

Garaventa Hill
Town Hall
On Nov. 1
For Project
Review

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE – City officials will hold a November town hall meeting to discuss the latest developments in a controversial proposal to build 44 homes at Garaventa Hill.

Although the California 1st District Court of Appeal ruled last year in favor of a community groups’ lawsuit to stop the project, the developer reapplied to the city and is in the process of trying to gain approval again.

Steve Stewart, Livermore’s assistant community development director, will present an update on developer Lafferty Communities’ proposed project and take questions from those who attend the town hall, said Stephanie Egidio, a city spokesperson.

The discussion will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1 in the multipurpose room at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 500 Garaventa Ranch Road. The program

(See GARAVENTA, page 6)

Cowboy
Quartet To
Perform At
Bankhead

By Christina Cavallaro

LIVERMORE — The popular western musical quartet Riders in the Sky—self-proclaimed as “America’s favorite cowboys”—returns to the Tri-Valley’s favorite cowboy town and the Bankhead Theater next month for a family-friendly yodel-filled hootenanny.

For more than 40 years, these Grammy Award-winning comedic crooners have been keepers of the flame passed on by Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, reviving and revitalizing western music. While remaining true to the integrity of the genre, they have become modern-day icons through their own brand of wacky humor and way-out western wit they call “C&W” – Comedy and Western.

As stars of stage, screen, Grand Ol’ Opry, Saturday morning TV and radio, the inspiring quartet have been

(See COWBOY, page 6)



Bianca Covarelli, a Livermore resident and leader of the grassroots group Save the Hill, stood on the site of the proposed Garaventa Hill project last year. On Nov. 1, Livermore officials will host a town hall meeting to explain the latest updates to the proposed 44-home site. ((File photo from April 2022 - Doug Jorgensen)

City of Pleasanton to Drill Two
New Wells for Cleaner Water

By David Jen

PLEASANTON — The city will drill two new wells — one in Del Prado Park and one in Bernal Park — to open new water sources free of toxic chemicals and restore groundwater pumping.

Toxic chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), or forever chemicals, are a group of several thousand

synthetic chemicals that, although used widely in manufacturing in recent decades, are harmful even at small concentrations.

Groundwater chemical testing shut down one of the city’s wells in 2019, and evolving state health standards closed Pleasanton’s remaining two wells last November. Since then, the city has relegated its wells

to emergency-demand periods only, a situation that has not yet occurred.

Pleasanton has purchased water from the Zone 7 Water Agency, the regional water wholesaler, to make up for the shortfall.

The City Council voted unanimously last week to use \$500,000 from the city’s Water Enterprise Fund to start planning for

(See WELLS, page 6)

Teachers Continuing to Negotiate
With District for 15% Pay Increase

By Dawnmarie Fehr

PLEASANTON – Teachers are negotiating with the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) for a 15% pay increase, with both parties saying they are committed to reaching an agreement soon.

The PUSD and the Association of Pleasanton Teach-

ers (APT) have been in negotiations since August, but still have not reached a contract agreement. Discussions are moving forward with the intention of reaching a deal, though a union representative said APT is not satisfied with the district’s 6.5% pay hike counteroffer.

Cheryl Atkins, president

of APT, said while both sides are still “far apart,” the teachers are working to get their message out.

“We are taking more actions, trying to put some pressure on the school board to get the district to prioritize their budget, make some adjustments and put their students and teachers first,” she said.

(See TEACHERS, page 6)

Francis Ranch Project to Include
Additional Taxes For Its Residents

By David Jen

Future residents of the Francis Ranch development in east Dublin will pay special taxes, possibly exceeding \$40,000 per year, for public infrastructure and project fees.

The charges will be levied through a community facilities district and begin at 1.58% of the sales price of each home. The development-specific taxes will also be set to increase 2% annually, regardless of how the real-estate market affects

home prices in the future.

Based on sales price projections by RCLCO Real Estate Consulting, six Francis Ranch tax zones — ranging from townhomes selling for around \$1.3 million to single-family homes selling for around \$2.7 million —

(See FRANCIS RANCH, page 6)

City Urban Growth
Boundary Debated
At GPAC Meeting

LIVERMORE — Residents rose to defend the city’s urban growth boundary at last week’s General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting.

As part of Livermore’s broader General Plan update that will guide the city’s activities through 2045, the Committee presented a set of land-use scenarios that provided options for meeting the city’s goals around jobs, services, entertainment, housing, parks and open space.

While the options highlighted five focus areas — around Midtown, Vasco Road, Laughlin Road, Las Positas Court, and East of Greenville Road — the latter drew all the public comments during the meeting, because it fell outside of the city’s North and South Urban Growth Boundaries, as well as the Alameda County Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

Focus areas are large areas of underutilized land

that present opportunities for land-use transition.

The East of Greenville focus area bounded by I-580 to the north and Tesla Road to the south, extends east from Greenville Road to the South Bay Aqueduct along the eastern edge of the Livermore-Amador Valley.

The city’s South and North UGBs currently fall along Greenville Road, preventing urban development east of it. The South Livermore UGB, adopted by voters in 2000, is congruent with Alameda County’s voter-supported UGB in 2000.

The North Livermore UGB approved in 2002 almost aligns with the county’s UGB. All three promote infill development within the city’s and county’s urban areas and protect natural and agricultural lands outside of the boundaries.

If a development use change were pursued in the East of Greenville area, it would “have to be annexed

(See GPAC, page 6)



The Rotary Club of Pleasanton held its 30th annual Spirit Run on Sunday, Oct. 22. The family-friendly 5k and 10k event started and finished along Pleasanton’s downtown Main Street. (See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia) (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Taxpayers’ Group Sues
City of Livermore Over
Water And Sewer Rates

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE – The Alameda County Taxpayers’ Association (ACTA) has filed a lawsuit against the City of Livermore alleging the city charges excessive water and sewer rates and places the extra funds it collects into its general fund.

The practice, the lawsuit contends, is a violation of state Proposition 218, a measure approved by voters in 1996 to prevent local agencies from circumventing Proposition 13’s limits on property tax increases.

The ACTA and member Alan Heckman, a Livermore

(See SUES, page 6)



The Iron Horse Trail/Dublin Boulevard Overcrossing bridge was placed in position during the early hours of Sunday, Oct. 22. The free-span bridge will provide a safe crossing for trail users and facilitate improved traffic flow. The main structure is approximately 230 ft. long and 20 ft. high. (See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia) (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Police Report:

Man Shot Dead By Livermore Gun
Shop Owner During Sunday Robbery

By Larry Altman

LIVERMORE – A gun store owner likely acted in self-defense Sunday afternoon when he shot and killed a man with a hammer who tried to rob him, police said.

The owner of East Bay Firearms on First Street in downtown Livermore fired two rounds when the man wearing a mask and gloves threatened him with a hammer and tried to steal a gun,

police said.

“The gun store owner is cooperating with the investigation and is not a suspect in a crime at this time,” Livermore police said in a statement. “At this stage in the investigation, it appears that this was a case of self-defense.”

Five customers were in the store at the time and witnessed the shooting. None were injured.

Police officers and para-

medics who responded to the store tried to save the suspect, but he died at the scene. He was identified as a 28-year-old Redwood City man. His name was not immediately released.

Investigator’s reports detailing the shooting will be sent to the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office for review. Prosecutors will rule on whether the shooting was in self-defense, said Azenith Smith, a police

(See ROBBERY, page 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

Livermore City Council Updates’	2
Charming Fig Closed Due to Fire	2
Coming Together for Unity Day	5
Her Vineness Wine Column.....	7
Bankhead Welcomes New Films	8
Pleasanton Plans to Update Parks	9

PETS OF THE WEEK



WONDERFUL WYATT

Wyatt is a Halloween hound that adores cuddles and squeaky toys, and though a bit shy, he’d love to be your ‘spook-tacular’ sidekick. If you seek a sweet, laid-back companion, Wyatt’s your one and only! Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

Fire Which Destroyed Three Buildings Spared The Charming Fig Restaurant in Livermore

By Kristin J. Bender

LIVERMORE — Julia Steinman was at the movies in San Ramon with her niece last week when the text messages started popping up on her cell phone.

“Everything was fine and all of a sudden, I looked down at my phone,” said Steinman, the owner of the Charming Fig, a catering company and restaurant in Livermore. “I immediately walked out of the movies, and I really didn’t think (the fire) was a big deal, but I left and started driving,” she said. “Once I hit the 680-580 (split) I saw this giant cloud of black smoke over Livermore, and I started bawling.”

By the time Steinman rolled up to her Holmes Street restaurant, there were at least 100 people in the street watching the fire rage. “When I got there, the flames were still there and the smoke, but it was starting to become white,” said Steinman.

Over the next two hours,



A fire that destroyed three buildings in Livermore on Sunday, Oct. 15, also did significant damage to the Charming Fig Shop located next door. Although there were no injuries reported, the restaurant will remain closed for the next few weeks while repairs are made.

(Photo — Doug Jorgensen)

every on-duty firefighter from the Pleasanton-Livermore Fire Department with help from crews with the Alameda County Fire Department battled the flames. The fire ultimately destroyed three vacant commercial buildings on Holmes Street at Concannon Boulevard.

The fire charred the roof of the Charming Fig, and caused water and smoke damage, Steinman said. The place will need a new roof, bathroom, floors, and a ceiling, but Steinman knows it could have been much worse.

“The fire looked like it was on the Charming Fig,”

she recalled. “It was surreal. It’s like how the heck did it just stop?”

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, but neighbors told The Independent that homeless people had been living in the abandoned buildings and pilfering water and power from the restaurant. Fire investigators have not commented on whether they are probing the possibility that the fire was sparked by the homeless.

The Charming Fig opened 13 years ago as a catering company. Last November, Steinman opened the brick-and-mortar restaurant. She said she does not know yet how long the restaurant will be shuttered, but plans to keep her customers and the community posted with messages on Instagram. She said people have been extremely supportive following the fire. She’s received thousands of emails, texts and social media messages, including more than 600 messages on Instagram.

“We are really grateful for the Livermore community,” she said. “We feel really lucky that it wasn’t

worse than it was.” Freelancer writer William Crawford contributed to this report.

THE HouseWhisperer
TRI-VALLEY HOME INSPECTIONS

EastBayHomeInspector.com | 800.662.8589

DON'T BE SPOOKED BY THIS MARKET!

There is no nightmare at 1951 Elm Street only a great opportunity!! 4 bed 3 bath ~1876 sq ft ~8500 lot

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

LUXICOR
REAL ESTATE

COMING SOON VINSANTO II GEM

1770 SARDONYX CT • LIVERMORE
5 Bed • 3 1/2 Bath
Main Level Junior Suite
3201 Sq Ft • 8,240 Sq Ft Lot
3 Car Garage • Fitness Swim Spa

Nicole Sweeney
Realtor
925.518.2142
nicole@nicolesweeneyshomes.com
CA DRE #01965816

LEGACY
REAL ESTATE & ASSOCIATES

Resident Greg Scott Triggers the Exchange

Council Members Discuss Proper Use of Federal Funds for Homeless

By Larry Altman

The Livermore City Council on Monday approved its priorities for allocating the federal dollars it receives for human services grants in 2024-25, identifying housing, homeless services, public health, and aid to residents in financial difficulties as their targets.

But the 4-0 vote on how to decide which non-profit agencies get the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and other funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides each fiscal year veered into a conversation about whether the city should come up with some new ideas for battling homelessness.

“It’s pretty easy to talk about what we’ve done in the past and continue to figure out how we can continue funding those things as we go forward,” City Councilmember Bob Carling said. “But I don’t know if all of this is working as effectively as it could.”

The discussion, with City Councilmember Britni Küick absent, followed the latest comments from Greg Scott, a formerly homeless resident who speaks regularly — often angrily — at City Council meetings about the crisis and government’s approach to it. Scott advocates for tent housing areas to get people into shelter immediately and believes pouring money into housing projects that take years to build is the wrong answer.

He cited a homeless friend named J.R. who died in Livermore in September as he made his case on Monday, saying he recently had a conversation with a home-

less advocate who listed several names of unsheltered people that also passed away. The homeless, he said, are not sub-humans.

“You’re not going to solve homelessness by housing. I keep saying this,” Scott said. “You’re never going to have the resources. Not the City of Livermore, not the County Board of Supervisors and not whatever delirium the governor is on.”

Although the discussion prompted no solutions, it did review how the city utilized more than \$400,000 it received in CDBG funds and over \$148,000 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds last year. At a previous city council meeting, the city identified a number of local non-profit agencies it supported, including agencies that provide food, housing, health care, dental care, and rental assistance, along with help for seniors and shelter for domestic violence victims.

Amy Walker, a management analyst for the city, said the city recently surveyed residents about how the coming years’ federal funds should be used to come up with the top priorities. The results showed similar answers to those in the past.

Scott argued it was time for some “novelty solutions.”

“Resources are getting more and more precious with the interest rates and everything,” he said. “There needs to be a different approach... That seems to be hard to get across.”

Councilmember Evan Branning said he appreciated the hard work performed at

the county level and city to deal with homelessness, and said he disagreed with Scott about housing. He said the federal funds help fill the gaps in the city’s efforts to help people.

“There is no way to solve homelessness unless there is a space for every person to stay,” Branning said. “I’m glad and proud of the programs that Livermore does to provide housing at all levels. We’re working on providing housing that’s affordable for teachers. We’re working on providing housing that’s affordable for engineers. We’re working on housing that is affordable for people working in fast food.”

Non-profit agencies apply yearly to the city for grants to acquire the federal funding, which is allocated to cities and counties all over the nation under a HUD formula. Cities identify later in the cycle how the funds were utilized.

Affordable Housing

In other action, the council voted 4-0 to approve a plan that will require Trumark Homes, acting as TH Arroyo Vista LLC, to make 52 units in its 435-unit development in the Arroyo Vista neighborhood east and north of Las Positas Road for sale at prices deemed affordable to low- and moderate-income homebuyers. Although the city’s affordable housing ordinance requires developers to provide 15% of its units for low- to moderate-income buyers — which would be 65 in this case — developers can provide in-lieu fees to cover

the rest. In this case, Trumark will pay the city \$4.6 million.

Livermore’s Community Development Director Paul Spence said the deal was “locked in” years ago following the council’s approval of the development in 2017.

City Salaries

The council voted 4-0 to raise the salaries for its top management, staff and police officers. Among those benefitting:

- City Manager Mariana Marysheva received a 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA), a 5.7% merit increase, and a 2% one-time bonus. Her annual salary is now \$344,796 a year. She also will receive an additional \$181 to her retirement account each pay period;
- City Attorney Jason Alcalá received a 3% COLA, a 3% merit increase, a 2% one-time bonus, and a \$69 increase per pay period for retirement. He earns \$307,580 a year;
- Others on the city’s executive management team, other than Police Chief Jeremy Young, received 3% raises;
- The Airport Manager’s job will now pay up to nearly \$187,000 a year;
- All members of the Police Officers Association, Police Management Association and the Police Chief will receive 5% pay increases.

LIVERMORE VALLEY arts
LIVE AT THE BANKHEAD

Bankhead Presents

An Evening with Priti Krishtel
Health Justice & the Fight to Ensure Global Access to Medicines: Lessons from the Frontlines

Transformative. Speaker. Empowering.
THU NOV 9 | 7:30 PM

THE FOUR PHANTOMS IN CONCERT
Enthralling. Broadway. Spectacular

FRI OCT 27

GET TICKETS NOW!
LivermoreArts.org | 935.373.6800

Thank you to our happy and loyal dining patrons!

Authentic Afghan specialties by Chef Abdul — 30 years restaurant experience!

Delicious Family Recipes

“The food is absolutely scrumptious!”

Royal
Afghan Cuisine

2020 First St., Livermore CA 94550.
925-447-0576.
www.RoyaAfghanCuisine.com

Celebrating 10 Years Anniversary!

20% OFF

Mention this ad for 20% off your bill during October.

New Stanford Blood Center Location Opening October 26th!

Save lives with the gift of blood at our new center located in Dublin, CA.

Learn more at stanfordbloodcenter.org

STANFORD BLOOD CENTER



Stanford
MEDICINE

Health Care

The Care You Need, When You Need It

Knowing where to get care and staying up to date on preventive vaccines will give you peace of mind and keep you and your family healthy this season. We offer convenient care options for colds, flu, minor injuries, and other common conditions.

**To learn more about when
and where to get care, visit
stanfordhealthcare.org/getcare**

EDITORIAL

Clean Water on Pleasanton’s Horizon

The City Council’s decision to pursue new wells in west Pleasanton deftly sidesteps the complexities and costs of earlier proposals and sets the city on a path to reclaim its groundwater rights.

For this, the City Council and staff deserve the thanks of the community.

Starting in 2019, growing concerns over the damaging health effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the local aquifer progressively shut down

the city’s wells. At the end of last year, the city began relying wholly on the regional water provider for its water — a makeshift solution unable to support the city during a prolonged heatwave.

Although tempted to enter the water-treatment business, the city took a step back last September to reassess the unknowns around moving health regulations and water-treatment costs, leading to this month’s City Council decision to drill two new wells in an area

that based on current models, are thought to be PFAS free. But we are not out of the woods yet.

While residents have waited the past 13 months to learn if and how there will be enough safe water to supply their city, they must now wait at least another four years for any solution to actually come to fruition.

These four years will subject the city’s plans — and residents’ patience — to a number of risks, from unsatisfactory test-well re-

sults, to surprises in the groundwater models, to movement of the PFAS plume itself, all while the nation as a whole navigates new research and regulations around these chemicals.

With this in mind, we should prepare to embrace new data and alternative solutions as they arise. And, at the same time, we ask the city to be creative in providing solutions early and to leverage Zone 7’s expertise through a partnership.

MAILBOX

Mailbox Guidelines:

Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are required to have the name(s) of the person(s) submitting them, city of residence and phone number, for verification purposes. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Letters are subject to verification and may be edited for clarity at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to decide whether or not the letter will be published. Headings for all letters may be edited at the discretion of the editor to properly reflect their content. A headline will be added to letters received without one. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters must be submitted by someone living in or from the Tri-Valley; they must not offer medical advice from unconfirmed professional sources or contain libelous or inappropriate content. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less and should be sent by email to letters@independentnews.com or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication.

Keep Livermore’s Air Clean

Donna Cabanne, Livermore Sierra Club, Tri-Valley ExCom.

It’s time for a change. When measuring lead air pollution, Livermore Airport (LVK) ranks the 28th worst out of more than 5,000 municipal airports across the country. This week, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued an endangerment finding under section 231 (a) of the Clean Air Act that “lead emissions from aircraft engines that operate on lead fuel endanger public health and welfare”.

The majority of aircraft using Livermore Airport are piston engine aircraft, which operate on lead fuel. These are typically small aircraft that carry 2-10 passengers. “Piston engine aircraft are the single largest source of lead emissions to the air in the US, contributing to 70% of the lead entering the air annually. Protecting children’s health and reducing lead exposure are two of EPA’s top priorities.”

With this endangerment finding, both the EPA and the FAA must address this health issue. What can be done to eliminate this health hazard? Last week, the Sierra Club issued the following statement:

The Sierra Club concurs with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District letter sent to the Livermore City Council September 8th, 2023, that “eliminating lead air pollution from av gas should be treated as an urgent public health priority. “ The Sierra Club urges the Livermore City Council, as the jurisdictional agency of Livermore Airport (LVK), to commence steps to immediately reduce the sale and use of leaded av gas. The Livermore City Council should consider using airport enterprise funds to fast-track additional tank(s) for UL94 and UL100. “

One preschooler, whose family lives near the Livermore Airport runways, has tested positive for blood lead poisoning; the family drinks only bottled or filtered water, and had new pipes and faucets installed 10 years ago. Not wanting to place their child at further risk, the family has placed their home on the market and will be moving soon. For our children, for our future—the time to act is now!!!

Please join us in asking the Livermore City Council to separate and fast track its Fixed Base Operator proposal for additional fuel tanks to sell UL100 – unleaded aviation fuel – for small piston aircraft. Please contact City Council members and ask for UL100 at LVK: mayomarchand@livermoreca.gov 1925-960-4020 bkick@livermoreca.gov 1925-460-4019 bbarientos@livermoreca.gov 1 925-960-4016 egranning@livermoreca.gov 1 925-960-4013 rwcaring@livermoreca.gov 1925-960-4018

The DMV Should Refocus Eve Sprunt, Dublin

The Department of Motor Vehicles is focusing on the wrong drivers. As a person over 70, I recently had to take the written test. The DMV office was full of senior citizens like me agonizing over the questions about the penalties for assaulting a highway worker and other actions I would never dream of doing.

On my way to and from the Pleasanton DMV office to take the written test, I saw multiple drivers running red lights. I’ve seen as many as three drivers run the same red light with the last car entering the intersection well after the light has turned red. We need cameras at all major intersections to capture the license plates of the offenders and take appropriate action.

On I-580 and I-680 speeders are a major danger. These speeders cut in and out of traffic and race along with impunity, endangering the rest of us. I rarely see one pulled aside, and they know there is little to no enforcement of the speed limit.

A week ago, when I was fully stopped in the traffic backed up at the exit from I-580 to I-680, it was more stop than go. During a pause in the slow forward movement, a full-sized white Chevy pickup truck rammed my Camry, smashing the back end of my car. I left sufficient space in front, so I wasn’t pushed into the car in front of me. When I turned on my flashers, the driver of the pick-up found a gap in the traffic and sped off driving straight through the interchange. I am stuck paying the full cost of the repair because it was a hit and run accident and our insurance didn’t cover that contingency.

The I-580/I-680 intersection is frequently backed-up with stop and go traffic. The DMV should have cameras there and at all locations where three or more acci-

dents occur in a year. The hit and run drivers and frequent offenders are the ones who should be tested when they renew their licenses, not senior citizens with clean driving records. Put our tax dollars to work where it matters.

Stop discriminating against senior citizens with clean driving records. Focus on the frequent offenders. If someone is caught three times running a red light or speeding, make them take the test next time they renew.

What is Happening at Shadow Cliffs?

John Clatworthy, Livermore

Early last summer after several heavy rains, something happened along the Northern edge of Shadow Cliffs that caused the south lane of Stanley Blvd. to be closed. Initially, there was a lot of construction-type activity, and then things went “dormant” for almost two months. Recently, construction resumed; however, nothing has been reported in The Independent as to what exactly is going on. After the installation of the large bridge over Dublin Blvd. this weekend, once the ends are secured, the Iron Horse trail will go from Walnut Creek all the way to Pleasanton. When the Stanley Blvd. construction is completed, the trail will go all the way to Livermore. I have tried once before to find out what is happening along Stanley Blvd. between Livermore and Pleasanton. Will you please try to find out what is happening and provide the inquiring public with an update?

Cease fire Now

Stephanie Ericson, Dublin

Today watching the news, I saw a girl in Gaza who said, “We don’t want aid. We want the bombs to stop.”

While it is critical that life-saving humanitarian aid be allowed to enter Gaza Strip ASAP, along with ending the water and electricity blockade, this girl directs our attention to a simple, obvious fact.

The most horrendous and terrifying thing for Gazans right now is the bombing, which, of course, is the reason they need that humanitarian aid in the first place. Wrap your head around this: in the first six days, Israel dropped about 6,000 bombs on that tiny densely populated area. Contrast that with the years when the U.S. dropped 5,000-7,000 bombs a year on Afghanistan, about the size of Texas.

When we talk about saving and freeing the hostages, let us acknowledge that Gazans are also hostages right now – all two million of them.

Mobile Home Dispensary Michelle Mitchell, Livermore

Have you wondered why there is a yellow mobile home in the small plot next to I-580 near the Altamont Pass? According to the Alameda County Planning Department, it was approved for a marijuana dispensary. Is that what we want to see when entering the City of Livermore?

Livermore General Plan Advisory Committee Patronizes the Public Greg Scott, Livermore

Livermore is planning for its future. In the General Plan Advisory Committee meeting October 18, at least nine members of the public spoke against expanding the urban growth boundary (UGB) east of Greenville Road. One person spoke in favor of the expansion. A member of the committee commented that the public doesn’t know the facts. If we, the public, do not know the facts, then inform the public: Do not patronize. Livermore citizenry needs to realize the vulnerabilities of UGB extension.

Enormous climatic changes are coming. Since the start of the first Industrial Revolution, the Pacific Walker Circulation, the primary atmospheric component over the Pacific Ocean, has been slowing down. If humans are contributing to this, we do not know. The effect is longer droughts and more frequent extreme rainfall events.

Humans are contributing to the greater retained solar energy on the Earth by emitting more than 37 to 38 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is a radiative reactive gas that absorbs and reflects infrared (heat) wavelengths in such a way that prevents some of this energy from returning to space. More than 90% of this additional thermal energy gain is absorbed into the oceans. This is raising ocean water temperatures, which increases water vapor pressures above the oceans. Thus, we are putting a lot more water vapor into the atmosphere by our radiative reactive gas emissions.

This greatly expands the fodder for atmospheric rivers. A Category 5 atmospheric river (AR5) is 2,756 pounds of water per meter-second for a duration of no less than 24 hours. An AR5 has not occurred in Livermore since December 1861 through January 1862. Robert Livermore, Jr., knew exactly where to build his house afterwards, since he watched it rain 100 inches or more!

Our present infrastructure in Livermore would be under an enormous amount of water in such an event. We are not adequately protecting and maintaining our current infrastructure within the existing UGB. The City of Livermore is steamrolling an expansion of the UGB.

An analogy would be the pioneers coming across the Great Plains in the mid-1800s. Under the threat of attack, they would circle the wagons, which is what we should be doing with our existing infrastructure within our present UGB. Why would the pioneers expand the perimeter of their wagons? This would only make them more vulnerable and less resilient.

Concerns About Downtown Livermore Vendor Fees Amy Williams, Livermore

I would like to open a dialogue on the issue of large vendor fees for Livermore downtown events and the effects on small businesses like my own.

These fees can become a real headache for small businesses, and I want to share some concerns with you.

I own and operate a permitted home bakery, Squares, in Livermore. As much as I would love to participate in local community events and share my treats, the high vendor fees imposed by the city create a substantial barrier for small business owners like me who are struggling to thrive in an already competitive market.

Over the past year, some downtown events have cost businesses a whopping \$500 for a one-day event. This is a significant financial burden for small businesses and independent vendors. These fees represent a significant portion of operating costs, making it challenging to turn a profit and reinvest in their businesses, which undermines the growth and sustainability of our local economy.

Small businesses aren’t just vital for economic growth – they’re what makes Livermore unique and fun to live in. When we impose vendor fees that are too high for these businesses to bear, we run the risk of losing the very essence that makes Livermore special.

I understand that the city relies on these fees to fund important services, projects, and infrastructure, but the way things are going, these fees risk driving small businesses out of our community.

We need to find a balance where the city can still get the cash it needs, and small businesses can survive and thrive. Maybe we could look into different ways of setting these fees, like having lower fees for startups or super-small businesses or give perks to businesses that contribute to the community.

I urge you to consider the impact of vendor fees on small businesses and work towards a solution that supports their growth while still ensuring that the city receives the necessary revenue. By doing so, we can maintain a thriving and vibrant Livermore while preserving the unique character that sets us apart.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and your commitment to the well-being of our community. I look forward to a dialogue on this issue and hope to see changes that will benefit both our local businesses and the city as a whole.

Transformative Vision Raquel Holt, Livermore

Congratulations to The Independent and its publisher, Joan Seppala, on the newspaper’s 60th anniversary, a milestone achievement! How fortunate that the Tri-Valley has a long-standing independent newspaper with a civic-minded leader that prints news and thoughtful opinions that directly affect our community.

In particular, I’d like to express deep appreciation for Joan Seppala’s vision, and along with other like-minded local leaders, the ambitious proposal of a performing arts center as Livermore’s centerpiece. This idea caught on and became a reality! Bankhead Theater, managed by the

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC), was exactly what was needed for performing groups looking for a good place to express their art. As envisioned, Bankhead significantly transformed downtown Livermore and has enhanced the art life of the valley – and beyond. One such group, for example, is Livermore Valley Opera (LVO), which in its early years performed at the LHS theater. When Bankhead Theater opened in September 2007, and after its grand opening in October, LVO followed and became the first resident company to perform in this acoustically great, intimate theater. The Independent printed articles about LVO. Their promotion helped with ticket sales. Puccini’s “La bohème” sold out! People were wanting to see the opera and eager to experience being in a beautiful theater (with accessible city-provided free parking across the street), near where they lived! With Bankhead as “home”, LVO steadily grew, and now in its 32nd season, is a well-regarded regional opera company that attracts talent around the Bay Area and across the country.

Thanks to Joan’s vision and belief— not only that the community is to be kept informed, but just as significant is having a proper setting where art and music can best be experienced.

Community Building In Livermore

Patricia Munro, Livermore

It is a heavy time in the world. It is a heavy time for those of us who have friends or family in the Middle East. In times of trouble—and these are those—it can feel hard to be with others. And yet, working together to build community can help. With that in mind, here are a couple of ways to help build our community.

Giving Input on Livermore’s General Plan:

Every city in California is required to have a General Plan that guides City decisions about transportation, jobs, housing, parks, shopping, services, and more. The current General Plan was adopted in 2004 and looks out to the horizon year 2025. Updating Livermore’s General Plan began in 2021. Now the City is looking for feedback on three alternative plans. Join City staff at Croce Elementary School from 6-8 p.m. on November 15 to get an in-person introduction (register at www.ImagineLivermore2045.org). Can’t attend? Give input at: www.MyInput.com/Livermore-Land-Use-Alternatives.

Getting Down and Dirty with Compost:

Building community can happen very literally by helping to improve our parks. Like to play in mud? On Saturday, Oct. 28, from 8:30-11 a.m., come to volunteer to help spread mulch at Sage Park, located on Tranquility Circle and Sandalwood Dr. Bring gloves and wear clothes and shoes that are appropriate. Email communications@LivermoreCA.gov to volunteer.

Livermore Celebrates Unity Day to Discourage Bullying



Members of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), Livermore Police Department and Livermore Recreation Park District take a stroll at Livermore's Sycamore Grove Park on Thursday, Oct. 19. The event was held in conjunction with LVJUSD's Unity Day celebration – a program designed to teach students to stand up against bullying and unite for kindness, inclusion and acceptance. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

By Dawnmarie Fehr

The Livermore school district celebrated Unity Day last week to teach students to stand up against bullying and unite for kindness, inclusion and acceptance. The district partnered with other community stakeholders, including the City of Livermore, Livermore Police Department and the Livermore Area Recreation

and Park District, to develop a week-long celebration to emphasize the importance of treating everyone in the community with kindness. "Our community really embraced all that Unity Week represents and engaged in a number of activities that brought students and staff together," said Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Superin-

tendent Chris Van Schaack. "It's great to see our students taking the lead in planning many of these activities because they see the value and impact that visual representations of kindness, inclusion, and acceptance has on their school cultures." Activities included chalking words of kindness in Stockmen's Park, "Walk with a Cop" in Sycamore

Grove, and a unity pledge. The celebrations were part of the district's recognition of National Bullying Prevention and Awareness Month, celebrated in October. District spokesperson Michelle Dawson said Unity Day began as an anti-bullying campaign but grew to include kindness, acceptance and the inclusion of all, which in turn leads to "less bullying and a better understanding of others." October was first named National Bullying Prevention Month in 2006 to acknowledge that bullying has devastating effects on children and families, such as school avoidance, loss of self-esteem, increased anxiety, and depression. Bullying can be verbal, physical, through social exclusion, or via digital sources like email, texts, or social media. According to Pacer.org, bullying occurs when one person or a group of people is perceived as being more powerful than another and takes advantage of that power through repeated physical assaults, threats of harm, intimidation, or by purposefully excluding a person from a valued social group. Being bullied can severely affect a child's self-image, social interactions, and school performance and can

lead to mental health problems, such as depression, anxiety, and substance use, and even suicidal thoughts and behaviors. According to a 2019 survey by the National Center for Educational Statistics, one in five students reported being bullied, and of those, 41% believe it will happen again. Studies have shown that bullying prevention programs can decrease bullying by 25%.

ARROYO
CELLARS

Tasting Room Open:
Saturday: 12 - 5pm,
Sunday: 12 - 5pm,
or by appointment

2270 Research Drive,
Livermore
(925) 292-9157

TONY'S NAILS 925-243-1827

Rejuvenate your beauty!

- ✓ Acrylics and Nail Arts
- ✓ Eyelash extensions
- ✓ Microblading
- ✓ Natural pedicures
- ✓ Waxing

Appointments and walk-ins welcome!
2002 Portola Ave. #C, Livermore
tonynailsLivermore.com [Tonys_Nail_Livermore](https://www.instagram.com/Tonys_Nail_Livermore)

Curious?

CURIOUS ABOUT THE
MARKET, YOUR HOME
VALUE, OR A HOME YOU
ARE INTERESTED IN?

Visit MyTodaysHomeValue.com

Leslie
FAUGHT
REALTOR® · CRS, SRES®
COMPASS

925.784.7979
LeslieFought.com
SellingEastBayHomes.com
DRE01027778
2018 Bay East Association
REALTOR® of the Year

"I'll find a buyer for your home and a home for you to buy"



Christina Cavallaro, of the Whiskey Sundays, belts one out for the crowd during last weekend's PrideFest 2023 in front of the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The event was a celebration of Livermore's diverse community and included live music, and a variety of vendors. [See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia] (Photo – Doug Jorgensen)

Podcast Host To Discuss How To Spice up Your Cooking

Jeremy Troupe-Masi, co-host of the podcast "Through the Grapevine" and developer of the JTM In the Kitchen line of spices, will give a presentation at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16. The presentation, "Talking Spices," is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Troupe-Masi will discuss different spices and their uses, including tips to help people spice up their cooking. Troupe-Masi is also a sommelier and director of hospitality at Darcie Kent Vineyards in Livermore. His line of spices come from the Napa Valley and are blended in the Livermore Valley. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Public Library as part of the Authors and Arts Series.

Wheels' Riders Give Bus Service Grade of 4.5

The Wheels bus service, operated by the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), received an average grade of 4.5, out of a possible 5.0, in the agency's first post-pandemic Passenger Satisfaction Survey, according to the LAVTA. Riders were asked to rate the transit service for safety, cleanliness, and reliability. LAVTA said the survey showed a "notable" increase

in rider satisfaction with on-time performance, driver friendliness, and clean and well-maintained buses, compared to the last pre-pandemic survey in 2019. "Wheels continues to uphold the high standards of the communities it serves," said Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, who also serves as LAVTA board chair. "Riders let us know they consider Wheels a reliable,

friendly, and safe option to get them to school, work, and healthcare throughout the Tri-Valley." Wheels buses serve Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore, and three communities in Costa Contra County. They also provide local connections to Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) commuter train services. LAVTA said the survey

was conducted in person by transit authority staff on Wheels buses during May and June. Surveys were conducted in both English and Spanish. LAVTA said 87% of the respondents live within the service area.

LIC# 15601095

HERITAGE ESTATES
SENIOR APARTMENTS

TRICK OR
TREAT!

Saturday, October 28th | 2:00–4:00 pm

Come dressed in your scariest or silliest and we'll provide the candy!
Kids of all ages welcome!

Check in at the 800 office.

800 E Stanley Blvd
Livermore, CA 94550
925-373-3636
heritageestatesseiorapartments.com
© LEISURE CARE

USING HOME EQUITY as RETIREMENT ASSET

REVERSE MORTGAGE BASICS

When retirement approaches many turn to savings, investments, and Social Security for financial planning, but there's another source that is often over-looked, a reverse mortgage. Most reverse mortgages are government insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgages (also known as HECMs). Available exclusively to those aged 62 and older, a reverse mortgage could help you and your family live comfortably, while being financially prepared for the future. Another benefit of these types of mortgages is that the funds are tax-free. Also, as long as the terms of the loans are met, a reverse mortgage line of credit cannot be frozen, reduced, or revoked by the lender. The unused line of credit grows over time, giving you more available funds. Contact me today and together we can go over the qualification guidelines step by step. Additionally, I will provide you with a quote that's tailored to your unique situation with no cost or obligation!

WANDA THOMPSON
CA DRE# 00983781 | NMLS#244633
925.858.9128
411 South L St, Suite E, Livermore, CA 94550

Protect your family with
life insurance!

Call me today for your free, no-obligation review of your life insurance needs! We represent the most competitive and financially stable insurance companies and can find you the best rate for your needs.

Mike Morgan
license 0571238

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency
2020 Fourth Street, Livermore
(925) 447-2565 ext. 2200
mike@genemorganinsurance.com

GARAVENTA

(Continued from front page)

will not be livestreamed.

The meeting comes as the city continues to work on an updated Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed project slated for 32 acres at the western end of Bear Creek Drive, north of the school and Altamont Creek Park.

The property owners — Karen Elk, Sharon Albright, and a third unidentified relative from the Garaventa family — signed a binding contract at least four years ago with Lafferty Communities to build single-family homes. Although initially set at 47 homes, the city’s website said the number is now 44.

Following the city’s initial approval in 2019, Save the Hill Group, an organization of residents advocating for open space preservation, filed a lawsuit that challenged the EIR, a document required in the development process to show how a project will impact the land and the environment.

The city’s EIR consultant, they argued, had failed to include that Livermore had \$19.5 million available in conservation funds to offer the landowner as an alternative to developing the site.

Although an Alameda County Superior Court judge denied the challenge, an appeal to the higher court succeeded last year. The judges ruled state laws required the city to disclose the availability of the conservation money so the property owner could consider accepting the payment to keep the land open.

As a result of the court order, the city then revoked its EIR and its approval of the project.

In March, Lafferty Communities reapplied, paying Livermore a \$16,826 application fee, along with \$56,797 to update the EIR to include the missing “no project alternative.” Despite

some residents’ complaints, Livermore officials said the city was required by law to process the revised proposal, allowing a property owner to correct or modify a project.

Although the new EIR, when completed, will include the fact that the city has funds to purchase the land — which has been listed for sale at \$5 million — it does not mean the property owners have to take it.

The city’s website states that the owners have no intention of altering their plans.

“The property owners of the property which is the subject of this project have confirmed in writing that they are in contract with Lafferty Communities and do not wish to sell the property to the City,” the website said.

Two residents opposed to the project declined comment.

GPAC

(Continued from front page)

into the city and the urban growth boundary would have to be amended ... through a community wide vote,” said Andy Ross, Livermore’s economic development manager.

The city’s proposals for the area included a mix of industrial, wine catalyst, research campus and recreation uses to serve as an “inviting entryway into South Livermore wine country,” continued Ross.

Except for one speaker, residents at the meeting opposed development outside of the UGB.

“There’s just so much that you guys can do with the city we have now instead of growing more,” said resident Paula Peterson. “Let’s fix what we have and try to make it better, and then think about growing.”

Another resident, Michael Fredrich, said, “Once the UGB is moved, it is gone. It will be moved again and again. Once breached, the UGB will someday be the border with Tracy.”

According to resident Jeff Kasky, in the city’s plan, a considerable amount of land for industrial use is shown within Livermore’s UGB. That property should be developed, not land outside the urban growth boundary.

Still, opposition to the East of Greenville idea was not unanimous.

Lori Souza said, “I actually think that if that land could

be acquired by Livermore, we could do a much better job of making it useful and keeping it right for our future generations.”

Members of the Committee called on staff for more detail on the city’s expected growth — such as current industrial vacancy rates, projected revenues, and population trends — to help guide future plans.

Committee Member David Kent said he felt that details on what can and cannot be done with the UGB would help.

Kent said, “(The county’s UGB,) Measure D, has a sunset provision that, if the city cannot hit its RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Allocation) housing goals, you can build housing in North Livermore;” He continued, “It is not an absolute stop; it was not a God-given boundary.”

However, neither of the currently approved Livermore UGB initiatives, nor the county UGB initiative, includes a sunset provision. They all provide language that protects open space and biodiversity on the East of Greenville land.

It’s true that if either the county or the city cannot meet their RHNA goals inside their UGBs, they may approve housing outside their UGBs on land within their respective jurisdictions.

However, GPAC members have been stating that no

residential development will be allowed east of Greenville Road. A change from open space to industrial and commercial zoning, for instance, would have to be approved by a vote of the people.

Alan Burnham, a committee member, said not everyone from the public who spoke at the meeting had accurate information about the topics discussed at the forum.

“First of all, I appreciate the comments that the citizens have made, and I think there’s a lot of things to think about here, but I would make the observation that some people have made some assumptions to support their positions, which may or may not be correct,” he said.

GPAC will hold community workshops on topics related to the General Plan update, as well as other events. One workshop was held on Oct. 25 after The Independent’s deadline for this edition of the paper. Another will take place on Nov. 15 from 6:00-8:00pm at Croce Elementary School, 5650 Scenic Avenue, Livermore. Afterwards, the committee will present public input along with a preferred land-use scenario to the Planning Commission in December. The commission will then present its recommendation to the city council during the first quarter of 2024.

More information on the process can be found at imaginelivermore2045.org.

WELLS

(Continued from front page)

the new wells, which will need between \$13 million and \$42 million in capital costs, plus another \$500,000 annually for operations and maintenance.

Based on existing groundwater models, the new wells will tap into water that is not flush with forever chemicals.

“The main thing is that we want to provide clean and safe water to our residents, and that’s what we’re trying to address here,” said Councilmember Valerie Arkin; before the vote.

City staff will work with the regional water agency

over the next year to further map the underground PFAS plume and may form a partnership to build and operate the new wells.

An engineering firm that compiled a water supply alternatives study for the city said Pleasanton could save 15% to 20% through a partnership with the regional water agency.

If initial tests reveal problems with the well sites, the plan includes an option to pivot next October to an alternative of building PFAS treatment for the city’s existing Well 8. Such a change in course would allow the

city to stay on its four-year timeline, but at a loss of up to \$1.5 million in sunk costs.

PFAS treatment at Well 8 would need between \$26 million and \$34 million in capital costs plus another \$600,000 annually to operate.

The city also considered its original PFAS treatment plant, estimated at up to \$77 million in capital costs and \$1.3 million annually to operate, and continued reliance on Zone 7 for water, estimated at up to \$21 million in capital costs and \$6.5 million annually to operate.

TEACHERS

(Continued from front page)

In addition to a 15% pay raise, APT is asking for limits in caseloads for special education teachers, smaller class sizes, more resources and support, and ongoing coverage of medical insurance premium costs.

PUUSD spokesperson Patrick Gannon said the district is offering to cover employee premiums, but not dependents. Their offer of a 6.5% raise includes increased stipends for dual language immersion teachers and special education teachers. Gannon said the medical premium coverage is something the district has been working toward for some time.

“We knew we wouldn’t get there in a single year, but that it would be something we would work toward, so we are making progress,” Gannon said.

Negotiations will continue,

with both sides saying they are committed to reaching an agreement soon.

Gannon said the district doesn’t have the additional funds to offer a 15% raise, and staff must balance their annual budgets through June 2026. Last year saw a shortfall of \$2.3 million, and this year’s shortfall is calculated at \$1 million. The district projects a \$560,000 shortfall for the next school year, and a \$1.6 million shortfall for the 2025-26 school year. This is due in large part, Gannon said, to enrollment numbers dropping by 1,000 students over the past three years.

“Looking at our expenditures, they are more than we have coming in,” he said. “It’s true that districts across the state have received increases in funding, but it’s also important to know that a lot of that funding is restricted

in how we can spend it. We are not able to allocate all the additional revenue we receive to wage increases, even if we wanted to.”

Atkins cited the rising cost of living and the need to attract and retain good teachers as reasons for the requested raise.

“We are asking for a 15% raise,” Atkins said. “Medical keeps going up, so we are asking them to take on our premium increase ... and we want to attract and retain good teachers.”

PUUSD Superintendent David Haglund expressed appreciation for the work done thus far.

“I want to thank the members of our district and APT bargaining teams for their ongoing efforts,” Haglund said. “This is difficult work and I appreciate the effort of each member in helping us reach an agreement.”

COWBOY

(Continued from front page)

encouraging all ages to live the “The Cowboy Way.”

Their accolades span widely, but so too does their heart and passion for the music they discovered in each other a shared respect for. Guitarist and lead singer Ranger Doug summed up their common love for the genre. “All of us had wonderful childhood memories of the romantic, glamorous singing cowboys saving the day and yodeling their way into the hearts of fairy maidens.”

And yodeling they do a plenty. The secret to learning to yodel Ranger Doug jokingly shares, “You have to roll up the windows in your truck and drive around so you don’t lose your wife, your children, your neighbors, your pets, you know, until you get a little bit good.”

Jokes aside he says he didn’t develop into a good yodeler until a friend of his introduced him years ago to a singer from the 30s, 40s and 50s named Elton Britt.

“I heard him, and I said ‘oh my God, I mean that’s art.’ So, I had to learn that,” he said.

It’s this combination of humor and craft that makes these guys so impressive. Ranger Doug posits, “Well, the comedy wouldn’t work if the musicianship wasn’t there. It would just look like a college sophomore gag. But when you can really pull off the musical end of it then people know you’re serious and are having fun with it and not making fun of it.”

And audiences of all ages love their mash-up of traditional western harmonies meets wholesome cornball humor inspired by the comedy of the 60s and the likes of Mad Magazine, The Smothers Brothers and Ernie Kovacs.

“We always have kids at our show,” said Ranger Doug. “A mother will often come up and say, ‘you know I was sitting between my son and my father and you’re the favorite band of both of them.’”

And this crossing of generations may in fact be the key to the longevity of Riders in the Sky. It’s not tied to a hit record or a hit sound that’s ephemeral.

“It’s as lasting as the western hills,” said Ranger Doug.

Their impression on Livermore Valley Performing Art Center’s Director of Marketing Ruth Eggherman, has also been lasting.

“Their infectious energy and talent have our audiences singing and laughing along from start to finish.

What began as a celebration of classic western music and an evening of hilarity has become a career, and that career has become a legend, one which shows no signs of stopping,” she said.

The stop along their current U.S. tour at the Bankhead’s hitching post marks the release of the group’s 42nd album called Throw a Saddle on a Star.

Tickets are \$45-\$75. To purchase tickets, call (925) 373-6800, or go to lvpac.org.



Riders in the Sky, the popular western musical quartet, returns to the Livermore Bankhead Theater on Sunday, Nov. 5. For more than 40 years, these Grammy Award-winning comedic crooners have been keepers of the flame passed on by Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, reviving and revitalizing western music. (Photo courtesy of Riders in the Sky)

FRANCIS RANCH

(Continued from front page)

would collect special taxes from residents at 1.58% annually. The rate would amount to roughly \$20,000 to \$42,000 per year, depending on what price the homes initially sell at.

The Dublin City Council declared its intention last week in a 3-2 vote to form a community facilities district, which paves the way for the district’s formation in December. Vice Mayor Michael McCorriston and Councilmember Kashaf Qaadri voted no.

“I feel like this unnecessarily burdens the future

residents of Dublin by these additional taxes,” said Qaadri.

City leaders say the new taxes will allow the city to take on debt for maintaining public streets, building public infrastructure, and cover developer impact fees associated with the project.

Formerly known as East Ranch, the Francis Ranch project plans to build 459 single-family homes, 14 duet homes and 100 townhomes on the 165 acres north of Interstate 580 between Fallon Road and the city’s eastern boundary.

The 18 affordable-housing units included in the project won’t be subject to paying the new taxes.

California’s 1982 Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, a response to the state’s cap on property-tax increases, allows local governments to levy special taxes to fund specific services, such as infrastructure improvements.

The City Council has scheduled a public hearing on Dec. 5 to possibly adopt a resolution forming the CFD and hold an election of landowners to levy the special tax.

Your Daily Online Local News.



independentnews.com

Follow us on  

HER VINENESS



Laura Ness

By Laura Ness

Last weekend, I visited a newly reimagined restaurant in a highly popular tourist area. Their beverage list grabbed my attention. The wines were relegated to a small footprint, with cocktails and mocktails occupying most of the menu along with ciders, seltzers, sodas, and juices. In fact, the number of alcohol-free drinks, plus those using de-alcoholized spirits, outnumbered the wine selections.

Piling on the slight, the wine selection was, except two decent local wines, the same old boring stuff. The real advantage to the non-wine section? The description of the ingredients. The ingredients for each cocktail/mocktail were listed, so you at least could guess if it was going to be seriously spicy (habanero shrub, check!) or sweet (coconut simple syrup, check!). Sometimes wine list creators provide a few descriptors, like what it tastes like or what it might go with, but that's rare.

My point? Assuming that someone can divine the flavors of a wine just by seeing "Cab Daou" or "Zin Fabelist" is like asking people to figure out what a drink called "Two If By Sea" or "Boardwalk Playground" might contain. It's also somewhat presumptuous. "Oh, don't you KNOW what this wine is? After all, it has a brand name." This concept of brands meaning something to folks who are just dipping their toe in the waters of wine is quite rife with old assumptions. The world is changing, and wineries need to change along with it. Consumption of wine is falling, as other beverages ascend.

These trends are of great concern throughout the entire wine ecosystem. Alcohol in general is losing popularity among Millennials and Gen Z. According to a recent Gallup report, it has declined

Wines Deserve Top Billing With Other Beverages

10 % over the last decade; now, only 62 % of adults between 21 and 35 consume alcohol, down from 72 % 10 years ago. And frequency of consumption is declining, too, with only 4 in 10 consuming alcohol regularly. So, what are those under 35 drinkers turning to instead? And what forms of alcohol are in vogue?

It's no surprise that soft drinks top the list of beverages these age groups prefer: they are big on flavor and sugar. Millennials drink more alcohol in general than Gen Z, and they tend to equally prefer beer and wine, while Gen Z goes for wine first, followed by beer, spirits and hard seltzers. Proving that the "sober curious" movement is not just a fad, Gen Z is really fond of non-alcoholic cocktails, consuming them far more often than do Millennials. Only 25 % of Millennials consider themselves regular wine drinkers. Others say they worry that wine contains too much sugar or will give them a headache. Sounds like lots of opportunity for education here. But don't expect them to get this kind of wine information by

reading publications like Wine Spectator or Wine Advocate, or even wine apps or critics scores. They're going to get it from social media, and their own online research. Interestingly, they do like trying wine in restaurants, and like every generation before them, what their friends and colleagues around them are drinking plays an important role in their choices.

One of those wines that many are drinking more and more of is Sauvignon Blanc. In fact, it's the only wine variety that is trending upwards, and dramatically so. For the past three years, sales of Sauv Blanc have steadily increased, while the usual "big three" have leveled off or declined. According to Nielsen data, as aggregated in Wine Business Monthly, (I still rely on wine publications for info), Sauvignon Blanc sales are up 5.5 % for the last year, and up 6.3 % in the last four-week period measured. Chardonnay is down .5 % over the last year but is rebounding in the last four weeks by 1 %. Cabernet Sauvignon dropped .9 percent in the last 52 weeks, while Pinot

Noir declined by 1.9 %. What other wine is growing? Pinot Gris/Grigio.

Certainly, seasonal patterns influence consumer choice, and when the weather is warm, people tend to reach for roses and whites. We're already seeing sales of Cab, Pinot Noir and Zin increase as fall settles in. What continues to fall? Merlot, Syrah and blends.

Sauvignon Blanc has always played a significant role in Livermore, going back to the early days. It was often blended with Semillon. As the tide of popularity turned almost completely in favor of Chardonnay, Sauv Blanc became less popular. However, long time wineries like Concannon, Wentz, Retzlaff, Cedar Mountain, and Steven Kent, continued to make it. Now, with renewed interest in the varietal, more wineries are involved with it again. Even Rhonda Wood, long famous for her Chardonnay, is making Sauvignon Blanc for the first time this year.



Kenyan Exhibit Makes Stop in Livermore

By David Scholz

A traveling exhibit showcasing the culture, rich history, and art of Kenya's different communities made a stop in Livermore as part of the Taste of Africa festival outside the Bankhead Theater.

It was organized by the Cheza Nami Foundation to provide a unique platform for the National Museums of Kenya. The California-based nonprofit aims to preserve and encourage the appreciation of African culture by inspiring and educating Americans about Africa and its unique attributes.

"It was an opportunity of great significance as it helped in promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of Kenya and its people," said Catherine (Ciiku) Ndungu-Case, founder and CEO of Cheza Nami Foundation.

Booths featured traditional instruments, cultural artifacts, and informative displays that highlighted the diversity of ethnic groups, traditions, and artistic expressions to capture Kenya's diverse heritage.

Integrated virtual reality technology, most popular with the younger audience, enabled festival-attendees to explore Kenya's World Heritage Sites such as Thimlich Ohinga and the Fort Jesus.

Kenya's unique position as the home of human origin was spotlighted in hominid fossils dating back 1.9 million years that were found at archaeological sites, such as the Turkana Basin.

"Some people had prior Kenyan experiences, and this brought back memories," said George Juma Ondeng, Cultural Advisor to the Kenya Cabinet Secretary at the Ministry of Gender, Arts, Culture and Heritage.

After the exhibit left the Bankhead, it made a few stops, including to Hurst Elementary School's Black Excellence Program in the Pleasanton Unified School District. Students at Cesar Chavez Middle School in Hayward also got a chance to see the exhibit.

As this chapter closes, it is not the end of the story between Kenyan officials and the Cheza Nami Foundation.

"We are working with the National Museums of Kenya to get additional casts that can come back to the Tri-Valley," said Ndungu-Case.

And, not only artifacts and fossils, but there is hope the relationship forged from this latest visit also will see opportunities for the arts of Kenya such as dance and music through a rich international exchange program in the years to come.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Cheza Nami Foundation partnership and for making it possible for us to participate in this festival and represent Kenya. Their commitment to promoting cultural exchange is truly commendable and gave us a tangible opportunity to explore what future collaborations could look like," said Juma Ondeng.

Dublin Receives Grant To Enhance Road Safety

Dublin has received a \$81,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to "deter unsafe driving behaviors and increase safety on the roads," according to an announcement by Dublin Police Services.

Police said the funds would be used to increase traffic patrols throughout the city, with a focus on speeding, failing to obey traffic signs, improper turns or lane changes, and violations of the state's hands-free cell phone law.

The patrol will also focus on drivers suspected to be under the influence (DUI) of drugs or alcohol, including the use of DUI checkpoints.

The grant will also be used for additional officer training or recertification for the Standard Field Sobriety Test, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, and as a Drug Recognition Expert.



Creek Hill Farm
Horseback Riding Lessons,
Training, Boarding,
Breeding, Sales
925.337.5375
creekhillfarms.com

Dublin to Present Banners to Military Honorees

The 15 banners displayed along Dougherty Road in Dublin, honoring local veterans and active-duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces, will be taken down after Veterans Day, Saturday, Nov. 11, and presented to the honorees or their sponsors at a Dublin City Council meeting in December.

The banners were in-

stalled shortly before Memorial Day in May.

A one-mile walking tour map is available is available at the Camp Parks Military History Center, just outside Camp Park's main gate on Dougherty Road.

Dublin began the annual Military Banner Program in 2018.

This year's honorees were William Joseph

Baldrige and Merlin Carter, U.S. Air Force; Vaughn Lewis Baker Sr., Javier Castillo, Chanel R. Davis, Allan Dunlop, Maria K. Haral, Robert F. Heady, and Alex K. Squire, U.S. Army; Kerri Chase, Maurice Lee Korte, and Ronald G. Satterthwaite, U.S. Navy; and Delbert T. Greer, Carlos M. Mendez, and Dennis Pearce, U.S. Marine Corps.

Dublin will begin accepting applications for the 2024 banner program in February. For more information, go to dublin.ca.gov/MilitaryBanners.



RETZLAFF
Estate Wines

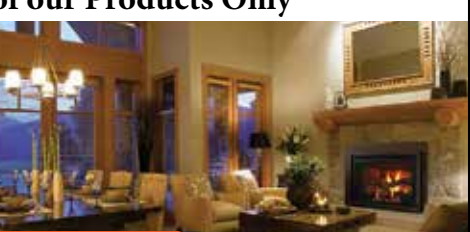
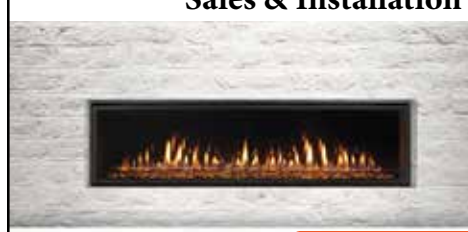
OPEN FOR WINE TASTING AND
PICNIC TABLE RESERVATIONS.
FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS
AND MONDAYS 12-4:30

LIVE MUSIC MOST WEEKENDS.
CATERER ON SITE MOST WEEKENDS.
RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

Retzlaff Vineyards.com

"40 Years Installing Fireplaces"

WE OFFER A LARGE SELECTION OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES INCLUDING:
Gas Fireplaces • Gas & Pellet Inserts • Free-Standing Stoves
Sales & Installation of our Products Only



UP TO \$400 OFF*
*On select units.



HEAT & GLO
No one builds a better fire



JERRY'S
FIREPLACES
Tired of no burn days?
CA Lic #525769



QUADRA-FIRE
NOTHING BURNS LIKE A QUAD

510.471.5601
JerrysFireplaces.com

23585 Connecticut Street
Unit 15, Hayward
M-F 9-5, Sat 10-4



LIVERMORE VALLEY
arts



LAS POSITAS
COLLEGE



HCCC LIVERMORE
presents

Diwali

The Festival Of Lights
SUN NOV 5 | 10 AM - 2 PM
BANKHEAD PLAZA | 2400 FIRST ST. DOWNTOWN LIVERMORE
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - ALL ARE WELCOME!
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: LivermoreArts.org

Media sponsorship provided by 

Bankhead to Offer Nostalgic Movie Experiences to The Public



A showing of the 2017 Walt Disney Pictures animated film “Coco,” with the musical score performed live by the 20-member Orquesta Folclórica Nacional de México, above, will be shown at the Bankhead Theater on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Bankhead Theater)

The Bankhead Theater will offer two movie experiences in November with a showing of the 2004 coming-of-age comedy, “Napoleon Dynamite,” followed by a live question-and-answer session with three of the film’s stars, and a showing of the 2017 Walt Disney Pictures animation, “Coco,” with the musical score performed live by the 20-member Orquesta Folclórica Nacional de México. “Napoleon Dynamite,” about a socially awkward 16-year-old and the dilemmas he faces navigating high school, will be shown at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 3, followed by a conversation with actors Jon Heder, who played the title role, Napoleon Dynamite, Jon Gries, who played Uncle Rico, and Efrén Ramírez, who played Pedro.

Tickets for Napoleon Dynamite LIVE! start at \$25. There is also a VIP option for fans to meet the actors before the movie for pictures and a signed poster. “Coco,” inspired by the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead, tells the story of a 12-year-old boy, Miguel, who is transported to the Land of the Dead. There he seeks out his great-great-grandfather, who was a musician, for help returning to the Land of the Living and reversing a family ban on music. The movie, which won an Academy Award for Best Animated Feature, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, with the score given a distinctive sound by the Orquesta Folclórica Nacional de México, known for evoking the rich history and culture of Mexico

Unchained Labs Hosts Life Sciences Summit 2023

Nearly 200 people attended the 2023 Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit earlier this month, hosted by Unchained Labs at the company’s new Pleasanton headquarters on Willow Road. Yolanda Fintschenko, executive director of i-GATE Innovation Hub, emceed the event, which she said celebrated the Tri-Valley’s growing life sciences community “by bringing founders, funders, and ecosystem members into the same room, creating the opportunity for constructive collisions that build our community.” Unchained Labs develops technology for biologics and gene therapy research. The summit included a discussion about the recent acquisition of Pleasanton-based Apton Biosystems by Pacific Biosciences of California (PacBio). Tim Harkness, founder and chief executive officer of Unchained Labs, moderated a “fireside chat” with John Hanna, former chief executive officer for Apton Biosystems and now vice president

of corporate development at PacBio, who offered his insights into preparing a company for a successful acquisition. The summit also included a panel discussion, moderated by Genoa Ventures principal Landon Merrill, on the developing biosciences industry in the Tri-Valley. Panelists included Ted Tarasow, chief technical officer of Inscripta, a synthetic biology (synbio) tools company based in Pleasanton; Sam Rad, co-founder and chief operating officer of Life-Foundry, a Illinois synbio company in the process of moving to Pleasanton; and John Stattler, founder and chief executive officer of AgeisBio, a longevity therapeutics company based at Daybreak Labs, a biotech and hard technology incubator site in Livermore. The summit was organized by Start-Up Tri-Valley and i-GATE Innovation Hub, and sponsored by Tri-Valley Ventures, Mirador Capital Partners, and Metcon.

Wine Auction Raises \$381,000 for Tri-Valley Nonprofits Organizations

The 29th annual Livermore Valley Wine Auction earlier this month raised more than \$381,000 for nonprofit organizations that serve the needs of children in the Tri-Valley, according to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation. “We are so grateful for the generosity of the auction attendees and sponsors along with the Livermore Valley wine community,” said Brandi Lombardi, executive director of the Livermore Valley Wine Community. “The funds raised will greatly impact the lives of so many children and families in our community. We’re proud to be able to support these well-deserving organizations.” The Livermore Valley Wine Community, formerly the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, represents over 40 wineries and associated businesses. The foundation, created by the winegrowers in 1995, has raised more than \$5 million for local nonprofits through its annual charity wine auction. Nineteen wineries and more than 250 guests participated in this year’s fundraiser, which included both live and silent auctions.



A guest raises her paddle during the 29th annual Livermore Valley Wine Auction on Oct. 7 at the Wente Vineyards Event Center. The event raised over \$381,000 to benefit a variety of local nonprofits that support the wellbeing of underserved children and youth in the area. (Photo courtesy of Ron Essex Photography)

Each year, the foundation designates one agency for special “fund-a-need” support. This year, that was Fostering Wishes, a nonprofit based in Alamo, California, that provides children in foster care in Contra Costa County with duffle bags filled with toiletries, water bottles, school supplies, and other age-appropriate items. The foundation said the auction raised \$82,450 specifically for Fostering Wishes. Other beneficiaries of this year’s fundraiser were

Kids Bike Lane, which provides bikes for youths in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, Open Heart Kitchen, which provides low-income families with healthy foods through its grocery distribution program, and the Quest Science Center, which offers mobile exhibits, after school programs, family science nights, and summer enrichment programs for children. The foundation did not announce how much each beneficiary would receive.

TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Now to Oct. 31
Livermore Art Association (LAA) Showing Vicki Assegued
LAA is proud to have Vicki Assegued's fiber art as the inaugural exhibit at the Robert Livermore Community Center (RLCC) Seniors Center, located at 4444 East Ave., in Livermore. Assegued is an experimental, original fiber artist who teaches her many techniques through various art schools, organizations and retreats, and she also exhibits and sells her artwork. The exhibit will be up for the month of October, hung in the lounge and the hallway. Her art is available for sale. A two-hour time slot to meet the artist is now scheduled for Oct. 18 from noon until 2:00 pm. The RLCC is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit [vickiart.com](#).

Now to Oct. 31
Library Art Show
Livermore Library, at 1188 S. Livermore Ave., will host an art show featuring original art and photography by members of the Livermore Art Association. The theme is “Nature’s Gifts.” Membership and show information is available at [livermoreartassociation.org](#) or [dp.rodriguez@icloud.com](#).

Saturday, Oct. 21
TriValley Writers' Speaker
Chris Hennessy, an independent filmmaker, author, and speaker, will explain how to promote a book, social media marketing, and more at 2 p.m. at Tri-Valley Writers meeting at Las Positas College, Room 2470 at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, in Livermore. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. To RSVP, email [treasurer@trivalleywriters.org](#) by Oct. 19, and make payment. Tickets are \$10 for CWC adult members; \$12 for nonmembers; \$5 for CWC student members ages 14 to 22; and \$8 for student nonmembers.

Saturday, Oct. 21
Glitz and Gratitude – A Gala & Auction to Benefit Culinary Angels
Join in for Culinary Angels’ largest fundraiser of the year featuring a gourmet dinner and Garré wine, an amazing live and silent auction with emcee Juliette Goodrich of KPIX 5 and local celebrity auctioneer Big Frank, live entertainment and more. A no-host full bar will be available and cocktail attire is requested. The event takes place from 6 to 10 p.m., at Garré Vineyard & Winery, 7986 Tesla Road, in Livermore. For more information, visit [culinaryangels.org](#).

Saturday, Oct. 21
Telegraph Quartet (Strings)
Del Valle Fine Arts presents Telegraph Quartet, quartet-in-residence at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The group will perform the String Quartet No.4 by Grazyna Bacewicz, Britten's String Quartet No. 1 and Dvorák's String Quartet No. 14., at 7:30 p.m., at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., in Livermore. Tickets are free for youth and are available at the Bankhead box office or [livermorearts.org](#).

Sunday, Oct. 22
Matt Finders and Friends
Hosted by Livermore Jazz Society from 2 to 4 p.m., Matt Finders and Friends has been swinging together for nearly 10 years. Come check out the magic. To request seating, email [info@livermore-jazzsociety.org](#) or fill out an online form at [livermorejazzsociety.org/reserve-seats](#). If seating is available, a reply will be sent with a formal invitation including the performance location. The event link is [livermorejazzsociety.org/events/matt-finders-and-friends](#). A donation of \$20 is suggested, but donations of any amount are most welcome. For more information, visit [livermorejazzsociety.org](#).

Sunday, Oct. 22
Pleasanton Community Concert Band Fall Concert
The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will play its annual Fall Concert in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., in Pleasanton, at 2 p.m. This year, the band is saluting Animals as Portrayed in Music. The concert is free. For more information, call 925-846-5897.

Friday, Oct. 27 and Sunday, Oct. 29
“Celebrating Beethoven!”
“Celebrating Beethoven!” is a highly anticipated concert, originally slated for the 2020 commemoration of Beethoven’s 250th birthday anniversary. This program takes attendees on a musical odyssey through Beethoven’s compositional evolution, featuring string quartet compositions from his early, middle, and late periods. The Oct. 27 performance takes place at 7:30 p.m., at the Trinity Lutheran

Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, in Pleasanton. The Oct. 29 performance takes place at 3 p.m., at the Community Congregational Church, 1305 W. 2nd St., in Benicia. Advance tickets are available at [beniciachamberplayers.com](#), and the concert is free for students.

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

Saturday, Nov. 4
Livermore Lions Annual Holiday Boutique
The Livermore Lions Club will have its annual Holiday Boutique on Sat., Nov 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St. in Livermore. Local vendors will sell gifts that include unique crafts like jewelry, clothing, ceramics, and hand-carved woodwork. Also offered will be breakfast crepes, soup, hamburgers, hotdogs, and raffle prizes. Proceeds from this fundraiser will support Canine Companions and other Lions charities. For vendors wishing to display their items, contact Ben at (805) 405-8743 before Nov. 1.

Saturday, Nov. 4
Holiday Boutique
From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., local artisans will be selling unique gifts, such as heirloom quality quilts, handmade jewelry, home-canned jams, homemade chocolates, stained glass creations, kitchen items, baby items and much more.

Sunday, Nov 5
Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club Holiday Fantasy Gala Fundraiser
The DSRWC celebrates its annual Holiday Fantasy Gala fundraiser at the Crow Canyon Country Club on Sunday, Nov. 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. in support of the Children's Emergency Food Bank of Dublin and other local organizations and programs. Tickets are \$85 and include a delicious gourmet luncheon and entertainment by stand-up comedian “The Funny Gina” - Gina Stahl-Haven. Opportunity prizes, a holiday boutique and a silent auction will be featured with proceeds benefiting local non-profits. Online tickets are available at [gfwdrsr.org](#) or by check to DSRWC 6060 Kingsmill Terrace, Dublin, 94568. Ticket orders are due by Thursday, Oct. 26.

Tuesday, Nov 7 and Wednesday, Nov. 8th
Golden Circle Seniors Annual Boutique
The Golden Circle Seniors will be holding their annual boutique on Tuesday, Nov 7 and Wednesday Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center located at 4444 East Ave. Many handmade pieces including baby and kitchen items, hats, scarves, lap blankets, and totes will be available. This year, artwork will also be sold. 90% of the proceeds are donated to local charities.

Saturday, Nov. 11
Holiday Craft Fair
Livermore Eagles will be hosting their annual Holiday Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 527 N. Livermore Ave. Visit with local artisans displaying and selling their handmade crafts for those extra special gifts. Crafters interested in taking part should call Evy Barr at 925-980-7216 for additional details. The fair will also feature a bake sale with proceeds to benefit the local humane society.

Monday, Nov.13
Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Presents Mary Kircher Roddy
In this free presentation, Mary Kircher Roddy will talk about discovering Charles Olin’s alias. Olin disappeared from his Nebraska roots about 1908. The DNA in the descendant of an out-of-wedlock child born in 1919 points to Charles as the father, but no records place him there. Case study proves the alternate identity Charles used for 40 years. This fascinating presentation highlights how persistence can win out even when faced with brick walls at almost every turn. See more about Mary Kircher Roddy here: [www.mkrgenealogy.com](#). The lecture will be held on Zoom from 7 to 830 p.m. For more information, contact Tom Mathews at [program@L-AGS.org](#)

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP AND NEVER MISS YOUR LOCAL NEWS

iPhone

Android

Follow us on

[independentnews.com](#)

Queen Tribute Band Headlines Harmony & Healing Fundraiser

Harmony & Healing, a nonprofit musical charity that performs for hospital and hospice patients and their caregivers, will hold its third annual fundraising concert at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4, featuring the Queen tribute band, Bohemian Queen.

The fundraiser will also include a wine tasting, raffle, and silent auction in the theater lobby, 2400 First St., beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Harmony & Healing was founded in 2019 by David Victor, who played and

shared lead vocals for the rock band Boston during its 2012 summer tour. According to Victor, he was inspired to create the nonprofit after the band played for some sick children at Miller Children’s Hospital in Long Beach, California.

The nonprofit is based in San Ramon.

Billed as “the ultimate Queen concert experience,” the Los Angeles-based Bohemian Queen recreates such best-selling hits from the legendary British band as “Bohemian Rhapsody,” “Another One Bites

the Dust,” “Don’t Stop Me Now,” “Fat Bottomed Girls,” “Crazy Little Thing Called Love,” and “We Are the Champions.”

The concert will also feature multiple costume changes by frontman Paulie Z in honor of Queen’s original lead singer, Freddie Mercury, and his iconic outfits.

CBS News Bay Area anchor Juliette Goodrich will serve as emcee for the fundraiser.

Tickets for the Harmony & Health Benefit Concert begin at \$38 and are available online at livermorearts.org.

Hope Hospice of Dublin Offering Workshops on Coping with Grief

With the winter holidays approaching, Hope Hospice, a Dublin-based nonprofit that provides services for patients with terminal illnesses and their caregivers, will offer free, one-hour workshops on coping with grief on Thursday, Nov. 16, and Thursday, Dec. 14.

Hope Hospice said the workshops will address the

feelings of loss and loneliness that may intensify around the holidays, and the anxiety people feel when others ask how they are coping.

The workshops will also address how to decide whether to attend holiday gatherings, how to prepare for those gatherings, and spending time alone to honor the memories of loved ones privately.

The workshops will be offered over Zoom. The November workshop will begin at 11:30 a.m., the December workshop will begin at 2 p.m.

Space is limited because of the interactive nature of the sessions.

To register, call 925-829-8770 or submit an inquiry form at HopeHospice.com/grief.

Finalists for Nonprofit Awards Announced

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance (TVNPA), which works to strengthen other regional nonprofit organizations, has announced the finalists for its 2023 Power of Giving Impact Awards.

Finalists for the Unsung Hero award are Guadalupe Barattino with LaFamilia; Shawnda Bost with Open Heart Kitchen; Christine Dillman with Tri-Valley Haven, and community activist Jean King.

Finalists for the TVNPA Lifetime Achievement award are Jay Davis, Anne Davis East, Susan Houghton, Jean King, and Marsha McInnis.

Arts & Culture award

finalists are Livermore Valley Arts, Livermore Valley Opera, and the Pleasanton Art League.

Finalists for the Corporate Philanthropic Partner award are Fremont Bank, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, and Sensiba, LLC.

The TVNPA will present two Excellence in Impact awards, one for organizations with budgets of less than \$1 million and one for organizations with budgets exceeding \$1 million.

Finalists among the smaller groups are the Alan Hu Foundation, Set to Thrive, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Sunflower

Hill. Finalists among larger organizations are Axis Community Health, CAPE Headstart, Goodness Village, Open Heart Kitchen, Tri-Valley Haven, and Valley Humane Society.

The winners will be announced at the TVNPA’s annual Power of Giving Celebration at the Bankhead Theater on Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Chris Helfrich, CEO of the Oakland-based Eat. Learn. Play Foundation, will give the keynote address, with live entertainment provided by singer Meredith McHenry.

Tickets are now on sale at tvnpa.org.



Livermore Police Reserve Officer Sheryl Long chats with a visitor during the Thursday, Oct. 12 Farmers Market in Livermore. The Livermore Police Department (LPD) was there to promote their annual Trunk or Treat event along with senior outreach and recruitment programs. (Photo courtesy of LPD)

Pleasanton City Council Approves Conceptual Plan for Lions Wayside Park

The Pleasanton City Council has approved a conceptual plan for a new bandstand at Lions Wayside Park, between First Street and Railroad Avenue.

The bandstand would be near the north end of the park, maximizing the lawn area and turning the Firehouse Arts Center Plaza into a prime location for watching concerts, according to the city.

The plan also calls for retaining most of the existing trees, the planting of additional trees, more

seating and picnic areas, and a dance area in front of the bandstand.

The new bandstand would replace the 48-year-old Chan Henderson Bicentennial Bandstand, built in 1975.

“Our downtown parks are a staple for community gatherings in Pleasanton,” said Mayor Karla Brown. “We love concerts in the park, eating ice cream with our families, playing games, and going on a picnic under a shady tree. The investment into the Lions

Wayside Park and bandstand is something to be proud of and will add a creative, exciting, and new feeling to the entire downtown area.”

The plan also includes new landscaping around the restrooms in Delucchi Park, across Neal Street from Lions Wayside Park. The pathway to the crosswalk at Neal Street will be updated.

Pleasanton said the improvements are being designed in a way to avoid any impacts to Kottinger Creek, which could trigger

OBITUARIES

Linda E. Hanson
June 5, 1943 – Oct. 7, 2023



Linda E. Hanson, 80, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Oct. 7 in Livermore, California. Linda was born June 5, 1943, to Charles Everett and Marjorie (Hyde) Everett in Los Angeles, California. She was the oldest of two children. Her younger sister Charlene was born in 1949. Linda attended schools in nearby Tustin, California, graduating from Tustin High School in 1962. Growing up, Linda spent a lot of time with her many aunts, uncles and cousins in both Southern California and Nevada. After graduating from high school, she worked at a guest ranch in Bridgeport, California. In 1967, she moved to the Bay Area to seek better employment opportunities. She was employed as a dental assistant in San Francisco and later in San Leandro.

In 1969, she met Gary Hanson on a blind date, and they were married on Valentine’s Day two years later in San Lorenzo. In 1973, the young couple moved to Livermore where they raised their two children, Mark, born in 1975, and Kristin, born in 1979. Just before the

birth of Mark, Linda decided to stay at home and be a homemaker. Linda enjoyed her new life in Livermore, taking care of her young family, making new friends, and making her new house a home. She enjoyed volunteer work at the schools and drove on many school field trips. She also enjoyed flea markets and garage sales.

Linda was very close to her large family and enjoyed the reunions held every couple of years. While her family was located in Nevada and in California, she would find time to visit them often.

Christmas was her favorite holiday, and she enjoyed decorating the house. There would always be at least two trees inside and pictures of Santa everywhere. The front

yard and the back patio would always have Christmas decorations as well.

Linda loved to travel and there was never a trip she was unwilling to take. She and Gary especially loved traveling to Maui with both family and friends. They also enjoyed several river cruises in Europe, Canada and the Mediterranean. She loved visiting the National Parks and enjoyed many other trips across the United States. Travel to the southeast states would always be special.

Linda is survived by her husband of 52 years Gary Hanson, children Mark Hanson and Kristin (James) Mercer, grandchildren Alissa, Kayleigh and Cameron Mercer. Linda was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Marjorie and sister Charlene.

Linda was a loving wife, mother and friend to many and will be deeply missed.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Alfred Alviso
Oct. 31, 1924 – Sept. 5, 2023



On the morning of Sept. 5, 2023, the world lost another proud and humble WWII veteran. Alfred Alviso, a lifetime resident of Livermore, passed away peacefully with his family by his side. He was 98 years old. Al was born Oct. 31, 1924, in San Jose to Manuel and Trinidad Alviso and grew up in Livermore alongside his two brothers and six sisters. He was the youngest son, but not the youngest child in the Alviso family.

Al was born during the Depression, and even at a very young age he realized that he would have to be resourceful. He took any work he could find, just to help support the family. Whether it was selling newspapers, working on someone else’s ranch, working the fields, selling programs for boxing matches at a local lodge, raising chickens to sell the eggs, or any one of hundreds of other jobs, he felt the responsibility to make his own money. While most jobs earned him nickels, dimes, or maybe a couple of quarters, the chicken farm was the least profitable, as his mother continued to serve “chicken dinners” to visiting guests reducing the number of chickens left to produce eggs.

In 1942, Al left in the middle of his senior year at Livermore High School to enlist in the Army. He was stationed in the Philippines far, far away from his Livermore home. Al was in the 511th Signal Corp and started in the message center. He volunteered and earned his wings as a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne and was part of

the occupation of Japan. In his spare time, he was also a main cook and barber. After the war concluded, he returned home to Livermore. And when a local VFW post was organized, Al signed up as one of the first members.

Al quickly got back to work and bettered himself by attending trade school classes at night. He started in construction and carpentry and later changed to welding classes. He found work as a welder, a mechanic, and worked at Bonne’s Cleaners until he was hired by Kaiser Sand & Gravel in Pleasanton as a heavy-duty repairman. He saved enough money to purchase a new house, and in 1954, he did just that. Then, during Rodeo weekend in 1958, he met a young woman from Oklahoma, Melba Smith, and they eloped a year later to Reno, Nevada. The house Al had bought years before became their home, the one in which they would raise their four children.

After over 40 years at Kaiser, Al retired. With his children all through college and on their own, he was able to shift his focus from providing to enjoying a quieter life with Melba. He could finally relax. He found many things to keep

him busy—playing Bocce, helping all of his children with their own house projects, deer hunting in Kyburz, working around the house and yard, trips to Reno, bus trips to casinos, and even found a little time for a couple of cruises. His favorite, however, was just spending time with his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Manuel and Trinidad, his brothers Albert and Manuel, and sisters Mary Grijalva, Vera Hansen, Josephine Hansen, Amy Webb, and Teresa Knowlan. Al was also preceded in death by four of his best friends — José, Henry, Shadow, and Bailey. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Melba, children Randy Alviso of Rescue, Cynthia Alviso of Livermore, Debra (Mary) Alviso of Fresno, Marcus (Jim) Alviso of Elk Grove, grandsons Derek and Michael of Rescue, sister Carmel Swadley of Pleasanton, and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Becky Henry and Bena-Rica Carino for the excellent care they provided Al over the last several months. While he was resistant at first, he soon began to rely on these wonderful ladies and looked forward to seeing them come through the front door.

A private service, including military honors, was held on Oct. 18 at St. Michael’s Cemetery in Livermore. A celebration of life may be held at a later date. The family requests that donations be made to the local VFW Post 7265, Hope Hospice, or to the charity of your choice.





The Livermore Cowboys take to the field for their Homecoming game against the Dublin Gaels on Friday, Oct. 20. Livermore won 45-34. [\[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia\]](#) (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)



Livermore's Kamarri Robinson runs around the Dublin defense during Livermore High's homecoming game last week. Robinson finished the night with a North Coast Section record of 534 yards and 5 touchdowns in 29 carries. [\[See photo gallery at www.independentnews.com/multimedia\]](#) (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

Las Positas Water Polo Girls Thriving This Season

By Matt Schwab

The Las Positas College women's water polo team showed just how far it's come in the Big 8/Crossover Tournament on Oct. 13-14 at College of Marin.

The Hawks avenged a loss to Diablo Valley College from early in the season with a 17-9 triumph, dropped a heartbreaker to Fresno City 12-11 and hammered Santa Rosa 14-4.

"The team's level of play has advanced exponentially over the last few weeks. Things are finally clicking into place," Las Positas coach Kate Faix Bennett said.

The Hawks (3-14, 0-3 Coast Conference) received a gallant effort against Diablo Valley from sophomore

goalie Jeorgia Ruegsegger, who made 14 saves including a huge 5-meter penalty shot block. The team also welcomed back freshman Driver Jaymie Helm from an injury. Monica Ureno had a team-high six goals, and Amy Heath had five goals.

The loss in the final seconds to Fresno City was packed with drama. A slow start proved costly in the end.

"We came out flat, we were not quite awake yet," Faix Bennett said. "We overcame a 4-0 deficit in the first quarter and outscored them in all sequential quarters. We just couldn't hold them off in the end."

Fresno scored a last-second goal after a Las Positas ejection, in the Hawks' close

est game of the season.

Against Santa Rosa, the Hawks dominated from the outset and led 10-0 at the half. The big picture is looking brighter for the Hawks.

"We are seeing success both on offense and defense," the coach said. "They are working together as a team, and it's really exciting to watch it all come together."

Heath, a freshman Driver out of Amador Valley, led the team overall with 15 goals. She has 35 goals for the season.

Ureno, a sophomore 2-meter out of Foothill High, had 12 goals in the tourney, giving her 48 for the season, along with 28 assists. Ruegsegger (Amador Valley) amassed 25 saves.



This year's Las Positas Girls' Water Polo Team is making waves in the pool with a series of strong matches and significant wins. (Photo courtesy of Las Positas College)

Dublin to Host 'Trunk or Treat'

Dublin Police Services will host the city's second annual "Trunk or Treat" event at Emerald Green Park, 4201 Central Parkway, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28.

Dublin police officers, city council members, and staff will decorate their vehicles in the spirit of Halloween and hand out candy to children of all ages.

The city will also show the 2012 PG-rated animated monster comedy, "Hotel Transylvania" on an outdoor screen beginning at 6:30 p.m. Food vendors will also be available.

The city is urging children to dress in Halloween costumes and recommends that families bring blankets or low-back chairs to watch the movie.



Three Valleys Community Foundation Launches Living Legacy Scholarship Fund

Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF), in partnership with Amador Valley High School (AVHS), has announced the formation of the David Yandell Award Scholarship.

Beginning with the AVHS graduating Class of 2024, the Yandell family will allocate a \$10,000 contribution for a scholarship to the annual student award recipient. These funds will stem from a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) held and managed at Three Valleys Community Foundation.

The scholarship and award are in honor of David Yandell, a counselor and teacher at Amador Valley High School for many years - with a valued legacy of leadership, service and a reputation of always going above and beyond. Yandell retired in 1997, but along with his wife Rosie, his fam-

ily has maintained deep and personal ties to Amador.

"We are proud that our five children graduated from Amador Valley High School and became valuable members of their respective communities," said Yandell.

Thanks to the generosity of Yandell's youngest son, Keith, (AVHS Class of 1997), the prestigious annual service award will include the 3VCF \$10,000 scholarship.

"As the son of an educator, I value and appreciate the sacrifice and contribution of public educators and the importance of educational

opportunity beyond high school," said Keith Yandell. "This is my way of honoring my father and his legacy as well as giving back to Amador, which has given my family so much."

Reed Plumbing Company

Livermore, CA

(925) 371-5671

davidreed@dareedplumbing.com

LIC #601931

MILLER'S

AIR CONDITIONING and HEATING

925.447.3000

SINCE 1960

Lic#253756

www.millersacandheating.com

— Since 1963

Your local news source is delivered free to readers in the Tri-Valley.

We are asking readers, who are able, to make a voluntary contribution of \$10 a month, or \$100 a year.

You can sign up online at www.independentnews.com/contribute/ or mail a check to 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550

independentnews.com | 925.243.8000

Follow us on

LIVERMORE LIONS CLUB

Holiday BOUTIQUE

SAT NOV 4

10am-4pm

Art and Fine Hand Crafts

Breakfast crêpes, soups & hamburgers for lunch

Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600977**

The following person(s) doing business as: Expert Moving & Storage, 25509 Industrial Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545-2802 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Expert Moving & Storage LLC, 1330 Alma Ave, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. 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/: Alexander Belykh, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 22, 2023. Expires September 21, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5634. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600646**

The following person(s) doing business as: Pura Vide Pranaya Inc., 868 Berryessa CT, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pura Vida Pranaya Inc., 868 Berryessa CT, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/22/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Prathyusha Yariagadda, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2023. Expires September 7, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5635. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600207**

The following person(s) doing business as: Jeremy Blanchard Coaching, 2930 Domingo Ave Num 1055, Berkeley, CA 94705 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Blanchard Coaching LLC, 2930 Domingo Ave Num 1055, Berkeley, CA 94705. 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: 4/27/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jeremy Blanchard, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5636. Published October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023.

**NOTICE OF PETITION
TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF:**

**KEVIN ABBOTT KREMER
Case No. RP23146063**
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of **KEVIN ABBOTT KREMER**. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **KELLY S. FREET**, in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The petition for probate requests that **KELLY S. FREET** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. THE COURT REQUIRES ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE HEARING ON THE BELOW DATE AND TIME, INCLUDING THOSE WHO WISH TO STATE OBJECTIONS, TO APPEAR BY AUDIO OR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY. THE PARTIES SHOULD CONSULT THE COURTS WEBSITE FOR THE SPECIFIC TELEPHONIC AND VIDEO APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE. THE PARTIES MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PROBATE CLERK AT probateclerk2@alameda.courts.ca.gov. PARTIES MUST BE PRESENT AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE THE SCHEDULED HEARING TIME. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **10/30/2023 at 10:15 am in Dept. 201.** Superior Court of California, County of Alameda

**2120 Martin Luther King
Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704**

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California Law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. **Attorney for Petitioner:**
Julie K. Hardisty, A Prof. Corp.
**101 Gregory Ln., Ste. 52
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 689-9940**
The Independent, Legal No. 5638. Published October 12, 19, 26, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601057**

The following person(s) doing business as: Just Advocates, 8945 Golf Links Road, Oakland, CA 94605 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alliance for Community Advocacy, 8945 Golf Links Road, Oakland, CA 94605. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Megan Salazar, Treasurer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2023. Expires September 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5639. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600859**

The following person(s) doing business as: Plant Love, 131 Obsidian Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maria L. Villarreal, 131 Obsidian Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Maria L. Villarreal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 18, 2023. Expires September 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5640. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601139**

The following person(s) doing business as: CCM Studios, 31162 San Clemente # 109, Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wayne Hayes, 400 del Antico Ave, # 702 Oakley, CA 94561-702. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to

transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/21/2020. Signature of Registrant/s/: Wayne Hayes, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 29, 2023. Expires September 28, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5641. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600513**

The following person(s) doing business as: Tech Pros Group, 1858 Corte Cava, Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Limitless Enterprises Group LLC, 1858 Corte Cava, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 8/15/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Danny Wunderlich, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 31, 2023. Expires August 30, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5642. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600298**

The following person(s) doing business as: Be Strong Inspirations, 588 emerald St., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lisa Tolido, 588 Emerald Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lisa Tolido, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 23, 2023. Expires August 22, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5643. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601063**

The following person(s) doing business as: Milky Way Tea Shoppe, 4288 Dublin Blvd Ste 104, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): D'Artique LLC, 3111 Independence Dr, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Di Yang, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 26, 2023. Expires September 25, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5643. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601236**

The following person(s) doing business as: Out There Communications, 484 Lake Park Ave 04, Oakland, CA 94610 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Revolution Operations Consulting LLC, 484 Lake Park Ave 04, Oakland, CA 94610. 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/: Laila Makled, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 5, 2023. Expires October 4, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5644. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601128**

The following person(s) doing business as: Lux Renovations, 22826 Vermont Street, Hayward, CA 94541 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Edmund Narh, 206 W Erics Way, Mountain House, CA 95391. 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/: Edmund Narh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 28, 2023. Expires September 27, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5645. Published October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601325**

The following person(s) doing business as: Action Jack, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27, Castro Valley, CA 94546 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christina Saffell, 3945 Castro Valley Blvd #27 Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Christina Saffell, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2023. Expires October 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5646. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600684**

The following person(s) doing business as: Paradisemama1, 3825 Mera St., Oakland, CA 94601 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Janel McCoy, Owner. 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: 6/1/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Janel McCoy, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 12, 2023. Expires September 11, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5647. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601317**

The following person(s) doing business as: Building Women Empowered, 3950 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 9466 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Renu S. Dhillon, 3950 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/11/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Renu Dhillon, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 11, 2023. Expires October 10, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5648. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 600950**

The following person(s) doing business as: Design Studio 29, 1109 Hillcrest Court, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Maranda Angulo, 1109 Hillcrest Court, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A.

Signature of Registrant/s/: Maranda Angulo, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 21, 2023. Expires September 20, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5649. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601284**

The following person(s) doing business as: Alyas Galo Productions, 24833 Yoshida Drive, Hayward, CA 94545 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gaylord Clemente, 24833 Yoshida Drive, Hayward, CA 94545. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 9/11/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Gaylord Clemente, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2023. Expires October 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5650. Published October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601305**

The following person(s) doing business as: Eco Clean, 2470 Tapestry CT., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jonathan Niemuth, 2470 tapestry CT., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jonathan Niemuth, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 10, 2023. Expires October 9, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5651. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601275**

The following person(s) doing business as: Green Wellness Group, 4920 Thorndike Lane, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Green, 4920 Thorndike Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Jennifer Green, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2023. Expires October 8, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5652. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601221**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Logostak; 2.

ADCO Marketing, 3922 Valley Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Logoboss LLC, 3922 Valley Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 7/1/2023. Signature of Registrant/s/: Timothy Joseph Smith, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2023. Expires October 3, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5653. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601400**

The following person(s) doing business as: Akuoma Beauty Oasis Services, 110 Benmore Drive, 110 Benmore Drive, Hayward, CA 94542. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 10/16/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Onyinyechi Obegolu, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2023. Expires October 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5654. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023..

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601484**

The following person(s) doing business as: Inspirational Creations by Lleana, 2110 Wedgewood Way, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lleana Hernandez Leal, 2110 Wedgewood Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s/: Lleana Hernandez Leal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 18, 2023. Expires October 17, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5655. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023..

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601402**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Zenful Juice; 2. Zenful Health & Wellness; 3. Zenful Nutrition; 4. Zenful Spa & Wellness Center; 5. Zen and Fit; 6. Zenful Fitness, 377 17th Street, Oakland, CA 94612 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Zenfull LLC, 1830 Springs Road, Ste 418, Vallejo, CA 94591. 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: 10/14/23. Signature of Registrant/s/: Byron Bock, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2023. Expires October 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5656. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023..

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 601404**

The following person(s) doing business as: Sunrise Concrete Pumping, 6876 Langmuir Lane, Dublin CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): John Cameron, 6876 Langmuir Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/21/01. Signature of Registrant/s/: John Cameron, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2023. Expires October 15, 2028. The Independent, Legal No. 5657. Published October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023.

C L A S S I F I E D S

ANIMALS

CATS/DOGS



Our current weekly adoption events include:

Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at:
Dublin PetSmart
6960 Amador Plaza Rd.
Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.
Visit our website:
WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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

EMPLOYMENT

**FINANCIAL ANALYST II
Snowflake Inc.**

has mltpl Financial Analyst II (Ref#6921161) positions avail in Dublin, CA. Prfrm end to end sys & bus prcses w/klthrg & id key rsk & mtgtg cntrls. \$102,000-\$135,408/yr. Successful candidate's starting sal will be dtmnd based on permisibility, non-discriminatory fctrs such as skills, exp. & geo lctn. This role is also elgbl for a cmptve bnfts pckge that incld: medical,

dental, vision, life, & disability insnrce; 401(k) ret plan; FSA & HSA; at least 12 paid holidays; PTO; parental leave; ee asst program; & other co bnfts. To apply, send resume & transcripts w/job title to: r e s u m e @ s n o w - f l a k e . c o m . EOE.

HELP WANTED

SERVICES

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

**TO PLACE
CLASSIFIED ADS
go to
bit.ly/Indy-Classifieds
or call
(925)243-8000**

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE

ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD
SALES

FREE SECTION

LOST/ FOUND

NOTICES /ANNOUNCE-
MENTS

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 advertising. 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

LAND FOR RENT

OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO /
DUPLICATE / APT RENTALHOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS
TO SHARE

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. IVP does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

Garage Sale
YARD SALE
ROOM FOR RENT
PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE
independentnews.com

**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 www.MikeFracisco.com DRE #01378428	Sandee Utterback (925) 487-0524 CA BRE#00851192 WWW.SANDEEU.COM Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes
Cindy Greci 925.784.1243 DRE #01323804 Dominic Greci 925.525.0864 DRE #01707140 www.GreciGroup.com	NICOLE SWEENEY REALTOR® 925.518.2142 nicole@nicolesweeneyhomes.com Results That Move You 1983 Second Street Livermore, CA 94550 CA BRE# 01965816 CA BRE# 01268085
PREFERRED BROKERS Wanda Thompson 925.858.9128 411 So L St, Suite E, Livermore CA DRE #00983781 / NMLS#244633	MARTI GILBERT IRON HORSE REAL ESTATE 550 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON marti@homesbymarti.com DRE 01520081 925.216.4063
Michelle Elliott Senior Home Lending Advisor 925.212.6907 Fax: 866.378.1616 michelle.delliott@chase.com HomeLoans.chase.com/michelle.delliott NMLS ID: 494285 CHASE MORTGAGE BANKING	Gordon Corsie Real Estate Broker Scotsman Realty Group Call/Txt: 925.202.5497 www.thescotsman.com
CONNER CLOSE REALTOR CA DRE #02178974 925.337.5237 Homes@ConnerClose.com 550 MAIN ST. PLEASANTON, CA 94566	AVR Properties We Rent Your Homes PROPERTY MANAGEMENT 925.447.2367 DRE 0096046167

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

Celebrating our legacy. And building yours.



For our diamond anniversary, the gifts are for you.

Over the past 75 years, SLFCU has built a legacy as New Mexico’s premier credit union, 137,000 members strong. We’re just getting started. Forbes has named us a Best-in-State Credit Union since 2018. And we’ve received BauerFinancial’s Five-Star “Superior” rating for 27 years and counting. Nearly everyone is eligible to join. So you can build a legacy of your own, beginning with three great new deposit options.

		
Best for:		
A MEGA rate for a longer-term savings goal.	A competitive rate with more flexibility to withdraw money.	Boosting your savings with unlimited access to your money.
Rate:		
Up to 5.00% APY* ¹	4.00% APY* ²	Up to 3.04% APY* ³
When can I withdraw money?		
14-month certificate. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal.	Withdraw up to 50% of the balance once per month without a penalty.	Any time, access like you would a savings account.

Insured by **NCUA**.

Visit **slfcu.org/save** and choose the savings option that works best for you.



*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY if dividends are not withdrawn during the term. APYs are current as of 10/13/23. Share accounts are federally insured to at least \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), an agency of the U.S. Government. Yields determined at the time of investment. Dividend rate and APY may change at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

¹ Minimum \$5,000 in new money is required, which means funds from sources other than SLFCU. Minimum \$100,000 deposit to earn 5.00% APY. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Available to personal and business members. SLFCU reserves the right to end this special at any time.

²16-month term certificate. Minimum balance \$500. If more than 50% of the balance is withdrawn, a penalty will be applied to the second 50% of the balance that is equivalent to 180 days’ worth of dividends on the remaining amount. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Available to personal and business members.

³Deposits of \$1.00 to \$2,500.00 earn 3.04% APY. For new members, a savings account establishing membership with a \$5 minimum deposit is required. Available to personal members only.