

Section A

In the wake of the pandemic and the closure of most Tri-Valley events, Section A of the newspaper has been placed on hold. The Independent will cover local happenings in the main pages of the newspaper. Stay tuned for updates.

How Are You Coping?

The Independent wants to know how you and your family or business are dealing with the disruptions in daily life. If you are a business owner, how have you had to adapt?

Send an email with your story to editor@independentnews.com, and be sure to include photos whenever possible.

Race to House Homeless to Stop Outbreak Continues On

By David Chircop

More than 30 homeless people in the Tri-Valley have been placed in hotel rooms over the past three weeks, and dozens more are awaiting placement as soon as funding and rooms become available.

In the meantime, local government agencies, nonprofits and health providers, have coordinated efforts to provide food, hand washing stations, bathrooms, and health care for those who cannot or will not be sheltered indoors.

People experiencing homelessness are among the most vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19, because they often lack access to basic hygiene facilities, have underlying medical conditions, and are exposed to the elements. They're also unable to quarantine themselves in a home environment and practice social distancing.

Experts contend placing homeless people in hotels and shelters can greatly mitigate the risk of infection.

"This has nothing to do with housing; it has to do with getting them into a place where they are not spreading the virus or getting it," said Christine Beitsch-Bahmani, CEO of CityServe of the Tri-Valley.

(See HOMELESS, page 4)

Community Arts Weathering the Storm During Shelter in Place

By Aly Brown

In a normal year, the Tri-Valley arts scene would be bustling with well over 300 events, including operas, symphonies, plays and cover bands.

But this year isn't like any other year. The coronavirus pandemic

shut the door on all public gatherings, which spells out financial heartache for resident art groups.

"Before the shelter-in-place, the Tri-Valley, and especially Livermore, was a vibrant region for the arts," said Chris Carter, executive director for nonprofit

(See ARTS, page 6)

Retail Chiefs Strive for Safe Stores, Well-Stocked Shelves and Delivery

By Larry Altman

Executives from Safeway supermarkets and Rite Aid pharmacies said last week that their efforts to keep store shelves stocked, improve delivery and curbside options and make sure employees and customers stay safe continue

to improve as they work to deal with changes in how they operate during the COVID-19 outbreak.

During an April 2 telephone town hall with State Sen. Steve Glazer, D-Orinda, Brad Street, Safeway's northern division president, and Stephan Vanwyk, Rite

(See GLAZER, page 7)

Coronavirus Continues to Rise in the County

By Ron McNicoll

As the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths rises in Alameda County, relief services and new protocols are underway in the Tri-Valley.

The Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) reported 602 confirmed cases, while the death toll climbed to 15, as of

April 7. Three days earlier, there were 373 cases and nine deaths in the county. Berkeley, which has its own public health department, reported 32 cases and no deaths as of April 7.

The expiration date for the shelter-in-place order is currently set for May 3; residents can find the following resources and updates:

RESOURCES

EBCE Commits Over \$1 Million

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) — a nonprofit agency providing clean energy to about 500,000 Alameda customers at low rates — committed more than \$1 million for local COVID-19 relief efforts.

"I directed our management

team to identify any possible opportunities in the current budget to repurpose as contributions for COVID-19 relief efforts," EBCE CEO Nick Chaset said. "This is clearly a crisis time for residents and local businesses, and if EBCE has any resources available to help, then by all means, that is what we're going to do, and we're doing

(See CORONAVIRUS, page 10)



Early April showers brought much needed rain over the weekend. Shown above is a storm at sunset over the southern vineyards of the Livermore Valley. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Distance Learning Is the New Normal

By Aly Brown

Educators throughout the Tri-Valley are working to improve distance learning programs, plan for graduation requirements, and keep services open for students in need.

The challenges lie in transforming a public school classroom model into a virtual experience, according to district officials in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin. Partnerships at county, state and college levels are helping to smooth the transition.

"This is a situation that none

of us were able to anticipate or fully prepare for," said David Haglund, Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) Superintendent.

On April 1, Gov. Gavin Newsom urged public and private schools to remain closed for the rest of the school year to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Altogether, about 42,000 K-12 students are enrolled in the Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin unified school districts, along with Sunol Glen. Students have

(See DISTANCE LEARNING, page 9)

School Boards Invoke Emergency To Continue Projects

By Ron McNicoll

The Valley's three school boards each met last week on an emergency basis to declare that certain construction projects are so important they must continue for the needs of their

(See SCHOOL BOARDS, page 9)

Jail Inmates and Officer Contract Case of Covid-19

By Larry Altman

Two Tri-Valley law enforcement agencies reported COVID-19 diagnoses last week, one involving a Livermore police officer now recovering at home and the other prompting concern for the inmate population at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

Both cases triggered measures to contain the coronavirus and prevent it from spreading.

The Livermore Police Department said the officer was sent home to quarantine following his positive test on April 2. Staff members in contact with the officer, who showed minor symptoms, were tested. All were found to be negative and placed in quarantine, the department said in a social media post.

The department, the post said, had a plan in place in case of such an occurrence. In recent weeks, officers and other staff have been practicing social distancing, wearing personal protective equipment and limiting contact with the public.

"We wish the officer a safe and speedy recovery," Livermore police said.

Meanwhile, three inmates at the Santa Rita Jail tested positive for COVID-19, Alameda County officials said on April 7. According to a press release, 51 tests have been

(See SANTA RITA, page 7)

Nonprofits Adjusting Services to Shield Seniors from Danger

By David Chircop

The requirements of social distancing have upended the operations of nonprofits that serve some of the Tri-Valley's most vulnerable residents.

Because seniors are more susceptible to complications from the new coronavirus, groups that provide in-person services for the elderly have rushed to adapt to a new way of providing help from a safe distance.

In order to allow more seniors to safely remain in their

homes, area groups are pooling resources and coordinating to deliver groceries, toiletries and prepared meals to the homes of older residents.

"All our clients are receiving phone calls," said Robert Taylor, executive director of the Pleasanton-based nonprofit group Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. "If we have a phone number, we're calling."

Taylor's group operates a variety of free programs for seniors aimed at fostering independence, safety and well-being. Until

public health officials last month ordered seniors to stay at home, he majority of those programs are delivered face-to-face.

Now, most of its work is done over the phone.

To protect its seniors and volunteers from the contagion, Senior Support has been forced to suspend its home visitation program and door-to-door medical appointment transportation service.

Employees working remotely from home are checking on seniors by phone, assessing their

needs, and connecting with other nonprofits like Open Heart Kitchen, which makes prepared meals, and Spectrum Meals on Wheels, which delivers meals to homebound seniors.

Its two licensed therapists have been available for one-on-one counseling by phone and they are currently arranging to make video therapy sessions available as well.

While grocery stores are among the few places that remain open, people over 65 and those with underlying medical

(See SENIOR SUPPORT, page 5)



Andrea Escobedo of the Pleasanton-based nonprofit group Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley places hand sanitizer in bags, allowing senior citizens to remain safely in their homes. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

PET OF THE WEEK



CITRUS

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there are still companion animals that need our help. While Valley Humane Society has closed the facility during shelter-in-place, we are coordinating adoptions by appointment with approved adopters. Check out our website, valleyhumane.org, to see adoptable animals like Citrus, a male senior small breed mix. If you are interested in adopting Citrus or another animal, reach us via email at info@valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656 for more information.

Photo credit: Valley Humane Society /E. Scholz

INSIDE

Classifieds.....	11
Community Information	3
Editorial	4
Mailbox	4
Obituaries.....	9



California poppies are thriving during the April rains. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Face Masks Not a Substitute for Hand Washing, Social Distancing

Cloth face masks may provide some added protection against Covid-19 for those who must leave their homes for essential activities, but they are not a substitute for social distancing and frequent hand washing, according to California public health officials.

“Face coverings are not a substitute for physical distancing or frequent hand washing, which we know are amongst the most effective ways to reduce the spread of Covid-19,” said Dr. Sonia Angell, director of the state Department of Public Health. “Wearing a cloth face covering could provide some additional benefit by acting as a reminder for other people to

keep their distance, and it could help reduce the spread of infectious particles from those who could be infected but don’t have symptoms.”

Dr. Mark Ghaly, secretary of California Health and Human Services, also cautioned against a false sense of security with face masks. While face coverings could provide some additional protection, “Californians should not have a false sense of security if they choose to wear them,” Ghaly said. “Make sure you’re also staying 6 feet away from other people if you have to leave your home to get groceries or prescriptions.”

While potentially helpful, the latest guidance from

the state does not require Californians to wear face masks, and urges most people not to use N-95 or surgical masks, which are needed by health-care workers and first responders.

According to public health officials, the best defense against the spread of Covid-19 continues to be:

- Staying at home and physical distancing
- Washing hands frequently
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoiding being around sick people

The guidance from the state is available at the California Department of Public Health website, www.cdph.ca.gov.



PG&E closed a portion of 4th Street near Carnegie Park in Livermore to replace a damaged power pole on Sunday morning, April 5. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Climate Credit to Reduce PG&E Residential Bills this Month

The semi-annual California Climate Credit will be applied to Pacific Gas and Electric residential bills during the April billing cycle, just as many customers’ energy usage is going up because of the statewide stay-at-home order to limit the spread of Covid-19.

“During the Covid-19 public health crisis, many of our customers may face uncertainty and financial instability due to school and childcare closures, job loss and other economic impacts,” said PG&E Senior Vice President Laurie Giammona. “We want customers to be aware that the semi-annual California Climate Credit will help reduce their energy costs this month.”

California requires power plants, natural gas providers, and other large industries that emit greenhouse gases to buy carbon pollution permits from auctions

managed by the California Air Resources Board. The California Climate Credit is the customers’ share of the payments from the state program. The California Public Utilities Commission oversees the program, with the state’s investor-owned utilities passing along credits to their customers.

The credit this month will total \$62.91 for PG&E residential customers receiving both natural gas and electric service. For natural gas-only residential customers, the credit will be \$27.18, and for electric-only residential customers the credit will be \$35.73.

SOLD W/MULTIPLE OFFERS \$695K
8043 Westport Circle, Discovery Bay



Call/text if you have questions about today’s market. Be well and stay safe!



Linda Diaz Futral
Broker/Realtor
925.980.3561
linda@lindafutral.com
www.lindafutral.com
License #01257605

Alain Pinel is now **COMPASS**



POPPY BANK

1.00%^{APY*}

Poppy Money Market

Open a new account and earn more today!

www.poppy.bank | (925) 737-0373



Growing stronger together.

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on advertised Poppy Money Market is accurate as of March 31, 2020 and is subject to change without notice. APY on Poppy Money Market is guaranteed for six months from the date of account opening. APY assumes all principal remains on deposit for 365 days. Interest will be compounded daily and paid monthly. A minimum daily balance of \$10,000 is required. Balances below the minimum daily balance requirement in Poppy Money Market will incur a monthly service charge of \$10.00 and decrease the APY to Poppy Bank’s standard rate sheet. Withdrawal transactions or transfers by automatic means, check or electronic transfer are limited to 6 per month. Electronic Statements must be activated to avoid a \$2.50 paper statement fee. Fees, or withdrawals of principal or interest, could reduce earnings. Minimum opening deposit is \$10,000 and must be NEW MONEY ONLY. Offer good only at the Los Angeles/Westwood, Menlo Park, Milpitas, Orange County/Costa Mesa, Pleasanton, and Roseville locations. This promotion is subject to change anytime, without notice.



Swalwell to Host Facebook Q&A on COVID-19

Colleen Chawla, director of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, will join U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA) for a live Facebook question-and-answer session to update 15th congressional district residents about the Covid-19 outbreak at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, April 9.

The county Health Care Services Agency includes the departments of Behavioral Health, Environmental Health, and Public Health. Chawla joined the Health Care Services Agency in December 2017, after 13 years with the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

To join the Q&A session, go to [Facebook.com/CongressmanEricSwalwell](https://www.facebook.com/CongressmanEricSwalwell). Participants may also submit questions in advance on the event Facebook page.

Did your insurance premium with California Earthquake Authority (CEA) **DOUBLE** this year?

You DO have options!

Contact us today for a free quote.

(925) 447-2565
or email us at:
save@genemorganinsurance.com
to save over **50%** on your premium!

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency
www.genemorganinsurance.com



LIC #0M28209

EDITORIAL

Perfection Is Not the Answer When It Comes to Homeschooling

School districts across the Tri-Valley have responded to Gov. Gavin Newsom’s urge to continue distance learning through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Parents, students and educators alike are feeling the weight.

It’s no small task to take a public school setting and condense it into bite-sized segments on a digital platform. Teachers share that they’re trying to work around their own family schedules as they hop into Zoom calls for the students. Parents report the struggle of working with kids at home, or trying to homeschool special-needs children who don’t understand the situation and heavily depend on consistent routines. Students who once believed they hated school have cried at the thought of not saying goodbye to their friends and teachers, or the fact that so many anticipated rituals — dances, graduations, field trips — are now collateral damage in the virus’ wake. Administrators are working around the clock, attending countless conference calls to figure out the best means to support their staff and students during this time.

But despite the magnitude of the situation,

the resounding message from all perspectives is underscored with hope and the understanding that this too shall pass.

And it shall.

In the meantime, parents can find the tools and support they need within their respective school district websites. But they can also find an abundance of resources online. GoNoodle offers a variety of activities for children to complete at home. Kids can find an entire how-to channel dedicated to building and creating. ABCmouse is another online source for students looking for educational games and puzzles.

On a local level, many businesses and non-profits are providing programs online. Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center and Bothwell Arts Center launched a free series of art classes for children this week and reported a successful turnout. In addition, the Oakland Zoo is creating a series called “Behind the Scenes,” which offers families a look at zoo life during COVID-19. The episodes launched April 2. Find your favorite niche in the area and look into what they’re offering to virtual audiences.

While resources abound online for families in need of activities, it’s easy for parents to feel the pressure of not doing “enough” or not even knowing where to start. But it’s important to remember your students’ teachers and school district administrators understand this pressure; they aren’t expecting you to transform into a fully functioning educator.

Angie Covil, director of high school for California Virtual Academies — a public homeschool charter that’s actively supporting traditional school districts throughout the Bay Area as they transition to a digital format — noted , the best thing parents can do right now is to give themselves a little grace. Forgive yourself for not being perfect. Forgive yourself for being substandard or completely frazzled, for that matter. Ultimately, your stress level will impact your child far more than your perfection.

For links to the resources, visit <https://californiasciencecenter.org/stuck-at-home-science>, <https://www.oaklandzoo.org/go-behind-the-scenes>, www.gonoodle.com, <https://livermorearts.org/> and abcmouse.com.

MAILBOX

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

The True Story of Good Friday Tony Favero, Livermore

Jesus’ ordeal commenced in the Garden of Gethsemane. The New Testament records that Jesus sweated blood. Dr. Alexander Metherell, an expert on crucifixion, identifies this as hematomia, which is caused by extreme psychological distress triggering a discharge of bodily chemicals breaking down sweat gland capillaries, resulting in sweat tinged with blood. Hematomia leaves the skin in an extremely fragile and sensitive state for flogging, which was a preliminary to crucifixion. Whips used for flogging were made of braided leather thongs with metal balls and sharp bone pieces woven into them to shred flesh.

As Metherell has written, “.... the lacerations would tear into the underlying skeletal muscles and produce quivering ribbons of bleeding flesh.” Third-century historian Eusebius’ observed that the “sufferer’s veins were laid bare, and the very muscles, sinews, and bowels were open to exposure.” Survivors of the scourging would have been left in ‘hypovolemic shock’, suffering extreme loss of blood, skyrocketing pulse, plummeting blood pressure, failed kidneys, plus extreme thirst to replace lost fluids.

At crucifixion, sharp iron

spikes were driven through the wrists, not the palms. Spikes driven through the wrists crush the median nerve. Metherell says the pain would have been “absolutely unbearable.” A new word was imperative to express it: excruciating. Literally, meaning ‘out of the cross.’ Nails through the feet yielded similar crushing agony.

In the cross’ vertical position, the stress would have dislocated the shoulders and stretched the arms about 6 inches. Metherell portrays crucifixion as “an agonizingly slow death by asphyxiation.” He adds that “exhaling requires the sufferer to push up on his feet repeatedly, scraping his bloodied back against the coarse wood of the cross.”

The unceasing hypovolemic shock would have resulted in an excessive pulse rate contributing to eventual heart failure, leading to a collection of fluid in the membrane around the heart (pericardial effusion) as well as around the lungs (pleural effusion). Afterwards, Roman soldiers would confirm death by thrusting a spear into the right side, going through the right lung and into the heart. If one remained alive, the soldiers would break the legs to hasten death.

Skeptics opine that Jesus survived crucifixion, a conjecture that Metherell and others repudiate vociferously.

In a 1986 article in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Dr. William Edwards concluded, “Clearly, the weight of the historical and medical evidence indicates that Jesus was dead before the wound to his side was inflicted... Accordingly, interpretations based on the assumption that Jesus did not die on the cross appear to be at odds with modern medical knowledge.”

Money Wasted, What a Shame Anthony Pangelinan, Livermore

I noticed a half-page advertisement in the newspaper last week from the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center asking for donations from the public during these trying times. What an absolute shame so much money was spent by the LVPAC chair and president fight-

ing the city over the downtown plan. The millions they spent, combined with the millions the city and others had to spend to defend the approved plan, could have gone a long way in supporting the Bankhead Theater. I think it’s disgraceful and insensitive that the people who divided this community are now reaching out with hat in hand looking for donations while many are losing their jobs.

Why are Landscapers Not Allowed?

Jane Cote, Livermore

I am finding it very difficult to understand why gardening/landscaping providers are not being allowed to work. Can someone please give me a reasonable explanation? This makes no sense. These businesses and their workers depend on their jobs for their livelihood and they work very hard, and usually don’t have close contact with anyone while performing the job.

My husband and I are seniors with disabilities and unable to personally maintain our yard. We depend on our gardener and he depends on his customers to keep his small business viable. I thought keeping small businesses afloat during this time of crisis was one of the goals, not putting them out of business and making them dependent on the government.

Sewer Service Charges Richard Langlois, Livermore

I am particularly offended that the Livermore City Council still plans to adopt a significant sewer tax increase during a shelter-in-place public health emergency that makes it illegal for Livermore residents to attend the meeting in person. It appears this city council values an increase in tax revenue more than the basic health and welfare of its citizens.

Nightmare Robert Rao, Livermore

As I watch President Trump speak to the country on his daily Covid-19 update, I also see Vice President Mike Pence standing very close by. Too close!

If the President and the Vice President become incapacitated with Covid-19, under the Constitution, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi becomes President.

Earth Month – What Do You Value? Bill & Carrie McCormack, Livermore

We need to recognize that extreme weather events, massive extinction of species, destruction of our soils and food webs, pollution of our water and air, and pandemics are natural consequences of our collective actions against nature. Humans are not separate from nature, rather we are a part of it. It’s

all connected.

But with Earth Day and other annual spring and conservation-related events cancelled because of the coronavirus pandemic, what can we do to help save the world? Here are some resources to explore while we are under a stay-at-home order.

The first three are a newspaper article, a keynote address, and a book all by Douglas W. Tallamy, professor of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware.

“Welcome bugs into your yard - you might just save the world,” published in the Washington Post on Feb. 20, 2020; “Restoring the Little Things that Run the World: Why it Matters and What We Can Do.” keynote address at the Northern California Native Plant Symposium in September 2019 ([youtube.com/watch?v=bF5evyKLw0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bF5evyKLw0)); and “Nature’s Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard,” published this year.

The California Native Plants Society’s annual Wildflower Show -- whose theme this year was to be “Climate Crisis – What Can I Do?” -- has been cancelled. But the scheduled keynote speaker, Mary Ellen Hannibal, has written a book, “Citizen Scientist: Searching for Heroes and Hope in an Age of Extinction).”

Tri-Valley Citizen’s Climate Education, which was forced to cancel last month’s meeting, will instead host a virtual meeting on “Reversing Global Warming: Introduction to Project Drawdown,” with environmental speaker Tony Green, on April 23. For more information on the meeting, go to <https://trivalleyccce.org/zoom-meeting-information>.

Some online sites are offering virtual garden tours, including bringingbackthenatives.net and ngnt.org. The Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (cnps-scvc.org) also has links to YouTube videos and slides from more than 100 talks on gardening, including “Creating a Conceptual Plan for a Native Garden,” “Biodiversity, Native Plants, and You,” “Native Plants and Pollinator Gardens,” “Locally Native Plants for Home Gardens,” “The Lawn is Dead, Now What,” and “Lawn Removal & Native Garden Installation.”

Lastly, here are some more websites that may be of interest: cnps.org, garden.org, ebcnps.org, xerces.org, plantright.org, granadanativegarden.com, facebook.com/primrosewaypollinatorgarden, mattritter.net/california-plants, lasplitas.com, yerbabuenanursery.com, lindavistanativesplants.com, and californianativeplants.com.

HOMELESS

(Continued from first page)

CityServe, which has agreements with Tri-Valley cities has been working closely with city agencies and other area nonprofit groups to help identify people most susceptible to infection and getting hotel vouchers in their hands.

Beitsch-Bahmani said some of the Tri-Valley’s homeless have declined vouchers, opting instead to continue living in tents in places like the creek homeless camp north of Walmart and Kohl’s.

Last month, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that authorized \$150 million in emergency aid to help limit the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless. Two-thirds of the funding are being directed to local governments for shelter support and emergency housing.

But as local cities and nonprofit groups scramble to coordinate efforts to shelter homeless people during the pandemic, those on the front lines, like Beitsch-Bahmanion, see other challenges looming on the horizon.

In the past two weeks alone, she said 27 families in crisis have requested \$50,000 in emergency rent assistance.

“We have a whole client load of at-risk families, who are within 21 days—a breath away — of losing housing,” she said.

At the same time, charitable gifts to the nonprofit have plummeted in the last month as local congregations that help fund it have suspended services.

The coronavirus crisis has also taken a toll on some faith-based services available to homeless people in Livermore. Livermore Homeless Refuge, the city’s rotating cold-weather homeless shelter, was forced to close its doors last month because it could not meet social distancing guidelines

issued by public health officers.

In addition, shower and laundry services at Asbury Methodist and Vineyard have been shuttered as a precaution.

According to a post to the city’s website by Councilman Bob Carling and Councilwoman Trish Munro.

- The City of Livermore has hired an industrial hygienist to determine necessary cleaning procedures and identify personal protective equipment for the onsite Asbury staff, so that services may be reopened.

- Open Heart Kitchen is also delivering meals to the creek encampment each weekday with additional food distributed on Saturday to cover the weekend.

- The city has also provided people at the creek homeless encampment access to handwashing stations, and portable bathrooms. There are also plans to purchase individual cell phone solar charging stations to ensure people there with phones can continue to communicate.

- Tri-City Health Center and Axis Community Health are conducting COVID-19 assessments and referrals.

Livermore’s safe parking program has been opened to car dwellers from throughout the Tri-Valley. Washing stations and bathrooms are also made available for those who participate.

Munro, who sits on a City Council subcommittee on homelessness, encouraged people to volunteer or donate to CityShare and other nonprofits working directly with the homeless.

While the state has committed some assistance to local governments for emergency shelter, “there are a lot of moving parts, and things change day by day.”

“Everybody is suffering from a lack of funding right now,” she said.

Scouting Continues at Home

Boys Scouts in Alameda County can continue to explore and earn merit badges despite the statewide stay-at-home order because of the coronavirus pandemic through the San Francisco Bay Area Council’s Virtual Exploration Camp.

Scouts can log onto their computers from 9 a.m. to early afternoon every day to engage with other Scouts and instructors on various merit badges, which they can then complete by demonstrating their competency to their merit badge counselors.

“The Virtual Exploration Camp has been instrumental in allowing local Scouts to explore a variety

of interests with the goal of developing future skills and lifelong hobbies,” said Liam O’Flynn, an assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 905 in Dublin and an online instructor.

Scout Troops and Packs have also moved to online conferences to hold their regular meetings and stay in touch during the pandemic.

O’Flynn said spring merit badge classes will include Nature, Oceanography, and Backpacking, along with pertinent topics like Emergency Preparedness, Medicine, and Public Health. To see the full list of merit badge classes, go to www.sfbac.org/programs/exploration-camps.

THE Independent

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: David T. Lowell (In Memoriam)
EDITOR: Janet Armantrout (In Memoriam)

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925) 447-8700. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours or by fax: (925) 447-0212.
Editorial information may be submitted by editmail@compuserve.com.

www.independentnews.com

SENIOR SUPPORT
(Continued from first page)

conditions have been told to avoid shopping at grocery stores if possible. Not everyone has the means or ability to order groceries online. For those without nearby family or friends with cars who can deliver groceries, the need to help suddenly homebound seniors is increasing.

Volunteer efforts, like COVID-19 Pleasanton Support Angels, and Tri-Valley Supports Seniors, have stepped up to help seniors with grocery and other essential deliveries.

Caryl Mahar, development director with Spectrum Meals on Wheels, said requests for home meal delivery in Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton and Sunol are up by about 25% over the past week or so, and she expects increased interest to continue to grow in the coming weeks.

“We are still up and running and everyone who has

requested a meal is receiving a meal,” she said.

Over the past three weeks, employees with Senior Support of the Tri-Valley began delivering groceries and toiletries directly to residents on its roster identified as being in the greatest need of help. Most are in their 80s and 90s.

Workers take precautions, like wearing gloves and face masks, and leave bags at recipients’ front doors.

Because the nonprofit’s funding is largely grant-based, it is unclear if the organization will be reimbursed for the deliveries. Even so, “it’s the right thing to do,” Taylor said.

Beyond serving the immediate needs of its clients, the group is also exploring additional ways to fulfill its broader mission to help improve the quality of life for area seniors in the weeks ahead.

The group is putting together a short video it hopes to air on public access television, providing tips for



Volunteer efforts, like COVID-19 Pleasanton Support Angels, and Tri-Valley Supports Seniors, have stepped up to help seniors with grocery and other essential deliveries (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

seniors on ways they can stay healthy and well during the outbreak. It also is laying the groundwork for video conferencing sessions for its seniors on topics such as proper nutrition,

exercise, and medication management, he said.

The organization was established in 1981 with a Friendly Visitor volunteer program serving 35 seniors.

The visitor program still exists today and now serves more than 200 seniors, resulting in nearly 4,000 home visits in 2018, according to the group’s most recently available filings with the IRS.

“We had to stop all volunteer visiting, of course,” said Pam Silliman, who now coordinates the visitor program, which until recently paired community volunteers with seniors for socializing and home visits.

Many of the Tri-Valley residents served by Senior Support Program live alone, have no family members in the area and little in the way of a support network, Silliman noted.

For those who struggle with loneliness and

social isolation, friendly visitors can help fill the gap and grow into meaningful friendships for both seniors and volunteers, Silliman said.

She described one volunteer, a man in his 50s, who was paired with a Pleasanton widower in his 80s. The volunteer started with short visits after work on Thursdays at the older man’s apartment in Pleasanton. One visit, the volunteer arrived to find a TV dinner ready for him. Their weekly visits grew to include dinner and watching reruns of the old western television series “Gunsmoke.”

Even after some seniors are no longer able to live on their own, Silliman said volunteers often stay in touch as the elders move to nursing facilities. “We’re trying to connect with them as much as possible.”

During the shutdown, Silliman said volunteer visitors have continued to stay in touch with their elder partners, making welfare calls a few times a week, and relaying to her any specific needs the organization can try to meet. “We’re trying to connect with them as much as possible, even though it can’t be face to face.”



Pat and Joey Tchang deliver food bags to seniors in need. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

More Online:

For information on programs available for Tri-Valley seniors and ways to donate, visit Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley at www.ssptv.org, and Spectrum Community Services at www.spectrumcs.org.

L I V E R M O R E
— a r t s —
B A N K H E A D & B O T H W E L L

A love for the
ARTS

helps keep us
CONNECTED
even when we're
APART

Even in the darkest times, the arts bring joy and wonder to our lives. Today we wait with all of you, eager to reopen our doors and again welcome the artists, musicians, singers, dancers, painters, actors and comedians who help unite us through the power of the arts.

But we won't be able to do it without help. As an independent non-profit, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center exists both **for** our community and **thanks to** our community. These are challenging times. The impact on the arts world will be acute. If you are able to support our efforts with a donation of any size, you can help us emerge better able to keep our community connected through the arts. Thank you.

NEVER HAVE THE ARTS NEEDED YOU MORE • PLEASE DONATE NOW
LIVERMOREARTS.ORG

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center • 2400 First Street, Livermore CA 94550
A 501(c)3 nonprofit cultural arts organization • Tax ID#68-0419182

ARTS

(Continued from first page)

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC). “Everyone is at a standstill, and there’s not much we can do.”

On the heels of canceling 140 events and classes at Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center, Carter indicated a loss in budgeted revenue to be more than \$1 million for LVPAC. The payroll staff of 55 has dwindled down to nine, and those who remain are working at 60% of regular hours. Carter hopes to bring everyone back but expects the shelter-in-place to unpack incrementally from the way it came in, with the entertainment and hospitality industries as the last to reopen, and a recovery period lasting about three years.

To combat the losses, Carter detailed the plan ahead.

“First, we’ve appealed to donors, and they’ve been great, and we’ve raised a good amount of money to help us get through next month or so,” Carter said.

The group has also applied for a federal disaster relief loan through the Small Business Administration and the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), a forgivable loan to help small businesses pay employees.

“Fremont Bank is our bank, and they’ve done a really great job of helping us

through the process,” Carter added. “We have a line of credit with them, which will keep us going for now.”

Carter explained the PPP would financially ease the nonprofit’s burdens for about two to three months. In the meantime, staff have been advised to file for unemployment until they’re able to resume their roles. The group is still awaiting information on whether it qualifies for the loans.

While the company has taken a financial hit, it has also strived to continue offering art to the community in one form or another. It’s streaming content from National Theater Live. This week marked the launch of an online spring art course for children ages 5 to 12. Anne Giancola, director of visual arts, ran the program, which was offered free to the public, and reported a large turnout.

“We had 85 people in the meeting, and it went much smoother than expected,” she said. “I was kind of nervous about it at first, but it worked out really well.”

The lesson provided Giancola her first experience teaching a course online, and opened her eyes to the possibility of virtual classes in the future.

“I think it lends itself to a lot of different opportunities even after the



Livermore-Amador Symphony (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

shelter-in-place is over,” she said, noting the courses could offer the community a budget-friendly means of taking a class without travel.

LVPAC’s resident companies are also finding ways to stay connected to the community and their performers.

The Livermore Valley Opera (LVO) presented performances March 7 and 8,



Brilliance at the Bankhead Gala fundraiser in front of the Bankhead Theater in the early afternoon and evening (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



A Florentine Tragedy by Alexander Zemlinsky performed by Livermore Valley Opera (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

but saw cancellations March 14 and 15 when the theater closed to heed Gov. Gavin Newsom’s call to end events bringing in crowds of more than 250.

“The LVO Board of Di-

rectors voted to honor the contracts of all the singers and the orchestral musicians, so these artists were paid in full,” said LVO Director Erie Mills. “I have been in touch with most of the singers ... and they were most impressed with the generosity of LVO.”

The performers have created personal videos, sharing their experience. LVO will use that content for social media, email blasts and the LVO website. In addition, the LVO marketing committee created an opera video series called LVOpera, placing different archival videos on YouTube each Friday at 7 p.m.

“LVO looks forward to sharing the power and beauty of live opera with everyone in the future,” Mills said. “And we wish everyone good health!”

Lara Webber, Livermore-Amador Symphony director, said that while rehearsing with a large symphony is not especially practical in a virtual realm, she’s issued fun challenges to her musicians to post videos of themselves performing. Her opening video showcased her effort to play the cello after 33 years away from the instrument. Musicians responded in turn, with some violin players offering glimpses of their attempt to play the

clarinet and a cellist playing the ukulele.

“We’re trying to generate a virtual way for the orchestra to communicate musically and think musically,” Webber said. Shelter-in-place has allowed art to bloom in every corner of society and has given us permission to express ourselves without perfection, she noted.

While the cancellations will have a direct impact on LVPAC’s budget and the arts community in the Tri-Valley, Carter hopes they will reopen this fall, which will be a season packed with performances every night, including those from the postponed spring season. He further stated the crisis will force changes in the operating model that will be beneficial.

“We come out more efficient and focused on activities that have a higher volume of revenue generation,” Carter said. “We’re still a nonprofit, and we want to serve the community, so we have to balance that. But we’ll probably be more efficient, leaner, and in the long run, we’ll have a better product and we’ll have a better plan for long-term success.”

For more information, visit www.lvpac.org.



Giacomo Puccini’s Gianni Schicchi performed by Livermore Valley Opera (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

GLAZER

(Continued from first page)



Steve Glazer

Aid’s divisional vice president, addressed a string of questions from Tri-Valley residents related to obtaining groceries and prescriptions while trying to maintain “social distancing” inside their stores.

“It is a challenging, challenging time,” Glazer said during the 75-minute discussion with about 1,400 people on the phone. “We have to keep this physical distancing if we are going to keep our hospitals from being overwhelmed.”

Glazer said he received about 150 questions before the town hall. He posed the most pressing, primarily dealing with social distancing, protecting customers and employees, keeping shelves stocked and obtaining hard-to-get products like eggs and toilet paper.

Both men said the initial

rush had subsided from a few weeks ago when shoppers swarmed stores and emptied shelves. Most products are available from their suppliers, although some items disappear from shelves as days progress, they said.

Here are some key points during the town hall:

Store inventory and prices

Street said inventory levels dropped to 65 percent – down to 25 percent at some stores -- during the initial rush as customers stocked up. He expected store inventories to return to 90 percent this week.

A few products continue to lag, he noted, including eggs, paper products, hand sanitizer, cleaning wipes and cleaning products. Store management is working with suppliers to fix this.

“We are very confident we will get our arms around this as it goes,” Street said.

Customers, buying limits and toilet paper

Customer “trips” to Safeway stores skyrocketed at first, Street said, but have declined since then to more normal levels. People are buying more during each trip. Prices have maintained, although lower priced brands of some products, including toilet paper, often go quickly, leaving the more expensive products behind.

Safeway stores are putting limits on some items,

including toilet paper.

Rite Aid, Vanwyk said, is “in pretty good shape” with measures in place to prevent hoarding of drugs like the malaria medication Hydroxychloroquine, which was touted by President Trump as a potential coronavirus cure but is needed for other conditions, including lupus. Vanwyk said Rite Aid did not anticipate a major shortage of any drug.

Following the initial shopping rush, the volume of Rite Aid customers had dropped, enabling store managers to replenish shelves and look for trends, he said.

Delivery and curbside service and hiring

Street said Safeway understood customers’ frustrations with not being able to secure delivery windows online, but the company was trying to address that and improve curbside pickup. He admitted the company was not ready for the onslaught of requests from customers at first, but is working to improve it.

That includes hiring 3,100 new employees in Northern California. As of last week, Street said the company had 1,100 job openings and was working with major hotel chains to bring employees over to fill positions. The employees need to be trained and maintain “social distancing” in

the process.

“Our No. 1 effort here is to keep our employees and customers safe,” Street said.

Vanwyk acknowledged that Rite Aid did not have robust delivery service in Northern California, but was working with FedEx and UPS to try to deliver prescriptions. He encouraged customers to use stores with drive-through windows or “curbside pickup,” where they call into stores from the parking lot to purchase a prescription or over the counter product and have someone bring it out to them.

Employee and customer safety

Addressing questions related to social distancing and employee and customer cleanliness and safety, Street said closing stores overnight allows for deep cleaning and sanitizing. All stores have added plexiglass between checkers and customers and, although initially health officials told them not to, employees are encouraged

to wear masks and gloves. The problem, he said, is the same as for health workers – getting masks and having them available.

Workers in store delis are encouraged to wash their hands repeatedly or to wear gloves that they also must regularly wash, Street said.

According to Street, store employees are asked to open every other check stand to create social distancing and have created templates to show customers where to stand while waiting to pay. The store also may institute one-way aisles to prevent customers from crossing paths.

Street and Vanwyk said it’s a good idea for customers to wash everything they’ve purchased once they get home.

As for employee health, Street said employees must answer a series of health-related questions when they punch in before being allowed to work. Vanwyk said Rite Aid is in the process of procuring thermometers so

employees can take their temperatures before beginning their shifts. Once they obtain masks, all employees will wear them, he said.

“We want to make sure we keep them healthy as much as we keep our customers healthy,” Vanwyk said.

Street reported that employees were being rewarded with \$2 an hour raises for working during the crisis.

Senior shoppers

Safeway has designated time periods Tuesdays and Thursdays before 9 a.m. for seniors, but may expand to a third day. Although one questioner asked that it be later in the day, Street said the hours are in the morning because stores are cleaner at that time and shelves are better stocked.

Glazer has hosted a number of telephone town halls on various topics relating to the coronavirus pandemic. They are all archived at sd07.senate.ca.gov/covid19/telephone-town-hall.



Local vineyards catch the setting sun with translucent leaves on budding vines. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)

SANTA RITA

(Continued from first page)

completed on inmates, with the three positive results, 23 negative, and 25 with results still pending.

Inmates who test positive are isolated in the facility’s Outpatient Housing Unit, which offers 24-hour medical care. The inmates are being continuously monitored, the county’s COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center said in a statement.

Jail officials immediately notified the county Department of Public Health after the first inmate was diagnosed with COVID-19 on April 4. That launched an investigation to identify staff and inmates who might have come in close contact with the patient.

Before the diagnosis, the inmate was housed in a two-person cell within a pod and had limited contact with other people, the statement noted.

“Per our outbreak control plan, the impacted pods have been quarantined and are being professionally cleaned and sanitized,” the statement said. “In addition,

the inmates housed in the quarantined pods will receive enhanced monitoring by Wellpath medical professionals.”

The diagnosis came less than two weeks after a jail nurse tested positive for COVID-19. The March 25 positive test result prompted an investigation to identify inmates, medical staff and other jail personnel who might have been in contact with the nurse.

An undisclosed number of jail staff were placed in 14-day quarantine.

The nurse was the first person in the jail to test positive. The jail houses about 2,000 inmates after a recent reduction of the population by about 600.

Weeks ago, working to keep the coronavirus out of the jail, officials shut down in-person visitations. Jail staff and inmates were issued surgical masks, and videos were played for inmates to explain hygiene, physical distancing and other health practices to avoid contracting the illness,

the statement said.

According to the report, the jail implemented a “robust enhanced cleaning schedule” with agents approved by the CDC.

“All inmates are provided free soap, as well as sanitary disinfectant wipes and are being encouraged to wash their hands regularly,” the statement explained.

Sheriff’s Department deputies and other jail staff are using personal protective equipment, including N95 masks during their shifts. Jail staff also are taking their temperatures, answering a medical questionnaire and washing their hands before entering the building.

On Monday, the state Supreme Court Chief Justice and the Judicial Council adopted a zero-bail policy for people charged with most misdemeanors and low-level felonies during the COVID-19 outbreak. The action is intended to reduce the number of people held in California jails.



James J. Phillips*



Katelyn M. Phillips

Father — Daughter
Estate and Trust Law Firm

Phillips & Phillips

A Professional Corporation

Practice Areas

- Trust & Estate Planning
- Trust Administration & Probate
- Conservatorship & Elder Law

James J. Phillips & Katelyn M. Phillips
30 Years in the Tri Valley

*Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law
State Bar Board of Legal Specialization
LL.M. in Taxation

2811 Castro Valley Blvd., In the Breilh Bldg. • (510) 886-2120
4900 Hopyard Rd., Suite 260, Pleasanton • (925) 463-1980
www.phillipslaw.us

OUR LOCAL
NONPROFITS NEED
YOUR SUPPORT,
PLEASE DONATE
IF YOU ARE ABLE!

Hope Hospice

6377 Clark Ave.
Dublin, CA 94568
925-829-8770
HopeHospice.com/donate

Shepherds Gate

1660 Portola Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-443-4283
ShepherdsGate.org

Livermore Homeless Refuge

4743 East Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-895-4167
HomelessRefugeLivermore.com

Sunflower Hill

info@sunflowerhill.org
925-800-1042
SunFlowerhill.org

Livermore Lions Club

P.O. Box 975
Livermore, CA 94551
925-449-9974

The Taylor Family Foundation

P.O. Box 2450
Livermore CA, 94551
925-455-5118
TTFF.org

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center

2400 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-6100
LivermoreArts.com

Tri-Valley Haven

3663 Pacific Ave.
Livermore, CA 94551
925-449-5842
TriValleyHaven.org

Open Heart Kitchen

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

Valley Humane Society

3670 Nevada St.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925-426-8656
ValleyHumane.org

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

5890 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 104
Pleasanton, CA 94588
866-862-7270
HealingTherapiesFoundation.org

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation/Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare

1111 E. Stanley Blvd.
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-4560
GiveValleyCare.org

IF YOU ARE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD LIKE TO
BE ADDED TO OUR LIST
please email Kim@independentnews.com

Career Center Open to Help Employees and Employers

The Tri-Valley Career Center is still operating, virtually. They are conducting workshops and classes online via Zoom. They return calls from job seekers and help them navigate a difficult time with stress reduction workshops and COVID-19 job search tip workshops.

To assist employers, their job board is up and functional. They have experimented with a virtual recruitment event that puts the employer face to face with potential jobseekers.

You can check their webpage at www.trivalleycareercenter.org.

SCHOOL BOARDS

(Continued from first page)

districts to be met.

The meetings were necessary to take advantage of an exemption from county Public Health Department's tighter control over what construction workers can do at sites.

All of the boards' participants met by teleconference.

In Pleasanton on April 1, a list of already funded projects that were approved included telecommunication system upgrades to all schools and the district offices. The upgrades will add to the safety and security of all occupants, said staff. Other money will

go to fencing projects at three schools — Hearst and Valley View elementary schools and Pleasanton Middle School.

New heating and air conditioning are due at Fairlands and Alisal elementary schools and Pleasanton and Harvest Park middle schools.

Livermore's board met March 31 and cleared the way to continue work on new athletic facilities for Livermore and Granada high schools.

The board also approved donating 5,000 masks and 31,000 pairs of gloves to

the city for first responders and medical workers. The district will retain enough for themselves, said Assistant Superintendent Chris Van Schaack. They were first acquired when schools were closed because of recent Northern California wildfires.

In Dublin, the school board used its March 31 emergency meeting to move ahead with its plan to lease four portables for Dublin High School. The district needs the space to house expected growth of 200 to 250 more students in the next school year.

DISTANCE LEARNING

(Continued from first page)

been learning at home since the county ordered all residents to shelter in place last month.

With 19 schools in Livermore, 15 in Pleasanton and 13 in Dublin, each district is approaching the problem in similar ways, such as setting up and distributing laptops to families who need them.

They've also restructured their websites to act as portals to educational materials and resources for parents and students. For example, daily and weekly lesson plans are offered. There are virtual check-ins with teachers in conjunction with packets provided to parents to review homework and grades. They also assign students exercises to meet physical education requirements.

"I hope that (families) understand we are working diligently to make mea-

sured decisions, which are in the best interests of their children and our staff," Haglund said.

In Livermore, the onset of extended distance learning began April 3, when the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Board of Directors held an emergency meeting and voted unanimously to extend distance learning.

"Although we'd love nothing more than to welcome all of our students back to our campuses this academic year, our governor, our state and Alameda County superintendent, as well as our own school nurses, advise that to do so compromises the health, not only of our students and staff, but of our entire community," LVJUSD Superintendent Kelly Bowers said. "While we're very confident that this was a

right and socially responsible decision, it doesn't make it an easy one."

LVJUSD has morphed into a shelter-in-place hub of information for parents and students learning from home. Services are also still available for students who need emotional support. To find nurses' and counselors' contact information, visit <https://www.livermoreschools.org/Page/8830>.

PUSD on March 13 reviewed remote learning as the shadow of a shelter-in-place order loomed. Between March 13 and March 20, administrators and staff focused on professional development for teachers, allowing for time to put together educational content. Families also participated in surveys to determine the level of technology each student had at home. Chromebooks were then

distributed to families who did not have the available technology.

"While we are still working out kinks, I believe that parents, in large measure, are pleased with how things are going and appreciate the work of our teachers in making this happen on such short notice," Haglund said.

Dave Marken, Dublin Unified School District superintendent, said the difficulties families have shared with him influenced his district to rethink its grading policy as the year comes to a close.

"We will be presenting to the school board on April 21 a credit/no-credit grading practice," Marken said. "We believe there are significant equity issues that are impossible, when we don't have our students in front of us, to address."

Meanwhile, Google has

entered a partnership with the state to ensure free high-quality internet for students for at least three months. The Mountain View-based tech company will also distribute thousands of Chromebooks to support virtual learning.

On the parent level, Livermore resident Jessica Guarda shared that her son with special needs is beginning to adjust, even though the launch of distance learning came with significant challenges. Weeks ago, her nearly 5-year-old was confused by the lack of routine and missed his teachers. He was also especially needy of Guarda, which she deduced was from anxiety that came with change and seeing strangers wearing masks.

"My son is doing a little better with the homework or class work during the

day," Guarda said. "My son's teacher, speech teacher and PE teacher have been sending me material that I can get at the school office and email videos and email material, so that's been great."

District officials acknowledge that this school year isn't like any other. There will be no field trips, no spring sports, no proms and no graduation ceremonies. The Class of 2020 will have very different memories at their reunions.

"My heart hurts for the seniors — and their families — who are missing out on traditions they have been looking forward to for many years," Haglund said. "We are working with our principals, student leaders and staff to plan something special for our graduates when we are able to come back together."

OBITUARIES

Frances Cunningham August 25, 1920 – March 22, 2020



Frances Cunningham, 99, passed away with her daughter, Susan, by her side on Sunday, March 22, 2020. She was a resident of Livermore, California, for the last 8 years.

She was born on August 25, 1920, to Croatian immigrants Anthony and Antoinette Depolo, the fifth of their seven children.

A native of Oakland, Frances graduated from Castlemont High School in 1939, where she was recognized as an outstanding athlete. She met her husband, Carl Norman Cunningham, during their senior year as he admired her skills on the baseball field. They were married May 2, 1945, following his return from WWII.

In 1953, the family moved from Oakland to Danville, California, to raise their children. Frances could always

be found at her Singer sewer machine, sewing anything from dresses to draperies. She also taught her son Mark to play baseball, starting when he was 6. (Mark was drafted by the former Montreal Expos in 1973.)

The Cunninghams later moved to Walnut Creek, California, living there until retiring to the mountains of Foresthill, California, in 1981. Frances moved to the Rossmoor community in Walnut Creek following her husband's death in 1996. In 2012, she moved next door to her daughter in Livermore, where they enjoyed activities together, especially going to the hair salon, lunch at Emil Villas, and visits to the Livermore Veterans Administration Convalescent Hospital.

Frances found a new love in 2013 — the Livermore High School Varsity Softball team. She loved watching the girls play, sharing a passion for the game. Frances was thrilled to see girls awarded scholarships for their athletic abilities. The girls adopted her as their team "Grandma," and gifted her with an LHS Cowboy's cap and jersey with "GRANDMA #3" on the back. Frances's last game was March 4, 2020; the girls' last words to her were "Thank you, Grandma, for coming to

our game."

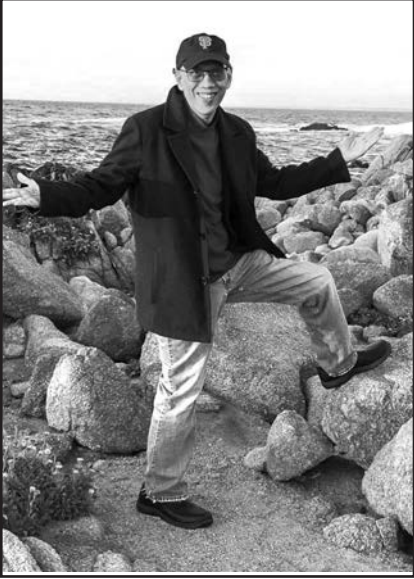
Frances always stepped aside to let others shine, and the family is gratified by outpouring of love and attention she received from the Livermore community. The family is also grateful for the care she received the last three years at Quail Garden, and the friendships she formed with residents, visitors and volunteers at the Livermore assisted living facility.

Frances is survived by her daughter, Susan (Stan) Locke, of Livermore; her son, Mark Cunningham; granddaughters Julie Shumney and Heather Allen; great grandchildren Jordan, Mallory, Conner, Jade, and Brendan; and the most recent joy of her life, great-great grandson Brooks. She also leaves behind many loving nieces and nephews and half-siblings Margaret Guyer, Bruce, and Jack Follette.

She was preceded in death by her siblings Vincent, Anthony, Milan, Eugene, Mary, and Mark, and a half-brother, Carl.

The family wishes to thank St. Michael's Catholic Funeral Services for their patience and guidance. A celebration of life will be announced when the family and friends can be together to share in faith and love.

Ronald Sanchez Rivera Oct. 26, 1953 – Apr. 2, 2020



It is with great sadness that the family of Ronald Sanchez Rivera announce his passing on April 2, 2020, at the age of 66, after a long battle with cancer.

Ron was born in Coronado, California, on Oct. 26, 1953. In 1967, his family moved to Livermore, where Ron graduated from Granada High School in 1971.

Ron was a Navy veteran, stationed at Naval Air Station Meridian in Mississippi and Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in Washington. After leaving the Navy, he attended Chabot College in Hayward, California, where he received a degree in nursing. Ron began as a registered nurse at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, eventually specializing in cardiac care at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. His love of medicine was surpassed only by his love for his family and his faith in Christ.

He retired after 38 years and recently moved to Las Vegas to be closer to his stepdaughter and her fiancé. Prior to moving to Las Vegas, Ron

attended New Life Church in Dublin, California, where he was a leader of prayer groups and bible studies.

Ron was a devoted husband, stepfather, brother, uncle, and friend with an unwavering devotion to Jesus Christ. He lived each moment with gratitude and appreciation, never taking life for granted. He was a man of strong faith and faced his cancer battle with the same courage, humility, and grace that exemplified his life. Ron's witty sense of humor was always on display even in the most difficult of circumstances.

He met his bride, Sharon, through a mutual friend, Mel Dailey. He loved Sharon's children and grandchildren as his own, and had an especially close relationship with his stepdaughter, Raquel, and her fiancé, Jon Buchanan. Their love in return was evident in the days leading up to his passing.

Ron is survived by his wife, Sharon; his children, Robert (Chris) Armstrong, Raquel Sanchez, Tony (Christie) Frerking; his grandchildren, Nadia, Eli, Rowan

and Xander Armstrong, and Dominic, Gigi and Bella Buchanan. He is also survived by siblings Teri, Joe (Ilene), Ed (Cheryl), Laverne Hancock (Mark), Richard, and Deb Guillermo (Dawn). In addition, he leaves behind numerous nieces and nephews.

Ron was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Kay Frerking; his parents, Jose and Juanita Rivera; and his brother Tony Rivera.

A Celebration of Life will be held after the COVID-19 recovery.

Salim, Sam, (Dado) Mukhar Livermore resident



Salim "Sam" Mukhar passed away peacefully at home in Livermore on March 21, 2020. A wonderful and caring man, he was 89 years young.

Sam was born in Jerusalem and immigrated to the U.S. in 1958 to start a new life. Having settled in Oakland, California, he met his lovely lady, Marilyn; they married in 1963. Sam worked as an auto mechanic for many years, and successfully ran

his own shop in Dublin for 15 years.

Sam loved gardening, especially planting vegetables and taking care of the fruit trees in the backyard. He was also known as the friendly neighbor who would always lend a helping hand. Sam enjoyed hanging with his buddies at Pleasanton Off-Track Betting, reading the horse racing forms, and trying to pick a winner. He sometimes did! Sam is survived by Mari-

lyn, his wife of 57 years; son Robert; daughter Rose and son-in-law Steve; and a grandson, Alec. He will also be remembered by the Gre-enough family — Jeff, Lisa, Riley and Logan — who knew him as the coolest Dado ever!

Callaghan Mortuary is handling arrangements, and an online guestbook is available for condolences at www.callaghanmortuary.com. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Honor Your Departed



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

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

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

CORONAVIRUS
(Continued from first page)

it immediately.” Some of those efforts include temporarily suspending customer bill collection and offering customers flexible payment plans. EBCE will also suspend its policy of returning customers with delinquent accounts to PG&E.

AARP to Issue COVID-19 Care Card

In conjunction with Gov. Gavin Newsom’s office and the State Department of Aging, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will issue California for All Resource Cards, which share tips with seniors about staying in place and staying well. For more information, email CAAARP@aarp.org.

While Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) has closed most public facilities until fur-

ther notice, it’s now offering Friendly Calls for Seniors. The calls serve as a wellness check and provide a friendly conversation to those struggling with feelings of loneliness and isolation. To sign up for Friendly Calls for Seniors, call 925-373-5760.

Medical Professional Volunteers Needed

In anticipation of a greater surge of COVID-19 patients, the county is seeking volunteer doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, technicians and other medical professionals to work shifts in alternate patient care locations within the county. There may also be a need for translation services. People who are available and willing to work should complete an online form available at <https://bit.ly/2JLZ6nY>.



Dublin Mayor Dave Haubert gave out masks at the Dublin Farmers Market on Thursday, April 9. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



People enjoyed a break in the weather to exercise along the bike path and trail next to Wetmore Road in Livermore (above) and at Dougherty Hills Open Space Trail in Dublin. (Photos - Doug Jorgensen)



People safely shopped for fresh produce at the Dublin Farmers Market.

Health Official Online With Swalwell

Colleen Chawla, Alameda County Health Care Services director, will join Congressman Eric Swalwell on Facebook to answer public questions about coronavirus. Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance on the event’s Facebook page, set for 1:30 p.m. April 9.

Farmers Market Remains Available

On April 2, Dublin had its first farmers market of the season at Emerald Glen Park. Customers and farmers maintained social distancing, and no chairs or tables were available in an effort to discourage lingering. Farmers already had their products prepackaged. Dublin officials will explore holding another market in the future.

NEW PROTOCOLS

Grocery Stores Set Time For First Responders

Lucky Supermarkets announced it will reserve one

hour before normal opening hours and one hour after normal closing hours at all of its stores to serve first responders. There are Lucky stores in all three Valley cities. For store hours, visit <https://www.luckysupermarkets.com/>.

Health Officials Reverse Position on Face Masks

Alameda County Public Health Department now encourages residents to wear masks, noting cloth bandanas will help slow the spread of the coronavirus. The mask does not have to be hospital grade, but should cover the nose and mouth. The release indicates hospital-grade masks should be left for medical care workers and first responders, because their supply is limited.

CLOSURES

Taylor Family Foundation Postpones Event

The Taylor Family Foundation (TTF) postponed its fundraiser Day in the Park/

Day at the Table until next year until further notice. TTF serves children who have a variety of challenges, including AIDS/HIV, bereavement, Celiac disease, Down syndrome and sickle cell.

Playgrounds Go Virtual

Dublin Parks and Community Services Department has come up with clever substitutes for kids and adults to play, while they isolate themselves at home. Kids can go on an egg hunt with two cartoon characters, one of them a bunny named Flopsy. The goal is to find as many virtual eggs as possible in each scene.

Reed Plumbing
LIVERMORE, CA
925.371.5671
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com
LICENSE #601931



TIRED OF NO BURN DAYS?

 **MENIOTA®**

WE SELL AND INSTALL FIREPLACE INSERTS* AND FIREPLACES.
SAVE UP TO \$400.00 ON SELECT UNITS.

JERRY'S FIREPLACES
Locally owned by Livermore resident, happily servicing the Tri-Valley since 1982

*Gas, Wood and Pellet
23585 CONNECTICUT ST # 15, HAYWARD
510.471.5601 www.jerrysfireplaces.com

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION
PLACING
LEGAL NOTICES
Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569322

The following person(s) doing business as: Raising the Barre, 4047 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): La Jaz Danz, 4046 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: December 18, 2014. Signature of Registrant/s/: Joyce Hansen, Sect. Treasurer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2020. Expires March 4, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4727. Published March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569424

The following person(s) doing business as: Stara Learning, 1137 Mills CT., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Yane Ken Yang, 1137 Mills CT., Pleasanton, CA 94566 and Ching Yi Wu, 4950 Canto Dr. San Jose, CA 95124. This business is conducted by a Joint Venture. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: December 6, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Yane Ken Yang, Vice Presidents-General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2020. Expires March 6, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4728. Published March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 568702

The following person(s) doing business as: Kristen Kay Photography, 1090 Madison Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kristen Kubiak, 1090 Madison Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: January 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kristen Kubiak,

Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 19, 2020. Expires February 19, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4729. Published March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 568968

The following person(s) doing business as: Bratpak Dog Kamp, 3841 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Archery & Friends, 2305 Oleaster Dr, San Ramon, CA 94582. 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/: Sean Marler, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 26, 2020. Expires February 26, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4730. Published March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569486

The following person(s) doing business as: Willow Tree, 1491 Second ST, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marina L. Chin, 1491 Second ST, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: December 14, 1983. Signature of Registrant/s/: Marina L. Chin, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 10, 2020. Expires March 10, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4731. Published March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569140

The following person(s) doing business as: New View Freight Brokers LLC, 1109 Hillcrest CT, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): New View Freight Brokers, LLC, 1109 Hillcrest CT, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Tina Reedy Smith, President. This state-

ment was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 2, 2020. Expires March 2, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4732. Published March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569532

The following person(s) doing business as: Jen's Accounting and Services, 3909 Grand canyon CT, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Moser, 3909 Grand Canyon CT, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jennifer Moser. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2020. Expires March 12, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4733. Published March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569555

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Drum Innovation, 2. Livermore Drum Circle, 3073 Talinga Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Philip Didlake, Co-Owner, Principle, 3073 Talinga Dr., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: February 1, 2002. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kate Chen-Eldridge, Broker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2020. Expires March 20, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4734. Published April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569555

The following person(s) doing business as: Exit Maximizer, 3034 Danielle Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Camroklara, Inc, 3034 Danielle Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Rocco Musumecche, President. This statement was filed with the Coun-

ty Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2020. Expires March 20, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4735. Published April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569632

The following person(s) doing business as: Rainflower Audio, 5641 Rainflower Dr, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Brian Minneker, 5641 Rainflower Dr, 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/: Brian Minneker, Owner Operator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 17, 2020. Expires March 17, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4736. Published April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 569676

The following person(s) doing business as: Home Star Properties, 1430 2nd Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kate Chen-Eldridge, 1503 Helsinki Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: February 1, 2002. Signature of Registrant/s/: Kate Chen-Eldridge, Broker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 19, 2020. Expires March 19, 2025. The Independent, Legal No. 4737. Published April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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



Adopt a new best friend
TVAR
Tri-Valley Animal
Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Deluchi 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

Sr. Engineer, Cloud Platform sought by Ellie Mae Inc in Pleasanton, CA. Operate, maintain, and troubleshoot developer tools - Jenkins, Confluence, Git-Hub Enterprise. Using Software Con-

figuration Management Tools (Salt, Chef, Puppet, etc.) to automate the deployment and management of applications Apply @ www.jobpostingtoday.com (ref# 45625)

MedeAnalytics, Inc.,(Dublin CA) Associate Big Data Engineer. Multiple Openings. Dvp & maint. big data systems & database structures. Req'd: Bach's or foreign equiv. in comp. sci., software engrg or reitd field, + 1 yr exp. in position offered or related occupation, & familiarity w/the following skills: OLAP, Micro-soft IIS, scrum methodology, mobile & web development, Hadoop, Apache Spark, Selenium, MySQL, IIS web server, Vertica & MondoDB. Skills may be gained through academic coursework & concurrently while pursuing academic studies. Mail resumes to: L. Burnett, 501 W. President George Bush Hwy, Ste.#250, Richardson, TX 75080. EOE.

65) HELP WANTED

57) SERVICES

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand

any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE A
CLASSIFIED AD
Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

114) FOR SALE

115)ESTATE/ GARAGE/
YARD SALES

18) FREE SECTION

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

127) LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES /
ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/ or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all ad-

vertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE

170) LAND FOR RENT

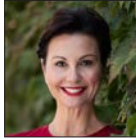
157) OFFICE/HOUSE/
CONDO / DUPLEX / APT
RENTAL

165) HOUSE/ ROOMS/
RENTALS TO SHARE

160) BOAT / RV RENTAL
SPACE

Inland Valley Publishing Co. Client Code:04126-00001
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads
The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

COMPASS



Barbara Benotto
925.337.3770
barbara@barbarabenotto.com
barbarabenotto.com
DRE 01966040



Marti Gilbert
925.216.4063
marti@homesbymarti.com
compass.com
DRE 01520061



Tracey Esling
925.366.8275
tracey.esling@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 01219100



Cherie Doyle
925.580.2552
cherie.doyle@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 01950716



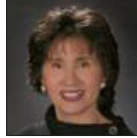
Leslie Faight
leslie@lesliefaight.com
lesliefaight.com
DRE 00971395



Linda Futral
925.980.3561
linda.futral@compass.com
lindafultral.com
DRE 01257605



Kat Gaskins
925.963.7940
kat@katgaskins.com
katgaskins.com
DRE 01137199



Gail Henneberry
925.980.1900
gail.henneberry@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 00693908



Eva Tia
510.847.4310
eva.tia@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 02072764



Linda Traurig
925.382.9746
linda.traurig@compass.com
lindatraurig.com
DRE 01078773



Jo Ann Luisi
925.321.6104
joann.luisi@compass.com
joannluisi.com
DRE 01399250



Lily McClanahan
925.209.9328
lily.mcclanahan@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 01975835



Kris Moxley
925.519.9080
kris.moxley@compass.com
moxleyrealestate.com
DRE 00790463



Maureen Nokes
925.577.2700
maureen.nokes@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 00589126



Don Faight
V.P./Managing Broker
925.872.7070
don.faight@compass.com
DRE 00971395

Your Pleasanton/Livermore Valley Support Team



Your home.
Our mission.

Pleasanton/Livermore Valley
2059 3rd Street
Livermore, CA 94550
925.251.1111

Our mission is to help everyone find their place in the world. Compass is continuing to expand our California presence through new partnerships with local firms Alain Pinel Realtors®, Paragon, and Pacific Union International. Aided by our technology, service, and access to more agents in the region, you can now go further in your home search.

Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01079009.

Professional's Choice Real Estate Directory

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

MIKE FRACISCO
(925) 998-8131
Fracisco Realty
Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt
MikeFracisco.com
DRE #01378428

REALTOR®

Sandee Utterback
(925) 487-0524
CalBRE#00855150
WWW.SANDEEJ.COM
 *Specializing in
Livermore's
Finest Homes*

TEAM EVANS
Excellence in Real Estate
Craig & Rebecca Evans
CalBRE #01971528 | #01498025
TeamEvansRealEstate.com
 925.784.2870

JENNY HO
REALTOR® | DRE #009090
510.386.4090
Cantonese | Mandarin | English
通曉中文
 www.JennyHoLY.com

NICOLE SWEENEY
REALTOR®
925.518.2142
nicole@nicolesweeneyhomes.com

DENNIS SERRAO
Broker Associate /REALTOR
Serving Livermore & Tri-Valley since 1999
dennis.rebroker@gmail.com
TriValleyHomeSellers.com
(925) 876-3756
Cal BRE#01251442

Cindy Greci
(925) 784-1243
GRI
www.GreciGroup.com

Dominic Greci
(925) 525-0864
GRI

Linda Newton
REALTOR®, GRI, SRES
(925) 216-2015
LindaNewtonRE@gmail.com
LindaNewtonRealEstate.com
CalBRE# 01312631

Tom Montano
REALTOR® Since 1978
(925) 989-4106
www.TomMontano.com
CalBRE# 00661426

**THE KRISTY
PEIXOTO TEAM**
Estates, Ranches & Land Realtors
(925) 251-2536
kpeixoto@rockcliff.com
thekristypeixototeam.com

Gail Henderson
BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
(925) 980-5648
homes@gailhenderson.com
www.gailhenderson.com
CalBRE #01709171

CHASE
Michelle Elliott
Senior Home Lending Advisor
925-212-6907 | Fax: 866-378-1616
michelle.d.elliott@chase.com
homeloans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott
NMLS ID: 694685

Gail Henderson
BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
(925) 980-5648
homes@gailhenderson.com
www.gailhenderson.com
CalBRE #01709171

**TO PLACE YOUR AD,
PLEASE CONTACT:**
925.243.8010
kim@independentnews.com

**TO PLACE YOUR AD,
PLEASE CONTACT:**
925.243.8010
kim@independentnews.com

To Place Your Ad, Call or Email:
925.243.8010 **kim@independentnews.com**

Livermore High Seniors Earn DAR Good Citizen Awards



The Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored three seniors from Livermore High School recently for their dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Three seniors from Livermore High School were honored recently by the Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Emma Hyde received the chapter’s top Good Citizen award, receiving a \$1,200 scholarship a ceremony in February. Elsa Friedmann placed second, receiving a \$750 scholarship, and Erin Pickett placed third, receiving a \$500 scholarship.

In addition to demonstrating the qualities of good citizenship, students competing for the award were required to write an essay during a two-hour period without the use of reference materials on a previously unannounced topic. The prompting question this year was, “You and your peers are our nation’s leaders of tomorrow. How would you energize

America’s youth to fully engage as active citizens? Why is this important?”

The local DAR chapter, named for the wife of the city’s namesake, Robert Livermore, also announced the winners of its American History Essay Award for elementary and middle school students: Avery Hasey, a fifth grader at Sunset Elementary School; Gregory Laney, a seventh grader at East Avenue Middle School; and Kathryn Johnson, an eighth grader at East Avenue Middle School.

With this year marking the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower and the founding of Plymouth Colony, students were asked to imagine they were passengers on the Mayflower. Knowing what materials were available in 1620, they were asked what they would have packed for the trip and the start of a new life in the wilderness. They were also asked if

they would have made different choices after more than two months at sea before landing on the coast of what is now Massachusetts on November 9, 1620.

Each of the essay winners received a certificate, bronze medal, and \$100. Their core teachers, Stacey Carroll, Susan Beard, and Alyson Bingham, each received \$50.

Kathryn Johnson’s essay also placed first at the district and state DAR competitions. She received a silver medal at the California State Society DAR Conference in San Ramon in early March. Her essay will now compete at the national level, with the winner invited to the national DAR’s Continental Congress at Memorial Continental Hall in Washington, D.C., in June.

The DAR chapter also presented Livermore Unified School District librarians with three books for

each of the 17 elementary, middle, and high schools in the district. Every year, the women’s service organization asks librarians to select books based on the theme of the American history essay contest.

This year, the district’s elementary, K-8, and middle school librarians selected “The Boy Who Fell Off the Mayflower, or John Howland’s Good Fortune,” “Recipes of the Pilgrims,” “Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims: Time-Travel Adventures with Exceptional Americans,” “A Primary Source Investigation of the Mayflower,” and “Mayflower 1620: A New Look at a Pilgrim Voyage.” High school librarians selected “Making Haste from Babylon: The Pilgrims and Their World,” “The Mayflower and the Pilgrims’ New World,” and “The Mayflower: The Families, the Voyage, and the Founding of America.”

With Onsite Programs Cancelled, Sunflower Hill Moves Activites Online

Sunflower Hill, a Pleasanton-based nonprofit that provides vocational and life skills programs for adults with developmental disabilities, is offering daily online activities for its program participants and members of the community during the statewide stay-at-home order because of Covid-19.

“Each activity is created to get people moving, learning, or just stepping outside for some fresh air,” said Executive Director Edie Nehls.

Sunflower Hill was forced to suspend its Sunflower Hill Garden and Stable Café development programs because of the coronavirus epidemic.

“We know that the change in routine for adults with developmental disabilities can be very challenging for both the individual and their caregiver,” Nehls said. “As an alternative to our onsite programs, we wanted to provide our community with daily, consistent activities that can be done at home.”

Each weekday at noon, the organization will post a new activity on its website and social media.

Monday will be an update on the Sunflower Hill Garden and a related activity.

Tuesday will be yoga for all abilities.

Wednesday will be a scavenger hunt.

Thursday will feature a recipe and cooking adventure.

Friday will again be yoga for all abilities.

The organization is encouraging other programs that work with the developmentally disabled, as well as general members of the community, also to participate in the activities and share their thoughts on social media. “We hope our program participants and others find them to be engaging and fun,” said Nehls.

Sunflower Hill can be found online at sunflowerhill.org, or facebook.com/sunf.

MILLER'S
AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING
925-447-3000
www.millersacandheating.com

SERVING TRIVALLEY SINCE 1960
License #253756

**RETZLAFF**
Estate Wines

**DRIVE-THRU
WINE PICK-UP
& 1 CENT SHIPPING**

Be well, stay safe.
Visit our website for details.
RetzlaffVineyards.com



Stanford Health Care–
ValleyCare ranked
among the **top 10% of
hospitals** nationwide*



Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare hospital earned the Five-Star Quality Rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS),* ranking above the national average in safety of care, readmission rate, and patient experience.

Earning this award alongside Stanford Health Care’s hospital in Palo Alto exemplifies the commitment Stanford Medicine has for providing high-quality health care throughout the Bay Area.

**Stanford**
HEALTH CARE
STANFORD MEDICINE

ValleyCare
valleycare.com

*The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) uses a five-star quality rating system to measure the experiences Medicare beneficiaries have with their health care system—the Star Rating Program. Health systems are rated on a scale of 1 to 5 stars, with 5 being the highest.