the city received a total of \$918,191 through a combination of federal grants and city funds. Last year, these dollars provided a total of 13 grants to nine public and nonprofit agencies to assist in a variety of programs including food programs for seniors, tenant-based rental assistance programs and emergency shelter for the unhoused.

With the funding now depleted, the city staff has negotiated \$1.8 million in funding commitments from the Isabel Crossing and Arroyo Vista developments to replenish coffers for the coming fiscal year. The first allocations of the funding are expected in 2025.

The grant priorities highlight how the Human Services Commission will evaluate and score all grant applications submitted to the city by nonprofit and public agencies for the next two fiscal years. The Human Services Commission will then review submitted grant applications during their regular February and March 2025 Human Services Commission meetings and will bring funding recommendations to the council for their consideration.

Separately, the city's Community Development Department staff is exploring a new source of state funding to incentivize the development of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in the city, according to city staff. This program would be administered separately from the Housing and Human Services grant process.

ADUs, also known as mother-in-law units, are housing units constructed on the lot of a house otherwise zoned for single-family housing and are seen as a lower-cost method of providing more housing and increasing density.

"The state ADU funding would be administered directly to homeowners for construction of new ADUs, including those who are low income," the staff report said.

The city will also begin implementing a two-year

funding cycle for Housing and Human Services grants beginning in FY 2025-'27.

The fiscal realignment plan was born out of conversations during the 2024 Eastern Alameda County Human Services Needs Assessment.

"One of the issues that was continuously brought up during focus groups and interviews with our nonprofit providers was the grants process," Josh Thurman, human services programs manager for the City of Livermore, said in an earlier interview with The Independent. "They said our processes are extremely time-consuming, and they wished there was a way they would only have one application since most of them apply to all three cities for grant funds."

The new process, Thurman added, will create one general application

for all cities to fill out via the Zoom Grants software system, which all groups

currently access. The new program will also create one central Tri-Valley da-

tabase and apply the same language for each city's applicant.



A community altar with offerings was part of Livermore's Día de los Muertos celebration Nov. 2. [See photo gallery at [independentnews.com/multimedia/](https://www.independentnews.com/multimedia/)] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 7

COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS

If you dread the upcoming holidays and are faced with heartache and loss, join in an evening of discussion on ways to cope with the season. On Nov. 7 at Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton, at 7 p.m. All are welcome, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Barbara at 925-846-3904 with any questions.

Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 7-9

COMMUNITY CHURCH BOUTIQUE 2024

The boutique team at Cedar Grove Community Church at 2021 College Ave. in Livermore has prepared another shopping experience. All items are created or donated by members. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 9

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT BOUTIQUE

The City of Dublin's annual Holiday Craft Boutique will be held on Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. You'll find unique and handcrafted items, perfect for holiday gift-giving. Items may include jewelry, pottery, soaps, lotions, clothing, holiday decor, and more, created by local artists, artisans, and crafters.

Monday, Nov. 11

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society presents Mary Kircher Roddy, with "Bagging a Live One - Connecting with Cousins You Never Knew You Had". In this webinar, Mary will show how you can find distant relatives, perhaps ones you never knew existed. Rather than trolling surname or location lists for other researchers with a common interest, you will come away with the skills to identify specific people to look for. On Nov. 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., free, via Zoom. For additional information contact Tom Mathews, L-AGS Program Chair, at program@L-AGS.org.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING - EAST DUBLIN

Join the Dublin Police Services Crime Prevention Unit at the second of two Neighborhood Watch meetings. Residents are encouraged to attend and bring questions for the Dublin Police team. On Nov. 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at The Wave Community Room & Boardwalk, 4201 Central Parkway, in Dublin.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT

St. Michael School will be hosting a free Parent Education Night on Nov. 12 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Pediatric occupational therapist Jennifer Wittenauer and speech language pathologist Rachel Muldoon will be presenting on ways to prepare children for TK/Kindergarten. The event is open to all parents of Livermore who have children preschool age and younger. RSVP by Nov. 8 at <https://smsliv.org/parent-education-night>.

Thursday, Nov. 14

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS BUS TOUR OF HISTORIC ISRAEL

Livermore Public Library hosts Armchair Travelers Bus Tour of Historic Israel, presented by Harry Briley. Located in the Civic Center Library Storytime Room, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. on Nov. 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 14

GARDEN CLUB MEETING: PRUNING CALIFORNIA NATIVES

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club presents "Pruning California Natives—How, When and Why: Don't Be Afraid Be Prepared!" Master Gardener Laura Cornett will focus on when to prune native shrubs and perennials, the pruning cuts that are recommended, and the tools needed. Nov. 14, 6 to 8 p.m. at Crosswinds Church, 1660 Freisman Rd., Livermore, at the red Farm Theater Building.

Saturday, Nov. 16

HARMONY FUSION CHORUS PRESENTS "SEASON OF SONG"

Enjoy an afternoon of festive music when Harmony Fusion Chorus, a women's acapella show chorus, presents "Season of Song," featuring guest performers and instrumental group Clarinet Fusion. Harmony Fusion will host a reception following the performance. In Livermore on Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1385 S. Livermore. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Children under 12 are \$10. Tickets may be purchased at www.harmonyfusion.org, or by contacting Kenit Golabi at 925-719-1250 or kenitgolabi@gmail.com.

Sunday, Nov. 17

THE TRUE WESTERN SYCAMORE

Livermore Public Library hosts The True Western Sycamore program, presented by LARPD ranger Eric Whiteside. Located in the Civic Center Library Storytime Room, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. on Nov. 17 at 2 p.m.

Thursdays, Nov. 21 | Dec. 19

FIBER FRIENDS

On the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., the Livermore Public Library will host Fiber Friends at the Civic Center Library, Community Rooms A & B. Participants are encouraged to chat with fellow crafters and work on their craft projects, knitting, sewing, crochet, cross-stitch, etc. Fiber Friends is geared towards adults. For more information, please call 925-373-5505, or visit the library's website at library.livermoreca.gov.

Thursdays, Nov. 21 | Dec. 19 | Jan. 16

MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH UNIT VISIT

The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's Mobile Medical Outreach Unit will be at the Civic Center Library parking lot, located at 1188 S. Livermore Ave., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of every

month. Medical providers will offer examinations, consultations, and referrals to veterans. Veterans who are not enrolled or are uncertain about eligibility for health services can visit the outreach team for help with their questions. Veterans can also apply for VA Health Care online by visiting www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction. For additional program information, call 925-373-5500, visit library.livermoreca.gov.

Saturday, Nov. 23

SAFETY FAIR

Dublin Police will hold a free Safety Fair for local businesses on Nov. 23, from 12 to 4 p.m., at Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Ave., in Dublin. This event will provide valuable safety tips as we head into the busy holiday season. Lunch will be provided. Register at www.cognitofirms.com/DublinPoliceServices/LocalBusinessSafetyFair.

Saturday, Nov. 23

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

Make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. On Nov. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands. Cheerful cotton fabric donations are always accepted. If you can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com for kits that you can sew from home.

Sunday, Nov. 24

MONY NOP TURKEY DROP TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IN NEED

On Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the community is invited to gather for the 9th Annual Mony Nop Turkey Drop, benefiting Tri-Valley Haven, at the Livermore City Hall Parking Lot, 1052 S. Livermore Ave. Attendees can drop off frozen turkeys, gift cards, or cash donations to provide Thanksgiving meals for local families facing economic hardship. Donations can also be dropped off at the Grocery Outlets located at 1320 Railroad Ave. in Livermore and at 550 Bernal Ave. in Pleasanton throughout November.

Sunday, November 24

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Interfaith Interconnect of the Tri-Valley, in collaboration with Livermore-Pleasanton Interfaith Clergy Association, will hold their annual Thanksgiving service on Nov. 24 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. The service will feature a variety of ways different faiths and cultures express gratitude, followed by a reception until 5 p.m. There is no cost to attend, but donations will be accepted to benefit two small local nonprofits: Interfaith Sharing Food Pantry and Laundry Love. More information at interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TOPSCIENCE

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

ONGOING EVENTS

SATURDAY PLEASANTON FARMERS MARKET

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

SUNDAY LIVERMORE DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

The Unitarian Universalist Church is welcoming to all. Join in on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for music, singing, and conversation. The church is located at 1893 North Vasco Rd. in Livermore. For more information, visit uucil.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING

The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from Sept. to May. The DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. For more information, visit jhl.californiadar.org or email jane.everett@sbcglobal.net.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and nursery care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit asburylive.org.

WINGS — WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

WINGS is a faith enrichment group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet October thru May on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomas Ave., Livermore. Attendees can enjoy a variety of speaker presentations and topics, small group discussion, fellowship and more. All are welcome! See www.stcharleslivermore.org/wings for more information.

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

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OBITUARIES

Samuel Eugene Bryant Sept. 26, 1946 – Sept. 17, 2024

Samuel Eugene Bryant, 77, passed away on Sept. 17, 2024, in Pleasanton, California. Born on Sept. 26, 1946, Samuel, known for his kind and generous spirit, was a cherished friend to all. He is survived by his devoted wife and partner of 43 years, Priscilla C. Walker, and his son, Samuel A. Bryant, from a previous marriage. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hobart H. Bryant and Tressia E. Bryant (Whitaker), and his brother, Gary H. Bryant.

Sam's educational journey included memorable years at Princeton High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he excelled as a member of the varsity wrestling team. Following high school, Sam dedicated eight years to the United States Air Force, where he served notably at a remote radar station in Cape Romanzof, Alaska. There, he experienced the stark beauty of the region and the close camaraderie of a small base.

Following his military service, Sam embarked on a distinguished 30-plus year career in the electronics and software industry, holding positions at Lear Siegler, Samsung, Panasonic and Cyberlink. His work took him around the world, allowing him to embrace diverse cultures and forge lasting friendships in the United States, Japan,



Korea, Taiwan, China, the UK and France. It was at Lear Siegler where he met his wife, Priscilla.

Outside of his professional life, Sam was deeply involved in community sports. He coached Pop Warner Football in San Ramon, California, and played for the San Leandro Old Timers Baseball Association, eventually serving as its president in 1990. His commitment to community service was further demonstrated through his active participation in the Citizens Police Academy of Livermore.

Later in life, Sam was able to pursue his passion for golf, a game

he enjoyed everywhere, especially in Hawaii, which was his favorite vacation destination and where he and Priscilla married. When Sam developed Parkinson's disease, one of his major regrets was losing the ability to play golf and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow golfers. In the last year of his life, he suffered greatly with both Parkinson's and Lewy Body Dementia, two devastating diseases.

Sam's Christian faith was a cornerstone of his life. He faithfully recited The Lord's Prayer nightly and during times of difficulty. His personal life was rich with relationships and hobbies. He never met a person with whom he could not find common ground. Never a harsh word, always a bright smile and warm greeting.

Sam was laid to rest in Cincinnati, Ohio, next to his beloved brother Gary. A private celebration of life will be held in Livermore, California, for his many friends and those closest to him.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Sam's memory to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research or the Dementia Society of America. Sam's legacy of warmth, generosity, and community involvement will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by all who knew him.

Eric B. Dyer Dec. 9, 1948 – Oct. 28, 2024

Eric was born in Panama and came to the U.S. when he was five. His grandfather was one of the engineers who built the canal, and his father was born there as well. He grew up in Concord, attended Clayton Valley High School, and completed his degree at California College of Arts and Crafts. He taught at LVJUSD for his entire career: ten years at Granada High School, twenty years at Mendenhall Middle School, and three years at Livermore High School. He taught jewelry making, stone carving, oil and acrylic painting, drawing, cartooning and photography. He coached football and baseball and was proud to see former students go on to success in the major leagues. He celebrated his artists as well, watching with pride as their names appeared on credits at Pixar in Orlando and



another won an Academy Award. He always believed teaching was a calling, a solemn promise to the next generation, a career he loved for thirty-three years. He retired to Colorado Springs twenty years ago and enjoyed traveling and creating art in his home studio. He continued his support of students by becoming part of a program that sponsors cadets at the Air Force Academy. One of his cadets later had the honor of flying Air Force Two for Vice President Mike Pence. Eric had a difficult year medically and we are thankful he is at peace. Honor his memory by supporting a student, saying a kind word at every opportunity, making a joke, and greeting everyone with a smile. He is survived by his wife Kate Kirkendall, his son Marc, his daughter Jennifer and six grandchildren.

Karen Cullinan Phillips Oct. 18, 1934 – Oct. 19, 2024

Karen Cullinan Phillips passed peacefully on Oct. 19, 2024, one day after celebrating her 90th birthday. She was born in Washington state on Oct. 18, 1934, to John Thomas Cullinan and Virginia Ystad Wheatley of Oregon. She grew up and attended boarding school at St. Joseph's Orphanage in Spokane, Washington until she decided to make the journey to Livermore, California. She graduated from Livermore High in 1952. After high school, Karen and former husband, Virgil Bretz, welcomed two children – Steven and Donovan. Several years later, Karen met the love of her life, Hiram Phillips, and they married in July 1968 in Lake Tahoe, California. Karen and Hiram then blended their families and raised their children together in Livermore. After retiring from Lawrence Livermore Lab, Karen and Hiram spent the remaining years of their life together traveling, spending winters in Arizona and summers on the Oregon Coast



and enjoyed RVing throughout North America. After Hiram's passing, Karen continued RVing, enjoying the last few years traveling with her son, Steven. She was a distinguished member of the Golden Anchor Boat Club of Tracy, maintaining her membership for 52 years. Karen was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Hiram. She is survived by her sister, Hap Cullinan; five children: Steven

Bretz, Donovan Bretz-Seymour, Norman (Robyn) Phillips, Stephanie (Tim) Harrah, and Janie Phillips; 11 grandchildren: Brian (Siobhan) Bretz, Tim Bretz, Tiffany (Derek) Radau, Jeremy Moreno, Chris (Kirwin) Frost, Bronté (David) Martinez, Elizabeth (Charlie) Gazarek, Shawn (Diana) Harrah, Suzanne (Mike) Marczak, Melissa Corum, Royce (April) Corum, and 27 great-grandchildren: Fiona, Finnegan, Joshua, Justine, Jeana, Jacob, Elliot, Blaze, Joshua, Logan, Brady, Jaimie, Kaden, Tyler, James, Liam, Xander, Zoey, Jovie, Chloe, Sofi, Savon, Zion, Shaykyra, Tyler, Carly, and Jackson and great-great grandson Bodie. To commemorate Karen's life, a memorial service will be held in her honor at the Tracy Elks Lodge on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024, at 1 p.m. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Phillips family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at callaghan-mortuary.com.

Celebration of Life

Donald Lew Seilhymer March 16, 1935 – Oct. 11, 2024

Donald "Don" Lew Seilhymer, 89, passed away at his home in Goodyear, Arizona, on Oct. 11, 2024. He is in the loving arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus. Don was born on March 16, 1935, in San Francisco, California, to Charles and Frances (Martinis) Seilhymer and was the eldest brother to three siblings.

While he was still very young, the family moved to Danville, Illinois, where he spent several years of his childhood. They later moved back to California in 1947 and eventually settled in Emeryville where his parents owned and operated Nell's Café. He attended Emeryville High School and graduated in June 1953.

After high school, he enlisted in the Army and attended basic training in Fort Ord, California in July 1954. Don served as a Military Policeman, assigned to duty in Austria and France. While assigned to the Military Police Detachment in Paris, he met his future wife Judith (Judy) Arlene Derbin whose father was also stationed in Paris as a Warrant Officer in the Army. Don and Judy became acquainted through friends, and then one night while on a hayride in Paris their relationship blossomed into romance and the rest is history. Judy's father was reassigned to the Presidio Army base in San Francisco, but Don and Judy remained committed romantic pen pals.

When Don's enlistment ended in June 1957, he moved back to the Bay Area to be near family and Judy. On May 29, 1958, he and Judy married. They lived for a short time in Oakland and then bought a home in the fledgling community of Dublin, California, in 1961. He was employed at Golden Plastics Fabrication in Oakland where he would become the shop foreman and



work for 40 years until his retirement in 2000. Don and Judy raised four children in Dublin and lived there until September 2021 when they sold their home of 60 years and moved to Goodyear, Arizona.

Don volunteered his time in Dublin Little League Baseball as both a team manager and an umpire. He was deeply committed and involved in Scouting as a Cub Scout Pack Leader and a Boy Scout Master for Troop 427 in Dublin. He had a deep love and appreciation for the outdoors and nature and enjoyed sharing this with his Scouts and with his family through many hikes and backpacking trips in the mountains of California. Don was also an avid bowler and spent many years in league bowling at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl

where he and Judy developed many friendships. He attended Parkway Baptist Church in Dublin for many years where he dedicated his service to various ministries and discipleship. He also committed many years to the genealogical studies of the Seilhymer family and other connected families. He was an amazingly gifted artist and produced many beautiful drawings and paintings that he shared with family and friends. Additionally, he was a skilled carpenter and was always handy at any project that needed doing. Don was an amazing dad and a big kid at heart; he greatly loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He always had a kind word for a stranger, was quick with a joke and loved to laugh. However, his greatest attribute was his faith in God and the Gospel which he shared with his family and anyone else that he encountered.

Don joins his beloved wife Judy who passed away in July 2023. He is survived by his sister Frances (Piddy) Barron of Junction City, Oregon, and his sister Diana (Peaches) Haddy and her husband Al of Junction City, Oregon. He is also survived by his four children; Pete Seilhymer and his wife Sharon of Buckeye, Arizona, Julie Laughery and husband Gene of Mesa, Arizona, Steve Seilhymer and wife Carol of Bigfork, Montana, and James Seilhymer and wife Julie of Sparks, Nevada. He also has eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

There will be a memorial service at Sacramento Valley Veterans Cemetery in Dixon, California, on December 2, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. followed by a celebration of life at the Veterans Hall in Dixon, California.

Stella Beck

Aug. 9, 1935 – Oct. 2, 2024



Sharing in Livermore.

Stella will be remembered by her children, Paul-Mark (Francine) Baker, Glenn (Nora) Baker, Miriam

Stella Beck was born in Berlin, Germany, on Aug. 9, 1935, to Isaac and Itta Steinberger. She survived the Holocaust and immigrated to the United States with her parents, brother Emil, and other family members. Stella had three great passions in her life. First and foremost, she loved and raised her seven children to be good citizens, parents and productive members of society. Secondly, Stella was a well known and respected local businesswoman who ran Advanced Sparkee Carpet Care for over 50 years. Thirdly, Stella took pride in advancing the Jewish community in the Tri-Valley since 1959, helping the community in many ways, including being the President of Beth Emek's Senior Group, Beynenu, and a founding member of Interfaith

(Craig) Alford, Audrey (Robert) Milner, Katherine (Joseph) Keller, and James (Anne) Baker; second cousin Gil (Deirdre) Spencer, nieces Pauline Solnik and Inette (Joshua) Brown, 20 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and numerous other family members and friends and friends.

Stella was predeceased by her parents, Isaac and Itta Steinberger; brother Emil and sister-in-law Anna Steinberger; son Brian Baker; daughter-in-law Connie Baker; grandson Jonathan Baker; great granddaughter Brielle Finley; and close friend Bertram Winston.

Stella was laid to rest on Oct. 8, 2024, at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore.

Marvin William Silva Jan. 18, 1931 – Oct. 4, 2024

Marvin was born Jan. 18, 1931, and passed away on Oct. 4, 2024. He was 93 years old. Marv is survived by his wife Ida of 65 years and their children, Karen Silva, William Silva, Joseph Silva, Laura Kirven, Diane Smith and Carol Silva. Marvin had thirteen grandchildren and four great

grandchildren. Marvin worked as a police officer for the Livermore Police Department from 1954-1965, a car salesman at Codioli Ford, sold life insurance and was a tennis instructor. He also loved baseball. He was known and loved by many people; we will miss him dearly.



Oollanakkunnel Isaac John (O.I. John)

July 25, 1932 – Oct. 24, 2024

Oollanakkunnel Isaac John (O.I. John), was born on July 25, 1932, at Puthuveli, in the beautiful state of Kerala, India, into the Ellickal family as the eldest of eight children. A man of integrity and dedication, John built a fruitful career as a bank manager at the Central Bank of India, eventually retiring as a District Coordinator. On Jan. 12, 1964, he married E.C. Ealiamma, and together they raised three children in Aluva, Kerala. In their later years they moved to Baltimore, Maryland, living with their eldest daughter and delighting in the company of their grandchildren. They became U.S. citizens and moved to Livermore, California to stay with their son Rekesh, his wife Neena and their two daughters.



An ardent follower of Christ, John was cherished for

his quiet demeanor and simple, yet profound wisdom. A man who never took offense and always forgave others, he leaves behind a loving family, including daughters Dr. Rekha Mathew (Project Lead, Johns Hopkins IT) and Remi Manoj (RN, MedStar Health), son Rekish John (CTO, ThinkBio), seven grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. His legacy of kindness and wisdom continues to inspire those who knew him. He loved reading, contemplating and nature walks. As we bid him farewell, we find solace in knowing that he rests in peace with his Savior, forever cherished in our hearts.

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

Christal C. Grisham April 20, 1930 – Oct. 22, 2024



Christal "Chris" Grisham was born on Easter Sunday, April 20, 1930, in rural Henry County, Georgia. His parents, Charlie and Amy Grisham, were tenant farmers on a cotton farm and Chris, the youngest of their nine children, was delivered at home by a midwife. At a young age, he joined family members in the cotton fields to help support the large household, but when he urged his mother to send him to school instead, she did.

After his father's death, Christal and his mother moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he enrolled in high school as a sophomore, although he was actually a freshman. He excelled in mathematics, science, and English and he joined the United States Air Force after high school graduation. He met Gretchen Thompson, his future wife, in Toledo, Ohio, and they were married in 1954. By 1963, the young couple were raising a family of six children. When a new job opportunity arose for Chris to work for the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA) at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) in 1971, the Grishams moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, roughly 25 miles from the Range.

For nearly 30 years (1963-1992), Christal dedicated himself to the field of Quality Assurance (QA), working for NASA, the Department of the Army (DA), the Office of Naval Research (ONR), and the University of California, Berkeley (UCB), Space Sciences Lab (SSL). As a contract administrator, he oversaw QA contracts for NASA's Apollo projects, including the Apollo Soyuz Test Project (ASTP), Apollo Launch Escape System, and Apollo Service Module/Lunar Excursion Module (ASM/LEM). Chris finished

his career as performance assurance manager on the EUVE S/P (Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer Science Payload), a \$150 million satellite developed by the UC Berkeley, Space Sciences Lab. He retired in 1992.

As a life-long learner, Chris furthered his education attending night classes, on-the-job training, and college courses. He earned a bachelor of science degree (1976), and a master's degree in business administration (1979) from California State University, Hayward. He was a humble individual and seldom discussed his accomplishments; fortunately, there are certificates, plaques and letters tucked away that tell the story. His children and grandchildren have followed his legacy, pursuing degrees and vocations in justice, government, healthcare, education, music and social services.

Throughout his life, Christal enjoyed good music of all genres, but straight-ahead jazz was his passion. After retirement, he hosted a late-night jazz radio program on station KRWG at New Mexico State University. Other

passions included solving electrical problems for his family, scouring car lots for good deals, attending live concerts, comedy, cartoons, and bowling (Senior Olympics). Chris sang tenor in the choirs at St. John's Lutheran Church (Oakland) and Peace Lutheran Church (Las Cruces, New Mexico). He regularly volunteered his time and talents to serve as Church treasurer, usher or groundskeeper.

Christal was an honorable man, treasured by family and friends, and greatly admired by his colleagues. He is survived by Gretchen, his wife of 70 years, and his children: Melodi Dalton, Christal Kevin Grisham, Kelli Grisham, Kymberli Grisham, and Shannon (Beverly) Grisham. He was predeceased by daughter, Heidi (Corey) Porter. He will be remembered with affection by his 11 grandchildren and their spouses: Chelsea (Jorge) Espinoza, Sonia (Joe) Bradley; Eboni (Ignacio) Gaytan, Lyone (Tohn) Conner; Raven Grisham, Holland Grisham; Shannon (Kristen) Wells, Sabrina Porter, Justin Porter, Jennifer (Warren) Yee, and Dominic Porter. Christal, also known as "Papa", was blessed with 15 great-grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren and loving extended family members in Georgia, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.

On Oct. 22, 2024, Chris died at the age of 94. The Grisham family is grateful to the staff at Rosewood Gardens and Hope Hospice (Livermore, California) for the gentle, loving care and respect they provided Christal to ensure his well-being.

Services will not be held at this time, but a celebration of Christal's life is planned for spring, 2025.

Rebecca Lynn Rogers Aug. 13, 1967 – Oct. 17, 2024

Rebecca "Becky" Rogers, beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend, passed away on Oct. 17, 2024, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She faced her illness with the same spirit and determination that characterized her vibrant life.

Born to Louise and Patrick Gray in 1967, Becky grew up in Livermore, California, where she attended Granada High School. She lived in Livermore for most of her life before moving to Idaho, where she enjoyed her early retirement on a charming farm, nurturing

her love for animals and the outdoors. Becky was known for her boisterous laugh and infectious sense of humor that could light up any room. She cherished her family, leaving behind her husband, Dan Rogers, with whom she shared 42 beautiful years, and her two children, Jessica Thibault and Dakota Rogers. A wonderful mother and wife, she was also a loving sister to Melissa Gray and Andrew Roberts-Gray, and a beloved aunt to many nieces and nephews, who will carry her memory in their hearts forever. Becky also cherished her two dogs, Hazel and Gretchen, who brought her much joy and companionship.

Her passion for adventure drove her to explore life to the fullest, traveling to places like Alaska, Costa Rica, Mexico, and various parts of the U.S., with a special fondness for her favorite destination, Hawaii. Alongside her love for travel, she embraced motorcycle/dirt bike riding, hiking, caring for animals, and crafting, all of which allowed her to express her vibrant spirit. Whether she was traversing a scenic



trail or making something beautiful, her enthusiasm for life inspired everyone around her.

Becky's legacy will live on through her family and the countless lives she touched with her laughter and love. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

An intimate celebration of her life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Colorado Animal Rescue — Glenwood Springs, Colorado, in Becky's honor.



Foothill Girls Volleyball Team Rallies to Win NCS Opener

By Phil Jensen

The Foothill High School girls volleyball team has been battle-tested this season.

So, it wasn't surprising that the Falcons bounced back from a first-set loss to defeat Redwood-Larkspur 22-25, 25-17, 28-26, 25-19 in the first round of the new North Coast Section Open Division playoffs on Oct. 30.

"If we are down in sets or matches, we've been here ... that experience, I think a lot of them can draw on that and feel still pretty steady at that point," said Foothill coach Dusty Collins about his team.

At the East Bay Athletic League playoffs this season, Foothill defeated Carondelet and San Ramon Valley in five-set matches. In both those matches, the Falcons trailed two sets to one entering the fourth set.

"We're really good at fighting back," said Foothill's Paige Nelson, who had a team-best 13 service points and 32 assists, along with 13 kills and 15 digs, against Redwood. "We know we have that resilience, so I think that

confidence, and that we've done it before, really helped us today."

The team's serves and passing were the key to winning, Collins said.

"We talk about it all the time, that's just what we have to hang our hat on as a team, that we have to out-serve and out-pass the opponent," Collins said. "We're going to have to be the best team we can at that faucet of the game, serving and passing, and I feel like we've been doing a really good job of that lately."

The fourth-seeded Falcons improved to 26-8 overall with the victory over fifth-seeded Redwood (23-5). Foothill advanced to a semifinal match vs. No. 1 Branson (20-4) at College of Marin on Nov. 6 after this article's deadline.

Whether Foothill won or lost in the semifinal, it will play a match on Nov. 9. The championship match and third-place match will be contested on that day. All of the six Open Division teams automatically advance to the California Interscholastic Federation North Regionals.

On Oct. 30, Foothill led 11-7 in the first set before

a run by Redwood tied the score. Neither team had more than a two-point lead in that set until Redwood took a 23-20 lead. A block for a point by Emily Evans and a service point by Kaycie Burdick narrowed the Giants' advantage to 23-22 before a kill by Hanna Smith started Redwood's final 2-0 run in the set.

A key to the second-set victory was a six-point service run by Burdick, including two aces, that increased the Falcons' lead to 13-4. Burdick and Nelson had kills in that run. Foothill led by at least seven points the rest of the set. "The game kind of flipped at that point," Collins said about the second set. Burdick finished with a team-high 18 kills and also 15 digs in the match.

Foothill led 10-4 in the third set on a point by Sophia Burdick. But Redwood rallied to take a 16-14 lead, and later led 22-20.

However, Foothill senior Lulu Hoenninger produced a couple of big plays with points on a kill and block to tie the score. Redwood kept battling, as the score was tied at 24 and 26, but Foot-

hill produced the final two points of the set, including a kill by Nelson on set point.

An energized Foothill squad bolted out to a 7-0 lead in the final set, including six service points by Nelson. Sophia Burdick had two kills in the run, and Nelson and Hoenninger also added kills. Foothill led by at least five points the rest of the match. So-

phia Burdick had 11 kills and Hoenninger added 10 kills in the match. Brooke Stedman added 18 assists for the Falcons. In addition, Kaitlyn Vogel had 14 digs and seven service points for the Falcons.

In NCS Division I play-off action, No. 4 Campolindo-Moraga defeated No. 5 Amador Valley 25-19, 21-25, 25-19, 25-21 in a

quarterfinal match on Nov. 2. Amador Valley, which finished the season with a 21-11 overall record, beat No. 12 Petaluma three sets to none in the first round on Oct. 29.

Montgomery-Santa Rosa defeated visiting Livermore 25-13, 25-22, 20-25, 25-20 on Oct. 30 in the first round of the NCS Division IV playoffs.



Foothill High sophomore Kaitlyn Vogel jumps for a hit in the Oct. 30 game against Redwood. The Falcons rallied after a first-set loss to beat the Giants in the next three sets. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)



On Oct. 30, the Amador Valley High water polo teams hosted Foothill. In the varsity girls match, the Amador Dons defeated the Foothill Falcons 15-1. In the varsity boys match, the Dons won 18-1. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

Interfaith Interconnect to Host Annual Thanksgiving Service

Interfaith Interconnect of the Tri-Valley, in collaboration with the Livermore-Pleasanton Interfaith Clergy Association, will hold its annual interfaith Thanksgiving service at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton on Sunday, Nov. 24.

The service, which is open to all faiths, will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There will be a reception following the service

with refreshments and the opportunity for those in attendance to meet the presenters.

Donations will also be accepted to benefit the Interfaith Sharing Food Pantry at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Livermore and Laundry Love, a national non-profit organization that partners with local laundromats to wash clothes and bedding for low-income families.

Carpooling is encouraged due to limited space

in the synagogue parking lot.

The service will also be livestreamed.

The nonprofit Interfaith Interconnect, which represents 20 Tri-Valley congregations of different faiths, holds monthly "religious chats" and sponsors interfaith events throughout the year.

For more information about the service or Interfaith Interconnect, go to interfaithinterconnect.weebly.com.



Del Valle Fine Arts opens its 45th season with the Aznavoorian Sisters on cello and piano, Saturday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bankhead Theater. The sisters will introduce us to music from their ethnic Armenian background with additional works by Debussy, de Falla, Brahms and Paganini. Ani (cello) and Marta (piano) received First Prize in the Illinois Bell Young Performers Competition. Winners of the National Foundation for the Arts Award, they were named Presidential Scholars in the Arts. Ani won First Prize in Juilliard's Concerto Competition. Marta, a Steinway Artist, has been nominated for a Grammy Award. Tickets begin at \$35. Students under 18 (an accompanying adult is \$20) are free and college student tickets are \$16 when obtained at the box office. (Photo courtesy of Del Valle Fine Arts)

Dublin Chamber to Host Turkey Bowl Tournament

The Dublin Chamber of Commerce will host the 33rd annual Turkey Bowl Tournament at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl, 6750 Regional St., on Sunday, Nov. 10. Registration opens at noon, with the bowling tournament getting underway at 1 p.m. The cost is \$185 per five-person team. There will also be a silent auction. For more information, or to pre-register, go to dublinchamberofcommerce.org.

Encore Players to Present a Staged Reading Of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"

Livermore's community theatre group, Encore Players, will present a spirited reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" for the whole family. This Yuletide event will take place on

Thursday, Dec. 12, 2024, from 7-8 p.m., at the Civic Center Library, located at 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Admission is free, and attendees are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite holiday attire

or Dickens costume to add to the festive atmosphere. For additional information about this program, please call 925-373-5500, visit the Livermore Public Library website at library.livermoreca.gov.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS



LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609829

The following person(s) doing business as: Crazy Lady Creations, 22457 Linden Street, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Fereria-Vantley, 22457 Linden Street, 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/: Jennifer Fereria-Vantley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2024. Expires October 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6148. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609761

The following person(s) doing business as: BW Consulting, 3911 Stanford Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brandon Todd Williams, 3911 Stan-

ford Way, 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/: Brandon Todd Williams, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2024. Expires October 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6149. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609613

The following person(s) doing business as: Healing Perspectives, 11740 Dublin Blvd., Ste. 206, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Helen Rozanski Savin, 11740 Dublin Blvd, Ste. 206, 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: 3/4/2022. Signature of Registrant/s/: Helen Rozanski Savin, LCSW, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 30, 2024. Expires September 29,

2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6150. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609329

The following person(s) doing business as: Gundy Pet Services, 2497 College Ave, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ethan Gundersen, 2497 College Ave, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ethan Gundersen, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 17, 2024. Expires September 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6151. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609782

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Dunder First Street Partnership; 2. Civic Center Station, 4725 First St.,

Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vera Revelli, 2 Krohn Lane, Oakland, CA 94611; Jennifer Stenrose, 2 Krohn Lane, Oakland, CA 94611; Scott Revelli, 2 Krohn Lane, Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/5/1998. Signature of Registrant/s/: Vera Revelli, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 7, 2024. Expires October 6, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6152. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609829

The following person(s) doing business as: Crazy Lady Creations, 22457 Linden Street, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Fereria-Vantley, 22457 Linden Street, 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/: Jennifer Fereria-Vantley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2024. Expires October 8, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6148. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609789

The following person(s) doing business as: The Art of Home, 318 Capricorn Ave, Oakland, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mochita S Corp, 318 Capricorn Ave, Oakland, CA 94611. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alexandria Pemberton, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 7, 2024. Expires October 6, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6154. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609754

The following person(s) doing

business as: East Alameda Tutoring, 3020 Bernal Ave, Ste. 100 2016, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sybil de Clark, 3020 Bernal Ave Ste. 110 2016, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sybil de Clark, Dr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2024. Expires October 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6155. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609884

The following person(s) doing business as: Cruz Construction, 8212 Birch St, Oakland, CA 94621 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jesus Wilfredo Cruz Abrego, 8212 Birch St., Oakland, CA 94621. 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/: Jesus Wilfredo Cruz

Abrego, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2024. Expires October 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6157. Published October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609825

The following person(s) doing business as: Dokb Studio, LLC, 5667 Beale Ave, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dokb Studio, LLC, 5667 Beale Ave, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sybil Gertrude De Clark, Dr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2024. Expires October 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6159. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609983

The following person(s) doing business as: Ouris, 3020 Bernal

Ave, Ste 110 #2016, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sybil Gertrude De Clark, Dr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2024. Expires October 15, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6159. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 609098

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. The Steven Kent Winery; 2. Lineage Wine Company; 3. L'Autre Cote; 4. Out from Land Wine Group, 2245 South Vasco Road, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Out From Land Investor Group LLC, 2245 South Vasco Road, Suite C, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact

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business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Steven Mirassou, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 5, 2024. Expires September 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6160. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609911

The following person(s) doing business as: Klaudia's Family Child Care, 438 W Sunset Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Claudia Hernandez Santos, 438 W. Sunset Blvd, 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/: Claudia Hernandez Santos, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 14, 2024. Expires October 13, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6161. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609954

The following person(s) doing business as: Klap Capital Ventures, 3957 Scottfield Street, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Abhishek Shende, 3957 Scottfield Street, Dublin, CA 94568. 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/: Abhishek Shende. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2024. Expires October 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6162. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609952

The following person(s) doing business as: The Sacred Healing Well, 1807 Santa Rita Rd H-224, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Loraine Van Tuyt, 1807 Santa Rita Rd H-224, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/9/2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Loraine Van Tuyt, PHD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2024. Expires October 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6163. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610009

The following person(s) doing business as: Solid Design Solutions, 2491 Allegro Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jerrel Kent Antolik, 2491 Allegro Street, Livermore, CA 94550; Ilona Maria Antolik, 2491 Allegro Street, 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: 4/15/1998. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jerrel Kent Antolik, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 17, 2024. Expires October 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6164. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 566613

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Bluejay Cannabis, 4937 Omar St, Fremont, CA 94538. Registered by the following owner(s): Taran Khara, 795 Shard Court, Fremont, CA 94539; Adam Ahmed 4937 Omar St, Fremont, CA 94538; Essam Abugeith, 4875 Mowry Ave,

Bldg 10 — Apt#245, Fremont, CA 94538. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/18/2019 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a General Partnership. Signature of Registrants/: Taran Khara, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 7, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 6164. Published October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to section 21707 of chapter 10 to division of 8 of the business and professions code, notice is hereby given by the undersigned that a public lien sale of the following described personal property will be held at the hour of 9:00 am PST on November 20th, 2024. The sale will be conducted by John Cardoza, auctioneer, (209)667-5797, bond number 5860870, located at:

UNITS East Bay
6011 Las Positas Rd,
Livermore, CA 94550
The items to be sold are generally described as follows:

Household/Miscellaneous goods
B489 Meidy Imelda
B524 Peggy Logan
B589 Peggy Logan
B505 Lisa Vigil
B223 Tracey Taylor
B386 Sheila Burton

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609956

The following person(s) doing business as: Surf Thru Express Car Wash, 3598 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Surf Thru Inc, 11837 Bolthouse Dr, Suite 400, Bakersfield, CA 93311. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 12/16/2019. Signature of Registrant/s/: Todd Gall, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 1, 2024. Expires September 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6166. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610035

The following person(s) doing business as: LW Construction, 3446 Baylis St, Fremont, CA 94538-3745 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Liyu Wu, 3346 Baylis St, Fremont, CA 94538. 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: 10/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Liyu Wu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 17, 2024. Expires October 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6167. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609874

The following person(s) doing business as: DC Construction, 1068 44th Ave, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donny Chu Construction, Inc, 1068 44th Ave, Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 6/14/2007. Signature of Registrant/s/: Donny Chu, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 10, 2024. Expires October 9, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6168. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609685

The following person(s) doing business as: Rivers Plumbing Heating & Air, 3958 Valley Ave, Ste G, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Z Home Services, 3958 Valley Ave Ste G, Pleasanton, CA 94566. 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: 10/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Elizabeth A. Rivers, Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 2, 2024. Expires October 1, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6169. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609964

The following person(s) doing business as: Dante Robere Vineyards & Winery, 1200 Wetmore Rd, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A3 Winery LLC, 6198 Massara St, Danville, CA 94506. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ravneet Singh, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2024. Expires October 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6170. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609730

The following person(s) doing business as: Wittmsel, 2693 Stoneridge Dr, Ste 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Simin Wang, 2693 Stoneridge Dr, Ste 101, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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/: Simin Wang, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 3, 2024. Expires October 2, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6171. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610083

The following person(s) doing business as: Worldwide Signs, 2021 Las Positas Ct, #161, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Robert Kocik, 2021 Las Positas Ct, #161, 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: 7/1/2003. Signature of Registrant/s/: Robert Kocik, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2024. Expires October 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6172. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609906

The following person(s) doing business as: Dehara Construction, Inc, 4361 Technology Dr, Unit 1, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dehara Construction, Inc, 4361 Technology Dr, Unit 1, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2003. Signature of Registrant/s/: Dustin Prusso, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2024. Expires October 13, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6173. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610161

The following person(s) doing business as: C.A Heating and Air Conditioning, 3867 California Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chad Richards, 3867 California Way, 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:

10/22/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Chad Richards, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 23, 2024. Expires October 22, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6174. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610233

The following person(s) doing business as: Deena Lynn Reiki, 755 N N St, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Deena Kennedy, 755 N N St, 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/: Deena Kennedy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 24, 2024. Expires October 23, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6175. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610040

The following person(s) doing business as: A&L Financial Services, 53 Wright Brothers Ave, Suite E, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): DMRZ Wright Brothers Ave, Suite E, 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: 10/3/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Daniel Hollenback, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 17, 2024. Expires October 16, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6176. Published October 31, November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610086

The following person(s) doing business as: The Dogfather Tattoo Company, 120 J. St, Fremont, CA 94536 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dogfather Tattoo Company LLC, 120 J St, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Benjamin G. Brillo, Owner/Operator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 29, 2024. Expires October 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6182. Published November 7, 14, 21, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610232

The following person(s) doing business as: Lily Skin Care Studio, 4230 Rosewood Dr, Suite 117, Pleasanton, CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Liliya Bendjedid, 4230 Rose Dr, Suite 117, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: 10/23/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Liliya Bendjedid, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 24, 2024. Expires October 23, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6178. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610122

The following person(s) doing business as: Binge Coffee House, 2199 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94720 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Boba Binge, 1004 Webster St, Oakland, CA 94607. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Minh Nguyen, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2024. Expires October 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal

No. 6179. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610133

The following person(s) doing business as: New Water Labs, 1130 65th Street Unit 301, Oakland, CA 94608 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Very Good Technology Inc., 1130 65th Street Unit 301, Oakland CA 94608. 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: 10/21/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Bradley S. Roan, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 22, 2024. Expires October 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6180. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610273

The following person(s) doing business as: Westo's, 2825 McArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94602 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): W Food Co LLC, 2807 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94602. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Willis Yu, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2024. Expires October 24, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6181. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610341

The following person(s) doing business as: Pressure Bright, 31338 Santa Elena Way, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Benjamin G. Brillo, 31338 Santa Elena Way, Union City, CA 94587. 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/: Benjamin G. Brillo, Owner/Operator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 29, 2024. Expires October 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6182. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610265

The following person(s) doing business as: Blown Away, 516 Jayar Place, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ryan Hartsinck, 516 Jayar Place, Hayward, CA 94544. 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/: Ryan Hartsinck, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2024. Expires October 24, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6183. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610390

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Nueva; 2. Xolo; 3. New Vintage Beverage, 2553 6th St, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): New Vintage

Beverage LLC, 2553 6th St, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 5/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Mario Rubio, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 31, 2024. Expires October 30, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6184. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610325

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Imperial Star Empire; 2. Emperor; 3. Empress; 4. Empress; 5. Emprix, 4075 Compton Ct, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): John Marques Jr., 4075 Compton Ct, 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/: John Marques Jr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 29, 2024. Expires October 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6185. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609747

The following person(s) doing business as: Kosmetica, 2150 Portola Ave, D214, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Reva Pereda, 2150 Portola Ave D214, 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/: Reva Pereda, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2024. Expires October 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6186. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 608842

The following person(s) doing business as: JC Skye HR Consulting, 5690 W Cog Hill Terr,

Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Judy Wu, 5690 W Cog Hill Terr, 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: 8/22/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Judy Wu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 22, 2024. Expires August 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6098. Published September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024. Alameda County letter# 289306 Correction on the Independent, Legal No. 6187. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 610325

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Imperial Star Empire; 2. Emperor; 3. Empress; 4. Empress; 5. Emprix, 4075 Compton Ct, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): John Marques Jr., 4075 Compton Ct, 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/: John Marques Jr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 29, 2024. Expires October 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6185. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 609747

The following person(s) doing business as: Kosmetica, 2150 Portola Ave, D214, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Reva Pereda, 2150 Portola Ave D214, 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/: Reva Pereda, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2024. Expires October 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 6186. Published November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 608842

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Here Comes the Cavalry: Mounted Police Patrol Duty Units Gallop into Livermore

By Ruth Roberts

The cavalry will soon be riding into Livermore as an ancillary unit to assist the Police Department (LPD).

The Mounted Police Unit, comprised of four officers and their trusty steeds, are expected to assist with special events and search-and-rescue missions in locations where it would be difficult for vehicles to access.

According to LPD Lt. Paul Mayer, Livermore's

deep western heritage and love of rodeos make the Mounted Police Unit's resurrection an obvious choice. It has been 50 years since the sound of hoofbeats signaled a police patrol in Livermore.

"Mounted Patrol Units have been shown to be an effective crime prevention and enforcement tool for special events and rough terrain locations," said Mayer in an email to The Independent.

"The creation and implementation of a Mounted Police

Unit would allow the Livermore Police Department to continue its community outreach efforts during special events, and to interact with the community in the downtown area."

The unit is a specialized, extra duty and will be deployed as needed. It is designed to help patrol the larger community events in Livermore including the Livermore Half Marathon, Downtown Street Fest and the 4th of July celebration,

said Mayer. In the future, they may also participate in future downtown parades.

The unit's three full-time and one volunteer reservist are required to graduate from a standards and training school and undergo monthly training sessions. The horses are owned or leased by the officers and are boarded locally.

Mayer said start-up and ongoing costs for the unit will come from federal grants, asset forfeiture monies and the



Livermore's Mounted Police Unit will be seen at local events in the future. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Police)

city's general fund.

"We are excited about the new Mounted Patrol Unit," said Livermore Police Chief

Jeremy Young. "We believe it will improve service to the community and increase public safety."

Sunol Glen School Students Commemorate 100 Years With Art

By Christina Cavallaro

A visit to art teacher Heather Cass's fall elective class at Sunol Glen School happened to land on Halloween. "The craziest, most fun day of the year on an elementary school campus," said first-year Sunol Glen Superintendent and Principal Shay Galletti, who came dressed as a pirate.

The whole school was abuzz. Butterflies, bunnies, Star Wars storm troopers,

cial community project: a public display of the students' images of the school on banners on Main Street.

Four pencil drawings of the front of the school in commemoration of its 100th anniversary were selected anonymously by staff and teachers. The drawings were created by middle schoolers Jelena Tsao, Mayarina "Aiyana" Colombage, Angad Mann and Cassian Cox Solozano.

"We were talking about

said. The students were asked to draw the same scene from their own chosen perspectives. "They had a little artistic flexibility."

Angad Mann, an 8th-grader in a Harry Potter black robe emblazoned with the Ravenclaw house crest, added, "Yeah, for example, you could draw your own flag."

Mann also admitted that the art class elective had actually been his third choice. "My first was game theory

background first, then the borders, and then all the details."

Cass and the school have plans to screen the selected students' artwork onto the banners that hang along Main Street, some of which are currently endorsing a dog named Kevin and a tarantula named Teddy for mayor of the quirky unincorporated town.

"The artwork will go on the front," said Cass, "and the backside will be about the 100th year."

She said some students wanted their drawing to be an exact depiction of what was in front of them. "But art isn't really like that, because we all see it differently. And when you look at the drawings, each one is a little different."

With just 240 students, the school is special and enduring for its small community feel, Galletti said.

"I think in some ways, while it's a public school, it has the qualities of a private school in that it's smaller, more individualized."

And within the community, there are families who have lived in Sunol for many generations and whose children have attended the school, she said.

"Mr. (David) Hoxie, our director of maintenance,

are really good and it's a happy place to be."

went here as a child. He has a ranch over on Sheridan (Road). Where my current office is, that was his second-grade classroom. So there's just a lot of rich history."

Galetti also credited the longevity of the staff and lack of turnover for the school's durability. "The principal before me was here for 16 years, which is unheard of in education. You stay for 16 years because things

are really good and it's a happy place to be."

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The work of Sunol Glen School art students (left to right) Jelena Tsao, Angad Mann, Cassian Cox Solozano and Mayarina "Aiyana" Colombage, was selected to be presented on banners along Main Street as part of the school's centennial celebration. (Photo — Doug Jorgeson)

a sumo wrestler, a toucan and all other manner of costumed kids dashed around the playground among the century-old oak trees. The anticipation was high for their Halloween parade down Main Street through the small hamlet town of rural Sunol, population 922.

The historic school which serves K-8th grades was built in 1925 and will be celebrating its 100th anniversary next year. As part of that commemoration, four students from Cass's combined 6th-8th grade class will have their artwork featured in a spe-

one-point perspective and learning about historical architecture," Cass said. The students were all asked to sketch the entrance of the school with the flagpole, which last year stood at the center of a heated school board debate that led to a 2-1 decision to ban Pride flags at Sunol Glen, and ultimately to the recall of two board members. Those actions left the close-knit community emotionally reeling and divided for months.

The assignment was all about layering, viewpoint, and the depth involved in one-point perspective, Cass

and second was leadership. But it's fun, and we got ice cream one time."

For some students, their artistic skills extended beyond the classroom. Sixth-grader Jelena Tsao had started constructing her costume, a green dragon made out of cardboard, while in the 4th grade.

"Basically, I traced the outside of the wings, cut them out, then traced the inside with a stencil," Tsao said. "First, I painted not the border but the blue panel and the green and they kind fade into each other. You've gotta do the

Dublin Author Publishes her First Collection of Poetry, "Pieces of Me"

Dublin resident and author Monique Rardin Richardson has published a collection of poetry, "Pieces of Me," that she describes as a reflection of her life growing up as the half-Mexican daughter of a single mother, including first kisses, love, hope and loss, and finding beauty even during the

darkest moments and in the face of adversity.

A member of the Tri-Valley chapter of the California Club, Richardson is also the author of two novels, "The Unlikely Dreamcatcher" and "Despina the Anti-Cupid," and a memoir, "When Then Became Now," about a

high school love and enduring friendship.

Richardson, who has lived in Dublin the last 30 years, said her latest literary effort is the culmination of a dream that began when she first began writing poetry while going to middle school in Alameda.

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