

## CANDIDATES FOR LIVERMORE MAYOR

(In alphabetical order)



BARBARA HICKMAN



JOHN MARCHAND



MINUETE MCKERNAN

## CANDIDATES FOR LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL

(In alphabetical order)



BOBBY DALE BURGER



STEWART GARY



MARSHALL KAMENA



LAUREEN TURNER

# BART, Iron Horse Top List of Preferences

By Ron Niccoll  
Building the first phase of BART to Livermore and completing the Iron Horse Trail ranked as the top two projects identified by two dozen residents at a Valleywide workshop.

That support is enough to bring the two capital projects to the attention of the screening committee that will be making recommendations to the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) board, said consultant Bonnie Nelson.

Those present at the ACTC-

sponsored meeting in Dublin last Wednesday also favored funding four program categories. November 2012, Alameda County voters will be asked to approve a one cent permanent sales tax measure for transportation, known as B3. A two-thirds majority will be required to approve the measure.

If the vote fails, the current one-half cent sales tax would remain in effect until 2022. Most of the projects authorized for it have been completed or will be completed within a few years. Completion of the projects, and

sentiment expressed around the county for more projects have motivated the push for a permanent tax.

The four program categories favored for funding by the 24 potential voters at the Dublin meeting were local streets and roads (21), bicycle and pedestrian safety (18), transit operations (15), and paratransit for seniors and disabled (14).

In the capital improvements category, BART's first phase, which would take it to near Isabel Avenue, received 18 votes, as

did completing the Iron Horse Trail. BART's second phase to Livermore, which is slated for Greenville Road, garnered 16 votes.

Nelson told The Independent that the second phase of BART did not rise to a level sufficient to be presented to the committee. The cut-off is really about money, she explained.

Phase 1 will cost an estimated \$1.2 billion. Adding phase 2 brings the cost to \$4 billion, she said. The revenue expected to be raised during the next project

and program period is \$7.7 billion. It's politically unlikely the remainder of the county would stand for spending more than half of the total allocation on a Livermore BART extension.

However, county money won't be the only financial source, as some federal and state funding is expected for the BART extension.

Nelson emphasized that the meeting was only one of many input sources providing the committee information on how the (See MEASURE B3, page 10)



Campaign signs are posted throughout the city in support of candidates running for office in Livermore.

## Kamena, Marchand Raise Most Money

The final campaign finance reports before the election show that council candidate Marshall Kamena and candidate for mayor, John Marchand, have collected the most money through Nov. 3.

The most recent reporting period is from Oct. 23 to Nov. 3, 2011.

Marshall Kamena collected \$1450 during the most recent reporting period. His total is \$19,298. In addition, he has a \$3000 loan to himself. Kamena's donors include \$250 each

(See DONATIONS, page 10)

## Events to Honor Veterans

### Veterans Day Observance at Las Positas College

In observance of Veterans Day, Las Positas College invites the public to attend a free history presentation featuring three nationally renowned World War II heroes on Thursday, Nov. 10, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center for the Arts, Building 4000. Guests are encouraged to arrive for the 9:45 a.m. Presentation of Colors.

The first speaker, 10:30-11:30 a.m., is Maggie Gee, one of only two Chinese-American women pilots who served with the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). She helped male pilots train for combat and became a part of an air transport program where she would ferry men and aircraft to ports of embarkation. In 2009, a book was written

about her life story called, "Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee." In 2010, she received the Congressional Gold Medal.

The second presentation, 12-1 p.m., features Lt. LeRoy Gilead and Lt. Col. Harold Hoskins Jr., two of the original Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African-American pilots who fought in World War II. Before 1940, African-Americans were barred from flying for the U.S. military. In 1941, civil rights efforts resulted in the formation of an all African-American pursuit squadron based in Tuskegee, Ala. which became known as the Tuskegee Airmen - recognized as one of the most highly respected fighter groups of World War II. An eponymous award-winning 1995 film chronicles their heroism and significance in integration of the military.

Following is the complete schedule of events:

- 8 a.m. Dedication of the Flag by the Student Veterans Organization
- 9:45 a.m. National Anthem and Presentation of Colors by Travis Air Force Base
- 10:30 a.m. Maggie Gee Presentation
- 12 p.m. Tuskegee Airmen Presentation
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. BBQ by Elite Cafeteria
- 5 p.m. TAPS performed by David Kratochvil

Other highlights include WASP and Maggie Gee display in the Library, Branches of Service display in the Multi-Disciplinary Building 2400, Air Force Jazz Band, Warrior Watch Riders, Vietnam-era Huey helicopter, past and present military vehicles

(See VETERANS DAY, page 11)

On November 8, The Independent recommends:  
Livermore Mayor: John Marchand  
Livermore City Council: Marshall Kamena and Stewart Gary

## Pleasanton to Review Green Building Rules

Plans for a new memory care/assisted living facility in Pleasanton led councilmembers to suggest it is time to update the city's green building ordinance.

The vote to approve the 46 bed, 21, 481 square foot facility was unanimous. It will be located on Sunol Boulevard just south of the cemetery.

The council increased requirements for energy efficiency and green building. The council added more energy star appliances, a requirement that the builder work

with the city on improving green building and energy efficiency, LED lighting in the parking lot, and separate trash containers for recyclables, as well as universal design standards. The council also asked that a discussion be held to determine if those under age 60 could be admitted.

Universal design includes a broad-spectrum of ideas meant to produce buildings, products and environments that are inherently accessible to both people (See GREEN, page 9)

## It's Official, Livermore to Host Bicycle Race Stage Finish

After reviewing more than 100 submissions from cities throughout California hoping to be named official start or finish locations, AEG, presenter of the Amgen Tour of California, has announced the 13 official Host Cities for the 2012 race. The seventh consecutive edition of the Amgen Tour of California will travel more than 750 miles from May 13 - 20, 2012.

Livermore has been selected as a finish city. Livermore vice mayor John Marchand was on hand for the official announcement on Thursday.

Marchand stated, "The Amgen Tour is America's premier cycling event. The residents of Livermore have enthusiastically supported the tour every year that it has come to our city. In May of this year, Livermore's revitalized downtown was on the world stage as Livermore served as a host city for the state of Stage 4. Through the efforts of a great planning team and the strong support of the community,

over 10,000 race fans joined in a citywide celebration of cycling, cheering on the riders as they started the race for the day."

Kristin Bachochin, executive director of the Amgen Tour of California, said of the race, "Our goal for the Amgen Tour of California has always been to create a route that provides not only a challenging race for the world's top cyclists, but one that highlights the beauty and diverse terrain that make up the great state of California. Every year we challenge ourselves to raise the bar once again and create a route more challenging than the last, but that's the great thing about planning a race in California. There is so much from which we can choose. From epic climbs to fast and flat stages to rolling hills and thrilling finishes by the sea, California has it all."

Marchand noted, "I'm sure that our picturesque hills and vineyards, our cultural arts venues and events, and our sweeping (See FINISH, page 9)



Livermore High School student Emmy Young poses with the mural she painted as part of the urban artists program. For her story, see page 11.

## Inside

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Voters can watch two different forums focusing on the Livermore election:

• Cable Channel TV 30 is showing interviews of the candidates at various times. For the schedule check [www.tri-valleytv.org](http://www.tri-valleytv.org)

• The forum hosted by the League of Women Voters and American Association of University Women can be viewed on-line at the Livermore Heritage Guild website: [livermorehistory.com](http://livermorehistory.com)

# Livermore High School PTSA throws a spooktacular feast for staff

By Patricia Koning

On Halloween, the new Livermore High School (LHS) Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) threw a spooktacular feast for the staff, complete with a "poison" candy bar and witches' brew, in the form of Panera soup and bread. PTSA members and other parents provided drinks, salads, and desserts.

"We're a brand new organization, so we don't have money to purchase supplies or award grants," said PTSA president Mary Stolz. "However, we have plenty of eager volunteers who are willing to help, so this is something we can do."

The LHS PTSA is the first in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District at the high school level. Stolz said the organization has three main goals: to increase communication between students, staff, and parents; to coordinate staff appreciation; and to provide academic support.

The PTSA has provided volunteers to help process students at orientation, sort physical education uniforms, assign lockers, and assist in setting up and taking down science labs. "They are available at the drop of an email," said LHS PE teacher Denise Boder. "The volunteers helped with all of the extra start-of-school tasks so we could attend to the students."



LHS sophomore and PTSA secretary Chloe Williams prepares the candy bar for the spooktacular staff feast.

AP biology teacher Susan Edgar-Lee has already benefited from parent help in her labs. "Science is a very demanding subject to teach because of the labs. The extra help has enabled us to do more hands-on activities," she said.

Stolz believes it is a misconception that parents of high school students aren't interested in volunteering at school. "Parents still want to help, but it's hard to know where to step in," she said. "If you don't have an athlete or band member, where

do you go to help? The PTSA is now that place."

The LHS PTSA is not meant to supplant any existing parent volunteer organizations, like the Livermore-Granada Boosters Club, which supports athletic programs. "We are here to fit in where we can and enhance the

already great experiences offered to students and families," said Stolz. "We want to focus on community outreach, relationship building, and offer leadership opportunities to our community of students."

The PTSA is promoting LHS Green Solutions Academy Teacher Mike Waltz' entry into the Clorox Grant "Power a Bright Future" competition. The LHS entry has been given "Clorox Pick" status. However, the winner is still based on votes from the public. To vote, visit [www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=937](http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=937) or text "clorox5374" to 44144. Voting closes on Dec. 9.

The LHS PTSA has over 150 members and three student board members: Chloe Williams, secretary; Breanna Jusinski, historian; and Ashley Holmes, ASB and student athletics representative. For Williams, a sophomore, the PTSA offers her a chance to get involved in student leadership. "My schedule hasn't allowed me to take leadership as a class," she said. "By serving on the board of

the PTSA, I hope to give voice to the students who aren't in leadership or any big activities."

For more information on the LHS PTSA, visit [www.livermorehs.schoolloop.com](http://www.livermorehs.schoolloop.com) and find "PTSA" under the Resources tab or look for Livermore High

School PTSA on Facebook. Membership is \$10 and can be mailed to 600 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94551 Attn: PTSA. Please include your contact information or email Mary Stolz at [marystolz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marystolz@sbcglobal.net) to join.

## Pleasanton Police Seek Help in Finding Missing Teen

The Pleasanton Police Department seeks the public's help in locating a late 90's model black Honda, California license number 4PRM200. Authorities suspect that the vehicle is operated by Gavin McFate, 25, who is wanted on an Alameda County felony arrest warrant and is thought to be in the company of a missing 15-year-old Pleasanton girl. The girl, Shelby Harris, was reported missing Wednesday. It is unknown at this time if she is with McFate voluntarily or against her will.

Harris is white, 5-foot-7 inches tall, and approximately 140 pounds with black hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing a Halloween costume with a red cape, red shirt, blue jeans, black high heeled shoes, and a Mardi Gras mask.

McFate is a white male, 6-foot-3 inches tall and approximately 210 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes.

Pleasanton police urge anyone who sees the vehicle or the couple to please contact them at 925-931-5100.

Anyone with information that may aid in the ongoing investigation and the recovery of Harris is urged to contact the Pleasanton Police Department at (925) 931-5100.

Seventh Annual - 2011

# Earlier Than The Bird

Saturday November 19th - 7am - Noon

Shopping Pajama Party



Presented By

**Livermore Downtown**

*Where Brilliance Thrives!*

Participating Downtown Businesses

Free Gift to those in Pajamas at the Flag Pole Plaza at the corner of Livermore Avenue & First Street



## Vote Marchand for Mayor



*For*

- *Experience* • *Integrity*
- *Proven, effective leadership*

**Livermore is a great place to live.** In the most recent citizen survey, 92% of respondents agreed that Livermore is a great place to live. Keep Livermore great.

**Elect Vice Mayor John Marchand for Livermore's Mayor.**

### PRIORITIES

- **BART on 580** - BART will stay on the 580 alignment because Marchand voted to keep it there.
- **Our Urban Growth Boundary is Livermore's defining feature.** It preserves our prized vineyards and hills and is absolutely a key component to our quality of life. As your Mayor, John Marchand will continue to protect our Urban Growth Boundary and our quality of life that is unique to Livermore.
- **The Local Economy.** One of Marchand's goals has been to bring in new jobs and new, high-tech, clean industry. The designation of Livermore as one of only six innovation technology hubs in the State, coupled with the i-NEST (National Energy Systems Technology) business incubator means that Livermore will become the center for investment in new technology; creating thousands of new, high-tech, high-paying jobs. In addition, Marchand was instrumental in bringing the new Paragon Outlet Mall project to Livermore. This project means millions of dollars in new revenue and thousands of new jobs.

**Governance is a team effort.** It requires vision and leadership to get things done. It is not enough for elected representatives to simply listen to the community. **Marchand listens to the community and gets results.**



### ENDORSEMENTS

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congressman Jerry McNerney</li> <li>• Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena</li> <li>• Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti</li> <li>• Jim Concannon</li> <li>• Pat Codioli</li> <li>• Clarence and Pat Hoenig</li> <li>• Congressman John Garamendi</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan</li> <li>• Former Mayor Archer Futch</li> <li>• Friends of Vineyards co-founder Barbara Stear</li> <li>• Steve Kalthoff</li> <li>• Bob Baltzer</li> <li>• Herman and Marj Leider</li> <li>• Reverend Deacon Dave Rezendes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Supervisor Scott Haggerty</li> <li>• Former Mayor John Shirley</li> <li>• Phil Wentz</li> <li>• Robert Taylor</li> <li>• Ted and Dale Kaye</li> <li>• Doug and Nadine Horner</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|

*Keeping Livermore Great!* [www.marchandformayor2011.com](http://www.marchandformayor2011.com)

CHRISTMAS TREE LANE AT THE

# North Pole

PALM EVENT CENTER  
1184 VINEYARD AVENUE, PLEASANTON



## Family Stroll

Thursday, November 17, 5–8pm

This family-friendly evening features a visit with Santa Claus, refreshments, shopping in Santa's Secret Shoppe and strolling among the trees.

## The Tinsel & Christmas Teas

Friday, November 18, 10am and 2pm

Friday morning and afternoon teas. Walk through the magical indoor forest as you place your chance ticket in the mailbox of the tree you hope to win and bid on unique silent auction gift baskets. Visit Santa's Holiday Boutique to jump start your holiday shopping.

## Silent Night Soiree

Friday, November 18, 6:30pm

Kick off the holiday season dancing and dining with friends. Enjoy friendly bidding for exquisite silent auction gift baskets and enter your chance tickets for the beautifully decorated Christmas trees.

## Silver Bells Luncheon

Saturday, November 19, 10:30am–1:30pm

Enter the glittering wonderland of lights and colors. Visit the Merry Gentlemen to purchase tree tickets. Enjoy gourmet holiday fare and entertainment with friends around your table. Be the lucky winner of the stunning china table setting, or your favorite tree — and the gifts under the tree!

For more information, please visit [valleycare.com/fundraisingevents](http://valleycare.com/fundraisingevents)

For advance tickets, complete form and return with check, payable to: ValleyCare Charitable Foundation,  
1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore, CA 94550 • Phone (925) 373-4560 • Fax (925) 373-4117

<input type="checkbox"/> Family Stroll, Nov 17, \$15.00 per adult.	Name _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Stroll, Nov 17, \$10.00 per child.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinsel Tea, Nov 18, 10AM – Noon, ticket(s) \$35 per person	Address _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinsel Tea, Nov 18, 10AM – Noon, table for 10 at \$350	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinsel Tea, Nov 18, 2 – 4PM, ticket(s) \$35 per person	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinsel Tea, Nov 18, 2 – 4PM, table for 10 at \$350	Tel (W) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Silent Night Soirée, Nov. 18, ticket(s) at \$75 per person	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Silent Night Soirée, Nov. 18, table for 8 at \$600	Tel (H) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Luncheon, Nov. 19, ticket(s) at \$85 per person	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Luncheon, Nov. 19, table for 10 at \$850	Email _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I am unable to attend. Enclosed is a contribution.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge <input type="checkbox"/> M/C <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Amex	
Total \$ _____ Card# _____ Exp. _____	Signature _____

All proceeds of Christmas Tree Lane benefit the ValleyCare Breast Cancer Patient Navigator Program and the expansion of Emergency Services, which have been serving the Tri Valley for 50 years.



# EDITORIAL

## Your Choice: 'Sky Is Falling' Or 'Build on Success'

On November 8, Livermore voters will choose a new mayor and two new councilmembers.

Three candidates are competing for mayor: Barbara Hickman, John Marchand and Minuete McKernan. Four council candidates, Bobby Dale Burger, Stewart Gary, Marshall Kamena and Lauren Turner, hope to win one of two council seats.

Voters have a definite choice. One group of candidates declares that the "sky is falling." If not elected, BART will go downtown, city services will decline, and the downtown will be ruined by the plans of the current council. A second group points to the quality of life in Livermore resulting from the projects and programs initiated by the current council. If elected, they would build on the transformation that has already taken place.

Among the many issues that have drawn attention during the campaign, these have risen to the top: BART on 580, the urban growth boundary, the economy and city budget.

All of the candidates have voiced support for the urban growth boundary (UGB).

Only Marchand and McKernan for mayor, and council candidates Kamena and Gary have expressed unreserved support for the UGB, actively championing it. Barbara Hickman has said, it wouldn't "hurt to move it a little" to accommodate housing around BART stations. The fact is that the UGB does not need to move at all to enable BART to proceed. Bobby Dale Burger commented during his interview at The Independent that it may be time to look at the UGB again, to poll citizens to see what they want. Lauren Turner said she absolutely supports the urban growth boundary. However, if people want to vote to move the UGB, it is up to them to decide to do so.

It is important to note that the urban growth boundary has been the catalyst for investments in the downtown, creating a place where people enjoy shopping, dining, and attending live theater and movies. Kamena and Marchand are the ones who have been instrumental in making the downtown the vibrant city center it has become today.

The economy and jobs are seen by residents as important issues for Livermore. Growing the economy would provide additional revenues for Livermore that would go towards expanding services, such as police, fire and library.

All of the candidates say they would work to improve the economy and jobs. Only two have a proven record of doing so: Marchand and Kamena. The successes of the current city council include Paragon Outlet Center, i-GATE, and the Livermore Valley Open Campus. It is projected that these and other science and technology businesses will result in 9500 jobs in the next three to five years. Gary has proposed a program that would supply the workers needed to fill these jobs with his employee bank.

All of the candidates agree that BART will remain on 580 with a first phase station built at Isabel.

As the current mayor, Kamena serves as a member of the Measure B3 reauthorization committee. It would be wise to retain Kamena for this experience and his long-standing Bay Area connections. Gary's expertise in dealing with government agencies would be invaluable in ensuring the hundreds of millions needed for BART to Livermore, as well as the permits in a timely manner. Turner emphasized only that she would focus on creating appropriate housing at the BART stations. Burger would continue to advocate to keep BART on 580 all the way to Greenville, even though a funding source is not expected to be identified for twenty years.

In the mayor's race, Marchand has been privy to the talks that would bring BART to Livermore and as mayor would engage with Kamena to continue the momentum. Hickman simply said she would keep insisting that BART remain on 580.

There are ongoing budget issues because of state efforts to take funds from local governments. Hickman has had the least experience in handling large budgets, only citing her ability to manage her household budget as a qualification. When asked about the budget at the Chamber of Commerce forum, she commented, "I agree with the mayor (Kamena)." Of the remaining candidates, only Kamena, Gary and Marchand have the depth of experience to deal with the economic pressures affecting city government.

Labor negotiations are key to creating a sustainable budget. Gary, as fire chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and Livermore school trustee, has a long background of working with employees to create a situation that is a win-win for both sides. Kamena and Marchand, too, have been involved in labor negotiations. The other candidates did not cite any experience that they have had with labor negotiations.

Only three candidates have the background necessary to continue the momentum of the last ten years, moving forward with programs that gained a 92 percent approval rating from residents. They are John Marchand for mayor, and Marshall Kamena and Stewart Gary for city council.

## Seven Candidates on November 8 Ballot

Candidates for mayor are Barbara Hickman, John Marchand and Minuete McKernan. They are listed in alphabetical order.

**BARBARA HICKMAN** spent five years on the city's Design Review Committee (2 years as chairman), three years on the city's Redevelopment Area Commission (2 years as chairman) and has attended city council and planning commission meetings over the past several years. She participated in the downtown redevelopment workshops. For over 10 years, she hosted a local television program, "Grassroots Issues."

Hickman said that she is running because she believes the character of the city is at risk if the mind set of the current council prevails. She stated that she would respect the urban growth boundary. However, it wouldn't hurt to move it a little to accommodate BART. She supports keeping BART on 580 and worked on the petition drive. Hickman has said that she believes that important and controversial issues should go to a vote. Among those issues, according to Hickman that should have been on the ballot for a voter decision are the BART extension, the regional theater, and the urban growth boundary. She would work to bring back the 4th of July event and to increase hours at the Springtown Library.

**JOHN MARCHAND** is currently the vice mayor of Livermore. He was first elected to the City Council in 2005. Previously, he served on the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors for 15 years. He was appointed to the Livermore's General Plan Review Committee and served as one of the founding members of the Livermore Commission for the Arts. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Cal State Hayward (CSU East Bay). He is employed as a senior water chemist by the Alameda County Water District.

Marchand said his goal is to keep Livermore a great place to live and raise families. He called

the urban growth boundary the key element to preservation of Livermore's small town character and quality of life. Marchand supports keeping BART on 580. He was instrumental in bringing the Paragon Outlet center to Livermore. He is also a strong supporter of the arts. Marchand has had as mayor, having taken on the role while the current mayor was recovering from cancer. During that time, he lobbied in Washington, D.C. bringing home funds for transportation projects on 580.

**MINUETE MCKERNAN** is a graduate of Livermore High School and currently a student at Dominican University in San Rafael, where she is majoring in Political Science and minoring in Pre-Law. She is a Past Worthy Advisor of the Livermore Assembly International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, a Masonic youth organization that focuses on leadership, public speaking and community service.

McKernan described herself as a proponent of the urban growth boundary and bringing business to Livermore. The project she is most interested in working on is the Livermore Valley Open Campus, with its educational and technological aspects. McKernan said that business should be happy to come to Livermore. She has said in interviews that she is the future and would bring a fresh perspective to the role as mayor. She too supports BART on 580.

Candidates for Livermore city council are Bobby Dale Burger, Stewart Gary, Marshall Kamena, and Lauren Turner. They are listed in alphabetical order.

**BOBBY DALE BURGER** is a former member of the United States Air Force, having served in both Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. While in the military, he served as three terms as elected President of the Enlisted Organization. Burger earned a Degree in Financial Management while in the service. He is

the current Marketing Officer for UNCLE Credit Union.

Burger worked on the BART on I-580 petition drive and is opposed to the extension into downtown. He supports the regional theater, but not the use of public funds to back bonds to fund it without voter approval. He has said that he would work to restore citywide library service and the 4th of July Celebration. He would advocate for quality youth programs, enhanced crime prevention measures including gang and drug taskforces to protect families, and a financially balanced approach to local government. He has voiced support for the urban growth boundary (UGB), but has said he thinks that it may be time to look at the UGB and the city's growth policies.

**STEWART GARY** is currently a member of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees. He retired as chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department. He was appointed chief of Livermore's Fire Department in 1994 and oversaw the merger of Livermore and Pleasanton's Fire Departments before retiring in 2005. He holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Public Administration and an Associates Degree in Fire Science. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Livermore Valley Education Foundation.

Gary strongly believes in maintaining the Urban Growth Boundary to preserve open space, agriculture and the city's distinct visual appearance. He would work energetically to bring BART to Livermore along the I-580 corridor. Gary would target strategies that focus on providing safe neighborhoods with appropriate city maintenance and code enforcement. He would work closely with the school board and Las Positas College to promote education, where every child is provided with opportunities.

**MARSHALL KAMENA** has served as Mayor of Livermore since 2001. Prior to that he was a member of the city council

from 1976-1985 and mayor in 1979-1980 when the mayor's role was assigned a serving councilmember. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley with a BS and an OD degree. He maintains his license to practice Medical Optometry and treat eye diseases. However his former practice is now a corporation called Murrieta Optometry with his son as the principal and doctor in charge. The mayor devotes full time to his position in the city of Livermore.

Kamena has said that the last ten years have been the most productive in history for the mayor and council. The budget is balanced, core services retained, the downtown renewed, the El Charro outlet center moved forward, the urban growth boundary approved, the Isabel interchange nearly completed, State Route 84 removed from the downtown and a park and master trail plan completed. He would continue to work energetically to extend BART on 580. He would advance plans for i-GATE and the Livermore Valley Open Campus, bringing many jobs to the city.

**LAUREN TURNER** is a member of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors. She is a registered nurse at ValleyCare hospital and a nursing instructor for Ohlone College. She holds a bachelors degree in nursing from San Jose State University, masters degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, and a masters in Nursing Education in progress from American Sentinel University.

Turner has said that she would focus on seven issues including opposing the LARPD merger, keeping BART on 580 and defining the required housing, supporting the regional theater, which she says she has the experience to make successful, while at the same time opposing the use of the general fund. She supports the urban growth boundary. Among her projects would be to bring back the 4th of July and increase hours at the Springtown Library.

## Save Mount Diablo Acquires 145-Acre Ranch

Save Mount Diablo (SMD) recently won an estate court auction to purchase the 145-acre Thomas "Home Ranch" for \$1,376,500.

Ron Brown, SMD's Executive Director, stated, "The other bidder was almost certainly a developer. This is the second time that SMD has saved the property. Working with the Thomas family, we also stopped its development in the late 1990s. A number of family members have thanked us recently for making sure the property will finally be preserved for good."

Also known as "Thomas North," the Home Ranch is being acquired at the same time that East Bay Regional Park District is purchasing the 160-acre "Thomas Central" and 852-acre "Thomas South." The park district has already purchased the 798-acre Barron property, another Thomas property providing the final link between Mt. Diablo State Park and Black Diamond Mines. Although those properties are bigger, they are also more rugged

and remote. The Home Ranch was far more developable, threatened and expensive.

The ranch is located at the intersection of Kirker Pass and Nortonville Roads, just south of Pittsburg. Two hundred years ago the view down to the waterfront included herds of pronghorn and tule elk and the occasional grizzly bear or Indian hunting them. As Spanish missions expanded their influence, antelope and elk were replaced by cattle and horses. The missions were succeeded by Mexican ranchos. However, what would become the Thomas Ranch was left alone up at the edge of the Diablo foothills. A shortcut through the hills became known as Kirker Pass. The gold rush started. In 1849, the landscape was "barren and desolate enough to look upon, rising in swells like the waves of the ocean, with Mount Diablo towering far above it, but without a house or tent visible." Coal was discovered and a road constructed across the property, leading from

the boom bust "New York of the Pacific" up to the mining town of Nortonville.

In 1869, the property was homesteaded by the Thomas family, Welsh miners by way of Nortonville. Widow Margaret Thomas sold a strip of land for a railway up to the mines, dividing the ranch into two pieces. Then the county bought a strip for a new road, dividing the property again. The county repeatedly demanded more land to widen Kirker Pass Road. Similarly, utility and energy companies wanted power and pipeline and telephone easements. The Thomas's resisted the outsiders who wanted a piece of it.

The Park District was interested in purchasing the property, but a variety of problems, including developer competition, timing, and technical issues related to funding threatened to get in the way. SMD stepped in to help. "The Park District is very grateful for Save Mount

Diablo's role in protecting this strategic property at the mouth of Nortonville Canyon," said Nancy Wenninger, Assistant General Manager/Land Division for the District. "We were very interested in this acquisition, but we weren't going to be able to complete the purchase."

Thomas is gateway to Nortonville Canyon and Kirker Pass.

"Thomas' location is very strategic in terms of its relationship to the Urban Limit Line, Pittsburg, Kirker Pass and the entrance to Nortonville Canyon and the resources there," said Malcolm Sproul, SMD's President. "It's the northwestern most extension of the San Joaquin Valley, with similar habitat and environmental conditions. It includes a cattle tunnel under Kirker Pass Road. The fact that a safe undercrossing already exists is a real asset. Nortonville Canyon can be another access into Black Diamond Mines."

## MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be submitted by e-mail to editmail@compuserve.com.)

### My Vote Kathy Coyle Livermore

It is City Council election time again with reminders of old news, past pledges, campaign promises and issues. Once again, the Urban Growth Boundary fence is making its way through town.

Friends of Livermore (FOL), which supports the Kamena/Marchand/Gary slate, continues to cut the same swath it always does against any opponents by attempting to make this election all about the supposedly vulnerable Urban Growth Boundary. The one attempt to move the UGB 2005, was defeated by a huge margin, so let's move on!

The FOL drew the UGB by arguing development in North Livermore would destroy the small town charm of our downtown. This group, along with the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, supported bringing BART through downtown. They aggressively support the massive and risky regional theater, which will bring in 2000 people, most

from out of town, every night it is open. How does either of these projects preserve our small town charm?

The Independent says the current council "listened" to the community regarding the BART initiative. It took 8300 signatures on a petition for them to realize they were in serious trouble on this issue. I wouldn't call making the choice to adopt the initiative "listening" to anyone, when the options were "put it on the ballot or adopt it." The council also spent \$250,000 to fund a report designed to give them a "Lone Ranger" moment and save face.

So, whose voices will the new council hear? We have an opportunity to replace the one sided council with one more broadly representing the community. The Friends of Livermore just wants to play musical chairs via an end run around term limits they supported.

I believe it is time for some fresh faces and ideas and will vote accordingly.

### BART on 580 Kristen Emery Livermore

Someone in your last Editorial was questioning why the "Keep BART on 580 signs." The "Keep BART on 580" is a group of people that came together last year with the goal to keep BART on 580. This same group of people is now focused on getting the right people in office who listen and talk to their people so we don't have to stand out in the rain and waste days/weekends getting

signatures just so our voices can be heard.

I am one of those people that stood out in the rain. I must say I have NEVER been political in my life. I wasn't even registered to vote up until a few years ago. But, the BART issue concerned me. I went to the city council meetings. I felt it was pointless. The City Council was going to do whatever it wanted. I had a friend who convinced me not give up. We joined this group of concerned citizens. I found we were not alone. When I was getting signatures people were so happy to see us out there. They thanked us for taking our time so their voices can be heard. I personally would have liked to see the initiative on the ballot so everyone had their say.

But, I must admit I am happy BART will be on 580. So, during this election I stepped up to do what I could do to support Barbara Hickman, Bobby Burger and Lauren Turner with the campaign. I do not want to spend anymore weekends standing in the rain to get my voice heard. I would like to see a council listen to their people.

### Critical Choice Tamara Reus Livermore

Voters face a critical choice in November, one that could change Livermore's future for years to come. I know that many voters are angry about the BART routing issue. The present council, with the information gained from the 9212 report, found a way to put

BART on 580 without impacting the Urban Growth Boundary or sensitive habitat. The fact is that John Marchand and Marshall Kamena accepted the views of the apparent majority of residents who did not want BART to go downtown. This is the very essence of the democratic process. Rather than being angry over their decision, the citizens who support BART on 580 should be glad that these leaders listened to their views and responded without putting the community to an expensive and divisive vote on the issue. We need leaders who respect the will of the people, and we have them in Marchand and Kamena. They, along with candidate Stu Gary, have expressed their commitment to bring BART to Livermore along 580. Marchand and Kamena, as current council members, have taken steps to obtain initial funding of the project. The BART on 580 candidates would have you believe that the BART route is still an issue. It's not. It's time to move forward, and consider the real issues facing our city.

Among those issues are the fiscal pressures faced in this time of shrinking government revenue. We need candidates who understand the budgeting process and have experience with the political aspects of securing funding and making sound fiscal decisions. This is not a time for political newcomers. The learning curve is simply too high. We need a Mayor and City Council Members who can hit the ground

(More MAILBOX, page 5)

# MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

running and get to work making the difficult decisions that are going to have to be made with as little hardship to the community as possible. Candidates Marchand, Kamena, and Gary have the proven leadership experience to do the job. The other candidates are political novices who lack the skills necessary to confront these very serious issues.

Our city will also continue to face pressure from developers who see Livermore's rural lands as a potential revenue source. Candidates Marchand, Kamena, and Gary have expressed their commitment to honor the Urban Growth Boundary and to protect our open space resources such as Doolan Canyon. Candidate Hickman has already said she would be willing to move the Urban Growth Boundary "a little" to accommodate BART, even though this is no longer necessary. What starts out as "a little" can easily become "a little more" and "a little more again" and so on. In fact, major backers of the slate of Hickman, Burger, and Turner include former Dublin Mayor Linda Jeffrey Sailors, former Livermore Mayor Cathie Brown, and former Livermore Councilwoman Lorraine Dietrich, known for their past support of developers and urban sprawl projects such as the Pardee Homes Development in 2005. We can only assume that they are backing these candidates because they believe they will be supportive of development interests in the future. We simply cannot afford to risk electing candidates who will allow developers to carve up our hills and North Livermore for more housing tracts.

Finally, there is the issue of vision. Marchand and Kamena have a proven track record. Their decisions helped create a vibrant downtown Livermore. When I moved here 15 years ago, downtown was virtually deserted in the evenings and on weekends; there was no sense of place. Now we have a thriving area with businesses, restaurants, and a variety of entertainment choices. This was a result of elected officials who had the vision to imagine something better and make it a reality. Change is inevitable. Livermore is not like it was 50 or 15 years ago. We don't need elected officials, like Hickman, Burger and Turner, who think that staying the way we are now is necessarily better. This is a naive view that illustrates their inexperience and can lead to stagnation. Marchand, Kamena, and Gary are true leaders who will inspire us and take action to ensure that Livermore remains fiscally sound, economically healthy, environmentally protected, and an amazing place to live and work. Please join me in voting for them.

## BART on 580 Issue Patricia Grimes Livermore

While the City of Livermore may have made a decision to keep BART on 580, this has not been made policy by the BART board. In fact, their current plan calls for BART lines to be continued as far as Portola (not Isabel) with NO station, leaving them the option of keeping the old downtown route.

When our BART director was asked to kill the idea of bringing it downtown, he very definitely refused to say that the downtown route was out of the question. So, the BART issue is not yet dead, and we would rather have the issue supported by people who really believe in it, than those who were vehemently against it and only grudgingly gave their support when they had no other option.

## Bringing BART to Livermore Maryann Brent Livermore

Hello Livermore residents! Gather 'round as I share my understanding of a dialog between BART officials and the community this past July.

I attended the Tri-Valley Regional Rail Policy Working Group, a public meeting, on July 26, 2011 in the City Council Chambers, which began at 1:30 p.m. John McPartland (BART Director, District 5 - i.e., our representative) stressed that the Livermore BART route extension depends on consensus in the community. If the community does not speak with one voice, BART will not even begin the project. To show solidarity with the community, our Council wisely passed a measure to approve the "BART on 580 route" to get the project moving.

I also learned at the meeting that funding is critical. Our City Council has already been working to secure the dollars needed

for the first station on I-580. Measure B3, sponsored by the Alameda County Transportation Commission, could provide the millions needed to allow Livermore BART on I-580 to move forward. Alameda County voters will be asked to approve B3 November 2012. In the next six months, the Commission needs to decide whether the Isabel BART station on I-580 will be included in the measure. Numerous interest groups outside Livermore are pressuring to have their projects built before our Isabel station. No matter who is elected to our Council, funding for the Greenville station on I-580, which the current Council has approved, will not be available for several decades. Fortunately, John Marchand and Marshall Kamena are at work now securing the initial \$400 million needed to launch the Isabel project, one that could begin construction by the end of 2013.

Barbara Hickman has said that she will be a watchdog. However, what is needed to actually land the first stage of BART on I-580 in the next six months are the relationships and skills that Marchand and Kamena bring to the difficult negotiations now underway.

For their experience and competence, I endorse Marchand for Mayor and Kamena for City Council. They are the ones who can make BART on 580 a reality.

## Vote for Gary Glen Haendel Firefighter

This letter is to show support for Stewart Gary who is running for a city council position in the City of Livermore. When Stewart Gary was the Fire Chief for the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, I was one of his chief officers. I found Stewart Gary to be innovative, passionate about what he does, and got results in what he set out to do! He is a leader who listens and hears what citizens are saying. The residents of the City of Livermore need to cast their votes for Stewart Gary, because they are not going to find a more dedicated person who will look out for the welfare of the City.

## Leadership Sheri Ann Dante Livermore

I am so glad to see the campaign signs for Kamena, Marchand, and Gary proclaiming "proven leadership." I agree, these gentlemen have proven they will take the city of Livermore down the path of fiscal irresponsibility.

These current city council members promoted a BART route through downtown Livermore, at a cost of \$750 million more than the cost of routing BART along the 580 freeway.

During the past four years, while our country has been in recession, the current city council members voted to build a new 2000-seat regional theater in downtown Livermore at a total cost of \$186 million over 30 years. And, they had the audacity to back the cost of this theater with the City of Livermore's General Fund. The council did not allow the citizens of Livermore to vote on whether we wanted to "cosign" the regional theater loan, the council made this decision for us.

I am baffled by the current council's choices, and submit that they have had their chance to lead Livermore, and now it is time for them to move on.

By the way, would Stu Gary like to cosign a personal loan with me? I guarantee "there's not a snowball's chance in hell" that I will default on the loan.

## Time For Change! Carl E. Serkland Livermore

Livermore City Council incumbents have made First Street from South L to South Livermore nearly impassable by car. Traffic is slow, parking is hazardous to exit. Kamena boasts of a Streetscape Designers group's self-serving "Streetscape Design Award."

The city took title to prime real estate and GAVE it to developers who used that equity for a loan to build a theater. Taxpayers' money bought that property. Who profits?

In an unethical but legal election for the Downtown Landscape Maintenance District; developers had to promise to vote FOR the district to get permits. The city controlled almost half of the votes cast through this legalized extortion and bribery. Of votes NOT under city control, there were about 35% against, 15% for. The city's added 50% meant the measure passed, resulting in HUGE property tax bill increases

for downtown landowners.

The incumbents, seeking to avoid having their expensive "underground BART to downtown plan" on the ballot with their reelection, endorsed BART on 580. I don't trust them not to renege if reelected!

Sweep away fiscal insanity and egotism - the "proven leadership" slate has shown a flawed vision for the city. Elect NEW leadership: Barbara Hickman for Mayor, and Bobby Burger and Lauren Turner to City Council.

(Editor's note: The Great American Main Street Award, referred to above as a streetscape design award, was given to Livermore for its redesign of the downtown streetscape. It is presented by the National Trust Main Street Center a part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.)

## Visions for the Future Jay Davis Livermore

Next week's Livermore election offers a contrast between two very different visions of a future for this community. For over a decade, Livermore has had leaders whose imagination changed the face and style of the community. In that time, the town has added a spectacular library, a well-used community center with accompanying athletic complex, a stunningly successful commercial and public downtown, and a theater that attracts people from all around the East Bay and adjoining Central Valley. The Paragon development now in construction is but the most recent example of strategic thought and leadership.

By electing John Marchand, Stu Gary and Marshall Kamena, that foresight and courage to stretch will continue. Rejecting them will return us to the past of careless and poorly planned residential development and a diminished vision for the center of the community. I encourage your support of Marchand, Gary and Kamena.

## Reply to Joan Seppala Sheila Cooper Livermore

As a forty year resident, active citizen and educator in Livermore, I find I must reply to The Independent's recent statement on Livermore's cultural and economic future. My family has been an ardent participant in and supporter of the arts in Livermore throughout our forty years here. We have appreciated The Independent's support of a diverse culture, one serving the many facets of its residents' civic, ethnic, educational, and aesthetic needs and interests. However, I now find the direction The Independent has recently taken, in support of a mega-performing arts center in the small eight square block core of our city to be fiscally tenuous and inconsistent with The Independent's history of serving Livermore's diversity.

As a downtown resident for the past 18 years, I have supported the transformation of First Street from an extension of Highway 84 into a pedestrian, commercial, recreational, and cultural core. The Bankhead, Livermore Cinemas, and outdoor performance areas are focal points of an easily approachable downtown, one welcoming families, young adults, and seniors. The over six

story 2,000 seat performing arts center will not bring "new life and energy to the central portion of the downtown." It will bring traffic, congestion, more parking structures, and the displacement of small businesses. Livermore's leadership must assess how downtown revitalization has fared, aesthetically and economically, these past five years, and then work with businesses and residents to support a vital and viable downtown.

Eight thousand Livermore voters recently spoke in a common voice of reason to oppose the City Council supported downtown BART station. We must continue to think carefully and weigh the many options for a hospitable downtown core. Livermore needs a Mayor and City Council who welcome our residents' concerns and who look to the quality of life, commerce, recreation, and the arts in our downtown. I have been seriously disappointed by Livermore's current leadership and urge our voters to elect new leadership.

## Vote Stu Gary Eric Carlson Livermore

I'd like to share some of my experiences with Livermore Council candidate Stu Gary. It started over 17 years ago when I first met him as part of the interview process for Fire Chief. He had come to Livermore to look at the City first hand. I was working for the Fire Dept. and asked to show him around Livermore and answer any questions he might have. We've all heard the cliché "first impressions are lasting ones." In my case it was. I was impressed with his candor, people skills and down to earth common sense approach to many things of common interest. Over the years we grew to share many Fire Department experiences and become friends outside of work. His reputation of treating people fairly, being a good listener, objective and trustworthy were always part of my experience working with Stu Gary.

I can say that he always had the best intentions and interest of the City and Fire Department

in any decision he made. We've hear about candidates position on issues of importance to the citizens of Livermore-Stu Gary will be a good listener and look out for those interests. Elect Stu Gary to City Council.

## Voters Not for Sale Ron Geren Livermore

When they follow the money, Livermore voters will recognize when someone or a group is "buying an election". Friends of Livermore, a special interest group, has raised \$102,396 to support its candidates and maintain the status quo. It is alarming that 80% of this money came from just 7 donors, influential people who want BART downtown and the Regional Theater built. They want to elect the termed out mayor to a council seat, elect a current council member mayor, and seat a new councilmember, a troika that will meet their demands. Deep pockets expect recipients of their money to fall in line with their wishes and carry their water. There is a reason why Friends of Livermore, Joan Sepala, John Marchand, Marshall Kamena, and now Stewart Gary are known as a "machine" by many in Livermore. Keep the machine oiled with money and it keeps cranking out the donors' expectations.

Voters should shut the machine down on November 8th by voting for Hickman, Burger, and Turner. They will be beholden to and respond to Livermore residents at large, not a few well-heeled people out to purchase their allegiance.

## Beautiful Livermore Arthur H. Barinque Livermore

DO YOU LIKE living in Livermore? ARE YOU GLAD BART is staying out on 580? DO YOU LIKE having rolling hills and vineyards surrounding your town? DO YOU LIKE going downtown to a restaurant, a shop, the theater? ARE YOU GLAD to see the arts starting to thrive in Livermore?

It hasn't always been this way!

When I came to Livermore it had nothing but a very big employer, the LAB. No theater, few restaurants, large trucks going right through the middle of town, no place to shop, an ugly downtown, developers threatening to cover our scenic hills with thousands of homes, and no prospects for the future!!

JOHN MARCHAND MADE A DIFFERENCE! He had the vision to see what Livermore could be and he worked with a progressive council to make things happen. John Marchand loves Livermore and has proved his commitment to making Livermore the place we love. His opposition is using deceptive sound bites to discredit his accomplishments and change the direction that has brought us to the Livermore of today. Don't fall for it.

VOTE FOR JOHN MARCHAND and let him know that you appreciate all his hard work to bring us the beautiful Livermore of today that we know and love.

## Marchand for Mayor Dick Ryon Livermore

I support John Marchand to become Livermore's new mayor. I hope you will join me in voting for him on November 8th. The reasons I support Marchand are: He is knowledgeable. He is accessible. He is a dedicated citizen of Livermore. He supports the issues important to our future, namely a vibrant downtown, the urban growth boundary, and sound fiscal policy for the City.

I like Marchand's primary opponent, Barbara Hickman. She is actively involved in the community and civic affairs. She is ardent about making Livermore a better city. She is simply wrong on the issues important to our City and the role of the Mayor.

Hickman opposed the wildly successful Bankhead Theater, though in retrospect she has become a supporter. She strongly opposes the proposed regional theater, saying it will be a severe drain on the City's finances and is too big for our small town. All the studies convince me it will be a

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You had me at Meow!



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# MAILBOX

(continued from page 5)

boon to the public, business, and the City. As for being too big, I think the citizens of Livermore like the vitality added to our town while retaining the hometown appeal we have always had, and wish to see downtown redevelopment through to its planned conclusion.

Hickman says she wants to have every major decision put to a vote of the people. Perhaps in her mind, past decisions to build the new city hall, new police building, formation of the redevelopment agency, and the renovation and enhancement of our downtown were not major decisions. How many of those projects, approved by city councils over the last 20 years, does she think should have been put to a city vote? We elect a Mayor and City Council to lead in the public interest. Most of us have families, jobs, and other interests to occupy our time. However much we have broad views on the shape of our community, we are not involved in the details. Abdication of leadership and simply asking the public to vote on every potentially controversial decision is not what we wish to see in our new Mayor. That is not leadership.

We already know what kind of a mayor Marchand will be. He filled that role during Mayor Kamena's struggle with cancer. He was competent, confident, and courteous. Vote for knowledge and leadership. Vote for Marchand for Mayor of Livermore.

### Vision Revealed

**Bob Baltzer  
Livermore**

In the final days of the Livermore mayoral race, Barbara Hickman has at last revealed her vision for downtown Livermore. On her website, Hickman proposes to use funds currently designated to support a regional performing arts theater, conservatively forecast to add over \$600 million to the local economy, with her version of San Jose's long-extinct Frontier Town, a historic recreation of Livermore's cowboy past.

Hickman writes, "Picture this with a western theme, complete with covered sidewalks, maybe even wooden sidewalks, a saloon with swinging doors, a dance hall, a photographer that takes sepia photos (as well as modern photos), maybe a print shop, an antique store, maybe a small museum, a dry goods store, etc."

Is she kidding? In 2011? Perhaps she's confusing Livermore with Disneyland. Clearly

her campaign slogan should be "forward into the past." If this is Hickman's best thinking on how to make our community viable and competitive in the future, then we're in serious trouble. Run as fast as you can to vote for John Marchand and keep Livermore in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### BART to Livermore Funding

**Doug Horner, AIA  
Councilmember, City of Livermore**

The next step in getting BART to Livermore is to identify and secure the funding. The first phase of the BART extension along I-580 to Isabel is expected to cost between \$800 thousand and \$1.2 million. The current expectation is that the Alameda County Transportation Commission, ACTC, will provide the bulk of the local funding. As with all major transportation projects, local funds are considered to be the seed money used in leveraging the Federal dollars that will be necessary for a project of this magnitude. ACTC is currently considering a plan to ask voters for a 20-year extension of the current Measure B one-half cent sales tax. This could bring as much as \$500 million to the BART extension project. It is important to remember that there are many competing interests currently lobbying for these future Measure B revenues. The BART to Livermore project is not guaranteed a place in the funding allocations. Continued efforts will be necessary to secure our share of the required project funding.

It will take experienced leadership to secure the funding to complete the first phase of BART to Livermore. Marshall Kamena has sat on the ACTC Board (and the ACTIA Board, ACTC's predecessor) for the past decade ensuring that Livermore's interests are protected and that we get our fair share of transportation dollars and improvements. John Marchand has traveled to Washington D.C. lobbying for millions of dollars from congress to aid in the construction of I-580 HOV lanes and SR84 Isabel interchange improvements. Stewart Gary has shown fiscal responsibility in his three years on the LVJUSD Board.

This is a time when experienced leadership is not only needed but essential if we are going to move the BART project forward. Remember, the Measure B tax extension will be the only major source of local transportation project funding for the next

twenty years. If we do not have experience sitting at the table when the revenue allocations are made and agreed to, it may be a twenty year wait until we get another chance.

I encourage you to vote for the experienced leadership of Marchand, Kamena and Gary in the upcoming election. We can't wait another twenty years to get BART to Livermore.

### Right Philosophy Jeff and Carol Garberson Livermore

We support John Marchand for mayor of Livermore, and Stewart Gary and Marshall Kamena for City Council. We believe they bring the right philosophy, experience and energy for the many issues facing the city, not only now but in the long term. These include downtown redevelopment, extension of BART and promoting the growth of clean industry through I-GATE and Innovation Tri-Valley in collaboration with the Lawrence and Sandia laboratories. They include maintaining essential city services and a reasonable level of economic health at a time of severe state and national recession. They include the protection of vineyards and open space through firm urban growth boundaries, in contrast to what we see in Dublin, our San Fernando neighbor to the west.

In recent years, Livermore has become a model for revitalization without loss of environmental protections in large part because of the willingness of past city councils to look to the future, and we hope to see the trend continue with Marchand, Gary and Kamena.

### Beyond Rhetoric Cindy Gary Livermore

I am Cindy Gary, wife of Stewart Gary, who is running for the Livermore City Council. You may not have seen me around; I am generally a quiet, shy, behind-the-scenes person. Once people get to know Stewart, they quickly discover the qualities that make him a remarkable husband, father, son and civic leader. I want you to know that my husband, Stewart, is the most decent and honest person I know. He is so much more than a job title or a political position. He has placed the needs of his others above his own, both personally and professionally, his entire life.

Stewart cares passionately for Livermore and wants to do what's best for our community. In that passion, he may not always

agree with others, but know he will always listen. In fact, when he retired, the Firefighters Association President confided that he would miss Stewart, and I quote, "We may have had differing ideas, but he listened to my point of view." That was a resounding endorsement for the skills he will bring to the Council. He will listen, and if another's viewpoint has merits, he will incorporate it into the final plan.

We have been married for 35 years. We both grew up working hard for everything we have. I worked full time to put him through school as he earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, even while he was a full-time firefighter. He also went to Paramedic school becoming one of the first paramedics in the Poway Fire Department. He rose through the ranks from a high school volunteer to a Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal, bringing energy and gusto to each service role.

I have seen the long hours he put into his job as Fire Chief; on countless evenings, he was sitting in his chair with his laptop doing work. He was available for calls at all times, and if anything happened, he responded as needed. As a School Board trustee, he has put in many long hours, notwithstanding reading all the paperwork that goes with that critical job. He takes his charge seriously, so he is never unprepared.

Thanks for taking the time to look beyond the political rhetoric, to learn about the Stewart Gary so many of us know and admire. I know there are skeptics who believe that good people don't run for office, but Stewart truly is an exception. He has adopted Livermore as his home, after growing up in Southern California and seeing firsthand the negative effect urban sprawl has on a community. When we moved to Livermore, downtown was not a destination point. Now, it is a happening place, where families and people of all ages congregate and enjoy themselves. Many from surrounding cities prefer our downtown. How awesome is that? Rest assured, our community will continue in good stead, under the leadership of an honorable man, my husband, Stewart Gary.

### Gary Listens BJ Sibley Livermore

Stu Gary has an amazing capacity to listen. The next time you see him, watch where his eyes go...they go straight to whomever

is talking. He is paying 100% attention. If you watch someone as they listen to someone else, you can tell by their eye roll or left and right movement whether they are forming their next "salvo" or really listening to what you say. Stu Gary listens, processes (in a lightning fast way) and then responds to you. It's amazing. A politician who listens to you. Add that listening characteristic to his ability to understand fiscal responsibility in a world of finite resources and his savvy capability to look down the road and imagine where we want to be a few years from now, and you have someone deserving of your vote. Stu Gary should have a seat on the next City Council.

### The Best Choice Bill & Sally Dunlop Livermore

Stu Gary is the obvious choice for your vote for City Council. His experience as Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Chief has demonstrated his ability to organize and direct the critical aspects of city government and leading the Firefighters in both Livermore and Pleasanton in their exceptional service to us. Also, this position has given him immense experience in working with the City of Livermore.

After his retirement he was elected to the Livermore School Board where he has served very successfully for 3 years dealing with the difficult economic times. He has been very helpful in dealing with the declining budgets and in spite of these problems the API scores have increased each year and the financial picture for the school district has remained stable even while some districts around us have had great financial difficulties. Stu believes in the present Urban Growth Boundary and supports BART being built along I-580. Stu is the best choice and would be a very welcome addition to the Livermore City Council. Please vote for Stu Gary.

### Strong Addition Genevieve Getman-Sowa Livermore

As election day nears, I am encouraging voters to elect Stewart Gary to Livermore City Council. Let's give Stu the opportunity to bring his skills and pragmatic common sense to our city government!

I had the good fortune to meet Stu several years ago while he has been on the LVJUSD school board through one of the most challenging education funding free-falls by the State of Califor-

nia in the district's history. There have been no easy solutions to the challenges faced by our district—the state's financial austerity has been lengthy and severe. Through it all, I have seen Stu bring a pragmatic and strategically-planned approach to address issues: listening to public commentary brought to the school board; taking a hard look at budgets; assessing the viability of projected funding and the repercussions of short-falls; and addressing the overall complexities and daily functions inherent to a school district.

See [www.stugaryforcouncil2011.com](http://www.stugaryforcouncil2011.com) for an overview of his accomplishments as former fire chief and current school board trustee. Link through to read the vision and strategies statements that he has developed. He has outlined a lot of interesting ideas and is committed to serving our community at large. He also recommends the establishment of regular quarterly neighborhood meetings to listen to ideas and concerns from people who live and work in each quadrant of the city. Stu's contributions to this community run deep—over and over again, I have seen him to be the type of person who rolls up his sleeves and goes to work to get the job done.

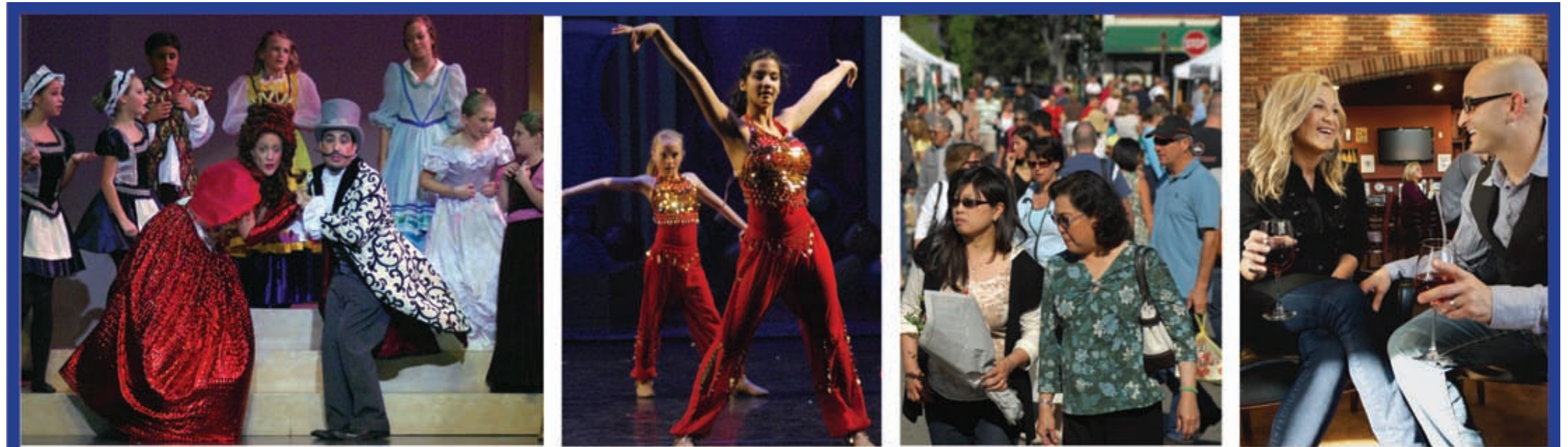
It's been a pleasure to work with Stu on his campaign team. As the months have unfolded during the campaign season, I have come to recognize that the long hours and attention to detail that Stu invests into his work and his strong commitment to improving the quality of life for all of us in Livermore are the cornerstones of his successes as a leader. I think he will make a very strong addition to Livermore's City Council.

Vote for Stu Gary for Livermore City Council on November 8th!

### Essential Qualities

**Shelly Fields  
LEA President**

As the Livermore Education Association President, I have had the privilege of working with Stewart Gary in his role as a Livermore Valley Joint Unified School Board member. Stu has been instrumental in helping to improve the climate between board members, staff and administration. He brings with him valuable lessons learned from working at all levels of public service: as a firefighter and negotiator, as part of management and as a private consultant to various agencies. Because of his  
(More MAILBOX, page 10)



See The Tri-Valley's Most Complete Online Interactive Calendar To See What's Happening In Your Community.



For 48 years, *The Independent* has received and printed the most arts and community events notices of any newspaper. Now you can see them online. *The Independent's* Online Events Calendars help you know all of the *Community* and *Cultural Arts* events going on this week, this month and this year. You can even submit and update your events, too! In addition, calendars have links to 41 cultural arts and 179 community websites from the movies and performing arts sites, to local governments, wineries and churches all within reach of your fingertips.

See what's happening in your community at [www.independentnews.com](http://www.independentnews.com)

# More time for fun

"My Health Online  
helps Mom take  
care of us."

Aidan and Ina, PAMF patients

Meet our little sister and  
newest PAMF patient at

[pamf.org/findadoctor](http://pamf.org/findadoctor)



*Palo Alto Medical  
Foundation*

A Sutter Health Affiliate



Part of the Sutter Health network





# SHORT NOTES

## Holiday Cards for Troops

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) announced the start of the fifth annual "Holiday Cards for Our Troops" program. Last year, the office collected more than 7,000 cards from the community with personal messages of gratitude to our men and women in uniform. Congressman McNerney again invites people to submit cards at either of his offices to be distributed to troops at home and overseas.

"I have heard how much it means to our troops when they receive notes and cards from home. Let's take this time of year to make a difference for the men and women who fight so bravely to protect us and our country," said Rep. McNerney.

The cards will be sent to troops stationed overseas in packages organized by East Bay Blue Star Moms, Pleasanton Military Families, Packed with Pride, and Summerset Veterans Club. Cards will also be sent to veterans at Bay Area VA Hospitals, Camp Parks, Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.

To participate in the program, make or purchase a holiday card and write a message of thanks inside to a service member, and deliver the card to Rep. McNerney's office in Stockton or Pleasanton by Thursday, Dec. 15th. Cards should remain unaddressed and envelopes unsealed.

Card Guidelines: Make sure to sign the card. Use salutations such as "Dear Service Member." Cards addressed to specific individuals cannot be delivered through this program. Do not include inserts such as photographs.

Cards can be dropped off in Pleasanton at 5776 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Suite 175, Pleasanton, CA 94588; (925) 737-0727

## Parenting Programs

Continuing the Fall guest line-up of speakers on a variety of parenting topics, Livermore Public Library will host the following presentations in November and December:

- Tuesday, November 15, at 11 a.m. (after the Babies-Only Storytime): Deborah Rogers, a licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in San Ramon, will speak with parents about developmental landmarks to watch for as your child grows from infancy to two years old; she will also touch on attachment issues and active listening. The session will last approximately 30 minutes, with time for questions and answers.

- Monday, December 12, at 11 a.m. (after the Toddlers Storytime): Cynthia Hamblin, a Livermore licensed optometrist with ten years' experience in private practice and in a hospital setting, will speak with parents about vision issues to watch for as your child grows from two years to six years old. The session will last approximately 30 minutes, with time for questions and answers.

These free programs will be held in the Storytime Room of the Civic Center Library, at 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The programs are recommended for parents of children from birth to age 6. Contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 for more information, or visit the website at: [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## Education Week

The week of November 13-19, 2011, Huntington Learning Center in Pleasanton will recognize American Education Week, a celebration of public education and the people who make a difference in ensuring every child receives a quality education. First observed in 1921, the National Education Association's American Education Week is now in its 90th year.

American Education Week was born when the National Education Association and the American Legion met in 1919 to seek ways to generate public support for education. The week includes the individual celebrations of Parents Day, Education Support Professionals Day and Substitute Educators Day, and an Educator for a Day program.

To learn more about American Education Week contact Dan Chou at the Pleasanton Huntington Learning Center at (925) 463-8800 or Dan.Chou@huntingtonfremont.com, or visit [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org).

## Pets Go Online

Wings of Rescue, Livermore, has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder.com, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has over 359,000 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continuously.

More than 13,500 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site. Wings of Rescue pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/CA1907.html>.

A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the Zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Petfinder.com was created in early 1996 as a grassroots project by Jared and Betsy Saul to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

## Drug and Alcohol Use

A forum on middle school drug and alcohol issues will be held at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Wed., Nov. 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Last Spring over 100 members of the community met at the Firehouse Arts Center to begin a dialog around alcohol/drug related issues facing young teens today. Community agencies continue this conversation by sharing their experiences, observations and guidance.

Partners for this event include: Representatives from the Pleasanton Unified School District, the City of Pleasanton, Pleasanton Police Department, Mother's With a Purpose and AXIS Community Health. Discussion will include prevention strategies and resources that are available to parents and our youth.

There is no admission charge. For more information, please contact: 925.426.4280 or register online at [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted).

## Operation Christmas Child

While many Dublin families are busy with holiday activities, a group of local volunteers is focused on filling empty shoe boxes with school supplies, toys, hygiene items and notes of encouragement for needy kids overseas. Dublin families are participating in the world's largest Christmas project of its kind—Operation Christmas Child—an effort that has hand-delivered 86 million gifts to kids worldwide since 1993.

This year-round project of Samaritan's Purse is coming to its peak, as local businesses, churches and schools prepare to collect gift-filled shoe boxes during National Collection Week, Nov. 14-21. Volunteers can drop off their shoe box gifts at one of two bustling locations in the area to help kids in 100 countries know they are loved and not forgotten.

In Dublin, boxes can be dropped off at CrossWinds Church, 6444 Sierra Court on Monday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tues., Wed., Thurs. and Fri., noon to 5 p.m., Saturday 1 to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of international Christian relief and evangelism organization Samaritan's Purse, uses whatever means necessary to reach suffering children around the world with these gifts of hope, including sea containers, trucks, trains, airplanes, boats, camels and dog sleds. Tracking technology also allows donors to "follow" their box to the destination country where it will be hand-delivered to a child in need. To register shoe box gifts and find out the destination country, use the Follow Your Box form found at [www.samaritanpurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanpurse.org/occ).

# GREEN

(continued from page one)

without disabilities and people with disabilities.

Cindy McGovern stated, "The is a requirement for only one energy star appliance. All of the appliances should energy star. To require a minimum of one doesn't make sense."

Matt Sullivan agreed, adding, it seems kind of a low bar to set. "These conditions are ten years old or older. It is time to reevaluate our green building requirements."

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman pointed out that the council has been mandating that all new construction be PV ready. She told the developer of the memory care

facility, "It's not that expensive. Your overhead would be way down."

The license for the facility is for those age 60 and older.

Nick Kavayiotidis, the builder, explained that the age limitation is required by the State Department of Social Services. There may be a way to make exceptions." He said he didn't know why the department set the age restriction.

Pleasanton City Manager said that the city looks only at land use, not the requirements for operating such a facility. There are licensing requirements for such facilities. The council could add a requirement that those under

60 be admitted, if social services grants permission. He said that the council could require the staff and applicant to discuss opportunities to maximize universal design standards.

Hosterman commented, "I think you will find that you already have met the universal design standards. They are probably inherent in the design of a health facility."

"It's a beautiful building. We heard no complaints from neighbors. This is the kind of facility we want in our community," she added.

Under the matters initiated portion of the meeting, Sullivan asked for council support to

review the green building standards to bring them in line with the recently completed climate action plan. He added there is a need for a consistent standard for universal design.

Fialho suggested that the council start the discussion in January when the climate action plan would be considered for adoption.

Sullivan said that his concern is that the city will start to receive development plans before the new conditions are adopted, particularly in the Hacienda Business Park.

Other councilmembers supported looking at both green building and universal design.

# FINISH

(continued from page one)

changes to the downtown will be the perfect setting for the Amgen Tour of California and that the enthusiastic response from the cycling community will once again welcome the race in grand fashion."

Stage 1 of the race will start in Santa Rosa, hometown of three-time Amgen Tour of California Champion Levi Leipheimer. The race will then take the riders from San Francisco to Santa Cruz County for Stage 2, starting with the Golden Gate Bridge as a backdrop and once again bringing the route back along the picturesque coast of the Pacific Ocean. Heading inland, Stage 3 of the race will begin in San Jose (the only city to be a Host City each of the previous six years of the event) and end in Livermore,

traversing an entirely new part of the state not showcased in previous editions of the race. A new city for 2012, Stage 4 will start in Sonoma and wind its way south, featuring several new climbs, before what's sure to be a dramatic sprint finish in Clovis.

The Individual Time Trial, Stage 5, will be held in Bakersfield, a city that has hosted the Amgen Tour of California before (although not the Time Trial specifically). Stage 6 will start in Palmdale and head to Big Bear Lake, which was the site of a thrilling stage finish in 2010 when Michael Rogers (AUS) of HTC-Columbia secured his place as the race leader. For 2012, new challenges arise as a new climb is thrown into the mix.

Stage 7 of the race will start

in Ontario, another new city for 2012, and once again include a grueling route to the top of Mt Baldy. During the 2011 race, Mt Baldy was the scene of an electric stage finish when American cyclists and RadioShack teammates Chris Horner and Levi Leipheimer crossed the finish line first and second respectively. Tacking on an additional 10 miles to the route with the start in Ontario, Stage 7 will likely prove to be the penultimate stage once again.

The final stage of the 2012 Amgen Tour of California, Stage 8 will take place in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles, sending riders in and around L.A. LIVE, the sports and entertainment district which includes STAPLES Center and Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE within its footprint, for an

epic overall finish to a thrilling race.

For 2012, Amgen will return as the title sponsor for the seventh consecutive year, continuing to leverage the race to raise awareness of the important resources available to people affected by cancer through its Breakaway from Cancer® initiative.

The Amgen Tour of California is listed on the international professional cycling calendar, awarding important, world-ranking points to the top finishers. The Amgen Tour of California continues to draw global attention as one of the most anticipated cycling events of the year – one that attracts Olympic medalists, World Champions and the top Tour de France competitors.

PAID POLITICAL AD

## Public Safety depends on committed, responsive leaders at all levels of government



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**Your Firefighters Trust and Support the Following Candidates...**



**John MARCHAND**  
for Mayor



**Stu GARY**  
for City Council



**Marshall KAMENA**  
for City Council

**Please join your Firefighters in supporting these candidates when you vote by mail or at the polls on November 8**



## Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory 2012 Open Enrollment Retiree Benefit Presentations

<b>Date:</b>	<b>November 9, 2011</b>	<b>or</b>	<b>November 10, 2011</b>
<b>Place:</b>	<b>Bankhead Theater 2400 First Street Livermore</b>		<b>Grand Theater 715 Central Avenue Tracy</b>

### PRESENTATION TIMES (FOR BOTH LOCATIONS) **DOORS OPEN AT 8:00AM**

8:30am-9:30am	Non-Medicare retirees
10:00am-11:45am	Medicare-eligible retirees
1:30pm-2:30pm	Non-Medicare retirees
3:00pm-4:45pm	Medicare-eligible retirees

Come and listen to our presentation about 2012 Benefits  
and visit with some of our plan providers:  
Extend Health, AonHewitt, Anthem Blue Cross, Kaiser, Delta Dental, VSP

### Remember:

**October 15 - December 7, 2011**  
Open Enrollment for Medicare-eligible retirees (Extend Health)

**October 24 - November 18, 2011**  
Open Enrollment for non-Medicare retirees and Medicare-eligible retirees in Kaiser (AonHewitt)





# Kamena for City Council

## ENDORSEMENTS:

*The Independent Newspaper; The Valley Times;  
The Tri-Valley Herald*

Every member of the **Livermore City Council:**

Honorables: **Marj Leider, Jeff Williams,  
Doug Horner** and  
**Vice-Mayor John Marchand**

**Every Mayor** of the Tri-Valley:

**Mayor Tim Sbranti**, Dublin;

**Mayor Jennifer Hosterman**, Pleasanton; **Mayor**

**Abram Wilson**, San Ramon;

**Mayor Karen Stepper**, Danville;

**The Sierra Club** of California

The Allied Building & Construction's **Trades Council**  
of Alameda County

**Both Tri-Valley Congressmen:**

Congressman **John Garamendi** and

Congressman **Jerry McNerney**.

Alameda County **Sheriff Gregory Ahern**

Alameda County **Fire Chief Sheldon Gilbert**

Alameda County **Supervisor Scott Haggerty**

Rev. Deacon **Dave Rezendes**

Livermore-Pleasanton **Firefighters**, Local 1974



## DEFINING ISSUES:

**SPRAWL:** Our Initiative-backed Urban Growth Boundary is at risk from the opposition-backed candidates, **former Dublin Mayor Linda Jeffrey**, and her cohorts. They worked for and supported the **Pardee** project whose plan called for thousands of homes in **open space** above I-580.

**EXPERIENCE:** I am a senior member of the regional key Boards for approval of the funding and building of BART along 580 to Livermore.

My vote is imperative for its success.

No one else on the Council has such a position.

Please keep me on the Council so I will retain

these Board seats as a Director of the

Alameda County Transportation Commission.

## PROJECTS COMPLETED UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION:

**First Place** National Award winning **new downtown**

14 screen **movie** theater; 500 seat **Bankhead** theater

150+ store high-end factory **outlet center** on I-580. Ready in **October 2012**

Urgent care **medical center** at Valley Memorial Hospital and Kaiser Medical Center

**Widening of I-580** from Livermore Avenue to El Charro Sept. 2011

Large acquisitions of **permanent open space** for Livermore

The **Urban Growth Boundary** introduced by me & adopted by the Council

The **annexation** of Lawrence Livermore & Sandia National Laboratories

## PROJECTS I WILL SEE TO COMPLETION:

Jack London Blvd & Stoneridge Drive **extensions** to complete the **road** to ValleyCare Hospital.

**5000 local-jobs** Business & Technology Center in East Livermore through my Board position on **I-Gate, I-Hub**, and the **Innovations Tri-Valley** Collaborative.

**4 star boutique hotel** in reserved location downtown.

**Four** full lanes for Highway 84 from I-580 to Pigeon Pass.

Completion of Pope **John Paul II** regional High School on I-580 in Livermore.

**As a member of the Alameda County Transportation Commission I will vote to authorize the funding and building BART to Livermore along I-580. I can do this only if elected to the City Council.**



**A Better Vision for Livermore**

*Elect*

**KAMENA**

**City Council**

Paid for by Citizens for Kamena, 1171 Murrieta Blvd., Ste. 200, Livermore