

## Costco Appeal Denied

By Ruth Roberts

PLEASANTON — A grassroots coalition has lost its latest attempt to squelch the development of a Costco store on Johnson Drive in Pleasanton.

In a statement issued Feb. 28, a state appellate court denied Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth's (PCRG) appeal of a 2020 Alameda County judge's rejection of the group's lawsuit over California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) air quality and traffic impacts within the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ).

"We conclude that PCRG's claims challenging the adequacy of the analysis and comment responses related to traffic impacts are moot in light of recent amendments to the CEQA guidelines, and we reject its similar claims related to air quality impacts," wrote the panel.

The recent ruling would appear to lead the way for the

(See COSTCO, page 7)

## City of Dublin Supports Renewable Energy Plan

By David Jen

DUBLIN — Businesses in Dublin may soon join their residential counterparts in buying renewable, carbon-free energy through East Bay Community Energy (EBCE).

The Dublin City Council recommended, at its March 1 meeting, that EBCE's Renewable 100 plan be set as the default for commercial energy accounts, following a similar decision for residential accounts made in January of last year. The service plan procures its electricity entirely from a 50-50 mix of wind and solar at a cost slightly higher than some current PG&E plans.

While the cost increase on top of pandemic-induced hardships caused the city council to delay the transition for businesses last year, the council felt that conditions have now sufficiently improved, although it still remained sensitive to ongoing difficulties.

"We need to respect the fact that not all of our businesses are back where they need to be," said Vice Mayor Jean Josey, clarifying that businesses will still have the ability to opt-out of the higher-priced electricity.

A key component of Dublin's Climate Action Plan (CAP), the move to carbon-free energy has the potential to achieve 53% of the plan's total greenhouse-gas (GHG) reductions. Non-residential customers account for approximately 46.4% of the city's electricity use.

The CAP aims to reduce GHG emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and then eliminate them completely by 2045.

EBCE is a community choice aggregate that serves as an intermediary between individual energy customers and power generators. It aggregates consumer demand

(See ENERGY, page 10)



Congressman Eric Swalwell, center, with Los Angeles Representative Karen Bass, left, and San Francisco Representative Jackie Speier, toured the women's federal prison in Dublin on Monday, March 14. The trio held a press conference outlining their plans to address the toxic environment of the facility and implement change. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Swalwell, Lawmakers Tour Prison And Vow to Change Toxic Culture

By Larry Altman

DUBLIN — Congressman Eric Swalwell and two leading female Congress members toured the troubled women's federal prison in Dublin on Monday, saying they will make sure major changes occur within the institution to eliminate its "toxic" environment.

Swalwell, who represents cities including Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore, joined San Francisco Rep. Jackie Speier and Los Angeles Rep. Karen Bass, said they spoke with the warden, guards, inmates and witnesses following serious allegations of sexual assault revealed during the last two years at FCI Dublin.

"The three of us are concerned about the sexual abuses that occurred here," Swalwell said. "We're not going away."

The tour followed criminal charges filed against two guards, a former warden and a chaplain that alleged sexual misconduct with women sentenced to terms within the facility. An Associated Press investigation published in February explained a toxic culture that allowed employees to sexually abuse inmates and cover up their crimes.

Last month, the three lawmakers — all members of the House Judiciary Committee — and four other female Congress members called for Department of Justice Inspector General Michael

Horowitz to investigate the prison. They also demanded that Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Director Michael Carvajal provide data on sexual misconduct complaints and what was done about them.

On Monday, Swalwell said he and Bass's joint visit with Speier "opened up the doors" to the facility. Speier, co-chair of the Democratic Women's Caucus, visited the prison alone recently, but was not given much access, he said.

"I think the message (Speier) has sent is that she's on a mission for reform and accountability and we're not going away," Swalwell said.

(See PRISON, page 10)

## Mayors Conference Addresses Commitment to Local Nonprofits

By Larry Altman

REGIONAL — Five Tri-Valley leaders joined together March 10 to express their commitment to working with community nonprofit organizations to deal with issues including homelessness, hunger and mental healthcare.

Mayors Karla Brown of Pleasanton, Bob Woerner of Livermore, Melissa Hernandez of Dublin, Newell Arnerich of Danville and Vice Mayor Sridhar Verose of San Ramon met for the Tri-Valley NonProfit Alliance's (TVNPA) Mayors Summit 2022. About 100 people at-

tended the online event.

"I truly feel that it's our job to create awareness of the work that our nonprofits do," Hernandez said. "We need to ensure that they're sustainable ... because without money, it's hard for the nonprofits to keep moving forward and to be able to help."

During the 90-minute event, moderator Kathy Young focused her questions to the leaders on how nonprofits can strengthen relationships with cities and their leaders to benefit the region. Young said nonprofit organizations require city funding, grants and philan-

thropic donations to survive.

The audience included numerous representatives from nonprofit organizations that provide services including mental health counseling, education, food banks, healthcare, art and sports programs, assistance for seniors and housing.

Woerner said nonprofit organizations were essential in assisting government agencies in providing human services, as well as playing roles in conservation and saving open spaces.

"We can provide the services like police, fire, library, transportation and public

(See MAYORS, page 10)

## Dublin Planning Commission Considers New Housing Sites

By David Jen

DUBLIN — Faced with state-mandated housing requirements and the need to update the city's Housing Element plan, the Dublin Planning Commission held a recent study session to address the need for improved community outreach and public education as they work to meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) numbers.

During the session on March 8, the commission discussed three new possible housing sites for Dublin's upcoming 2023-2031 housing cycle: one at

the Alameda County Surplus Property north of the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station, a second at the Hacienda Crossings shopping center, and a third at the SCS Development property north of I-580 between Tasajara Road and Brannigan Street.

All three sites will require either amendments to the city's general plan or rezoning to accommodate the proposed housing units.

Commissioner Catheryn Grier commented that while outreach opportunities for housing development certainly exist, feedback has

(See HOUSING, page 7)

## Tri-Valley Groups Rise Up to Help Besieged Ukraine

By Dawnmarie Fehr

REGIONAL — Groups across the country have mobilized to send food, medication and money to Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russian invasion, and the Tri-Valley is part of the movement. Several organizations in the area are stepping up efforts to offer relief to citizens in need, while the Livermore City Council is calling on its sister city in Russia to take a position opposing the invasion.

Kids Against Hunger

Pleasanton-based Kids Against Hunger (KAH) Bay Area is hosting frequent packing events for volunteers to come pack KAH's trademarked, high-nutrition meals and send them to the Ukraine-Poland border. The group held a large packing event on Wednesday, March 9, and packed 110,592 meals

with 300 volunteers. Executive Director and founder Sherri Leal said her goal was to hold several more events and send 150,000 meals to refugees in the coming week.

"Many hands make light work, and it's really true here," said Leal. "We already sent 199,000 meals last week. We are 100% nonprofit, no employees. We are just a bunch of volunteers who want to feed a bunch of people. We get so much out of it, because we love doing it."

Volunteers participating in the event for Ukraine said the atmosphere in KAH's warehouse was positive and energetic, with most staying past their time to meet the day's goal of 100,000 meals.

Leal said the meals will be picked up by Convoy of Hope — a nonprofit, humani-

(See UKRAINE, page 9)

## Newly Published History Traces Lab's Early Days

By Jeff Garberson

LIVERMORE — A newly published history traces the early years of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from failed nuclear tests that nearly led to the Laboratory's demise to a series of brilliant inventions that opened the door to the modern nuclear arsenal.

The developments took place during some of the most dangerous moments of the Cold War, reflecting both the domestic "red scares" of the McCarthy era and genuine military confrontations in places like Berlin and Cuba.

By the 1960s, according to the author, LLNL physicist Thomas Ramos, technological advances at the Laboratory had helped the U.S. field a virtually invulnerable nuclear deterrent in the form of submarines that carried nuclear-tipped missiles.

Difficult to find and protected by the oceans, these gave a young President John Kennedy confidence in dealing with an increasingly aggressive Soviet Union, knowing that his armed forces could survive and respond to any surprise attack.

Ramos's history, *From Berkeley to Berlin: How the Rad Lab Helped Avert Nuclear War*, identifies key individuals who worked to create the Laboratory following World War II, at a time



Tom Ramos

when fierce national debate raged over whether the U.S. needed thermonuclear weapons to ensure its security.

Ramos wrote the book as a sequel to a series of classified briefings that he developed nearly a decade ago on the technical history of the Laboratory's nuclear weapons program.

The briefings could be attended only inside the Laboratory by those with security clearances. They were well received, and senior managers urged Ramos to follow them up by writing the book.

In an interview, he described a shift of focus from the technical briefings to the broader history. The briefings traced the relationship of inventions and technologies to one another, while the book highlighted connections between people and the

(See HISTORY, page 11)



A traditional Pipe and Drum Band leads off the start of the 38th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin on Saturday, March 12. See the story on page 6. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

### PET OF THE WEEK



#### RANGER

Ranger is ready for a rambunctious rendezvous with the right new relatives. He's excited to roll around with his toys — rest-assured, this ridiculously rakish rover is looking for a rip-roaring good time! He'll make your life richer with his rowdy, rapid-fire lifestyle. Are you ready for the real deal? Learn more about Ranger and other cats and dogs at [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org). Email [info@valleyhumane.org](mailto:info@valleyhumane.org) to start the adoption application process. (Photo - Valley Humane Society)

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# Dublin Honors Citizen, Young Citizen and Organization of The Year

By Dawnmarie Fehr

Dublin honored its citizen, young citizen and organization of the year during a ceremony held March 3.

The awards for each of the three categories recognize outstanding individuals and groups who have contributed to the quality of life in Dublin over the past year.

Steve Wright is this year's Citizen of the Year, chosen for his work with the homeless and Open Heart Kitchen.

"Cities and the state have been working to help homeless people for ages and it seems to have gotten worse over the years," said Wright, who spent 30 years as a reporter and editor for the San Jose Mercury News. "I worked in San Jose, Fremont, on the peninsula, and as an editor, I was in charge of reporting teams in those areas and it felt some communities were treating homeless people worse than lepers in ancient times, and this is the 21st century. I just want to help without any bureau-

cracy." Wright began his volunteer career in 2016, when semi-retirement gave him the gift of time. He uses that gift to give back to his community. In addition to providing meals to the hungry and unhoused, Wright also serves on the Dublin Planning Commission, and keeps tabs on local civic and regional events, posting informative articles on NextDoor. He said he was honored to be recognized for his work.

"I'm both humbled and surprised because I thought I was flying under the radar," he said. "I'm humbled just for the recognition. We heard from some groups and individuals who are doing some great, innovative things to help the community and the region and it was very impressive to me and so I dedicated the award to all the people in the room who were making the community a better place to live and work."

This year's Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to

Summer Shi, a Dublin High School student and longtime Dublin resident. Summer is one of the founders of Breaking BEARriers (BB), which is also Dublin's Organization of the Year, and has demonstrated her willingness to go the extra mile for her community.

"One of Summer's most significant undertakings in 2021 involved the most considerable struggle students had to face — learning online amid the pandemic" Patrick Li wrote in his nomination letter. "Many students, especially those in elementary and middle schools, found it hard to adapt to the secluded environment and found it even more challenging to explore new extracurricular activities. Having experienced these exact struggles herself, Summer went out of her way to offer free summer classes in various extracurricular subjects such as Introduction to Debate, Golf, and Destination Imagination. Her goal was to give students an outlet to escape the harsh

demands of online learning and explore activities they may have never thought of doing before."

More than 40 students participated in Summer's classes earning her positive feedback, as well as generous donations she used to support the One City, One Book project in Dublin last year.

As part of Breaking BEARriers, Summer also extended her reach to international levels, helping fundraise for and coordinate the Build a Library in Africa project. She and the other members of BB raised \$500, collected more than 1,000 books and built a library in Ghana.

The goal of BB is to help students develop leadership, teamwork, communication and interpersonal skills using modern solutions. The founders of the nonprofit hope to inspire their peers to learn persistence, develop creativity and have a positive impact on their communities.

Nomination criteria for both the Citizen and Young

Citizen of the Year awards are based on the Dublin Integrity in Action Program's 10 Characteristics: Responsibility, Caring, Respectfulness, Giving, Positive Attitude, Trustworthiness, Cooperation, Doing One's Best, Honesty and Self Discipline. The Young Citizen of the Year recognizes the service of Dublin's youth in first through 12th grade.

This year's Mayor's Award goes to John Samples, and the Mayor's Legacy Award to Eddie Jo Mack. These awards are presented

by Mayor Melissa Hernandez and given to individuals she believes have worked tirelessly on the city's behalf.

The recipients were also recognized at the March 15 city council meeting. The Organization of the Year will receive a \$500 cash prize, and a \$300 donation will be given to each of the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year's favorite non-profit organization.

For details on all the winners and nominees, visit [www.dublin.ca.gov/volunteers](http://www.dublin.ca.gov/volunteers).

## Livermore City Council Selects Final Redistricting Map

By Aly Brown

The city council this week unanimously selected a final district map, bringing a near close to the redistricting process that adjusted district lines alongside population growth.

After hearing public testimony, the council selected the Cardinal plan with two amendments, which added portions to District 1 from Districts 2 and 3. The first portion moved the block on which St. Michael Catholic Church sits (Maple, Fifth, Fourth and Church streets) and a nearby triangular segment (Maple Street, East Avenue and Fourth Street) from District 3 to District 1. Another area — bound by Portola Avenue, Enos Way, Kelly Street and Lee Avenue — moved from District 2 to District 1 as well.

In comparison to the current district map — which had District 1's southern boundary running along Stanley Boulevard to Murrieta Boulevard and then just south of College Avenue near the Arroyo — the new Cardinal choice brings that line north to Fourth Street, while still maintaining the Stanley/Murrieta line. District 3 also saw a substantive boundary change. Its northern border — which once went from the 580 freeway, down First Street and up Junction Avenue to connect with N. Livermore Avenue — moved south. That line now sits on a small portion of First Street and right above Patterson Pass.

The new population deviation among the districts is now 3.1% in total, meeting one of the council's goals to reduce the deviation from its original 8.3%.

The ordinance to officially adopt the map is expected to return to council on March 28, with the final adoption meeting set for April 11. The new district boundaries will go into effect for the coming municipal election on Nov. 8.

Mayor Bob Woerner thanked the demographer, Michael Wagaman of Wagaman Strategies, along with members of the council for their work and those who submitted communities of interest.

"I've watched some other districting processes," Woerner said, "and I'm really pleased with how this one went and how thoroughly we covered it."

### Water Collaboration Approved

During the March 14 meeting, the council also authorized an agreement with the City of Pleasanton and the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) to construct and operate a temporary joint-use residential recycled water fill station.

The action will appropriate a total of \$478,333 for fiscal years (FY) 2021-22 and FY2022-23 from Fund 250 (Water Enterprise) for the initial construction and operation of a facility that aims to create a more cost-effective means of providing recycled water during the ongoing drought.

"As you're aware, we're currently operating under stage two conditions of our water shortage contingency plan, which restricts overall water usage and requires regulated outdoor water," said Scott Lanphier, public works director.

He explained that during the drought in 2015, when Livermore Municipal Water offered recycled water free of charge at the water reclamation plant, over 5 million gallons were provided to

nearly 940 customers.

"Unfortunately, that service proved to be very expensive, inefficient, and raised some potential safety concerns for residents due to the limited space available on the site," he continued.

As such, Lanphier said the city's partnership with Pleasanton and DSRSD was formed to create a newer, safer facility, which will be built in Dublin at the northeast corner of Gleason Drive and Arnold Road. Lanphier said

the location has ample access with plenty of space to build an appropriate facility with a total of 50 fill stations.

Each player's role in the partnership will include: DSRSD providing the land and maintenance facility; Pleasanton providing the financial management and pass issuance to users; and Livermore contributing recycled water as well as staffing.

Construction is expected to begin in late April

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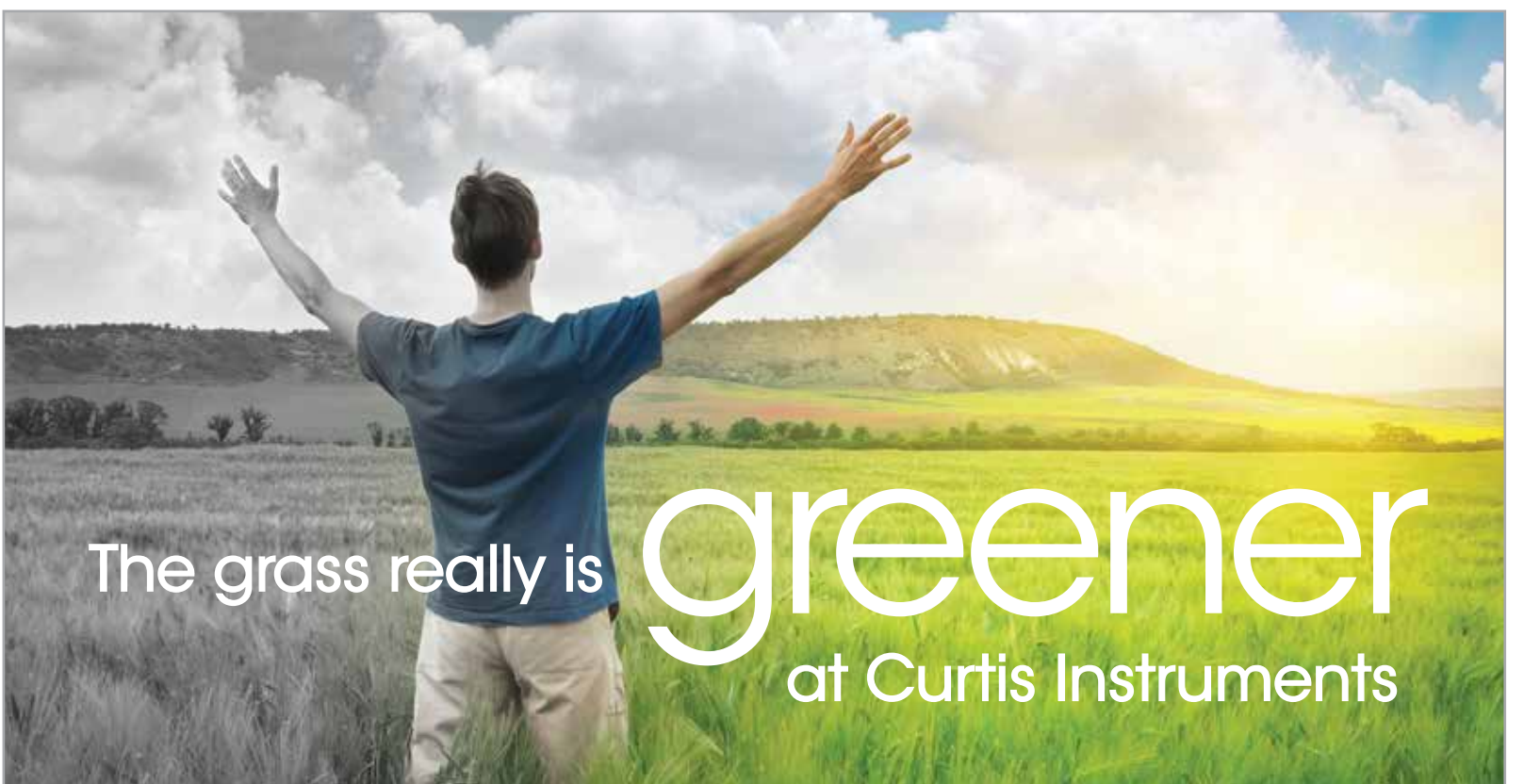
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Gus the Horse is being officially welcomed to his new home at the Museum on Main Street, Saturday, March 26, with a public party on the museum's front lawn.

(Photo courtesy of Museum on Main Street)

## Museum on Main to Host Welcome Party for Gus

The Museum on Main in Pleasanton will throw a welcome party for Gus, the iconic equine statue that stood in front of Christesen's Western Wear for decades, on Saturday, March 26, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The statue was recently donated to the museum by Rory Janes, whose father, Stan, purchased the 92-year-old business from the namesake founder's

family in the 1960s, adding the statue of Gus in the late 1970s. The store on Main Street, just 200 feet from the museum, closed in September 2021, in part because of the COVID-19 pandemic and declining sales of horse tack.

Janes continues to operate Baughman's Western Outfitters in Livermore.

"Gus has been very popular, and it's really gratify-

ing to see how many people have come up to see him since he's moved down to our front yard," said museum curator Ken McLennan.

The statue is wheeled out onto the museum's lawn at 603 Main St. every morning and back inside at night, just as it was at Christesen's.

McLennan said the museum decided "a Main Street icon like Gus deserves a big welcome party."

The party, on the museum's lawn from 10 a.m. to noon, will include photo opportunities with Gus, arts and crafts, including wooden horses and horseshoes to color, and a horse-racing game with prizes.

Big Bay Ray, a nonprofit that raises money for horse rescue efforts, will also be at the party selling tote and wine bags made of recycled animal feed bags.

## 2025 General Plan Panel Begins Looking at City

By Larry Altman

Tasked with helping to write the document that will guide Livermore's growth over the next three decades, the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) last week began discussing eight locations in the city to potentially rezone in order to meet the community's growing needs.

In the infancy of a process that won't be completed for two years, the 19-member GPAC panel spent four hours on March 9 learning about and discussing "land-use issues" for future housing, commercial and industrial development, and whether some locations in the expiring 2004 General Plan should be changed.

The committee — a panel of individuals who live and/or work in Livermore — made no major decisions and adjourned the meeting at 11 p.m., having discussed four areas of the city to consider. A special meeting to address another four sites was to be scheduled.

Joanna Jansen, a consultant with PlaceWorks, a firm that helps cities write general plans, told the group that most of the 2004 General Plan land-use designations that are set to expire in 2025 will likely remain the same "but we do think there's some parts of Livermore where this is an appropriate opportunity to consider whether some of those designations might change."

"The reason for doing this land-use alternatives process is to take a look at the land use map overall and think about where designations might need to change to encourage different types of growth or preservation," Jansen said.

Through public outreach, residents' input and committee members' suggestions, PlaceWorks identified nine areas to discuss:

- First Street from the overpass to Trevarno Road: 26 acres currently used for auto services, motels and residential townhomes;
- Pacific Avenue at Livermore Avenue: 7.7 acres with an existing shopping center and parking;
- Las Positas Court: 16 acres with office buildings;
- Second and Third streets downtown: 25 acres of mid-size parcels with a variety of uses from offices to restaurants;
- Greenville Road at I-580: An area with commercial

and industrial uses as well as vacant parcels;

- Southfront-Vasco public development area: 730 acres with predominantly light industrial use;
- Laughlin Road: 276 acres of primarily vacant undeveloped parcels;
- East Avenue and South Vasco Road: 54 acres of mostly light and industrial use that has been transitioning to winery and brewery businesses

In opening discussions, panel members appeared to favor keeping First Street designated for commercial services, but improving the streetscape to beautify the area; and continuing to utilize the Pacific Avenue at Livermore Avenue area as a mixed-use low density neighborhood, again with revitalization to improve the city's "gateway."

"I think this would be a really good spot for a wine country welcome center," committee member Krista Alexy said. "It is a gateway to downtown."

Panel members appeared more open to changing the Las Positas Court business park area to some other use. Committee member Tracy Kronzak suggested it was worth studying because the location is within bicycling distance to the Valley Link station at Isabel Avenue and close to downtown.

The panel did not appear to want to alter the land-use designations for Second and Third streets downtown, but rather look into possible improvements for Carnegie Park.

Committee Member Alan Burnham raised the topic

of potential zoning changes downtown to address concerns about four-story buildings.

"The reason I bring that up is you've probably noticed there's some controversy about four-story buildings downtown," Burnham said. "I just want to make sure that the downtown specific plan is consistent with the feedback that people or the community has given toward that. And if it's not, then maybe a change is warranted. And maybe it's not. I'm not expressing any opinion about that. But I just want to make sure that somehow we're not going to have a continuing war, for lack of a better word, over downtown development and people feeling like it's destroying the downtown character."

Paul Spence, Livermore community development director, explained that four-story buildings are permitted in a limited area, between First Street and Railroad Avenue, and between L and Maple streets. He noted that council action is required in most places to gain four-story project approval. John Marchand, committee member and former mayor, cautioned Burnham not to react to what he called "manufactured controversies," noting that those complaining of building height only took issue with certain projects.

Following the request of a committee chair, a public comment from David Marco was later read aloud by the city clerk during the meeting. Marco called for a re-consideration of developing high rises on South L Street between Railroad Avenue and First Street.

"From the retail shops on First and Second streets to the homes further south, the planned housing towers would loom over them and make the area unfriendly and imposing," Marco wrote. "Just as important, the infrastructure in that part of the city would be terribly jammed with the traffic of the tower residents. This is totally independent of the price of the housing. It's simply too many people in too small a space. It would ruin a real treasure in this area."

California law requires cities to create general plans for long-range policies to deal with population and economic growth, noise, land use, open space conservation, climate change, access to health care, infrastructure, traffic and other issues.

The process to update the 2004 plan began last summer when the city council hired PlaceWorks as its consultant and appointed community members to serve on the advisory committee.

As cities write their documents, they also must include plans to meet state requirements for market rate and affordable housing. The Association of Bay Area Governments recently calculated that Livermore needs to approve the development of 4,570 homes from 2023-2031 to meet its

(See PLAN, page 6)

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## EDITORIAL Tri-Valley Communities Are Standing with Ukraine

As the citizens of Ukraine battle to defend themselves against Russia's invasion, countries around the world continue to rally in support.

This week, the Livermore City Council unanimously agreed to send a letter to its Russian sister city, Snezhinsk, urging its leaders to resist any involvement in Putin's attack on Ukraine.

And residents of the Tri-Valley are doing their part as well; offering relief to displaced refugees in the form of fundraisers, humanitarian aid and other, simpler, gestures of support. One Livermore resident, Richard Andrews, in a show of solidarity has planted a garden of Ukraine's national symbol, the

sunflower, in his yard.

Others, such as Pleasanton's nonprofit organization Kids Against Hunger, is hosting frequent packing events for volunteers to box up high-nutrition meals for delivery to the Ukraine-Poland border. The group has already sent over 200,000 meals to Eastern Europe.

The Livermore Lions Club is raising money for Ukraine through its annual Cioppino Takeout event on April 30.

"I can speak for many of us who are very concerned about what's happening in Ukraine and understand the complexity of what's going on, so everyone is behind getting some funding over there to help

civilians," said Lions Club member Anne Giancola.

Livermore resident Monika Binkney has started a GoFundMe campaign to purchase medical supplies for soldiers and civilians in Ukraine. Binkney's family comes from Poland where her Ukrainian grandparents moved after World War II.

In a fight we can't fathom, during a time we can't imagine, those of us a world away are eager for a swift end to the incursion. Whether it be in the form of a monetary donation or the display of a simple sunflower, the Tri-Valley has shown its compassion in myriad ways and will continue to do so until this assault on democracy has been quelled.

## MAILBOX

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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](mailto:letters@independentnews.com) or submitted using the form below. To be considered, letters must be received by 10 a.m. on the Tuesday before publication.

### Rodeo Cruelty

#### Eric Mills, Action for Animals

Back in 2019, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors outlawed the children's "mutton busting" event, in which young children--often in tears--are coerced into riding terrified sheep by their thoughtless parents, cruel and dangerous for all concerned. Kudos for that.

Now it's time to ban the brutal, sometimes fatal and blatantly sexist "wild cow milking contest," in which still-lactating beef cows are manhandled into submission, then milked for a few drops. Cows have suffered and died at both the Rowell Ranch (2008, broken neck) and Livermore Rodeos (2004, broken leg).

In a remarkable abdication of duty, in 2021 the Hayward Area Rec & Park District (HARD) board voted 4:1 to allow rodeo policy changes "only if changes are made to the Federal, State or County laws." Not acceptable!

There is major support for the ban: Alameda County Veterinary Medical Association, East Bay SPCA, Hayward Friends of Animals, the Ohlone Humane Society, Humane Farming Association, Animal Legal Defense Fund, and many others. An online petition has garnered more than 180,000 signatures.

Please contact the Board

of Supervisors, urging them to outlaw this cruelty before the May Rowell Ranch Rodeo. EMAILS - keith.carson@acgov.org; nate.miley@acgov.org; dave.brown@acgov.org; richard.valle@actov.org; david.haubert@acgov.org.

As Tennessee William wrote, "Cruelty is the only unforgivable sin." ("Night of the Iguana")

### Downtown Plan Conflicts with Vision

#### Alan and Levan Hindmarsh, Livermore

We have lived in Livermore for over 53 years, and have always been advocates for affordable housing, including working with fair housing community organizations in the 1960s and 1970s. But the City's current plan for housing downtown conflicts with our vision of the proper use of that central city property in many ways. It reduces considerably the size of the long-promised central park. It creates a canyon effect on L Street between two 4-story housing complexes. And it fails to include housing priced for young workers. All of these flaws are corrected in the alternative plan being put forth, with new housing moved to north of Railroad Ave. Some re-thinking of the land access and financing would be needed to carry out this plan, but we think the long-range benefits to the people of Livermore are worth that effort. And we are puzzled by the absence of an explanation from the city as to why they will not consider the alternative plan, given the strong support that has been expressed for it.

### Let's Visualize a New Park

#### Raquel Holt, Livermore

Dear Mayor Woerner and Members of the City Council:

Please lend me your ears! I think and feel that you are ignoring the voices of concerned Livermore residents who are clamoring for a needed park space at the center of our downtown. I urge you to visualize a lovely park. Please, NOT four-story buildings that will darken and stifle that existing space! The Eden Housing plan is better suited if it is located in a different area nearby. The future residents of this housing plan will enjoy the beautiful ambience of the spacious park, as well as ALL the residents of Livermore and those who come to visit.

### Biden's Upcoming Nuclear Posture Review, The Ukraine, and Livermore

#### Mary Perner, Livermore

President Biden's Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) is pending, in fact, overdue.

Given Russian President Vladimir Putin's order to raise Russia's nuclear alert status, what will the NPR contain? Will it tamp down nuclear rhetoric and restrain proliferation-provocative U.S. initiatives, or will it bring gas to a fire?

For now, President Biden has prudently chosen not to take the Putin's bait, but what path will be laid out in the NPR... and what will it mean for Livermore?

Why Livermore? Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories are the two US labs that design U.S. nuclear weapons (Note: Sandia plays its part in mating new-design warheads to new missiles and related activities) Our "company town" is the nuclear part of the "Military-Industrial Complex" that President Dwight D. Eisenhower warned the nation about in 1961.

More than 85% of recent Livermore Lab budgets have gone to programs directly related to nuclear weapons development and maintenance of the nuclear weapons complex. This means that roughly 10,000 Livermore and Sandia workers and their families derive their income from nuclear weapons work.

That nuclear income then supports local businesses, including my own. To what extent have we numbed ourselves and normalized the potential for nuclear conflagration? How much do we think about these things as we conduct our daily lives?

I hope and pray, that this administration continues to step back from the brink and will explore ways to protect our country that do not include development of more globally dangerous and polluting nuclear weapons.

My hope is that the pending Nuclear Posture Review will provide a roadmap away from further arms racing and toward verifiable arms control measures. I recall treaties - negotiated during the cold war - that made us all more secure.

This in turn could influence future weapons budgets, and could mean additional civilian science programs at Livermore Lab.

At the very least the NPR should eliminate unnecessary "make work" projects. Let's hope more Lab scientists can be funded to make progress on issues that preserve, not threaten, humanity.

### Council Should Solve Problems, Not Create Them

#### Yolanda Meider, Livermore

I am opposed to the Eden Downtown Housing Plan, but not affordable housing. The Eden plan will ruin the charm of our downtown. Here are the concerns:

1) The 4-story buildings opposite the Legacy Apartments on L Street are too high. They and the proposed 5-level parking garage at the southeast corner of L Street and Veterans Way will create two canyons, one on L Street and one on Veterans Way.

2) The narrow park between the two monstrous Eden buildings will be seen as space for the apartment renters, not the public. The site on which the Eden apartments are located should be a grand, destination park for residents and visitors.

3) Parking for Eden residents and the hotel does not meet city standards. Those circling the downtown looking for a parking stall will create traffic congestion in the center of town.

4) The buildings do not meet the city's design standards. Their massive walls, with no individual balconies or porches to offer separation between units, provide a monotonous exterior.

5) So much for housing for the workforce.

It's critical that we elect new council members who will pursue relocating Eden Housing, the win-win solution that was promised two years ago before the last election, but not delivered. Morny Nop, who strongly supports moving the Eden project, would be an excellent candidate for mayor. We also need a candidate from District 1, and another from District 2.

Please step forward. You could bring integrity back to our council. If the council were representing the citizens, it would solve problems, not create them.

### Stop Complaining About Downtown Park

#### Rion Causey, Livermore

I am tired of reading letters to The Independent saying "We all want a beautiful park downtown." Why would you want a beautiful park downtown? Do you realize how many parks Livermore already has? LARPD has been doing a great job of providing and maintaining dozens of neighborhood parks all over town. I am sure a large majority of people live within five blocks of a park already. Why would you get in your car, fight traffic, and then look for a parking place to go to a park downtown? When I go downtown, I want to either shop or dine at one of our many fine restaurants. Bellyache all you want about whether you want housing downtown or what kind of housing you want downtown, but don't tell me you want a beautiful park downtown. I think the millionaire mafia is trying to pull a fast one by saying they oppose the present plan because it doesn't have a beautiful park. Duh?

### I Don't Get It

#### Jim Caselli, Livermore

Why are the Livermore mayor and council members so enraptured with their plans for downtown and refusing to consider alternatives? From the very start, with the so-called "outreach" meetings, I got the impression, based on comments by the facilitator and subsequent evaluation of results, that the outreach was just an attempt to 'check the box'. Thus, they were justifying city council plans by saying that they went far and above to obtain constituent input. Subsequent council actions conflict with constituent input in many ways. A prime example is parking. It was the number one concern of citizens, yet how has the council responded? By proposing narrowing spaces to squeeze in a few more cars, regardless of difficulties for larger vehicles; allowing new housing to be built with insufficient spaces; promising city (i.e., resident) spaces for residents and visitors. The same

holds true for nearly all of the tenets of the council's downtown plan. As I see it, all of council arguments in favor of their current path relate to money, availability or time -- none of which negates the consideration of alternatives.

### Raising Awareness

#### Andrew Li, Pleasanton

My name is Andrew Li, and I am a longtime Pleasanton resident, and I am writing a letter to the editor to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease. I have a personal connection with this disease as my grandmother was diagnosed with it and it has impacted my family greatly over the years. Before my grandmother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's she took care of me and helped my parents raise me. When I was little, she would go on walks with me out in the park and watch me play in the playground and watch cartoons even when she did not understand the language. I then remember her gradually becoming less active and seeing her sitting in her chair more often. She would then go out less and my grandfather took a more active role in raising me.

I remember a specific moment when my family was on vacation on a cruise, and we were exploring the ship and my parents got anxious for some reason. They took me to the front of the ship in an open room and told us to wait nearby while they tended to something related to my grandmother. It was only many years later that I realized that my grandmother had gotten lost, and she had wandered into the engine room of the ship. It was a scary moment for my family because at this point, we knew she had dementia and we feared she may have fallen overboard. Her condition eventually had deteriorated so badly that my parents and my grandmother could not take care of her, and she went back to China to be with family there. She eventually passed away in 2012 with all of us beside her.

I am currently a student in college and am hoping to become a physician in the future. I am also currently a part of a research lab investigating molecular mechanisms of Alzheimer's involving the Tau protein. As of this moment there is a spending bill in the House of Representatives that would help increase funding for Alzheimer's research by \$289 million. I would hope that any readers would join me in encouraging Congressman Swalwell in supporting this critical funding necessary in advancing treatments for Alzheimer's.

### A Meatless Bible?

#### Paul Stone, Dublin

In his Feb. 24 letter, Mailbox writer Lucas Nelson lauds the benefits of a meat-free diet. He writes: "Lent offers an opportunity to honor Christ's powerful message of compassion and love by extending a meat-free diet beyond lent; it's the diet mandated in Genesis 1:29 and observed in the Garden of Eden."

Personally, I don't eat meat or fish. But neither I nor Mr. Nelson can use the Bible to endorse vegetarianism. Mr. Nelson is correct in refer-

encing Genesis 1:29 as God's original mandate for Adam and Eve. But they disobeyed God and sin entered into the human race. After the flood, God permitted man to eat meat. (Genesis 9:3). The Old Testament is absolutely replete with meat eating.

Jesus, as a law-observing Jew, most certainly ate meat at the annual Passover feast where a lamb was eaten in remembrance of the Jews' deliverance from Egypt. He ate broiled fish after His resurrection.

Paul McCartney was probably right when he said that if slaughterhouses were made out of glass, we would all be vegetarians. But when Jesus returns there will be no more death. (Revelation 21:4). He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This was portrayed by the innocent lamb slain at Passover feasts. It is faith in His blood, shed out of love for us that is the only means to enter heaven when we die. He desires us to be with Him for eternity. You have to admit that's pretty good news in the midst of ever-ratcheting-up bad news presenting daily.

### Falling Confidence

#### Jim Hutchins, Livermore

Every two years, Livermore conducts a survey of residents about the state of the city. The results of the most recent poll show how residents feel the current Mayor's and City Council's decisions are harming the city.

A summary of the new poll results was presented at the February 28th City Council meeting. It shows that currently 56% of respondents have "overall confidence in Livermore government". Two years ago, the survey showed 62% had confidence, a drop of 6% in just the two years since the city elected Mayor Woerner and elected or installed two new councilmembers (Kiick and Bonanno). Even more telling, currently 57% "say things are headed in the 'right direction'", Two years ago, 67% felt the city was going in the right direction, which is a loss of confidence in the city's actions by 10% of the residents.

Almost half of Livermore residents did not express a positive view of the city's leadership or the direction in which that leadership is driving the city. It doesn't help that this survey was also designed to gather information to help the city push new tax increases, which the respondents soundly rejected. When our elected representatives stop representing the people, then they must be replaced. It is time we elect people that will listen to their constituents, not just to their financial donors or their own personal agendas.

### Livermore Council is At It Again

#### Theodore Schaefer, Livermore

The Livermore Mayor and Council are again contemplating an unfair and biased parcel tax for property owners, not based on market value, but upon the county's parcel number. What is unfair is that wealthy apartment complex owners who are already paying far too little in property taxes due to Prop 13

(See MAILBOX, page 5)

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**MAILBOX**

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from years ago, would only pay a small token amount under this system, instead of a fair amount for each and every apartment/dwelling unit they own! If Livermore indeed really needs a new tax (for example to loan out to the hotel developer), it should be a 'households' tax and business revenue tax' where every apartment and home pay the same, but much smaller, tax. After all, apartment dwellers use as much in Livermore resources as anyone else and benefit the same from Livermore assets. Also, there are many businesses in Livermore, some of considerable size, and they should pay these taxes based upon their revenues or other criteria and not escape these taxes completely. NO to any future 'parcel tax' and YES on a fair far more equitable 'households/residential unit tax PLUS some businesses tax.

**Five Cool Things Happening in Livermore**  
Trish Munro, Livermore

Here are a few things going on in Livermore.

Want more? Here's the link: [www.cityoflivermore.net/communityupdate](http://www.cityoflivermore.net/communityupdate)

1. Good news for Vineyard 2.0! The affordable

housing and services project closed escrow on its construction loan and will begin construction this month. When complete, the development will provide 24 units of permanent supportive rental housing for persons who were formerly homeless as well as over 9,000 square feet of space for a variety of community-serving, non-profit programs such as food, showers and laundry, winter shelter, and housing counseling.

2. Congratulations to the 2022 One Water Award Winners: Elsa Grabowski, Miles Hall, Neil Vaishampayan, and Tamira Darisala! These LVJUSD students completed exceptional science projects focused on water resources. The future is in good hands with this next generation.

3. Fair Housing and First Time Homebuyer Trainings! City partner ECHO Housing will provide two free virtual first-time homebuyer workshops on March 19 and 26, where participants will learn how to create a budget, repair credit, and shop for a lender, as well as what to expect in the loan and escrow process. Community members can register by visiting [www.echofairhousing.org](http://www.echofairhousing.org)

4. More library services coming soon! Starting March

21, 2022, people can reserve small study rooms at the Civic Center Library! Earlier this week, all youth and adult public computer stations were restored within the Civic Center Library and the Reading Room reopened to the public.

5. Want compost? Mark your calendar for April 23 from 8 a.m. to noon at Livermore's Maintenance Service Center (3500 Robertson Park Road) to pick up two bags of compost that come from all the scraps we've been putting in our organics garbage carts.

**East Avenue Tactical Meeting**  
Jan Brovont, Livermore

Parking could go from 215 now, to as few as 8!

If you live on East Ave, especially in several of the apartment houses, you need to attend the East Avenue Tactical meeting on March 23.

If you have ever gone to Callaghan's Mortuary for a funeral, did you need to park on the street? That won't be available if this is passed. What about parking for the 2 schools and 4 churches on East Ave., and any of the 10 apartment houses? If you live in a house on East Ave,

where will your guests park? This is important to everyone who lives off East Ave., too.

This will also add/continue a joint left turn lane for both directions of traffic,

which can be dangerous with so many driveways and

(See MAILBOX, page 7)

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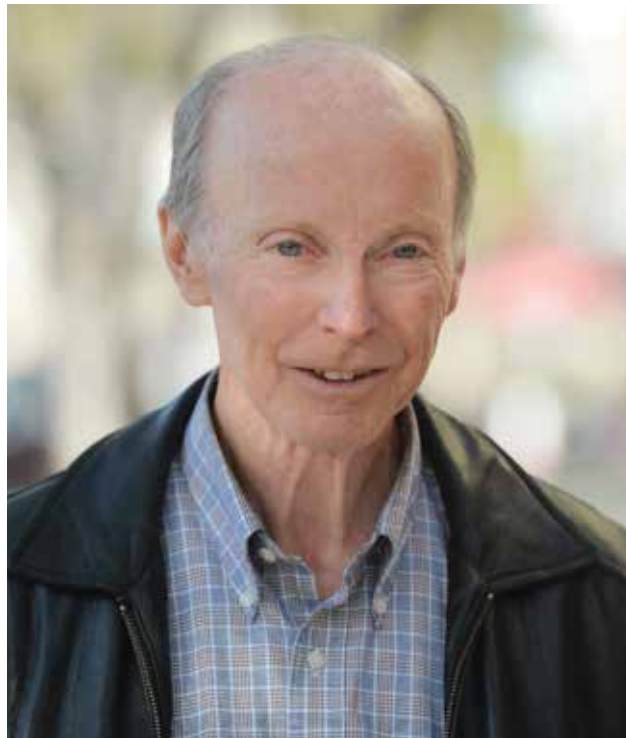
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**RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT TO SAVE LIVERMORE'S DOWNTOWN**



**Bill Dunlop** is a senior scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He has served as a U.S. representative negotiating international weapons treaties. He is also co-founder and current board member of the Student Education Loan Fund.

**"Degrading the Character of Our Town"**

"I recently drove downtown and was again stunned by the enormous buildings under construction on the west side of L Street. I was taken aback by the size of these buildings.

I think almost everyone who goes through downtown on L Street will be shocked by the Legacy Apartments project west of L Street between First St. and Railroad Ave. It is overwhelming. If you haven't had a chance to drive downtown for a while, it is worth a look.

Placing another 4-story housing project on the east side of L Street would create a tunnel effect, degrading the character of our town. However, a plan could be worked out to accommodate even more units for Eden

Housing nearby, and leave significantly more open space on the site east of L Street.

This area holds the potential to make a real improvement in the heart of downtown; or it could become the real "eye sore" of the community.

**To beautify our downtown, we need to fill it with gardens and open space and some cultural centers, like the proposed black box theater and the science center – a downtown that we all would enjoy for decades to come.**

**We need a City Council to join us in support of this vision."**

**– Bill Dunlop, Livermore**



There's still time to Save Livermore's downtown  
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# Hindu Community Holds Annual Event for Local Nonprofit Service Organizations

By Lauren Farrauto

Last Saturday, the Hindu Cultural and Community Center (HCCC) in Livermore

for Change Tri-Valley.

“Our Hindu scriptures say that, equally, we have to serve humanity and community. That’s what we stand

Program took a short hiatus during the past two years due to Covid-19, HCCC still sought to support the community through educa-

“Dance for Peace” and “Raag Charukesi.”

“The India culture is such a rich one,” remarked Raghavan Echampadi, the Guest of Honor and Consul General who has been associated with the temple for about three decades. “I’m very happy that we conduct such programs to spread our rich culture. This is an awesome day, because HCCC is spending a lot of time to support human services. This is not just a place of worship. It’s not just about religion; it’s far beyond religion... [we consider] how do we impact the lives of people around us and the communities we live in? I’m really fortunate to be associated with this institution,” he added.

Guests were welcomed to the stage to represent the community and assist with the presentation of grants. Those featured included Lieutenant Joe Draghi with the Livermore Police Department, Battalion Chief Kurtis Dickey of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, Assistant Superintendent Melissa Theide, and Vice Mayor Gina Bonanno.

“I can’t tell you how pleased I am that the mayor wasn’t able to be here today,” Bonanno joked. “This is just such an honor and,” she continued, “such a beautiful ceremony and beautiful event. The dancing and the singing were just so uplifting. Events like this and everything that

you all do makes you feel so hopeful.”

Bonanno then presented a certificate of recognition to HCCC for their commitment to the community.

Once the awards were distributed, HCCC’s president, Venu Surakanti, gave a final thanks to everyone in attendance, especially the event organizers Usha Ramaswamy, EC Chair, and Shyamala Venkateswaran.

“[Service] is one of the functional areas as defined in the by-laws, and we have been honored to invite the various organizations that provide services that provide

services to the community, both locally and globally,” Surakanti explained. “They are helping make this world a better place and uplifting humanity.”



Recipients and honored guests attended the Hindu Cultural and Community Center’s annual Grant-In Aid Program last Saturday in Livermore. From left: Darren from Uplift Family Services, guest Raghavan Echampadi, Livermore Vice Mayor, Dr. Gina Bonanno, Youth Volunteer, Pranati Manna, Livermore Police Lieutenant Joe Draghi, Hindu Cultural and Community Center President, Venu Surakanti, Livermore, Pleasanton Fire Battalion Chief Kurtis Dickey, Captain Craig Birchford, Assistant Livermore School Superintendent Melissa Theide, Usha Ramaswamy, Executive Chair for Human Services, Jyothi Sarma and HCCC Chairperson, Shyamala Venkateswaran. (Photo – Lauren Farrauto)

held their Annual Grant-In-Aid Program, which recognized several different community organizations with grants to support human service efforts. About \$30,000 in grant money was donated to 30 different organizations. Some of the recipients include Alameda County Food Fund, Bus Pass Program, Livermore Fire, and Partners

for,” shared Dr. Jyothi Sarma, Chairperson for HCCC, in a speech at the event.

Since its incorporation as a non-profit organization in 1977, the HCCC strives to meet the religious, cultural, educational, and humanitarian needs of the community. HCCC has distributed funds at this event for decades, and although the Grant-In-Aid

tion and providing medical services.

The event began with a welcome speech, invocation, and ceremonial lamp lighting by Dr. Nagendra Prasad, the Consul General of India in San Francisco, to dispel darkness and initiate the event. Then, dancers from InSync Dance School performed two ceremonial dances —

# Dublin Marks Return of St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

By Ruth Roberts

Throng of revelers lined the streets of Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road for the first time since the pandemic to celebrate Dublin’s trademark St. Patrick’s Day Parade, on Saturday, March 12.

For the thousands of attendees, the return of the popular event highlighted Dublin’s pride and deep family-oriented roots.

“This is a typical small-town event and it’s wonderful,” said Lee Thompson former Dublin city engineer and public works director.

*“This is a typical small-town event and it’s wonderful.”*

— Lee Thompson

Hosted by the Dublin Lions Club, the 38th annual parade featured more than 80 entries including marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, carnival rides a petting zoo and more.

Past Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, agreed.

“Having grown up in Dublin, I was in this parade when I was a kid, or I’d come watch the parade as a kid growing up,” said Sbranti.



Numerous runners, including one leprechaun, took to the streets of Dublin for the annual Shamrock 5k Fun Run, on Sunday, March 13. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

“This is just a great community event”.

Dublin’s Irish celebration began on Friday, March 11, with the Shamrock Gala, hosted by the Dublin Historical Society and City of Dublin, followed on Saturday, March 12 with the parade and Cornhole Tournament at the Dublin Sports Grounds. The weekend closed out with the Shamrock 5K Fun Run

& Walk which kicked off at Civic Plaza. Over 2,000 participants came out for the 3.1-mile event that finished with a post-race celebration, entertainment and refreshments.



Members of the East Bay Regional Park volunteer Trail Patrol join in the fun during the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## PLAN

(Continued from page 3)

share. PlaceWorks estimated that the community needs an estimated 5,100 to 5,200 homes from 2031 to 2039, and another 5,900 to 6,000 residences from 2039-2047. To meet housing mandates,

the city is required to zone for a required number of affordable housing units but not necessarily to secure development agreements.

According to PlaceWorks’ documents, Liver-

more’s population grew from 81,975 in 2011 to 91,216 in 2021. Jobs in the city, meanwhile, grew from 40,581 in 2011 to 53,338 in 2018, the most recent year available, Jansen said.

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## MAILBOX

(Continued from page 5)

streets using it to turn left, AND it will be shared with our Emergency Vehicles! Fire trucks, ambulances, police will be driving in the center, shared left turn lane! How much longer will it take if there are cars using it to turn left and have stopped in that lane? Cars may not be able to get across 2 lanes of traffic to get to the side of the road.

They want to take away a lane of cars for a bicycle lane. Watch cars in both lanes at a stop light. I counted 17 one day. If you were the 17th car, do you think you would even get through that traffic light cycle??

The city is having a meeting on March 23 at Robert Livermore Community Center to discuss these plans. Please try to attend this meeting, which you need to register for online. (If you can't attend, please complete their survey.)

This page has the info where images can be obtained. <https://www.east-avecorridorstudy.com/phase-1>. This shows the amount of parking that will be permanently taken away, from 215 now to as few as 8!

The city's page on the meeting is <https://www.cityoflivermore.net/Home/Components/News/News/240/3774>

The page to get tickets to attend is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tactical-east-avenue-public-workshop-1-tickets-262136807247>.

And please remember most Livermore residents thought the most important upgrade is more streetlights. That makes sense, since the lights are all on the north side of the street, which is 6 lanes wide. Now that would be the best place to start.

### Eden Housing Project

Donna Cabanne, Livermore

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFBRWQCB) required Livermore to complete further water and soil

sample testing last year to determine the origin of the contamination at the Eden Housing Property Site. Fortunately, the source of the contamination is not likely to have originated at the Eden Housing Site. The Water Board concluded the most likely source of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater and soil gas (air in between soil particles) has spread from the former Quality Cleaners site, located at 2048 First Street. In addition, "metals were confirmed in the shallow soil within the areas proposed for excavation during development" of the Eden Housing Site (Water Board Fact Sheet).

The next steps? The Water Board has requested that the City prepare a Site Management Plan (SMP). This Site Management Plan must "describe procedures to maintain the protection of human health and the environment during and after construction" at the Eden Property Site. (Water Board Fact Sheet). The Water Board will also request that "the City, as the owner of the former Quality Cleaners property, prepare a Remedial Workplan for the former Quality Cleaners property with the goal of reducing residual concentrations of VOCs." (Water Board Fact Sheet).

In other words, the Water Board cannot require the City to eliminate the source of the contamination, but the Water Board highly recommends this action to ensure the continued safety of the downtown in the future. The City website states the Site Management Plan would be presented to the Water Board in March. As of today, March 14th, the SMP has not been filed. Please ask the City Council members to follow ALL Water Board recommendations and requests concerning the downtown area in the SMP. Cleaning up BOTH the Eden Housing Site and the former Quality

Cleaners site are the most prudent actions to take for a vibrant, safe downtown for years to come. All residents want a safe downtown.

### Reject the New Livermore Parcel Tax

Alan Heckman, Livermore

The shrill warning from the Livermore School District is that if we do not pass the New Measure A Parcel Tax, they will be "forced" to fire Elementary Science Specialist teachers.

This is a lie. Funding for these teachers comes from the state, not the parcel tax.

For proof, look next door at Pleasanton schools.

Pleasanton does not have any school parcel tax whatsoever, but Pleasanton has Elementary Science Specialists because funding for Elementary Science Specialists comes from the State, NOT FROM PARCEL TAXES!

Was the money from the state meant for these Livermore teachers taken to fund something else?

We should demand answers from our \$435,915.34 a year Livermore Superintendent Kelly Bowers, or her and her three deputies (\$1.2 million), or the top 50 highest paid employees (\$9 million, averaging \$183,000 each - none of whom are teachers).

Today California has a \$65 billion surplus and no education financial crisis.

We all know now - with the "Pleasanton Proof" - that Livermore Elementary Science Specialist jobs have no chance of being cut.

But the Livermore school board and administrators have created unwarranted fear in teachers that their jobs would be lost and fear in parents that their children would suffer.

It is despicable that the board and administrators have made these threats.

They have no business arrogantly demanding and threatening Livermore that we pay a new parcel tax that

only funds their extravagant lifestyles.

Vote NO on Measure A!

### NO on Measure A

Robin Hill, Livermore

Measure A is the extension of the city parcel tax that was voted on back in 2004 to cover shortfalls when the state had a cutback against our school programs. The state funding has since been reinstated, but the parcel tax lives on. It's now just an extra pot of money for them to use at their discretion.

The LVJUSD is holding a special election on May 3, by mail-in ballot only, to vote on this Measure. The decision to hold it as a mail-in only is costing the taxpayers \$600K. This fact alone should concern the citizens that the school board allowed this huge cost out of the budget when they could have combined it with the June election materials. Is this an example of the waste of our taxpayer money at the district?

Back in 2004 when the tax was enacted, it was prohibited to be spent on administrative costs. This measure got extended in 2007 with the same terms. In 2014 the tax once again got extended, somehow the administrative exemption was dropped, and that same year the admins got huge raises. Superintendent Kelly Bowers now makes \$86K more than in 2014. Her current compensation is \$435K and other top admins are right behind her. The top four admins at LVJUSD make over \$1.2 million. They want us to pay their inflated salaries.

Their ads to support this Measure A will use misleading keywords such as supporting our science programs, music programs, and athletics. Donate directly to those programs if you feel that is where it's needed. Don't allow them this extra money that clearly, they feel inflated admin salaries are

worthy over actually spending it on the kids.

The parcel tax can be requested to be exempted from your property if you are over 65. I think the telltale sign that it's not an important or worthy tax comes from our

own Mayor Woerner who has exempted himself from this very tax. If our own Mayor won't pay it, why should the citizens?

Vote NO on Measure A at our special May mail-in-only election!

## LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LIVERMORE RESIDENTS: Share your talents with the community by volunteering on one of the City of Livermore's advisory bodies. We are accepting applications now through April 15, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

#### Beautification Committee (1 Vacancy)

Join us in working to preserve the natural beauty and habitat of Livermore.

**Unexpired term ending 6/1/2023**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM

Next Meeting: April 6<sup>th</sup>

#### Historic Preservation Commission (2 Vacancies)

Join us in identifying, protecting, and preserving Livermore's historic resources. The Commission's successes are visible in the beauty of Livermore's historic structures and landmarks.

**(1) Unexpired term ending 5/1/2025**

**(1) Regular term ending 5/1/2026**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Next Meeting: April 7<sup>th</sup>

#### Library Board of Trustees (2 Vacancies)

Join us in helping to set goals and objectives for the broad variety of services and programs the Library provides and recommend policy modifications to City Council.

**Regular term ending 6/1/2025**

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM

Next meeting: March 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission

**(6 Youth and 2 Adult Vacancies)**

Join the Commission in bringing together young people and adults, and private and public sectors of the community, to address responsibility for the care, health, safety, welfare, and education of Livermore's young people.

**(6 Youth) Regular term ending 9/1/2024**

**(2 Adult) Regular term ending 9/1/2024**

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

Next Meeting: April 4<sup>th</sup>

#### Livermore Housing Authority (1 Vacancy)

Join us in administering and overseeing low-income housing units and the Section Eight Voucher Program for subsidized housing.

**Unexpired term ending 1/1/2024**

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM

Next meeting: April 14<sup>th</sup>

**SAVE THE DATE!** In-person Interviews will be tentatively held the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.cityoflivermore.net/AB](http://www.cityoflivermore.net/AB), call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email: [cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net). Must attend at least one meeting of the applicable advisory body before applying.

## COSTCO

(Continued from first page)

development of the Costco Wholesale store, which has been embroiled in controversy since 2014.

"We're obviously disappointed in the decision and we're evaluating our options," said PCRG Spokesperson Matt Sullivan. "This is just another example of the state and legislature passing laws eroding CEQA... The Pleasanton City Council has a vision of tax revenue dollars that probably won't

happen."

The Costco project began in 2015 when the city released a supplemental EIR (SEIR) before seeking voter approval in 2016. Voters said yes. That was followed by council approval of the final SEIR. The first petition followed shortly thereafter, filed through the Alameda County Superior Court on Dec. 1, 2017, challenging the city's actions under CEQA.

Pleasanton Mayor Karla

Brown said she looked forward to the project moving ahead.

"Many of our residents are anxious to see their tax dollars spent in Pleasanton, at our own Costco," Brown said.

The JDEDZ is just shy of 40 acres located north of Stoneridge Drive on the east side of Johnson Drive. Expected development in the zone area includes the new Costco store, additional

retail construction and two hotels. According to the city, plans for the warehouse and accompanying gas station are in the design review process. Tharaldson Hospitality, a hotel developer and property owner in the JDEDZ, is building two hotels with a maximum of 231 rooms each on two sites totaling approximately 5 acres. The hotels are expected to be completed by 2022; Costco by 2023.

## HOUSING

(Continued from first page)

tended toward blanket opposition to new housing in Dublin.

"That's what we see and that's not always helpful, per se," she continued. "I just wish there was a way of engaging the community that they understood the constraints the city's under — the requirements of the state."

Commissioner Janine Thalblum echoed that sentiment and referred to the petition-driven repeal, approved March 1, of a plan for the East Ranch property which included two acres for a housing development.

"It's kind of ironic (and) disappointing (that) some of the comments were for the need for developmentally disabled housing and the city council just rescinded the plan that had an opportunity for exactly that."

RHNA, a California mandate that operates on an eight-year cycle, requires that local governments include in their general plan a strategy to accommodate a specific number of housing units, broken down by affordability level.

In May 2021, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), which is responsible for developing a methodology to allocate a portion of the RHNA to every local government in the Bay Area, assigned to Dublin 1,085 very-low, 625 low, 560 moderate and 1,449 above-moderate income units, totaling 3,719 housing units and representing a 62% increase over the city's previous cycle's allocations.

Since then, Dublin, along with its neighboring Tri-Valley cities, has submitted letters to ABAG expressing concerns over the large increase, namely that the new numbers exacerbate a pre-existing jobs-housing imbalance in Dublin.

Dublin also filed an appeal in July 2021 "with emphasis on past performance and lack of suitable land, as well as the properties where the city does not have land-use authority," according to the commission's staff report. ABAG, however, preliminarily denied the appeal in September 2021.

"I appreciate the city for pushing back, or attempting to, on those numbers," said Thalblum. "But unfortu-

nately, upon appeal, they said no. The numbers are the numbers."

After accounting for projects already in the works, accessory dwelling units, and existing zoning, the city still must provide a list of sites suitable for 644 very-low and low-income housing units.

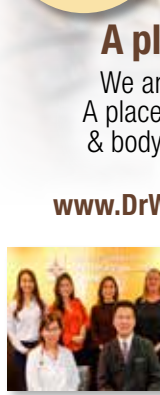
To meet the RHNA standards, units do not have to be developed but not necessarily build. Although the commission did not vote on a final site selection, it favored spreading the unit allocations across all three new sites and specifically calling out the SCS property, whose preferred plan was approved last month by the planning commission.



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## LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

### ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR POET LAUREATE

The City of Livermore and the Commission for the Arts is seeking a local poet to serve as the City of Livermore's Poet Laureate. The person selected will serve as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of the arts, particularly poetry. The person selected for this position will not receive compensation, as this is a voluntary position. **The deadline to apply is Friday, April 29, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.**

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

#### Following are the requirements for the Poet Laureate:

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

#### Interested applicants must submit:

- A two-page letter of interest
- Five original poems, two of which have been published
- Your resumé indicating active participation in promoting the literary arts in the community
- An outline of your vision, goals, projects, and activities for the Poet Laureate Program during your tenure (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024).

If you have questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200 or by e-mail at [cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net)

**SAVE THE DATE!** Interviews will be tentatively held the week of May 9, 2022. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.cityoflivermore.net/AB](http://www.cityoflivermore.net/AB), call the City Clerk's office at (925) 960-4200, or email: [cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net).

## Dublin Accepting Entries for Photo Contest

Dublin is now accepting entries for its annual "Nature in Our Backyard" photography contest.

The grand prize winner will receive a \$200 gift certificate to Mike's Camera in Dublin. The next three winners will receive \$100, \$50, and \$25 certificates, respectively. Photographers do not need to be Dublin residents, but the photo must have been taken in Dublin within the last 12 months.

All four winners will receive certificates of recognition at a city council meeting; be featured on the city website; receive metal prints of their pictures from Mike's Camera; and have their photographs displayed in the lobby of the Dublin Civic Center. Photos must be submitted no later than midnight on Sunday, April 10. No more than five entries per person.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/mr49mncf](http://tinyurl.com/mr49mncf).

## Dublin Seeks Members for Seniors Committee

Dublin is seeking to fill two open seats on the city's Senior Center Advisory Committee.

The five-member committee makes recommendations regarding the operation

and maintenance of the Dublin Senior Center at 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Members are usually appointed to four-year terms, but the two currently vacancies are for unexpired terms, with one

ending in December 2022 and one ending in December 2024.

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 30. To apply, visit [tinyurl.com/4vy96dz8](http://tinyurl.com/4vy96dz8).

## Red Cross Resumes Testing Blood for COVID-19

For the safety of patients with weakened immune systems, the American Red Cross has resumed testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies.

Donations with high levels of COVID-19 antibodies will still be used as convalescent plasma, according to the announcement.

"While we work to en-

sure doctors have access to this treatment option for the most critically ill patients facing COVID-19, blood donations are still needed daily to help cancer patients, trauma victims and those with blood disorders," said Cari Dighton, Red Cross communications director for Northern California. "The Red Cross blood supply remains vul-

nerable and those interested in giving are urged to make a blood or platelet donation appointment in the days and weeks ahead."

The Red Cross also announced that all blood donors in March will receive a \$10 e-gift card from Fanatic and will be entered to win a trip for two to the 2022 Major League Baseball all-star game in Los Angeles.

## Hope Hospice Offers Online Programs for Caregivers

Hope Hospice, a Dublin-based nonprofit that provides in-home end-of-life care and grief support, will host a free online class, "Living with Dementia: New Diagnosis and Next Steps," from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 14.

The interactive, Zoom-based seminar is one of a monthly series of Hope Hospice educational programs designed for people who are caring for an elderly family member. According to Hope Hospice, an early dementia diagnosis is 'actually a good

thing (because) it gives you and your family more time to plan for the challenges that lie ahead."

During the seminar, Hope Hospice dementia specialists will "share resources and strategies to help individuals and families prepare for the changes that a dementia diagnosis will bring."

To register for the seminar, visit [tinyurl.com/2p8px8f6](http://tinyurl.com/2p8px8f6).

Other programs in the series will include "End-of-Life Issues: Hospice and Palliative Care" on May 12;

"Self-Care for the Caregiver" on June 9; and "Handling Grief and Loss" on July 14. All programs will run from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 925-829-8770.

## Alameda County Superior Court Seeking Jurors

Each year, judicial officers of the Superior Court of Alameda County are responsible for presenting the names of civic-minded county residents to serve on the civil grand jury.

The court is seeking six

potential jurors from Supervisorial District One, which includes Dublin.

The jury's primary responsibility is to examine and report on the operations of local government agencies and to investigate

citizen complaints, acting as the public's watchdog. The deadline to receive applications is April 15.

For more information, including qualifications and the potential time commitment, visit [grandjury.acgov.org](http://grandjury.acgov.org).

## Bankhead to Celebrate Pioneering Women of Jazz

The Bankhead Theater in Livermore will continue its celebration of Women's History Month with a 3 p.m. matinee performance of "Bessie, Billie, and Nina: Pioneering Women of Jazz," on Sunday, March 20.

The show tracks the accomplishments of the legendary Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Nina Simone, and others who changed the way jazz was sung, played, and heard, and their continuing influence on music today.

From the Jim Crow era-South through the turbulent 1960s, Smith, Holiday, and Simone were among the most influential and popular singers of their times.

They also used their talents to combat racial prejudice, sexism, and poverty in the U.S.

Whether proclaiming their sexuality (Smith), forcing America to acknowledge racism in South and beyond (Holiday), or giving voice to the Civil Rights movement with protest anthems (Simone), the trailblazing singers spoke to and for the disenfranchised as women, African Americans, and artists.

All three women defied social norms, embracing

self-empowerment through their art.

Produced by Grammy Award-winning Eli Wolf, and with arrangements by pianist and musical director Carmen Staff, the production features three dynamic vocalists - Charenée Wade, Tahira Clayton, and Vanisha Gould - each a rising star in her own right. Backed by an all-female band, they

will offer their renditions of such classic hits as "Downhearted Blues," "Strange Fruit," and "Mississippi Goddam."

Tickets for the 3 p.m. performance range from \$20 to \$80 and are available online at [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org), by calling 925-373-6800, or in person at the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First St.



Charnée Wade is one of the featured vocalists in the upcoming production of "Bessie, Billie and Nina: Pioneering Women of Jazz" at the Bankhead Theater on March 20. (Photo courtesy of Bankhead Theater)

## TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Now to Nov. 12 Master Gardeners of Alameda County Demonstration Garden

The Master Gardeners of Alameda County's demonstration garden at the Martinelli center in Livermore highlights low-water plants that look beautiful and offer diversity through all four seasons. During the monthly workday - the second Saturday of the month - the group offers free talks on garden topics from March to November. Talks are out of doors in the demo garden, at the Martinelli Center, 3585 Greenville Road, in Livermore, from 10 to 11 a.m. Demos are scheduled as follows: March 12 - Native Plant Propagation (dividing, cuttings); April 9 - Monarch Butterflies and Milkweed Myths and Truths; May 14 - Growing Succulents (low water plants); June 11 - Photography in the Garden (an introductory class); July 9 - IPM: Integrated Pest Management (steps to control pests); Aug. 13 - Sheet Mulching (how to get rid of your lawn); Sept. 10 - Vermicomposting (worm composting); Oct. 8 - Evolution of a Garden; and Nov. 12 - Native Plant Propagation (seed saving). For more information or to sign up for a free monthly gardening newsletter, visit [acmg.ucan.edu](http://acmg.ucan.edu).

### Thursday, March 17 Kinetic at Almost Famous Wine Lounge

See Kinetic, a four-piece pop/rock band playing a unique blend of guitar, keyboard, bass, and rhythm arrangements, live at Almost Famous Wine Lounge. The event features festival seating, so arrive early unless you don't mind standing. Outside food is welcome, but only AFW wine can be consumed on premise. The show is for those 21 and older and starts at 6 p.m. It is free, as part of Almost Famous Wine Company's Free Thursday live music series. Almost Famous Wine Lounge is currently requiring COVID-19 vaccination proof or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result, taken within 48 hours prior to entry. Please wear a mask inside when not actively drinking.

### Friday, March 18 to March 26 "High Fidelity: The Musical"

The Las Positas College (LPC) Theater Arts Department presents "High Fidelity: The Musical" live on campus at the Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts' indoor main stage from March 18-26. Tickets are available now for this musical, which is based on the popular

1995 Nick Hornby novel of the same name. The musical was written by David Lindsay-Abaire with music by Tom Kitt and lyrics by Amanda Greene. "High Fidelity" follows the adventures of Rob, a Brooklyn record store owner who finds himself unexpectedly dumped, and his life takes a music-filled turn toward the introspective. Tickets range from \$10 to \$20 per person and can be purchased at

[bit.ly/3JasYaJ](http://bit.ly/3JasYaJ). Vaccination and masks required for all audience members over the age of 5.

### Friday, March 18 Granada High School Safe & Sober Grad Night Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Calling all golfers for a fun way to help raise funds for the Granada High School Safe and Sober Grad Night 2022. Safe & Sober Grad Night is a fun-filled event, keeping seniors in a safe environment on the evening of graduation. Help support this event by inviting a few friends or family members to make up a foursome, sign up for a sponsorship level as a Matador, Gold, Black, Tee, or Hole Sponsor or share this flyer with other golfers, businesses, and local companies. The shotgun start takes place at 1 p.m., with a cost of \$150 per player. Purchase includes green fees, golf cart, range balls, goody bag, dinner, and drink ticket. Contests include closest to the pin and long drive. For more information, visit [bit.ly/3tBmp5R](http://bit.ly/3tBmp5R) or email [ghsgolf2022@gmail.com](mailto:ghsgolf2022@gmail.com).

### Saturday, March 19 to March 27 Asbury Players Community Theater Presents "Done to Death"

Asbury Players Community Theater's production of "Done to Death" will feature Friday and Saturday performances at 7 p.m. and Sunday performances at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be reserved by emailing [asburyplayers94550@gmail.com](mailto:asburyplayers94550@gmail.com) or purchased at the door. "Done to Death," by Fred Carmichael, is a hilarious mash-up of murder mystery genres, as five prominent mystery authors meet to collaborate on a television series. Cast and crew are all fully vaccinated, and audience will be asked to show proof of vaccination at the door. Audience will be masked, but performers will be unmasked. All performances are at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., in Livermore.

### Saturday, March 19 Del Valle Fine Arts Presents Trio 180

Trio 180 (violin, cello, piano), the faculty piano trio-in-res-

idence from the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music, is dedicated to the education of new, under-appreciated music and beloved classics. At 7:30 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, Trio 180 will be performing modern works by Leonard Bernstein and Schulamit Ran, awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music, and also the lush Trio No. 1 in D Minor by Felix Mendelssohn from the Romantic Period. Youth are always free. Tickets are available at the Bankhead box office and [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

### Saturday, March 19 Acrylics with Jennifer Huber

On select Thursdays and Saturdays during Imagination Expressed, Museum on Main will host members of the Pleasanton Art League for demonstrations of their work. For more information and artist's full bio, visit <https://bit.ly/3u0R5HS>.

### Thursday, March 24 Veterans Job Fair

Tri-Valley Career Center and Chabot - Las Positas Community College District will hold an in-person Veterans Career Fair. This event allows veterans to meet directly with leading industry recruiters interested in hiring veterans. Businesses interested in participating can complete an online form at [bit.ly/3lat2f](http://bit.ly/3lat2f). Attending job seekers can register at [bit.ly/35WYXBN](http://bit.ly/35WYXBN).

### Thursday, March 24 The Mundaze at Almost Famous Wine Lounge

See The Mundaze live at Almost Famous Wine Lounge. The event features festival seating, so arrive early unless you don't mind standing. Outside food is welcome, but only AFW wine can be consumed on premise. The show is for those 21 and older and starts at 6 p.m. It is free, as part of Almost Famous Wine Company's Free Thursday live music series. Almost Famous Wine Lounge is currently requiring COVID-19 vaccination proof or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result, taken within 48 hours prior to entry. Please wear a mask inside when not actively drinking.

### Thursday, March 24 Grief Ministry

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Please join in for bi-monthly meetings, held at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, in Pleasanton, on Thursdays, March 24, April 7 and 21, May 12 and 26, June 9 and 23, and July 14 and 28. Meetings will start at 7 p.m., and although there is no advance registration, organizers ask attendees to arrive a little early to check in. The meetings are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. For a short

video explaining the grief program and additional information, visit [catholicsofpleasanton.org](http://catholicsofpleasanton.org), scroll down to Grief Ministry, and tap on the video box. For more information, call Barbara at 925-846-3904.

### Saturday, March 26 Gaby Castro: Pleasanton Farmers Market

Gaby Castro is an Americana/folk singer-songwriter and San Francisco Bay Area native. Her latest project, La Guerrera//The Warrior EP, was released in March of 2019 and touches on themes such as feminism, self-empowerment, mental health, and overcoming adversity. Her songwriting incorporates the lyrical power of Carole King, infectious hooks of Taylor Swift, and storytelling feel of Jewel. Her latest plans include writing and recording her next album, touring the United States, and continuing to advocate for mental health, women's rights, and disability rights. Let her music tell the stories.

### Sunday, March 27 A Bowl To Remember

Hosted by Livermore Masonic Lodge #218, F & AM for Alzheimer's Research will feature raffle prizes, food, and fun, from 1 to 3 p.m., at Granada Bowl, located at 1620 Railroad Ave., in Livermore. Cost is \$25 per person, with proceeds going to the Alzheimer's Association. For more information, contact Jeffrey Dulle at 925-583-5166 and leave a message or email [jdulle32@yahoo.com](mailto:jdulle32@yahoo.com).

### Thursday, March 31 Deep Blue Jam at Almost Famous Wine Lounge

See Americana, roots rock, and reggae come together with Deep Blue Jam, live at Almost Famous Wine Lounge. The event features festival seating, so arrive early unless you don't mind standing. Outside food is welcome, but only AFW wine can be consumed on premise. The show is for those 21 and older and starts at 6 p.m. It is free, as part of Almost Famous Wine Company's Free Thursday live music series. Almost Famous Wine Lounge is currently requiring COVID-19 vaccination proof or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result, taken within 48 hours prior to entry. Please wear a mask inside when not actively drinking.

### ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Pleasanton Farmers Market Open for the Season

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

# LIVERMORE HERITAGE GUILD

PRESENTS

## Sundays at Hagemann Ranch

Free, Family-Friendly Activities

## Children's Day

March 27, 2022, 2pm to 5pm

- Del Arroyo 4-H Petting Zoo & Beekeepers
- Livermore Heritage Guild's HistoryMobile
- Horse Riding Demos
- Pawse/Pet Adoption
- Ranch Chores & Games
- Choose Love Livermore

Ongoing activities:

Refreshments, Tours, Blacksmith Shop & Art Demonstrations

Hagemann Ranch  
455 Olivina Avenue, Livermore

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## UKRAINE

(Continued from first page)

tarian organization – this week and flown to Eastern Europe, where they will immediately be distributed and consumed. She said the meals are appropriate for people of all ages and offer as much protein as a three-ounce steak in a one-cup serving. They are vegan, gluten free and easy to digest, even for those suffering from malnutrition.

Diane Drain and her husband, Paul, are frequent KAH volunteers and have sampled the meals. "It's like Rice-a-Roni, but not as dry," she added. "The amount of nutrition is so good. The soy provides as much protein as three ounces of steak, and there's 21 vitamins in that vitamin powder, so it's a very nutritious meal for everyone, especially children."

Leal founded KAH Bay Area in 2010 after an earthquake devastated Haiti; she wanted to find a way to send food to the island. In the first year, she and her fellow volunteers packed 150,000 meals, and within three years, the group was up to 1.5 million meals a year. She said her organization still sends meals to Haiti, as well as other international locations in need after a natural disaster. They also send meals to local Bay Area food banks, and natural disasters in the United States.

KAH Bay Area is looking for more volunteers. The warehouse is located

at 1258 Quarry Lane, Suite H, in Pleasanton. For more information, or to volunteer or donate, visit [www.kahbayarea.org](http://www.kahbayarea.org) or email [sherri@kahbayarea.org](mailto:sherri@kahbayarea.org).

### Livermore Lions Club

The Livermore Lions Club has always been focused on helping its community, but this year is making an exception for one of its fundraisers: money raised by the second annual Cioppino Takeout will go to Ukraine.

"I definitely felt like the entire Livermore club was 100% supportive of that idea," said Lions Club member Anne Giancola. "I can speak for many of us who are very concerned about what's happening in Ukraine and understand the complexity of what's going on, so everyone is behind getting some funding over there to help civilians."

The Cioppino Takeout began last year when COVID-19 restrictions prevented the Lions Club from hosting its annual crab feed. The group switched gears and put together the takeout, raising \$3,000 for the local community. This year, they hope to spread the word and raise even more.

One order includes a 64-ounce tub of cioppino and a bread round, enough to feed four people, for \$70. To order, call 805-405-8742. Credit card, check and Venmo payments will be accepted ahead of time.

Payment must be received to complete the order. Orders will be accepted through April 22. Pick up will be Saturday, April 30, from 1-4 p.m., at the Singing Winemaker, 5143 Tesla Rd., in Livermore.

### Livermore Resident Collecting Medical Supplies for Ukraine

Livermore resident Monika Binkney has started a GoFundMe campaign to purchase medical supplies for "the soldiers and civilians who are fighting for Ukraine's freedom" against Russian aggression.

Binkney, who has lived in Livermore with her family for 12 years, comes from Poland, where her Ukrainian grandparents moved after World War II.

"A group of my friends from my hometown (of Gliwice, Poland, are tirelessly traveling back and forth to the Ukrainian border every day to pick up refugees and deliver medical, first aid, and tactical supplies to those on the front line," Binkney said. "I was so moved by the spirit of unity, and I wanted to help these humanitarian efforts even in the smallest way."

To donate, visit [gofund.me/470d98d7](https://gofund.me/470d98d7). Medical supplies for donation can also be purchased directly at [tinyurl.com/2p8pfy6](https://tinyurl.com/2p8pfy6).

### Livermore City Council Approves Letter to Russian Sister City

The Livermore City Council unanimously agreed this week to send a letter to its Russian sister city, Snezhinsk, urging its leaders to resist participating in the Ukrainian invasion.

The decision followed recent correspondence sent to Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner from the Consul General of Ukraine in San Francisco.

"As a mayor of Livermore, you have the power to address your counterparts in Russia with a firm demand for them to start acting now in resisting the criminal regime of the Kremlin before it's too late," read the March 4 letter signed by Consul General Dmytro Kushneruk. "They may stop Russian conscripts of their city from being sent to Ukraine, and they may mobilize their communities to go on streets. We call on you to contact them as soon as possible and require immediate action, unless they wish for Livermore to sever its ties with Snezhinsk, Russia, as well as with the rest of the civilized world."

The majority of speakers on the subject supported submitting the letter.

"Our sister city in Russia was established with the intent of building peace, hope and exchange of cultural ideas in the spirit of growing strong bonds between the two cities," said Livermore resident Donna Cabanne.



Erick Cifra, above, completes a meal box for shipping during a packing session for Kids Helping Kids. (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

"Scientists (in Snezhinsk) and in Livermore worked together to find a new element, Livermorium, and the Russians graciously allowed the element to be named after our city. The Russian people have much in the way to offer: art, literature, music, dance, etc. But what is currently happening in Ukraine is an atrocity we cannot ignore. Cities across the state have written letters in the hopes that our request for a cease fire will resonate and lead to the end of suffering of innocent women and children. We too can do our part."

Councilmember Trish Munro shared that her grandfather emigrated from

Ukraine, making the current events feel personal to her and her family.

"The connection from city to city, I think, is powerful," she continued. "I am really pleased to see that this is a way that we can talk city to city, person to person, and perhaps make for a change. And this is what those relationships are for."

A copy of the letter sent to Snezhinsk leaders is expected to be available on the city website. The online version of this story will be updated with a direct link to the letter, once it's made public.

Aly Brown contributed to this story.

## OBITUARIES

### Jo Johnson May 12, 1935 – Jan. 23, 2022



Jo Johnson, 86, longtime resident of Dublin, peacefully passed away on Jan. 23, 2022, with her loved ones at her side following a battle with lung and brain cancer.

Jo was born May 13, 1935, in Van Buren, Arkansas. She was the daughter of Robert Randolph Knight and Celia Jane (Wackerly) White. The family moved from Arkansas to Oakland, California, where she was raised from early childhood through high school.

She moved to Los Angeles and started her lifelong restaurant career. She was a carhop at the Original Mel's Diner in Los Angeles, owned and operated her own café in Turlock until she met, and married, Norman Denver "Johnny" Johnson. She continued in the restaurant business as a waitress at Francesco's, in Oakland, for many years, serving Al Davis of the Oakland Raiders as well as other sports personalities. She also served at the Copper Skillet in Dublin, and Emil Villa's Hickory Pit, in Walnut Creek, until she retired, in 2019. She didn't just serve up a cup of joe or a hot meal to her customers, she dished out a heart full of love and kindness, mixed with a sense of humor and sassiness that only she was known and loved for. She was always eager to listen and get to know every one of her "regulars," on a personal level.

She loved people, chocolate and animals. Her crazy bird Maynard, dogs Snoopy and Michelle. She loved football and the Denver Bronco's

and conversations over a great glass of wine and good food, but she loved Christmas with her family and friends most of all. Christmas was celebrated at her house each year, filled with family traditions, laughter, love, games (Uno and Monopoly ran for almost 24 hours), music, surprises, delicious food and a special ornament for each family member and/or friend would be carefully hung on the beautiful Christmas tree. Her house was filled with ceramic Christmas villages, Santa's, sparkling lights, reindeer and more. She ran a ceramic business, in Bakersfield, with her brother Duke and sister Mary Lou for a few years. Family and friends enjoyed the beautiful items they poured and painted. She loved doing jigsaw puzzles, in her spare time. She was known for having tons of puzzles in all shapes and sizes. Once completed, she would frame them and give them to her friends and customers.

Jo is survived by her

daughter, Sunshine Johnson (aka, Jackie Shirle Johnson). Nieces, Sandi Rhodes, Janice Knight, Debbie Knight, Jeanne Robles, Vicki McCartney and Judy Williams. Great-nieces, Shawna Gruidl, Amber McCartney, Jaime Melendrez, Leah Moerschel and Jennifer Rhodes. Great-nephews, Ronnie Riveira Jr. and Troy Williams. Great-great nieces, Kinsley Gruidl, Aiyana Melendrez, and Nalia Moerschel. Great-great nephews, Dominic Melendrez, Noah Moerschel, Dylan Rhodes, Kalani Riveira and Reed Williams.

In addition to her parents, Jo was predeceased by her husband, Norman Denver "Johnny" Johnson, brothers, George Knight, Ernest Knight, Delmo (Dale) Knight, Julius (Duke) Knight, Robert (Bob) Knight and sister, Mary Lou Salas and great-nephew, Randy Rhodes.

A service of remembrance will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, March 18, 2022, at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, California. Lunch to follow at Casa Orozco Mexican Restaurant, 325 South L Street, Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to remember Jo in a special way may make a gift in her memory to: Kaiser Hospice, 200 Muir Road, Martinez, California, 94553, or East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive, Dublin, California, 94568.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Johnson family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com).

### Phyllis Keene Reinstein Tindell Jan. 6, 1930 - March 5, 2022



Phyllis Tindell passed away in Manteca on March 5, after a brief illness. She is survived by her two daughters, Sherrill (Louis) Esposito and Lynne (Ed) Enfield, four granddaughters, Monica (Evan), Laura (Jason), Stephanie (David) and Amanda (Sammy), and five great-grandchildren, Riley, Emma, Rosie, Cora and Makena.

Phyllis was born in Las Vegas, New Mexico and moved with her parents (Clarence and Mildred Keene) during WWII to be nearer her brother Lyle, who was stationed there during the war. She graduated from Livermore High

School in 1947. She married Bob Reinstein in 1949 and they raised their two daughters in Livermore. Phyllis was mostly a stay-at-home

mom but worked part-time at Davidson's Pharmacy and Baughman's Western Wear. She married Jim Tindell in 1971 and after Phyllis retired from the West Badge Office of LLNL in 1978, they moved to Lake Wildwood where they enjoyed golf and traveling.

She lived the last nine years at Del Webb and Cogir Retirement Home in Manteca. She is predeceased by her parents, her brother and husbands Robert Reinstein and James Tindell. Graveside services will be held on Friday, March 18, at 11 a.m., at Memory Gardens in Livermore.

### Hildegard Juliana Melander Nov. 12, 1939 - Jan. 15, 2022



Hildegard Juliana Melander, beloved wife, mother, Oma, sister, aunt, friend, neighbor and elementary school teacher, passed away peacefully at home in Pleasanton, California on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, surrounded by family. She had a full life dedicated to faith, family, friends, teaching and travel.

The second of five children, Hildegard was born Nov. 12, 1939, in Aschaffenburg, Germany. During World War II, the family moved away from city bombings to Nordheim v.d.Rhön, a small farming village where her mother's family lived. In 1952, they returned to Aschaffenburg. Hildegard finished school and started working for the American Express Company bank on a U.S. Army base, where her German father was bank manager, and where she could practice her English. In 1959, at age 19, on an adventure to experience life outside Germany, Hildegard and a friend traveled by boat to New York under sponsorship of a stateside relative who lived in Buffalo. They found jobs as au pairs in Buffalo, New York and then a year later rode across the country by bus to California where Hildegard worked at a bank in Los Angeles for another year.

Hildegard then returned to Germany as she had promised her parents. She soon met David Melander while she was working at the U.S. Army Education Center in Aschaffenburg as office secretary. David was stationed in Germany as a soldier in Artillery Survey

and had additional duties as a part-time teacher when they met. They married in 1963. In 1965, soon after their first son Marcus was born, they moved back to the U.S. where David began his career with the Alameda County Probation Department. They spent their formative years as a new family in Oakland, California, where Stephen and Heidi were born. They moved to Pleasanton in 1975, put down roots, and developed many community connections.

Hildegard worked with elementary-age children for 30 years at schools in Oakland, giving extra attention to children with special needs. She worked at E. Morris Cox and Raskob and taught first grade at St. Elizabeth Elementary School. She enjoyed the outdoors, camping, hiking and traveling to places near and far. She was involved in the Catholic church, teaching CCD classes, praying at weekly "Adoration" sessions, participating in Neighborhood Christian Communities, and administering communion to the sick.

In the last few years, Hildegard enjoyed taking neighborhood walks, family gatherings, reading, visiting with friends, sitting in the sun and tending to plants in the house and garden. She is survived by her husband, David, of 58 years, their three adult children, Marcus, Stephen (Deborah, and Heidi (Steve Strange); three siblings Kurt Witzel, Siegelinde Connolly and Robert Witzel; sister-in-law Karen Melander Magoon, brother-in-law Binns Melander, sister-in-law Isolde Witzel, daughter-in-law Sage Smiley and several cousins. Hildegard has four adored grandchildren, Kiley, Victoria, Isak and Meghan, and many wonderful nieces, nephews and grand-nieces and grand-nephews in Germany and the U.S. She is predeceased by her parents August and Afra Witzel, her brother Gusti Witzel, sisters-in-law Renate Witzel and Michele Melander, and brothers-in-law Ron Connolly and Orville Magoon. Hildegard has always held close ties with family and friends here and abroad and enjoyed hosting events at home.

A memorial service and celebration of life will be held on Saturday, March 19, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., in Pleasanton, California. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a science-based nature education program such as Lindsay Wildlife Experience in Walnut Creek, St. Elizabeth Elementary in Oakland, Hope Hospice in Dublin or to your favorite charity.

### Giovanna ("Vanna") Pecoraro Born Oct. 6, 1926 - March 10, 2022



Vanna was born in Madison, Wisconsin and received her degree in social work at the University of Wisconsin, where she met her husband, Don. They moved to Livermore in the 1950s and designed the home on Chateau Way that Vanna lived in until her last day. She taught elementary school at Fifth Street and Portola schools for more than 25 years and as a Fulbright Scholar in Cochrane, Alberta for a year.

Vanna was the quintessential educator: creative, demanding and respected. To teach her fifth grade students math concepts, she helped them run a small store in the classroom. Some of her fifth-grade classes actually invested in the stock market. Cooking, another life skill, was a memorable part of her innovative curriculum. It was a joy when former students recognized her in the aisle of Trader Joe's, even 40 years after she had been their teacher. But Vanna was easy to recognize; she got older, but she didn't seem to age. She was a lifelong learner, who loved to read, attend lectures and travel with

the Rhodes Scholar program.

Vanna was outspoken in her beliefs, and she acted on them. She contributed time and money to multiple causes, including a scholarship at Las Positas College to support aspiring early childhood educators. A warm host with an ebullient smile and laugh, Vanna relished cooking for visitors, and there always seemed to be one at her kitchen table. She was known for her soups, the Sicilian dish caponata, and desserts that never had quite enough sugar (because it wasn't good for you, she said). She will be

deeply missed by the many people who admired her kindness and resilience.

Vanna was preceded in death by her husband, Don, and daughter, Ellen. She is survived by her son, Greg of Cleveland, Ohio; sister Nina of Oakland; and nieces and nephews. Vanna's family and friends are grateful for the kind care she received from longtime friend Thelma Fones and from caregivers Gemma, Rochelle, Ruth and Tessie.

A celebration of Vanna's life will be at Terra Mia restaurant on Tuesday, March 29, at noon. Please text your full name to 510-697-0303 if you plan to attend. For those who would like to donate in her memory, please consider the Vanna Born Early Childhood Education Scholarship at LPC ("LPC Foundation" at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore, 94551 or online at <https://www.lpcfoundation.org/investing/make-an-investment/>) Or the Tri Valley Retired Educators Scholarship Fund (for future teachers), c/o Faye Younker, 1792 Old Tower Road, Livermore, California, 94550.

## Livermore Sweeps Cal High

By Nathan Canilao

The Granada High School boys' volleyball team defeated San Ramon's Cal High Grizzlies 3-0 on March 10. The Matadors win their third straight game and improve to 3-2 on the season.

The Matadors dominated the game from the start. The Matadors won their first set 25-10 by capitalizing off of the Grizzlies' mistakes.

The second set started off more competitive, but the Matadors would go on to take a commanding lead late. They would go on to win 25-13.

The Matadors closed out the third set on a big run. They would end the third set with a 25-13 win, winning the match 3-0.

The Matadors extend their winning streak to three and improve to 3-1 in league play. They will face San Ramon Valley High School on the road on March 17.



Granada's Caleb Penner spikes the ball against Cal High's Sam Rose during a match on March 10. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Amador Valley Defeats Wolverines

By Nathan Canilao

Pleasanton's Amador Valley baseball team defeated the Deer Valley Wolverines 11-2 on March 10. The Dons end their five game home stand on a positive note as they improve to 4-2 on the season.

The Dons started the game off strong. They started off the first inning scoring two runs thanks to an inside

the park home run by senior shortstop Brian Walrath.

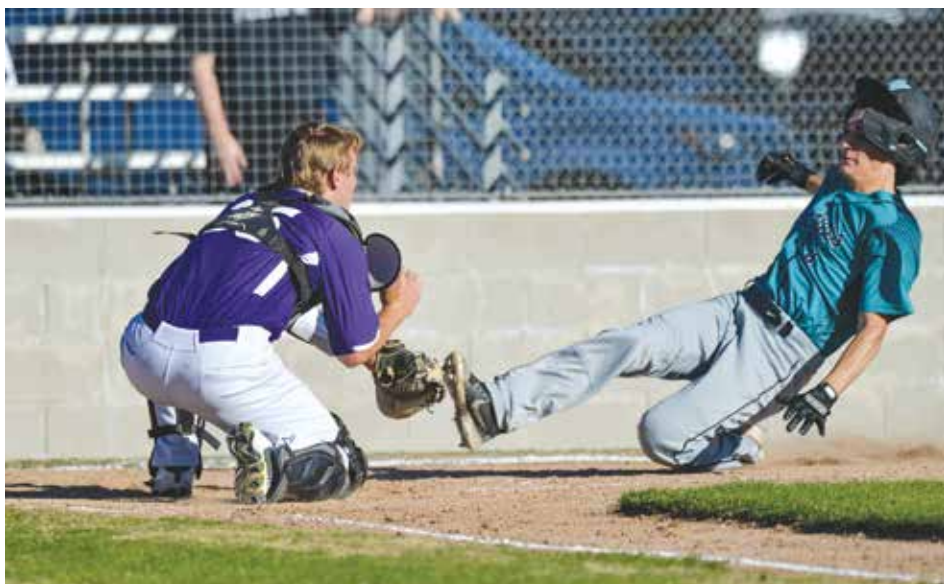
The 2nd inning was even better for the Dons. They were able to get batters on base and took advantage of their opportunities, scoring six runs total in the 2nd.

The Wolverines came back and scored two runs in the 3rd inning, but it was not enough. The Dons would not allow another run for the remainder of the game.

The Dons would score four more runs and close out the game on retiring three straight runners in the ninth.

Walrath went 1-2 with a home run and four RBI's. Junior Tyler Kubo went 2-4 with three RBI's. Pitchers Junior Lederer and Matthew Foley had three strikeouts each.

The Dons improve to 5-2 and will face San Ramon Valley on March 18.



Amador catcher Aaron Bronneburg tags Antioch's Deer Valley runner Carlos Perez out at home plate on Thursday, March 10. Amador won 11 to 2. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## PRISON

(Continued from first page)

In February, former corrections officer Ross Klinger, 37, of Riverside pleaded guilty to three felony charges of sexually abusing three women at FCI Dublin. He faces up to 15 years in prison. Also last month, former chaplain James Theodore Highhouse, 49, pleaded guilty to five counts of sexually abusing a woman seeking spiritual guidance inside his office and then lying to federal investigators.

Former FCI Dublin Warden Ray J. Garcia was charged with engaging in sexual relations with women in September. Former corrections officer John Russell Bellhouse, 39, of Pleasanton was charged in December with sexually abusing a female inmate.

The lawmakers said their visit revealed that cameras were being installed inside prison blind spots. Swalwell said the COVID-19 pandemic could no longer be used as an excuse for delaying the installation and for other abuses, including not allowing inmates to socialize and rehabilitate.

"It's kind of created an environment where you can see how easily many of these abuses take place," Swalwell said.

Speier said that some of the inmates the lawmakers spoke to said they had been incarcerated at other prisons and that FCI Dublin was the worst facility.

"We're going to make sure that there are major changes made because we owe it to them and to the public," Speier said.

Bass, a candidate for mayor of Los Angeles, said she is planning to introduce legislation soon that will look at the "plight of women in the criminal justice system," including going beyond punishment to enable education and rehabilitation.

"This institution needs to have a profound cultural change, as I believe most of the institutions, especially the ones that are for women, need to have a cultural change, because our criminal justice system was not designed for women," Bass said.

John Kostelnik, western regional vice president of

the prison guard union, said he welcomed the congressional visit for those who are doing a good job and need resources. He said the "bad eggs" who engaged in disgraceful acts must be held accountable. Kostelnik blamed negligence of those in charge for the problems and said the prison needs more staff.

"We have to let these members of Congress know what's going on so that they can do their job. If there's more money needed, more resources needed, they need to know," Kostelnik said. "How can you run a prison properly and ensure that these heinous situations don't occur when you don't have the staff to do those things? We have been requesting that for some time."

The federal BOP system has 136 prisons nationwide, including FCI Dublin, a low-security facility. About 635 women are housed there.

Following calls for his resignation, Carvajal announced he would leave his post as soon as President Joseph Biden names a replacement.

## ENERGY

(Continued from first page)

to negotiate both lower rates and cleaner energy sources.

The Renewable 100 plan allows East Bay customers to "get 100% renewable energy from California solar and wind power" at one cent per kilowatt hour above PG&E rates, according to the EBCE website.

An EBCE switch to solar and wind does not, however, involve any physical rewiring or installation on the customer's end.

"As we subscribe more customers to the Renewable 100 plan, essentially we're creating a demand signal to create additional renewable energy projects throughout California and beyond, so that we can satisfy that demand," said Councilmember Shawn Kumagai.

EBCE has so far seen a

3.47% opt-out rate among Dublin residential customers, the lowest of Albany, Hayward and Pleasanton, which all transitioned at the same time.

City staff will return to council with a default energy plan resolution that, if passed, will transition Dublin businesses in October after a "robust outreach effort."

## Pleasanton Softballers Defeat Liberty Lions

By Nathan Canilao

The Foothill High School softball team defeated the Liberty Lions 5-0 on March 10. The Falcons win their fifth straight game and remain undefeated on the season.

The Falcons' pitching was the driving force of their win. They shut out the Lions through seven innings

and committed no errors throughout the game.

On the offensive end, the Lions were able to capitalize on the Lions' mistakes and got runners on base early and often.

The Falcons are averaging 9.5 runs a game on the season and add to their resume with a solid pre-season win over a tough non-conference opponent.

Their defense has been terrific thus far as they only allow 3.6 runs to opposing teams.

The Falcons remain undefeated on the season and get off to their best start since 2019 when they had a perfect 28-0 season. Foothill will play on their first league game on the road against Monte Vista High School on March 17.

## Foothill Lacrosse Edges Out Granada

By Nathan Canilao

The Foothill High School lacrosse team defeated the Granada Matadors 9-8 on March 10. The Falcons win their first league game of the season and improve to 1-1.

It was a team effort from the Falcons. The Falcons had three players score two or more goals and nine assists total for the game.

Senior Darragh Kennedy led the way for the Falcons with three goals on eight shots to go along with two assists. Freshman A.J. Becker and sophomore Wyatt Lam scored two goals each.

Matadors' sophomore Nick Swartzendruber had a big performance scoring five goals and dishing out one assist. Senior Bodhi English added three goals and one assist.

The Falcons get their first win of the season and improve to 1-1. The Matadors lose their fourth straight

game and drop to 0-4 on the season.

Foothill will go on to play Clayton Valley Charter

on the road on March 22. The Matadors will face their cross-town rival Livermore High at home on March 18.



Granada High School's Wesley Short checks Pleasanton Foothill's AJ Becker during a varsity match on Thursday, March 10 in Livermore. Foothill won 9 to 8. [See photo gallery at [www.independentnews.com/multimedia](http://www.independentnews.com/multimedia)] (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

## Heisig Named to President's List at The Citadel

Tavin Heisig, from Pleasanton, was named to the President's List at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, for the fall 2021 semester. The President's List at the Charleston

college combines the Dean's List and the Commandant's Distinguished List of cadets who contribute the most to their companies while maintaining excellent military and academic records.

Commonly referred to as simply The Citadel, the college is one of six senior military colleges in the United States. About a third of graduating cadets earn commissions in the U.S. military.

## MAYORS

(Continued from first page)

utilities, but governments and commercial enterprises really can't do everything," Woerner said. "Nonprofits, with their various really passionate pursuit of their various goals, are key to our high quality of life."

Calling nonprofits key partners, Brown said Pleasanton had allocated \$2.6 million in grants in the last two years to local organizations to provide crisis intervention, help for food insecurity and mental health.

Brown said community members regularly ask her how they can help various causes. Brown suggested TVNPA post lists where nonprofits need help, whether packing groceries at food banks or delivering food, and enlist cities' help to fill the need.

"I think we can give you more than just money, which we're happy to do," Brown said. "I want to give you volunteers that can help because I know that doing a nonprofit is endless hours, lots of responsibility... If you need volunteers, let's work together and see if we can come up with a process that is a volunteer list, publicize it, vet these volunteers to make sure they're going to show up and that they have

a background (check.)"

Each leader said the region's mayors, city council members and staff worked well together to lobby for county and federal funding to pay for various assistance programs.

Asked to identify key issues that kept them up at night, leaders cited mental health, especially for children, as a priority.

"COVID has exacerbated those conditions," Americh said.

Hernandez cited three cities' collaboration last year with Axis Community Health to fund free mental health services for residents regardless of income.

"Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton came together when we knew there was a need with regard to mental health," Hernandez said. "That's a great example of how we do recognize a need and then reach out to each other... That's a recent, shining example of cooperation

and shared goals."

Verosé agreed that mental health care was a key issue, but added that the Bay Area's housing crisis was one where nonprofits and cities should work together to solve.

"We are not as bad as other Bay Area cities, but it's just a matter of time," Verosé said. "It's continuing to become a major issue for all of our cities. We need to work in collaboration so that we can address these issues before they become major problems."

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## HISTORY

(Continued from first page)

factors that determined their influence.

### Alarm in the West

The basic story of the Laboratory's creation is widely known from many historical accounts of the period.

After Los Alamos developed the world's first atom bombs, bringing World War II to a rapid close in the Pacific, the Soviet Union alarmed the West by developing and testing its own.

Fear of Soviet advances motivated many in the U.S. to demand an all-out program to develop the "Super" — the far more powerful thermonuclear weapons that they hoped would intimidate otherwise aggressive Soviet leaders.

Advocates, including physicists Ernest Lawrence and Edward Teller, pushed for a second U.S. nuclear weapons laboratory to spur the thermonuclear weapons progress. After intense debate, a nationwide search sited it at the abandoned Naval Air Training Station east of Livermore.

Charged with developing new ideas to accelerate progress toward the Super, LLNL (then called the University of California Radiation Laboratory, Livermore) opened its gates on a 112-degree day in the late summer of 1952.

As it turned out, the Livermore "Rad Lab," as it was called, offered only technical support to Los Alamos, as the New Mexico laboratory developed and demonstrated a viable concept in the Ivy Mike experiment two months after the Livermore Laboratory was established.

Subsequent progress was so secret that misinformed news media sometimes credited the Rad Lab for Los Alamos successes, adding resentment to the inevitable rivalry that developed between the two laboratories.

More substantive than superficial irritations, the Livermore Laboratory's first 3

nuclear tests were duds, based on design concepts put forward by Edward Teller, following ideas suggested by another great physicist, Enrico Fermi.

Powerful Los Alamos supporters seized on the failures to demand that the new laboratory be shut down. If the Super is so important, they argued, it didn't make sense to divert national resources to an unproven facility that wasn't performing well.

### McCarthy Era

The failures occurred in 1953-1954, in the midst of the McCarthy Era's harsh accusations about the threats posed by communism and the adequacy of the U.S. response to those threats.

Events like the Rosenberg spy trials and Oppenheimer security hearing accentuated the divisions and the sense of national peril.

Personalities were involved as well. Teller had infuriated many in the scientific community through his televised testimony in the Oppenheimer hearings.

Ramos calls 1954 a "low point" for the Livermore Rad Lab and a "golden age" for Los Alamos, which was making good progress in developing large thermonuclear bombs.

In the next several years, however, several young Livermore physicists invented concepts that reversed the Laboratory's fortunes and changed the nature of the U.S. nuclear weapons arsenal.

The physicists included Johnny Foster, Harold Brown, Herb York and Michael May, all destined to take positions of national prominence after serving as Laboratory director.

Details of their inventions remain classified, but Ramos portrays them as brilliant and far-reaching, leading to smaller, lighter warheads and bombs.

### Monster hydrogen bomb

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### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586474

The following person(s) doing business as: Xisus, 4655 Gerrilyn Way, Apt#249, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Virginia R. Hoato, 4655 Gerrilyn Way, Apt#249, 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: Virginia R. Hoato, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 15, 2022. Expires February 14, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5093. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586208

The following person(s) doing business as: Willow Creek Alzheimer's & Dementia Care Center, 22424 Charlene Way, Castro Valley, 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AltCare Willow Creek, Inc., 868 Ensenada Ave, Berkeley, CA 94707. 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: 02/01/2006. Signature of Registrant/s: Robert C. Smith, Executive Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 3, 2022. Expires February 2, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5094. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 585845

The following person(s) doing business as: The Cave Downtown, 186 South K St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lair Enterprises, LLC 186 South K St., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 04/01/2015. Signature of Registrant/s: Karen G. Moore, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2022. Expires January 23, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5095. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586234

The following person(s) doing business as: Diablos Baseball Club, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeremy Branco, 1549 Darwin Ave, Livermore, CA 94550; Martin Raborn, 2749 Riverbend Circle, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an Unincorporated association other than a partnership. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Jeremy Branco, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2022. Expires February 3, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5096. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586046

The following person(s) doing business as: Kings Cleaning Company, 19983 Santa Rita Ave, #204, Castro Valley, CA 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Charles R. Hamill, 19983 Santa Rita Ave, #204, 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: Charles R. Hamill, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 27, 2022. Expires January 26, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5097. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 585897

The following person(s) doing business as: Wow Kids Dental, 925W. Winton Ave, #A, Hayward, CA 94545, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A. K. Hothi Dental, Inc., 9799 Ellis Ct., Live Oak, CA 95953. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 1/25/2022. Signature of Registrant/s: Armit Hothi, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 25, 2022. Expires January 24, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5098. Published February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586608

The following person(s) doing business as: Roofline Services Company, 6291 Sierra Court, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): RL Western, Inc., 9799 Ellis Ct., 6291 Sierra Court, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 2/5/2002. Signature of Registrant/s: Robert Law, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 21, 2022. Expires February 21, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5099. Published March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586616

The following person(s) doing business as: DAC Sales, 4847 Hopyard Rd, Unit 4209, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Camp, 4847 Hopyard Rd, Unit 4209, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: David Camp, Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 22, 2022. Expires February 21, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5100. Published March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586547

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Geo Monjes; 2. Geo-Ya, 5813 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Angelo Cyrus Ramirez Monjes, 5813 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The date on which the registrant first com-

menced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A. Signature of Registrant/s: Angelo Cyrus Ramirez Monjes, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 17, 2022. Expires February 16, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5101. Published March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586762

The following person(s) doing business as: SF Auto Sales, 44790 S. Grimmer Blvd, Suite 101E, Fremont, CA 94538, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SF Auto Sales LLC, 240 Bryant CMN # 102, Fremont, CA 94539. 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: Shira Jan, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 28, 2022. Expires February 27, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5102. Published March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586666

The following person(s) doing business as: Vieira Artistic Designs, 668 South S ST., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nicole Vieira, 668 South S ST., 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: Nicole Vieira, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2022. Expires February 23, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5107. Published March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586660

The following person(s) doing business as: Finish Line Performance, 8578 Briarwood Lane, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Finish Line Performance, 8578 Briarwood Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: 4/19/17. Signature of Registrant/s: Stephen Malfatti, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2022. Expires February 23, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5103. Published March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586700

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Integrated General Counsel; 2. Integrated General Counsel Services; 3. Integrated Legal Counsel; 4. IGC, 4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Integrated General Counsel, P.C., 4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: 12/17/2020. Signature of Registrant/s: Kristen Hayes Kuse, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2022. Expires February 24, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5108. Published March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586945

The following person(s) doing business as: A Cut Above Auto Films, 2021 Calabria Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Samuel P. Marco, 2021 Calabria Dr., 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: 1/20/22. Signature of Registrant/s: Samuel P. Marco, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2022. Expires February 13, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5104. Published March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586932

The following person(s) doing business as: 1. Sithara Couture 2. Sithara Collections, 4227 Kelton St. Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Prathima Singamsetty, 4227 Kelton St. 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: Prathima Singamsetty, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 3, 2022. Expires March 2, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5105. Published March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2022.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 586735

The following person(s) doing business as: Zakia's Comfort Home Care, 4011 Pomona 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: 4/16/2021. Signature of Registrant/s: Zakia Alae, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2022. Expires February 24, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5110. Published March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2022.

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: 2/21/22. Signature of Registrant/s: Shakhya Gupta, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 22, 2022. Expires February 21, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5106. Published March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2022.

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: Chongyu Nie, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2022. Expires February 24, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5111. Published March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2022.

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: Chongyu Nie, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2022. Expires February 24, 2027. The Independent, Legal No. 5111. Published March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2022.

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## LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### ANIMALS

#### CATS/DOGS

#### ADOPT A DOG OR CAT

#### EMPLOYMENT

#### HELP WANTED

#### SERVICES

#### BE WARY OF OUT OF AREA COMPANIES.

#### REAL ESTATE

#### LAND FOR RENT

#### OFFICE/HOUSE/CONDO/DUPLEX / APT RENTAL

#### HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

#### BOAT / RV / RENTAL SPACE

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