THE Independent

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At FCI Dublin

Inmates File Lawsuit for Sexual Abuse

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Eight women filed a class action lawsuit last week against the federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) alleging system officials allowed Federal Correctional Institute (FCI) Dublin staff to commit horrific sexual abuse for years against female inmates locked inside the facility.

The civil lawsuit filed Aug. 16 in U.S. District Court in Oakland accuses FCI Dublin officials and individual officers of rape and sexual assault, drugging and groping inmates during medical exams, making degrading comments, taking explicit photos and sharing them, forcing women to undress to be released from their cells for meals or activities, and targeting immigrants with threats of deportation. It contends BOP leadership knew about the alleged abuse, but did nothing.

"This dangerous state of affairs has continued, unabated, across multiple decades and multiple administrations," the lawsuit states. "In recent years, staff sexual abuse at FCI Dublin has been so severe that the facility became the center of a sprawling criminal investigation, multiple Congressional inquiries, and national media attention. The U.S. Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations devoted multiple hearings to addressing its causes and impact and issued a report in December 2022 describing the abuse as "horrific."

Emery Nelson, a spokesperson for the BOP, which oversees FCI Dublin and about 130 federal prisons across the nation, stated, "The Federal Bureau of Prisons does not comment on pending litigation or matters that are the subject of legal proceedings."

The lawsuit – filed by the female inmates and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) – is the latest legal action to focus attention on toxic conditions behind the walls of FCI Dublin, a low-security facility that houses about 635 women prisoners.

(See LAWSUIT, page 6)



Donielle Machi, principal at Joe Michell Elementary School in Livermore, welcomes students to the first day of school on Monday, Aug. 21. [*See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia*] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Pleasanton Council Considers New Ballot Measure to Increase Taxes

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — Financial headwinds may push the city to attempt its first local-revenue ballot measure since its incorporation in 1894.

The city council discussed, with mixed enthusiasm at its Aug. 15 meeting, the possibility of asking voters to approve a measure levying residents or businesses to increase city revenues.

"That is the ultimate democracy process in motion there, because the voters will make a decision," said Bonnie Moss, principal at Clifford Moss, which the city hired to provide revenue-strategy consulting.

Pleasanton lost about $11.0 million in hotel tax revenues between 2020 and 2023 because of the pandemic, said Mayor Karla Brown.

"A lot of these things – especially like the water infrastructure, pension obligations – these are very huge amounts of money. Cutting a little over here or a little over here is not going to solve that issue."

– Valerie Arkin,
Pleasanton City Councilmember

Additionally, reduced sales tax from the flagging Stoneridge Shopping Center and the delayed Costco project have also failed to help pay for the city's rising infrastructure costs and pension obligations, necessitating new revenue streams.

The city's 10-year infrastructure plan, presented in March, estimated a need for roughly $900 million over the next 10 years to keep the city's systems in good repair, including pipe replacements and a PFAS treatment solution for its water system.

And while the city has taken steps to proactively fund its pension obligations, those rising costs will still weigh down

(See TAXES, page 7)

Realtors Face Penalties for Sign Violations

By David Jen

DUBLIN — The city will attempt to settle arguments between local realtors over real estate sign placements with bigger penalties and updated rules, adopted at the Aug. 15 city council meeting.

The new rules, which the council approved unanimously, increase the number of signs allowed per advertised property, from four to six, in response to realtor complaints that four signs sometimes proved inadequate directing potential buyers to hard-to-find houses.

But the rules also move the sign-removal deadline up from sunset to 5:30 p.m. and clarify the city's authority to issue fines to enforce the ordinance.

"We were hoping that the realtors would be able to solve it amongst themselves – that it wouldn't have to come to council," said Mayor Melissa Hernandez. "And it's not that we're afraid of doing something; it's just that we really wanted the realtors to really communicate with each other and really solve this issue. But it seems like now it's getting to the point where it's not being solved."

Before the city previously sent courtesy letters to offending realtors, but now will begin issuing citations after the first warning, charging offenders $100, $250 and $500 for subsequent violations along with a notice to appear in court.

City Attorney John Bakker said that the city would also consider destroying offending signs as an added violation deterrent. Dublin currently contacts violators and allows them to pick up the signs.

According to the staff report, complaints received

(See SIGN, page 6)

Effort to Recall District Attorney Officially Begins

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Saying District Attorney Pamela Price has chosen criminals over the community, a group calling itself "Save Alameda for Everyone (SAFE) last week officially launched a campaign to recall the county's top prosecutor just months into her term.

The group — describing itself as a coalition of residents, business owners, concerned citizens and victims and their families — filed a notice of intent Aug. 15 with the county registrar's office to circulate a recall petition.

"DA Price's failure to bring law and order to Alameda County isn't because of incompetence. It is calculated," SAFE said in a statement. "She is willfully fomenting a culture of violence that serves criminals, instead of cracking down on crime to keep violent criminals off our streets. By refusing to charge and prosecute those who commit heinous crimes, she is sending a clear message to the community – we are on our own."

Lauren Richardson, a spokesperson for Price's recent election campaign, did not respond to a request for comment on the recall effort.

The group's move comes weeks after Price rebuffed

(See RECALL, page 9)

LLNL Physicist Honored

By Jeff Garberson

REGIONAL — The late Maggie Gee, a Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory physicist and a pioneering World War II aviator, was scheduled to be inducted into the California Hall of Fame as the Independent went to press this week.

Gee was one of only two Chinese American women chosen to fly aircraft for the U.S. Army Air Force under the World War II program, Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP.)

At a time when women were not allowed into combat, the WASP program was created to carry out domestic aviation jobs, like ferrying aircraft and training new pilots, without tying up combat-qualified male pilots.

More than 25,000 women applied for flight training, but only 1,830 were accepted, according to a New York Times article. Of these, more than 40% washed out.

Gee, a third generation American, was born Gee Mei Gue in Berkeley in 1923. Her grandparents came to California from Guangzhou, China in the 1870s.

In an article published in an LLNL magazine in

(See PHYSICIST, page 6)



From left: Sakhi Nagar, Hanini Praneshkumar and Sadhana Auguste of the Kalaikoil Dance and Arts company perform during Dublin's Farmers Market on Thursday, Aug. 17. [*See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia*] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



Elected officials were put to work at the Sunflower Hill 10th Anniversary Celebration in the Garden, planting basil and rainbow chard. Pictured from left: Chris Bogert, Sunflower Hill Garden co-founder; Pleasanton City Councilmember Valerie Arkin; Evan Branning, Livermore city councilmember; Pleasanton Vice Mayor Jack Balch; Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez; Susan Houghton, Sunflower Hill founder; Dublin City Councilmember Sherry Hu; Jean Josey, Dublin city councilmember; Livermore Mayor John Marchand; Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and Lynn Monica, co-founder Sunflower Hill. (Photo courtesy of Sunflower Hill)

Local Officials, Community Celebrate Sunflower Hill's 10 Years of Service

LIVERMORE — The community recently celebrated Sunflower Hill's 10th anniversary with a garden party at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore on Aug. 19.

Local officials were in attendance, including Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Livermore City Councilmember Evan Branning, Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, Pleasanton Vice Mayor Jack Balch, Pleasanton Councilmember Valerie Arkin, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez and Dublin Councilmembers Jean Josey and Sherry Hu.

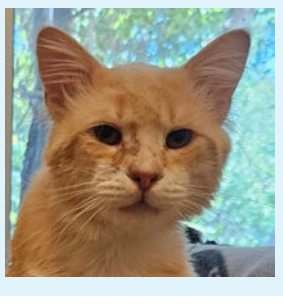
As a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit, Sunflower Hill for the past 10 years has co-developed residential communities and created programs and activities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As part of its services, the organization offers gardening programs for educational, therapeutic and life-skills training purposes. During the celebration, attendees participated in garden tours, bouquet making, and sunflower seed packing led by Sunflower Hill staff. The event included planting basil and rainbow chard and harvesting tomatoes.

Herb Ritter, Sunflower Hill board president, welcomed attendees and shared his appreciation for the support received over the years. He said he feels this well-known quote truly reflects the work done at the Sunflower Hill Garden: "Help when you can. Be there when you can. Encourage when you can. A truly happy life comes from giving more than you take."

The Hands-On Garden programs offered at the Sunflower Hill Garden provide opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Participants are able to learn important life and social skills through gardening activities, and are able to feel a sense of giving back to the community. More than 90% of produce and flowers grown at the garden are donated to local

(See SUNFLOWER, page 6)

PET OF THE WEEK



BOB

Brimming with bliss, Bob the big-hearted cat with a beautifully bush tail beckons. Bring this beloved boy home for big purrs and bounteous floofs. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

(Photo - Valley Humane Society)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Classifieds 11
Editorial 4
Mailbox 4
Obituaries 9
Sports.....10

Winery Hosts Fundraiser for Maui Wildfire Victims 2
Dublin Shop Owner Arrested on Weapons Charges 2
Livermore's Blessing of the Grapes 3
3CVF Accepting Applications for Mental Health Grants 10
Sandia Researcher Honored 12
County Reports First Human Case of West Nile 12



A visitor studies paintings on display at the Art in the Park event in Livermore on Sunday, Aug. 20. Located at Carnegie Park, the show was presented by the Livermore Art Association and featured a variety of local artists work and exhibits. *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia]* (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Dublin Shop Owner Arrested, Charged With Illegal Firearms, Child Endangerment

Deepak Chopra, 51, owner of Dublin Knives, has been charged with possession of illegal firearms and child endangerment, according to the Dublin Police Department.

Police said more than 2000 switchblade knives, 40 rifles and handguns, body armor, four cane swords, 245 sets of brass knuckles, and other weapons were seized during a search of the business, 6500 Dublin Blvd., on Friday, Aug. 11.

A subsequent search of Chopra's residence in Livermore turned up another 19 rifles of various makes and calibers, 25 lower receivers for assault-style rifles, more than 50 high-capacity magazines, parts for a .30 caliber machine gun, and a jig for making "personally manufactured firearms."

A third search warrant was issued after police learned that Chopra had a storage unit in Livermore, where officers said they found an additional 50 rifles, 30 handguns, and a fully automatic, .30 caliber machine gun.



A cache of weapons was confiscated from the owner of Dublin Knives on Friday, Aug. 11. (Photo courtesy of Dublin Police Department)

Federal Grants Awarded to Transit Agencies

By Hannah Ferguson and David Jen

This year's federal Low- and No-Emission Grant program awarded nearly $1.7 billion to transit agencies around the country for zero-emission buses, according to an announcement in June from the Federal Transit Administration. The awards, in addition to carbon reductions nationwide, will also help stimulate the economy here in the Tri-Valley.

"Every day, over 60,000 buses in communities of all sizes take millions of Americans to work, school, and everywhere else they need to go," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "Today's announcement means more clean buses, less pollution, more jobs in manufacturing and maintenance, and better commutes for families across the country."

Livermore-based GILLIG, LLC reported that nearly half of its partnerships have used funding from the Low-No program to purchase its buses.

A leading manufacturer of heavy-duty transit buses, GILLIG's first battery electric bus was introduced in 2016, which led to several additional models, including hybrid electric, near-zero emission compressed natural gas, and clean diesel buses. Today, they provide these buses to more than 50 customers around the U.S.

Wheels, the bus service operated by the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), currently operates 60 GILLIG diesel-hybrid buses ranging between 30 and 40 feet long, according to its 2022 Zero-Emission Bus Rollout Plan. The fleet burns about 416,000 gallons of diesel annually at an average fleet efficiency of 5.01 miles per gallon.

But the transit authority must also respond to the Innovative Clean Transit regulation of 2018, which set small-agency bus-purchase requirements at 25% of new bus purchases at zero emission between 2026 and 2028, and 100% of purchases at zero emission by Jan. 1, 2029.

LAVTA's rollout plan detailed its intentions to pursue a hydrogen fuel-cell electric bus (FCEB) fleet, with projections to become emissions free in 2034, when it will operate 68 FCEB buses. As the 2029 deadline only restricts new bus purchases, existing buses will run a little longer.

"The LAVTA Board has been fully supportive throughout the development of the FCEB transition plan," wrote the plan. "The cities of Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton, and also Alameda County, have all adopted Climate Action Plans that strategize to meet GHG reduction targets, ultimately benefiting communities through cleaner air, greater independence from fossil fuels, and more environmental sustainability."

Similar to battery-electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles rely on a chemical reaction to produce electricity and power an electric motor. The difference lies in refueling. Battery-electric vehicles recharge via sometimes lengthy electrical processes, but hydrogen fuel cell vehicles only need to have their hydrogen tanks refilled.

Both forms of energy storage can be charged with carbon-emitting or carbon-free power sources. While the California Energy Commission reports some 760,000 battery-electric vehicles sold in California, their fuel-cell counterparts have tallied less than 12,000 sales thus far.

But LAVTA still cited California as having "the most mature hydrogen fueling network in the nation," including the First Element Fuel distribution center in Livermore, which plans to increase its pump testing capabilities at the Livermore hub within the next three years, according to an Aug. 15 press release from First Element. The agency expects the number of California hydrogen production and distribution centers for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to grow as hydrogen demand gains popularity in the near future.



3 Steves Winery Hosting Fundraiser For Victims of Maui, Lahaina Wildfire

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Livermore Valley has once again opened its hearts and wallets to help those in need. Next month, Livermore's 3 Steves Winery will host a Luau-themed fundraiser for victims of the wildfires on the Hawaiian island of Maui, specifically those in the town of Lahaina.

Steve Ziganti, owner of 3 Steves, said his deep connection to the island led him to host the event, dubbed "Lahaina Strong."

"I've been going to Maui for about 40 years and I own a place over there, so it's a special spot for my wife and I," Ziganti said, adding he was devastated by the news coverage of the fires. "We were wondering what we could do to help the people of Lahaina … the businesses there have just recuperated from COVID and then to be hit by this, it's devastating."

Ziganti thought a fundraising event would be successful, knowing how generous the Tri-Valley community has been to disaster victims in the past. He spread the word amongst other local wineries and businesses and soon had a long list of donors for the fundraising event, including 12 local wineries, beer from Altamont Beer Works, food, servers, souvenir wine glasses, parking lights, mobile restrooms and auction items.

David Victor, owner of On The Vine Catering, is donating food for the event.

"3 Steves has pretty good connections in the Hawaiian community so we trust that what he is doing will directly benefit the people there," Victor said. "You don't have to be a neighbor to rise up and help those who have been devastated and hit so hard."

Ziganti said 100% of the proceeds from the fundraiser will go to wildfire victims. To ensure the money can do as much good as possible on Maui and in Lahaina, he is working with the nonprofit organization Hawaiian Community Foundation, which has promised no overhead fees will be taken from donations and that every dollar will go directly to those in need.

Alex Wolfe is the winemaker and general manager at 3 Steves. He is working closely with Ziganti to plan the event and hopes people will be generous when they arrive, especially since entrance tickets – which include dinner, a glass of wine and entertainment – are only $40.

"I grew up on the east coast," he said, noting his family donated time to help victims from events like 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina. "We always volunteered through ministry. For me, this is just the right thing to do, to reach out to our fellow man and help those in need."

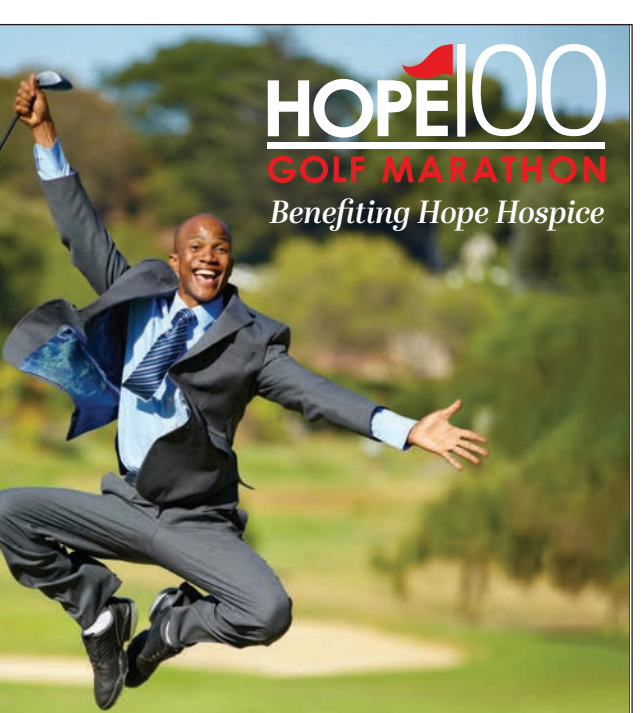
As part of the Livermore Valley Wine Community (LVWC), Ziganti and Wolfe are receiving some logistical support from the organization. LVWC Executive Director Brandi Lombardi said fundraisers like this are common in Livermore, where both the people and businesses are known for pulling together when there's a need.

"'Lahaina Strong' is just another example of the culture of giving the wineries have and the camaraderie they have together," Lombardi said. "I think this is important because you look at a situation like these wildfires and the tragedy that happened somewhere, and if people don't step up and help, then nothing happens."

The Lahaina Strong event will take place on Friday, Sept. 8, from 6-9 p.m. at 3 Steves Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Tickets cost $40 and include dinner. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.3steveswinery.com/event/lahaina-strong/.









Seen from left are Josh Jones, associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Livermore; Father Kwame, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore; and Rabbi Laurence Elis Milder, Ph.D., Congregation Beth Emek, Pleasanton. (Photo courtesy of Ron Essex Photography)

Livermore's Blessing of the Grapes 2023

By Laura Ness

Although Livermore is not as behind the curve as other wineries in terms of getting to ripeness this year, nonetheless, harvest 2023 can use all the divine help available. And so, members of the Livermore wine community, from politicians to winemakers to consumers gathered at Las Positas Vineyards last week for the annual Blessing of the Grapes.

Under bright blue skies ringed by towering cumulus clouds to the east, and more importantly, under the welcome shade of a sycamore tree, the convivial crowd exchanged hugs over glasses of Las Positas wine. Introduced by Brandi Lombardi, executive director of Livermore Wine Community, the gathered clergy this year included Josh Jones, associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Livermore; Father Kwame from St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church; and Rabbi Laurence Elis Milder, Ph.D., from Congregation Beth Emek. Each reminded us that wine plays a major role in the scriptures and practices of all their faiths and serves as the bond that brings a community together, in times of celebration and in times of grief.

Jones shared his favorite quote from Martin Luther: Beer is made by men; wine, by God. He noted that wine appeared prominently in the life of Jesus from the miracle of the wedding at Cana to the Last Supper. Wine is also responsible for minor miracles daily, often making the worst culinary disasters delicious.

Kwame commented on the link between wine, an agricultural product of the land, to the blood of Christ in the sacrament of communion. In the Bible, everywhere the Jewish people went, they planted vines. The nomadic life can be a metaphor for always developing something new, for moving forward in your life.

Milder began by acknowledging the recent loss of winemaker Mitchell Katz, symbolically pouring out a bit of wine from his glass. He then told the crowd of the clever scheme laid out in Deuteronomy for men to avoid conscription. If you had a vineyard planted that was not yet harvested, you were exempt from military service. Since the Torah prohibited harvesting grapes during the first three years of a vineyard's growth, subsequently requiring the delivery of the fourth year's harvest to the temple, it behooved a grower to always be planting a new vineyard every year to retain exempt status. Milder surmised these rules were written during times of relative peace, when there was little need for soldiers. Regardless, it's clear that wine was held in high esteem as a fundamental component of the good life. And we can all drink to that.

The blessing was followed by a lunch prepared by Chef Curtis Cooke of Las Positas Vineyards, who, along with Winemaker and GM, Brent Amos, have been at the winery, which is owned by Lisa and Lothar Maier, since 2011. The winery's 30 acres of vines produce 20 different varieties, the first of which to be picked will be Verdelho, according to Amos. He expects that to occur sometime after Labor Day, assuming we can avoid a demonic heat wave.

Group Seeking Singers for New Season

The Valley Concert Chorale, an all-volunteer nonprofit group based in Livermore, is seeking new singers for its 2023-2024 season of "Music to Soothe Your Soul."

The musical ensemble, under the direction of John Emory Bush, performs three concert sets a season, beginning with its annual holiday concerts in December.

This year's holiday concert, "The Miracle of Christmas." will include both traditional and contemporary selections.

In March 2024, the choir will perform Gabriel Fauré's "Cantique de Jean Racine," Wolfgang Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus," Maurice Duruflé's "In Paradisum," and contemporary works by composers Ola Gjeilo and Pēteris Vasks.

May's concert, "On the Lighter Side," will feature songs made popular by Nat King Cole, Billy Joel, Elton John, and Walt Disney Company movies.

Auditions will be held Monday, Sept. 11, and Monday, Sept. 18, for experienced singers with sight-reading skills. To schedule a 15-minute audition, call 925-866-4003.

Singers must commit to the full season with Monday evening rehearsals.

Auditions and rehearsals will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore.

More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

Wine Industry Nonprofit Creates Scholarship Program

The nonprofit Livermore Valley Wine Community (LVWC) has created a scholarship fund for students seeking careers in viticulture, the growing of grapes, enology, the making of wine, the wine-related hospitality industry, or other related fields.

LVWC, which provides marketing and educational support for wineries and growers in the Livermore Valley American Viticultural Area, announced last week that it would award four $5,000 scholarships annually from the newly created Where Genius Grows Scholarship Fund.

"[LVWC] is committed to the growth and development of the wine industry in our region and beyond," said the organization's executive director, Brandi Lombardi. "There is no better way to support that growth than investing in our future wine industry leaders. We're thrilled to launch this scholarship program and look forward to reviewing applications and awarding the scholarships."

The scholarships are open to high school seniors who plan to attend a two-year or four-year college, or a trade school after graduation. Current college students working toward degrees in an approved area are also eligible.

Applicants must have a strong academic record and demonstrate involvement in extracurricular activities. Financial need will also be considered.

The LVWC is now accepting applications for the first round of scholarships. For more information and application guidelines, go to lvwine.org/scholarship.php.







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THE WATERMARK AT ROSEWOOD GARDENS

EDITORIAL

Join the Livermore Luau for Lahaina

In times of crisis, it's the compassion and unity of a community that can truly make a difference. Livermore Valley's own 3 Steves Winery is stepping up to show its unwavering support for those in need. This September, the local winery will host a Luau-themed fundraiser, aptly named "Lahaina Strong," dedicated to aiding the victims of the devastating wildfires that swept through the town of Lahaina on the Hawaiian island of Maui.

The "Lahaina Strong" event aims to direct 100% of the proceeds to wildfire victims. Ensuring transparency and maximum impact, 3 Steves' owner Steve Ziganti is partnering with the Hawaiian Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization, to manage the funds. With their assurance of zero overhead fees, every dollar donated will directly benefit those in need.

"I've been going to Maui for about 40 years, and I own a place over there, so it's a special spot for my wife and me," said Ziganti. "We were wondering what we could do to help the people of Lahaina … the businesses there have just recuperated from COVID, and then to be hit by this – it's devastating."

"Lahaina Strong" is a testament to the Tri-Valley community's culture of giving and collaboration. It's a reminder that when disaster strikes, it's not just about what happened "somewhere else," but rather an opportunity for our community to rise up and show that compassion knows no boundaries.

The Tri-Valley boasts a robust network of compassionate donors and organizations that can make a significant difference in the lives of others. Consider joining our region's latest effort to help the fire victims in Maui by purchasing your ticket for the Sept. 8 event: www.3steveswinery.com/event/lahaina-strong/

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. 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 must be submitted by someone living in or from the Tri-Valley; they must not offer medical advice from unconfirmed professional sources or contain libelous or inappropriate content. 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. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication.

Make Livermore Better

Tania Panarello, Livermore

Many of us already "Love Livermore" on Facebook and Instagram, but what can we do to make Livermore better? Get involved!

Participate in surveys, creek clean-ups, and other opportunities to give input on road safety or city planning, to help others or our environment. Take part in events, like Stuff the Cruisers, that support our youth in their pursuit of better education. Say or wave hello to others!

What goods and services would you like to keep in our town? Support those local businesses. Anything you feel we are lacking? Speak up! Downtown Livermore could definitely benefit from providing a better variety of activities for teens and families alike. I often refer to Monterey's Cannery Row as a prime example of mixed-use businesses, like blacklight miniature golf, Mirror Maze, Escape Room, Lazer Challenge. Pinball and video game arcades would be great additions! We need to stop demonizing our youth and create more options for safe space hangouts downtown.

Want other ways to help make Livermore better? Serve on Livermore's Beautification Committee! Whether or not you serve on the committee, you can still help Livermore to be more beautiful with the addition of more native and drought-friendly plants. Then, nominate yourself -- and any neighbors -- for a Beautification Award! Awards brochures are available throughout Livermore, including all three library branches. You can also submit nominations and before/after pics with nominee's and your info online by September 15, 2023, to: Beautification-Awards@livermoreca.gov.

There are so many ways you can help to make Livermore better, so get involved, be creative, and most of all, be kind to others. Have a beautiful day!

Corrections Needed

David Furst, Livermore

In the Thursday, August 17 edition of The Independent, Larry Altman wrote about the Funeral Home approved by the Board of Supervisors to be built outside of the Urban Growth Boundary. While the article was, in general, very well written, there were two misstatements that needed to be corrected. First, and most importantly, he stated that some of the members of Friends of Open Space and Vineyards (FOV) were also involved in litigation to relocate Eden Housing. FOV has Not taken a position on Eden Housing. Any member of FOV is free to take a position on this issue, but they do so as individuals and do not represent FOV. Less important, he again erroneously stated that this project "will be the first cemetery established in Alameda County in 100 years". The Five Pillars Cemetery nearby on Laughlin Road was established in the 1990s.

FCC Has Not Complied With Court Order

Patricia Moore, Livermore

Wireless radiation causes environmental harm to humans and wildlife,but our Federal Communications Commission (FCC) refuses to update its 1996 safety limits for exposure to this invisible toxin. Meanwhile, the intensity of non-ionizing radiation emissions has increased exponentially since 1996.

The FCC is a government agency that is captured by the giant telecom industry. In August 2021 the United States Federal Court of Appeals ruled in favor of environmental health groups and petitioners, finding that the FCC violated the Administrative Procedures Act. The FCC failed to respond to comments and 1000s of pages of scientific evidence on the harms caused by wireless radiation.

A few of the Court's findings follow:

1) The 2019 decision by the FCC to retain its 1996 safety limits for Human exposure to wireless radiation was 'arbitrary and capricious.'

2) The FCC ignored many organizations, scientists and medical doctors who called on them to update safety limits.

3) The FCC failed to address the following: impacts of long-term wireless exposure, impacts on children, impacts to the developing brain and reproduction, the testimony of people injured by wireless radiation, and the impacts to wildlife and the environment.

The FCC was given specific mandates by the Court to remedy these oversights. After two years, the FCC has taken no steps to update its safety limits or alter its website. Meanwhile, the public is 'gagged' from expressing health related concerns about the rapid, pervasive rollout of radiation-emitting cell towers to their local governments. (Search: EHTrust.org)

FCC regulations prohibit consideration of health issues regarding wireless technology. Therefore, we need strong, local, updated building codes and their enforcement by our elected officials as our first line of defense regarding the inappropriate placement of cell towers. Unfortunately, on April 12th the Livermore Planning Commission overrode our city code by approving variances for a 70-foot-tall fake tree cell tower (with 2.5 tons of plastic PVCs) for the city's Mocho Park.

An Appeal has been filed with the City of Livermore by Mocho Park neighbors to reject this plan for a tower in their park and will be heard before the City Council on Monday September 11th. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. The City Council has the authority to approve or deny the proposed permit for this tower.

Take a Day on the Train

Tom Murphy, Livermore

There have been several articles recently regarding rider traffic on Bart being low and concern about revenue shortfalls. Bart is touted as one of the solutions to pollution reduction and traffic congestion by our state and federal representatives. It would in fact be a great alternative to your car if Bart could provide a more attractive riding experience on the train.

I believe our representatives including Newsom, Pelosi, Swalwell, Lee, Khanna, Garamendi, Padilla, Feinstein, DeSaulnier, and any others in the Bart districts should buy a ticket to ride Bart for a day and night and get the full experience. I for one would pay to see that.

As the train approaches the platform, the first impression is that it is dirty because the exteriors of the cars look like they have never been washed. Most of the cars are older so they will no doubt be searching for a seat that looks cleaner and in better condition than the rest. They will see light fixtures, walls, windows, signage, that are well beyond inviting or comforting. They will wonder if it is safe in the car with some of the apparent homeless riders and rowdy riders on board. As they ride into the late evening, the safety concerns will get worse with little or no evidence of police presence. As they travel throughout the Bay area, they will see homeless encampments, graffiti, and junk everywhere.

At the end of the day, will they be proud of the Bart system that they so adamantly stress that you make use of, and will they be proud of what they have seen out the windows? Will they feel they have to shower and wash their clothes, and will they feel that they were lucky not to have been accosted? Our Bart system gives one the impression of a Third World country not one operated in the richest country and cities of the world. They should be ashamed.

New train cars are planned to come into play but not soon enough. One car cost is $1.8 million. The 775 new cars planned will cost $2.5 billion. The Bullet Train from LA to SF which will never be cost efficient, is estimated to cost $105 billion vs. the original estimate of $40 billion. Could some of that money be better spent on Bart? Are our representatives spending your money wisely?

Thank You Supervisors

David Yaffe, Livermore

I would like to thank the Alameda County Supervisors for making the correct decision in allowing the new Livermore-area cemetery. My support of the cemetery is for one non-political, practical reason only: we need a place to bury our dead. There is a dire need for a new Jewish burial site. Most religious Jews (not all) consider burial as the only acceptable form of final rest. Besides its high CO2 production, cremation is considered disrespectful and for many, can bring up memories of the horrors of Jews being incinerated in the Holocaust. Some would say, "Fine, bury your dead; just do it somewhere else." It seems somewhere else is always the easiest choice for low-income housing, rehabilitation centers, schools, churches and cemeteries. However, the 10,000 Jews in the Tri-Valley area (estimated) need a consecrated (sacred) final resting site that doesn't require an hour or more to reach. I don't know the capacity of non-Jewish burial sites in the Valley, but I would think all of our citizens would like a nearby option the new cemetery will provide when the sad time comes to honor our departed loved ones.

CPUC Selling You Out Again

Alan Marling, Livermore

It's a bad sign when the CPUC is moving to block churches from building solar on their own roofs, during an energy crisis. The California Public Utilities Commission consists of Governor Newsom's appointees. They are supposed to supervise companies like PG&E, but instead have consistently done all they can to enrich the corporation, at the cost of sanity and safety. No big surprise as Gavin Newsom has received hundreds of thousands in PAC money from PG&E and has let the company get away with murder.

The CPUC is threatening to stop churches, apartment buildings, schools, and farms from directly using any power produced by their own rooftop solar. This should reduce energy bills by an equivalent amount. But that hurts PG&E's profits. Instead, the corporation will own your energy as soon as it's produced and get a cut. It's hard to explain, it's so ridiculous. But the result will be another squeeze on the economic feasibility of privately owned solar energy and the small businesses trying to install it. Again, this is happening amidst a climate crisis, where distributed green energy is the best solution for everyone. Everyone, that is, except corporations and the politicians they own.

Call Gavin Newsom and tell him to stop endangering California with his corrupt CPUC. We should be encouraging all kinds of solar, including rooftop solar.

The Governor's office: 1-916-445-2841

For the People Act

Eloise Haman, Dublin

The Inflation Reduction Act is not named well. It should be something like For the People Act.

The Inflation Reduction Act is not named well. It should be something like For the People Act. Please share. Most Americans don't know what's in this amazing bill.

Here are the big provisions:

• Creation of a 15% corporate minimum tax rate: Corporations with at least $1 billion in income will have a new tax rate of 15%. Taxes on individuals and households won't be increased. Stock buybacks by corporations will face a 1% excise tax.

• Prescription drug price reform: It will allow Medicare to negotiate the price of certain prescription drugs, bringing down the price beneficiaries will pay. Medicare recipients

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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MAILBOX

(Continued from page 4)

will have a $2,000 cap on annual out-of-pocket prescription drug costs, starting in 2025.

• IRS tax enforcement: The IRS has been underfunded and unable to catch the big tax avoiders. The bill invests $80 billion in the nation's tax agency over the next 10 years. It will more than pay for itself with increased tax compliance.

• Affordable Care Act (ACA) subsidy extension: medical insurance premiums under the ACA subsidized by the federal government to lower premiums were scheduled to expire at the end of this year but will now be extended through 2025. Approximately 3 million Americans could lose their health insurance if these subsidies weren't extended, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

• Energy security and climate change investments: The bill includes numerous investments in climate protection, including tax credits for households to offset energy costs, investments in clean energy production and tax credits aimed at reducing carbon emissions.

The bill passed with all 50 Democratic votes in the Senate without Republican support under the reconciliation process.

Questions and Answers About Food Insecurity

Trish Munro, Livermore

1. What is food insecurity?

Food insecurity sounds like a long way to say hunger. But hunger is about lack of food. Insecurity is much more. People who have food today but aren't sure where their next meal—or their children's next meal—is coming from experiencing food insecurity.

2. Why should I care?

There is, in every religion, a moral imperative to provide for those in need. But there are more pragmatic reasons as well. When everyone's basic needs are met, everyone benefits because the community is safer and more secure. When children are secure, they learn better. When adults are secure, they are able to do their jobs better. All of which leads to communities that thrive.

3. How many people in Alameda County are experiencing food insecurity?

The Alameda County Food Bank estimates that one in four people in Alameda County experience food insecurity.

4. Is the situation improving?

Despite improvements in the economy and better job prospects, the situation is worse than it was prior to the pandemic. Why? Housing instability—another source of insecurity around a basic need—is worse. During the pandemic, state and federal funding supported people in meeting their basic needs. Costs of food, housing, and gas have risen.

5. What's being done?

The Alameda County Food Bank has distributed 52 million pounds of food (of which 23.6 million pounds are fresh fruits and vegetables) in the past year. This is almost double the pre-pandemic quantity of 28 million pounds. Some of these are home-delivered, part of a program begun during the pandemic to help those who are unable to pick up food. The network of food distribution agencies has grown from under 300 to around 400. Good news: more groups working toward food security. Bad news: the need for more groups.

6. What can be done to help?

The answer is always the same: give money (donate), give time (volunteer), raise your voice (advocate). Here are three donation links to start with:

Alameda County Food Bank: https://www.accfb.org/emergency/

Open Heart Kitchen: https://www.openheartkitchen.org/donate/

Tri-Valley Haven: https://trivalleyhaven.org/get-involved/

Mistake, Warning or Arrogance?

Ann Waite, Livermore

On August 10 I crossed into the parking lot across from Petco with a bag of dog food cans. It was about 3pm and the shopping center was quiet. A police cruiser, about even with the Boot Barn, was driving slowly eastward and I was on the opposite side of the road when the cruiser, right next to me, blasted his siren, twice. I jumped and looked around and wondered why use a siren in a parking lot with no traffic? The cruiser just slowly rolled by me. I asked a woman getting out of her car what was that about? She guessed that I stepped out of the lines of the little parking lot crosswalk. If that was the case, why not inform me and why was it necessary to crawl up next to me and sound the siren? I'm a retired woman carrying a heavy bag. I'll never know the reason for the officer's action, but the woman said to me "you would think that they have better things to do". It would be beneficial to know the reasoning behind the surprising siren blasts.





EST • GRANADA • '23 SENIOR

A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS for all the donations and volunteer hours Granada High School received while fundraising for Safe and Sober Grad Night for the Class of 2023! The community support extended was amazing and generously helped Granada organize a fun-filled and safe event for their graduates.

In addition, school administration and support staff including Clark Conover, Jessica Mann, Colleen Wortham, and Becca Makris provided much appreciated guidance and support throughout the year. We are also grateful for the entire janitorial staff for the numerous events they contributed to.

We are so thankful for all members of the GHS Safe and Sober Grad Night Committee, the Board Members of Granada Supporters as well as the outstanding parent volunteers that committed their time, talent and energy to supporting the event.

Adam J Clark Photography
Alameda County Fair
Alameda County Fire Department
Alden Lane
Almost Famous
Altamont Brewery
Altamont Cruisers
Anthony Scott Catering
Anywhere Warrior
Atomic Turtle
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Blackhawk Museum
Bloomers Chocolates
Blue Agave
Blue Jay Vintage
Board and Brush
California All Stars
Camp Bow Wow of Livermore
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The Groth Family
The Holbert Family
The Hurricane Band
The Johnston Family
The Kohndrow Family
The Lawson Family
The Lloyd Family
The Mahoney Family
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USS Hornet Museum
Venture HR
Vine Cinema and Alehouse
Vintage Real Estate
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Wente Vineyards and Golf
White Water Lodge
Wood Family Vineyards
Zephyr Grill & Bar



The late Maggie Gee, a Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory physicist and a pioneering World War II aviator, was scheduled to be inducted into the California Hall of Fame as The Independent went to press this week. (Photo courtesy of asamnews.com)

PHYSICIST

(Continued from first page)

1983, Gee recalled visiting Oakland Airport with her family to watch planes take off and land.

Her childhood heroes were pioneering aviators Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh.

She was an undergraduate at UC-Berkeley when World War II broke out. Wanting to do her part to support the war effort, she dropped out of college to become a welder at the Liberty Ships works in Richmond, then trained as a drafter to work at Mare Island shipyard.

When she learned about an Army Air Force program that would train women to fly military aircraft, she and two like-minded friends from Mare Island jumped at the chance.

They cashed in $800 in war bonds, which was enough to cover the cost of a $25 Model A Ford and flying lessons in Minden, Nev. There, they accumulated 50 hours in the air – enough to qualify for the Army Air Force program in Sweetwater, Tex.

Enthusiastic though they were, they were not treated gently in Texas, Gee recalled in the 1983 magazine article. "The training pilots were men. They gave us a bad time. It was before the women's movement, and they were really quite hard on us, because we were women."

Ironically, she said, the women tended to have better flying records than the men, because they were more cautious. "Proportionately fewer women than men were killed in training."

Gee was the only Mare Island volunteer to qualify as a pilot. She flew a full range of military aircraft, from open cockpit trainers to fighters and bombers. Moving damaged aircraft to repair sites may not have been exciting, but they needed to be done and contributed to the war effort.

Sometimes she faced risks. An article in the VA News, honoring Gee's service, recalls that while stationed at the Army Airfield in Las Vegas, she flew a B-17 towing targets for live-fire drills.

The only other Chinese American pilot in the WASP program, Hazel Lee, was killed in a runway crash while moving a Bell P-63 Kingcobra fighter to Montana before transshipment to Russia.

The WASP program was disbanded at the end of 1944, as it became clear that the War was winding down. The pilots were given no benefits.

Gee returned to Berkeley for her degrees, traveled in Europe for a few years and joined LLNL in 1958. News accounts credit her with expertise on computer codes that supported programs ranging from nuclear weapons design to fusion energy to cancer research.

In 2010, three years before her death, she and other WASP participants were invited to the Obama White House to receive the Congressional Gold Medal -- and see their civil service benefits finally granted.

LLNL colleagues remember Gee as kind and generous, always ready to help others facing difficult scientific problems.

Sam Stone, a retired physicist, was a graduate student when he first interacted with her. He felt "some awe" around her because of her range of knowledge and her easy association with senior scientists in the theoretical division.

Still, he recalls, she was friendly and approachable and "seemed to ignore any class distinction" between division members.

To Bruce Tarter, former LLNL director who also served as associate director for physics, Gee was an "institution" in the weapons program, a "positive person to encounter on a daily basis."

She was expert enough to help other scientists with the extremely complex computer codes that are at the heart of nuclear design, he said, but she also took the time to care for stray animals and an on-site garden.

The State Hall of Fame induction ceremony was scheduled to be held online on Tuesday.

SIGN

(Continued from first page)

by the city came largely from real estate agents reporting that their non-compliant competitors gained an unfair business advantage by shirking the rules.

"Agents have expressed concern that the code does not allow enough signs to direct buyers to an open house that is difficult to find, especially within more dense neighborhoods," said Senior Planner Crystal De Castro.

The vast majority of complaints originated from eastern Dublin, wrote the report.

Steve Medeiros, President of the Bay East Association of Realtors, threw Bay East's support behind the new ordinance and committed to educating the association's members of the changes.

"I was trained (that) you put out your open-house sign; you pick it up when you're done," continued Medeiros. "Anyone that doesn't do that, I don't consider them professional realtors. I consider them lazy. … I am a big advocate of enforcement; it's the only thing that works."

Realtor and Dublin resident Flavio Amaral supported the city staff's recommendation for enforcement, recalling cases of up to 25 signs advertising a single property in Dublin. "It was just out of control."

The new ordinance comes after the city made efforts over the past year to bring greater awareness of the past regulations, including regular weekend enforcement, and education and outreach to realtors.

SUNFLOWER

(Continued from first page)

nonprofits, such as Culinary Angels, Open Heart Kitchen, Shepherd's Gate, Tri-Valley Haven and Hope Hospice.

Lynn Monica, Sunflower Hill Garden co-founder, reminisced about the days when the location was nothing more than a field of weeds filled with debris before it transformed into the gardening space it is today.

"It required a tremendous amount of work and love, and Chris Bogert, co-founder, and I worked along with community members and volunteers to turn it into what you see today – a space designed specifically for individuals with disabilities, both intellectually and physically," said Monica. "There was a lot of thought involved with the creation of this space – the overall layout of the garden, the width of the beds, raised boxes for wheelchair accessibility, and a sensory garden for when people might need a little break from the noise or just want to feel, smell and taste things."

Marchand presented Monica, Bogert, Ritter, Sunflower Hill founder Susan Houghton, and Sunflower Hill Executive Director Jen Lenard-Benson with a 10th Anniversary Proclamation, celebrating all that has been accomplished.

"I can't believe it's been 10 years," the mayor said. "The Sunflower Hill Garden is such an asset to our community; they've taken this land donated by the City of Livermore and grown more than produce and flowers – they've provided life skills training and created a sense of belonging for adults with disabilities."

The celebration will continue with the "Moonlight at the Museum" event on Sept. 30 at the Blackhawk Museum in Danville. Limited tickets and sponsorships are still available, www.sunflowerhill.org.

LAWSUIT

(Continued from first page)

The women – who are identified only by initials in the lawsuit – and CCWP are represented by the advocacy groups Rights Behind Bars (RBB), the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice (CCIJ), and the San Francisco law firm, Rosen Bien Galvin & Grunfeld (RBGG), which successfully sued Alameda County in 2018 over conditions at the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

Emily Shapiro, a member of California Coalition for Women Prisoners, said a lack of oversight enabled the abuse to persist for decades.

"So many of those impacted by staff abuse at Dublin are immigrants, and officers have used the threat of deportation to try and silence them," Shapiro said. "Survivors and witnesses need to be released, protected and returned to their families and communities."

Last month, correctional officers Nakie Nunley, 48 of Fairfield, and Andrew Jones, 35, of Pleasanton became the seventh and eighth FCI Dublin officials charged with sexually abusing inmates since 2021. The group included a former chaplain and the institution's warden, Ray Garcia, who was sentenced in December to spend five years and eight months in prison.

"Things need to change in this prison, and the BOP has shown that they aren't going to make changes on their own," said A.V., a CCWP member currently jailed at FCI Dublin. "Prison staff act like because we are in prison, we don't have rights. But we do have rights, and sexual abuse and harassment and retaliation were not part of our sentences."

Although the BOP has previously stated that FCI Dublin warden Thahesha Jusino and BOP Director Colette Peters, who took over their positions in 2022, are making changes at the facility, attorneys allege the problems persist. Jusino and Peters are among the named defendants in the case.

Also named are Nunley, Jones and John Russell Bellhouse, 40, of Pleasanton. They are among 10 officers and two lieutenants identified as defendants, including former correctional officer Darrel Wayne Smith, who faces a new 12-count indictment charging him with abusing three inmates in 2020 and 2021.

Bellhouse, who was convicted at trial in June, faces up to 36 years in prison when sentenced. Federal court records show he is facing individual lawsuits from three other women.

In addition to the lawsuit, the attorneys for the inmates filed a motion for a preliminary injunction to "immediately remedy many of the systemic problems at FCI Dublin."

The motion to be heard Oct. 6 in U.S. District Court in San Francisco will ask Judge Joseph Spero to impose an order asking the BOP to end retaliation against people who report staff misconduct, including the placement of inmates in solitary confinement. The order would also remove staff with substantiated abuse claims against them from the prison; ensure inmates have access to medical and mental health care; provide inmates access to lawyers and confidential legal calls and visits.

"We cannot prosecute our way to a solution to the crisis at FCI Dublin," said Amaris Montes, attorney at RBB. "This isn't a case of a few bad apples; we need systemic change that ensures survivors are released and receive care, and that promotes safety for all those remaining inside."

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Artwork from Dublin High's Clara Yee was selected to be the inaugural work displayed at the school district. The artwork is located on the east exterior wall of the Dublin Union School District's boardroom. (Photo courtesy of Dublin Union School District)

Dublin Unified School District Board Room Serves as Massive Canvas for Student Art

The Dublin Unified School District, which serves over 12,600 students, from preschool through adult education, in a diverse suburban environment, has unveiled a massive student art installation on the exterior wall of its boardroom. Last year, Advanced Placement (AP) art students at Dublin High School were given the opportunity to submit artwork to be considered for an annual art installation to be placed on the east exterior wall of the district's boardroom. Artwork from Dublin High's Clara Yee was selected to be the inaugural work displayed.

"From my office window, I see the east wall of our boardroom," said Chris D. Funk, superintendent of the Dublin Unified School District. "It always struck me as a blank canvas. With so many talented and creative students in our district, there was no reason to leave the wall blank. Initially, we thought of having a mural painted, but the idea of being able to highlight a student's artwork every year was too appealing, so we focused on a digital art project. With her artwork, Clara has added to the sense of community I hope people feel here in Dublin, especially when visiting the district office. This is the start of what I'm sure will be a great tradition for our students and community. ``

Yee said she is thrilled to have been chosen.

"Something I really appreciate about our community is the opportunity that Dublin offers," said Yee. "I wanted to showcase this by using footwear to represent the path different people take to be involved in our community, and how we are all connected through our connection to Dublin. "



The Livermore Police Department held its annual Stuff the Cruiser event on Aug. 12 and 13. The program helps to provide school supplies to Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District students in need. This year, the department was able to distribute more than 320 backpacks full of school supplies. (Photo courtesy of LPD)

Dublin Company on List of Growing Businesses

Vivo HealthStaff, a Dublin-based company that provides staffing services for hospitals, nursing homes, and healthcare clinics, was 548th on the latest Inc. magazine list of fastest growing private companies in the United States.

The Inc. 5000 is based on a company's percentage of revenue growth over a three-year period. Being on the list is considered an entrepreneurial benchmark for growing businesses.

"We are not just honored, but truly inspired to rank for the second time on the Inc. 5000 list," said Managing Director Jacob Horn. "This recognition [is] a testament to the continued hard work, innovation, and dedication that our clinical staff and recruiters bring every day. Together, we're making a real impact in healthcare, and this acknowledgment fuels our drive to continue our mission."

Vivo HealthStaff specializes in the recruitment and staffing of physicians, advanced practitioners, and mental health clinicians for on-site and virtual care settings.

TAXES

(Continued from first page)

city finances in the near future, with the city operating in the negative as earlier as next fiscal year, according to its latest budget.

Staff therefore presented 10 tax or fee options, including a general obligation bond, increased sales tax, and a utility user tax, that could go to the ballot in 2024.

While the council agreed to move forward with an early feasibility study involving polling, Councilmember Julie Testa required more information, such as current property-tax burdens and other measures headed to the ballot, before forming an opinion on Pleasanton's measure attempt.

"I've always been kind of proud that we've never done a bond or a tax," said Testa.

Vice Mayor Jack Balch alluded to another financial topic in the Aug. 15 meeting — the ongoing contract negotiations with the Pleasanton Police Officers Association — as a possible source of distrust around the city's priorities that would color any request for money.

"I am concerned that we will need to rebuild trust with our community before we could potentially see this (measure) as a success," he said, adding that much work to reduce nonessential expenses remained.

But Councilmember Valerie Arkin, citing the recently successful Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) bonds, expressed optimism with going to the ballot, and stressed the need to increase revenues for the city's looming costs.

"A lot of these things – especially like the water infrastructure, pension obligations – these are very huge amounts of money," said Arkin. "Cutting a little over here or a little over here is not going to solve that issue."

Last year, Pleasanton voters passed PUSD's Measure I with a 57.2% vote, approving $395 million for school improvements through a property tax levy. The bond measure came after the approval of the district's Measure I1 in 2016 with a 69.1% vote, which provided $270 million for facilities maintenance.

After the first round of polling this year, the city will conduct a communications round followed by a second round of polling, said Moss. The city will then have until Aug. 9, 2024, to file any ballot measure, after which begins the 88-day election window when the city cannot attempt to sway voters before Nov. 5, 2024, election day.

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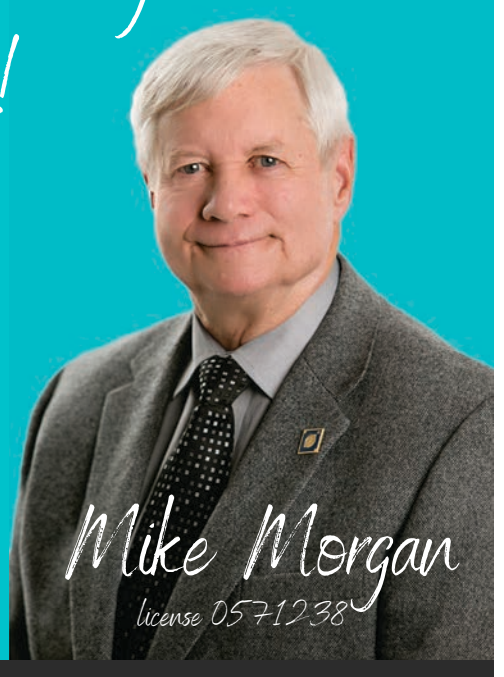
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TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Tuesday, Sept. 26
HOPE HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUPS
Hope Hospice's grief support services help adults and youth learn to process these feelings and find ways to move forward in a positive direction. The services are offered at no charge to the local community, even if your loved one was not on the hospice service. Hope's grief support services are free of charge, but registration in advance is suggested by phone at 925-829-8770 on weekdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A brief assessment is required. Support groups are currently being conducted online by Zoom video conference. Services for young children are temporarily paused until in-person group gatherings can be resumed. General Grief runs from Aug. 7 to Sept. 25, on Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Spousal and Partner Loss runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 26, on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Single-Day Class takes place on Monday, July 10, from 2 to 3 p.m. Introduction to Grief and Loss is a short program open to both the bereaved and friends of a grieving person who want to learn about the grief process. Loss of a Child support group runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 26, on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Teens Group attendees are asked to call for dates. These groups are offered once per quarter. For those who cannot make these dates, call 925) 829-8770 to be placed on the interest list for the following quarter.

Now to Oct. 6
JOYFUL CANVAS SHOW
Together with the John Muir Auxiliary and the Livermore Art Association present Joyful Canvas, a juried show open to all. Art will be on show at the gallery at John Muir Health Auxiliary, Aspen Gallery, Walnut Creek. For more information or to register, visit livermoreartassociation.org. Participants are asked to register by Aug. 1.

Thursday, Aug. 24
DEALING WITH LOSS
The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was sudden and tragic or one with warning and
preparations, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion, and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when our loved one is gone. Join in at St Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, in Pleasanton, on Thursday evening, Aug. 24, at 7 p.m. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. For more information, call 925-846-3904.

Saturday, Aug. 26
FREE YOGA SESSION
The Rotary Club of Dublin and Yog Sadhana is hosting a free yoga session at Don Biddle Park in Dublin at 8 am. To RSVP, visit evite.me/ctQZnSxY4C. Donations are appreciated, and all proceeds go to support Rotary District 5000, which was impacted by devastating fires in Maui. To donate, visit rb.gy/mhxcm.

Saturday, Aug. 26
BALLET ROOTS DANCE COMPANY
Pleasanton's first and only professional ballet company, Ballet Roots Dance Company, presents "Mystery, Mystique, and Magic" at 3 and 6 p.m., at Livermore High School Theater. Tickets are available at ballet-roots.org.

Saturday, Aug. 26
SCIENCE@STOCKMEN'S PARK: WEATHER WONDERS
From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will explore the science related to weather and climate. There will be something for everyone, including exciting activities hosted by many other community organizations! Stockmen's Park is located at 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For more information or optional registration, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

Saturday, Aug. 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27
2023 DEL VALLE OPEN WATER FESTIVAL
This festival is a two-day event with 10k, 5k, 1.2k and 2.5k swims, held in the scenic Lake Del Valle nestled in the heart of the Livermore Valley Wine country. The water temperature is expected to range from 70 to 75 degrees, with a huge grassy park and beach for spectators and participants. Participation will be limited to 350 participants on Saturday and 400 to 450 on Sunday. The event will feature a "Just for Fun" division of the 1.2k and 2.5k allowing fins and pull buoys to raise funds for community relief efforts. For more information or to register, visit teamunify.com/team/dvowf/page/home.

Sunday, Aug. 27
BRIGHT STAR
Castro Valley Arts Foundation is happy to partner with TMC Arts to bring Bright Star to Castro Valley. Bright Star, set in the 1920s and 1940s, tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption. Inspired by a true story and featuring the Tony-nominated score by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, the Bluegrass music soars. Performances are at Castro Valley Center for the Arts, 19501 Redwood Road, in Castro Valley. Saturday performances take place at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday performances at 2 p.m. For tickets, visit cvartsfoundation.org/shows.

Sunday, Aug. 27
TOUR HAGEMANN RANCH
Take a self-guided walking tour of historic Hagemann Ranch at your own pace, without the crowds, and view the renovated buildings dating from 1869. During the tour, attendees can speak with knowledgeable docents and learn the history of this unique historic site. The horses and goats will be available for visits from 2 to 5 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 8
LAHAINA STRONG FUNDRAISER
3 Steves Winery in Livermore will host a fundraiser for Lahaina from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are $40 and include Lahaina Strong glass and Hawaiian dinner. Advance ticket sales are available only at 3steveswinery.com/events/lahaina-strong. Livermore wines will be for sale by the glass and bottle, as well as Altamont Beer. 100% of proceeds will be donated to Lahaina.

Monday, Sept. 11 and 18
AUDITIONS FOR VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE'S 2023-2024 SEASON
The Valley Concert Chorale is seeking new singers for its upcoming 2023 to 2024 season of "Music to Soothe Your Soul." Auditions are available by appointment at 925-866-4003. Rehearsals and auditions will take place at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., in Livermore. The 15-minute appointment will include vocalizing (to determine range), reading from one page of a motet, and a clapping exercise. Singers must commit to the season with Monday evening rehearsals held at the church. For more information, visit valley-concertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003.

Saturday, Sept. 16
AMADOR CLASS OF '73 REUNION
Amador's Class of '73 will celebrate their 50th reunion from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Amador Recreation Center, behind the Aquatic Center, at 4333 Black Ave., in Pleasanton. There will be an all-you-can-eat authentic taco-bar picnic, games, music and more. Cost is $55 per person via Venmo to loridavispavich, or write and mail checks to Lori Pavich ~ '73 Reunion, 640 Ruth Way, Livermore, CA, 94550. Include maiden name and guest's name if applicable. This event is limited to classmates only and one guest per classmate. For more information, contact Lori Davis Pavich at lpavich@aol.com; Maureen Morley at mbmclover@aol.com; or Monica Mitchell at Monsub@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Sept. 16
TRI-VALLEY WRITERS CHAPTER OF THE CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB
A. L. Kucherenko will present "Crotches, Crucks, and Crutches" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting. Learn how to entice readers to linger in your fictional world with your imaginary characters. Kucherenko will use examples from her work to illustrate the delicate balance between authenticity and accuracy and how character and reader worldviews mesh to create an environment for her characters that her readers embrace. At 2 p.m., the Tri-Valley Writers will meet in room 2470 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email treasurer@trivalleywriters.org by Sept. 14, then register at trivalleywriters.org/speaker-meeting-registration-and-payment. The price for CWC adult members is $10; for nonmembers is $12; for CWC student members ages 14 to 22 is $5; and for student nonmembers is $8.

Saturday, September 16
LIVERMORE EAGLES #609
Livermore Eagles #609 will be having a fundraiser for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson Research starting at 3 p.m. Bar-B-Que Tri Tip Dinner will be served between 5:30 and 6 p.m. Raffle and games will be featured, and tickets can be purchased at the Livermore Eagles 527, N. Livermore Ave., between 3 and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is $25 for dinner. Tickets must be purchased before Sept. 9.

Tuesday, Sept. 21 and Tuesday, Sept. 28
Cactus Corners Square-Dancing Lessons
Cactus Corners is a local nonprofit offering free square-dancing lessons on Sept. 21 and 28 to new dancers. Then, they continue with learning new steps through the rest of the year. Anyone age 8 and up is invited to this great activity for the entire family, where they can have fun and make new friends. The meets take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 2253 5th St., in Livermore. For more information or to be placed on the class notification list, email mmiller1435@gmail.com or call 925-447-6980.

Saturday, Sept. 23
EAGLES FLEA MARKET
The Eagles Flea Market will take place from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 527 N. Livermore Ave. Vendors are welcome. The cost is $20 for a 15x15 foot space and $5 for a table rental. For more information, contact Val Olson at 925-449-5807 or volson582003@yahoo.com or call the Eagles Hall at 925-449-6281.

Sunday, Sept. 24
LITHIUM-ION BATTERY, DEVICE RECYCLING
All community members are invited to drop off their used lithium-ion batteries or their devices that contain lithium-ion batteries for free recycling. Rotary club members will be at Tri-Valley Car Care, 1937 First St., in Livermore, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., to accept items and have them safely recycled to help the environment. For more information or a list of recyclable items, visit livermorevalleyrotary.org or email livermorevalleyrotaryclub@gmail.com.

Saturday, Sept. 30
QUILTS OF VALOR FABRIC SALE
From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Livermore Veterans' Hall, 522 So. L St. at 5th St., the Amador Valley Quilters Quilts of Valor's fabric sale is being held to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing quilts. All proceeds of the sale go to Amador Valley Quilters Quilts of Valor. All fabric is $3 per yard, plus notions and thread. Attendees are asked to enter at 5th Street using the ramp.

Saturday, October 7
3RD ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF AT CARNEGIE PARK
Everyone is invited to the 3rd annual Chili Cook Off at Carnegie Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is a community festival of food, activities, booth vendors, live music, and, of course, the best chili in town. Admission to the park is free. Chili tasting, beer, and wine tickets will be sold at the event. This event is the main fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley and supports grants and projects that improve our community. Visit livermorevalleyrotary.org for more information.

Saturday, Oct. 7 to Sunday, Oct. 15
LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA PRESENTS "OF MICE AND MEN"
Stage Director Marc Jacobs will bring the forceful tale of two depression-era farm workers whose dream of owning their own land one day ends in tragedy. Carlisle Floyd, arguably the greatest of America's 20th Century opera composers, adapts to the operatic stage a vivid representation of John Steinbeck's story that will grip audiences with its powerful music and timeless themes. In addition, LVO is thrilled to be partnering with the National Steinbeck Center located in Salinas, with the mutual goal of building community bridges and forging connections between arts and cultural organizations. Performances takes place on Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 8, at 2 p.m.; Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Oct. 15, at 2 p.m. An opening-night dinner will be held at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard at 4 p.m., with a separate ticket purchase required. Tickets are on sale now at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, and ticket buyers who purchase both operas together will receive the best seats at a 10% discount. Both operas will be sung in English and expertly accompanied by the LVO orchestra, conducted by maestro Alexander Katsman.

Saturday, Oct. 7
SCIENCE@STOCKMEN'S PARK: ENGINEERING ENCOUNTERS
From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will design, build, and test everyone's creations. There will be something for everyone, including lots of hands-on activities for all ages. Engineering Encounters will take place at Stockmen's Park, 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

Saturday, Oct. 28
Science@Stockmen's Park: Halloween Hijinks
From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., join Quest Science Center for Science@Stockmen's Park, a free monthly event for all ages. Attendees will learn about the science behind Halloween tricks and treats. There will be something for everyone, and this is a great way to start the Halloween celebration. Stockmen's Park is located at 29 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. For optional registration and to view more activity details, visit quest-science.org/science-at-stockmens.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

ONGOING EVENTS

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

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, Livermore CA 94551. For more information, visit uucil.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR) CHAPTER MEETING
The local Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month from September 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.Californnia.org or contact jane.everett@sbcglobal.net.

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

OBITUARIES

Patricia Jane Guntrum
July 1, 1949 – Aug. 17, 2023



Patricia Jane Guntrum, beloved daughter, sister and friend was born July 1, 1946, in Rochester, New York, to Bill and Doris Guntrum, and passed away at age 77 in Walnut Creek, California, on Aug. 17, 2023, after suffering a stroke.

Her family moved to Livermore in 1958 when her father was transferred from Sandia Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Livermore laboratory, in California. She attended grades 1-5 in Albuquerque, then In Livermore attended grades 6-8 at Junction Avenue. She graduated from Livermore Joint Union High School in 1964. She then attended Chabot Junior College in Hayward 1964-66.

In 1968 she found her long-term career with Pacific Bell, working there for over 24 years, rising to staff manager in the Controller Department. In 1992 she opted to take early retirement and took advantage of that opportunity to do the things she loved - playing golf, bridge, camping and traveling. She visited Ireland, took a trip to Hawaii and Disneyland with her two young godchildren from New Mexico, and joined her parents on several cruises.

Her other loves in life were the San Francisco 49ers (season ticket holder for many years), Joe Montana and Elvis Presley. She was a true and loyal fan, even watching the 49er pre-season game from her hospital bed just last week, cheering them on as usual.

Pat was a long-time member of Our Savior Lutheran Church where she served in many capacities, especially enjoying leadership roles in the Altar Guild. She also served as finance chair for many, many years, utilizing her meticulous methods to keep records accurate and complete.

Her parents and brother Mike Guntrum preceded her in death, so she was the last of the Guntrum family in Livermore. She never married but had loved ones across the country, including many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. She will be dearly missed.

There will be a celebration of her life in the upcoming fall.

Virginia Lamb
April 4, 1931 – Aug. 14, 2023



Virginia Lamb passed away peacefully in Livermore on Aug. 14, 2023. She was born April 4, 1931, to Rudolph and Mary Lamb in San Pedro, California, where they lived for a short while, along with her brother Arthur. During this time, her father Captain Rudolph Lamb worked on a dredger, clearing the shipping channels in the San Pedro and Long Beach harbors. Later they moved to the town of Colusa, where her mother's family lived. Her father then captained the "Golden Gate" dredger and worked in the Bay Area and Delta regions.

Their next move was to Oakland, California where Virginia attended Saint Bernard's grammar school and graduated from Saint Elizabeth High School. She was awarded a scholarship to Holy Names College for music, but changed paths and soon began her studies of becoming an elementary school teacher. To get her degree in elementary education, she took the "A" train across the Bay Bridge to the University of San Francisco and graduated in 1948.

Virginia was a teacher with the San Leandro Unified School District for 42 years, teaching mostly third grade. Upon her retirement, she moved to the ranch in Livermore, with her nephew and his family to enjoy her dogs and horses. She enjoyed training her dogs, visiting many care homes with her registered therapy dog and riding her horse. She spent many weekends riding her horse in parades throughout California with the Rowell Ranch Rangers.

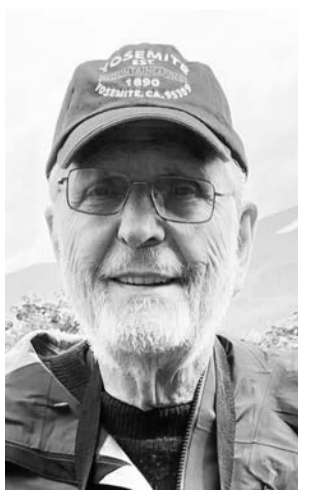
Virginia leaves behind her beloved dog, Ruby, her nieces and nephews Robert (Donna), Richard (Peggy), Steven (Jill), Barbara Croker, Mary Wilson (Ron), David (Liz) and many great-nieces and great-nephews. She will be greatly missed for her devotion to family and animals.

We would especially like to thank her in-home caregiver, Maria, Hope Hospice and the staff at Quail Garden for their compassion and excellent care they provided for her.

If you would like to make a donation in Virginia's honor, please consider Valley Humane Society. Private services were held to celebrate her life and honor her legacy.

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

Robert Brown
Oct. 13, 1943 – Aug. 6, 2023



Surrounded by his family, Robert (Bob) Brown passed away on Sunday, Aug. 6, after suffering a heart attack on July 19.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Donna, his two children, Julie (Randy) and Ryan (Julie), and his four grandchildren, Reece, Remy, Garrett and Summer. He loved all of them dearly. He joins his mother Debra, his father Hank, brother Tom and sister Shirley in heaven.

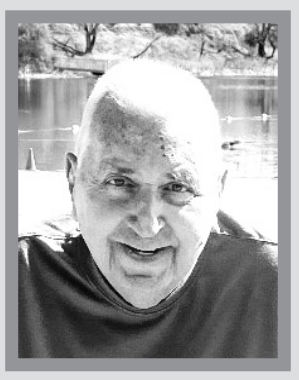
Bob was born on Oct. 13, 1943, and grew up on the south side of Chicago. He went to Leo High School where he excelled in academics and athletics. After high school, Bob attended Illinois State University where he received a degree in education. In 1967, Bob and Donna moved to Hayward for a couple of years before settling in Pleasanton where they would spend the next 52 years. Bob received a master's degree in counseling from San Jose State in 1974. He went on to hold numerous positions in education at both the Pleasanton Unified School District and San Ramon Valley Unified School District. In 2000, Bob retired from Pine Valley Middle School in San Ramon where he was a guidance counselor. Bob loved the water and spent many summers fishing with his brother Tom. He was also an avid fan of boxing and football. The Oakland Raiders broke his heart every week and he loved watching the NFL draft every year with his good buddy Jerry Hill.

Bob was also such a huge fan of Elvis Presley that his children know the lyrics to countless Elvis songs. Those that knew Bob knew him as a kind, empathetic, quiet, yet funny man who loved animals, nature and history. He was always up for a good political thriller or mob movie such as "The Godfather." Bob's love of dogs has been passed down to his children and grandchildren, and we are grateful that he brought many wonderful dogs into our lives.

Donna was the love of his life and luckily, they had the opportunity to travel and explore all of the good things that this world had to offer before his unexpected passing. We will miss him very much but know that he is with us at all times.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Don Saulovich
Aug. 18, 1944 – Aug. 13, 2023



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the unexpected passing of our beloved "Papa" Don Saulovich on Aug. 13, 2023. "Papa" Don was born on Aug. 18, 1944, in Oakland, California to Lawrence and Mary Saulovich.

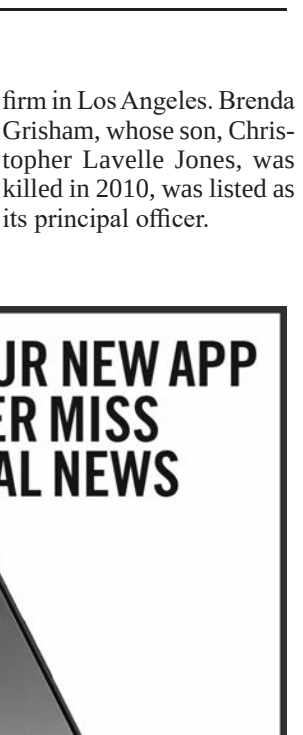
He served in military intelligence during the Vietnam War and worked as a delivery person for Hostess, Alpha Beta, Orowheat, and Perry's for many years. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty, his parents Lawrence and Mary Saulovich, and his sister Joann Waage.

There is no doubt he enjoyed life to its fullest extent. During the summer he could always be found at Shadow Cliffs "Putting in His 6 Hours of Sun." Almost every Wednesday for the last 23 years he could be found in Tracy visiting his daughters, grandkids, and his fur great-grandkids who he loved to feed Kraft Cheese. He could not drive through a small town without stopping at the local bakery and buying a chocolate éclair or an apple turnover.

He will be missed by several friends and extended family members. He will be fondly remembered by his children Brandi (Brandon) Hoffert, Jami Faulk, and Shon Sr. (Gina) Saulovich and his grandchildren Zachary and Russell Hoffert, Madison and Chole Faulk, Shon Jr. (Hannah) and Kylie Saulovich.

We ask you to mourn not a life lost, but remember a life very well lived. A celebration of life will be held on Aug. 31, 2023, between 1-5 p.m., at Pleasanton's Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St., Pleasanton, California, 94566. In memory of "Papa" Don please wear something beach themed. Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Saulovich family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com.

Michael Joseph Calhoun
March 7, 1943 – July 2023



Michael Joseph Calhoun passed away in July 2023 at the age of 80 at his cabin near Mt. Lassen.

Michael was born March 7, 1943, in Oakland, California. At the age of three his family moved to the family ranch on Mines Road in Livermore. He attended both St. Michael's School and Livermore High School, graduating in 1962.

He then attended San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton. He joined the Marine Corp reserves in 1964 and served for six years.

Mike married Jane Dannenberg in 1970 and their daughter Laura was born in 1973. Michael worked for Hexcel Corporation for 42 years until his retirement in 2007. Upon retirement he enjoyed his love of fly fishing and exploring the local gold country.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Milton and Patricia Calhoun and his sister, Sylvia. He is survived by his wife and daughter and his sister, Mary.

No services are planned. Donations in his name are welcome to either the National Park Service or St. Jude's Hospital.

RECALL

(Continued from first page)

Livermore Police Chief Jeramy Young's request that she toughen the charges against a repeat offender, and with continued criticism from Lorie Mohs, whose 26-year-old son Blake was killed during a robbery at Home Depot in Pleasanton.

In a statement, Mohs said Price's policies victimize victims, including her son.

"For 16 weeks, we have begged the DA's office to properly charge the accused in our son's murder case. But DA Price has refused to properly charge the case or meet with us to disclose why she is not properly charging," Mohs said in a statement. "DA Price has lost sight of the real victims here. Instead, she's advocating for the accused, while forgetting her duty to the people she was elected to serve."

Price's policies for criminal justice reform were no secret during her campaign last year to become the county's lead law enforcement official. A former defense attorney and civil rights' attorney, Price campaigned on a platform that involved holding police accountable and implementing fair justice programs. She argued that laws that created lengthy sentences disproportionately affected people of color and resulted in overcrowded prisons and jails.

Price said she would not utilize the state's death penalty, would never seek sentences of life without the possibility of parole, and did not support enhancements, tacked on charges that resulted in sentences that could place people in prison for decades.

Voters chose her in November with 53% of the vote over Chief Assistant District Attorney Terry Wiley, the No. 2 official in the office under former District Attorney Nancy O'Malley.

Since taking office, Price has established a public integrity unit and reopened some police use-of-force cases, including a shooting in Pleasanton, and ended the practice of using sentencing enhancements.

In July, Young wrote a letter to Price when her office charged a repeat offender with two Livermore purse robberies, including one where a woman was beaten. Prosecutors, however, did not utilize "career criminal" and "use of gun" enhancements that could have increased the suspect's potential prison term from 13 to 25 years.

In her response to the chief, Price said her office had adopted a policy against enhancements unless there are extraordinary circumstances. She said studies showed enhancements did not improve public safety, and instead resulted in higher rates of recidivism.

In seeking a recall against Price, whose term continues to 2026, SAFE said crime is increasing, especially in Oakland, where homicides, assaults, robberies and burglaries are up sharply.

"Now there are senior citizens being killed on the streets, women assaulted in broad daylight, children caught in gang crossfire, hate crimes on the rise," SAFE said. "Enough is enough. DA Price has made her position clear: It's the community versus the criminals, and she has made her choice. Therefore, we resolve to fight back as a community."

SAFE's notice of intent included 127 signatures, more than the required 100 to trigger the larger signature-gathering effort.

It was not immediately clear how many signatures would be required to force a recall election and in what period of time they must be gathered. County Counsel Donna Ziegler issued a statement Aug. 16 that said the county had not been required to conduct a recall election targeting an official "for at least the past 30 years, if ever."

"The Registrar of Voters (ROV) is currently analyzing the relationship between the recall provisions set forth in the County Charter and those found in state law to determine the path and timeline for conducting a recall of a county officer," Ziegler said. "The ROV will provide further details to the public regarding the recall procedures once that work is complete, without delay."

SAFE's paperwork filed with the county Registrar's office in July identifies the committee's treasurers as Flora Yin and Michael Farr, attorneys at a political law firm in Los Angeles. Brenda Grisham, whose son, Christopher Lavelle Jones, was killed in 2010, was listed as its principal officer.

Dublin High Volleyball Team Shows Plenty of Potential in Season Opener

By Phil Jensen

Despite having graduated seven seniors from last year's team, the Dublin High School girls volleyball squad displayed a lot of potential in its opener on Aug. 17.

The Gaels battled in a five-set loss to host Castro Valley (23-25, 17-25, 29-27, 25-23, 15-11).

"I feel happy with the first two sets, even though the first two sets I felt like we played pretty slow and lethargic. For whatever reason at the fourth set, our serve receive started to kind of crumble a little bit, but our defense stepped up great," said Dublin coach Michael Bongay. "We're definitely a team that's built to rely on our defense and our serve receive. That kind of kick-starts everything for us. We hung in there at the end."

Dublin suffered a big injury in the fourth set. Senior setter Lila Siale, a returning starter, had a left ankle sprain and could miss an extended period of time, said Bongay immediately after the Aug. 17 match.

Among the graduation losses was 2022 first-team all-East Bay Athletic League player Rachel Grier. She is now a 6-foot-4 middle blocker for the University of New Hampshire. There are only three seniors on this year's Dublin squad.

"The team that we were last year is different. The team last year was a side out team … serve receive, pass, set, kill," Bongay said. "This team has to rely a lot on our defensive prowess."

The two hour, 16-minute match on Aug. 17 had a number of momentum swings.

In the first set, Castro Valley took 3-0 and 12-7 leads. But three service points by Dublin junior Mira Mehta, including points from teammates Brooke Felbinger and Alena Dinh, helped narrow Castro Valley's advantage to 12-11.

Dublin took the lead at 16-15 on a Dinh kill, but Castro Valley proceeded to stay close. With the score tied at 22, Siale served for two points, and junior Emily Mao provided the winning point in a 25-23 victory.

In the second set, Dublin's Sophia Casanas served five straight points to give her team an 8-5 lead. The Gaels didn't trail in the set after that and won 25-17.

The third set, which lasted 29 minutes, included a great rally by Dublin. Trailing 18-9, a point by sophomore Addison Monnastes started a 13-3 Dublin run for a 22-21 lead. The squads traded points for the most part after that, leading to an overtime set that ended with a 29-27 Castro Valley victory.

Dublin held a slight 11-9 advantage in the fourth set before Siale suffered her injury. The Gaels increased their advantage to 22-15, but Castro Valley rallied for the set win to tie the match score at two.

"We look back at set four, and we had 17 unforced errors. No team should be able to win with 17 unforced errors." Bongay said. "(Castro Valley) outlasted us (in the match). They did a great job."

In the fifth set, Castro Valley never trailed to win 15-11 and improve its season record to 1-1.

"A lot of stuff that we were doing well kind of crumbled at the end, so it was unfortunate, but I think the girls learned a lot," Bongay said. "The only thing we can do is just kind of take it as a learning lesson."

Dublin continues its season on Aug. 25 at Pittsburg and a home match on Aug. 29 against Kennedy-Fremont. The Gaels open EBAL play on Sept. 5 against visiting Amador Valley.



The Dublin girls' volleyball team battled in a five-set loss to host Castro Valley on Aug. 17 during the season opener. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen) *[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia* (See

End-of-Summer Splatter Set for Sept. 9

Dublin will hold its annual end-of-summer festival at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, from noon to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9.

The multi-cultural event will celebrate food, art, wine, and music from around the world, including an evening dance party featuring the bands Saved by the '90s and Pop Rocks.

Festivities will also include roaming entertainers and main stage performances by the Livermore Drum Circle, We Dance Chinese Ballet, Thunder Kung Fu Academy, the Riar Academy of Performing Arts, and the Camp Parks Army Band.

The Illeagles, an Eagles tribute band, will be opening the festival at noon, followed by Big Blu Soul Revue.

There will be a "Dine Around the World" area featuring an array of international cuisines and a food and wine-tasting pavilion sponsored by local growers. The Rotary Club of Dublin will also be serving local craft beer and wine.

The World Craft Bazaar will offer an array of goods representing diverse cultures, while the finale will feature a 200-light drone show.

Admission is free, but there will be a charge for children's games and carnival rides. For more information, go to dublinsplatter.com.



Livermore police paid a special visit to a bake sale on North L Street on Aug. 10. The bakers are raising money for the Livermore Police Department's "Stuff the Cruiser" to help buy school supplies for other students in the Livermore school district. After two bake sales, the group has raised $700. (Photo courtesy of LPD)

3VCF Taking Applications for Mental Health Grants

The Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF), a Pleasanton-based nonprofit organization, is accepting applications for its 2023 Community Impact Grants now through the end of August.

3VCF awards grants for projects that address the issue of mental health in the Tri-Valley region and encourages collaborative efforts that involve two or more organizations.

Applications addressing youth mental health in the Danville and Greater San Ramon Valley areas are eligible for specialized funding.

Grants will be awarded at the foundation's annual State of Giving Gathering on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at the Mertes Center for the Arts at Las Positas College.

To apply, or for more information, go to tinyurl.com/yckxsmzc, or contact 3VCF President Kelly Bowers at kbowers@3vcf.org.

EBRPD is Expanding its Youth Workforce Program

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is expanding its youth workforce development program to support its wildfire prevention efforts and trail maintenance, while also focusing on benefiting disadvantaged teens and young adults.

"We are strengthening and building upon our past successes so that we can have a more robust effort and a larger impact in supporting local youth, including at-risk or underserved individuals," said General Manager Sabrina Landreth.

The district is working with Civicorps, an Oakland-based jobs training program, to reach young adults, 18 to 25, who may be facing life challenges from dropping out of school and early parenthood to not having job or career training opportunities.

"We have recruited several fuels crew employees that had training and experience from Civicorps," said District Fire Chief Aileen Theile. "This success in building our fire department staff to help prevent wildfires is a positive for these young people, the park district, and our community."

Another focus of the workforce development program is helping to maintain EBRPD's 1,300 miles of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding trail in the district's 73 parks.

"It takes dedication to do this work and to appreciate the significance of protecting people and our lands," said Robert Kennedy, head of maintenance and skilled trades for the park district. "We are currently building and expanding a coordinated team for the small trails crew to improve and maintain trails, remove hazards, and help reduce wildfire fuels, all in an urban forest setting."

Kennedy said the district's youth workforce development program also provides one-on-one coaching and mentoring, assistance with resume building and how to apply for jobs online, and practice interviewing for other job placement opportunities.

"Civicorps deeply values the steadfast partnership of EBRPD," said the nonprofit's executive director Tessa Nicholas. "Over the last 40 years, working with EBRPD has allowed us to engage thousands of young adults in paid job training in conservation and land management. Many of these young people have gone on to thriving jobs in parks and resource management and as caretakers of our precious natural spaces."

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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599350

The following person(s) doing business as: Oldcastle Infrastructure, 7000 Central Parkway, Suite 800, Atlanta, GA 30328 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oldcastle Infrastructure, Inc., 7000 Central Parkway, Suite 800, Atlante, GA 30328. 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: 7/18/2018. Signature of Registrant/s/: Brendan Lonergan, CFO/Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 14, 2023. Expires July 13, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5559. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599642

The following person(s) doing business as: Flowstate Design Build, 1300 Bates Rd, Oakland, CA 94610 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Josiah Berkov-Kemp, 4627 Allendale Ave, Oakland, CA 94619. 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: 7/26/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Josiah Berkov-Kemp, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 27, 2023. Expires July 26, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5560. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599520

The following person(s) doing business as: Edka Dental Solutions LLC, 25369 Ironwood Court, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Edka Dental Solutions LLC, 25369 Ironwood Court, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by a Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Edris Kareemzadeh, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 24, 2023. Expires July 23, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5561. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 598954

The following person(s) doing business as: Authentic Consulting, 728 Hattan Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Melanie V. Rail, 728 Hattan Drive, 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Melanie V. Ramil, Founder and Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 26, 2023. Expires June 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5563. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599307

The following person(s) doing business as: Periwinkle Littles, 1613 Call of the Wild Court, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Periwinkle Littles,, 1613 Call of the Wild Court, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Angela Tressler, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2023. Expires July 11, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5564. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599456

The following person(s) doing business as: Blue Tiger Brand, 1757 Altamar Way, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan Biehl, 1757 Altamar Way, Livermore, CA 94551This 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jonathan Biehl, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2023. Expires July 18, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5565. Published August 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599769

The following person(s) doing business as: B5 Soccer Academy, 4463 Bush Circle, Fremont, CA 94538-5993 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alessandro Mikael Biscocho, 4463 Bush Circle, Fremont, CA 94538-5993. 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alessandro Mikael Biscocho, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 2, 2023. Expires August 1, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5566. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599673

The following person(s) doing business as: Hearts and Horses Riding and Rescue, 455 Olivina Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donna Costa, 1001 Goecken Road, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Donna Costa, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

on July, 28, 2023. Expires July 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5567. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599715

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Aiden by Best Western@Berkeley; 2. Aiden @Berkeley, 1499 University Ave, Berkeley, CA 94702 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Berkeley Hospitality, LLC, 109 John ST., Salinas, CA 93901, CA . This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/8/2021. Signature of Registrant/s/: Alessandro Jiten Jadav, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 31, 2023. Expires July 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5568. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599759

The following person(s) doing business as: KLHB Boutique Psychotherapy, 1311 Park ST #1161, Alameda, CA 94501 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kamila Houston Baker, 2215 Santa Rita ST., Oakland, CA 94601. 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: NA. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kamila Houston Baker, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2023. Expires July 31, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5569. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599791

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunshine Therapy Spa, 3427 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, CA 94602 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Yanqiu Sun, 1301 View Dr., San Leandro, CA 94577 This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Yanqiu Sun, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 2, 2023. Expires August 1, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5570 Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599817

The following person(s) doing business as: CAL Automotive Tech (CA), 508 East Lewelling Blvd, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CAL Automotive Tech, 1721 Mckinnon Ave, San Francisco, CA 94124. 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: 8/3/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Donald Tram, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 3, 2023. Expires August 2, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5571. Published August 10, 17, 24, 31, 2023.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 570841

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). CAL Automotive Tech, 508 East Lewelling Blvd, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. The fictitious business name statement was filed on June 19, 2020 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by an Individual. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Donald Tram, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 3, 2023. The Independent, Legal No. 5572. Published July 20, 27, August 3, 10, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JANNE TURNER CASE NUMBER: RP23141030

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **JANNE TURNER.** A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **LAVAUGHN HART** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA The Petition for Probate requests that **LAVAUGHN HART** 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. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: 09/11/2023
Time: 9:45 AM
Dept.: 201
Address of court:
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
Berkeley Courthouse.

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 date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

LaVaughn Hart
5351 Superstition Drive, Las Cruces, NM, 88011.

The Independent, Legal No. 5573. Published August 17, 24, 31, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599813

The following person(s) doing business as: Handy Tool, 7920 Wentworth PL., Newark, CA 94560 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Handy Tool, 7920 Wentworth PL., Newark, CA 94560. 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/: Emma Lara, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 3, 2023. Expires August 2, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 55774Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599909

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Riffing.ai; 2. Riffing; 3. Riffing AI, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AgentOmni Insurance Services LLC, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611. 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/: Patrick Cross, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. Expires August 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5575 Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599909

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Riffing.ai; 2. Riffing; 3. Riffing AI, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AgentOmni Insurance Services LLC, 572 Blair Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611. 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/: Patrick Cross, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. Expires August 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5575 Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599974

The following person(s) doing business as: Royal HR Services, 631 Everglades Lane, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Linda Franklin, 631 Everglades Lane, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Linda Franklin, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5576 Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600050

The following person(s) doing business as: Hyperion Legal, APC, 5557 Avellina Dr., Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hyperion Legal, APC, 5557 Avellina Dr., Dublin, CA 94568. 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: 2/2/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Pavan Singh Athwal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 11, 2023. Expires August 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5577. Published August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599857

The following person(s) doing business as: BODYBAR Pilates, 3910 Fallong Road, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SGC Project One, Inc., 1717 Webster Street, Unit 915, Oakland, CA 94612. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Shawn Cousins, President/CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 4, 2023. Expires August 3, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5578. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600073

The following person(s) doing business as: Jacfran Services , 1545 165th Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kevin Valderrama, 1545 165th Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/14/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kevin Valderrama, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 14, 2023. Expires August 13, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5579. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599765

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Aqua Angels Restoration; 2. Gerois & Boni Global, 1281 61st Ave, Oakland, CA 94621 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BSB Media LLC, 1281 61st Ave, Oakland, CA 94621. 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/: Gerois Lewis, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2023. Expires July 31, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5580. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599448

The following person(s) doing business as: KMZ Towing, 5450 Demarcus Blvd Apt 426, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mohammad Kabir Merzazada, 2311 Ivy Hill Way Apt 1332, San Ramon, CA 94582. 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/: Mohammad Kabir Merzazada, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2023. Expires July 18, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5581. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599854

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Digital Dreamers Steam Academy; 2. Bay Area Kids Club; 3. AI4Educators; 4. Alfof edu; 5. ConsultAI; 6. EducatrosAI; 7. EthicalAIedu, 6754 Bernal Ave Ste 740-184, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): After School Specials LLC, 6754 Bernal Ave Ste 740-184, 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: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Robert Rodriguez, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 4, 2023. Expires August 3, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5582 .Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599512

The following person(s) doing business as: Bayou Blizzards, 18431 Joseph Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Andre McKenzie, Owner, 18431 Joseph Dr., Castro valley, CA 94546. 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/: Andre McKenzie, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 21, 2023. Expires July 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5583. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600193

The following person(s) doing business as: Hi and Hello Photography, 9916 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered Maryam Salassi, 9916 Golf Links Rd, Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maryam Salassi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2023. Expires August 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5584. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600124

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. J&B Corporate Lodging Solutions; 2. J&B Global enterprises Limited Liability Co., 11501 Dublin Blvd, Suite 200, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J&B Global Enterprises limited Liability., 11501 Dublin Blvd, Suite 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/: Britney Bautista, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 15, 2023. Expires August 14, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5585. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 600155

The following person(s) doing business as: Creature Comforts Therapy, 7900 Earl ST., Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Creature Comfort Therapy Inc.; Jayme Frihart Licensed Clinical Social Worker 7900 Earl St., Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/13/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jayme Frihart, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 16, 2023. Expires August 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 55806Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 599971

The following person(s) doing business as: The PJF Group, 2942 Harewood Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): P.J. Funnybunny, LLC, 2942 Harewood Dr., Livermore, CA 94551. 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: June 12, 2008. Signature of Registrant/s/: Julie Lynn Fleury, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 9, 2023. Expires August 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5587. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 589992

The person(s) listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name(s). Sunkissed Bath and Body, LLC, 5595 Sonoma Drive Apt B, Pleasanton, CA 94566. The fictitious business name statement was filed on June 24, 2022 in the County of Alameda. This business was conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Rachel Solis, Owner/Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 8, 2023. The Independent, Legal No. 5588. Published August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

CATS/DOGS

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Adopt a New Best Friend
TVAR
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

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

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

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION

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

EMPLOYMENT

Brillius Technologies Inc.
dba Brillius Inc.
Multiple Openings:

Programmer Analyst: Gathr & anlyz usr rqmnts to dploy IT solutns; Automat informtn systms in cloud by creatng CI/CD pipelns; & Tst & implmnt solutns from exstng & new comptr systms. $108,493 – 109,000/yr.

Sr. Programmer Analyst: Automat, dploy & maintn IT systms; Creat & implmnt CI/CD pipelins; Montr & anlyz systms prfrmnc; & Dbug & rsolv confgratn isus. $131,500 - $133,000/yr.

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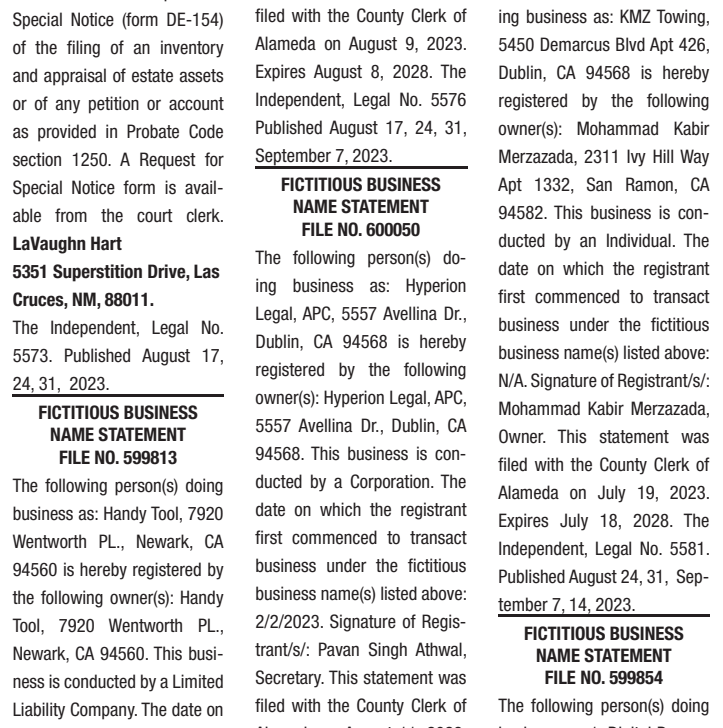
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Sandia Lab Researcher Named Fellow

Ali Pinar, a computer scientist and software designer at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, has been named a 2023 Fellow by the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) for leadership in computing network research.

Pinar has been at Sandia since 2008 and is a Distinguished Member of the Data Science & Cyber Analytics Department. According to his Sandia biography, he is currently working on ways to "infer global properties of a network based on limited samples [by applying] techniques of sublinear algorithms in a practical setting."

"Networks can take various forms, such as physical networks like power grids, cyber networks, or water networks," Pinar explained. "These networks have significant consequences if they fail. There are also biological networks within bodies."

Pinar said he and his fellow network scientists look for patterns, potentially preparing for worst-case scenarios. It's all a matter of looking for behavior that deviates from the norm.

"But to define what's abnormal, you need to understand what's normal," Pinar said. "If you look at a functional unit, like protein interaction networks, you understand how proteins function in a body. If you observe a cluster of proteins suddenly appearing at the same time, you know they must have a purpose. It cannot be mere coincidence. Then you begin to investigate: What are they doing concurrently? What is the function of this protein? What is the pathway? How do they interact?"

Pinar is a member of SIAM and the designation as a 2023 Fellow is peer recognition of his accomplishments. The award reads, "for theoretical, algorithmic, and application impacts, and community leadership in combinatorial scientific computing and network science."

A native of Turkey, Pinar earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Bilkent University in Ankara. He later earned his doctorate in computer science at the University of Illinois and has become a U.S. citizen.



Ali Pinar was selected by the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics as a 2023 Fellow in recognition of his passion for and leadership in the area of computing network research. (Photo courtesy of Spencer Toy)

Bankhead to Head into Fall with Laughter

The Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore will host three laugh-filled performances this fall, beginning with the San Francisco Comedy Competition on Thursday, Sept. 21, followed by comedian Amy Sedaris on Friday, Sept. 22. The comedy troupe Funny Women of a Certain Age will make a return appearance at the Bankhead on Friday, October 6.

Five finalists from the 2023 San Francisco Comedy Competition, a summer-long elimination-style contest, will take the Bankhead stage for one of five finals-round performances.

The finalists will be announced after the last semi-finals performance at the Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa on Saturday, Sept. 16. The winner will be announced Sunday, Sept. 24, following the last finals performance at The Folk Tale winery in Carmel.

Now in its 47th year, the San Francisco Comedy Competition has helped launched the careers of such stars as Robin Williams, Dana Carvey, Sinbad, and Ellen DeGeneres. This year's Bankhead performance will be hosted by comedian and San Francisco native Dan St. Paul.

Tickets for the 7:30 comedy showcase are $25 to $55, with discounted tickets for students and active-duty military.

The following night, Sept. 22, San Francisco Bay Area news anchor and Tri-Valley resident Jessica Aguirre will conduct an on-stage interview with Sedaris, an actor, comedian, and writer, perhaps best known for her Emmy-nominated, TruTV series "At Home with Amy Sedaris," which ran from 2017 to 2020.

Sedaris played the lead role of Jerri Blank in the 2005 film, "Strangers with Candy," which she co-wrote with Stephen Colbert, and has had supporting roles in several feature films, including "Maid in Manhattan," "School of Rock," and "Elf." More recently, Sedaris appeared in the Disney+ series "The Mandalorian" as the space mechanic Peli Motto.

Tickets for "An Evening with Amy Sedaris" are $25 to $95, with discounted tickets for students and active-duty military. The show begins at 8 p.m.

Although the stand-up comedy group Women of a Certain Age will be making a return appearance at the Bankhead, it will be a first-time appearance for two of the four comedians.

Carole Montgomery, who wrote and produced two "Funny Women of a Certain Age" comedy specials for Showtime, and Leighann Lord appeared with the group at its Bankhead debut in April 2022. This time they will be joined by comedians Cathy Ladman, Leighann Lord, and Barb North.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. performance are $25 to $80, with discounted tickets for students and active-duty military.

Tickets for all three shows are available online at livermorearts.org, by calling 925-373-6800, or at the Bankhead box office, 24oo First St., Livermore.



Leighann Lord is a member of the comedy troupe Funny Women of a Certain Age. She will appear with other headliners at the Bankhead Theater on Friday, Oct. 6. (Photo courtesy of Livermore Valley Arts)



The Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., will host an Armchair Travelers program, "Hiking in Switzerland," at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7. The program will be presented by Werner Schlapfer, a native of Switzerland, who will show pictures taken during a Livermore hiking group trip. He will also describe the system of hiking trails in Switzerland and the Internet resources available for planning Swiss hikes. The program is free and no registration is required.

Alameda County Finds First Human Case of West Nile Virus in 2023

The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District has confirmed the first human case of West Nile virus in the county for the 2023 season.

The district said last week that the infected person is a resident of the City of Alameda, although mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus have also been found in Union City, Fremont, Newark, and Livermore. The virus is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito.

According to the California Department of Public Health (DPH), as of last week there had been 26 confirmed human cases of West Nile virus in 12 counties this year.

There is no cure for the virus, but according to DPH, only one in five people infected will develop symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, or rash, and less than 1% of the people infected with West Nile virus become severely ill.

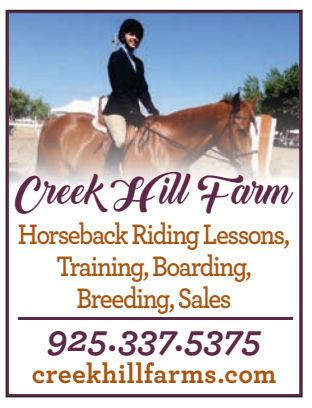
Still, West Nile virus is considered the most common and serious vector-borne disease in California, with more than 7,500 human cases and over 300 deaths reported across the state since 2003. Anyone who develops symptoms should seek medical care.

To protect against infection, DPH recommends people use a mosquito repellant that contains DEET, picaridin, lemon eucalyptus oil or IR3535 when they are outdoors.

Health officials also recommend wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and shoes and socks when outside, especially during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

Other safeguards include draining or covering areas of standing water; regulating irrigation to eliminate puddling; scrub and change the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, and potted trays at least once a week, and make sure window and door screens are in good repair and "bug tight."

Dead birds, which may be due to the virus, should be reported to the state's West Nile virus call center, 877-968-2473, or online at westnile.ca.gov.



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