

Racial Justice Subcommittee To Be Formed In Livermore

By David Chircop

The Livermore City Council on Monday voted to form a new subcommittee tasked with laying the groundwork for a deep review of city policies and practices.

The move follows a pledge by Livermore's elected leaders earlier this month to examine the Livermore Police Department's use of force policies and to engage the community in a hard look at the city's own role in the broader area of racial injustice.

"We need to make sure we can keep people engaged in this as we move ahead so that we can hear the stories and then we can have that dialogue with the community," said Mayor John Marchand.

Marchand appointed Vice Mayor Bob Woerner and Councilmember Trish Munro to serve on the panel. It is scheduled to report back to the full council on July 13

(See LIVERMORE, page 6)

Pleasanton OKs Mid-Year Budget City Expected to Balance Funds Despite Pandemic

After confirming that it would indeed have the power to readjust the police department's funding at a later date, should it choose to do so, the Pleasanton City Council last week approved a mid-year budget.

The city shows a strong position with minimal cuts to balance the budget despite the pandemic.

On the heels of several public comments requesting that the city consider defunding its police department, both Mayor Jerry Thorne and Councilmember Julie Testa wondered if the council would have the power to readjust the budget should they indeed decide to divest. City Manager Nelson Fialho confirmed the council could choose to adjust the budget at any point. Jacob Bauer — a young man struggling with mental health issues who was killed by Pleasanton police in 2018 — was a name mentioned multiple times throughout the evening in the call to defund the agency. The police department currently receives \$30 million of the city's budget.

(See BUDGET, page 5)

Teachers Speak Out Against Pleasanton Furlough Option

By Ron McNicoll

In an effort to protect certified staff from layoffs this July, Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) will consider the option of furlough days.

There are 14 certified staff who face a potential layoff caused by depressed state revenue resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

District administrators at a June 18 special study session reported one option includes negotiating with teachers, classified staff and administrators to agree to accept three furlough days during the coming school year. The furlough days would occur for all employees when school offices and classrooms were closed, district's spokesman Patrick Gannon reported.



People enjoyed a warm summer evening outdoors in downtown Pleasanton last weekend. With Main Street closed to cars Friday afternoon through Sunday evening, patrons dined, strolled and leisurely bicycled along the street. The city plans to close Main Street for the next seven weekends. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Randy Brown Runs for Pleasanton City Council

In a contest against three other candidates to date, Randy Brown will also run for a seat on the Pleasanton City Council.

Brown, who served in the U.S. Coast Guard and then worked in construction and design earlier in his life, has been employed with PMZ Real Estate for the past 16 years.

Brown was elected to serve as chairman of the Pleasanton Chamber of

Commerce Board for 2020. He also held leadership roles with the Rotary Club of Pleasanton, ValleyCare Charitable Foundation and the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

"It has been a privilege to deepen my roots in Pleasanton by serving on several local Board of Directors and becoming highly active in our service organizations," Brown said. "Working together with community

leaders and doing our part to make Pleasanton the great place we know and love has allowed my commitment to Pleasanton to only deepen."

Brown said he's excited to be an integral part of the leadership that will help Pleasanton recover and thrive in a post-Covid-19 landscape. He noted the city will be facing many difficult and challenging decisions in the coming years. He

(See BROWN, page 12)

Dublin Superintendent Dave Marken Resigns

In a letter addressed to the community and dated June 23, Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Superintendent Dave Marken announced his resignation.

He noted " ... what I brought to Dublin is no longer desired."

The following is his letter in its entirety:

DUSD Staff and Com-

munity,

As many of you know, I have worked in Dublin Unified for 15 years. Over the years, I have held many different positions in this district. I love the people of this community and the staff who give tirelessly in our schools and to our students. That love, that focus, on our children has to be at

the core of anyone working in public education.

A few years ago, I retired from a long career in education. I volunteered in my community, spent time with family and worked part time in an amazing organization that does phenomenal work with our disadvantaged high school students.

(See MARKEN, page 2)

California Horse Racing Board Approves Hotly Contested Restrictions Regarding Riding Crops

By Heather Brewer

The California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) recently approved an amendment to modify the restriction of the use of riding crops.

Impacted on a local level by the change is the facility at the Pleasanton-based Alameda County Fairgrounds, the oldest 1-mile racing track in the nation. In addition to the new restriction,

the CHRB announced a change of dates to upcoming Alameda County races, which will also be spectator-free.

During a teleconference on Thursday, June 11, the board — comprised of Chairman Dr. Gregory Ferraro, Vice Chair Oscar Gonzales and commissioners Dennis Alfieri, Damascus Castellanos, Wendy Mitchell and Alex Solis — enacted a rule

prohibiting the use of a crop more than six times in the race.

According to a press release from the CHRB, this excludes simply showing the crop to the horse or tapping the horse on the shoulder. It prohibits using the crop more than two times in succession without giving the horse time to respond. Additionally, the

(See RACING, page 7)

Dublin Council Says "No" to Controversial Development Project

By Ruth Roberts

During a seven-hour marathon meeting and public comment period, the Dublin City Council Monday night shot down a proposed apartment and retail development on a parcel of land in the eastern portion of the city.

The At Dublin project was denied 4-1, with councilmember Jean Josey the lone vote in support of the development. The meeting was a continuation from the previous week when technical difficulties on the video feed forced the council to reschedule to a special meeting Monday, June 22.

Nearly 50 speaker cards were submitted to the council, with approximately half that many calling in to the meeting to voice their opinions. The comments were varied.

"I'm a Dublin resident,

and I want to urge you to vote no for the following reasons," said Robert Doig. "You voted 'no' two years ago... and number two, your planning commission rejected it twice. We look to you for your continued leadership."

The Dublin Chamber of Commerce spoke out in favor of the project, as did other community members.

"I'm a 31-year resident of Dublin, and I want to let the council know now that I support the Dublin project as presented," said Dublin resident Marilyn Hansen. "The Bay Area is sorely lacking in housing. I feel the project is aligned with city council and state mandates for more housing ... I urge the council to approve."

Matt Regan, member of the Bay Area Council on Housing, also supported the project, saying he

(See DUBLIN, page 11)

Tri-Valley Cities Respond to Police Reform Discussion

Newsom to Support Legislation Banning Carotid Holds

By Aly Brown

While two of the Tri-Valley's cities recently appeared on a list placing police departments under the microscope, officials weighed in with insight on how change is already underway.

As part of Campaign Zero's #8CantWait campaign to bring immediate change to police departments following the killing of George Floyd by former Minneapolis officer Derek Chauvin, agencies across the nation appeared on a list of those the public should pressure for reform. Both Livermore and Pleasanton were present.

The campaign outlines eight items in need of reform and those with which the cities are not in compliance. Those eight guidelines seek to ban choke-holds, require de-escalation, require warning before shooting, require an exhaustion of alternatives before shooting, require a duty to intervene, ban shooting at moving vehicles, require use of force continuum and require comprehensive reporting.

According to the

#8CantWait website, both Livermore and Pleasanton's departments appear to permit choke-holds — a technique under particular scrutiny after Chauvin killed Floyd by kneeling on his neck for nearly nine minutes — but Livermore Police Department (LPD) Sgt. Steve Goard said the data is outdated. He noted that the mechanism of a carotid restraint is different from a choke-hold, which wasn't allowed per LPD policy. Rather, his agency permitted carotid restraints until June 5, when that technique was also completely removed.

"We've never allowed strangle- or choke-holds, which stop someone from breathing," Goard said. "The (carotid) restraint, although it's around the neck, is a tool that doesn't stop breathing. What it does is restricts blood flow — it takes 5 to 6 seconds, and then you let go and handcuff the person ... but it was reserved for the most extreme cases, and upon review, they ended up removing it completely."

The LPD's decision fell on the same day Gov. Gavin Newsom announced

(See REFORM, page 9)

Zone 7 Freezes Water Utility Rates to Help The Economy

By Ron McNicoll

The Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors unanimously voted to rescind a planned 6.7% water rate increase at its June 17 meeting.

The board declared a rate freeze would give businesses more time to develop financial recovery strategies, while helping to keep costs down for residents who have become unemployed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Zone 7 reviewed fiscal years 2019/20 to 2021/22 in regard to water rates, with the intent to give the Valley's water retailers sufficient time to budget and order water from the agency. Zone 7's fiscal year ends on June 30, but new rates begin

(See WATER, page 9)



In an effort to encourage participation in the U.S. Census, a "Census Caravan" wound its way around northern Livermore on June 20. It started at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on Enos Way. Also participating in the caravan was the Livermore Heritage Guild's 1944 Mack Fire truck. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

Fires Scorch Livermore .....	2
Tri-Valley Conservancy Offers Youth Programs .....	2
Wine Auction to Benefit Schools .....	3
Livermore Protesters March to City Hall.....	5
Innovation Tri-Valley Discusses Bay Area Future .....	5
Alameda Relaxes Business Restrictions .....	12

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Chico

PET OF THE WEEK

Chico is a playful, curious puppy with all the makings of a great family dog! He has met chickens and other dogs with curiosity and bonded very quickly with his foster dog sister. He delights in being able to crawl into an empty lap and cuddles up with anything soft for a cozy nap spot. Already 16 pounds at just 4 months of age, he won't fit in your lap for long! While Valley Humane Society remains closed during shelter-in-place, it is coordinating adoptions by appointment with approved adopters. If you are interested in adopting Chico, email info@valleyhumane.org for more information.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society /S. Holder)





On Sunday, June 21, San Ramon Valley Fire, Cal Fire and Alameda County Fire responded to a grass fire on Highland Road at the Alameda/Contra Costa county line. Fires have been breaking out due to warm weather and dry conditions. Joe Testa, Deputy Chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, reported 57 fires in June alone, 30 of which were vegetation fires. He offers this advice:

- Make sure that charcoal/cooking fires are completely extinguished.
- Conduct yard and property work in dry grasses early in the day on days where there is not extreme fire weather. Have a water source on-site to extinguish small fires.
- Do not use any fireworks in Livermore or Pleasanton.
- Ensure mechanical equipment is in good working order and for small gas tools that they have a working spark arrestor.
- Do not discard burning materials (cigarettes, etc.) outside.
- Should you have a vehicle fire, if you are safely able to, pull off the road and out of traffic, but not into the grass.
- Make sure that kids know the importance of practicing fire safety and don't play with items that can start fires.

(Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

## Love for the Outdoors Growing During Restrictions

**By Dawnmarie Fehr**

The Tri-Valley is home to many parks and hiking trails allowing visitors to experience the area's natural habitat.

During the past three months especially, these trails have been a means for residents to take in fresh air, exercise and wildlife sightings as they take a break from sheltering in their homes.

Before COVID-19 closed schools and businesses, the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) was working its way through Livermore's fourth-grade classrooms to teach students about local habitats and foster a love of hiking.

TVC's educational arm is called Discovery: Youth in Nature. The program encourages an awareness in children of local agricultural lands, habitats and nature.

"The program was designed in 2015 to encourage a connection for our youth with open spaces here, local agriculture, the importance of nature and healthy habitats, and to ensure that we are investing in the future land stewards of this area," said Charlene Anderson, TVC associate director. "By providing this free educational experience to the fourth-graders, we are teaching responsible preservation for future generations."

TVC's youth educators spend three days spread over

six weeks with each class they teach. The first day is spent in the classroom, working on activities centered on California's watersheds and habitats. The second day is hiking day – TVC brings a bus and takes the students on a 1.5-mile hike at Holdener Park in Livermore. The third and final day is back in the classroom, where students discuss the web of life and learn how all species and their habitats are connected.

Jess Moseley became one of TVC's youth educators in 2016. With a background in geography and special education, she felt ideally suited to helping kids understand the importance of taking care of the natural world.

"Taking the kids out on the hike is the highlight of the programming," she said. "Some of them have never been on a hike before, and some of the them are nervous and then end up loving it, especially if we see different critters like rabbits or a fox, and it energizes them."

Moseley added the Holdener Park hike is relatively flat and not strenuous, making it ideal for new hikers. She reported many of the students who participate will bring their families back to the park for a hike, spreading their newfound knowledge.

Trish McAfee teaches fourth grade at Junction Avenue K-8 School in Liver-

more. She said her classes have been participating in the TVC program for the past four years. She feels it is great exposure to conservancy and the area the students live in.

"I really love the program," McAfee said. "I think the way they organized it is great. They talk a lot about conservancy and the environment . . . For many of my students, this is a first opportunity to get to go hiking in their community, and it's really neat when they come back a week or two later and tell me they've taken their family for a hike as well."

In 2015 and 2016 combined, the Youth in Nature program taught 300 students. Another 300 were included in 2017. In 2018, that number more than doubled to 760 students. For the 2019-2020 school year, TVC was on track to educate every fourth-grade classroom in Livermore, but that goal was cut short by COVID-19. Before schools closed, 1,000 students from Livermore to San Ramon had participated in the program, and Anderson is eager to beat that number in the new school year.

"This is a very unique, hands-on experience that is interactive with natural spaces," Anderson said. "In today's world, with the way we are shifting with social media, it is so critical for us as a global community to

step away from these digital moments and really connect to what's important. If you don't understand where the bird lives, you don't understand why you shouldn't throw your trash there. If you haven't seen it in the wild, you won't get it."

For more information on TVC, and the Discover: Youth in Nature Program, or to donate, visit <https://trivalleyconservancy.org/projects/youth-education/> or call 925-449-8706.

## County Receives Grant to Expand Wildfire Smoke Communications

The Alameda County Public Health Department has received an \$18,000 grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials to expand its efforts to warn residents about the dangers of smoke from wildfires.

As part of its climate-change resilience efforts,

the county has already developed multilingual smoke advisory materials warning about the threat posed by particulates in smoke from wildfires, especially for children, older adults and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions.

The county is expected to use the grant to conduct

focus groups to develop preferred methods of communication about air-quality levels for specific audience and the protective actions they should take. It will also develop a list of trusted agents in the community to send out wildfire smoke alerts.

### MARKEN

(Continued from first page)

*Then I got a call — call from Dublin Unified. It was a call asking me for my help, asking me to consider coming back to Dublin. To help fix some problems, to help bring people together. To build some bridges, to repair some bridges. To help move this district forward and make things better.*

*I thought about it. Did I really want to leave and go back into the trenches? Back to the day-to-day grind of a far-more-than full-time position? Was it worth it?*

*But it was Dublin. I made my concerns crystal clear. I was told, assured and reassured that I was*

*wanted and needed, and that what I could bring to the table was what this district wanted and needed.*

*And so I accepted the role. I dove in completely.*

*Leading a school district isn't for the faint of heart. I never expected smooth sailing. But I kept telling myself that I was asked to come here. Asked to upend my life. Asked to come back and bring my knowledge, experience, expertise and passion for students back here to Dublin.*

*So I came in with the best of intentions. Wanting to help. Wanting to lead. WHY? The WHY is the key question. The WHY is because of our students.*

*Those intentions will not be met now. Those assurances that what I brought to Dublin is no longer desired.*

*I submitted my resignation today in closed session, and it was reported out in open session.*

*I am sorry that I wasn't able to finish everything I believed needed to be done. I want to apologize to our dedicated teachers, staff and administration. Most of all I want to apologize to the students and families in Dublin.*

*I truly hope someone else can somehow, some way, get it done. But that person will not be me.*

*I wish you the very best.*


*Dave Marken Ed.D*

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# Public Health Officials Release New Guidelines

## Californians Must Wear Face Coverings When in Higher-Risk Situations, Especially Indoors

The California Department of Public Health today, June 18, released updated guidance that requires Californians to wear a face covering in high-risk settings.

A growing body of scientific research has shown that people with no or few symptoms of COVID-19 can still spread the disease and that the use of face coverings, combined with physical distancing and frequent hand washing, will reduce the spread of COVID-19.

“Science shows that face coverings and masks work,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said. “They are critical to keeping those who are around you safe, keeping businesses open and restarting our economy.”

Newsom also addressed why he took this action now. “Simply put, we are seeing too many people with faces uncovered — putting at risk the real progress we have made in fighting the disease,” he said. “California’s strategy to restart the economy and get people back to work will only be successful if people act safely and follow health recommendations. That means wearing a face covering, washing your hands and practicing physical distancing.”

Today’s guidance mandates the use of cloth face coverings by the general public statewide when outside the home, with limited exceptions.

**Californians must wear face coverings when they are in the situations listed below:**

- Inside of or in line to enter any indoor public space;
- Obtaining services from the health care sector in settings including, but not limited to, a hospital, pharmacy, medical clinic, laboratory, physician or dental office, veterinary clinic or blood bank;
- Waiting for or riding on public transportation or paratransit or while in a taxi, private car service, or ride-sharing vehicle;
- Engaged in work, whether at the workplace or performing work off-site, when:
  - Interacting in-person with any member of the public;
  - Working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time;
  - Working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others;
  - Working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;
  - In any room or enclosed area where other people (except for members of the person’s own household or residence) are present when unable to physically

- distance.
- Driving or operating any public transportation or paratransit vehicle, taxi or private car service or ride-sharing vehicle when passengers are present. When no passengers are present, face coverings are strongly recommended.
- While outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence is not feasible.

**The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering:**

- Children aged 2 and under;
- Persons with a medical, mental health or developmental disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- Persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines;
- Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
- Persons who are seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, while they are eating or drinking, provided that they are able to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or residence;
- Persons who are engaged in outdoor work or recreation such as swimming, walking, hiking, bicycling or running, when alone or with household members, and when they are able to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others;
- Persons who are incarcerated. Prisons and jails, as part of their mitigation plans, will have specific guidance on the wearing of face coverings of masks for both inmates and staff.

For more information, visit [bit.ly/Indy\\_COVIDNews](https://bit.ly/Indy_COVIDNews)  
More information about reopening California and what individuals can do to prevent the spread of COVID-19 can be found at [www.covid19.ca.gov](https://www.covid19.ca.gov).

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# Reimagined Wine Auction to Benefit Livermore School Lunch Program

By Deborah Finestone

Inspired by the Livermore Schools Lunch Program serving more than 162,000 meals to children since March, the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation said their fundraising event will now benefit the school district’s meal distribution program.

“Given the shelter-in-place and economic hardship due to the pandemic, the foundation decided to focus on one beneficiary that would have an immediate impact,” said Christine Wenté, president of the foundation’s board of directors. “This is continuing our tradition of helping underserved children in our community.”

The Livermore Valley Wine Auction will occur on July 23-26.

“We moved up the auction from its usual September timing so the school district will get the funds before the new school year begins,” said Brandi Addington, Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation auction manager and Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association membership director.

The auction will be presented by First Tech Federal Credit Union and Jeff and Doris Hank.

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District’s lunch program has now

served more than 162,000 meals since COVID-19 risks closed schools in March. The district distributes breakfast and lunch at four school sites and supper at two of those sites. The meals will continue to be available throughout the summer.

“This is such a generous offer from the foundation,” said Dana Dodge, child nutrition director for the district. “We’re so thankful they’ll be helping our community by feeding Livermore children 18 and under.”

Last year, the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation and the Wenté Foundation for Arts Education raised nearly \$500,000 at the annual wine auction. The auction has raised more than \$5 million over 25 years.

The auction will run concurrently with some virtual events in place of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association’s traditional Taste Our Terroir activities, which also adapted this year in the interests of public health.

Wineries across the region will participate in virtual seminars and wine-pairing opportunities, including Dante Robere Vineyards, Las Positas Vineyards, Murrieta’s Well, Page Mill Winery, Charles R Vineyards, Rosa Fierro

Cellars, Wenté Vineyards and Wood Family Vineyards.

The one in-person option is a small group, guided electric bike ride with Pedego Livermore. Participants will ride to sites around the valley and Page Mill Winery, Garre Café and Winery and McGrail Vineyards. The ride has already sold out, and organizers are considering similar activities.

Taste Our Terroir activities are presented by American AgCredit.

The organization canceled the traditional Thursday night food and wine-pairing competition altogether.

Earlier this year — before the coronavirus changed everything — the foundation had named five organizations as beneficiaries for its auction.

The foundation let those organizations know they chose to refocus on a more critical need by funding food for children, Addington said. All the groups accepted the option to be named the beneficiaries for the 2021 auction instead.

For more information and to participate in the auction, visit [www.lvwf.org](https://www.lvwf.org).

For more information about the lunch program, visit [https://bit.ly/Indy\\_LunchProgram](https://bit.ly/Indy_LunchProgram).

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# EDITORIAL

## Dublin Leadership Makes the Right Choice

The Dublin City Council made the right decision to listen to its constituents this week. After two meetings, a generous handful of hours and dozens of public speakers, the At Dublin project was voted down 4-1.

The project would have seen development on 79.9 acres of land bound by Tassajara Road, Interstate 580, Brannigan Street and Gleason Drive. For any municipality, adding rooftops can generate generous revenue, but the main sentiment of those opposed seemed to echo the question: At what cost?

The answer would have been the quality of life and education in Dublin. The fees developers kick in for school districts would not offset the impact new students would bring to the already cramped Dublin campuses.

In addition, the plan called for 566 residential units, but they weren't affordable housing. At the very least, the proposal should have included an immediate action plan for a portion of those proposed residential units to be affordable on the first wave of construction.

As pointed out by one opponent of the project, according to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment goals from 2016-2023, Dublin is providing housing in these categories: 3.3% Very Low Income, 8.7% Low Income, 7.3% in Moderate Income and 551.5% Above Moderate Income. Because of current concerns about the effects of the pandemic and social inequality, it is now particularly important for Dublin to shoulder its share of low-cost housing.

The plan also resulted in a 217% increase of residential units and a 74% reduction of the commercial space. It was a recipe to encumber the city with more traffic and residents, while dwindling the opportunity for commercial growth. Overall, the project was too large for the area already burdened with the poor reputation of careless overdevelopment.

While some speakers spoke in favor of the project, the overwhelming concern from longtime residents who've watched Dublin grow beyond its briches resulted in a positive response from leadership. The council listened to the public.

There is a lesson to be learned. Continue actively engaging in your local government. Your voice can make all the difference.

## MAILBOX

*Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com. To be considered, letters must be received by 6 pm on the Monday before publication. Changes to them can be made until 4 pm Tuesday.*

### Testa Shows Leadership On Police Oversight

George Reid, Pleasanton

I was glad to see the articles in The Independent on Rep. Swalwell's (D-CA) efforts on police reform at the federal level and the article about the march in Pleasanton for unity on social justice. Congratulations to Julie Testa, Pleasanton City Council, for her effective efforts working with the organizers of the march – 3,000 peaceful demonstrators. Ms. Testa also handed out face coverings to marchers to help reduce risks with COVID-19.

It is worth noting that at the May city council meeting, prior to the tragic death of George Floyd, Testa asked that a discussion of police policies be placed on the agenda. Only Councilmember Karla Brown supported having that important and timely discussion.

Every city council should take seriously the responsibility of police oversight by a civilian committee, not a limited internal city/police overview. Because we need leadership willing to have the difficult discussions of police review, we need to elect Karla Brown as mayor and elect Valerie Arkin and Nancy Allen to the city council.

### Skilled Nursing Facility Closing

Richard Fischer, Pleasanton

I read with considerable dismay Aly Brown's comprehensive and excellent article on the closure of the Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare skilled nursing facility in Livermore. As a former board member of the Valley Health Care System before its acquisition by Stanford Health Care, I am aware of

the pressures on hospital finances. Some hospital departments are profitable and some departments lose money. Apparently, the skilled nursing facility department at Valley Care was a money loser, but unfortunately management decided to use the fear of coronavirus infection in a skilled nursing facility environment to justify the shutdown. Rather than employ the corporate-speak smokescreen of coronavirus to obscure the true reason for the shutdown, management should have been more transparent and honest with the 44 staff members who were let go.

Adding insult to injury, a staff that had worked to achieve a CDC 5-star rating was given less than 24-hour notice. A month's notice would have given staff opportunities to find alternative employment.

I hope that Stanford Healthcare management will exhibit a bit more humanity in their business decisions that affect the lives of both staff and patients.

### Swalwell Right on Policing Changes

Van Rainey, Livermore

I just finished watching testimony before the House Judiciary Committee on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020, and I wanted to make mention of the perspective put forth by Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA). In my opinion, the clarity and focus of Swalwell's statement highlight the need to address the systemic racism in our country, the perspectives sustain it, and the perspectives that could be used to change the attitudes that are far too prevalent in our nation, our society and our various cultures.

It certainly is difficult to conclusively legislate such changes, but, in the least, we need our legislative and national leaders and representatives to change the direction of the conversation.

Parading the various tropes and dog-whistle messaging that were voiced by Republicans during the hearing in defense of some status quo designed to assuage their base is a measure we cannot condone. For this and many other reasons I appreciate and support whole heartedly Swalwell's comments and purpose voiced in the hearing.

### Councilman Kumagai Wants to Disarm Dublin

Mike Grant, Dublin

Dublin has a city councilman, Shawn Kumagai, who wants to take your gun rights away and kill the Second Amendment. This council member works for California 16th District Assemblywomen Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, and uses his position with the city to promote her agendas.

At the city council meet-

ing June 9, he brought up an item about getting information about state law and city ordinances regarding gun dealers, concealed weapon permits, open carry of weapons, and citizen's locking up guns. His boss could get him all this information, but he is a grandstander!

During a call-in for public input during the city council meeting June 16, I told Kumagai that he is out of line to involve the city in state or national issues. All these items are covered by the state and county, the Department of Justice handles gun dealers, and the county sheriff's department is in charge of who gets concealed weapon permits.

Make no mistake, Kumagai wants all citizens to be unarmed and to rely on guys like him to protect all of us. How did that work out during the latest riots? Why is the 16th District assemblywomen Rebecca using a city council member who works for her to push her agenda? Is it because she does not want the voters to know she is anti-gun?

The Tri-Valley better wake up before we are the next Australia and city councils pass laws outlawing guns in your town. Kumagai and the other council members take an oath to support the Constitution. But this looks like he and his boss want to take guns away!

### Stop Weaponizing History

Owen Brovont, Livermore

It is well past time for the American people to understand what is really happening in America today.

The U.S. is being victimized by a collection of agents provocateurs using tools devised to disrupt and destabilize American society. They have no interest in resolving the fundamental issues underlying the unrest. In the present situation, one of their tactics is to weaponize history to inflame attitudes based on the experience of the Black race in America to intensify unrest among minority populations, principally the African-American community.

The goal is to destabilize society to the point that it will essentially dissolve into chaos, at which time some strong leader will step forward to offer a "new" solution. Historically, that has proven to lead to tyranny!

This is a tried and true technique to achieve control of a country. Fresh exemplars are readily available: the creation of the Soviet Union under Vladimir Lenin and, later, under Joseph Stalin; Mao Zedong's People's Republic of China, still the largest communist country in the world; Pol Pot in Cambodia; Germany's Third Reich under Adolph Hitler; Benito Mussolini's Fascist Party in Italy; Fidel Castro's Republic of Cuba; and don't forget today's North Korea.

The critical reality is that almost 100 million people died in the process of establishing and maintaining these dictatorships. A major technique used by these tyrants has been weaponization of history. The architects of radical ideas go back into history and dredge up occurrences, images, and events that they carefully and enthusiastically reinterpret

with the intent to sow and nurture dissatisfaction with and estrangement from society to create revolutionaries.

There is probably universal agreement in today's America that the African-American community has legitimate complaints about its place in American society, and these complaints deserve honest and thorough efforts to address and resolve them. To be effective and nontraumatic, it requires a rational conversation sans the weaponized mythology that has been so effective in arousing the passions and depredations of a small but active minority of the population.

The causes of our impasse need honest and dispassionate research and analysis to uncover the truth, despite the direction and conclusions that the process may yield. It must be truth seeking, not driven by a politically formulated tyranny. It must yield "freedom and justice for all" in a civil society.

### When the Earth Next Quakes

Paul Stone, Dublin

Just prior to the California gubernatorial election in November 2018, I warned readers of The Independent against electing Gavin Newsom, a failed former mayor and lieutenant governor, to our state's highest elected office.

My opposition to Newsom was based upon simple observation of his tenure as mayor of San Francisco and lieutenant governor of California.

This man has utterly mishandled the coronavirus crisis here. He has damaged many lives and livelihoods by his stubbornness and incompetency. He is making businesses liable if a customer catches COVID-19 even if that business follows all state-mandated protocols. Now he is forcing us all to wear face masks anytime we are outside our homes. He is drunk with power.

He has failed to strongly and vigorously condemn the violence stemming from protests.

He certainly was less than stellar in dealing with electricity outages during the fires last year.

I shudder to think what will happen should the next great quake on the level of Loma Prieta, Northridge, '06, or, God forbid, even greater, occur under his watch. Why do we keep electing and then re-electing politicians of this dismal caliber in our once golden state? Political masochism, I guess.

### Time to Heal Past Harms, Create Change

Van Rainey, Livermore

I am not a historian and lack the scope and depth of many scholars examining the changes confronting our nation today. Still, I reflect on the Civil Rights movement of the '50s and '60s and the subsequent periods following those dramatic periods. I also remember the law and order campaigns and Southern strategy that were promulgated in response to the changes that served seemingly to divide us as a nation and institutionalize discrimination against people of color and stoke racial bias.

I remember how leaders

of both parties competed for voters by declaring their toughness on crime, but instituted a system of justice that was inherently unbalanced, unjust and unfair to the less fortunate. Coupled with the systemic bias embedded in our financial institutions, the extent of barriers to equality and justice under the law seems beyond the Band-Aid solutions to the deep wounds in our society. I feel we need to come to terms with the scope, history and degree of harm caused to adequately address and create change.

What comes to mind is the Truth and Reconciliation Commission established following the abolition of apartheid in South Africa. The process should not be identical, but the scope, breadth and depth of the effort seems to be what is needed for our nation to heal. I see a need for everyone to come together and acknowledge fully the harm done and how nearly every aspect of our society played a part. We need a forum that goes beyond the shouting in the streets, which has been necessary to awaken us all to the tensions that have long simmered, but have been long ignored. I am not sure how we might create a fair forum to hear the harms and heal them. I am sure that we must move fiercely forward in that righteous effort and face down the forces that divide our nation into camps of us versus the other.

I submit this notion not as a solution well defined, but as a prayer to seek guidance and intent to hopefully serve the greater good of the country, if not the world. I am not clear on how to reach out, but would like to start the conversation.

### COVID-19 Openings

Rajinder Ghatoaura, Pleasanton

The Tri-Cities asked Alameda County to open up businesses faster, but to no avail.

Using science and data, the Tri-Cities should have opened up many weeks ago, but were tied to the no-action Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Ericka Pan. Her explanation that allowing cities to open at their own pace would cause cross contamination does not cut it. Counties are opening up at their own pace, even though we do not have hard borders between counties and people travel freely throughout the Bay Area.

Pan fumbled again by choosing which outdoor activities to open without any reason. Outdoor fitness? Since when did Alameda County become Venice Beach where bodybuilders train outside?

It is unlawful under Equal Protection of the Law to allow outdoor dining and fitness and not allow indoor dining and gyms/health clubs. Yes, you can go to the Farmers Market with no social distancing. Costco, Walmart, grocery stores, liquor stores, etc., but you cannot get a haircut in a clean, sanitized environment, nor can you eat in a clean restaurant with seating six feet apart. Who comes up with such ridiculous rules?

It is easy to close businesses, but a single doctor, who is not impacted and has no business or economics knowledge, dictates when to

open businesses?

Not a single state worker or county employee, including the county supervisors, has been laid off. They do not have any understanding of the mom-and-pop stores and restaurants, gyms/health clubs, etc., that have gone out of business and millions of workers who have lost their jobs.

If we leave this up to Dr. Pan, it will be months before she takes any decisive actions to open the economy. Right now, it all seems political and they want to close businesses to show a bleak economy. California is a democracy and not a dictatorship. We cannot allow a doctor without any reason to keep businesses closed. There will be no businesses to open at this rate.

The Tri-Cities have to act now. Contra Costa is opening quicker. Vallejo decided to open all businesses many weeks ago.

The Tri-Cities should declare themselves COVID-19 sanctuary cities and take science, data, health and safety in their own hands, open businesses, and other activities, toe to toe with California state openings, rather than go along with Alameda County inaction. This has to happen now and not later.

### White Privilege Exists

John Cameron, Dublin

I'm dumbfounded why there were no letters last week in response to Owen Brovont's letter on June 11, ripe with privilege and ignorance.

To insist that drive and hard work are all that's needed to live the American Dream misses the mark. Not only are there disparities of opportunity, but disparities of justice. If you're a person of color, it's harder to get a loan. If you grow up in a less affluent community, you most likely have an educational system that is drastically underfunded. How many innocent people are in prison because they couldn't afford good counsel and pled guilty to a crime they didn't commit because of the threat of a longer sentence?

Furthermore, "bending the knee" has nothing to do with supporting the troops or the National Anthem. America has not lived up to the words, "justice for all" or "all men (and women I might add) are created equal."

My family has served and fought in three wars for this nation, and for the right for anyone to take a knee or say whatever they want, even if it's an ignorant letter to the editor.

Violence at any protest is wrong, but if you have felt the inequality that exists, for your whole life, and only received empty promises, it's no wonder some have reached a boiling point. Also, right-wing haters have already been caught causing violence and property damage at recent protests, trying to discredit the protesters' message.

If you are one who was raised in a "quieter, more accomplished, more intelligent (wow!), more civilized age," maybe you need to "give it some thought," and find some empathy and compassion for those that don't enjoy similar privilege.

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Peaceful protestors gathered in front of the Livermore City Hall on Friday, June 19. Assisted by Livermore officers, they marched to Carnegie Park for a moment of silence in observance of Juneteenth and to show support for the Black Lives Matter movement. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Group Preparing Tri-Valley for Next Two Decades

By Tony Kukulich

The Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV), a Pleasanton-based company, is engaged in an effort to identify the challenges and opportunities likely to be experienced over the next 20 years, while maximizing those opportunities for the Tri-Valley.

"The Innovation 2040 Tri-Valley Vision Plan is helping the community to develop a shared vision for the region in 2040 by expanding innovation and entrepreneurship activities, and enhancing the strong talent base already found here," said Lynn Wallace Naylor, CEO at ITV. "The 2040 plan is helping our innovation ecosystem find essential opportunities for housing, transportation, and other infrastructure projects needed to ensure long-term success for everyone."

As part of the initiative, ITV, in conjunction with Bay Area Council Economic Institute, recently hosted a web-based workshop to discuss innovation and the role that forward-looking companies will play in the continued economic development of the Tri-Valley.

"Projecting what the re-

gion is going to look like in 2040 is interesting to say the least," said Steve Lanza, ITV board chair, as he kicked off the workshop. "But this is part of the process that we've been going through over the course of the last year with the goal of providing actual policy recommendations, potential partnerships and investments that can help us grow the Tri-Valley into 2040. The plan is to focus on bold new ideas that can leverage the Tri-Valley's existing assets and capabilities and create new building blocks for our long-term growth ... In addition to housing and transportation, the plan has two other areas of focus. One is education and one is innovation."

The first portion of the innovation workshop focused on broad, macroeconomic trends, while the final segment focused more narrowly on the role of innovation in the region over the next couple of decades. Sharing their insights during the second part of the meeting were Brandon Cardwell, Daybreak Labs in Livermore director, and Les Schmidt, Bishop Ranch Intelligence Innovation Accelerator founder and director.

Attracting and retaining

talent is key to developing the innovation and entrepreneurship community, Cardwell said. But, he observed, the rising cost of living may be a major disincentive for people considering a move to the area.

"The Tri-Valley is still doing phenomenally well, especially relative to the rest of the country," Cardwell said. "It will be interesting to look at Gen Z, which is slated to be the most diverse, best-educated generation ever by the end of the next decade. Will this generation, which will have 50% of its population be people of color, be attracted to a place like the Tri-Valley, which has historically not been particularly representative of the broader Bay Area community? Is that something we need to be paying attention to? There are lots of things that can drive what the next 20 years looks like. The good news is that a bunch of it is actually in our hands."

Schmidt disavowed any notion of wanting to develop the Tri-Valley as the 'next Silicon Valley.' Instead, he believes there is an opportunity to create a community based on the region's unique blend of resources.

"We have three centers

of excellence based on some historical things," Schmidt said. "They are enterprise software, life sciences and smart manufacturing ... The talent pool that tends to be here is reflective of the companies that have been here, grown and been successful. We have those resources in our community in an intangible way. What we can do a much better job of over the coming years is coalesce those resources. We want to be associated with those three (sectors) in people's thinking. That's the kind of building opportunity we have over the next 20 years."

Focusing on technology and innovation is not done at the expense of the small business community, the hospitality community or any sector operating in the community, stressed Cardwell. Investment in technology and innovation, he said, fuels other sectors.

"We view these things, not only as compatible, but as symbiotic," Cardwell said. "Our goals around technology and innovation are certainly not ends unto themselves. They're actually a means to an end of creating the most livable and interesting and experience-driven community we can."

## BUDGET

(Continued from first page)

"Jacob Bauer's life mattered, but our collective failure ... resulted in the summoning of armed law enforcement to intervene during his time of need," said Isaac Alias, a public commenter. "We can't accept this for the next Jacob Bauer. We need to start questioning what services and staffing could be envisioned so that police won't be the hammer we reach for when there's a person in crisis."

Prior to the vote at the June 16 regular meeting, Tina Olson, City of Pleasanton Director of Finance, presented a 2020-21 mid-term budget update. The update included the revised revenue estimates, recommended adjustments to expenditures and transfers, and options to balance the budget in the event revenues are less than expected. She outlined the goals to maintain both a balanced budget and prudent reserves, along with the funds for essential city services.

"Looking at the budget overview, you can see where on the expenditure side, the general fund is the only one we're proposing to net reduce expenditures by \$3 million," Olson said. "Enterprise funds, internal service funds and special revenue funds are all proposed increases, giving us a net increase of about \$900,000 from the original budget for 20-21, bringing us to \$191.6 million budget."

The recommended adjustments include a net revenue reduction of \$642,159, an increase to the transfers out by \$2.5 million and a net reduction of \$3 million in expenditures, resulting in a balanced budget.

On the revenue side, Olson reported seeing a continued increase in property taxes, prompting staff to increase the budget by \$1.1 million — an assessed valuation increase. However, given the impact of the shelter-in-place, sales taxes saw a decrease of about \$1.7 mil-

lion, along with reduction to the hotel and business license income of nearly \$1.9 million. Development saw a slight increase of \$67,500. Recreation fees showed a reduction of \$149,000. Other reimbursements and grants increased by \$1.8 million.

On the expenditure side, the \$3 million reduction to balance the budget was comprised of reductions to personnel, travel and training, repairs and maintenance and capital outlay, with a small increase to materials and supplies.

"We focused on reducing expenditures that we didn't think the city was going to spend during the shelter-in-place, and you'll see we have reductions in travel and training, which we're just not going to do," Olson said.

Should staff find the revenue estimates to be incorrect, Olson reported the city could turn to an \$8 million

backup plan consisting of \$2 million in estimated attrition savings, \$1.8 million in general fund contingency and \$5 million in rainy day funds. An additional backup plan, though Olson didn't think they would need it, consisted of \$19.3 million — \$6.3 million in general fund reserves and \$13 million the city could draw from the Section 115 Trust Fund.

Fialho further noted the attrition savings to be conservative, given the soft hiring freeze the city implemented during the shelter-in-place, which will result in more savings.

"Our conservative fiscal policies really helped us weather the COVID crisis," said Vice Mayor Kathy Narum, adding that she suspected most residents wouldn't notice the budget cuts.

Narum then moved to

accept the mid-year budget, which passed unanimously.

### Interfaith Blood Drive Set for July 11

The Interfaith Community Pleasanton Blood Drive will be held Saturday, July 11, at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, and Friday, July 17, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The American Red Cross will be on-site to accept blood donations at St. Elizabeth, 4005 Stoneridge, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, from noon to 6 p.m.

To register for the blood drive, go to [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter the sponsor code "interfaithpleasanton," or call (800) RED-CROSS. Those donating blood should bring photo ID and wear a face mask. Social distancing guidelines will be in effect.

### County Accepting Applications For Youth Leadership Academy

Alameda County is now accepting applications for its 2020 Youth Leadership Academy, a free program for high school juniors and seniors interested in learning about local government.

Those enrolled in the program will participate in five Saturday morning sessions, in September and October, to learn about county government programs, meet with elected officials and county staff, and network with other students from throughout the county.

Sessions will be held at different county facilities on Sept. 12, 19, and 26, and Oct. 10 and 24.

Applications will be accepted through Aug. 7, although space is limited. To apply, go to [www.acgov.org/youthleadership/](http://www.acgov.org/youthleadership/).

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# LIVERMORE

(Continued from first page)

with a set of options moving forward that the council can accept or send back to the committee for more work.

Marchand said the committee should allow the council to move more quickly.

The mayor also appointed Woerner to serve as the city’s representative on a new countywide racial justice working group started by Alameda County Super-

visor Nate Miley.

During the meeting, both Woerner and Munro spoke to the likely need for the city to hire a consultant to help guide it through a broad public outreach campaign.

Public comments submitted to the council as part of the discussion varied widely. Some called for citizen oversight of police and changes in disciplin-

ary procedures, increased spending on mental health and preventative services, as well as low income housing and education. Others urged the council to safeguard the current level of police funding.

The bulk of letters including one from a “rehabilitated Livermore criminal” spoke of general support for the police department and its employees.

“They are people just like us. They are doing a job they were hired to do and we expect them to do it well,” said Councilman Bob Coomber, a former Oakland police officer. “And as we have found out in the past, when they don’t, they’re gone.”

Munro recalled her own positive experiences with the Livermore Police Department, and said she was

impressed with their dedication, particularly with the homeless population. “But that doesn’t mean I can say that is true for all of Livermore,” she said.

One of the more detailed letters the council received about the police department challenged the council to go beyond a “high level pledge” and to scrutinize police employment contracts ahead of labor nego-

tiations set to begin next year.

Munro noted that all of the councilmembers are white, relatively well off and older, and their personal experiences are not necessarily representative of the rest of the community.

“We really do need to make sure we are reaching out to all of Livermore to understand their experiences,” Munro said.

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casaorozco.com  
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cococabanadublin.com  
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925-828-9380  
giorgiosandfijlitalian.com  
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7298 San Ramon Rd., Dublin  
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habajapan.com  
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mountainmikespizza.com/locations/  
dublin-san-ramon.com  
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### LIVERMORE

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beebstatlospositas.com  
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bellaromatago.com  
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184 South K St., Livermore  
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livermorebigapplepizza.com  
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Cuppa-café-café.business.site  
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2235 First St., Livermore  
925-373-0306  
demitristavernalivermore.com  
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RACING

(Continued from first page)

rule outlines that a crop is to be used in an underhanded position, without it ever rising above the shoulders of the rider.

Before the vote was taken, members of the local horse-racing community called in to ask for more time in hopes that a national rule could be enacted.

“For well over the past year, The Jockey’s Guild has been involved in discussions, not only in California, but throughout the U.S., for both thoroughbred and quarter horse jocks,” said Terry Meyocks, The Jockeys’ Guild president and CEO. “The guild and the riders need a national rule.”

Hoping for more discussion between the CHRB, the jockeys and other groups, Meyocks further stated the guild would like to request an extension of no more than four to six weeks to see if an agreement on the riding crop in the U.S. could be reached.

However, some members of the CHRB did not feel that a national rule would be quickly forthcoming.

“We recall the starting point and why it was that we had to revisit the riding crop issue ... for safety reasons only,” said Oscar Gonzalez, CHRB vice chairman. “It was the Office of Administrative Law that actually did not allow (the CHRB rule) to go forward. So, part of the delay has gone beyond many people’s control, and the possibility of that same thing happening needs to be avoided. It is for that reason that I feel we have to get this right.”

Scott Chaney, the board’s executive director, expressed similar sentiments.

“For the CHRB staff, this rule is our rule – we’re very proud of it, and everyone has worked very hard on it,” he said. “The idea about a national standard is not a thing. It just doesn’t exist. I guess we’re talking about some agreement between The Jockey’s Guild and the Safety Coalition. But that’s not a national standard – that’s just an idea that some group of the country had. It would require every other state to pass the rule, which just isn’t going to happen.”

Those present during the meeting expanded on the reasons the new ruling created a safety hazard for riders. They noted that limiting the number of crop strikes might cause the rider to hold back on adjusting the horses’ side-to-side position while racing, which could result in the horse edging into the wrong lane and possibly into another horse. The rule put forth also allowed the jockeys to use only a crop with a cylinder popper, which has been met with criticism from the guild. Jockeys who had used it during racing have said that many broke at the tip and that poppers fell off during races, in addition to the crop itself being difficult to use when switching hands.

“We’re concerned that it’s not going to work, and

that there’s going to be real safety issues when a jockey is unable to perform his or her job,” said guild attorney Shane Gusman. “Either a jockey is going to get hurt or a horse is going to go down. You’re going to end racing in California. It’s just going to happen if you go down this road of trying to regulate perception rather than reality.”

After the vote was taken and the restriction passed, The Jockey’s Guild released a press statement outlining its displeasure with the result and calling the CHRB’s decision a move to pacify “radical animal rights organizations.”

“The Jockeys’ Guild is extremely disappointed by the actions taken by the California Horse Racing Board with regards to the riding crop, specifically restricting the use of the riding crop to six times in the underhanded fashion throughout the entire race, as well as restricting the type of riding crop that can be used,” states a press release from the organization. “The industry has a long history of disrespect for jockeys, going back many, many decades. That prevailing attitude was the main reason for the formation of the guild in 1940. Incredibly, that disrespect continues to this day, as evidenced by the CHRB and the chairman failing to engage jockeys and the guild in any meaningful dialogue. To completely ignore the pleas of the professional jockeys and the guild (and) moving forward to adopt the two rules presented Thursday, which are both unsafe and jeopardize the integrity of the sport, is a dangerous precedent.”

In addition to the hotly contested rule, the board also approved a 45-day public notice of new specifications for the construction of riding crops. An amendment will require all riding crops to be topped by shock-absorbing, smooth foam cylinders, which are demonstrated to b7

e safer for horses. The CHRB press release indicated that the COVID-19 health crisis has disrupted racing and Alameda County Fair operations in Northern California, forcing the board to reallocate dates and approve modifications to racing license applications only for the year 2020. In a compromise supported by racing and fair executives and designed to meet health protocols, the board approved a revised racing and simulcasting calendar as follows.

“At this time envisioned without spectators, the current meet at Golden Gate Fields will conclude (both racing and simulcasting) on June 16,” the board stated in the release. “From there, racing and simulcasting will move to Pleasanton for the Alameda County Fair meet (June 17 through July 14), continue at Pleasanton for the relocated State Fair meet in Pleasanton (July 15 through July 28), move back to Golden Gate,

initially for the relocated Sonoma County Fair meet at Golden Gate (July 29 through Aug. 11), continue at Golden Gate with its own meet (Aug. 12 through Oct. 6), proceed to Fresno for the Big Fresno Fair meet (Oct. 7 through Oct. 20), then finally conclude at Golden Gate (Oct. 21 through Dec. 22). The precise racing dates for each meet (within those allocations) will be determined by the individual license applications. All meets will operate with protocols approved by their county health officials. Golden Gate will continue to provide stabling during the Alameda County and Fresno fairs.”

According to the press release for the meeting, other actions taken by the board include:

- Suspending Rule

1845(h) during the Del Mar meet, which required that syringes used to administer furosemide on race day be retained.

- Approving a regulatory amendment requiring individuals to hold an assistant trainer license in good standing for one year as a prerequisite for a trainer license.

- Adopting a rule strictly limiting the use of extracorporeal shock wave therapy (ESWT) on racehorses. The new rule prohibits any horse from racing or participating in timed workouts in the mornings within 30 days of such treatment. As is currently CHRB policy, ESWT can only be administered in clearly designated areas, and each treatment must be carefully documented. Furthermore, no horse that received ESWT elsewhere

within the previous 30 days can be brought onto a CHRB-regulated facility without prior approval of the Official Veterinarian. Extracorporeal shock wave therapy is otherwise permitted within the restrictions of the regulation. Violations of the regulation will carry a Category A penalty, which is a minimum one-year suspension and \$10,000 fine.

- Permanently adopting the existing emergency regulation allowing the board to suspend a race meet license when necessary to protect horses and riders.

For more information or to listen to the audio recording of the meeting, visit [www.chrb.ca.gov](http://www.chrb.ca.gov).

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# East Bay Parks Remain Open for Hiking, Riding and Biking

By Ned MacKay

Although visitor centers and some other high-use areas in the East Bay Regional Parks are closed to avoid crowding during the coronavirus pandemic, the parks and trails are generally open for hiking, riding and bicycling.

With that in mind, here are some suggestions for trails you can take to get some much-needed fresh air and exercise. Remember to go with small groups, mainly your immediate household, maintain social distancing, and carry masks for use when distancing isn't possible. Carry water and pack out your trash.

## Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline

An easy and scenic walk or ride, the George Miller Jr. Trail, is a 2-mile section between Martinez and Port

Costa. It's paved, wheelchair accessible, and offers great views of the strait with its maritime traffic and Benicia across the water.

To get there, drive west from the town of Martinez on Carquinez Scenic Drive. Park on the road shoulder; don't block fire gates. Or you can access the west end by driving toward Port Costa on McEwen Road from Highway 4. Turn right on Carquinez Scenic Drive at the bottom of the hill and drive to the end of the road. There are several picnic tables along the way, and there's a chemical toilet at the Port Costa trailhead parking lot.

For another easy and scenic walk or ride, turn left on Carquinez Scenic Drive and proceed about a mile to the Bull Valley Staging Area on the right. From there, follow the Carquinez Overlook Trail, or go down the hill to

Eckley Pier.

## Diablo Foothills Regional Park

The Stage Road Trail through Pine Canyon at Castle Rock and Diablo Foothills is another easy walk or ride. It's about 1.5 miles from the start to the state park boundary, and of course you can venture farther if you wish.

The trail follows Pine Creek, which is dry in the summer, wet in the rainy season. It's largely shady. There are lots of views of the imposing Castle Rocks, a nesting place for peregrine falcons. If you are lucky, you may see the falcons. But remember that the Castle Rocks, in the state park, are closed from Feb. 1 through July 31 to protect the birds during nesting season.

The park is at the end of Castle Rock Road in Walnut

Creek, past Northgate High School. Park at the Orchard Staging Area on the right, then walk through a gate at the end of the lot. Or if the lot at the end of the road has been opened, you can park there. It's the Castle Rock trailhead.

## Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve

Sibley is the East Bay's backyard volcano. Evidence of a volcano that was active 10 million years ago has been revealed through eons of geologic action and modern-day quarrying.

At the park entrance there are restrooms and displays describing the park's volcanic history. Pick up a brochure for a self-guided tour around 11 signposts. The park also has several rock mazes, one of which was constructed by a local artist. You won't get lost; the mazes are only one rock

high.

The entrance to Sibley Preserve is on Skyline Boulevard, a short distance south of the intersection with Grizzly Peak Boulevard in the Oakland Hills.

## Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks

The two parks preserve a bit of Hayward's ranching history. From the entrance to Jordan Pond and back is an easy walk. If you are more energetic, the trail network leads up to ridgetops with views of San Francisco Bay. Another feature at Garin is an apple orchard maintained by volunteers. It contains heirloom varieties of apples that are no longer grown commercially. The park is at the end of Garin Avenue off Mission Boulevard.

## Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area

This is a former gravel

quarry in Fremont that has been transformed into a park with several lakes. There are lots of completely flat hiking options. Try the California, Old Creek, Western Pacific and Isla Tres Rancheros trails to see water birds and a rare fruit tree grove. The park is on Isherwood Way.

There are also lots of hiking opportunities at Sunol Regional Wilderness south of I-680 and the town of Sunol, and at Coyote Hills Regional Park on Paseo Padre Parkway in Fremont. However, these parks tend to be crowded, so if you go, go early.

This is just a sample. Several dozen hikes and rides are described in two park district brochures, "Short-Loop Trails: Easy Paths for Walking or Biking," available online at [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org).

# Dublin Rotary Names Police and Fire Persons of the Year

The Rotary Club of Dublin has selected Deputy Christina Blaylock as its Dublin Police Services Officer of the Year, and public

education assistant Rachel Messenger as its Dublin Fire Services Person of the Year.

The Rotary Club said Blaylock was selected be-

cause of her positive influence in the lives of Dublin school children as the primary instructor for the DARE program and her role in the Dublin Unified School District's anti-drug Red Ribbon Week. She has also been an instructor for the Dublin Citizens Academy, which teaches the public about law enforcement and encourages citizen involvement in community policing.

Messenger, with the Alameda County Fire Department, was honored for her commitment in reading to Dublin students as part of the Read Across America program. The Rotary Club said she has also supported

other community activities, including her involvement in the St. Patrick's Day Festival and her role in ensuring that fire crews are present at local events.

Blaylock and Messenger each received a plaque and certificates of commendation from the Dublin City Council, Alameda County supervisors, and California State Legislature. The Rotary Club also gave \$400 in Blaylock's name to the Calico Center, which works with abused children, and gave \$400 in Messenger's name to Hope Hospice, which provides end-of life care.



Christina Blaylock



Rachel Messenger

# Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards Announced

Chris Miller, who has organized local support for military families for 30 years, and Joyce and Bob Shapiro, who have headed up numerous business and community organizations in Pleasanton, are recipients of the 2020 Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards, presented by the nonprofit Make a Difference, Today & Always foundation.

Named in honor of former Mayor Ed Kinney, who died in 2005, the award is given to Pleasanton residents who demonstrate "love, pride, faith, belief, and devotion" to the community. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on public gatherings, the annual reception to honor the recipients will be held at a later date.

"We look forward to being able to celebrate their accomplishments and inspiration in person," said W. Ron Sutton, founder of the award and president of Make a Difference, Today & Always. "As Margaret Meade famously said, 'Never doubt that a small group of citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' And this year's award recipients have worked to make our part of the world a better place."

## Chris Miller

Chris Miller flew helicopters during the Vietnam War and later, as a commercial airline pilot living in San Francisco, reflected on the poor treatment that he and other Vietnam vets received when they returned home. He also made himself a promise that if he ever had the opportunity, he would give returning combat veterans the welcome they deserved for their service and sacrifice.

Miller and his wife, Marty, eventually settled in Pleasanton in 1971, where they raised three boys. That began many years of community service. He supported local high school sports, including football, volleyball, and basketball, long after his sons no longer attended Pleasanton schools. He also volunteered with the Pleasanton Rotary, Farmers' Market, and as a key fundraiser for the Veterans Memorial at Pleasanton's Pioneer Cemetery.

In 1990, with the launch of Operation Desert Shield,

and later, Desert Storm, in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Miller found himself in a position to keep his promise, helping to create a temporary support group for military families in Pleasanton. Then, at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, Miller again helped form a support group that eventually evolved into Pleasanton Military Families.

Over the years, the group has served hundreds of active military members and their families. Under Chris' leadership, the group was responsible for the first "Welcome Home Military Parade" in Pleasanton for veterans returning from the Iraqi conflict. From 2003-2009, Miller was instrumental in establishing the motorcycle convoys that would welcome home returning Pleasanton military personnel. Those convoys, which would evolve to include the Warriors' Watch Riders motorcycle brigade and the Lafayette Flag Brigade, continue today.

Miller was also instrumental in the city's Yellow Banner Project on Main Street, with each banner recognizing an active duty member of the military and their branch of service. Pleasanton Military Families also keeps an updated list of local military personnel, who receive care packages donated by the community to lift their spirits and remind them of family and friends back home.

While Miller has turned over the reins of many of his projects to others, he still is serving quietly behind the scenes.

## Joyce & Bob Shapiro

Joyce Shapiro has lived in Pleasanton since 1966, and has been associated with many of the city's major changes for the last 50 years. She owned and operated the Gingham Corner at the intersection of Main and Neal streets for 10 years; helped start the Downtown Committee; and oversaw development of the Pleasanton Downtown Design Guidelines and sign ordinance. She helped form the Pleasanton Downtown Assessment District and served as its first president, represented Pleasanton on the Alameda County National

Bicentennial Commission in 1976, and was president of the Chamber of Commerce in 1978. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce, she helped organize Heritage Days, the Community Development Awards, and the Ambassador's Committee.

Joyce also helped organize numerous fundraising events over the years, including "Mardi Gras," sponsored by the Junior Women's club to raise money for the first senior buses; the first "Starry, Starry Night" event for the Senior Center; and "A Wonderful Evening of Oz," the first major fundraiser for the Firehouse Arts Center. She was recognized as "Best Overall CEO" at the Valley Volunteer Center CEO dinner in 1992.

She was also the first woman appointed to the Pleasanton Planning Commission, serving from 1978 to 1986. In 2005, Joyce graduated from the Pleasanton Leadership program and was the manager of the program for 10 years. She remains a board member and fundraising chairman for the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, and is a member of the Tulancingo Sister-City organization.

Bob and Joyce met on a Mediterranean cruise in 1991. They were married in 1994, and after a five-year absence, they moved to Pleasanton in 1999, becoming involved as a couple in many city activities.

Bob is on the Los Positas College Foundation and has been a Rotarian for 18 years. He was a director of the Chamber of Commerce for two terms, and served on the YMCA board of directors. For the last six years, Bob and Joyce have co-chaired the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, helping raise millions of dollars for the hospital.

Individually and together, they have won almost every award given in the city, including the Mayor's Award, Pleasanton Weekly Couple of the Year, Community of Character Coalition, Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen Award, and State of California Local Hero Award.

This is the 15th year of the awards that Make A Difference, Today & Always has presented the Ed Kinney Patriot Awards.

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WATER

(Continued from first page)

on Jan. 1, at the start of the calendar year.

A 25% vacancy level in staff employment enabled the rate freeze. General Manager Valerie Pryor explained that the agency is trying to fill those positions, “but it has been slow going.” The vacancy rate has been high for a year. Before the pandemic, Zone 7 assumed it was due to the booming Bay Area economy and extremely low unemployment rate, said Pryor.

“Now, we assume there is some crisis uncertainty,” she said. “Hopefully, hiring will pick up this year.”

The board also voted to freeze the rates for untreated water, which was going to be the subject of future stakeholder meetings. A study had recommended a significant rate increase for this agricultural water, but winegrowers objected because it would put more price pressure on them. They already compete against growers in the northern part of the state, where it rains more, which keeps those growers’ production prices down, reported the Livermore winegrowers.

The board last year granted only a slight increase and

promised stakeholder meetings with growers and other interested parties to arrive at a solution.

On the other side of the issue, urban Valley residents asked why they should subsidize agriculture. With the rate hike suspension, staff stated there will be more time for the dialogue in 2021.

**Board Wishes Quigley Happy Trails**

The June 17 meeting marked the last for Director Dick Quigley, who has served 16 years. A new director, Laurene Green, will

be sworn in early in July.

Beyond voting for a written resolution listing all the board committees on which Quigley served, directors paid their own tributes to him.

President Sandy Figuers, who started on the board in 2008, said it took Quigley a couple years to find his voice.

“He turned into an ambassador for the board at all kinds of meetings – state, local and national,” Figuers added.

Dennis Gambs, board member, thanked Quigley for “really ramping up the

game.”

“He has been a champion of solar power for the Del Valle Water Treatment plant,” he said. “I’m going to miss Dick on the trails.”

Director Angela Ramirez Holmes reported Quigley to be the “go-to on the board for solar power, trails along the Zone 7 arroyos and a strong voice for transparency, an issue she also has pushed since joining the board eight years ago.”

Recognizing Quigley’s pioneering leadership in trail creation, Ramirez Holmes wished him happy trails. Director Michelle Smith

McDonald noted that serving the community for 16 years and putting his name on the ballot many times “is truly admirable.”

Quigley acknowledged his leadership role in helping create, through grant applications and coordination, a network among the Valley’s three cities and along Zone 7 land.

Board members are currently looking into options for naming a segment of the trail that connects to Zone 7 territory the “Dick Quigley Trail.”

REFORM

(Continued from first page)

in a press conference that he will support new legislation drafted by Assemblymember Mike Gipson (D-Carson), Assembly Bill (AB) 1196. The bill prohibits agencies in the state from using the carotid restraint technique. Newsom said he will sign the bill once it gets to his desk. As of June 18, AB 1196 was amended in the Senate. To review the bill, visit [https://bit.ly/Indy\\_AB1196](https://bit.ly/Indy_AB1196).

“We train techniques on strangle holds that put people’s lives at risk,” Newsom said during the press conference. “Now we can argue that these are used as exceptions, but at the end of the day, a carotid hold that is literally designed to stop people’s blood from flowing into their brain – that has no place any longer in 21st century practices and policing. I am immediately directing POST, which is our police officers training, to end the training of that practice.”

Pleasanton Police Department (PPD) Chief David Swing last week noted his department temporarily suspended the use of the carotid hold, pending state legislation.

“We are developing a comprehensive online resource for our community to better understand our policies and some of the important nuances of community safety,” Swing said. “Additionally, the city will begin to host public meet-

ings around community policing and what that specifically means for Pleasanton. Constructive dialogue is paramount, and we are committed to engaging with our community.”

Dublin did not appear on the #8CantWait list, as it’s a smaller city that contracts police services through the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO). But Dublin Police Services Chief Garrett Holmes indicated discussion to remove the carotid restraint from policy is underway for the ACSO as well.

According to the #8CantWait website, the Livermore Police Department (LPD) meets three of the eight reform policies, because current policy requires de-escalation, a warning before shooting and an officer’s duty to intervene should they witness another officer using unreasonable force. But as reported by Goard, some of the language gets blurry. For many of those reform items, he said they are already a component of the LPD’s policy, but not strictly mandated due to varying circumstances.

“If you’re being shot at, the expectation that you would first start with talking and then use your taser and then your baton is unrealistic,” he explained. “When feasible, policy says you shall exhaust all alternatives, but it doesn’t mandate it because of the situation I

just described.”

Goard noted that training for LPD officers involves creating distance and dialogue. They also have a negotiation team in charge of communication that works with the patrol shift. In regard to the ban on shooting at moving vehicles, he said he believed LPD was in compliance with the meaning. However, it is not a strict mandate. He detailed a situation in which a car might begin plowing through a crowd or straight toward an officer, at which point, the immediate danger should be stopped.

“It’s highly discouraged because it’s rarely effective,” he said. “Policy says you make an effort to get out of the way, but if it’s your only opportunity to save yourself and others, it’s still permitted.”

Officers are not allowed to shoot at fleeing vehicles or with the intent to disable the vehicle.

Holmes agreed that maybe three or four of the #8CantWait guidelines came down to a matter of semantics, but noted he believed most California agencies, which tend to be progressive, are already in line with campaign’s callouts for reform.

Alongside this discussion of policy reform is the matter of divesting police departments and investing in the community in the form of various social services. Both Goard and Holmes

welcomed the concept of additional specialists to help, for example, in mental health crisis situations, but Holmes added some points to consider. He noted that it’s difficult to find mental health experts who are available to work alongside the 24/7 hours of a police department. Another point was that a person in need of care is not always simply a danger to themselves.

“A lot of times, we’re getting people who are trying to harm other family members or individuals, and you definitely need a police response for that,” Holmes said, adding even the fire department members won’t enter particular situations until the police have deemed it safe. “I think that we will probably find it could be similar for some of these crisis teams.”

However, Holmes noted the cycle of drug abuse and mental health crises to require ongoing services; officers oftentimes get caught in that cycle. He said he would like to see more of a symbiotic partnership and support for those individuals beyond calls for service.

“We could provide security while (the crisis teams) go to the scene, and our officers could see the different tactics used by these professionals,” he added. “I think it could be a great relationship, a great model we could have with those individuals. Police departments have been asking for

this for years, and it’s been very challenging to get it.”

Goard also touched on the concern that police departments are conducting their own internal investigations of officers. Many have said that this process could lead to law enforcement turning a blind eye to poor behavior on a regular basis, creating a systemic issue.

“Ultimately, the city council and mayor are the oversight for the agency, and our team reports directly to them,” Goard said. “But in regard to us investigating ourselves, the only things the department is investigating are policy violations, and then the district attorney steps in to determine if it was lawful. We don’t investigate ourselves for criminal activity ... But I’ll be honest with you, no good cop wants a bad cop working with them; we don’t want those people in our profession. Are there mistakes that people make? Absolutely. But there’s no excuse for lying. There’s no excuse for excessive force.”

On their respective websites, the LPD and the PPD post annual reports, showcasing use of force alongside arrests and crime activity.

According to the LPD’s 2018 report, staff handled 65,676 calls for service and made 3,316 arrests. It had 77 reported uses of force by officers. The department received and investigated 13 formal complaints against

personnel. Goard reported the publication of its most recent report was delayed due to COVID-19, but he added that the LPD had more than 67,000 calls for service and only 49 uses of force last year. LPD’s reports do not note if any arrest-related deaths occurred from use of force.

In Pleasanton, the 2019 report indicated that out of the 65,565 calls for service, 38 involved use of force — 28 of which were control holds, one kinetic energy device, one canine apprehension, five Safewraps and two carotid restraints. PPD’s reports also do not indicate arrest-related deaths. At least three arrest-related deaths have occurred in the city since 2015 – John Deming, 2015; Shannon Estil, 2017; and Jacob Bauer, 2018.

In conjunction with the city’s communications team, Dublin police services will soon roll out an annual report, Holmes said.

Goard further noted that while his department has a progressive approach to adopting new training in response to situations that evolve across the country, the topic of reform further enhances the opportunity to open communication between the public and officers.

Holmes agreed, stating, “We appreciate the community’s support and look forward to ongoing conversations.”

OBITUARIES

Ethan Platt  
Feb. 4, 1918 – May 22, 2020



Ethan Allen Platt died of kidney failure on May 22, 2020, at the age of 102. He was born in Decatur, Illinois, the youngest of four children. At age 6, the family moved to Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. While completing three years at the University of Illinois, he worked for the Illinois State Geological Survey. Ethan enlisted in the Army in March 1941. He was assigned to the Coast Artillery and spent 15 months in Peru training the Peruvian Marines on proper firing of their coastal guns guarding their oil fields. He was redirected to Officers' Candidate School where he received his commission. He earned his wings as a paratrooper at Fort Benning, Georgia. Later, he was deployed to the Philippines for the planned invasion of Japan. After the atomic bomb was dropped, Ethan was sent to Japan on the first day of the occupation. He became Unit Commander overseeing the removal and disposition of Japanese explosives stored in the caves there.

In 1947, Ethan resumed his college academics at UC Berkeley. In 1949 he married Elisabeth Frazier and in 1951 received his BS in Mechanical Engineering. He was a member of Tau Beta Pi and Phi Beta Kappa. Upon graduation he was called back to active service for the Korean War where he spent the winter and summer of 1952 as a combat infantryman.

Ethan's career at Livermore Lawrence National Laboratory began in 1952, shortly after it opened. For the next 10 years, he participated in all of the nuclear tests in the Pacific and in Nevada. In 1958, he received

his masters degree in nuclear engineering from UC Berkeley. He spent several years on a Ramjet reactor before joining Z-Division where he worked for 10 years. He was engineer-at-large in the Engineering Sciences Division and the Research Engineering Division. He retired in 1984 after 32 years.

Classical music formed an important part of his life from a young age. He was charter president of the Livermore Symphony where he played clarinet and served as manager for 20 years. He also founded the Livermore Woodwind Quintet.

Ethan is survived by his wife of 44 years, Marguerite; sons, Spencer (Margot) and George (Annalisa); and daughter, Emily Rich (Rob). He is also survived by stepsons, Larry Robertson and Scott Robertson (Terry); and stepdaughter, Susan Thomas (David). Interment was at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery. A gathering of family and friends will be at a later date.

Franklin Jay “Frank” Holcomb  
May 1, 1928 – June 15, 2020

Franklin Jay Holcomb, born May 1, 1928, to Edgar Jay and Geraldine Ford Holcomb in Massena, New York, passed away on June 15, 2020, at the age of 92. A resident of Livermore since 1968, he was a retiree of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Frank graduated from Massena High School in 1946 and attended the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. His first Navy assignment was aboard the USS Estes, being retrofitted at Hunters Point, San Francisco, before deployment to Japan and Korea. To him, the Bay Area was paradise. A year later, he was transferred and spent 18 months aboard the USS Hank, based on the East Coast. His final Navy service was as an instructor for the Navy Supply Corps School, then operating out of Athens, Georgia.

His first civilian job was for Gulf Oil at its division office in Philadelphia. Shortly after arriving in Philadelphia in 1956, he met Jeanne Peggs, the girl who would later become

his wife. They were married in June, 1958, and moved to Teaneck, New Jersey. While Jeanne taught at Fairlawn High School in Fairlawn, New Jersey, Frank studied for a degree in industrial engineering at Columbia University in New York.

In June, 1959 they moved to Jupiter, Florida, where Frank worked for Pratt & Whitney. In 1963, the family, now with a young son and daughter, moved to Palo Alto, California, where Frank worked for Control Data in software development. Paradise was revisited!

While at Control Data, he attended Stanford University as part of the Honors Cooperative Program. In June, 1967, he received an advanced degree in industrial engineering. A year later, the family moved to Livermore where Frank began a 25-year career at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab.

At the LLNL, he worked in Administrative Data Processing, the Budget Office, Plant Engineering, and Lasers, designing and building financial management systems. He was

controller of the Nova Laser Construction Project, using a system he installed. After the Nova project, he did financial system planning for the National Ignition Facility, the largest construction project ever undertaken at LLNL.

While at LLNL, he was active in the Toastmaster’s Club, serving a term as president. He was the manager of a Little League Baseball team sponsored by LLNL’s Recreation Association and later served on the LLNL Recreation Association’s Board. After his retirement, he served on the executive board of LLNL’s UNCLE Credit Union. Since 1968, he had been a loyal fan of both the A’s and the Raiders.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Jeanne, of Livermore; a son, Steven Holcomb, of San Diego; a daughter, Nancy Thompson (Brad), of Walnut Creek, California; and grandchildren Trevor and Marissa Thompson of Walnut Creek.

Interment was at Memory Gardens in Livermore.

Joyce Yvonne Mainzer Requa  
Feb. 26, 1941 – May 23, 2020

Joyce Yvonne Mainzer Requa passed away on May 23, 2020, with her daughter by her side, after a series of health challenges over the past year that quickly and unexpectedly escalated. She is survived by her husband of almost 57 years, Joseph Requa; her daughter, Gail Requa; half-sister, Joan Finch; cousin, Jeanette Stewart; and treasured friends.

Joyce was a Bay Area native, born in Albany, California. Growing up she lived in Berkeley, Walnut Creek, and Oakland, California, and

graduated from Oakland High School. She met her future husband, Joe, at the University of California, Berkeley Masonic Club. After being married, the couple spent two years in Champaign, Illinois, where Joyce worked at the University of Illinois library, before returning to settle in Livermore.

Joyce loved music and played piano by ear. She appreciated all things Egyptian. She was part of a ‘gourmet club’ long before being a “foodie” was fashionable. She loved to cook and bake and was

unafraid to try new things. She also enjoyed trivia, crossword puzzles, comics, puns, and anything red or featuring a hippo or a cat. She danced and was a league bowler. She read voraciously, especially English mysteries and historical fiction. She was an accomplished needle pointer, leaving behind many beautiful treasures. She adored animals of every shape and size, especially her cat companions.

Joyce’s greatest joy was being a wife and mother. She worked in the school library,

attended dance and piano recitals, and actively supported her daughter’s many other activities. She was resilient, persevering through two bouts of cancer, achieving remission from both. She was a good friend. She always did her best to express her love and support for her family, and her small touches and words of constant love will be sorely missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to support the World Wildlife Foundation or a local animal rescue organization.

Doris Helen Sola Linker  
Dec. 25, 1929 – June 18, 2020



Doris Linker, of Lodi, California, joined her husband, Henry Linker, on June 6, 2020. A former resident of Livermore, she will be missed by her children, Craig Linker, of Lodi, and Terry Cuellar, of Livermore. She will also be missed by her grandchildren, Tania Panarello (Rick) and Frank Cuellar (Jennifer), and her great grandchildren, Kaitlyn Cuellar, and Dominic and Vincent Panarello, all of whom live in Livermore. Due to the situation with the coronavirus, there will be no viewing or memorial service. Donations to Doris’ favorite charity, the SPCA, would be greatly appreciated in lieu of flowers.



## Scout Making Face Shields for Frontline Workers

Using a personal 3-D printer, Kai Gottschalk, a member of Boy Scout Troop 941 in Pleasanton, has produced nearly 4,000 protective face shields for healthcare providers and other front-line workers across the country.

The first of the face shields, made with clear sheets of plastic and hard-plastic head bands, went to NorCal Ambulance, which serves communities throughout northern California, including the Tri-Valley.

Face shields have also been sent to Highland Hospital in Oakland, Kaiser Permanente, St. Rose Hospital in Hayward, the Livermore Optometry Group, Uni-

versity of Miami Hospital, George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C., Princeton University and Capital Health Hospital in New Jersey, and Waste Management.

Gottschalk said he was inspired to make face shields to protect healthcare workers and others from the coronavirus by a family friend in the medical field. After searching the internet, Gottschalk found a video explaining how to create face shields using a 3-D printer. He has since recruited friends and other Scouts from Troop 941 to help.

Donations to help Gottschalk purchase supplies can

be made at [www.troop941.org/faceshields](http://www.troop941.org/faceshields).



Kai Gottschalk

## Foundation Awards Scholarships to UC Merced Students

The Livermore Lab Foundation has awarded scholarships to two seniors at the University of California, Merced.

Receiving the one-year, \$15,000 scholarships were Jose Garcia-Esparza, of Clovis, who is studying

computer science and engineering, and Teagan Zuniga, a political science major from Modesto.

The scholarships include the opportunity to participate in Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Data Science Summer Institute as well as an internship at LLNL throughout the academic year. Both students began their internships on May 26.

"We were delighted to award these first-ever UC Merced scholarships to two very worthy students," said Dona Crawford, chair of the Livermore Lab Foundation. "Both Jose and Teagan have been interested in STEM-related programs and specifically data science and its real-world applications. They are great role models for our future generation of scientists and engineers."

UC Merced opened in 2005 as the newest member of the University of California system,

This is the second year the Livermore Lab Foundation has awarded one-year scholarships to local university undergraduate students. Alan Noun, a Modesto resident attending California State University, East Bay, was the first recipient in 2019. Noun graduated in May and plans to become a

software developer.

"Our Foundation is establishing strong relationships with both UC Merced and Cal State East Bay," noted Crawford. "We will continue to identify opportunities that 'open the door' to the future for all who are interested in STEM in the greater Bay Area and Central Valley."

## Interscholastic Federation to Decide by July If High School Fall Sports Can Proceed

The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), the governing body for high school sports, said last week that it would decide by July 20 whether fall sports can proceed as scheduled.

In a news release, the CIF added it is "prepared to offer alternative calendars if it is determined...that Fall sports may not start as scheduled due to ongoing public health and safety concerns."

The CIF said it "believes education-based athletics and all co-curricular activities are essential to the physical, mental, and social well-being of students and realizes the impact and challenges that COVID-19 has caused for our member schools and education-based athletics."

But the agency said it was continuing to monitor guidelines and health orders issued by the Governor's Office, the California Department of Education, and county health departments.

"As we look to the upcoming 2020-2021 school year and sports seasons,

our main priority remains everyone's ongoing health and safety during this challenging time," according to the CIF statement.

High school sports were shut down in mid-March, when California schools were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Jose Garcia-Esparza



Teagan Zuniga

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, June 27, 7 to 10 p.m.**  
**Alameda County Fairgrounds Drive-In Concerts**

Park and watch three awesome, well-known tribute bands: Stung – Police Tribute; Heartless – Heart Tribute; and Queen Nation – Queen Tribute. For tickets, visit [www.alamedacountyfair.com/events](http://www.alamedacountyfair.com/events).

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday through July 26, 2:45 p.m.**  
**Watch Live Horse Racing at Trackside Terrace Outdoor Patio Dining**

Fantastic view of the track. Watch live racing while you dine. Each guest must purchase a meal to enter the Alameda County Fairgrounds and Trackside Terrace. For more information, visit [www.alamedacountyfair.com](http://www.alamedacountyfair.com).

**July 6 – 10, July 20 – 24, Aug. 3 – 7 Summer Art at the Bothwell**

Bothwell will host art class for kids, ages 4 -17. Each week has a different theme, and many different media will be used: watercolor, acrylic, collage, mixed media, clay, chalk, charcoal and pencil. Multiple fun projects will be created. The Bothwell is carefully following all safety measures to keep everyone safe while having fun learning art skills. Enrollment is limited in keeping with current Alameda County restrictions. For more information and to register, visit [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org).

**Tuesday, July 7th - August Online Music "Summer Camps" with Kim Luty**

"Summer Singers" classes are now offered for ages 7 to 18. Students will be divided into age groups. Sessions offer fun theme music while working on vocal techniques and reading music. Kindergarten Music Adventures, for ages 6 -7, is designed to help youngsters build their foundations in music, while learning summer songs and play education music themed games. No experience necessary. All meetings take place on Zoom. For more information, visit [www.kimluty.com](http://www.kimluty.com) or email to [Kimmyluty@gmail.com](mailto:Kimmyluty@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, July 7, 6 p.m.**  
**How To Make A Song**

This online course with Chris Ansuini is designed to answer one question: how to make a song for ages 12 and older. Discussing song structure, music theory and how to use different sounds to create new flavors. For more information and to register, visit [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org).

**Thursday, July 16, 5 p.m.**  
**StarsDay Open Mic Returns to Livermore Valley Performing Arts**

Second annual Dreamcatcher competition by performing online from your home or studio. Any local musician, vocalist or spoken word artist can enter for \$10. (must register by July 13). Or tune in to watch a wealth of talent in our community. For more information or to sign up, visit [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org).

**Thursday, July 23, to Sunday, July 26 Livermore Valley Wine Foundation Auction**

Benefiting Livermore Schools Lunch Program, the auction will run concurrently with virtual events in place of traditional Taste of Terroir. For more information visit [www.lvwf.org](http://www.lvwf.org).

**Saturday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.**  
**Valley Dance Theatre's Celebrates 40th Anniversary Season**

Join Valley Dance Theatre in celebrating 40 years. Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals offers a delightful menagerie, from playful hens and hilarious donkeys to a regal elephant and graceful swan. Masquerade and Less is More, inspired by Khachaturian's Gayane Ballet Suite with its famous Sabre Dance, uses simple black and white costumes to highlight the precision and beauty of ballet technique. Live music will be provided by the Valley Dance Theatre Orchestra. For more information, visit <https://www.valleydancetheatre.com/>.

**Sunday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m.**  
**Starbright Entertainment presents Life in the Fast Lane**

In a tribute to one of the most successful bands of all times, The Eagles, this production is truly the most authentic. Performances will be held at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore. For more information, visit [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org) or call 925-373-6800.

### ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

**Dublin Farmers Market Open for the Season**

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

**Livermore Downtown Farmers Market Open for the Season**

Open Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Carnegie Park, 2152 Second St. Open Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Carnegie Park in Downtown Livermore.

**Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season**

Open Saturdays, at Main Street and West Angela Street. Hours are 9 to 10 a.m. for seniors 60 and over, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the general public.

**Livermore Valley Opera Airs Friday Episodes**

Need a dose of opera while on lock-down? Check out LV Opera on YouTube. New releases every Friday at 7 p.m. Pacific Time. To subscribe, visit <https://www.livermorevalleyopera.com/>.

**Six Feet Apart Productions Shares Art From a Distance**

Sunday Night Stories is an online show with people telling true stories, poetry, comedy, music and more. An eclectic mix of entertainment to feel connected in times of social distancing and self-isolation, live every week. Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Visit [facebook.com/pg/Six-Foot-Apart](https://facebook.com/pg/Six-Foot-Apart)

[Productions eventbrite.com/e/sunday-night-stories](https://Productions.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-night-stories).

**Stress Relief Recovery International**

A confidential peer-led self-help group for stress relief will take place Sundays, at 2 p.m. via conference call. Practicing a method developed 80 years ago by psychiatrist Abraham A. Low to replace the "defeatist babble of the brain" with secure thinking that helps us cope with the stressful events in our everyday lives. Call 515-604-9094 ID 192451547 #.

**VIRTUAL ONLINE EVENTS -AVAILABLE ANYTIME**

**Bringing Back the Natives Garden Virtual Tour**

Looking to break away from traditional "mow and blow" yards? For beautiful ideas on how to create a sustainable yard, visit [https://bit.ly/Indy\\_Native\\_Gardens](https://bit.ly/Indy_Native_Gardens). Or visit <https://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/>.

**EBRPD Brings "Parks to People"**

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is committed to the idea of lifelong learning and helping people make their own discoveries about local parks. These resources are designed to be used at home, in a classroom or part of any online learning. For more information visit [https://www.ebparks.org/activities/digital\\_learning/default.htm](https://www.ebparks.org/activities/digital_learning/default.htm).

**LARPD Features Stay & Play**

Livermore Area Recreation & Park District virtual recreation program "Stay & Play" is loaded with opportunities for learning, exploration and fun while you shelter-at-home. This site will be updated weekly with new educational, activities to do at home, social media challenges and special events, check in often for new activities visit <https://www.larpd.org/Stay-n-Play>.

**LARPD Now on YouTube**

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

**Livermore Public Library Summer Reading**

2020 Summer reading program has four program levels all free of charge. From June 1 to Aug. 12, pre-readers, independent readers, teens and adults may register for their summer reading game boards on the library's website at [www.LivermoreLibrary.net](http://www.LivermoreLibrary.net). For more information, call 925-373-5500.

**Livermore Shakespeare Festival Launches Video Series**

Explore Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Video Series for second to fourth grade. New lessons added weekly. Visit <http://livermoreshakes.org/educates/>.

**Music Together Tri-Valley Supports Early Childhood Development**

This international award-winning early childhood music program supports parents with songs and musical activities to enjoy with their children through play-based learning curriculum, designed to help everyone learn to sing in tune and keep a beat. For more information, visit <https://www.musictogether.com/>.

**Online Yoga with Lakshmi Sajith**

Find free online yoga live sessions or recorded on Lakshmi Sajith's blog. Specifically designed for those who are going through stress and anxiety, yoga practice creates a sense of well-being. For more information, email [lakshmi2sajith@gmail.com](mailto:lakshmi2sajith@gmail.com).

**Pacific Chamber Orchestra Offers Musical Podcast**

During this time of challenge, PCO continues to bring you beautiful music made insightful. Conductor Lawrence Kohl is pleased to announce the launch of a series of podcast of musician interview and talks about the music. Subscribe to listen at <https://www.pacificchamberorchestra.org/>

**Sandra J Wing Healing Therapies Foundation Hosts Virtual Meditation**

During these unprecedented times, SJWHTF continues to look to therapies for hope and healing. Ira Stein offers 30-minute meditation, entitled: Concentric Circles. Visit <https://www.healingtherapies-foundation.org/concentric-circles/>.

**Sun's Out Fun's Out 5K Virtual Fun Run**

Alameda County Fair Benefiting Sunflower Hill Virtual Fun Run June 19th – June 28th. Choose to run or walk, choose to race a 5k or 1 mile, choose your own trail, choose a day and time between June 19th and June 28th. This is a race for all athletic abilities and ages. Receive 1 FREE 2021 Fair Admission Ticket when you register, Free virtual fitness class, downloadable race bib, downloadable finisher certificate, downloadable medal, hashtags to post your accomplishment, downloadable sprint signage. Support a good cause while enjoying the outdoors and staying healthy. To register visit <https://alamedacountyfair.com/>

**Valley Children's Museum Online Programming**

VCM has put together some fun, self-led, open-ended STEAM learning projects for kids. Check out the do-it-yourself science videos created and presented by local high school students of the Teen Leadership Council. Subscribe to the mailing list, the Valley Children's Museum YouTube channel and follow on facebook.com/ValleyChildrensMuseum, <https://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org/programs>, <https://www.valleychildrensmuseum.org/teen-council>.

## Education News

**Costello Receives Dual Degrees from Susquehanna**  
Lena Costello, from Dublin, graduated Summa Cum Laude with Departmental Honors from Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania, receiving dual bachelor's degrees in theater and music. Costello, a graduate of Holy Names High School in Oakland, California, also toured with the Susquehanna University Choir in March.

**Durst Earns Degree in Computer Science**  
Robert S. Durst, from Dublin, has received a bachelor's degree in computer science from Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Durst, who attended Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, is the son of Steven and Lisa Durst.

**Danner Named to Dean's List at Adelphi**  
Desire Danner, from Dublin, was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Adelphi University in Garden City, New York. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a GPA of 3.5 or better.

**Fan Graduates Cum Laude at Hamilton College**  
Bryce Fan, from Pleasanton, has graduated Cum Laude with Departmental Honors from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, earning a bachelor's degree in Chinese and government.



## ATTENTION LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESS!

Let us know what activities, classes, entertainment and virtual events you are offering as we shelter in place.

Get the word out about your event by entering it online at

[independentnews.com/calendar](http://independentnews.com/calendar) or emailing it to [calendar@independentnews.com](mailto:calendar@independentnews.com) for print.

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DUBLIN

(Continued from first page)

couldn't recall a project that had been as generous as far as impact fees and benefits were concerned.

"I would caution you to proceed with extreme caution, because we are seeing as close as Lafayette where they abjectly refuse (to build) and the decision is being taken out of their hands," Regan said. "I would urge you to approve this great project, or you face the potential of (another project) being approved without input or community benefits."

The At Dublin project, a 79.9-acre proposal bordering Tassajara Road, Interstate 580, Brannigan Street and Gleason Drive, calls for 566 residential units and 240,000 square feet of commercial space. The project was planned to include apartments, detached small-lot single-family

homes, senior housing, retail development and other infrastructure and landscape improvements. The current general plan allows for 261 residential units and 902,563 square feet of commercial development on the parcels. Approval of the project would have required amending the city's general plan and the Eastern Dublin Specific Plan.

But a lack of traffic impact considerations, among other items – including the future planned high school near the project – proved problematic for the council and some of the community.

"We're outraged that this has been called good for the community," said Dublin resident Shirley Lewdandowski. "You have the right to turn down this project ... please listen to the residents and not the developers."

David Burrows agreed, urging the council to reject the project.

"We as residents will make every effort to replace the council members who ignore the overwhelming input from the community that now is not the right time to rezone for more housing," Burrows said. "It would be better to leave this important property vacant for a time than to take this bum deal."

Kevin Fryer, with Shea Homes, said that traffic impact studies had been conducted taking into account afternoon traffic, but not morning traffic. It remained a sticking point for members of the council in their final decision.

"We want to continue to try and find a way to move the project forward," said Fryer. "I don't think that the project is un-

salvageable. But I'm not sure that I know exactly what the road is to success here."

In the end, the council agreed. "(Shea has) the opportunity to work with the community; they have the opportunity to work with us ... but they know the mountain they have to climb," said Mayor David Haubert. "If they decide not to come back, they don't come back."

The proposed project was the third attempt by developers to claim the same property. In 2013, SummerHill Homes tried twice to build, but was unsuccessful. In 2015, Trumark developers also presented to the council for a similar yet smaller project, to no avail.

For additional information, visit <https://dublin.ca.gov/>.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: McIntyre Insurance Services, 277 McLeod Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Timothy D. McIntyre Inc., Inc. 2478 Robinson Circle, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: December 31, 1999. Signature of Registrant/s: Timothy D. McIntyre, President/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2020. Expires May 4, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4714. Published June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: Next level Protection LLC dba NX Level Disinfection, 2023 Murdell Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Next level Protection LLC, Inc. 2023 Murdell Lane, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Diane P. Pahler, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 20, 2020. Expires May 20, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4715. Published June 11, 18, 25, July, 2, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Roadway Intelligence 2. Roadway Media 3. Corporate Certificate School, 1970 Chalon Glen CT., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Road Intelligence, Inc. 1970 Chalon Glen CT., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Pallab Chatterjee, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 18, 2020. Expires May 18, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4716. Published June 11, 18, 25, July, 2, 2020.

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CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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



Adopt a new best friend TVAR Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm. Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 11am to 3pm.

Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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

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

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

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

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

TO PLACE CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

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114) FOR SALE

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127) LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

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REAL ESTATE

170) LAND FOR RENT

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

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

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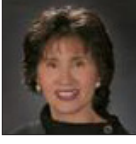
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Local guide to the Valley's Leading Real Estate Professionals & Services

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Artists continue to beautify Livermore as part of the Only Up Mural Festival. Timothy B. of Oakland paints a two-sided mural with walls facing Third Street on one side, and the Second Street Bank of the West on the other. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Farmers Market Manager Resigns after Confronting Vendor

By David Chircop

The Livermore Farmers Market (LFM) canceled operations for June 18 and 21 and is currently looking for a new market manager following the release of a controversial video.

The footage shows Gail Hayden, Executive Director of the California Farmers Market Association (CFMA) – the organization that served as the LFM’s market manager until its June 16 resignation – berating a vendor for handing out rainbow flags to shoppers.

Dan Floyd, owner of Dan Good Cookies, was handing out the flags with Amy Pannu, executive director of Livermore Pride, on Sunday, June 7, when they were confronted by Hayden, who said they were violating

market rules. According to Livermore Pride, a local organization supporting the LGBTQ+ community, Hayden demanded they stop at once.

In a written response on its website, Livermore Pride said it believes the pair was targeted for representing the LGBTQ+ community.

“Nothing else explains the outright vitriol and weighted language used in this recording,” the organization stated.

The last three minutes of the heated encounter were captured in a video that the local pride group posted to YouTube. It quickly generated outrage on social media and brought a parade of TV news crews to town. It also caused many members of the community to rally in

support of Floyd and Pannu.

In the video, Hayden does not elaborate on what rules handing out free flags violated. However, based on Hayden’s comments about political activity, Livermore Pride wrote it appears she was referring to rules in the vendor agreement that prohibit leafleting and petitioning inside the market.

In response to the video, scores of people, including Mayor John Marchand, placed orders with the Dan Good Cookies retail store to show their support. On the store’s webpage, Floyd said he has had to stop temporarily accepting orders because of the overwhelming response. An online petition demanding a change of management at the farmers market had collected

nearly 1,600 signatures as of Wednesday afternoon.

Calls to the CFMA seeking comment for this story were not returned.

## Alameda Relaxes Business Restrictions

Alameda County further relaxed its COVID-19 restrictions on businesses as of Friday, June 19.

Under new orders issued by interim Health Officer Erica Pan, outdoor museums and fitness classes, restaurants with outdoor seating, and both indoor and outdoor retail stores are allowed to reopen, but still must follow social distancing guidelines and limits on capacity.

Churches will be allowed to resume indoor services, but must limit the number of congregants to no more than 100 or 25% of building capacity, whichever is less. Nevertheless, the order “strongly” recommends that churches continue to hold services online, especially for high-risk worshipers, or limit attendance to no more than 25 and hold services outdoors.

Regardless of the relaxed restrictions, the revised order still urges individuals and businesses to focus primarily on pick-up and delivery options to limit lines and crowds.

“The indicators we monitor to determine if we should

continue moving forward through reopening are stable or improving,” Pan said. “We will continue to have more cases [of COVID-19], but the steady increase in hospitalizations and the steep increase in the case rate we were seeing in late May has slowed and the hospitalizations have stabilized. We are also making significant progress in expanding and improving the efficiency of our contact tracing teams.”

The county expects to loosen restrictions in 2 to 4-week increments, according to its reopening plan.

The last updated order, issued on June 8, relaxed restrictions on extracurricular youth activities, daycare centers and camps. However, it required all persons over age 12 to wear face masks when out in public, within 30-feet of anyone not in their “social bubble”, or at work.

The county defines a “social bubble” as a “stable group of not more than 12 individuals, who may attend outdoor social or other events together.” Social bubble may involve more than one family group, but no one may

participate in more than one social bubble.

“I’m glad to see that we can take this step forward as a county,” said District 1 Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who represents Dublin, Livermore and much of the unincorporated area of the Livermore-Amador Valley.

“It’s important to have parity across our small and large businesses, as well as across the region,” Haggerty said. “The health of Alameda County residents is paramount and I’m confident that our restaurants, retailers and faith communities will prioritize the safety of their staff, customers, and community.”

Businesses allowed to operate under the health officer orders must complete site-specific protection planning that includes physical distancing, disinfecting and cleaning protocols, and employee training to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Restaurants are expected to work with the county’s Department of Environmental Health and their respective cities on their plans for outdoor dining.

## Small Businesses Receive \$5,000 in Grants

More than 150 small businesses in Livermore, Dublin, Fremont and eastern Alameda County have received \$5,000 each from the Alameda County District 1 Small Business Grant program to provide some relief from the loss of revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Business owners may use the grants, which come from the county’s general

fund, to pay employees, make rent payments, cover operating expenses, or for working capital. As grants, the funds do not need to be repaid.

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty announced the grant program in late May. To be eligible, businesses needed to be independently or locally owned, with a physical location in District 1, and less

than \$3 million in annual revenues.

The focus was on restaurants and small retail outlets, while professional services and home-based businesses were not eligible.

Haggerty’s office said 90% of the grant program’s \$875,000 had been distributed as of this week. The program will continue through June, or until all the funds have been allocated.

## PLEASANTON

(Continued from first page)

on behalf of his students and his two children, who are in Pleasanton schools. Maria White, a science teacher at Amador, asked when teachers will be able to work on report cards and conferences.

But the district officials emphasize accepting the furlough would be up to teachers, administrators and classified employees to accept or decline as part of their negotiated contracts.

There is some flexibility in the furlough approach. For example, if a furlough day

were established in October, a second furlough set for December might be canceled, based on the availability of federal money, said Gannon.

Otherwise, there may have to be summer layoffs; PUSD would lose those staff to neighboring districts.

The district continues to explore options on its path to bring a \$12 million debt to \$11 million. Once confirmed, it will submit those options to the Alameda County Office of Education.

One option involved sell-

ing district property, such as a Neal School site or the upper place fields next to school headquarters on Bernal Avenue. But as far as trustee Valerie Arkin is concerned, that won’t work. The district stenographer pointed out the need for building north side schools in the future. The potential sale money should be kept for future construction needs, said Arkin.

The PUSD will have another virtual meeting Thursday, June 25, at 5 p.m., to further discuss the budget.

## BROWN

(Continued from first page)

believes strongly that his personal and professional background make him uniquely qualified to steer Pleasanton in the right direction.

“I attribute much of my personal and professional success to being a sincere listener, to acknowledging all sides of a situation and

working collaboratively to find a solution with the highest and greatest benefit to all,” he stated.

For more information on Randy’s campaign, visit [www.RandyForPleasanton.com](http://www.RandyForPleasanton.com) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RandyForPleasanton](https://www.facebook.com/RandyForPleasanton).

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5925 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 100  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925-201-6068  
[Axishealth.org](http://Axishealth.org)

### Big Bay Ray, Inc.

[Bigbayray16@gmail.com](mailto:Bigbayray16@gmail.com)  
925-523-3133  
[Bigbayray.com](http://Bigbayray.com)

### Cantabella Children’s Chorus

P.O. Box 131  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-292-2663  
[Cantabella.org](http://Cantabella.org)

### Community Health Education Fund

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

### Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 1586  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-421-1351  
[cyttrivalley.org](http://cyttrivalley.org)

### CityServe of Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 1613  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-223-6947  
[cityservetrivalley.org](http://cityservetrivalley.org)

### Culinary Angels

4435 First St., #142  
Livermore, CA 94550  
[CulinaryAngels.org](http://CulinaryAngels.org)

### Drivers For Survivors

39270 Paseo Padre Pkwy #335  
Fremont, CA 94536  
510-369-5770  
[driversforsurvivors.org](http://driversforsurvivors.org)

### Exceptional Needs Network

P.O. Box 3149  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-215-2281  
[ennetwork.org](http://ennetwork.org)

### Fertile GroundWorks

4743 East Avenue  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-344-9090  
[Fertilegroundworks.org](http://Fertilegroundworks.org)

### Friends of Open Space and Vineyards

P.O. Box 1191  
Livermore, CA 94551  
[fov.org](http://fov.org)

### Hope Hospice

6377 Clark Ave.  
Dublin, CA 94568  
925-829-8770  
[HopeHospice.com/donate](http://HopeHospice.com/donate)

### Interfaith Sharing Inc.

678 Enos Way  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-366-5567  
[saintbartsLivermore.com](http://saintbartsLivermore.com)

### Livermore Art Association

P.O. Box 216  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-449-9927  
[Livermoreartassociation.org](http://Livermoreartassociation.org)

### Livermore Filipino-American Organization, Inc.

P.O. Box 172  
Livermore, CA 94551  
[Livermorefilam.org](http://Livermorefilam.org)

### Livermore Homeless Refuge

4743 East Ave.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-895-4167  
[HomelessRefugeLivermore.com](http://HomelessRefugeLivermore.com)

### Livermore Lab Foundation

c/o UC Office of National Labs  
1111 Broadway, Suite 2130  
Oakland, CA 94607  
925-453-9382  
[Livermorelabfoundation.org](http://Livermorelabfoundation.org)

### Livermore Lions Club

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

### Livermore Valley Opera

P.O. Box 1002  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-321-6964  
[Livermorevalleyopera.com](http://Livermorevalleyopera.com)

### Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center

2400 First St.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-373-6100  
[LivermoreArts.com](http://LivermoreArts.com)

### NAMI Tri-Valley

P.O. Box 5563  
Pleasanton CA 94566  
925-980-5331  
[www.nami-trivalley.org](http://www.nami-trivalley.org)

### Open Heart Kitchen

1141 Catalina Dr. # 137,  
Livermore CA 94550  
(mailing address only)  
925-580-1616  
[OpenHeartKitchen.org](http://OpenHeartKitchen.org)

### Partners for Change Tri-Valley

4743 East Ave.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
650-474-9962  
[pfctv.org](http://pfctv.org)

### Paws In Need

[Info@Paws-In-Need.org](mailto:Info@Paws-In-Need.org)  
925-551-1877  
[Paws-In-Need.org](http://Paws-In-Need.org)

### Reins In Motion

Therapeutic Riding Program  
P.O. Box 1001  
Livermore, CA 94551  
[reinsinmotionca.com](http://reinsinmotionca.com)

### Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

5890 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 104  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
866-862-7270  
[HealingTherapiesFoundation.org](http://HealingTherapiesFoundation.org)

### Senior Support Program of The Tri-Valley

5353 Sunol Blvd.  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925-931-5378  
[SSPTV.org](http://SSPTV.org)

### Shepherds Gate

1660 Portola Ave.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-443-4283  
[ShepherdsGate.org](http://ShepherdsGate.org)

### SPECTRUM Community Services, Inc

2621 Barrington Ct.  
Hayward, CA 94545  
510-881-0300  
[SpectrumCS.org](http://SpectrumCS.org)

### Sunflower Hill

[info@sunflowerhill.org](mailto:info@sunflowerhill.org)  
925-800-1042  
[SunFlowerhill.org](http://SunFlowerhill.org)

### The Taylor Family Foundation

P.O. Box 2450  
Livermore CA, 94551  
925-455-5118  
[TTFF.org](http://TTFF.org)

### Tri-Valley Conservancy

1457 First St.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-449-8706  
[Trivalleyconservancy.org](http://Trivalleyconservancy.org)

### Tri-Valley Haven

3663 Pacific Ave.  
Livermore, CA 94551  
925-449-5842  
[TriValleyHaven.org](http://TriValleyHaven.org)

### Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance

P.O. Box 2467  
Livermore, CA 94550  
[TVNPA.org](http://TVNPA.org)

### Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

P.O. Box 11143  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
[TVAR.org](http://TVAR.org)

### ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare

1111 E. Stanley Blvd.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925-373-4560  
[GiveValleyCare.org](http://GiveValleyCare.org)

### Valley Children’s Museum

P.O. Box 2102  
Dublin, CA 94568  
[valleychildrensmuseum.org](http://valleychildrensmuseum.org)  
[GiveValleyCare.org](http://GiveValleyCare.org)

### Valley Concert Choral

PO Box 286  
Livermore, CA 94551  
[Valleyconcertchorale.org](http://Valleyconcertchorale.org)

### Valley Humane Society

3670 Nevada St.  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
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