

FOL Lawsuit
States Plans
Violate UGB
County Supervisors
Support Monte Vista

By David Jen

LIVERMORE — The community group Friends of Livermore (FOL) has filed its opening brief for a lawsuit opposing a cemetery and mausoleum project north of the city limits. The case will move forward for a scheduled hearing on June 4.

Open-space advocates FOL filed the lawsuit against Alameda County last September. It seeks to overturn the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approval of Monte Vista Memorial Gardens, a 47-acre cemetery and mausoleum project that would include a funeral home, crematorium and mortuary.

Ronald Kahn, CEO of the Magen David Investment Group, the developer's parent company, said, "The county has changed dramatically. Over the last 20 years,

(See MONTE VISTA, page 6)

Jail Mistake
Leaves Man
Suicidal
According to the
Inmate's Lawsuit

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — A Fremont man who suffers from mental illness has sued Alameda County and the Wellpath healthcare company, charging that he nearly took his own life because Santa Rita Jail officials failed to give him his medication while in custody.

Julian Martinez alleges in his lawsuit filed March 29 in U.S. District Court in San Francisco that he and his wife told authorities that he required medication, but jail staff and a Wellpath nurse "cruelly called" him a liar and refused to provide his pills.

"Predictably, and as a result of Santa Rita Jail employees' deliberate indifference to Mr. Martinez's diagnosed schizophrenia and his necessary medication, his condition rapidly worsened," the lawsuit claims. "Unmedicated, he began experiencing suicidal thoughts."

Deputies and Wellpath medical staff, who provide medical care for Alameda County inmates, never moved

(See JAIL, page 5)



Las Positas College President Dyrell Foster (left) and UC Merced Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz (right) sealed a new partnership Tuesday that will streamline student transfers between the two schools. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

New UC Merced Partnership With Las
Positas College Aids Student Transfers

By Ruth Roberts

LIVERMORE — Las Positas College (LPC) and UC Merced have partnered to streamline student transfers and expand student opportunities through a program called "The Las Positas College Promise."

The official memorandum of understanding between the two colleges was formally announced during a ceremonial signing at LPC on April 16.

"Your presence here today is a testament to the importance of collaboration and our shared commitment to making higher education more accessible to our community," said LPC President Dyrell Foster. "Today, as we sign this memorandum of understanding, we affirm our commitment to Las Positas College students with expanded opportunities for academic and personal growth."

UC Merced Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz praised the country's fourth top community college for its innovative approach to education and dedication to its campus community.

"It's an honor to be here and join in this historic compact," said Muñoz.

He noted that the name of it, "the promise" — the promise of higher education, the promise of public education, the promise of those that invest in institutions, and the promise that institutions make to be a good return on investment — is the essence of this agreement. "And so, we wanted to really emphasize that optimism."

Ronald Gerhard, chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, attended the MOU signing and embraced the new partnership

in his remarks.

Afterward, he explained to The Independent, "We see this MOU as a launch board — a way to offer UC Merced classes at the Las Positas College campus."

While last year saw two LPC students transfer to UC Merced, a major goal of the program is to facilitate 100 new transfers by 2025. To achieve this, the program will, among other things, identify LPC freshmen who might have applied to, but did not get into, UC Merced as high school seniors. It will then help them navigate the classes they need to transfer and achieve the necessary grade credits.

"This is centered on creating pathways from Las Positas to UC Merced for students to complete their bachelor's degrees," said Foster in an interview with The Independent.

(See LAS POSITAS, page 5)

In Response to 2021 Legislation

County Board of Supervisors Hears
Proposals for Sheriff's Oversight

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — More than three years after the California state legislature gave counties the authority to establish civilian oversight of their sheriff's departments, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors now has two proposals placed before them.

Besides establishing a seven-member civilian board to monitor Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) activities and issue reports, both

proposals would create an independent inspector general (IG's) office that would monitor the ACSO's detention operations, conditions and health services in the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin, use-of-force incidents, compliances with civil rights laws public complaints and more.

The basics of each proposal are similar, but contain several major differences. One option would allow the IG to employ independent counsel instead of using the county's

attorneys. That option also would exclude all current and former law enforcement agency employees and non-Alameda County residents from serving on the oversight board. The other option assigns county attorneys to the IG, and allows former law enforcement employees on the board, as well as those living outside Alameda County.

Although neither the oversight board nor IG will have authority to make policy, both will have power to subpoena witnesses to

(See COUNTY, page 6)

Federal Correctional Institution Dublin

Federal Women's
Prison to Close

Bureau Says Shutdown May Be Temporary

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — Federal officials announced Monday they will close their troubled women's prison in Dublin, a facility where staff — including a warden and chaplain — sexually abused inmates for years.

Beset with lawsuits against her agency and pending criminal sexual misconduct charges against corrections officers, Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) Director Colette Peters announced in a statement that shutting FCI Dublin down — at least temporarily — was necessary.

"Over the past several years

at FCI Dublin, the FBOP has taken unprecedented steps and provided a tremendous amount of resources to address culture, recruitment and retention, aging infrastructure — and most critical — employee misconduct," Peters said.

"Despite these steps and resources, we have determined that FCI Dublin is not meeting expected standards and that the best course of action is to close the facility. This decision is being made after ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of those unprecedented steps and additional resources."

Peters indicated, however, that the shutdown might not

(See PRISON, page 5)



The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council held "A Night in Paris" fundraiser at the Veterans Memorial Building last Saturday. All of the profits will go to education programs and events for students and the community. Above, Bob Rizzetto (left) and Reno DiBono (right) add to the Parisian ambiance. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Pleasanton

PUSD Lays Off 47 Staff
Positions in Budget Cuts

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — The Pleasanton Unified School District board has made drastic cuts to their certificated and classified staff in an effort to balance its budget reserves.

The difficult decisions were driven by declining enrollment in the district. The school district was required to submit potential budget cuts to the state by the annual March 15 deadline, which it did. The March date is a formal, written announcement from the district to employees informing them that they may be released for the following school year beginning July 1.

Classified staff reduction cuts will provide an anti-

ipated \$1,718,934 in savings, comprised of two management positions totaling \$438,827 and 25 non-management positions totaling \$1,280,107. Fifteen of the 27 cuts are paraprofessional positions.

Resident Andrea Branson, who has a child with special needs, spoke during public comment at the Feb. 22 regular school board meeting, about the reduction in paraprofessional staff who serve the special education community.

"I understand all the information and I know these are not easy decisions to make," she said. "(But) when you make your decisions based on the paraprofessionals, I would hope that the students who are the

(See PUSD, page 6)



A glider from Soaring Heart Aviation recently parked in front of the Page Mill Winery to raise awareness of the nonprofit, which gives glider rides to sick children. Above, residents Jessica and Craig Hughes try out the cockpit. (Photo – Christina Cavallaro)

'Soaring Heart Aviation' Nonprofit
Gives Glider Rides to Sick Children

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — Kerry Porter's childhood dream was to be a fighter pilot. Unfortunately, his eyesight wasn't 20/20, so that became impossible. But the desire to fly never left him.

"I just always had the burning desire to fly," said Porter.

Instead of fighter planes, he went onto a successful 30-year career in the technology industry. When the last tech company he worked for experienced company-wide layoffs, rather than seeking

another job in his field, he pivoted to making his lifelong dream come true.

"I kind of said to myself, 'I'm not burned out on tech, but I'd really like to do something different. Something to exercise and develop a whole other part of my brain,'" said Porter.

The something, it turns out, also exercised his heart.

"I threw myself into flying and getting Soaring Heart Aviation started," said Porter. "That was five years ago."

Soaring Heart Aviation's mission is to share the gift of flight with everyone, but

in partnership with children's hospitals, particularly with children facing health challenges.

Porter has also joined with fellow glider pilot and Livermore's Page Mill winemaker Dane Stark. Porter recently parked his plane for guests to view at the winery's BYOB wine pick-up day.

A friendship developed between Porter and Stark, who met at a glider club in Byron called the Northern California Soaring Association, through a mutual love of flying. They now often partner their two companies

(See GLIDER, page 6)

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PETS OF THE WEEK



DELIGHTFUL IZZY

Introducing Izzy, the delightful senior seeking her own serene sanctuary. Izzy is a lap-loving, catnip connoisseur who adores feathers, fun and cozy cat trees. Her adoption fee, along with all senior cats in 2024, is waived, thanks to a generous gift made in memory of Patrick Phelan. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. (Photo – Valley Humane Society)

City To Seek Federal Loan To Assist Tri-Valley Haven Shelter Project

By Larry Altman

The city council on Monday approved a plan to seek a \$1.2 million 20-year loan from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help Tri-Valley Haven demolish and rebuild its domestic violence emergency shelter.

The 3-0 vote, with Councilmembers Brittni Kiick and Ben Barrientos absent, authorized city officials to apply for the loan, which is the city's latest effort to help Tri-Valley Haven raze its current buildings and construct new, larger ones that can serve more people.

"I just want to thank (Tri-Valley Haven) for all they do," Councilmember Evan Branning said. "This loan, I think it's a great opportunity for them, and absolutely needed."

If approved by HUD, the loan would go toward a project expected to cost more than \$7.8 million. So far, Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin have committed more than \$774,000 to the project. Tri-Valley Haven has secured more than \$5 million from a variety of sources, including Alameda County Measure A funds, other Alameda County coffers, and private and foundation donations,

a city report said. Some \$800,000 in fundraising would remain.

Tri-Valley Haven's shelter provides safety for adults and children seeking refuge from domestic abuse, but is in a dilapidated condition. Demolition is expected to begin in June with construction on larger buildings to begin in the fall and completion by the end of 2025.

The project will construct a 7,563-square-foot residential building with 14 rooms and 37 beds for tenants. The building will include a kitchen, shared bathrooms, a living area, quiet room, laundry facilities, a dining area and two indoor playrooms. A second building with 3,535 square feet will include apartments with a capacity of 45 beds. A third building will include offices. The project also will feature a large outdoor play area and private courtyard.

Along with the loan application, the council's vote approved a plan to spend HUD Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership funds expected to be allocated to the city for 2024-25. HUD annually disperses funds to cities across the nation for housing and other projects.

Tri-Valley Haven will receive about \$119,000 to provide rental assistance; Adobe Services will receive nearly \$117,000 for rental assistance programs; Open Heart Kitchen will receive \$25,000 for its Senior Meal Program, and Spectrum Community Services will receive \$35,700 for its Meals on Wheels service. Nearly \$200,000 will be sent back to pay toward previous loans related to the Axis Community Health service, the purchase of Hagemann Farms, and for the emergency shelter project.

HUD has not allocated the funds because of federal budgeting delays, and the city will adjust its plan once the money arrives.

Unleaded Aviation Fuel at Livermore Airport

In other council business, three speakers during the meeting's open forum encouraged the city to accelerate the process to require unleaded fuel availability at Livermore Municipal Airport. Five Rivers Aviation, the airport's fixed base operator, sells leaded fuel, or avgas, for use by pilots of small piston-engine aircraft.

Proponents of unleaded fuel cite studies that show increased levels of

lead in children who live near airports. Current unleaded fuel options face development, testing or supply hurdles before they can be used across the country's piston-engine fleet.

Encouraged by residents to act, the city council voted in December 2023 to require Five Rivers to make unleaded fuel available within two years. Five Rivers owner Pete Sandhu said he plans to do so as soon as the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) issues him a permit and he completes several weeks of work necessary to sell the product. He said he hopes to get his permit by May 1.

The speakers, who have raised the unleaded fuel issue at several council meetings, want the city to act this year.

Following their comments, city officials said they were in regular contact with the BAAQMD to seek the permit. Branning said the city wants to act, but must wait for the BAAQMD's process to complete.

Mayor John Marchand, however, said, "Over two-thirds of the fuel that they sell is unleaded," referring to Five Rivers. "It's unleaded aviation fuel."

He disagreed with a story that The Independent had published previously.

In an interview after the meeting, Sandhu said he sells only leaded fuel for use by the small piston-engine aircraft that primarily use Livermore Airport. The unleaded fuel Marchand cited is jet fuel, which is a different formula, for gas-turbine, or jet engines, said Sandhu.

While Five Rivers sells far more jet fuel than avgas, The Independent's coverage of the leaded fuel issue has only dealt with avgas use. The leaded fuel concerns — including discussions from unleaded fuel advocates, the city's own unleaded fuel efforts, and the council's recent unleaded fuel requirement imposed on Five Rivers — only involve avgas.

Annexation of Properties Zoned for Industrial Use

Jean King, a member of the community group Friends of Livermore, supported the city's decision at the council meeting to annex 93 acres of empty land, known as parcels SMP 39 and SMP 40, near the airport.

"Usually, Friends of Livermore wants very much to preserve agriculture and open space, but because of the location of these two properties, which are very close to the airport ... Friends of Livermore is endorsing your idea to make this change," said King.

She noted that the annexation of industrial property within the city would make it unnecessary to break the urban growth boundary east of Greenville Road just to provide industrial land.

GPAC Talks About Energy Independence, Housing Development Outside Urban Growth Boundary Remains Undecided

By David Jen

Energy resiliency, jobs-housing match and a nascent transit center numbered among the range of topics discussed by the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) last week.

GPAC is currently helping the city update its General Plan, which will guide Livermore's development decisions through 2045.

While the 13-member, city council appointed GPAC recently made recommendations for zoning changes within the city, it has now shifted to providing policy suggestions for the Livermore Planning Commission and City Council to consider. The updated General Plan and accompanying environmental impact report are expected later this year, with adoption in early 2025.

Among many topics at the April 10 meeting, Committee Member Asa Strout suggested that the policies explore a community-owned utility grid in Livermore.

"When we talk about PG&E turning power off to parts of Livermore (to serve) other parts of the state, we can be like, 'Well, we're our own thing,'" said Strout.

Community grids offer an alternative to the power distribution infrastructure of large, investor-owned utilities. By relying on local, distributed power sources, such as rooftop solar, these smaller grids can isolate themselves from the larger grid to improve resilience.

Committee Member Alan Burnham added, "I think the question, perhaps, from the city is: does the state policy work for Livermore and, if

not, what might Livermore do as a way of protecting Livermore's power-grid stability."

On the topic of jobs and housing, Committee Member David Kent asked that, instead of simply counting jobs, policies focus on job-housing match. The latter idea considers which Livermore jobs can support living in the city.

"(The term) jobs-housing balance probably works well in a lot of towns," said Kent. "It doesn't work well in this particular town because we have a lot of jobs and we have a lot of houses, but the jobs — especially the jobs in the line industry, the jobs in the outlet malls — are low-paying jobs, so that the people who hold those jobs cannot afford to rent or own a house in this community."

He added that the area's "sudden explosion" in the cost of housing has not seen a corresponding increase in pay.

Brandon Cardwell, city innovation and economic development director, said that because of inflation in housing prices, residents who have owned homes here for a long time may be able to stay, while new residents at the same pay level cannot move here.

Public speakers commented on the balance in regard to the East of Greenville focus area, a city proposal to annex some 1,100 acres of undeveloped land east of Greenville Road and move the city's urban growth boundary (UGB) to build industrial uses there.

Resident Jean King said that development in the area would upset the city's work-

ers-jobs ratio.

"If you did not include East of Greenville, then you would have almost a perfect one-to-one ratio," said King, citing a recent GPAC decision to locate less housing in the Midtown focus area, as well as a city council approval of an additional 93 acres of industrial land near the airport. "If you added in the Greenville area, you would have more jobs than you had for housing."

"I encourage you not to move the urban growth boundary, but to keep it there and have a good ratio from workers to jobs," said King.

While many residents have addressed GPAC in opposition of Greenville development, GPAC has not voted on whether the area should be included in the General Plan update. In the past, GPAC members said that the area's environmental impact and conservation value remained too ambiguous to form a recommendation.

Turning to the city's Midtown focus area, Committee Member Paul Halvorsen asked that the policies address an apparent conflict between the city's scenic corridor along Interstate 580 and its plans to build out the area around the proposed Valley Link station as a transit district. Located within the I-580 median between First Street and Vasco Road, Livermore's Southfront Road station would provide residents access to the planned Valley Link rail service, a 42-mile line connecting Dublin and Pleasanton to Mountain House.

On the other hand, the

city's scenic corridor policy aims to preserve viewsheds from the interstate by limiting building heights near the interstate.

"If (the) scenic corridor still applies, what does it mean today versus what it has meant," said Halvorsen, referring to recommendations for six-story residential buildings near the Valley Link station.

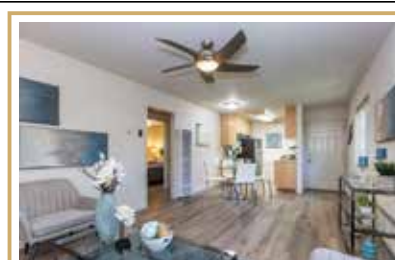
Committee Member Carmelita Chiong agreed that a scenic corridor through a transit district presented challenges.

The planning commission will review GPAC's input and provide its own General Plan update recommendations in May. The city council will then consider the update in June.



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Engage with the Future of Livermore's Transportation!

Livermore is preparing an interim update of its Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The ATP is a document that aims to provide a roadmap for improved walking and cycling conditions.

Thursday, April 25, 2024
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Explore the interim update to Livermore's Active Transportation Plan, previously adopted in 2018. This update focuses on updates to existing conditions, projects implemented since 2018, and upcoming projects. The plan continues to emphasize safety and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists alike.

¡Participe en el futuro del transporte de Livermore!

Livermore está preparando una actualización provisional de su Plan de Transporte Activo (ATP). El ATP es un documento que ofrecerá un plan para mejorar condiciones para caminar y andar en bicicleta.

Jueves 25 de abril 2024, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Explora la actualización provisional del Plan de Transporte Activo de Livermore, adoptado anteriormente en 2018. Esta versión se centra en las actualizaciones de las condiciones existentes, los proyectos implementados desde 2018 y próximos proyectos. El plan continúa enfatizando la seguridad y accesibilidad para peatones y ciclistas.

Scan the QR code to register for the Workshop!

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Tri-Valley Climate Action Plans Underway

By Ruth Roberts

April 22 is Earth Day, but for cities and residents, every day is an opportunity to reduce their carbon footprints through climate action plans (CAPs).

A CAP is a detailed strategic framework for measuring, planning and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and related climatic impacts.

While CAPs are not mandatory in California, the state has required that GHG emissions be reduced from 1990 levels by 40% before 2030, and 80% before 2050. To that end, the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton have created CAPs in response to the growing climate emergency.

Dublin

In 2020, the Dublin City Council adopted its “CAP 2030 and Beyond” project.

“The plan is about more than just reducing the negative effects on the environment,” said Mayor Melissa Hernandez. “It’s about making holistic improvements to Dublin’s community and way of life.”

To date, the city has installed solar panels at 10 city locations, along with battery storage at four locations, as part of its citywide energy efficiency and infrastructure projects. It bought three Ford F-150 Lightning electric trucks and two Chevrolet Bolt EUV cars to replace internal combustion engine vehicles that had reached the end of their service life.

Its electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure plan, which mandates increased EV charging station installations at new commercial and multi-family residential properties, is still in progress. Officials believe the implementation of more

EV charging stations at home and in the community should help ease range anxiety and expedite the transition to zero-emission vehicles.

The city entered a partnership with StopWaste and researchers at the University of California Merced to evaluate how compost application on turf sports fields provides carbon sequestration.

Another partnership with the Alameda County Transportation Commission will construct a regional, green stormwater infrastructure project on the Iron Horse Trail south of Amador Valley Boulevard to provide both stormwater treatment and water management.

For more information, visit bit.ly/49GnX6i.

Livermore

As of January 1, 2023, most new buildings in Liv-

ermore were required to be all-electric.

In addition, the city replaced two gas-powered leaf blowers, but has not transitioned the remaining gas-powered leaf blowers due to lack of funding. The city allocated money in its 2024 budget to replace them.

Without emissions control systems, the leaf blowers can release as much pollution in one hour as a passenger car driving over 1,000 miles.

“The city is working to incorporate sustainability into all of our operations and to support our residents and business as they explore ways to make sustainable decisions, save energy and reduce costs,” said Paul Spence, assistant city manager.

During 2023, the city focused on establishing a sustainability program and connecting with the community about climate action, according to its CAP. The city hired a full-time sustainability program manager, established a community working group, hosted outreach events, and completed a number of projects to install EV charging, expand clean energy, conserve water, and build community resilience against climate impacts such as drought, extreme heat and flooding.

The city also engaged with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory staff to identify a list of deep-rooted, low-water plants to assist in sequestering carbon. Based on work with the laboratory, they will be creating a demonstration project at City Hall, where approximately 3,400 square feet of former turf landscaping will be converted to a garden designed to capture carbon from the air. All plants are

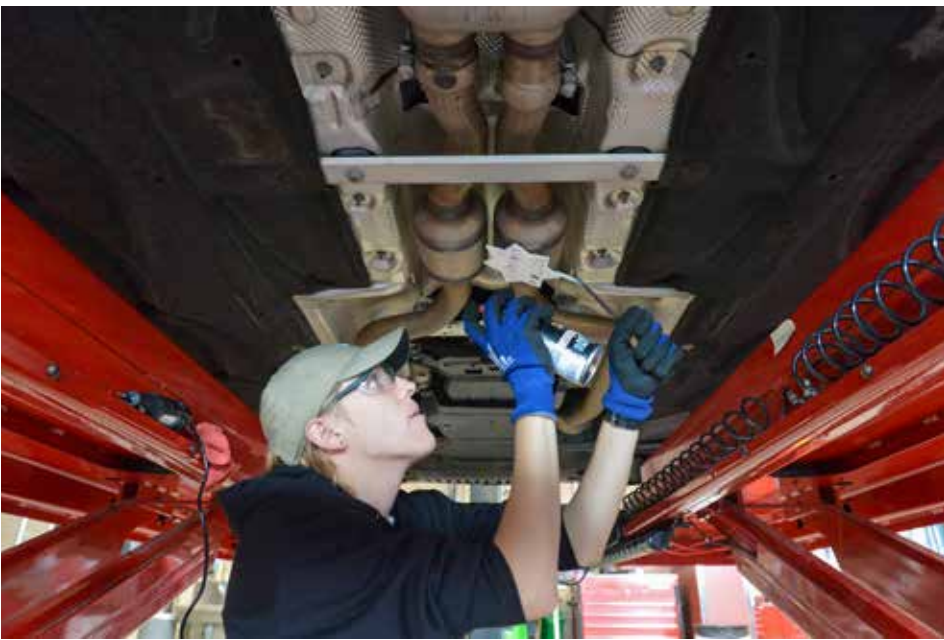
low water users, and 90% are natives. This project will be installed on Community Service Day on May 4.

The city also purchased two solar-powered EV chargers using a rebate from the Department of Energy’s Energy Efficiency

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Livermore Police will provide free etching of vehicle catalytic converters at Las Positas College in Livermore beginning at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, April 30. The theft of catalytic converters for the platinum, palladium, and rhodium they contain is a growing problem. Etching involves inscribing the vehicle's VIN (vehicle identification number) on the converter to discourage theft and help law enforcement track the converter if it is stolen. The free etching will take place at the Automotive Department, Building 3500, on the community college campus. The last vehicle must be in line by 3 p.m. Appointments are not required. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

(See CLIMATE, page 7)

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EDITORIAL

New Oversight of Santa Rita Jail Management Must Operate Independently of Sheriff

Since 2014, over 60 people have died while in custody at the Santa Rita Jail, operated by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office. In 2022, 47 sheriff’s deputies were removed from active duty after an audit revealed that they were improperly hired. Lawsuits against the agency have cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars. Despite 2021 legislation empowering counties to establish civilian oversight committees over their sheriff’s departments, Alameda County has yet to form such a body. Seven other California

counties have already done so. When recent proposals before the Board of Supervisors move forward, they will establish a civilian oversight board and an inspector general’s (IG’s) office to monitor and investigate the operations of the sheriff’s office. While the oversight board will not make policy, it will report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The proposals, however, vary in how the new IG will be allowed to operate. The specifics should be weighed carefully when im-

plementing this new oversight responsibility. Investigations of the sheriff’s office should not require the sheriff’s authorization. The IG must be allowed to conduct investigations of its own accord. Such a division is necessary to fulfill the purpose of the IG office. Currently, the proposals require the blessing of the sheriff. For similar reasons, the IG should be allowed a counsel of its own choosing, independent from county attorneys. Law-enforcement agency employees, past or present, as well as those living outside Alameda

County should be excluded from the committee. A nine-member board could provide more oversight. County residents have been waiting for this long overdue oversight of their sheriff’s office. The in-custody jail deaths at Santa Rita, along with other inappropriate behaviors of sheriff’s deputies, which have sometimes led to fatalities, are unacceptable. We urge the Board of Supervisors to make this committee as effective as possible, free of conflicts of interest, to produce real change in the lives affected by the sheriff’s office.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:
Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Letters may not contain advertising. Abusive letters 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 or submitted using the form below. The letters to the editor deadline is Monday at 10 a.m. If you wish to submit a letter pertaining to a special event or meeting taking place on a Monday before any given Thursday print edition — and you would like your letter to run that week — please contact the editor (editor@independentnews.com) as soon as possible on Monday to discuss the content and publication options. Otherwise, all letters submitted after 10 a.m. on Monday must hold until the following week.

The Definition of Genocide
Susan Mayall, Livermore

The definition of ‘Genocide’ in Webster is “a program of action intended to destroy a whole nation or ethnic group”. In Germany and other countries, six million Jews were killed for this purpose during the Holocaust. For over a thousand years, Jews have been the target of this mindless hatred in many parts of the world. Hamas’ attack on Israeli citizens in October was a perfect example of Genocide. Israel’s response could be compared to America’s reaction to Pearl Harbor. It was war - not intended to kill innocent people, but inevitably doing so. War does this. As a child in wartime Britain, I experienced bombing wherever we lived. A bomb in our back yard did not make me feel hated. I knew it was war. Modern weapons made it possible for America and Britain to kill thousands in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Dresden, Kassel. After the war, cities were rebuilt, and relationships restored. War is terrible in all its forms, and what is happening in Gaza is terrible. But it is not Genocide.

Good News
Ann Giannini, Livermore

Hello citizen. Isn’t it absolutely wonderful that we the people won the lawsuit regarding the very complicated Eden Housing Development issue? Apparently, we will be able to finally vote for the park we all have wanted for so long!

Genocide in Gaza
Daniella Karo, Pleasanton

Ms. Stephanie Ericson, in her latest letter to the editor regarding the war in Gaza, does not appear to understand who the perpetrators are. Hamas, a Palestinian terrorist organization in Gaza, viciously attacked and killed innocent Israelis, including women and children! In retaliation, Israelis launched a deadly attack on Hamas and on their enclaves above and underground hiding places. The Gaza population by and large is embracing the Hamas terrorism against Israel, whether by indoctrination or coercion, and thus they are enablers. Israelis plan to destroy the terrorist perpetrators and it’s their duty to do just that! As a reminder to all Americans who refer to this just war as “genocide” and rebuke Israelis for their right to a peaceful existence, the Japanese, in 1941, sneakily attacked Pearl Harbor, killing over 3,000 American soldiers and destroying a portion of the navy fleet in the Pacific! As retribution, Americans nuclear-bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki where several hundred thousands of Japanese were killed. Nobody screamed “Genocide”! It was the right thing to do, and yes, the Japanese surrendered. Many more American lives were saved in the process.

Israelis have a right to protect their country and their people and do whatever necessary to achieve that goal. The absurd call of “genocide” in this war is malicious! We did what was necessary to defend and protect ourselves in 1941, and the Israelis have a right to do what they need to achieve their goals. Everything else is just empty noise!

The Imperial Warmonger President
“Genocide Joe” Biden
Greg Scott, Livermore

President John F. Kennedy said in June 1963, “I speak of peace, therefore, as the necessary rational end of rational men [and women]. I realize that the pursuit of peace is not as dramatic as the pursuit of war – and frequently the words of the pursuer fall on deaf ears. But we have no more urgent task.” And nearly sixty-one years later, peace is no less an urgent task, yet our leadership seems deaf. “Biden, Tony Blinken, et al. are on the T.V. speaking about the works that they are performing in real time. We see reasonable men trying to defuse many fuses at one

time.” (Patricia Thorstad, “State of the Union Letter To The Editor Rebuttal,” Mailbox, 4/11/2024) “Reasonable” men? Billions of dollars in armaments to Israel; with more than 13,000 Gazan children, more than 12,000 Gazan women, and thousands of Gazan male civilians slaughtered since last October 7th in the genocide, ethno-cleansing, and ecocide in Gaza; along with allowing Israel to use food as a weapon to starve civilians, is “reasonable”? Chris Hedges’ “Four Horsemen of the Gaza Apocalypse” – President “Genocide Joe” Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, and National Security Council for the Middle East and North Africa Brett McGurk – are “reasonable men”?

“If you give Biden (deservingly) credit for having helped prevent the region from falling off the cliff last night [Saturday, 4/13/2024], you must also give him credit for helping bring the region to the edge of the cliff in the first place by refusing to restrain Israel and blocking a ceasefire.” (Trita Parsi, Executive Vice President, Iran and Middle East expert, Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft)

This disproportionate butchery could have been stopped many months ago and the current administration has chosen not to do it. No wonder, President “Genocide Joe” Biden has taken more than one million dollars in his political career from the right-wing, pro-Zionist American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), which also showers other Democrat and Republican politicians with cash. Antony Blinken and others in President “Genocide Joe” Biden’s administration have profited handsomely from Blinken’s WestExec Advisors’ dealings with Israeli firms like Windward, an artificial intelligence (AI) company. Israeli Defense Forces have used AI for targeting and lethal autonomous weapons (LAWs), resulting in a huge ratio of civilian collateral casualties.

There’s only one anti-war presidential candidate getting on the ballots - the Green Party’s Jill Stein.

Building Community through Projects and Service
Patricia Munro, Livermore

Humans are social beings; we need healthy communities to thrive. Here are two examples, past and coming: Last weekend saw the sixth annual Tri-Valley Innovation Fair, sponsored by Quest Science Center. Over the past years, the fair has grown into a major event with exhibits on air quality and filters, an electric tractor, science “magic,” and much more. It brought together those who are exploring science and engineering, and how these things are used to understand and change the

world we live in. It was exciting to see the sense of community built through learning about our environment. Learning and sharing that learning is one way to build community. Community service is another. Saturday, May 4, is Livermore’s Community Service Day, featuring a range of individual projects to work on in the morning, followed by lunch at Las Positas College. The projects range from planting to painting to clean-up. Some projects are at schools, some at playgrounds or parks. There are opportunities to participate in every corner of Livermore, from Springtown to Las Positas, from Hagemann Ranch to Sycamore Grove. The sign-up site is at signup.com/group/1032770348074. Some locations have already reached their quota, but there are still lots of open spots. Sign up and help continue to make our community a beautiful place to live.

Biden is Buying Votes with Student Loan Forgiveness
David Ott, Pleasanton

Biden is trying to buy votes with his illegal student debt forgiveness plan. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled last year that Biden cannot forgive student loan debt, but he continues this lie to the American people in an effort to buy votes. Biden knows that this will eventually be struck down in the courts, but by then the election will be over. Biden’s disregard for the rule of law is a threat to our democracy.

The astronomical amount of student loan debt can be traced directly to the start of the federal government loan programs. As more federal aid became easily available, universities were incentivized to raise tuition, in turn requiring students to take out larger loans. This vicious cycle has been going on for fifty years and is directly responsible for the 1400% rise in college tuition and the corresponding debt that accompanies it. The taxpayers should not be responsible for this debt and Biden and his corrupt administration clearly knows this. The Biden administration knows that they cannot get re-elected on their inept policies, so they need to buy votes to stay in power.

We all understand that college tuition is very expensive, but forgiving student debt is not the solution. The correct way to resolve the overpriced college tuition is to address the root cause and regulate the colleges. The majority of major universities are sitting on millions and billions of dollars of endowment funds that could be used to offset college administration costs and lower tuition. We also need to better educate and counsel students through the college selection process and the pursuit of degrees that will provide them an opportunity to obtain a viable career. Another alternative is for students to

pursue a trade school to learn a suitable and rewarding skill, which can provide many career opportunities. According to Mike Rowe, a vocational job proponent, there are currently 11 million trade job openings in America. However, if a student does elect to accept a college loan, they must be held accountable for their actions and they must be held responsible to pay it back. Stop the Biden administration’s illegal government schemes of buying votes and rid our country of this corrupt administration, and then hold the colleges, government and students responsible to correct this vicious cycle.

Corrections and Practical Solutions
Glenn J. White, Dublin

First, I must provide the correct reference for the so-called “Lord’s Prayer”. It’s in Matthew 6:9-13. Please accept my apologies. Now some definitions: Profit - a financial gain, especially the difference between the amount earned and the amount spent in buying, operating, or producing something. Prophet - a person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God. Jesus was a Prophet of God and was also a capitalist per the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30) where Jesus says: “And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 25:30). Therefore, “Genocide Greg” Scott, since he likes using that term to incorrectly judge others (Matthew 7:1-6), was actually ignorant of Jesus’ teachings when he assumed charitable giving was a panacea to poverty and not an act of faith by Christians. Jesus was a Prophet of Profit in Matthew 25:14-30. Also, Artificial Intelligence does use “iterative learning” or “learning by mistakes”. Ask Google: “Does AI use iterative learning?” for the technical models, etc., if anyone’s interested. “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” (Matthew 5:9-12)

Joe Biden is trying to be a peacemaker, which is hard since Iran launched dozens of missiles at Israel in an angry outburst or tantrum, similar to those so-called “Useful Idiots” (per VI Lenin’s term) who would deny Israel the defensive weapons necessary to protect its citizens, Jewish, Arab and others, without nuking Iran, which is what the hate-filled anti-Semitic “Useful Idiots” would do to Isra-

el in their mad rage against Biden and Israel. That’s why “Genocide Greg” Scott is more appropriate because Greg would commit genocide in the West Bank simply to prove he’s “right” and “pure” in his tantrum against Biden. Rather than undermining Biden to elect Trump, we should work with Biden to keep Trump from letting “Bibi (Netanyahu)” and Vladimir Putin “do whatever they want” in Europe and the Middle East with U.S. support. It’s the practical, democratic and anti-fascist solution.

Big Snip, Little Snip
Patricia Thorstad, Livermore

So, before he did it, I asked... “Now, I want to look at you, in the face, as you do it.” Got your attention? This is another example of my M.O. of letter-writing-to-the-editors: personal over-sharing and gallows humor. I realized long ago I have a charmed life and no reason to be cynical. Yet, how to face the funny-stuff-gone-hilarious and (or/sometimes concurrently) the silly-stuff-gone-ridiculous? Any brand of humor available... like the actor-guard said into the phone in Terminator I: “Send everything you got!” So, I get wheeled in. I had met the anesthesiologist (Dr. A) before, as he checked on the needle-set-up by the surgical nurse.

So, I say... “Anything new to report in anesthesiology?” “Yes,” he says. “He and I (the male colonoscopy-tech), as well as your doctor, just developed it in the Alps!” “So, where’s Dr. Wolfe?... at the Lodge!?” Heh, Heh, Heh (one for each of us in the room).

So, I say to Dr. A, the youngish-anesthesiologist with 21 years experience (I ASKED!): “I want to experience losing consciousness...” or wanted to...

Last scene: So... big Dr. A’s face; “here we.....” “ZZZZZZZZZZ.”

A lot of people should be cut down by gallows humor, in politics, the media, everyday; even me, or you; but can we? I ask how to do it, if people can’t be MORTIFIED! I heard this phrase, “Ridicule kills popularity.” (1938) as the weapon employed against the actor Norma Shearer as, and in, “Marie Antoinette.”

Used to work up until... well lately... for several sets of almost three years... now... Another thing about young doctors: I said this to my ankle-triage doctor two Decembers ago: “Believe me, I love young doctors, for that much longer they may take care of me and ‘they’ve had less time to be corrupted.” (“Eagle in a Cage,” 1972, Kenneth Haigh, Sir Ralph Richardson, Sir John Gielgud.) The only time he looked at me in the face was when he smirked.

PRISON

(Continued from front page)

be permanent.

“The closure of the institution may be temporary but certainly will result in a mission change,” she said.

Officials did not provide a date for the closure, but said that the 605 inmates currently housed in the low-security prison and its camp will be transferred to other institutions. No employees will lose their jobs, but no further details were provided.

“As we determine placement, each (inmate) will be assessed, and their programming needs will be taken into account,” Peters said. “Per policy and practice, we will endeavor to keep them as close to their release locations as

possible and ensure that they have access to counsel at their receiving institution.”

The action came 10 days after U.S. District Court Justice Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers, who is presiding over numerous lawsuits filed against the FBOP and criminal cases against prison employees, appointed a special master to provide oversight of the institution. Rogers, who called FCI Dublin “a dysfunctional mess,” appointed Wendy Still, a long-time corrections and probation official, to the post, along with four staff members to assist her.

Monday afternoon, Rogers issued an order saying she was aware of the FBOP’s decision to shut down FCI Dublin.

Her latest order requires the FBOP to update casework for all inmates “to ensure inmates are transferred to the correct location” to protect their rights.

“This includes whether an inmate should be released to a FBOP facility, home confinement, or halfway house, or granted a compassionate release. The result of these case reviews and transfer designations shall be reviewed with the special master prior to transfer.”

The FBOP decision to close FCI Dublin also comes just weeks after FBI investigators raided the institution, after which the FBOP ousted the facility’s interim warden and leadership team. Rogers said in an order that FBOP officials’ response to the crisis at FCI Dublin was “deliberately indifferent” to its inmates, and they had repeatedly failed to appoint a warden “capable of understanding and responding to the gravity of the situation.”

Acting Warden Arthur Dulgov, who Rogers said was “effectively deaf to the inmates’ FBOP-inflicted trauma, concerns and needs,” was removed, along with his leadership team. Rogers accused Dulgov of retaliating

against an inmate who spoke out in the media about the conditions.

FBOP named Nancy T. McKinney, who served as the FBOP’s senior deputy assistant director for its Western Regional Office for nearly a year, as its interim warden.

U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier, whose 10th Congressional district includes the prison, said, “The fact that we got to this point is deeply troubling.”

“There are still a lot of unanswered questions about this closure we are waiting for answers to, but the top priorities must be the protection of the inmates and their constitutional rights, the job security of innocent staff and whistleblowers, and supporting the local community,” DeSaulnier said.

“This closure does not right the wrongs that occurred at the facility, which is why it is imperative that federal investigations continue, and I am closely monitoring and stand ready to assist wherever I can. I remain committed to continuing my work to conduct federal oversight and bring accountability to the perpetrators of the horrific violence and abuse at the facility,” he continued.

Since 2021, eight FCI Dublin officials, including former Warden Ray Garcia and Chaplain James Theodore Highhouse, have been charged with sexually abusing female inmates. Seven, including Garcia and Highhouse, have already been sent to prison. Just last month, Rogers sentenced former corrections officer Nakie Nunley, 48, to six years in prison for sex crimes against five inmates.

More than 60 civil lawsuits

are pending against the FBOP, with more expected to come.

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Tasting Room Open:
Saturday: 12 - 5pm,
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Livermore
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The Federal Bureau of Prisons has decided to close, at least temporarily, Dublin’s federal women’s prison, the subject of multiple scandals. (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

LAS POSITAS

(Continued from front page)

“It allows us to streamline the process and allows us to align our curriculums in order to shorten the time it takes for students to meet their transfer requirements.”

During the event, Monya Lane, a Livermore resident on the UC Merced Foundation, and Tim Sbranti, a Dublin resident on the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees, were given credit for coming up with the idea of joining LPC with UC Merced, and advocating for it.

The program will provide students on both campuses with the opportunity for dual educational experiences. It would allow students with certain criteria to cross-enroll

in courses on either campus.

“We want them to have the most education they can in as little as time as possible, so they can get their degrees and go out into the world and become productive members of society,” said Muñoz in an interview with The Independent.

LPC students will also enjoy summer research opportunities through the program.

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education has designated UC Merced, a research university, as a Doctoral Granting Institution with High Research Activity. This means there is a wide spectrum of top research opportunities for undergrad students, which through the

program, can be offered to community college students ahead of their transfers.

“It allows research opportunities that our students would have access to during the summer and which will enhance their awareness of and familiarity with UC Merced,” Foster added.

Both schools are working to develop a scholar’s program for students to receive financial scholarship packages to attend UC Merced. Financial aid packages are already available for students attending LPC.

In the end, said Muñoz, the goal of the new program is to make the college experience more streamlined and successful, while solidifying

the relationship between the two schools.

“Next year will be our 20th year (in the UC system) and our long-term growth must include a larger percentage of transfer and community college students,” said Muñoz. “We want to provide the most efficient and intelligible transfer agreement possible, and we believe part of that purpose is to partner with institutions like Las Positas College. We are here and we want to help.”

Foster agrees. “This is a great opportunity for our students and a great opportunity for LPC,” Foster said. “We are very excited to embark on this new partnership and program.”

JAIL

(Continued from front page)

Martinez to a medical observation unit, the lawsuit claims. Six days after he was booked into the jail, Martinez tried to hang himself.

“Thankfully, Mr. Martinez — a beloved father and husband — survived, but the severe emotional distress and trauma he endured can never be undone,” the lawsuit alleges.

A spokesperson for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office did not respond to a request for comment. Neither did anyone from Wellpath.

According to the lawsuit, Fremont police officers arrested Martinez during a stolen car investigation on Dec. 12, 2023. At the time, Martinez was on the phone with his wife, Alisha, who told the officers he suffered from schizophrenia and required prescribed medicine. Alisha Martinez called several police stations to find out what was happening to her husband, as he was driven to the Santa Rita Jail. She informed people she spoke to about his condition.

Records fail to show what charges, if any, were filed against Martinez.

While held at the jail, Martinez heard voices in his head informing him to kill himself and pleaded with a nurse for his medication, providing the exact dosages, the lawsuit alleges.

“Despite informing them of this, the nurse responded by telling a Santa Rita Jail officer that (Martinez) was lying,” the lawsuit said.

Martinez attempted suicide six days after his arrest, but was rescued.

To back the claims and to seek class-action status, Martinez’s attorneys — Adante Pointer, Patrick Buelna and Ty Clarke — cite several other cases where inmates claimed jail deputies and healthcare staff failed to provide medical care. One case involved the 2021 death of Maurice Monk, a 45-year-old man found dead in his cell after deputies and staff failed to check on him, despite seeing him lying face

down on his bunk, not taking his medication or food for days. Martinez’s attorneys obtained a \$7 million settlement from the county for Monk’s family after deputies’ body camera footage of Monk in his cell was released publicly.

Besides Alameda County and Wellpath, the City of Fremont and the California Forensic Medical Group, which provides medical, psychiatric, nursing, medication, and health care to inmates, are listed as defendants.

Monk was among more than 60 people who have died in the jail since 2014. Following a lawsuit filed on behalf of inmates, Alameda County agreed to be placed under a federal consent decree, where a U.S. District Court justice is monitoring its effort to improve mental health care and other living conditions in the facility. Under the consent decree, all inmates must now undergo a mental health screening when they enter the jail.



On Tuesday, April 2, 2024, the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce welcomed FFB Bank as the newest member with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. FFB Bank is excited to be serving the communities of the Tri Valley and Northern California! After starting as a community bank in Central California in 2005, FFB has become an award-winning financial institution providing flexible banking services and a high-tech, high-touch relationship to customers throughout the state.



Connect with Lydia Santin at (925) 784-8865 or lsantin@ffb.bank!

Join Assessor Phong La at the Assessor’s 5th Annual Homeowners Fair

ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units), GRANNY FLATS, IN-LAW UNITS, TINY HOMES AND YOU! LEARN ABOUT BUILDING ADUs IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 27th 9AM-1PM

FREE ONSITE PARKING

LEARN THE STEPS TO BUILD AN ADU FROM DUBLIN CITY STAFF

VISIT OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR AND ENTER RAFFLES FOR FUN PRIZES

Register at:

Dublin Shannon Community Center
11600 Shannon Ave, Dublin.

FREE ADMISSION REGISTER NOW !!!

PARTNERS:

The information at this resource fair is not an endorsement from the Assessor’s Office, it is for informational purposes only.

Have any questions? Need special accommodations? Allassessorpru@acgov.org

Nonprofits to Discuss Housing For Vulnerable Populations

The Tri-Valley Non-profit Alliance (TVNPA) will host an Anti-Poverty Collaborative meeting on the “State of Housing for Vulnerable Populations in the Tri-Valley” at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursday, May 2.

The meeting will include presentations by Michelle Starratt, deputy director of the Alameda County Community Development Agency, and Jonathan

Russell, director of Alameda County Health’s Housing and Homelessness Services, who will address housing for seniors, “transition age” youths from 16 to 25, people with disabilities, and the homeless.

A panel of nonprofit leaders will also discuss current trends, successful strategies, and ongoing community needs. Panelists will include representatives from Interfaith Housing, City Serve of the Tri-Valley, Open

Heart Kitchen, Sunflower Hill, and Goodness Village.

TVNPA, a “regional convener” that provides support services and advocates for nonprofit organizations, described the meeting as “a call to action for all stakeholders to join forces in the fight against poverty and homelessness in the Tri-Valley area.”

The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information, or to register, go to tvnpa.org.

PUSD

(Continued from front page)

most vulnerable continue to get that support they need.”

Certificated staff reductions include 19.6 full-time equivalent positions totaling \$2,809,338, which breaks down into five management positions for a combined \$979,338 and 14.6 non-management positions at a cost of \$1,830,000.

“The actual fiscal savings to the district will be determined upon final staffing allocations for the 2024-2025 school year,” according to staff reports.

While it is likely that many of the targeted positions could be reinstated following the governor’s

May budget revision, the board must prepare for the next school year based on the figures they were given from the state in January as to how much the state will give the schools.

Each May, the governor announces an updated revenue forecast, which accounts for changes in revenues since the first of the year. At that time, the governor typically proposes more changes to his budget, which may affect the district’s allocations from the state. Subsequently, the PUSD may find itself with additional funding to hire back the pink-slipped

employees, or there may have to be more cuts to the district’s budget, if less funding from the state becomes available.

Trustee Kelly Mokashi abstained from both votes on the proposals, citing concerns over the process. “I dissented on both items so that moving forward there is a more collaborative process with stakeholders and groups ... on making the justification of those moves,” said Mokashi, who questioned why, after knowing for months the cuts had to be made, was the decision rushed at what she considered to be the last minute.



Livermore police patrol vehicles are displaying ribbons this month in support of Autism Awareness Month. (Photo courtesy: Livermore Police Department)

GLIDER

(Continued from front page)

for events and share a plane hangar in Byron.

They teamed up recently at the Tri-Valley Haven gala fundraiser on April 13, the proceeds from which support the nonprofit. Tri-Valley Haven offers shelter and counseling services for victims of sexual and domestic abuse.

Stark, a paraglider for three decades now, donated the wine. His winery’s Ridge Lift Blend takes the striking graphic of a glider plane as its label, which is what he flies these days.

Porter gave two flight certificates for the auction. “My donation (is) the flights,” Porter said before the event, “and hopefully the auction will drive a whole lot of income for that.”

Usually though, Porter is focused on generating funds to make rides a possibility for children who are ill.

“I have a passion for children, and we’re all familiar

with the Make-a-Wish Foundation,” said Porter, referring to the nonprofit that fulfills the wishes of children facing critical, sometimes terminal, illness.

It’s the children whose illnesses may not be at the critically terminal stage, but who are dealing with things that have locked down their childhood, to whom he’s especially interested in giving the gift of flight — kids that need to go to dialysis or have blood transfusions, and other types of treatments. “They just don’t get to play and do things,” he said.

Soaring Heart Aviation offers glider rides to the public for a donation. And with those donations, Porter gives kids receiving medical treatment flights for free in a glider plane.

He usually encourages parents to take a picture of their child before take-off and again upon landing.

“Then you can see the before-and-after smile. You can see it in their eyes. I get to see that whole transformation happening,” he said.

That transformation is something he describes as “the wow moment,” which is when the plane has reached altitude and Porter turns the engine off and stows it. “At that moment, I look over at the child and it’s like, ‘Wait, are we flying; what?’ And that’s so cool.”

This unpowered flight experience, flying without a motor, is possible in the kind of aircraft Porter flies, which is called a sailplane. It uses only naturally occurring currents of air to stay aloft.

Porter pointed out that his glider is designed for self-launch. A traditional glider usually requires a tow plane to take it up to altitude before it can soar — not so with Porter’s. “My plane has its own engine. When I

get to altitude, I turn off the engine and stow it and turn into a sailplane and then I soar around.”

His airplane can be taken apart and loaded into a trailer, which means he can take it anywhere. He always flies out of local municipal airports to avoid flying in the airspace shared by bigger, faster planes. “I assemble the plane and have the local people there (kids and families) meet me at the airport at designated times and we go flying.”

Another element he chose for his glider was side-by-side seating, versus the tandem seat pilot in the front, passenger in the back, style of most sailplanes.

“I chose side-by-side because the interaction is what I love,” said Porter. “And the wow moment is where I get my most fulfillment. I love flying so much, I want to share it with everybody.”

MONTE VISTA

(Continued from front page)

the population has grown significantly. The diversity of the population has changed significantly, and there has not really been a new cemetery in the area for a hundred years or so. There were a couple of small exceptions, but in general, the infrastructure has not kept up with the needs of the population. So, we see this as a tremendous benefit to the community.”

FOL’s opening brief, however, said that the project’s permanent structures “are neither allowable land uses nor compatible with agriculture, as required by

the East County Area Plan, which serves as the general plan’s land use element for the unincorporated East County, as amended by Measure D.”

A ballot measure approved by voters in 2000, Measure D seeks to limit urban sprawl around Livermore by containing non-agricultural uses within an urban growth boundary. The Monte Vista project lies outside this boundary.

In addition to the incompatible land uses, the brief also found issue with the project’s floor area limits

and a requirement that all non-agricultural buildings be contained within a contiguous two-acre area.

FOL member Dick Schneider said, “Prior to its appeal at the Board of Supervisors, Friends of Livermore attempted to negotiate with the Monte Vista cemetery developers. FOL was willing to accept a cemetery that did not include urban uses (mortuary and event pavilion), with all buildings (mausoleum and columbaria) inside the required two-acre development envelope, and with total floor area not to

exceed 12,000 square feet as required by Measure D and the East County Area Plan. The developers did not agree to our proposal.”

The board of supervisors approved the project in August 2023 following concessions from the developer to reduce the maximum building size and to build the mausoleum underground.

“We really fully support the decision of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in favor of our project, and we believe that they made the right decision,” said Kahn. “We made sig-

nificant concessions in our attempt to satisfy Friends of Livermore, which has proven to be very difficult to do. The project has been designed and then refined in response to Friends of Livermore, to minimize the size of the buildings, to maintain the views of the open space and ridges from the freeway, and really, to preserve the open space character of the area, while still providing the infrastructure that’s needed.”

But Schneider said, “The project remains in violation of the East County Area Plan.

... The key urban uses are the mortuary and funeral event facilities. Under county zoning, these uses are permitted only in urban commercial districts. They are unrelated to agriculture and other open space uses.”

Alameda County Counsel did not respond to requests for comment.

Kahn said his attorneys were in the process of responding to the opening brief.

“We believe (the project is) going to be a significant asset for the community,” he said.

COUNTY

(Continued from front page)

testify in their investigations. The oversight board would present its reports to the Board of Supervisors, which would have the authority to implement changes.

The proposals initially were put before the supervisors at their April 2 meeting, but Supervisor David Haubert, who represents the Tri-Valley, said he had too many questions and asked that the subject be continued to April 30. Supervisor Lena Tam will be in Italy that day, so the topic could be postponed to a May meeting.

A subject for years in Alameda County, civilian oversight moved more to the forefront of county issues in recent months, primarily because of a focus on the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin, where more than 60 people have died since 2014. In addition, lawsuits against the agency have cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars; the U.S. Department of Justice declared mental health care at Santa Rita Jail inadequate; and an audit after a deputy was charged with killing two people in Dublin found he and 46 other deputies were hired despite receiving unsatisfactory scores on psychological exams.

In January, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the Alameda County League of Women Voters, Faith in Action East

Bay, Livermore Indivisible, Oakland Coalition for Police Accountability, and the Tri-Valley Democrats sponsored a town hall where representatives called for Alameda County’s supervisors to act.

Until now, Alameda County officials have not followed Marin, Santa Clara and five other counties in passing ordinances to establish civilian oversight committees, since state law gave them the authority to do so in 2021. Counties including Los Angeles, San Diego and Sonoma already had some form of civilian oversight of their Sheriff’s Departments before that law took effect.

“The whole reason why you need civilian oversight in the first place is because there have been several in-custody deaths in the (Santa Rita) Jail, there have been various kinds of misconduct, some criminal, that this particular sheriff’s office has been engaged in for many years,” said Yoel Haile, the ACLU’s director of criminal justice program in the Bay Area.

Haile said the push for civilian review is a “long-time coming,” delayed by two supervisors’ deaths in the last couple years.

“We’re arguing for the fastest possible implementation,” Haile said. “We are hopeful that in the next couple of weeks the most robust and strongest version

of the ordinance can pass.”

Should the Board of Supervisors approve one of the proposals, created following years of presentations to the board’s Public Protection Committee, currently Supervisors Nate Miley and Elisa Marquez, the plan would not take effect until 2026.

According to the plans, the civilian committee will be a seven-member board. Supervisors would each appoint one member from his or her district. Supervisors would jointly appoint two at-large members from a pool of candidates nominated by an advisory panel with five members, one appointed from each district.

The oversight board will meet once a month. Sessions will be open to the public and be governed by the same public meeting rules as elected government bodies.

Haile said the ACLU is pushing for a nine-member board. Under this plan, each supervisor would appoint a representative from his or her district, and the selection panel would nominate four. The larger panel would allow for more diversity and representation from throughout the large county and “you have more people and more capacity to actually do the job of providing oversight to the sheriff.”

The ACLU also is encouraging the removal of language in the proposals

that gives the IG’s office authority to investigate specific incidents involving ACSO personnel only when requested by the Sheriff.

“Whenever there are complaints submitted, (the IG) should be able to investigate the sheriff’s personnel as appropriate,” Haile said. “If investigation of sheriff’s personnel is limited to only when the sheriff requests or authorizes it, or whenever the sheriff decides to deny

authorization, that means the inspector general actually can’t investigate, which significantly would undermine the purpose of having an inspector general.”

Additionally, the ACLU supports the oversight board and IG having independent counsel instead of using county attorneys. Haile said it is a conflict of interest when county counsel provides advice to the ACSO, while also providing legal

advice to the oversight panel and IG that is investigating the sheriff’s office.

“It’s cleaner and clearer when the oversight body has its own independent counsel that they can rely on, because they can issue subpoenas and they can make recommendations that are not encumbered by a duty of loyalty to the client on the part of the county council when it comes to sheriff’s issues,” Haile said.

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County Library Accepting Entries For 2024-25 Teen Poet Laureate

The Alameda County Library is now accepting submissions for the 2024-2025 Alameda County Youth Poet Laureate competition.

The winner will receive a MacBook laptop computer and represent the county at public events from August 2024 through August 2025.

The winner’s poetry will also be published in an anthology along with works by other national Youth Poet Laureates. The winner and a runner-up

will be eligible for the California and West Regional Youth Poet Laureate competitions.

The local competition is open to teens from 13 to 18 who are residents of Alameda County.

Applicants must submit three original poems, a brief biography and artist statement about what poetry means to them, a reference from an adult sponsor, and contact information for a parent or guardian.

Entries must be sub-

mitted by April 30.

Entries will be judged on content, craft, and voice, according to the library, with those who advance to the interview round also judged on performance and leadership potential.

The finalists will be announced at an awards ceremony in August.

More than 50 teen poets submitted entries last year.

To enter the competition, go to aclibrary.org/youth-poet.

City of Pleasanton Promotes Former Human Resources Manager to Director

Former Pleasanton human resources manager Xaviera Scoggins has been promoted to director of human resources and labor relations.

Scoggins was named interim director in March, after former director Veronica Thomas left.

“I am thrilled to welcome Xaviera to Pleasanton’s executive team as the new director of human resources and labor relations,” said City Manager Gerry Beaudin. “Her extensive experience and dedication to fostering a positive and inclusive work environment will be instrumental in supporting our employees and ad-

vancing the city’s goals.”

Scoggins has 25 years



Xaviera Scoggins has been promoted to Pleasanton’s new Director of Human Resources. (Photo courtesy: City of Pleasanton)

of experience in human resources and has been with Pleasanton for almost 19 years. Before joining Pleasanton, she worked in the private sector for the former Pleasanton-based PeopleSoft.

She has a bachelor’s degree in sociology from California State University, East Bay.

In her new role, Scoggins is expected to be responsible for continuing to modernize and streamline the city’s recruitment process, strengthen relationships with labor organization, and develop a near-term plan to prioritize human resources department initiatives.

Cities Invite Residents to Join In Tri-Valley Earth Day Events

By Ruth Roberts

As communities around the globe renew their commitments to protecting the environment with Earth Day celebrations on April 22, Tri-Valley cities are participating with a series of month-long public events. The following offers a sampling of local celebrations:

Dublin

Pride Week (Dublin). The city’s annual Pride Week runs from April 20-27. Celebrations coincide with the week-long series of events promoting volunteerism and environmental awareness. The theme of this year’s Pride Week is “Green City, Bright Future.” Along with a large Volunteer Day that combines the efforts of several hundred resident volunteers to complete beautification projects around the city, several other planned events and activities will take place to promote environmental stewardship. Residents and groups interested in volunteering can visit the Dublin Pride Week website at dublinprideweek.com or call (925) 556-4500. Volunteers who help on Volunteer Day will receive a complimentary day pass to The Wave Waterpark valid for the 2024 Season.

Compost Giveaway (Emerald Glen Park). Amador Valley Industries will hold its annual drive-through Compost Giveaway event on April 20 from 8 a.m. to noon, or while supplies

last. The compost is made from Dublin residents’ yard trimmings and food scraps. Limit one bag per household; identification or proof of residency is required.

Livermore

Earth Day Tote & Wine Bag Painting Workshop (Concannon Vineyard). Local artists and would-be-artists are invited to celebrate Earth Day on April 18 with an event hosted by artist and designer Ali Hall. For more information, visit bit.ly/indy_ConcannonEarthDay.

Earth Day Celebration (Sycamore Grove Park). Celebrate Earth Day at Sycamore Grove Park while taking action to help protect the planet. The April 20 event will feature drop-in crafts and activities for kids and adults, guided hikes in the park, and volunteer projects to directly better the local ecosystems. For more information, visit bit.ly/indy_LARPDEarthDay2024.

Arbor Day Resources and Activities (Livermore). Arbor Day is April 26. Its purpose is to encourage people to plant trees and celebrate nature. The City of Livermore Beautification Committee will host a number of activities, including a

tree planting will happen in Springtown Open Space.

Pleasanton

Earth Day Celebration (Pleasanton Library). The Pleasanton Library will offer a day of children’s activities, live entertainment and informational booths about sustainability, clean water, gardening and more on April 20. The event is from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Participating organizations include Zone 7 Water Agency, Go Green Initiative, UC Master Gardeners, Alameda County Beekeepers Association, Pleasanton Garbage Service, ProShred, Tri-Valley Conservancy, Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department, and City of Pleasanton Water Conservation and Urban Forestry Booth. For more information, visit bit.ly/43W6Hsp.

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PPIE to Hold ‘Run for Education’ April 28

The Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation (PPIE) will hold its annual fundraising “Run

for Education” on Sunday, April 28.

PPIE is a nonprofit organization that supports

supplemental staffing in Pleasanton schools, including librarians, and intervention, mental health, and

wellness specialists.

“Our signature community event draws thousands of people throughout the community to help raise much needed funds to support our schools,” said PPIE Executive Director Andrea Wilson.

The “Run for Education” will include an untimed two-mile course and 5K and 10k courses, all of which will start and finish at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. There will also be a quarter-mile Kids’ Challenge event.

All participants will receive a T-shirt and finisher medal and will be invited to an awards ceremony following the event, including food and entertainment.

To register, or for more information, go to ppierun.com.



Runners leave the starting line of the PPIE 2023 annual “Run for Education”. This year’s fundraising 5k and 10k will be held on Sunday, April 28. (File Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

CLIMATE

(Continued from page 3)

and Conservation Block Grant program. The units were delivered and installed on March 21. One unit is located in the parking lot behind City Hall and the other at the Civic Center Library. The units will charge city fleet vehicles, operate independently from the grid, and have batteries that can be used for backup power during emergencies.

For more information, visit bit.ly/4cXoELU.

ro-emissions vehicle infrastructure. This goal includes the installation of EV charging stations on all new construction in the city.

The city has also been working with Ava Community Energy — formerly known as East Bay Community Energy — to expand publicly available EV charging infrastructure. Currently, Ava is preparing conceptual charging plans for city review for the Firehouse Arts Center and senior

center. These chargers will be “fast” chargers and will be available for public use.

Other ongoing projects include the implementation of the city’s Housing Element Plan, Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, and a Trails Master Plan.

For more information, visit www.bit.ly/3UhoaZa.

How Individuals Can Help

As cities work to meet their climate action plans, residents can support the

effort. Cities suggest that individuals join local groups that support climate action plans. Households can create at-home action plans that outline choices to take public transportation, buy an EV, or other climate-friendly purchases, such as reusable food containers.

Residents can also consider water- and energy-efficient appliances, such as WaterSense toilets and showerheads, and Energy Star washing machines.

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LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR POET LAUREATE

The City of Livermore and the Commission for the Arts is seeking a local poet to serve as the City of Livermore’s Poet Laureate. The person selected will serve as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of the arts, particularly poetry. The person selected for this position will not receive compensation, as this is a voluntary position. **The deadline to apply is Friday, May 31, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.**

The Poet Laureate will be called upon to write themed-based poetry and read poetry at civic events such as public ceremonies and dedications. He or she will serve as a resource and liaison between the City’s Cultural Arts Program, local schools, and literary organizations.

Following are the requirements for the Poet Laureate:

- Be a Livermore resident
- Be the author of published poetry deemed appropriate by the selection committee
- Be affiliated with the poetry culture
- Promote and advocate the City of Livermore as a venue for poetry
- Be an advocate for the inclusion of poetry in public and civic events
- Inspire and foster an awareness and appreciation of the role of poetry in the community through poetry readings, writing educational programs, and other outreach events, activities, and programs
- Interface with various literary organizations
- Collaborate with elected officials and city staff
- Serve a two-year term with no compensation (eligible for 2 two-year terms)
- Work with the previous Poet Laureate during a 6 – 12 month transition period
- Orient and train the next Poet Laureate.

Interested applicants must submit:

- A two-page letter of interest
- Five original poems, two of which have been published
- Your resumé indicating active participation in promoting the literary arts in the community
- An outline of your vision, goals, projects, and activities for the Poet Laureate Program during your tenure (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026).

If you have questions, please contact the City Clerk’s office at (925) 960-4200 or by e-mail at cityclerk@livermoreca.gov

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be tentatively held the week of June 10, 2024. For more information or to apply, please visit www.livermoreca.gov/AB, call the City Clerk’s office at (925) 960-4200, or email: cityclerk@livermoreca.gov

Pleasanton

Since the 2022 adoption of Pleasanton’s CAP, significant progress has been made in its implementation, according to city staff.

“The City of Pleasanton is proud to be a leader in addressing climate change in our region,” said Mayor Karla Brown. “Together with our residents, we will all reap the benefits as we create a more sustainable and healthier Pleasanton.”

In November 2023, the city adopted community-wide leaf blower restrictions. The city has banned gasoline-powered leaf blowers and requires equipment to be all-electric. The ordinance goes into effect in June.

Pleasanton is working toward improving its ze-

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Goodness Village to Host Expanded Community Health Fair

By Ruth Roberts

Goodness Village in Livermore will host its annual health fair on Saturday, May 11 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

The event, located in the courtyard of Crosswinds Church in Livermore, offers a free day of services for those in need.

“The primary focus of the fair is for those experiencing homelessness, low-income individuals and

families, and those generally in need of help,” said Jackie Ayo, community engagement manager for Goodness Village. “It’s a day of one-stop shopping.”

Opened in 2021, Goodness Village provides support and services to its 28 permanently housed residents who live on the property in tiny homes. The community is situated at Crosswinds Church in Livermore, adjacent to Las

Positas Golf Course and Livermore Airport.

Previously, the first-time fair was geared toward individuals living on the property, and included services such as free haircuts, medical and dental checkups, and exercise tips, as well as fresh organic foods, and more.

This time around, Ayo is looking to expand the reach of the nonprofit by including residents in need throughout the Tri-Valley.

“After last year, I realized how much bigger this event could be,” said Ayo.

“This time I am bringing in more vendors and we have a much larger space. We are trying to bring awareness to what we do in Goodness Village, but most importantly, we want to service more people.”

The May event will include live music, raffles and entertainment, as well as representatives from City-Serve, Axis Health Care, Meals on Wheels and other related services.

“Last year’s health fair was a hit,” said Kim Curtis, executive director for

Goodness Village. “Our community came together for a day of wellness and we’re gearing up for another fantastic event open to everyone in need in our community.”

Hosted by Goodness Village, but sponsored by Elation Real Estate, the day offers an opportunity for attendees to establish relationships in the community and feel supported while receiving needed services.

One resident of Goodness Village, who attended the event last year, said she

is looking forward to the upcoming fair.

“The health fair was great last year, and I learned so much about my personal health,” she said. “I’m super excited for this year, since we’ll have many more services. I’m especially looking forward to the yoga and therapy dogs.”

The health fair, located at 660 Freisman Road, is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Those with Medicaid or Medicare cards are encouraged to bring them.



Livermore’s Goodness Village will offer free haircuts, medical checkups, food and more to Tri-Valley residents in need on May 11. This year’s event will open up to more people. (Photo Courtesy: Goodness Village)

Russian Pianist Yakushev To Celebrate Rachmaninoff, Gershwin Anniversaries

Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev will close out the 44th Del Valle Fine Arts chamber music concert season at the Bankhead Theater on Saturday, April 27.

The concert will be a celebration of Sergei Rachmaninoff, a Russian pianist, composer, and conductor who was born 151 years ago this month, and the 100 anniversary of George Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue.”

Yakushev’s performance will also include Mozart’s “Fantasia in D minor” and Modest Petrovich Musorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition.” Yakushev has also created a slide show of images to accompany “Pictures at an Exhibition.”

Yakushev attended the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music in his native St. Petersburg, Russia, and later the Mannes College of Music in New York City, where he studied with legendary pianist Vladimir Feltsman.

Among his awards are the 1997 and 1998 First Prizes at the Donostia Hiria International Piano Competition in Spain; the 2005 World Piano Competition in Cincinnati; and a Gawon International Music Society Award in Seoul, Korea.

Yakushev first appeared with the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra (SFSO) at the Prokofiev Festival in 2007, returning to again perform with the SFSO in 2009.

Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. performance start at \$35 and are available online at livermorearts.org or at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First St. Students under 18 are free with an accompanying adult paying \$20. College student tickets are \$16.

There will be a reception for Yakushev following the concert.

Del Valle Fine Arts is a Livermore-based nonprofit that presents at least five concerts annually.



Celebrated Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev will honor Sergei Rachmaninoff and George Gershwin in a special concert performance at the Bankhead Theater on Saturday, April 27. (Photo contributed by Ilya Yakushev)



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TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FREE SMOKE ALARMS AND INSTALLATION

In the event of a structure fire, a smoke alarm can make the difference between life and death. The American Red Cross offers free smoke alarms and installation to all residences. The Red Cross can also provide educational resources to prevent and prepare for a home fire. To learn more, visit SoundTheAlarm.org/NCCR or call 510-595-4573.

CALL TO ARTISTS – OPEN STUDIO TOUR

Exhibit your work at the 3rd Annual Tri-Valley Artist Studio Tour on May 4 and 5. The tour is within five different cities - Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Danville and San Ramon. If you are outside of these cities or your studio isn't appropriate for a tour, there are several group sites available (which fill up quickly). Learn more and sign up at TVASart.com.

Friday, April 19

LUNCH & LEARN - A REGULATORY PRIMER FOR MEDTECH STARTUPS

The newest Daybreak Labs advisor will give an overview of critical steps in the regulatory pathway for early stage medtech companies followed by a Q&A session. From 12 to 1 p.m. at Daybreak Labs, 7683 Southfront Rd., Ste. 230 in Livermore. Email info@daybreaklabs.io for more info.

Saturday, April 20

QUILTS OF VALOR FABRIC SALE FUNDRAISER

Non-patriotic cotton fabrics will be sold at \$3 per yard donation to benefit our AVQ QOV group. Also available will be cotton fabric scrap bags great for applique, baby quilt kits and darling panels. There will be a Big Shot Fabric Cutter with dies, overhead light fixture, notions and thread, beautiful books and other craft items. AVQ QOV is affiliated with Amador Valley Quilters Guild and VFW Post 7265. April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 5822 So. L St. at 5th St. In Livermore. Enter at the 5th St. Ramp.

Saturday, April 20

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK EVENT

Dublin Police will be participating in this year's national prescription drug "Take-Back Initiative," on April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the parking lot at the Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza). Only prescription pills, tablets, capsules, and other solid forms of prescription drugs will be accepted, no questions asked. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted. Residents may also recycle e-waste at the event.

Saturday, April 20

BAUBLES & BEADING JEWELRY WORKSHOP

Learn how to make great earrings, necklaces and bracelets for yourself or gifts at 'Baubles & Beading,' an instructive jewelry workshop on April 20 from 1 to 5 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. A wide variety of beads and jewelry findings (such as ear wires and necklace clasps) will be provided for a \$25 donation to the church. To reserve your place, email sbcbaubles@icloud.com.

Saturday, April 20

GUITAR DUO "THE QUITTERS" IN TRINITY CONCERT SERIES

The Trinity Concert Series in Pleasanton is thrilled to welcome virtuoso guitar duo The Quitters to the stage on April 20 at 7 p.m. The Quitters feature Stevie Coyle and Glenn "Houston" Pomianek, two phenomenal musicians with a wealth of experience and accolades. Together, The Quitters create a captivating blend of musical styles, featuring both acoustic and electric guitar work with dazzling virtuosity. The concert will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, located at 1225 Hopyard Rd. in Pleasanton. Suggested donations are \$20 for adults, and free for students and children. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more information, contact 925-846-6363 or visit <https://trinitypleasanton.org>.

Saturday, April 20 / Sunday, April 21

SPRING ART SHOW

The Livermore Art Association, now in its 67th year, announces the Spring Art Show to be held April 20-21 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore. This is LAA biggest show of the year. Includes live saxophone music by Eric Prosch both days, and a reception followed by the awards ceremony on Sunday between 2-4 p.m. The Spring Art Show supports Veteran artists. The show is supported in part by a grant from the City of Livermore Commission for the Arts.

April 20-27

DUBLIN PRIDE WEEK

Dublin Pride Week, the City of Dublin's annual week-long series of events promoting volunteerism and environmental awareness, will be held Saturday, April 20, through Saturday, April 27, 2024. The theme of this year's Dublin Pride Week is, "Green City, Bright Future." Along with beautification projects around the city, several other planned events and activities will take place to promote environmental stewardship. Residents and groups interested in volunteering can visit www.dublinprideweek.com or call 925-556-4500. Volunteers who help on Volunteer Day will receive a complimentary day pass to The Wave Waterpark, valid for the 2024 season.

Sunday, April 21

SPRUCE RITUAL WITH LUCIAN KANO BALMER

Experience Spruce Ritual, a musical exploration of two great traditions: eastern Hindustani music and western classical music. Through sublime melodies, intricate compositions, and occasional improvisation, they take the listener on a heartfelt musical journey. Hosted by Livermore Jazz Society. April 21, 2-4 p.m. Details at <https://livermorejazzsociety.org>. To request a seat, email info@livermorejazzsociety.org, or use the web form at www.livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats. If seats are available, you will receive an email with information. Livestream available. \$20 suggested donation per person.

Sunday, April 21

PLEASANTON K-12 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Emerald Hills Chess and the Valley View Elementary PTA invite you to the First Annual Pleasanton Scholastic Chess Open on April 21 at Valley View Elementary in Pleasanton. The tournament is open to all local K-12 players from unrated novices, after-school chess club members, online players trying their first in-person tournament, and of course experienced US Chess Federation-rated competitors. Economical to enter, with trophies for top finishers by section, grade and rating. Register at www.EmeraldHillsChess.com/Tournaments. Contact Admin@EmeraldHillsChess.com for more info.

Thursday, April 25

STATE OF THE COUNTY WINE COUNTRY LUNCHEON

Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce presents the State of the County Wine Country Luncheon, with Supervisor David Haubert. April 25 from 12:30 to 1:30 (11:30 a.m. check-in.) At Garre Vineyard & Winery, 7986 Tesla Rd. \$85 (\$75 LVCC members). Featuring topics relevant to the econ-

omy and presented by well-known experts in their field. To sponsor this event, contact LVCC at 925-447-1606 or see www.livermorechamber.org.

Saturday, April 27

SOUL OF MY SOUL ART EXHIBIT

Soul of my Soul is a family friendly exhibit which takes the visitors on a profound journey of collective grief. This event raises awareness about what is happening in Palestine, allows our community to process their grief, and gives our children an artistic outlet and voice. The artwork displayed is created by children in our community. There are art projects for children, music, and spoken word/poetry by local youth. At Stockmen's Park in Livermore from 12 to 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 27

POLENTA AND CHICKEN CACCIATORE DINNER FUNDRAISER

Held at St. Augustine's Church Hall, 3999 Bernal Ave. in Pleasanton. Tickets are \$45 / children 12 and under \$15. Doors open at 6 p.m. Dinner includes antipasto, salad, rolls, dessert and wine and prizes. Rsvp by April 19: contact Toni at 925-557-6552 or manzettitoni7313@gmail.com (no tickets sold at the door.) Proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Scholarship Program and other ICF charities.

Saturday, April 27

HUMANIST PASSOVER SEDER

Join Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' Secular, Humanist Passover Seder on April 27 for a 5 p.m. ceremony and a 6:30 p.m. potluck in Livermore. Come celebrate freedom from slavery, with songs, wine (or grape juice) and stories of liberation. In-person and Zoom options available. TVCJ is an accepting, welcoming, diverse community of Cultural Jews and their families, affiliated with CSJO. Email culturaljews@gmail.com or call 925-399-8029 for more information.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TOPSCIENCE

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

ONGOING EVENTS

FARMERS MARKETS

Saturday Pleasanton Farmers Market

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

Sunday Livermore Downtown Farmers Market

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

Thursday Night Livermore Farmers Market

Now through to Oct. 10 at Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St., downtown Livermore, from 4 to 8 p.m. See www.livermorefarmersmarket.org.

Thursday Evening Dublin Farmer's Market

The City of Dublin partners with Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association to operate the weekly market on Thursdays, 4 – 8 p.m., through September 26. Opening night on April 4 will kick-off with Multi-Cultural Night, featuring performances from Riar Academy of Performing Arts, WeDance, Pallen's Martial Arts, and Hana Makana Lani. Themed nights will continue the first Thursday of each month. Arts and crafts for kids will be available at the City of Dublin booth.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

GRIEF WORKSHOPS

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Although there is no right or wrong path, these are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey, and we will explore them in this eight-week series workshop. This will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 9 and 16 at 7 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited. A one-time \$20 donation is requested. For more information and to register you can call Barbara at 925-846-3904, or see catholicsofpleasanton.org and scroll down to Grief Ministry and tap on the box. This workshop is open to all, regardless of religious affiliations.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING

The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from Sept. to May, with a short business meeting and a program. The DAR was founded in 1890 and is headquartered in Washington, DC. DAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. Its members are descended from the Patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. For more information, visit jhl.californiadar.org or email jane.everett@sbcbglobal.net.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Asbury United Methodist Church invites the community to join for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. There, discover a church that believes that all people are children of God and are of sacred worth. This community practices loving neighbors in daily life. The church has Sunday School and nursery care, and worship is followed by a fellowship time with bagels, beverages, and great conversation. The church is located at 4743 East Ave., in Livermore. For more information, visit asburylive.org.

WINGS-WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

WINGS-Women in God's Spirit is a faith enhancement group of multi-generational Catholic women who meet Oct. through May on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. The organization now includes the Catholic women of both Livermore and Pleasanton at St. Charles Borromeo, St. Michael, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Augustine. Attendees can enjoy a variety of engaging speaker presentations and topics, small group sharing, fellowship and more. All are welcome. For more information, visit st-charleslivermore.org/wings.

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



The City of Livermore, LARPD and LVJUSD are collaborating to promote volunteerism on over 30 projects throughout Livermore. Photo from 2023 Community Service Day. (Photo courtesy of The City of Livermore)

Livermore to Hold Community Service Day to Beautify the City

Livermore is joining with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD), and Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) to sponsor a Community Service Day on Saturday, May 4, designed to engage volunteers in projects to enhance and beautify the city.

Livermore has identified 30 projects around the city, including park clean-ups, fence painting, tree planting, and beautification efforts.

“We are thrilled to once again join forces with

LARPD and LVJUSD for Community Service Day,” said City Manager Mariana Marysheva. “This event not only strengthens our community bonds but also fosters a sense of pride and ownership in our city.”

Las Positas College will also provide lunch and host a Volunteer Opportunities Fair for those who join in the clean-up and beautification efforts. The festival will also include activities for kids, cardmaking for seniors, and donation drives for local nonprofits. A local

band, Crawdad Republic, will provide entertainment.

“Our schools, parks, and shared city spaces all benefit from the work done on Community Service Day,” said LVJUSD Superintendent Chris VanSchaack. “We invite individuals, families, and community organizations to join us in this rewarding community day of service.”

The city is asking that 800 people volunteer to help. For more information about clean-up sites, or to sign up online, go to livermoreca.gov/csd.

Foothill High School Students Participate in Mock Job Interviews

More than 100 students participated in Foothill DECA’s mock job interviews this year, submitting resumes and answering questions from volunteer interviewers from different career areas.

“The interview was a phenomenal experience,” said Ritvik Misra, Foothill High School (FHS) sophomore and DECA member. “Preparing for the interview was rigorous and extremely useful. Overall, it was a phenomenal learning experience which not only helped

my speaking skills, but my ability to create a connection with my interviewer.”

DECA is a nonprofit organization that helps prepare high school and college students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.

More than 250,000 students, in more than 3,000 schools nationwide, participate in the high school division.

Foothill DECA invited all students in Foothill’s Business Academy classes to participate in the mock

interviews, beginning with submitting resumes and LinkedIn profiles prior to the 15-minute interviews.

Tami Raaker, DECA advisor and Business Academy instructor, also helped prepare the students with pre-interview assignments, including a list of common job-interview questions.

Foothill DECA will also participate in the DECA International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Saturday, April 27, through Tuesday, April 30.

County Accepting Pre-Applications For Home Loan Assistance Program

Alameda County is accepting “pre-applications” for its next round of AC Boost down payment assistance loans for first-time homebuyers.

The program, funded by Measure A1, offers “shared appreciation loans” up to \$210,000.

The loans are interest free and require no monthly payments. Instead, homeowners repay the loan plus

a portion of the appreciation when the home is resold, the owner takes cash out in a refinance, or the 30-year term of the loan ends.

Voters approved the general obligation bond measure with 73% of the vote in 2016.

To qualify, homebuyers must live in, work in, or have been displaced from Alameda County, and have an income at or below 120%

of the Area Median Income (AMI), based on the number of adults in the household.

Pre-applications can be completed online. Applicants who meet the minimum requirements will receive a lottery number and be invited to attend a workshop to learn more about the program.

To submit a pre-application, go to acboost.org or call 510-500-8840.

Sandia Credit Union Launches Annual Scholarship Competition

Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union (SLFCU) is now accepting scholarship applications from credit union members who will be enrolled full-time in a bachelor’s or master’s degree program next fall.

The credit union will award nine scholarships worth \$12,000. The top award winner will receive \$4,000.

“SLFCU is thrilled to launch its annual scholarship competition to support the educational goals of our

college-bound members,” said Stephanie Santillanes, director of community engagement. “The ideas in this year’s winning essays will undoubtedly spark meaningful change and inspire others to take charge of their financial futures.”

This year’s applicants are being asked to submit an essay addressing the question “What are some of the most pressing financial issues facing young adults today, and what can they do to overcome them?”

Applicants also must be current SLFCU members and primary account holders of a credit union savings account.

Applications must be submitted by May 31. Winners will be announced in August 2024.

Based in New Mexico, SLFCU also has a branch office in Livermore. It currently serves more than 140,000 members.

To submit an application, or for more information, go to slfcu.org.

Interfaith Advisory Council to Observe National Day of Prayer on May 2

The Alameda County District 1 Interfaith Advisory Council will mark the 73rd annual National Day of Prayer with a reception and dinner at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Thursday, May 2.

District 1 Supervisor

David Haubert is expected to attend.

Congress established the National Day of Prayer, to be held the first Thursday in May, in 1952. This will be the fourth year that the interfaith advisory council has hosted an event at the

fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

The reception and complementary dinner will begin at 5 p.m. with the interfaith program from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information or to RSVP, go to ac-iac.org. Walk-ins will be welcome.

Purple Orchid Will Host Cabernet Franc Festival

Nearly 50 wineries are expected to participate in the second annual Cab-Franc-A-Palooza at The Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort & Spa in Livermore from Friday, May 3, to Sunday, May 5.

“We’re taking this year’s festival to the next level and the interest and support from Cab Franc producers and consumers has been incredible,” said Steven Kent Mirassou, sixth-generation winemaker and co-founder of the Steven Kent Winery, which specializes in cabernet wines.

The weekend gets started from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday with a blind tasting of 12 cabernet wines. Tickets are \$99 and include a charcuterie box.

The festival will continue at noon on Saturday with the “University of

Cabernet Franc.”

A panel of winemakers, writers, and sommeliers will explore eight Cabernet Franc wines. Tickets are \$109 and include a charcuterie box.

The Purple Orchid, 4549 Cross Road, will also offer Cabernet Franc and sausage pairings at 4 p.m. on Saturday, with six types of homemade sausage from the Livermore Butcher Shop and six different wines.

Tickets for “Francs n’ Franks” are \$119.

As many as 50 wineries will then participate in “The Grand Tasting” from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$99.

For more information or to purchase tickets, go to cabfrancapalooza.com.

OBITUARIES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Ray Dean Hill
March 23, 1936 – April 11, 2024

Ray Dean Hill, 88, surrounded by his loving family went to be with the Lord on April 11, 2024, at his home in Livermore, California. Ray was born on March 23, 1936, in Carter, Oklahoma to Geraldine and Raymond Hill. In 1956 he graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He married his high school sweetheart, and love of his life, Vera Lee Black on August 23, 1956, in Hayden, Arizona.

Ray retired from Chicago Bridge & Iron as a Vice President. He and Vera enjoyed traveling. They lived internationally in Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia. Ray was a man of strong faith, a family man, an avid golfer, a skilled woodworker and car enthusiast. He served as Vice President and Board Member at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. He was also dedicated to service and community at Cedar Grove Community Church. He wholeheartedly loved his family and friends.



Ray is survived by his spouse of 67 years, Vera, his son Alan (Christine) of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, his daughter-in-law Nicola of San Jose, and his daughter Laura (Rob) Hanscom of Livermore; brother-in-law Charles Rhodes of Arizona; grandchildren: Jennifer (Sam), Jeremy, Danielle (Jake), Jason, Jamie (Ralph), Tyler (Jaimie), Jessica and Nathan; great-grandchildren: Trenton, Taryn, Logan, Teagan and Kennedy, and many

nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his son Glen Hill, sisters Glenda Griffith and Patsy Phelan, and his grandson Jason’s fiancé, Shelby

A celebration of life will take place on Saturday, April 27, 1:00 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary (3833 East Avenue, Livermore). Reception to follow at Cedar Grove Community Church (2021 College Ave. Livermore). All friends and family are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to a charity of your choice.

David N. Hansen
May 6, 1939 – March 27, 2024

David N. Hansen was born in Racine, Wisconsin, on May 6, 1939. He later moved to Dublin, California, and then settled in Livermore, California. He passed away on March 27, 2024.

David was devoted to God and to his family. He was a singer and entertainer. He was funny and loved by all.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Kay Hansen; his children Lori Hansen-Carter and Brian Carter, Mark Hansen, Lynn Yamagata and Kent Yamagata, Lisa Hansen and Kevin Crimmins, and Leeanne Hansen; his grandchildren Elizabeth

Hansen and Jason Lehw, Patricia Stewart, Perry Stewart, David Yamagata, Melissa Yamagata, Sarah Lazarin and Enrique Lazarin, and Audrey Jacobson and Justin Jacobson; his great-grandchildren Brianna Stewart, Brody Gutierrez, Hayden Hansen, Marcus Lewis, Dakota Lewis, Penelope Lehw and Baby Lazarin on the way. He was preceded in death by his parents Lyle Hansen and Verna Hansen; his siblings Lyle Hansen, Dean Hansen and Carol Spath; his granddaughter Katrina Yamagata.

He was an accountant and

business manager who worked at several places including JI Case, Clark Equipment, Hitachi, Diablo Auto Body and H&R Block. He volunteered his time for many years with St. Vincent De Paul at St. Michael church.

We will miss him for the rest of our lives, until we see him again in heaven.

A memorial Mass will be held on Friday, April 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., in Livermore, California. A celebration of life will immediately follow the service at 856 Sundial Circle, Livermore, California.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bonnie Joyce Hughes (Welch)
Dec. 6, 1940 – Feb. 22, 2024

Bonnie Joyce Hughes (Welch) passed away on Feb. 22, 2024, in Livermore, California, at the age of 83. She was born on Dec. 6, 1940, in Stockton, California.

Bonnie loved her family above all else and was known for her caring, devoted, attentive, smart, beautiful, and generous nature. She was a wonderful mother to her two children, and a loving wife to her husband. She had a big heart and dedicated her time to various causes, including the local animal rescue, Paws in Need. She also worked tirelessly fundraising with Daffodil Days, benefiting the American Cancer Society.

Bonnie started her career at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1959, where she worked for more than 30 years. She excelled in her roles at the lab and forged lifelong friendships, including the one with her beloved husband, Don Hughes. They married on June 4, 1961.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Don Hughes, her son Matt Hughes (Cindy), her daughter Hillary Hull, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren (soon to be five). Bonnie is also sur-



vived by John and Marilyn Hughes, and many beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Don and Alma Welch, her sister Lani Welch-Mandon, nephew Scottie Mandon, John and Frances Hughes, and sister-in-law Joan Madsen.

Bonnie worshipped at Cornerstone Fellowship and was an avid reader, attending

both book clubs and Bible studies. She enjoyed traveling the world with her husband, engaging in hobbies like mah-jongg, cycling, scuba diving, running and skiing. When she no longer skied, she enjoyed every call she got from her son on the slopes. She also loved time spent advocating for animals with her daughter.

A celebration of life will be held on April 26, 2024, from 1-4 p.m. at Del Valle Winery, 4948 Tesla Road, Livermore. Contributions can be made to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society or any animal-related charity, in Bonnie’s memory.

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

Livermore Baseball Team Sweeps the Dublin Gaels

By Phil Jensen

Livermore High School baseball pitcher Josh Rodriguez was practically unhittable against Dublin on April 10.

The 6-foot senior right-hander allowed only a third-inning single in a complete-game shutout and was a key to the Cowboys' sweep of the Gaels in East Bay Athletic League action.

"That's the game," said Livermore coach Dave Perotti about Rodriguez's pitching performance in the 7-0 win. "Yeah, we had some clutch hits in there; without Josh, it doesn't happen. One hit, shutout, you don't lose that way."

Livermore also out-slugged host Dublin 10-7 on April 12 to improve to 11-7 overall and 3-5 in the EBAL. Dublin fell to 8-9 and 3-4 with the loss.

The final score of the April 10 game is deceiving — the game was scoreless through four-and-a-half

innings. Dublin's Desi Lopez, who pitched the first five innings, allowed only two hits during the first four. The senior was aided by three double plays in the first four innings by the Gaels' infield.

Dublin's infield also turned a double play in the first inning and Cowboys catcher Mateo Bullis threw out baserunners on steal attempts in the second and third innings.

AJ Cook broke the scoreless game with a two-out, bases-loaded single that plated two runs in the fifth inning. But the Cowboys took total control in the sixth with five runs, four of them with two outs.

Zach Bickerton led off with a double into the left field-center field gap. He advanced to third and scored on a Dublin throwing error. After Dublin turned a double play to clear the bases, Livermore filled them again on an infield single by Jaden Vassallo, a walk to Hayden Maas, and Tanner Lee was

hit by a pitch. Cook walked to force in a run, Andrew Arante produced a two-run single and Cook scored on a wild pitch for the final run of the game.

Rodriguez retired the final seven batters he faced, four by strikeout. He finished with eight strikeouts and four walks.

"Definitely my slider was working ... little sharp grade, it was really nice," said Rodriguez, who also said he was just concentrating on throwing strikes in the game.

Arante finished 2 for 2 with two RBI. Vassallo was 2 for 2 with two runs scored, and Cook was 1 for 2 with two walks, a run scored and three RBI.

Tyler Coto had Dublin's hit and finished 1 for 2.

On April 12, Livermore had another big sixth inning with six runs and led 10-4 going into Dublin's final at-bat. CJ Johnston and Cook both had home runs in the game for Livermore and



Cowboys pitcher Josh Rodriguez (above) allowed only one hit during Livermore's April 10 game against the Gaels. Livermore won 7-0. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

drove in two runs apiece. Maas had a triple and three RBI. Bullis was 2 for 3 with a run scored, and Lee was 2 for 5 with a run scored and an RBI.

For Dublin, Brendan Modellmog was 4 for 5 with a triple and three RBI. Elijah McNeal was 3 for 4 with two RBI, and Zach Wong was also 3 for 4.

With that victory, Livermore won five of its last six games entering this week. Perotti pointed out that his team has played in nine one-run games this season, which has made the team battle-tested.

Livermore played a nonleague game at San Marin-Novato on April 15 before hosting California

on April 17. Both games occurred after this article's deadline. The Cowboys travel to face Foothill on April 24 for a 4 p.m. game.

Dublin hosted Foothill on April 15 before a series against Amador Valley started on April 17. Both games occurred after this article's deadline. The Gaels host the Dons on April 19 at 4 p.m.



Above, Granada first baseman Riley Winchell tries a pickoff on Amador runner Kyle Barbera during their April 12 game. The Matadors won 8-2. (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Granada Baseball Team Bounces Back With Win Over Amador Valley

By Phil Jensen

After losing its first game of the season on April 10 after a 16-0 start, the Granada High School baseball team put that behind them with an impressive 8-2 victory over host Amador Valley on April 12.

"We did a good job of playing catch and doing what we've been doing all year, which is battle at the plate and throw strikes early in the count, and good things can happen when you do that," said Granada coach Corrigan Willis, whose team was ranked 24th nationally and fourth in the state by MaxPreps.com entering this week. "We've gotten a lot of attention nationally, there's a lot of noise like rankings and stuff. Our focus is playing baseball, not all the other stuff that's going on. ... We've got a lot of baseball left against some really good teams, and we can't pay attention to what's going on with the rankings."

Amador Valley was victorious over the host Matadors 5-2 on April 10, but it was Granada's bats that came alive two days later, scoring all of their runs in the final four innings. Granada improved to 17-1 overall and 6-1 in the East Bay Athletic League with the win on April 12. Amador Valley fell to 9-9, 4-4.

The game was scoreless through the first three innings before Granada took the

lead to stay in the top of the fourth. Willis mentioned the bottom of the third as a key part of the game. Amador Valley had runners on second and third base with one out, but Granada starting pitcher Parker Warner kept the ball from reaching the outfield and recorded two straight outs to end the inning.

"It's a different game if we don't execute there defensively, and we did a good job there," Willis said. "We know Amador is always tough, they play you tight."

In the fourth, Warner reached base on a leadoff single. Two batters later, Riley Winchell launched a two-run home run.

But perhaps the key half-inning was Granada's in the fifth. The first five Granada batters all reached base, including a two-run double by Warner for a 4-0 lead. The Matadors also scored when Tommy Brown slid under a tag at home after an infield grounder, and a Dons' double play allowed another run to cross home plate.

"The one inning killed us," said Amador Valley coach Lou Cesario. "They're really good. You give them chances like that, they're going to kill you, and they did."

Granada produced its final two runs in the seventh on an RBI single by Mikey Boyd and an error. Amador Valley tallied its two runs in the bottom of the seventh on

an error and a groundout.

Warner pitched the first five innings, allowing no runs on three hits and no walks. The Stanford signee also was 3 for 4 at the plate with two RBI and two runs scored. Teammate Chase Nadeau was 2 for 3 with a run scored. For Amador Valley, Kyle Barbera was 2 for 2.

On April 10, Amador Valley never trailed, as it scored two runs in the second inning and three runs in the sixth.

"They're good, but, you know, we were good Wednesday too," said Cesario, whose team has lost six games by one run this season. "We've just got to bounce back (from the loss on April 12) and be ready to go Wednesday against Dublin."

Aaron Solomon and Barbera both had two hits, including doubles, in Amador Valley's win on April 10. Solomon had two RBI and Barbera had one. Matthew Foley pitched a complete-game six-hitter, striking out five and walking none, for the victory. Winchell and Boyd had home runs for Granada, and Peyton Richards was 2 for 3.

Granada hosted Foothill on April 17 after this article went to press, and the Falcons host the Matadors on April 19 at 4 p.m. Amador Valley played Dublin on April 17 and travels to Dublin for an April 19 game at 4 p.m.

Corgis and Other Dogs Will Be Celebrated at Fairgrounds

The Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton will host StumpyCon, a celebration of Corgis and other short-legged dogs, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 20.

StumpyCon is being organized by the same people in San Francisco who have been sponsoring Corgi Con for the past 10 years. The Alameda County Fairgrounds also hosted Corgi Con last year.

StumpyCon will include a "Shorties Showcase" with dogs, and some owners, decked out in movie-themed costumes; a "Stumpies Got Talent" contest with the winners selected by audience applause; "That's So Fetch," a timed and Frisbee and ball-retrieving competition.

There will also be a StumpyMart with vendors offering merchandise de-

signed for short-legged dogs and other pet products, and food trucks for the humans.

Tickets at the fairgrounds are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children from 7 to 12. Discounts are available for advance purchases online at tinyurl.com/mw3z7z2h.

This is a dog-friendly event, and leashed pets are welcome.



April is National Volunteer Month. Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) Alameda County chapter has been building beds since 2012 for Tri-Valley children who don't have beds to sleep in. (Photo courtesy of SHP)

THE *Independent*

Now Seeking Freelance Reporters

The Independent is engaging freelance reporters to cover breaking news, government meetings, science and cultural topics and feature pieces in the Tri-Valley. Must have at least two years of experience writing for a newspaper or news website. Prefer candidates who live in the Tri-Valley, but will consider others willing to report in the region.

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

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES		
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605004 The following person(s) doing business as: Quality Construction Supply II, 602 8th Street, Oakland, CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Luxury Building Materials Supply Inc., 2801 Bayview Dr., Alameda, CA 94501. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced	to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jimmy Ng, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5866. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.	Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cameron Miller, 3176 Rodeo Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Cameron Miller, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 15, 2024. Expires March 14, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5867. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604866 The following person(s) doing business as: Tri-Valley Adventure Travel, 3176 Rodeo Lane,		

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trant/s/: Jimmy Ng, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5868. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.				
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 566812 The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Kiwin, 1066 Trojan Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/23/2019. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Xiaodong Li, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2024. The Independent, Legal No. 5869. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.				
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 566813 The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Sha Star, 1066 Trojan Ave, San Leandro, CA 94579. The fictitious business name statement was filed on 12/23/2019. This business was conducted by the following owner(s): Seamus Nelson, 4140 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609-2603; Joshua Nelson, 4140 Emerald St., Oakland, CA 94609-2603. This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Seamus Nelson, General Partner. This statement				

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was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 5, 2024. Expires March 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5871. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604898

The following person(s) doing business as: Gina Crystal Gypsy, 33170 Alvarado Niles Rd, #1629, Union City CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Melinda Dinh, 33170 Alvarado Niles Rd, # 1629 Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/19/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Melinda Dinh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2024. Expires March 18, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5872. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604844

The following person(s) doing business as: Wonderlind Soul, 4313 Daffodil Way, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Priscilla Keeton, 4313 Daffodil Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/16/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Priscilla Keeton, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2024. Expires March 17, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5873. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604535

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Shadow Studio, 12061 Pleasant way, Sunol, CA 94586 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chris Sehenuk, 12061 Pleasant Way, Sunol, CA 94586. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Chris Sehenuk, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2024. Expires March 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5874. Published March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604325

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxy Flow, 2027 Harrington Ave, Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Trek Trading International Inc., 2027 Harrington Ave, Oakland, CA 94601. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/28/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kevin Truong, Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 28, 2024. Expires February 27, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5877. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605033

The following person(s) doing business as: Animata Scientific, 1272 Rincon Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jay Salmonson, 1272 Rincon Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jay Salmonson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 22, 2024. Expires March 21, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5878. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604422

The following person(s) doing business as: Well-Being Life-force Systems, 1553 Alice Street Apt 217, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Diana Romero, 1553 Alice Street Apt 217, Oakland, CA 94612. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Diana Romero, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2024. Expires March 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5879. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604767

The following person(s) doing business as: Quantal Technology, 1225 Riesling Circle, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Farley, 1225 Riesling Circle, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 02/12/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: David Farley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 13, 2024. Expires March 12, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5880. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604654

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Capital Mortgage Group; 2. DNR Capital Real Estate; 3. Sheeno General Construction, 6690 Amador Plaza Rd Suite 250, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Diane Rise, 3533 Ashbourne Cir, San Ramon, CA 94583. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/7/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Diane Rise, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 8, 2024. Expires March 7, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5881. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605106

The following person(s) doing business as: A's Duct Systems Cleaning, 344 20th St #N8, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AAA Enterprises, LLC, 344 20th ST #N8, Oakland, CA 94612. 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/: Angel Altamirano Vasquez, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 582. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605099

The following person(s) doing business as: Sparkling Clean Mobile, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lorrin Huerta, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550; Joel Huerta, 2275 Stonebridge Rd, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lorrin Huerta, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5883. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605102

The following person(s) doing business as: All Bay Limousine, 33476 Alvarado Niles Road Suite 7, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): All Bay Limo In., 3556 Smith St., Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/1/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Babar Mohammad, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 26, 2024. Expires March 25, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5884. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605131

The following person(s) doing business as: Luxoral, 25369 Ironwood CT, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Luxoral Dental Hygiene Practice at Edris Kareemzadeh, RDHAP, 25369 Ironwood CT, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/26/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Edris Kareemzadeh, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2024. Expires March 26, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5885. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604714

The following person(s) doing business as: Choice Tint, 4202 Stanley Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Paulo Maldonado 468 Amara Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This

business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Paulo Maldonado, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 11, 2024. Expires March 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5886. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604994

The following person(s) doing business as: J Mason Home Service, 11501 Dublin BLVD, Ste 200, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J Mason Home Renovation LLC, 11501 Dublin BLVD, Ste 200, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: James R. Abernathy Jr., Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 21, 2024. Expires March 20, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5887. Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Raul Fernando Castro Case No. 24PR069188

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of **Raul Fernando Castro**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **Richard David Castro**, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition for probate requests that **Richard David Castro** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONE AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probatedclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **May 6, 2024, 9:45 A.M.**

**Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704**
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and ap-

praisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. **Attorney for Petitioner: Kelsey L. Kern
Ogden Law Firm, PC
1535 J Street, Suite A
Modesto, CA 95354
Telephone: (209) 524-4466**
The Independent, Legal No. 5888. Published April 11, 18, 25, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605330

The following person(s) doing business as: Prachie Studio, 31297 Santa Rita Way, Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Prachi Shah, 31297 Santa Rita Way, Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Prachi Shah, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 4, 2024. Expires April 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5889. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605203

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Fred N SayDee; 2. Fred and SayDee, 4078 Standford Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Roxanne Portillo, 4078 Standford Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/29/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Roxanne Portillo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5890. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604504

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri-Valley Tracy Jobs, 1368 Capri Court, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kinnect Consulting, LLC, 1368 Capri Court, 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/: Shirley Louis, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2024. Expires March 5, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5891. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604721

The following person(s) doing business as: Jump Around Party Rentals, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, 263 Martin Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Geoffrey Pi-Gonzalez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2024. Expires March 11, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5892. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605192

The following person(s) doing business as: Par 5 Golfing, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Par 5 Golfing LLC, 7022 Village Pkwy, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Ishrat N. Zahid, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5893. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605201

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Premier Beer And Sake; 2. Premier Signs, 25509 Industrial Blvd , Unit G8, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Premier Pos LLC, 25509 Industrial Blvd , Unit G8, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/29/24. Signature of Registrant/s/: Richard Huo, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2024. Expires March 28, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5894. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604670

The following person(s) doing business as: Globocoatings, 2484 Regal Dr., Union City, CA 94587 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Frank Zepeda IV, 2484 Regal Dr., Union City, CA 94587. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Frank Zepeda IV, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 11, 2024. Expires March 10, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5895. Published April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2024.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24CV070547

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner:
Ana Margarita Vega Rodriguez
1390 Capri Court
Livermore, CA 94550

filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Names:

Madeline Patricia Brown

Proposed Name:

Madeline Patricia Brown-Vega

THE COURT ORDERS

that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 05/16/2024

Time: 10:0 AM

Dept: 14

The address of the court is:
**Alameda County
Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612**

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation printed in this county: The Independent Newspaper 2250 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Dated: 4/5/2024 /s/: By
Milagros Cortez, Deputy Clerk.
The Independent, Legal No. 5896. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605210

The following person(s) doing business as: SynergyAl, 3014 Calle De Mesa, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Synchronous Energy Systems LLC, 3014 Calle De Mesa, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/1/2024. Signature of Registrant/s/: Bryan S. Lewis, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 31, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5897. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605349

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Latin Bowls; 2. Gilda's Catering Experts, 223 Swallowtail CT, Brisbane, CA 94005 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gilda Centeno Vergara, 223 Swallowtail CT, Brisbane, CA 94005. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gilda Centeno Vergara, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 5, 2024. Expires April 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5898. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605329

The following person(s) doing business as: Protein Research, 1852 Rutan Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Berkeley Nutritional Manufacturing Corp, 1852 Rutan Drive, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 3/9/2009. Signature of Registrant/s/: Matt Galeazzi, Controller. This statement was

filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 4, 2024. Expires April 3, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5899. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 605365

The following person(s) doing business as: Sofia's Design Studio, 2571 Walker Place, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sofia Moufarrrej, 2571 Walker Place, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Sofia Moufarrrej, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 5, 2024. Expires April 4, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5900. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 604952

The following person(s) doing business as: Good Forever, 4101 Dublin Blvd Ste F107, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Peiyi Tan, 4101 Dublin Blvd Ste F107, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Peiyi Tan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2024. Expires March 29, 2029. The Independent, Legal No. 5901. Published April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2024.

C L A S S I F I E D S

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Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown will run for re-election as her city's civic leader. She will be vying for a third two-year term. (Photo courtesy: Karla Brown)

Brown Seeks a Third Term as Pleasanton Mayor

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown this week announced that she will be running for a third two-year term in the general election in November.

“My work is not done,” Brown said, citing goals of increasing the use of technology to protect Pleasanton residents, fully staffing the police and fire departments to respond to emergency calls, and securing additional sources of drinking water.

“We have outstanding

support from our police officers, mental health clinicians, and our firefighters during emergency 911 calls for service,” Brown said. “I will continue to work with the city manager to utilize the latest technology available to prevent property crimes and improve resident safety, while filling open positions with highly trained personnel.”

Brown also noted that the city’s water infrastructure is aging and said it is

time for repair and replacement work to begin.

In addition, she said Pleasanton needs new sources of water for times of drought and to replace wells that were shut down after they were found to be contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Brown said she supports drilling new wells for drinking water in PFAS-free zones to diversify supplies and reduce water costs.

Brown was first elected

mayor in 2020. Prior to that, she spent eight years as a Pleasanton City Council member.

The city council is comprised of the mayor and four council members. Council members are elected by district to four-year terms; the mayor is elected at-large to two-year terms.

A 25-year resident of Pleasanton, Brown is a broker/Realtor with Berkshire HomeServices Drysdale Properties, according to

her online LinkedIn profile. She has a bachelor’s degree in marketing from San Jose State University.

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Dublin Announces Farmers Market Concerts

Dublin has announced a series of eight summer concerts to be held at the Dublin Farmers Market, beginning Thursday, June 6, through Thursday, Aug. 1.

The seasonal market will return to Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday from April 1 through Sept. 26, except

July 4, with locally grown fruits and vegetables, baked goods, hot food vendors, and beer and wine sold by the Dublin Lions Club.

The Summer Concert Series will get underway on June 6 with Mercy & the Heartbeats, a Bay Area dance band.

Also on the schedule are The Sky Kings with classic

rock and country on June 13; India-born blues musician and harmonica virtuoso Aki Kumar, now from San Jose, on June 20; The Peelers, a Bay Area cover band featuring mashups and medleys of the latest radio hits, on June 27; and Notorious, a San Francisco dance band covering classic rock and Motown hits

from the ‘70s, ‘80s, and ‘90s on July 11.

Rounding out the series will be The Big Jangle, a Tom Petty Tribute band, on July 18; Carnaval, a Santana tribute band, on July 25; and Wonder Bread 5, a rock ‘n’ roll party band, on Aug. 1.

The free concerts will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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Speaker Discusses the Relevance of Poetry

Gillian Wegener, former poet laureate of Modesto, will give a presentation titled “The Relevance of Poetry in Our Everyday Lives” at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Los Positas College in Livermore on Saturday, April 20.

“We turn to poetry in times of grief and in times of celebration,” Wegener



Gillian Wegener

said. “It comforts us, it inspires us, and it connects us to each other. Every year someone says that poetry is dead or dying, and every year, they are proven wrong. Poetry is relevant every day, everywhere, and for just about everyone.”

Wegener is founding president of the nonprofit Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry

Center and the author of two [poetry collections, “The Opposite of Clairvoyance” and “This Sweet Haphazard.”

The Tri-Valley Writers Club will meet from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Room 2470 in the Multi-Disciplinary Building at Los Positas.

To register for the meeting, go to trivalleywriters.org.

SPARC Performs Shakespeare Romantic Comedy

The Livermore-based Shakespeare & Performing Arts Regional Company (SPARC) has begun casting for its summer Shakespeare in the Vineyard production of Shakespeare’s romantic comedy, “Twelfth Night.”

In “Twelfth Night,” a young woman, Viola, disguises herself as a male page. She then falls in love with Duke Orsino, who is in love with Countess Olivia, who falls in love with Viola,

thinking that she is a man.

The play will be presented weekends from Saturday, July 6, through Sunday, July 28, on the outdoor stage at the Darcie Kent Vineyard, 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore.

SPARC focuses on bringing in actors from the Bay Area for its annual Shakespeare in the Vineyard production, previously known as the Livermore Shakespeare Festival.

“We are excited to showcase these professional local artists while bringing the magic of live theater to our community in a unique and beautiful setting,” said SPARC Artistic Director Lisa Tromovitch, who will direct “Twelfth Night.” “Our goal is to create an immersive experience that allows families from across the region to experience the joy of live theater while fostering community and

creating lasting memories underneath the stars.”

Tickets will go on sale April 1. For more information, go to sparctheater.org.

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Cowboy Balladeer Will Headline a Fundraiser Concert at the Bankhead

Cowboy balladeer Dave Stamey will headline a concert fundraiser for the Alameda County Cattlewomen’s Association at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Thursday, April 18.



Western music crooner Dave Stamey will perform at the Bankhead Theater on Thursday, April 18. (Photo by Anita Crane)

Stamey, who has been a cowboy, mule packer, and dude wrangler, is one of the most popular contemporary Western entertainers.

He was named Best Living Western Solo Musician

by True West Magazine four years in a row, from 2010 through 2014. The Western Music Association recognized him as Entertainer of the Year and Male Performer of the Year seven times, and Songwriter of the Year five times.

Stamey also received the Will Rogers Award from the Academy of Western Artists and was inducted into the Western Music Hall of Fame in 2016. Western Horseman Magazine has called Stamey’s “Vaquero Song” to be one of the greatest Western songs of all time.

Tickets for the 7 p.m. concert start at \$65 and are available online at livermorearts.org.

The fundraiser will also include a silent auction.

The Alameda County Cattlewomen’s Association is a nonprofit that promotes the beef industry and the role it plays in the environment and national economy.

Las Positas College Theater to Hold Auditions for Musical Comedy

The Theater Arts program at Las Positas College will hold in-person auditions for “Escape to Margaritaville,” a musical comedy based on songs by Jimmy Buffett, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, April 22.

The play revolves around a part-time bartender for a rundown hotel, Margaritaville, on a Caribbean Island who falls in love with a tourist from Cincinnati.

It includes such Buffet

classics as “Cheeseburger in Paradise,” “Margaritaville,” “It’s Five O’clock Somewhere,” “Fins,” and “Volcano.”

Anyone who is interested in auditioning should prepare 32 bars of a musical theatre song in the style of a Buffet classic from the ‘60’s, ‘70’s, or 80’s. They should also bring a resume and headshot, if available, and sheet music in the appropriate key.

The college will provide accompaniment.

Callbacks will be by invitation only on Tuesday, April 23.

Cast members must enroll in Performance in Production – Introduction to Musical Theater, with tuition of \$150. Scholarships may be available, and enrollment must be completed by May 25.

To schedule an audition, go to tinyurl.com/jd44j5c5.

Livermore Schools and the State of Our Sons



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Sunday, April 21, 2024
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