



One of many orchid varieties to be displayed.

## 'Orchid Under the Oaks' Set at Alden Lane Nursery

Alden Lane Nursery will host the 3rd Annual Orchid Event, "Orchids Under the Oaks," on Jan. 10th-11th from 10am to 4 pm

Alden Lane will feature 10 California vendors onsite in its (See ORCHID, page 9)



**Evelyn Lillian Bankhead passed away on December 21, 2008 of congestive heart failure at the age of 91. She was born in San Francisco on April 28, 1917. A vigil will be held for Evelyn on Sun., Jan. 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Mon., Jan. 5 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Evelyn's name be made to either the ValleyCare Health System or the Bankhead Theater. Her family says that Evelyn lived life to the fullest.**

## 1st Annual Destination Showcase Set

The Tri-Valley, California Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) will host the 1st Annual Destination Showcase to be held January 22, 2009 from 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm at the San Ramon Valley Conference Center in San Ramon. The new event will promote the area's various meeting and event venues, hotels and event service providers.

The CVB expects to have over 50 exhibitors, including Tri-Valley hotels, event venues and event service providers. Local Livermore Valley wineries will be on hand to offer tastings of their latest vintages. Tri-Valley caterers will provide samplings of their cuisine.

"We understand that in this economy, meeting planners are looking for economical destinations to host their groups. We want to help make the process less time consuming and expensive," said Natalie Alvanez, Tri-Valley CVB's director of marketing and membership. "It's basically one-stop shopping for meeting planners. They can save hours of time that would have been spent sourcing the services needed for their meeting by attending this one event."

The CVB believes that because of the close proximity to Silicon Valley and San Francisco, the Tri-Valley region is becoming an increasingly popular spot for meetings and events. It is now home to over 45 wineries, with many offering meeting space. With new venues opening in recent years including the Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, the Bankhead Theater in Liver-

(See SHOWCASE, page 3)

# ValleyCare Delegation Will Train Kosovo Medics

By Ron McNicoll

A \$3 million grant from a federal agency will enable ValleyCare Health System to train doctors and nurses in Kosovo. The goal is to improve the quality of health care for women of child-bearing age and children.

Livermore resident David Mertes, former ValleyCare board president and current board member, will be coordinating the American side of the effort.

The three-year program will be similar to two others led by Mertes. The first, in 1999, established a

partnership with medical facilities in Snezhinsk, Russia. The second, which concluded one year ago, was with institutions in Azerbaijan.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is providing the grant to the project.

Kosovo is a newly recognized nation. It was part of the former Yugoslavia, and emerged with independence after the war there. It is adjacent to Serbia and Albania.

Mertes received official no-

tification of the grant Dec. 24. USAID officials funded the Russian and Azerbaijanian projects, and were impressed with the results, said Mertes.

As in the earlier partnerships, the goal is to educate the medical personnel with sessions in Kosovo, and later at ValleyCare. They will be trained to use new equipment, which will be donated by the Assist International foundation, and the Livermore Rotary Club. Mertes is president of the club.

Donating medical equipment

is nothing new for the Rotary chapter. It has given machines to clinics or hospitals in Calcutta and three cities in Hungary.

As with the two previous foreign projects, Mertes insisted that no equipment would be given to Kosovo unless there will be a knowledgeable staff to operate and maintain it. "We don't want to put in equipment that's just sitting there," he said.

Mertes said that the training program must also lead to a level of competency and dedication that is sufficient to spread the

knowledge and service elsewhere in Kosovo. "We see ourselves as training trainers, who will teach other people, whom we never will see," he said.

Approximately 10 ValleyCare medical personnel will be taking part in the program. Jessica Jordan, vice president of nursing services at ValleyCare, will coordinate the work with nurses. Lead physician will be Dr. Michael Ranahan, who will be in charge of all training. He is a semiretired gynecologist. Both participated in the Azerbaijan project.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Young roller hockey players took advantage of the good weather to play a game at Val Vista Park in Pleasanton. Pictured are (left) Tommy Barrera and Alex Sohn.

## Las Positas College Planning To Start Surgical Assistants Program

Las Positas College has been awarded a state grant to start a surgery assistants program this year.

The program will train people to perform functions now carried out by registered nurses during surgery. These include monitoring respiration and heartbeat of the patient, said Barbara Mertes, who represents Livermore on the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees.

Mertes said that the grant is for \$161,176 for the period between June 2008 and June 2010.

Two other colleges joined Las

Positas in applying for the grant. They are Skyline College on the San Francisco Peninsula and Santa Rosa Junior College in Santa Rosa. Those institutions will work with hospitals in their areas.

Mertes credits ValleyCare Health System for deciding that the program would be a valuable one to support. ValleyCare will oversee the program. The hospital will renovate some facilities on its Livermore campus as a part of the plan.

"It's an extraordinarily good program for our people. They

don't have to travel far for the training. ValleyCare will be using this technology in its own operations. It will be one of the first in the state," said Mertes.

The Las Positas class will provide surgical technology education and training for up to 42 students and provide certification exam preparation for working surgical technologies aimed at upgrading skills for 30 employees. The college will also work with high schools to provide information for counselors and students on careers and potential

(See SURGICAL, page 4)

## First Six Months of 2008 Saw Start of Battle Over Hillside Protection Measures

The first six months of 2008 saw the battle begin over hillside protection measures in Pleasanton. The Friendship Center was set for closure in Livermore. There were layoffs at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. State budget problems raised questions about the level of school funding for the coming year.

JANUARY 2008

High school students and community officials prepared to draw up a plan for a coordinated health resources effort aimed at helping teens with their problems. The Tri-Valley Adolescent Health Initiative began looking into to how services for teens could be delivered better in a cooperative way among the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore. Teens were to be active participants in forming the plan and carrying it out.

Congressman Jerry McNerney announced that \$3 million in federal funding had been allocated

for a bus rapid transit connection between the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Retired Pleasanton Police Chief Tim Neal was elected president of the Hope Hospice board. Current Pleasanton Police Chief Mike Fraser joined the Las Positas College Foundation Board.

Pleasanton launched a pilot paratransit program designed to provide same day fixed route service to the downtown. The new service did not require an advance reservation for a spontaneous trip downtown or to the grocery store, as did the regular paratransit service.

A temporary restraining order stopped the Pleasanton City Council from certifying the Oak Grove referendum petition. The action was in response to pending litigations. One lawsuit filed by landowners Jennifer and

(See 1st SIX MONTHS, page 2)

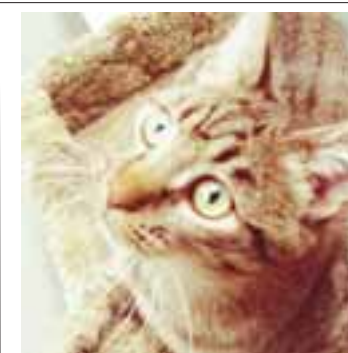


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Like apparitions from the past, two old barns on Manning Road were visible through the fog.

## Inside

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### PET OF THE WEEK

**Fudge Pop is just plain fun!** He loves people and will run to the door to greet you. He is energetic, entertaining and very playful. He's looking for a home that will appreciate his dynamic demeanor. To visit with Fudge Pop, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Open Tues-Sat from 11AM to 5PM. Visit the web site [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) or call 925-426-8656 for more info.

# 1ST SIX MONTHS

(continued from page one)

Fredric Lin asks the court to nullify the referendum, alleging that the petition gatherers failed to carry the proper information. The other, filed by referendum backers, requests that the court dismiss the Lin's lawsuit and award referendum backers attorney's fees and costs incurred.

The Pleasanton school district predicted that state budget problems would drop \$4 million from the district's budget.

The Livermore school board voted unanimously to deny a renewal of the charter for the Livermore Valley Charter School. The school board also denied a petition for the Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School, a grade 9 to 12 school. The denials were based on concerns over finances for the schools.

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) received a gift of \$50,000 to help subsidize the cost of providing arts programming for local students. The donation was used to underwrite the cost of providing \$11 tickets for students 17 and under to LVPAC sponsored performances at the Bankhead Theater.

The Oakland Diocese an-

nounced that plans for a Catholic high school in Livermore were back on track. Work to be undertaken would include finalizing the school's design, constructing an access road to I-580, launching a capital campaign and setting up the school's administration.

The renovated Amador Theater in Pleasanton opened again with a performance of Peter and the Wolf by Jim Gamble Puppets. The renovations included a new lighting system and state-of-the-art technology for the sound system.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory announced that as many as 700 workers would be let go during the coming months. The announcement followed an earlier layoff of 500 workers. The latest reduction in the workforce began with voluntary buy-outs.

The Pleasanton City Council voted 3 to 1 to allow Mayor Jennifer Hosterman to keep her hawk in her backyard. Cindy McGovern voted "no." She wanted an ordinance in place that addressed all wild and exotic animals, where they could be kept and whether they could or could not hunt.

The city council voted to ask

candidates for office in Pleasanton to take a campaign practices pledge and to adhere to an expenditure limit. The pledge is based on the state elections code, where candidates pledge to do such things as discuss only the issues. The expenditure limit was set at \$1 per registered voter, which in January was \$36,912.

The Livermore school board voted to adopt a trimester schedule at Granada and Livermore high schools. Principals at both schools felt the schedule would improve student achievement and provide students more flexibility. The new schedule divides the school year into three 12-week trimesters with four 70 minute class periods and one 75-minute period each day. Each student would take four or five classes worth five credits each trimester.

The Livermore City Council voted to move forward with the Solar Cities Program in partnership with the City of Pleasanton. The program would provide homeowners with information that simplifies the process of installing solar energy.

**FEBRUARY 2008**

The Pleasanton school dis-

trict became the first operational "solar school district" in California. Seven schools in the district were equipped with solar arrays.

The Federal Transit Authority recommended that \$7.99 million for a bus rapid transit system between Livermore and the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station be included in the FY 2009 budget.

The Pleasanton City Council voted to table a second reading of a controversial project at the intersection of Valley, Stanley and Bernal. The controversy centered around plans to build a Home Depot as part of a retail shopping center. The council asked for more information regarding traffic and economic impacts.

Livermore set a growth rate of 450 units per year for the next three years. Most of the units, 200 per year, were guaranteed for the downtown. There were 100 units reserved for the transfer of development credit program for the first two years and 200 in 2010.

Republican Scott Kamena, a candidate for the 15th Assembly District, reported collecting \$361,751 in contributions to lead all candidates.

Plans to expand water slides at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park fell through. A valley group organized to provide other possible uses for the property, which belongs to the East Bay Regional Park District.

The Livermore school district projected a drop of \$3.6 million in funding from the state.

Residents in the North Livermore area were upset by a city council decision approving a Toyota dealership in the area. The council okayed the project because it felt that the tax revenues and jobs would be beneficial to the city. Neighbors objections were to traffic, noise, air pollution, land use compatibility and aesthetics.

An impasse was declared in negotiations between the Livermore school district and the teachers union, Livermore Education Association. The two sides were in disagreement over such issues as special education class size limits and support services ratios, job shares, the workday for kindergarten teachers, wages and

health care, and retirement incentives.

Ambrose D. Regalia VFW Post 6298 of Pleasanton was recognized by the Pleasanton City Council for the local chapter's having been named recipient of the national Community Services Award.

The Tri-Valley Business Council, in partnership with a national education organization, launched a Summer Teacher Fellowship program. Under the program, teachers were provided with mentored, paid summer internships in industry, university laboratories and government agencies.

The Amador Valley High School "We the People" civic team won the California state championship for the third year in a row. The team would go to the nationals in May in Washington, D.C.

The City of Livermore's Peace Monument was included in a Peace Art show presented by the Commonwealth Club's Middle East Forum, the Arts Forum and Inforum.

The Museum on Main in downtown Pleasanton introduced its newest executive director, Julia Bussinger.

The Livermore City Council

(continued on page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Work continues on the new arts center at Las Positas College. In the background are the college's vineyards, used in viticulture classes.

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## VALLEY ROUNDUP

### Road Resurfacing

Alameda County Public Works Department plans to resurface Buena Vista Avenue, Hartman Road, May School Road and North Livermore Road in the unincorporated area of the county.

Work is expected to begin in March 2009 and be completed by June 2009. The estimated cost is \$2.4 million.

### Pleasanton Trails Survey

The Pleasanton Trails Ad Hoc Committee seeks input from cyclists, hikers, walkers and others in regards to Pleasanton's 21-mile trail system. The committee is presently conducting an online survey to gauge the use of the trails system within Pleasanton.

To fill out a brief survey, visit [www.tinyurl.com/trailsurvey](http://www.tinyurl.com/trailsurvey) by Monday, January 12, 2009. This input will assist the Trails Ad Hoc Committee in providing better recreational experiences. For more information, contact Joe Streng, 925-451-2718 (Mobile) or [joestrength@yahoo.com](mailto:joestrength@yahoo.com)

### PUSD Wins Award

The Pleasanton Unified School District has been awarded the "Flex Your Power Award" for energy efficiency.

Flex Your Power is California's statewide energy efficiency outreach organization. As one of the state's six recipients, selected from business, government, and institutions, PUSD was recognized on December 15 in San Francisco.

During the month of January, there will be full page advertisements in Time, Newsweek, and US News & World Report in which the Pleasanton Unified School District will be acknowledged as a leader in the effort to conserve energy, save tax dollars, and reduce greenhouse emissions.

### Alamo Canal Train Connection

ACTIA, the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin, East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), Zone 7 Water Agency, and Caltrans and BART are working together to create a trail under I-580 to connect Pleasanton and Dublin. The project will connect the Park District's Alamo Canal Trail (a spur trail off the Iron Horse Trail) to Pleasanton's Centennial Trail.

It will provide improved connections for bicycles and pedestrians between the communities of Pleasanton and Dublin, and will create a nearly 25 mile non-motorized transportation corridor extending from Martinez to Pleasanton. Specifically, for the City of Pleasanton, this joint project would provide Pleasanton residents an alternate route to the Iron Horse Trail in Dublin. It would also provide visitors to Pleasanton non-motorized, off-street access to various areas in the city, such as Val Vista Community Park, Ten-

nis and Community Park, the Alameda County Fairgrounds, and Downtown/Main Street.

At the end of 2007, T.Y. Lin International was awarded the consultant contract by EBRPD to develop the plans, specifications and estimates for the Alamo Canal Trail Undercrossing at Interstate 580 between Dublin and Pleasanton. The effort is scheduled to be completed soon.

The required reports, mapping, design, and agency coordination are nearly complete, and final design and environmental permitting are expected by the end of 2008.

### Waste Reduction

California Integrated Waste Management Board announced the state has reached a 58 percent waste diversion rate - diverting 54 million tons of trash for reuse and recycling.

The official 58 percent statewide diversion rate surpasses a legislatively imposed mandate of 50 percent waste diversion and places the state at the forefront of national efforts to reduce and recycle trash.

(Alameda County has a voter approved goal of 75 percent waste diversion.)

California produces about 93 million tons of solid waste per year, which fills limited landfill space and emits methane gas. Fifty-four million tons of diverted waste is equivalent to filling more than 100 football fields to a height equal to the Empire State Building.

California now finds higher and better uses for that 54 million tons of trash annually, thanks to increased recycling programs, a stronger recycling infrastructure, and an overall shift in consumer behavior. By diverting this material away from landfills, Californians are also significantly reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

By finding higher and better uses for daily discarded materials, California has created a mainstream industry that accounts for 85,000 jobs, generates \$4 billion in salaries and wages, and produces \$10 billion worth of goods and services annually.

Each year recycling saves enough energy to power 1.4 million California homes, and reduces water pollution by 27,047 tons. Recycling also saves 14 million trees and helps to reduce air pollution by 165,142 tons.

Curbside waste pickup services, recycling bins, waste sorting facilities, greenwaste composting, used oil collection centers, regulated landfills, household hazardous waste collection programs, recycled content purchasing policies, public education campaigns, electronic waste recycling, waste tire reuse programs, "green" buildings, public recognition awards, and myriad other programs, all help to divert tons of salvageable materials to innovative markets that did not exist just a few years ago.

## COW TAX

(continued from page one)

ever, the EPA is thinking about doing this. This advance notice is a huge thing. It covers all segments of the economy about greenhouse gases. There is even a discussion about how to regulate lawn mowers," said Krause.

Krause isn't convinced the "cow tax" idea is dead. He is keeping an eye on it in his capacity of watching federal legislation for the National Farm Bureau.

### CALIFORNIAN DOUBTS 'TAX,' WANTS TO SEE CREDIT SWAPS

In California, Cynthia Cory, who follows proposed legislation for the California Farm Bu-

reau Federation in Sacramento, agreed with Krause that EPA was asking about potential regulation of the six greenhouse gases.

However, her reading of the register led her to say, "Nowhere in there do I see a suggestion of a cow tax. Someone took it a step further, saying that if you can regulate carbon dioxide, you can regulate cows."

"I am never going to say never. However, right now, no ranch or farm meets the definition of a major source (of pollution) for carbon dioxide (annually). The one thing that might come close might be a Gallo (wine) facility, where they make their own bottles. That creates a large carbon footprint," said Cory.

The significant polluters are industrial, notably in oil refining, cement production, and electricity generation, said Cory.

The federal government should look at California's approach in dealing with greenhouse gas emissions, said Cory. In AB 32, the state is going after greenhouse gases with carbon credit exchanges. Many oil refineries and electricity plants

won't be able to get rid of all their pollutants through air scrubbers. They will violate standards.

However, farmers and ranchers can sell them credits using open space to offset the industrial pollution, said Cory.

Sequestering carbon in the ground and in wood is one way of absorbing the total carbon package being emitted on the planet. "Wood stores carbon, so leave the trees up," said Cory.

Cory is working on the credits approach and carbon sequestration to see what it might yield for California agriculture in the future. Reports so far on carbon sequestration show that it is still in the experimental stage.

Overall, the message for ranchers and farmers concerning greenhouse gas regulation is, "They should pay close attention to it, especially as it plays out nationally. I don't think they need to worry about there being a cow tax. But at the end of the day, by 2020, we are supposed to be back to 1990 levels (on greenhouse gas emissions.) Big firms will have to figure out how to achieve that level," said Cory.

## SHOWCASE

(continued from page one)

more and San Ramon's Patrick David's Event Center, the area is poised to become the next big destination in affordable meetings and special events.

The Tri-Valley Destination Showcase will be held at the San Ramon Valley Conference Center located at 3301 Crow Canyon Road in San Ramon, California. Registration is \$25 per person and is available on the bureau's website at [www.trivalleycvb.com/meetings](http://www.trivalleycvb.com/meetings). Exhibit space will be made available to members of the Tri-Valley CVB.



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# EDITORIALS

## Evelyn Bankhead

Evelyn Bankhead, after whom Livermore's Bankhead Theater is named, died December 21 after living a rich, full life.

She was a school teacher and a mother, with six children. She lived on a ranch, raised sheep and cattle. She played tennis until she was 80.

And she dearly loved the arts. Among many accomplishments in that field, Evelyn Bankhead was president of several organizations and a founding member of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council.

She was known by her long red hair, which she kept until the day she died. She was 91.

Though Evelyn Bankhead is gone, her name will be honored permanently. Aptly so, for she was one of the best.

## Worth Another Try

With the government changing in Washington, our congressman, Jerry McNerney, is making a renewed effort to save the Livermore VA Medical Center.

The Bush Administration has been moving to close the facility.

McNerney has written to General Eric Shinseki, President-elect Obama's nominee for Secretary of Veterans Affairs. He suggests in the letter that the park-like Livermore site would be ideal for expanded treatment of veterans' disorders such as PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder).

McNerney further observes in his letter to Shinseki that the veterans' population in the area served by Livermore is climbing. There's a clear need to increase, not reduce, the area's VA medical services, he writes.

The issue has become a real cause for McNerney, who sits on the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. He refuses to give up.

This is not pork barrel. The fact is that Livermore, with its special setting, is indeed ideal for the uses recommended by McNerney. Hopefully, the new administration will be responsive.

## Pleasanton Looking at Impact of Economic Slowdown

The Pleasanton City Council approved selection of a landscape architect to prepare a master plan for Lions Wayside Park and Delucchi Park.

The two parks are adjacent to the Firehouse Arts Center and the former railroad right-of-way in downtown Pleasanton. The right-of-way will be used to provide parking.

Lions Wayside Park is the location of the Friday night concerts. It includes the Chan Henderson Bandstand. Delucchi Park was envisioned to support Wayside Park and other nearby activities, such as the Farmers' Market.

Councilmember Cindy McGovern was pleased that the design phase was moving forward. She was concerned about whether the two parks could be completed in time for the opening of the Firehouse Arts Center. Her concerns were raised after hearing the latest budget report.

Councilmember Jerry Thorne commented on the change in the economy, "The rosy picture ended in June. Things have gone a different way since then."

McGovern said it would be interesting to know if it will be possible to move forward with the project, since it is connected to the Firehouse Arts Center. "I'd like to know how it will play out in the next few years."

City Manager Nelson Fialho stated, "Together it all works."

However, he said that part of the discussion at a January 27 council session will focus on the budget.

He said staff plans to review current revenue trends. "We are seeing a slowdown in property and sales taxes. We have asked the city departments to shave a percentage of their operating budgets without having to lay-off personnel or reduce services," Fialho told the council.

He added that staff plans to propose a hiring freeze. There would be a review of positions that open up to determine if it is essential that the jobs be filled. "We will also do as most cities do and ask for a slowdown in the pace of capital projects. The issue is the staffing resources needed to undertake the projects. It's a balance," Fialho stated.

## Haggerty Sworn In for His 4th Term As Supervisor

Scott Haggerty was sworn in to serve his fourth four-year term on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

California State Treasurer Bill Lockyer performed the ceremony.

Haggerty currently serves as president of the five-member board. He represents the District 1 communities of Livermore, Pleasanton, most of Fremont, eastern Dublin and unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County.

"I am deeply honored by the faith that voters in District 1 have shown in my leadership to continue to effectively deliver important services and initiatives," said Haggerty. "I look forward to taking on the challenges that lie ahead, working with my colleagues at the Board of Supervisors and others with whom I serve on numerous local and regional boards to accomplish these goals."

The ceremony was held in Pleasanton at Hap's Restaurant.

Joining Haggerty at the ceremony were his family and staff. Invited guests include political leaders from throughout his district at the local, State and Federal level.

Haggerty's fourth term officially began on January 1, 2009. For more information about Supervisor Haggerty, visit [www.acgov.org](http://www.acgov.org).

## SURGICAL

(continued from page one)

pathways in surgical careers.

The skills imparted in the class can serve as a stepping stone to training for a registered nurse degree, said Mertes.

Creation of the new course is consistent with both the college's and ValleyCare's desire to create more medical career jobs in the Valley. Both institutions were prominently represented at a seminar earlier this year about the Valley's jobs future in the medical field.

# Livermore Residents Asked for Input on New Zoning Codes

Residents are invited to provide input on proposed changes in the City of Livermore's zoning code. A community charrette will be held over a three day period, Mon., Jan. 12 to Thurs., Jan. 15 at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue.

Comments will be taken on how to apply Form-Based Codes to two designated focus areas – South of Downtown and North of Downtown – to emphasize the traditional patterns and character found in these older Livermore neighborhoods. One goal is to increase the walkability and transit ridership in these areas. The charrette will allow participants to collaborate with planners, engineers, and architects to create a vision for the focus areas, including the character and scale of future development.

Form based coding is a method of regulating development to achieve a specific urban form.

The Monday, January 12 will feature an opening presentation from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Tuesday and Wednesday, January 13 and 14, there will be an open door studio from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Design proposals and form based code creation will be the topic from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The closing participation will be Thursday, January 15, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The City of Livermore received a \$300,000 grant from the Caltrans Community Based Transportation Planning Grant Program to update the Livermore Planning and Zoning Code. In 2007, City Council accepted the grant award and in 2008 City Council authorized a consultant

contract and scope of work.

The objectives of the grant included incorporating smart growth principles that would help reduce vehicle trips, facilitate pedestrian, and bicycle travel while encouraging sustainable development by favoring infill projects which maximize the use of existing infrastructure. The program is also aimed at developing innovative regulations and updating standards that respond to Livermore's particular needs.

The code would focus on form and scale rather than use, where appropriate, allowing different approaches in different areas within the community. The development review process would be streamlined in an effort to create a more predictable approval process using a code

that is easy-to-use and provides clear objectives and regulatory standards, including some provisions for staff level to make minor deviations.

The code is to be updated to include format and stylistic changes so that the final document is easy to understand and includes graphics, tables, and pictures. The update will incorporate the Green Building Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, and Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance into a single document.

The update will not affect the Downtown Specific Plan, South Livermore Valley Specific Plan, or El Charro Specific Plan areas.

For more information, please call Christine Rodrigues in the Planning Division, at (925) 960-4450, or email her at [cnrodrigues@ci.livermore.ca.us](mailto:cnrodrigues@ci.livermore.ca.us).

## YEAR IN REVIEW

(continued from page 2)

okayed a grant request from the East Bay Regional Park District for \$200,000 to purchase an 80 acre parcel near Del Valle Regional Park. It was the first money allocated from the Altamont Landfill settlement. There is about \$6.4 million in the open space fund designated for use in eastern Alameda County.

Jim Concannon announced that he would not seek re-election to the Zone 7 Board. He had served on the board since 1984.

### MARCH 2008

The Pleasanton City Council tabled a decision to place the Oak Grove referendum on the ballot pending a Superior Court final decision on the validity of the referendum. A tentative decision by Judge Frank Roesch ruled in favor of the landowners, agreeing that signature gatherers had failed to provide all of the documents related to the development.

The Pleasanton school board approved \$2.7 million in cuts from its budget.

The Livermore school board voted to place a renewal of a parcel tax on the November ballot. The tax provides \$3.2 million per year for such programs as class size reduction, elementary science, high school counselors, and additional hours for library technicians.

ValleyCare Health System has raised the \$2.7 million needed to construct the first phase of emergency room expansion at the hospital in Pleasanton. The current 4,000 square foot facility is to be expanded to 10,000 square feet.

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty would retain his seat on the board. He was the only candidate to file for the seat.

The Catholic Diocese of Oakland held a sign raising ceremony marking the future location of Pope John Paul II High School in Livermore.

The Culinary Institute of America inducted Carl Heinrich Wente into the Vintners Hall of Fame as a Pioneer. He founded Wente Vineyards in 1883 in the Livermore Valley. The winery is the oldest, continuously operated family owned winery, marking its 125th anniversary.

Comcast announced plans to create a new customer support and operations campus in the Triad Business Park in Livermore. Eventually, the site is to house 1000 employees.

Livermore residents continued to be positive about the city and the direction it is heading. Survey results showed 87 percent felt that the quality of life is good or excellent.

Filing ended for the 2008 June ballot. A field of eight for the Zone 7 Water Board included Kent McKinney, Brooke McKinney, Russell West, Steve Mattos incumbent Dick Quigley, former board members Chris Moore and Sandy Figuers, and former general manager Dale Myers. In the 15th Assembly District Republican candidates included Scott Kamena, Robert Rao, Abram Wilson and Judy Lloyd; Democrats were Joan Buchanan and Ted Ford.

The California Independent Film Festival announced plans to honor Penny Marshall with its 2008 Golden Slate Award for excellence in directing. Comedian Pauly Shore was to receive the Spirit Award.

Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman declared Pleasanton to be a "sound and healthy city"

during her annual State of the City Address. She credited financial planning, a diverse economic base and an active and deeply involved community with providing Pleasanton with a quality of life that is "the envy of many."

### APRIL 2008

A new segment of the Iron Horse Trail opened in Pleasanton. The new multiuse train runs from Santa Rita Rd. to Busch Rd.

At the first meeting in April, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board members delayed a decision on whether to continue operating the Valley Rock Gym. The delay was in response to the large number of speakers who asked the district to continue operations. At their final meeting in April, the board voted to extend the lease to operate the facility for two more years.

Las Positas College Talk Hawks, ranked second overall in Northern California for individual events, headed to Chicago to compete in the national championships.

The Livermore school district reported a reduction of \$350,000 in energy costs for the past year, a 12 percent drop. The main reason for the drop was that the district joined School Project for Utility Rate Reductions, which allows schools and other public agencies to purchase utilities in mass quantities at lower rates.

The Greenbelt Alliance celebrated its 50th anniversary. The organization aided Tri-Valley environmentalists in their efforts to stop suburban sprawl.

The California Independent Film Festival began a five day run in Livermore. The festival features independent films and recognizes members of the industry who have supported independent filmmakers.

Petitions for the Save Pleasanton's Hills and Housing Cap Initiative were turned into the Pleasanton city clerk. Supporters collected over 5000 signatures.

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory announced that it would send out layoff notices to 3000 career employees. Of that total, 535 would eventually be let go under an involuntary separation program. The layoffs were the result of a \$280 million shortfall in funding. Of that total \$180 million represented a cut in funding, \$180 million were costs related to the recent management/contract change.

The Pleasanton school district showed a big drop in school fee revenue as a result of the slowdown in home construction. The district projected revenues would be at \$1.2 million, rather than \$4.9 million originally estimated.

Concerns increased that the Friendship Center adult day care program would be closed. The program shared Sonoma School with the Livermore Valley Charter School. The school indicated that it required all of the space to provide its educational programs.

The Pleasanton City Council was at odds over a plan to build a megahouse in the Vineyard Corridor. Cheryl Cook-Kallio, Jerry Thorne and Jennifer Hosterman all voted for the proposal. Matt Sullivan and Cindy McGovern were opposed. The two opposed said that the house did not conform to guidelines set forth in the Vineyard Specific Plan with regard to size, siting, and removal of trees.

Cities balked at Zone 7's proposal to raise the flood control fee by 78 percent. Representatives of Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton all said the jump was too large. It would have a negative impact on such plans as Staples Ranch development in Pleasanton and Prime Outlets in Livermore.

A rare flower blooms at Site 300. The flower was thought to be extinct for about 40 years. About 8000 to 10,000 of the diamond-petaled California poppies bloomed at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's experimental test facility, Site 300.

The Livermore school district sent out layoff notices to classified staff representing 111 employees. The district cited projected lack of funding for the layoffs.

The Pleasanton City Council approved hiring a professional construction management team to build the Firehouse Arts Center. The estimated cost of the project is \$15 million.

### MAY 2008

The Livermore City Council established guidelines for the city's art in public places program. They included guidelines for developers who elect to provide art within a project and procedures to spend in lieu funds collected from developers who do not want to provide the art. There was controversy over setting a cap of \$5000 for grant applications in the larger funding category, with concern that the Commission for the Arts initiated applications would take most of the money. The council added wording that applications from individuals or organizations would be accepted as well.

Residents of North Livermore made it clear at a workshop that they want to retain the Springtown Golf Course. Participants wanted the course upgraded and more heavily promoted. The workshop also had a second theme, distrust of the process. Residents said they didn't believe their concerns would be heard.

A draft environmental impact report for the Staples Ranch found that development would change the existing visual character from rural open space to urban. There would be no way to mitigate the impact. Other issues in the report related to an increase in traffic and noise from the nearby Livermore Airport. The proposal for the 124 acre site is for an auto mall, a continuing care community for seniors, a commercial/retail site, a community park and a neighborhood park.

The Sierra Club agreed to support the appeal of the Oak Grove referendum decision. The Pleasanton City Council voted 3 to 2 not to join the appeal. A superior court judge had ruled the referendum invalid because petition gatherers had not carried the proper information. Oak Grove development is in the southeast hills of Pleasanton. It includes 51 luxury home sites and 497 acres of permanent open space.

The Livermore High School robotics team captured the title in the Robofest 2008 World Championship. The team beat out 155 other entries from as far away as England, France and South Korea.

The Save Pleasanton's Hills and Housing Cap Initiative officially qualified for the November ballot. Pleasanton City Clerk

Karen Diaz confirmed that there were 4081 valid signatures; 3672 were required. The initiative, if approved, would establish stringent guidelines for development on hillsides.

A ceremony was held to dedicate the Campus Hill Vineyard at Las Positas College. The three acre vineyard was underwritten by Concannon Vineyard.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District voted to suspend operations of the Friendship Center adult day care program as of July 1, 2008. The center shared Sonoma School with the Livermore Valley Charter School. The charter school is expanding and needs the entire site. A grassroots effort was then launched to find a new home for adult day care.

An analysis by city consultants of the financing plan for Livermore Valley Performing Art Center's regional theater found that the project is doable. The plan would use redevelopment agency tax increment funds and still leave money for other planned redevelopment projects in downtown Livermore.

The Pleasanton City Council began consideration of placing a council sponsored hillside protection measure on the November ballot. Staff was asked to come back with a report. A citizens initiative had qualified for the ballot.

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory laid off 440 employees as part of phase 3 of its workforce restructuring plan. The newest round included scientists and engineers.

The 14th annual Livermore Wine Auction showcased the new Concannon Vineyard barrel room. The auction raised \$400,000 for local charities.

### JUNE 2008

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District received a grant of \$584,517 to build two trail segments in South Livermore.

The Tri-Valley Adult Day Care Task Force was officially established to find a home for the Friendship Center adult day care program.

A survey conducted by the Livermore school district found strong support for renewal of a parcel tax. A total of 77 percent of voters indicated they were likely to approve a 5-year renewal of the current parcel tax with an annual \$18 increase. The funds are used for class size reduction, high school counselors, libraries, foreign language study and music classes.

The Choice for Children Education Foundation reported reaching the milestone of \$1 million in fund-raising for the Livermore Valley Charter School.

Election results in the June primary saw no early decision for the Republican candidate for the 15th Assembly District seat. Eventually, San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson was declared the winner, edging out Robert Rao of Livermore. Other Republican candidates were Judy Lloyd and Scott Kamena. Joan Buchanan defeated Ted Ford for the Democratic nomination. In the Zone 7 Water Board race, winners were Sandy Figuers, Dale Myers and Dick Quigley. In the Democratic race for the 9th District Senate seat Loni Hancock defeated Wilma Chan.

The Alameda County Fair honored the 150th anniversary of horse racing at the fairgrounds

(continued on page 10)

# Special Education Teachers Benefit from PAR 4 Kids Funds

Seventy-Seven Special Education teachers throughout the East Bay will be receiving grant

checks of up to \$500 this week. PAR 4 Kids' Sake is a seven year old charity that raises funds

for autism research, helping special needs kids attend camp at Camp Arroyo in Livermore, and teacher grants. So far PAR has donated over \$650,000 to the U.C. Davis M.I.N.D. Institute in Sacramento. This is the third year that PAR has given funds to ENN specifically for the camps and the teacher grants. Both PAR and ENN are 501c3 foundations that were founded by parents of special education kids.

PAR's strength has been to raise and then donate the money to groups that focus on curing autism and helping kids and families with autism. PAR chose ENN as a recipient of funds because of their dedication to helping families and teachers of special needs kids. With the help of

the money provided by PAR ENN is able to put on the overnight camps at Camp Arroyo and also to provide the teacher grants.

"Special Education Teachers throughout the East Bay were able to apply for these grants" said Don Bender, president of ENN. "ENN then reviewed the grant applications and decided that 77 out of the 81 applicants were eligible to receive the grants."

"I can't tell you how much this grant means to me and my class" exclaimed Kaisa Weathers, special ed teacher at Vintage Hills Elementary School in Pleasanton. "The stipend provided to teachers does not cover what we need throughout the year and this grant will really help me in my efforts to help teach these kids."

Chris Lee from Pleasanton Middle School is using his grant for a Smartboard Interactive System. "These kids are very visual. The Smartboard makes me confident that my ability to teach these kids will be improved dramatically."

"These grants would not be possible without the tremendous support we receive from individuals and businesses throughout our community" explained Cindy Everson, mother of 2 autistic children and co-founder of

PAR 4 Kids' Sake. "We are so thankful to everybody who helped make this happen. Our goal is not only to help find a cure but to also help the kids who have special needs and the teachers who work so hard to help them reach their potential."

PAR 4 Kids' Sake is a 501c3 whose charter is to help the M.I.N.D. Institute find a cause and a cure for autism and to help ENN fund the camps and teacher grants. Started by Eric & Cindy Everson, parents of 2 autistic

boys, this charity has flourished with the help of a dedicated executive committee. PAR 4 Kids' Sake puts on one large charity golf tournament and dinner/auktion every year as well as many smaller events sponsored by local businesses.

Exceptional Needs Network (ENN) was founded by parents of special needs children. ENN's goal is to find novel ways to help families of special needs children in the Tri-Valley region of the San Francisco Bay Area.

## Livermore Cinemas to Show BCS Championship Game

The Livermore Cinemas will be carrying a live broadcast of the BCS championship game on Thurs., Jan. 8.

The game features the University of Florida and the University of Oklahoma.

Cinedigm Digital Cinema Corp. has struck a deal with Sony, FOX Sports and 3ality Digital to bring a second major sporting event in 3-D to its national network of digitally-enabled movie theatres.

The BCS championship game on January 8th and the

NBA All-Star Saturday Night on February 14th will be the first times that fans can purchase tickets to see live, 3-D sporting events at hundreds of screens in neighborhood multiplexes in 35 states.

"We are changing the way the public enjoys movie theatres," said Bud Mayo, Chairman and CEO of Cinedigm. "Tens of thousands of sports fans around the country now will have a chance to experience one-time sporting events, live, in 3-D, at their local multiplexes."

## SPORTS NOTES

### Soccer Matches Raise Funds for Programs

Foothill High School and Amador High School soccer alumni met for the 6th year this past Sunday at Amador Valley High School for the Ryan Gordon Alumni Games.

Ryan was a 2003 graduate of Foothill killed in a Jet Ski accident shortly after graduation. He had planned on attending Santa Barbara City College and to play soccer there.

The games last Sunday included men and women players from the '70's, '80's, '90's and 2000's. This year featured many family members playing together (siblings, couples and even a mother/daughter combination for the 1st time) Tessie Wagner-Pease (1981) played with her daughter Melissa (2008) for Amador.

Siblings who played together included, Valerie (2002) and Beverly (2004) Mayer, Scott (1981) and Lenny McMillan (1991), Chuck (1978) and Rob (1987) Gilliam, Dylan (2004) and Tyler (2003) Curtis, and Scott (2008) and Jill (2006) Sweetnam. Their cousin, Dan Sweetnam (2003) was also on the field in goal for Foothill.

Couples included Dave Morris (1984) and Ann Peterson (1981), and Sean (1988) and Alicia (1988) Lemoine.

Joe Carlucci and his son Matt played for Amador. At age 50, Joe was the oldest player.

Monies raised are donated to the men's and women's soccer programs at the two high schools. This year's games raised over \$6100 year bringing the total since 2003 to over \$36,000. This was the most money raised since the inaugural games in 2003.

In the opening match, the Foothill women extended their win streak to 2 games by winning 4-0. Kim Patrick (1999) scored a hat trick for Foothill. Jill Sweetnam (2003) added a goal for the winners. The men's side saw Amador edging Foothill 2-1. After trailing most of the game Amador came back with 2 late goals by Dylan Curtis (2004). Earlier Craig Caponigro (2008) had scored for Foothill.

The halftime intermissions featured youth players from both the Pleasanton Rage and Ballistic United Soccer Club. Alumni Captains Tessie Wagner Pease (Amador 1982) and Sean Lemoine (Foothill 1988), also both youth club coaches, provided the teams. Parents and friends of the kids and alumni crowded the stands. Many friends of Ryan were also in attendance. Additionally there were 10 ex-teammates of Ryan's playing in the games.

Volunteers manned the snack bar, collected tickets, controlled the scoreboard and refereed the games. The Hop Yard Alehouse and All Star Sports both contributed to the cause. Each winning team was provided with a trophy that travels back and forth to each year's winning high school.

Next year's games will be at Foothill, as the venue changes from Foothill to Amador and back each year.

30 victory versus St. Teresa. They were led by Austin Piscotty who hit 8 of 10 shots including a 3 pointer, for 17 points. Cory Frederickson added 10 points on 5 of 7 shooting, and hit the boards with 7 rebounds. On Saturday night CCOP jumped out to a 23-6 halftime lead on its way to a 44-18 victory over the East Bay Bulldogs. Anubhav Murali led the way with 14 points. Drew Bland and Glenn Leininger each pulled down 10 rebounds. Sunday night CCOP finished the tournament with a 48-33 victory over St. Raymond's. After the 1st half was tied at 18 all CCOP pulled away in the second half. Jassae Virk had 10 rebounds, Brandon Kirk and Josh Stevens 5 each and Michael White had 4 key points in the second half.

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 6th Grade Girls American League squad took second place in the MVP Flight Basketball 2008 Holiday Classic Tournament in Walnut Creek over the holidays. In game one, they played a scrappy 7th grade team from St. Raymond's. Rachel Braun and Samantha Trask each had great games at both ends and in transition. Rachel Hernandez played solidly on both sides as well with her best rebounding game of the year. Good team play, especially running the floor, enabled them to pull away in the second half to a 31-19 victory. Friday found them in a game against St. Mary's that was close early. However, Rachel Hernandez caught fire, scoring 12 of her 17 points in the third quarter while the team played solid defense and opened a lead that they would maintain for the remainder of the game. Dana Anex had a strong outing playing defense and rebounding, as did Anna Neitzel, who was a force underneath whenever she was on the floor. At the end, the girls advanced to the championship with a 36-26 win against a good team. In the championship game on Sunday against St. Isidore's, the girls got out to a strong start behind a swarming defense and great execution on offense, taking leads at the half and into the fourth period. Grace Naylor frustrated the St. Isidore's offense with quick breaks on the ball up top and had a solid game on offense as well with 6 points. Amanda Montano had her usual great game defensively, and Anna Neitzel had another solid, aggressive performance, especially on the boards. In a game where both teams made runs and then got reeled in, St. Isidore's got off the last run, and SM/SC was unable to answer in time, falling 26-21 in a game that was close until the end.

SM/SC 7th grade American team Fury took on St. Isidore #70004, winning 24 to 9 on 12/21/08. SM/SC top scorers were Hailey Lasit with 13, Ashleigh Pettit with 4, Niki Lutz with 3 and 2 each from McKayla Saavedra and Shannon Melrose. There were many turnovers in favor of SM/SC due to some great defensive playing from Niki Lutz, Madeline Glaviano, Rebecca Johnson and Skyler Kritz.

Registration is still open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play PGSL softball. Two ways to register: 1) Online at www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from

our website). For more information, email the league at pgs@pleasantonsoftball.org or visit the PGSL website at www.pleasantonsoftball.org.

### Lacrosse Registration

Livermore Phantom Lacrosse Club Registration is now open for Livermore Phantom Lacrosse Spring 2009 season. Accepting both experienced and beginner girls and boys ages 8 through 14 (U15). Whether a returning player or brand new to the game of lacrosse - this is an opportunity to become part of the fastest growing and most unique youth sport in the nation. The season begins in late January and continues through mid-May. For more information on the Phantom Lacrosse experience and detailed instructions on registration requirements, please visit www.phantomlacrosse.org or contact Bob Mezeul at 925-425-9901.

### Sharks Tickets

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is selling San Jose Sharks hockey tickets for the upcoming season. All tickets are \$51 and located in the Upper Reserved section.

Available tickets are: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, vs. Detroit Red Wings; 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14, vs. Los Angeles Kings; and 7 p.m. Saturday, April 4, vs. Anaheim Ducks.

To reserve tickets, please call LARPD at 925-373-5700.

### Women's Soccer

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is offering soccer play under the lights at Robertson Park on Tuesday nights.

LARPD's Women's Soccer League is a recreational outdoor league that encourages players of all abilities to get out and play the game. Whether new to soccer, have a distant memory of playing it or are just looking to play, this league will suit all experience levels. The main goal is to have fun playing the game.

Registration for the winter season is open now and due by Jan. 2. Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so early registration is recommended to guarantee a space. The league is open to women age 18 and older. The winter season runs through January and February, and the fee to participate is \$34.

To register, stop by LARPD's Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, to fill out a registration packet. A packet can also be downloaded from the LARPD Web site at www.larpd.dst.ca.us to drop off or mail in. For more information, call 925-960-6407.

### Umpires Sought

The Livermore Pleasanton Umpires Association is seeking individuals interested in umpiring girls fastpitch and adult slowpitch softball games in the Livermore, Pleasanton area. Training will be provided. The first Livermore Pleasanton Umpires meeting will be held on January 11th at 12 noon at the Livermore Community Center located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore, or contact Henry Suico at (510) 701-2762 or email at hsuico@comcast.net.

### CYO Basketball

Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) Team #71 participated in the CYO basketball 7th grade Christmas Challenge over the holiday break. It was a very competitive tournament with teams from Oakland, Walnut Creek, and the Tri Valley Area. On Friday CCOP started with a 52-

### PGSL Registration

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## LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

### PUBLIC WORKSHOP

**For the City of Livermore Zoning Code Update**  
Robert Livermore Community Center – Cresta Blanca Ballroom, 4444 East Avenue

**Monday, January 12, 2009:** Opening Presentation 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.


**Tuesday and Wednesday, January 13 and 14, 2009:**

- Open Door Studio 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Design Proposals and Form-Based Code Creation – 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Brown Bag Lunch Topics: Building types and density (Tuesday); Pedestrian-oriented street design (Wednesday) 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

**Thursday, January 15, 2009:** Closing Presentation 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At the Charrette, we will solicit community input on how to apply Form-Based Codes to two designated Focus Areas – South of Downtown and North of Downtown – to emphasize the traditional patterns and character found in these older Livermore neighborhoods. One goal is to increase the walkability and transit ridership in these areas. The Charrette will allow participants to collaborate with planners, engineers, and architects to create a vision for the Focus Areas, including the character and scale of future development.

**For more information, please call Christine Rodrigues in the Planning Division, at (925) 960-4450, or email her at cnrdrigues@ci.livermore.ca.us.**



**Palo Alto Medical Foundation**  
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THE CURE FOR COMMON MEDICINE


## Dublin Center

4050 Dublin Boulevard  
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Second Floor Conference Room  
pamf.org

## Community Education Programs

January 2009

### Featured Lecture




Anthony Dobson, M.D., Ph.D.  
FAMF Reproductive Endocrinology and Fertility

### Understanding Your Body: Fertility and Pregnancy Planning


**Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 – 8 p.m.**

Join us to learn more about the female and male reproductive systems, as well as factors that impact fertility, including fibroids, PCOS (polycystic ovary syndrome), endometriosis and much more. The speakers will also discuss treatment options that may help you achieve pregnancy.



Sunny Jun, M.D.  
FAMF Reproductive Endocrinology and Fertility

### Upcoming Lecture



Narajan Karnik, M.D., Ph.D.  
FAMF Psychiatry and Behavioral Health

### The Teen Brain

**Wednesday, February 18, 6:30 – 8 p.m.**

Ever wonder why your teenager sleeps so much? Why do teens argue and fight about everything? Dr. Karnik will discuss recent findings from neuroscience, psychology and sociological research that shed some light on how teenage brains work (or fail to work).

Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Dublin Center  
4050 Dublin Boulevard, 2nd Floor Conference Room  
Register today at 925-875-6464. No fee.

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Michael Cooper's original stories of courage and wonder, with breathtaking handcrafted masks will be staged at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Sun., Jan. 11 at 2 p.m. This one-man extravaganza features his original stories of courage and wonder, breathtaking handcrafted masks, outlandish still dancing, and a physical repertoire that ranges from the madcap to the sublime. Tickets are \$30/\$25/\$20/\$12 students. For tickets call 925.373.6800 or online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org). The Bankhead Theater is at 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore.



Dorothy is played by Callie Garrett and Toto played by Dory.

## Wizard of Oz Opens at Smith Center

StarStruck Theatre will present "The Wizard of Oz" in January. Performances will be at the Ohlone College Smith Center, January 10-24.

StarStruck Theater is a youth theatre company. The production includes sets and costumes inspired by the MGM movie, a twenty piece orchestra, and sixty young performers.

Technicians from ZFX Flying Inc. are working with StarStruck to combine unique aerial choreography and state of the art flying equipment that will include flying monkeys and the Witch of the West.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2p.m. There is a 7 p.m. performance on Thurs., Jan. 22 and a special ASL interpreted performance at 2 p.m. on Sun., Jan. 18.

Reserved seating ranges from \$20 to \$25. Tickets may be purchased at 510-659-1319 or online at [www.starstrucktheatre.org](http://www.starstrucktheatre.org).

Performances will be held at the Ohlone College Smith Center, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont.

## Polynesian Dancers Next in Around the World Series

The Ka Ua Tuahine Polynesian Dance Company performs at the Pleasanton Public Library on Saturday, January 10 beginning at 2:00 pm.

This award-winning ensemble, named after a light rain that falls in Manoa Valley on the island of O'ahu, is comprised of individuals from diverse backgrounds dedicated to the perpetuation of Polynesian performing arts.

This performance is part of the

library's ongoing Dance & Sing Around the World series, celebrating the music and dance of the many cultures which make up the Pleasanton community. The free programs are open to all ages. No registration is required.

**Recital**, the public is invited to a recital of piano music presented by Jordan Even on Friday evening, January 2. He will present the recital at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Ave (Livermore). Included will be music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Scriabin and Barber. Jordan Even is a senior at Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, IN), majoring in piano performance.

**Seventh Annual Youth Music Festival**, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will hold auditions on Wednesday and Thursday, January 14 and 15, between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. All auditions will take place at the Amador Theater, located on the AmadorValley High School campus at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and instrumental ensembles, ages 18 and under, are welcome to audition. Rock bands are not included in the Festival. Audition appointments are required and may be made by calling (925) 931-3481. Performance date is Friday, February 20, 2009, at 8:00 p.m. at the Amador Theater.

**Auditions** for the chorus Soli Deo Gloria will be held by appointment prior to the first rehearsal, January 5. Tenors and basses are especially welcome. The upcoming concert program, "Chamber Secrets," includes works by Bach, Haydn, Monteverdi, and Buxtehude. Rehearsals are held Monday nights in Alameda and directed by Allen Simon. Concerts will be held in Palo Alto and Alameda. Please call 888-SDG-SONG (888-734-7664) or email auditions@sdgloria.org for an appointment. For more info, visit: [www.sdgloria.org](http://www.sdgloria.org)

**Livermore's Got Talent 2009 Auditions**, applications accepted now through Jan. 3. Auditions at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. \$25.00 application fee. Sponsored by NBC Bay Area, the Rotary Clubs of Livermore, the Liv-

ermore Area Recreation and Park District, and Waste Management, Inc. All proceeds go to the Rotary community grants program. [www.LivermoresGotTalent.com](http://www.LivermoresGotTalent.com); [auditions@livermoresgottalent.com](mailto:auditions@livermoresgottalent.com) Maurie Louis, Public Relations Director.

**The Wild Vine**, Trish Fenton is the featured artist for the month of January at the Wild Vine Gallery. Fenton will display her expressive and alluring females. She uses collage to create texture and color in her pieces. Reception is Thursday, January 8, from 7-9 p.m. at the Wild Vine Art Gallery and Wine Lounge, 2187 First St., Livermore

**Wine and Words**, poetry reading hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post, Sun., Jan. 4, 2 to 4 p.m. Guest readers followed by open mic. \$5 admission. [www.poetrypost.com](http://www.poetrypost.com).

**Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordroneau, violin-piano duo**, Jan. 9, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Movies at Old St. Raymond's**, Jan. 10, 2 to 4 p.m. \$3. 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. 452-2100.

**Willy Clafin, Parents' Choice Gold Award winning storyteller**, Jan. 10, 11 a.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Civic Arts Presents. tickets 931-3444, [caboffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:caboffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

**Masked Marvels & Wondertales**, Sun., Jan. 11, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, LVPAC Presents Michael Cooper's one-man show. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**Keyword Conversations, Concerts with Lively Commentary, Jeffrey Siegel, Pianist**, Tuesday, January 13, at 8 p.m. Program: "The Longevity of the Short Piece;" Tickets \$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**The Power of Flight**, Thurs., Jan. 15,

7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Livermore Speakers Series features Morton Grosser, who helped design and build components for three human powered airplanes. \$30/\$40. 373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Irvin Mayfield and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra All Stars**, Friday, January 16, at 8 p.m., spirited, swinging, 6-piece band steeped in the tradition of New Orleans jazz, blues, swing and spirituals. Tickets \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**The Underpants**, Role Players Ensemble, Danville, Jan. 16-Feb. 7. [www.danvilletheatre.com](http://www.danvilletheatre.com).

**Children's Film Festival Review**, the best award-winning short films for children from the California Independent Film Festival's 11 year history will be shown Sat., January 17 in San Ramon, will be held at the Front Row Theater at Dougherty Station Community Center on Saturdays at from 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8.00 all ages. Tickets can be purchased on-line at [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) by phone at (925) 973-ARTS, or the night of the show, 1 hour prior to performance.

**Winter concert - Lorin Rowan**, Jan. 17, 7 p.m. Heritage Center, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. \$10/\$5. 452-2100.

**Stanford Woodwind Quintet**, Jan. 17, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. 373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Peking Acrobats**, Sat., Jan. 17, 8 p.m. Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, 715 Central Avenue, Tracy. \$25 & \$30; Grand Box Seats additional \$15.00 and Parterre Seating additional \$5.00. [www.athegrand.org](http://www.athegrand.org) or 209-831-6858.

**Gurbaksh Chahal, "The Dream"**, Sunday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Entrepreneur dropped out of school to form his first company, becoming a multimillionaire at 18. His second company, BlueLithium was named one of the top 100 private companies. His memoir "The Dream" is the story of his road to success. No admission charge. No registration required.

**ScrapArts Music**, five musicians play over 140 instruments fashioned from industrial scrap. Jan. 23, 8 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Civic Arts Presents, tickets at 925-931-3444, [caboffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:caboffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

**Guys and Dolls**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse), Mainstage Musical, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. Jan. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, Feb. 1, 6, 7, 8. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Crab Feed**, Sat., Jan. 24, Elks Lodge,

940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Music by the "Singing DJ." \$35 per person by advance date only. No ticket sales at the door. 455-8829.

**6th Annual Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day Celebration**, Sat., Jan. 24, 7 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Presented by the Chinese American Cooperation Council. [www.cacusa.org](http://www.cacusa.org).

**White Elephant Sale**, warehouse is at 333 Lancaster St. (at Glascock), Oakland. Free shuttle bus from Fruitvale BART. For complete details see [www.whiteelephantsale.org](http://www.whiteelephantsale.org). Sale is produced by the Oakland Museum Women's Board to benefit the Oakland Museum of California. Preview Sale, Jan. 25. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance, \$15 at the door. Kids under 12 are free if accompanied by an adult. No strollers, shopping carts or backpacks!

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Breakfast**, Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Radisson Hotel, Dublin. Tri-Valley YMCA will co-host with Guy Houston and Mayor Tim Sbranti of Dublin. Keynote speaker: Bernard J. Tyson, executive vice president for Health Plan and Hospital Operations for Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. Also entertainment, reflection and prayer. Proceeds benefit YMCA programs. Information, contact Tim Stier, 475-6107.

**The Best of Doo Wop**, Thursday, January 29, 8 p.m., with original Coaster Leon Hughes, the Vibrations and tribute group playing the hits of the Drifters and Del Vikings. Tickets \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Food and Wine Pairing Class**, Wednesday, January 21, 6-8 p.m. Executive Chef Ty Turner and Winemaker Wayne Re demonstrate the fundamentals of food & wine pairing, prepared dishes in a cooking demonstration and winemaker Wayne Re will provide wine education. \$40PP, limited seating. For more information contact Garre Winery 925-371-8200, [www.garrewinery.com](http://www.garrewinery.com). To make reservations please contact the Livermore Area Recreation Park District (LARP) at 925-373-5700 or [www.larpd.dst.ca.us](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us).

**Pleasanton Hotel antiques and memorabilia viewing and sale**, Sun., Jan. 4 from Noon-4pm; furniture and fixtures auction, Wed., Jan. 14 from 11am. Please check the website [www.jgbonillauctions.com](http://www.jgbonillauctions.com) for details. 855 Main Street, Pleasanton.

**An Artist Way Group** is forming in Livermore. Meeting on Wednesdays starting January 14th from 7-8:30 p.m. at UCC 1886 College Ave. Sign up to join the group by emailing [jllock08103@yahoo.com](mailto:jllock08103@yahoo.com) or calling 925-449-6820. Meetings are January 14, 21, 28; February 4, 11, 18; March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 15. The Artist's Way is a spiritual path to higher creativity.

## Poster Honors Poets Laureate

During 2006 and 2007, Connie Post, Poet Laureate of the City of Livermore, collaborated with photographer Ronna Leon to gather and compile information about the Poets Laureate in communities across the state of California.

Leon is a poet/photographer from Benicia.

One of the results of that effort is a poster made by Ronna Leon that includes photos of Poets Laureate in various California communities. The project has been displayed at several book festivals, conferences, and community events around the state. Ronna Leon obtained a grant

from The California Center for the Book ([www.calbook.org](http://www.calbook.org)) for this project.

Connie Post has distributed 100 posters in and around the City of Livermore, including Livermore and Granada High Schools, Las Positas Community College, the Adult Education English Program, and the Livermore Civic Center Library.

For more information and to view a web slide show, go to [www.poetslaureate.com](http://www.poetslaureate.com).

In March of 2009, there will be a Poets Laureate Display at the Main branch of the Livermore Library, 1188 South Livermore Ave.

## LoveNotes Quartet Performs at Library

The Dublin Friends of the Library will present an afternoon of lively music with the LoveNotes Quartet at the Dublin Library on Sun., Jan. 11 at 2 p.m.

Singing a cappella, this group of young women features Britany (tenor), Caitlin (baritone), Mia (lead), and Stephanie (bass) performing favorites from modern songs to Broadway shows. They have been singing together six years in national and international competitions and are

members of Sweet Adelines International. This program is free. For further information, check the library's website at [www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org) or contact the library at (925) 803-7275.

The Dublin Library, a branch of the Alameda County Library, is located at 200 Civic Plaza. The Dublin Library is wheelchair accessible. An ASL Interpreter will be provided with at least 7 working days advance notice. For this service, please call 803-7286.

## Tickets Go On Sale for 'Truffles, Tidbits and Wine Tasting'

"Truffles, Tidbits and Wine Tasting" will be held on Thursday, February 5, from 6 to 9 p.m. at participating downtown Pleasanton businesses.

This annual event is presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

Over 25 Livermore Valley wineries will be pouring red and white wines, ports, dessert wines and champagnes. Each participating business will feature sweet treats and/or hors d'oeuvres to pair with the wine selections being poured.

Tickets for the wine event may

be purchased in advance at a discounted price of \$25 between Monday, January 5th and Wednesday, February 4th. Participants will receive a commemorative wine glass, and map.

Only eight hundred (800) tickets will be offered for this event.

They will be available for purchase beginning January 5, at the following locations: The Rose Hotel, 807 Main Street; Clover Creek, 670 Main Street; Studio 7 Fine Arts, 400 Main Street and the Pleasanton Downtown Association office, 830-A Main Street.

If there are any remaining tickets available, they will be sold on the evening of the event for \$30 beginning at 5:45 p.m. All tickets must be redeemed for glasses by 7:30 p.m.

For information, visit their website at [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net) or call the Pleasanton Downtown Association at 925-484-2199, ext. 4#.

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MARLEY & ME (PG) DLP	10:05*	11:00*	12:40 1:40 3:15
	4:25	6:40	7:20 9:15 9:55
DOUBT (PG13) DLP	10:50*	1:30	4:25 7:05 9:30
BEDTIME STORIES (PG) DLP	10:40*	12:05	1:00 2:30
	3:50	4:50	6:30 7:30 9:00 9:40
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) DLP	12:00	12:45	3:30 4:15 7:00 8:00
SEVEN POUNDS (PG13) DLP	10:10*	12:50	4:10 7:00 9:50
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (G) DLP	10:00*	12:10	2:20 4:30 6:40
YES MAN (PG13) DLP	11:55	2:25	4:40 7:10 9:35
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (PG13) DLP	10:55*	12:55*	4:05 7:15 9:45
FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) DLP	2:55	5:10	7:30 9:55
BOLT 3D (PG) DLP	10:15*	12:35	

\*Friday-Sunday Times All other times: DAILY

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Discover the possibilities the East Bay offers during the **REALTOR® Open Home Fair on Sunday, June 1** from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. REALTORS® throughout Alameda County will be placing yellow yard signs at more than 500 homes participating in this special event. While you're looking at these homes, enter to win a prize in the Open Home Fair Raffle.

To explore your possibilities, go to **OpenHomeFair.com** on June 1 to download a map.

You can view Open Homes in the East Bay anytime at [HomesOpenToday.com](http://HomesOpenToday.com)

# BULLETIN BOARD

Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included.

**Ohlone Audubon** meets 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 6 at Eden Church, 21455 Birch St., Hayward. The church is on the corner of Grove Way and Birch. From Mission Blvd. turn right onto Grove Way (approx. 7/10 mile north of "A" St.). Steve Shunk will present a program on Acorn & Nuttalls Woodpeckers: Living together in California's Oak Woodlands. Shunk has just written the Peterson Guide to Wood Woodpeckers of North America. Refreshments. For info call 510-507-3383.

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** meets Thursday, January 8th, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Alisal School, multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. This month's speaker is Kathy Echols, Horticulture Department Instructor at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill. Echols owns Midhill Farms Nursery and specializes in Australian plants, rare and unusual perennials and California natives. Plants specimens will be offered for sale after the presentation. Visitors are welcome. For questions, call Sally at 417-8809.

**Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind** meets on Saturday, January 3, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Cafeteria Room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, 1111 East Stanley Blvd. Do you know anyone who is blind or is experiencing vision loss? The organization can help people to adjust. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

**Consumer Clinic.** The Department of Consumer Affairs will be at Pleasanton Senior Center the first Tuesday of each month from 10:00 a.m.-noon. They will be on site to assist consumers in filing consumer complaints and to answer questions. To schedule an appointment contact the Pleasanton Senior Center at 925-931-5365.

**Valley Spokenmen Bicycle Touring Club.** Sat., Jan. 3, 36 miles from Pleasanton to Livermore back via Sycamore Grove, meet 10 a.m. at Val Vista Park, Curtis Stallins, 922-2461. Sun., Jan. 4, 47 miles Shannon Center in Dublin to Castro Valley, meet 9 a.m., Peter Rathmann, 336-0973. Wed., Jan. 7, 32 miles climb up and along Briones Reservoir from Lafayette, meet 10 a.m. at Olympic Staging Area, Barb Hailey, 820-8006. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**Tri-Valley Rotary Club** presents: Health, Healing and Happiness: A Guide to Optimal Health & Weight Loss. Thurs., Jan. 27, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Girsale Restaurant, 3180 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. \$20 includes meeting/dinner/talk - pay at the door. www.trivalleyrotary.org. Pamela McDonald, author of "APOE Gene Diet Book," 28 years medical experience, Primary Care Provider, Nurse Practitioner, is the speaker.

**Amador Valley Quilt Guild** will meet on Saturday, January 10, at 1:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Claret Avenue, Pleasanton. This meeting will feature Karen Boutte, who considers herself a quilt diva. The lecture will be about African American quilts and quilters. The guild is a non-profit educational association for quilters of all skill levels. Anyone interested in quilting may attend. For further information about the guild or upcoming speakers, please visit our website, <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>.

**Volunteer Drivers needed.** The Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is looking for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. The Senior Transportation Program supplements exist-

ing public and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle and carry personal automobile liability insurance. Please contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at (925) 931-5387 or email: [ja.cullen@yahoo.com](mailto:ja.cullen@yahoo.com)

**Diabetes Self-Management Classes.** free, from the Alameda County Public Health Diabetes Program, 7 week series, 2 hour classes. New classes starting January 2009. Please call 510-383-5185 for more information.

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA.,** general meeting 1:30 p.m. Tues., Jan. 6 at the Dublin Library. Fish fry in Dublin, 5 p.m. Jan. 9, RSVP to Hilda, 398-8808 by Jan. 7. Lunch in Pleasanton at Eddie Papa's, Jan. 10, 11:45 a.m., call Lou at 628-4463 by Jan. 6. Happy hour in Pleasanton at Sheraton Hotel, Jan. 16, 5 p.m. call Lorraine at 846-5695 by Jan. 15. Champagne birthday brunch at Marie Callender's in San Ramon, Jan. 18, 11:45 a.m., call Marsha, 830-8483 by Jan. 14 with payment.

**Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated** will begin its 2009 speaker series on Thursday, January 8, 2009, with Tom Del Beccaro, one of the most strategic thinkers and charismatic personalities of the California Republican Party. Del Beccaro, the statewide Vice Chairman, is a frequent political commentator on TV and radio. He is the author of the book The New Conservative Paradigm and editor of the webzine PoliticalVanguard.com. La Vite Restaurant in Pleasanton, 6:30pm. Reservations required. Call Jan at 925-846-5944 by Sunday, January 4.

**Stress Reduction and Guided Imagery,** workshop aimed at helping those with cancer and their loved ones focus and relax the mind and body to experience relief from negative emotional states. Thurs., Jan. 22, 6 to 8 p.m. Valley Care Medical Plaza, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., conference room 240 A & B, Pleasanton. Free. Reservations required. For information, call the Wellness Community at 933-0107.

**Health, Healing and Happiness.** Jan. 22, 7 p.m. A free seminar with Pamela McDonald, author of "The Apo E Gene Diet" at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The Apo E Gene Diet will be on sale at the event. For more info regarding the program call Penny Johnson at 931-3405. The program is free and open to all. No registration required.

**Dublin Senior Center activities:** **DanceEscape Social Dance** Saturday, January 31, 7:00-10:00 pm Lady K and the Kings of Swing is a 17-piece big band recreating the sounds of Duke Ellington. Cole Porter, Count Basie, Gershwin, Kenton, Sinatra and more. Led by saxophonist Kaye Leedham, and features many of the Bay Area's leading jazz musicians. Dublin Senior Center. Tickets purchased by Friday, January 30: Dublin resident \$8/non-resident \$9 Tickets at the door: \$10 Activity Code 19330; **beginning rhumba** Wednesday, January 14 & 21, 7:00-8:00 pm Learn easy, basic dance routine. \$10.00/2 classes Activity Code 19470; **Intermediate Samba** Wednesday, January 14 & 21, 8:00-9:00 pm Emphasis is on technique and polished routines. One year of ballroom training recommended. \$10.00/2 classes Activity Code 19471; **Art for All Media** Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 pm Space will be offered for artists to explore different art media, share new ideas, work on personal projects; all skill levels welcome. Drop-in beginning January 28. \$1.00/class; **Big Screen Classics** Friday, January 16, 12:30 pm featuring the movie, Kiss Me Kate based on Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew and stars Kathryn Grayson, Howard Keel and Ann Miller. Free. For more information, call the Dublin Senior Center at (925) 556-4511 or visit the City's website at

www.ci.dublin.ca.us.

**Modern Woman Support Group.** Call Dr. Gallagher at 925-556-3464 for information about the group and to reserve a spot. Meets 2x a month Saturday mornings. Begins in late January.

**Service news:** Air Force Airman Brandon T. Zumwalt has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Kris Zumwalt of Fremont Michael Zumwalt of Livermore. Zumwalt is a 2007 graduate of Irvington High School, Fremont.

**Tri-Valley YMCA Leadership Academy** opening January 5, 2009, located on Hart, Harvest Park and Pleasanton Middle school campuses. Academy activities include: Homework Time, Club Activities, Service Learning Projects, Team Building Games, Leadership Training, Public Speaking Opportunities, Interpersonal Communication Skills Development, Weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. Fees vary based on attendance plan. Space is limited. For more information or registration, please contact: Kris Farro, Program Director (925) 475-6110 [kfarro@ymcaeastbay.org](mailto:kfarro@ymcaeastbay.org)

**East Bay Women's Network (EBWN),** meets Jan 7th, The Englander Restaurant, 101 Parrot Street, San Leandro, 11:15 am to 1:30 pm Start the new year with another networking event. Meeting cost is \$25 for guests, \$15 for members. Membership to join EBWN is \$90 for twelve months. For more information contact: Gail Chadbourne Bark Busters Home Dog Training Email: [castbayhills@barkbusters.com](mailto:castbayhills@barkbusters.com) Phone: 510-228-8973

**Crab Feed,** Sat., Jan. 24, 6 p.m. White Crane Winery, Livermore. Benefit for the Kids YMCA Camp Arroyo outdoor school. \$40 per person. Live music and dancing after dinner. For reservations, go to [www.WhiteCraneWinery.com](http://www.WhiteCraneWinery.com)

**Livermore Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Open House,** Jan. 26, noon to 2 p.m. at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Open to all. Drop in. Information at [www.livermoretoastmasters.org](http://www.livermoretoastmasters.org). Questions? call Jill 209-914-8449 or Cindy 449-2125.

**Jack London Foundation,** 20th annual fund-raising books and collectibles auction, Jan. 27, Sonoma Community Center, 276 East Napa St., Sonoma. Preview noon to 1 p.m. Auction starts at 1 p.m. Admission is free. Information, 707-996-2888 or email [jlondon@vcom.com](mailto:jlondon@vcom.com).

**Recruitment Grant Available,** \$500 for woman student pursuing a career in education. Eligibility requirements: graduate of a high school in Livermore, Pleasanton or Dublin, full-time student of upper division or graduate standing as of fall 2009; must have a good GPA. Deadline for applications is March 20, 2009. The grant is awarded by the local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honor society for women educators. To receive an application form, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Kathy Brooks, 1581 Oslo Ct., Livermore, CA 94550.

**White Elephant Sale,** Saturday, March 7, and Sunday, March 8. Hours are 10-4 each day and admission is free. The White Elephant Sale warehouse is at 333 Lancaster St. (at Glascock), Oakland. Free shuttle bus from Fruitvale BART. For complete details see [www.whiteelephantsale.org](http://www.whiteelephantsale.org). Call 510/839-5919 to arrange a free pickup of large items to be donated. The Sale is produced by the Oakland Museum Women's Board to benefit the Oakland Museum of California. Preview Sale, Jan. 25, offers the first crack at the merchandise. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance, \$15 at the door. Kids under 12 are free if accompanied by an adult. No strollers, shopping carts or backpacks! Free shuttle bus from Fruitvale BART.

**Managing Your Career in these Turbulent Times.** Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) joint technical meeting (Amador Valley & Diablo Valley chapters), Tuesday, January 27, check-in/networking 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m.; Guest Speaker 7:30 pm: Dilip Saraf, Author-Speaker-Career Coach-Life Coach; Sheraton Hotel, Pleasanton. Dinner reservations required (925) 443-5662; dinner cost (members & non-members) \$35 (cash or check; pay at the door).

**Senior Decorating 101.** Want to create a space in your home or apartment that is more comfortable and updated? Learn how the professionals do it! Apply simple design principles to your space and have fun doing it. Discover how color, lighting, furniture layout and soft furnishings can make a dramatic effect on the quality of your life at home. Bring decorating dilemmas and get a professional opinion from Toni Berry, IFDA. Program at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Tuesday, January 13, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., \$1.50 Residents/\$2 Nonresidents.

**Student news:** Hamad Hamad of Livermore graduated from Georgetown University in May. Hamad earned a bachelor's degree from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. Hamad attended Livermore High School. The following local students received degrees from the University of New Haven on August 23, 2008: Ann F. Thurman of Livermore, a Master of Science in National Security and Public Safety; and Randall T. McClelland-Bane of Livermore, a Master of Science in National Security and Public Safety. Out of nearly 3,000 college students worldwide, Daniel Dekay from Livermore, has found success in the field of entrepreneurship. He ran his own business in the Southwestern Company's summer selling program, making a gross profit of

\$33,829.06. Dekay, a student at Cal Poly State University, just completed his seventh summer in the program. He relocated to North Dakota for three months where he sold educational products to families to help offset his education expenses. Dekay is the son of Richard Dekay and attended Granada High School in Livermore.

## RELIGION

**Excellent Sex: Virtues for a Christian Sexual Ethics**, presentation Tues., Jan. 13 at 7:30 -9:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomas Ave., in Livermore as part of 2008-2009 LIFE. (Lessons in Faith Experiences) adult education series. Lisa Fullam, Th.D., is Assistant Professor of Moral Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. The focus of the evening will be on sexuality and how we live out our sexual lives which are central aspects of human identity and relationship. The Q&A session follows. All the Tri-Valley is invited to the presentation. A \$5.00 free will donation is suggested to offset speaker fees. For more information contact Julie at [upatholic@aol.com](mailto:upatholic@aol.com) or 447-4549 ext. 114.

**The Light Shines Through Our Darkness.** Eucharistic retreat with Fr. Ed Shea, O.F.M. on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 7:00-9:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomas Ave., in Liver-

more. Fr. Ed's evening will be one of looking at what or who is the light in our darkness and how we can open ourselves up to let that light shine in and through us. This will be done through stories, song and celebration of the Eucharist. Following the celebration a time of fellowship will follow. A \$5.00 free will donation is suggested to go towards charity. For more information contact Julie at [upatholic@aol.com](mailto:upatholic@aol.com) or 447-4549 ext. 114.

**"Science of the Bible,"** St. Michael's/St. Charles' Monday Night Bible Study Group a spiritually invigorating and soul lifting session January 5 - Feb 23, 2009. This study will consist of viewing several of the National Geographic Channel's videos on such topics as Jesus the Preacher & Jesus the Healer. The evening will be broken down into discussions of what was seen, how that affects us, and what it means to our lives. All are invited to attend evenings from 7:30 - 9:15 pm at St. Charles, in the Pope John XXIII Room, 1315 Lomas Ave., Livermore. This Bible Study is open to all denominations and people interested in this topic. For more information contact Julie at [upatholic@aol.com](mailto:upatholic@aol.com) or 447-4549 ext. 114.

**Dealing with loss,** of loved one, sessions second and fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Dates are Jan. 8 and 22, Feb. 12 and 26 and March 12 and 26. Meetings open to all regardless of religious

orientation. Call Mary at 846-5377 with questions.

**Calvary Chapel Livermore.** "Unequivocally teaching for today the whole counsel of God's Word" Sunday Services 10:30am and 6:00 pm 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - [www.calvarylivermore.org](http://www.calvarylivermore.org)

**Divorce Care,** a 13-week seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced, starts Jan. 19 at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton. The group will meet Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. There is a charge of \$25 for the workbook and other materials. Pre-registration is required. Contact Mark Porter at 846-9693 or [mporter@hotmail.com](mailto:mporter@hotmail.com).

**Tri-Valley Lighthouse, Aglow International,** meets 10:30 a.m. to noon on Jan. 10 at Parkway Baptist Church, 7485 Village Parkway, Dublin. Guest speaker is Valerie Jackson (Regional Coordinator for Church Aglow, over California and Hawaii). An ordained minister through the Western Evangelical Association, she has taught on the radio, retreats, and churches. Lunch follows.

Tri-Valley Unity Church, "The Twelve Days of Christmas Revealed," about completing the Christmas cycle, is Rev. Steve Maynard's talk for Epiphany Sunday on January 4 at 10 a.m. Meeting at the Radisson, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Ongoing classes and groups as well. All are welcome. (925) 829-2733; [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

## Eagle Project Helps Blankets for Kids

Eagle Scout Candidate John Buchenauer of Troop 911 in Pleasanton worked with over 25 volunteers to complete his Eagle Project for the Blankets for Kids Organization, headed by Mrs. Jo Molz of Pleasanton.

For his project, John raised the money, purchased the fleece, and coordinated the making of 130 blankets for children. The vibrantly colored blankets came in two different sizes, infant and teen, and will be distributed to organizations that will give them to abused, neglected and traumatized children and teens in California.

Since completing the project, John has received his Eagle Scout Award.

Blankets For Kids, founded by Pleasanton resident Jo Molz, makes and distributes soft fleece blankets to at-risk, abused and neglected children through the Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Livermore police departments; Alameda County Child Protection Agency, Hayward and Oakland; Calico Center, San Leandro; Agape Villages, Dublin; Tri-Valley Haven and Shepherd's Gate, Livermore; Family Violence Law Center, Oakland and My Stuff Bags in

Los Angeles.

The easy-to-make blankets are constructed of a soft fleece material with pleasant designs and are welcomed by the children who find themselves in very stressful circumstances.

Volunteers at Blankets For Kids have made and distributed more than 14,000 blankets since the organization began.

Anyone interested in volunteering, or donating money or fleece to Blankets For Kids, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, please contact Jo at (925) 846-6155.

## High Energy Program for Preschoolers

Andrea Gaspari kicks off the new year with rollicking fun for pre-schoolers at the Pleasanton Library on three Wednesdays - January 14, February 11 and March 11.

Jump into a high energy afternoon of singing, dancing and playing rhythmic games and instruments. A licensed Kindermusik and Musikgarten instructor, musician and gym-

nast, Andrea is a repeat Bay Area Parents' Choice award-winner and returns to the library by popular request.

Registration is required for this 45 minute program, which is for children ages 18 months through 4 years old. The program will be at 3:30 p.m., with a maximum of 75 children per session. Registration is limited to any two sessions. Doors will be closed to

late arrivals once each session begins.

Registration opens Monday, December 29. While at the library, parents can pick up flyers for the new series of Toddler Laptimes, Friday Morning Storytime programs and other children's events. To register or for more information, please call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

## OBITUARIES

### Dolores "Dee" Casipit

Dolores "Dee" Casipit passed away peacefully, in her home in Brentwood on December 22, 2008 at the age of 81.

Dolores was born on August 27, 1927 to Joseph and Rose Medina in Livermore. She spent most of her beautiful life in Livermore until moving to Brentwood in 1983.

Dolores loved sewing, especially show clothes to wear when showing the family horses, which she loved dearly. Dolores was known for baking her Award Winning Lemon Meringue Pie. She loved her family and extended family immensely. Every year she looked forward to her trip to Nashville with daughter Lauralye.

Dolores was preceded in death, by her husband Louis in 2007 and daughter Tammy in 2004. She is survived by her children Bud (Patty) Cardoza of Oakdale, Cindy (Doran) Burrow of Livermore, Lauralye Casipit of Brentwood, Sue (Wayne) Love of Idaho and Colton and Rachelle Bermingham of Livermore, her sister Eleanor Cardoza of Livermore and four grandchildren; Heather and Raecan Cardoza and Ty and Tiffany Burrow. Dolores is also survived by her many nieces, nephews and extended family members, all of

whom were very dear to her.

Dolores loved entertaining and dancing, now she and Louis are dancing together forever.

A memorial service was held at the family ranch in Brentwood on January 1.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

### Mary Niles Ziegeweid

Mary Niles Ziegeweid passed away peacefully on December 21, 2008 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore at the age of 85. Mary was born on December 10, 1923 in Texas to Will & Ruth Niles.

Mary graduated high school in Livermore and then went on to become an RN at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore until retiring in 1987.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Wilmer. She is survived by her four brothers Will L. Niles, J.E. Niles, Jack Niles and Jess Niles, and by three sisters Thelma Jillson, Betty Armond and Ruby Fay Hughins.

A private burial will be held on Monday, January 5, 2009 at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery. A Memorial Mass for family and friends will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore at a later date.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

### HEARING SERVICES



Kenneth  
Bilheimer, Au. D.



Jacque Padraza,  
Hearing Instrument Specialist

T.V. Ears 2.3 Mhz for \$99.00  
T.V. Ears Original for \$149.00

LIVERMORE 1530 Holmes St. #D 960-0391  
PLEASANTON 4450 Black Ave. #C 484-3507

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## LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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### LEGAL NOTICES

**FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES CONTACT BARBARA @ 925 243-8000**

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418065

The following person (s) doing business as: Talk The TIC Publishers, 1811 Paseo Laguna Seco, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Erik James Van Slooten, 1811 Paseo Laguna Seco, Livermore Ca 94551 This business is conducted by: an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Erik J. Van Slooten This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 19, 2008. Expires November 19, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2421. Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418296

The following person (s) doing business as: OBSYS Group, 2302 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jeffrey J. Gurule, 2302 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566 This business is conducted by: an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Jeff Gurule This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 25, 2008. Expires November 25, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2422. Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418556-418558

The following person (s) doing business as: 1) Lucky Buck Casino, 2) Lucky Buck Card Club, 3) Lucky Buck Card Room, 1620 Railroad Ave., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Dale Chesley Common, 969 Cayuga Dr., Livermore Ca 94551 This business is conducted by: a Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on October 1, 1997. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Dale C. Common This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 4, 2008. Expires December 4, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2423. Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418092

The following person (s) doing business as: Delightful Whimsy, 3955 Vineyard Ave #41, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Teresa Maria Cruz Carns, 3955 Vineyard Ave #41, Pleasanton Ca 94577 This business is conducted by: an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Teresa Maria Cruz Carns This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 20, 2008. Expires November 20, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2424. Publish December 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418265

The following person (s) doing business as: Eagle Tinting, 1414 Portola Ave., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Luz Estrella Neira Doran, 1075 D Street, Hayward Ca 94541 This business is conducted by: an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418602

The following person (s) doing business as: The Fine Wood Box, 3575 Bernal Avenue Apt. D, Pleasanton Ca 94566 This business is conducted by: an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Marcy Schmidt This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2008. Expires December 5, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2427. Publish December 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418077

The following person (s) doing business as: Back in the Day Mx, 1728 Knoll Ct., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Stephanie A. Mendenhall, 1728 Knoll Ct., Livermore Ca 94551 This business is conducted by: an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on October 10, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Stephanie A. Mendenhall This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418928

The following person (s) doing business as: Good Fuels, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Portico Arts, Inc., 5565 Tesla road, Livermore Ca 94550 This business is conducted by a Corporation The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 8, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Karl Wente This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 15, 2008. Expires December 15, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2428. Publish January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2009.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD ANTHONY RAVETTO

Case No. VP08421203 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: RONALD ANTHONY RAVETTO A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: LIGIA RAVETTO in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. THE PETITION for Probate requests that LIGIA RAVETTO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

JANUARY 5, 2009 at 1:30PM in Dept. 707 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, 5672 STONERIDGE DRIVE, PLEASANTON CA 94588 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

RONALD W. MARBLESTONE, Esq. Branson, Brinkop, Griffith & Strong 643 Bair Island Rd. Ste 400 Redwood City, Ca 94063 650 365-7710 The Independent #2419 Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NO. 39-2008-00183365-CU-BC-STK NOTICE TO CROSS-DEFENDANT: (Aviso a Acusado): DAN LARSEN, individually and doing business as IMPE-RIAL LEASING LTD YOU ARE BEING SUED BY CROSS-COMPLAINANTS: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): AUTOMOTIVE FINANCE CORPORATION, an Indiana Corporation You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response to this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in a proper legal form. If you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your responses. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from

the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. Tien 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo pretegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California. (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF SAN JOAQUIN 475 East 10th Street Tracy, California 95376 Tracy Branch - Unlimited Civil Division The name, address, and telephone number of Plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): DANIEL H. MCLINDEN #109597 Attorney at Law 616 So. El Camino Real, Steh San Clemente, Ca 92672 (949) 492-2529 DATE: (Fecha) December 17, 2008 Clerk (Secretario) Rosa Junqueiro By/s/ Deputy (Adjunto) Polly Khiu The Independent Legal No. 2429. Publish January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2009.

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656. Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, both dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1 to 4. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and PetCo in San Ramon from 11:00 to 3:00. For more information, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvvar.org.

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THE INDEPENDENT LEGAL NO. 2429. PUBLISH JANUARY 1, 8, 15, 22, 2009.

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9)AUTOS/WANTED DONATE VEHICLE: RECEIVE \$1000 Grocery Coupon. Your Choice. Noahs Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Advance Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing. IRS Tax Deductible, Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL\*SCAN)

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

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This holiday season Livermore Postmaster Jerry Phillips decided to do something different to help the community so he asked the Livermore Post Office Employees to be on the look out for a family in need this holiday season so that USPS could deliver some holiday help. Employees at the Livermore Post Office rallied, donating money and buying gifts for the Lewin Family and their five children. On Christmas Eve, city carriers Laura Foster and Judy Weber and Manager Neil Gonzalez delivered the gifts to the family.

## SHORT NOTES

### Nonfiction Scholarship

The San Francisco Writers Conference is proud to announce a new scholarship for the 2009 event: The Sue Dyer Scholarship for Writers of Non-fiction. The winner will not only attend the conference this Feb. 13-15 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel, they will meet with literary agents and editors who work with nonfiction writers.

Sue Dyer is president of OrgMetrics (based in Livermore), founder of the International Partnering Institute and author of Partner Your Project. She is internationally known as a pioneer in the field of partnering within the construction industry.

Writers who want to be considered for the scholarship must be residents of the San Francisco Bay Area who write non-fiction of any kind. Entries must include their contact information, a one-page writing sample, and a short "pitch" (50 words or less) of why they want to attend the San Francisco Writers Conference. Send an email request to SFWriters@comcast.net for details about the scholarship. Submissions can also be emailed or sent to the Sue Dyer SFWC Scholarship, 291 McLeod St., Livermore, CA, 94550. Deadline for entries is January 20, 2009.

The San Francisco Writers Conference is limited to just 300 attendees so it can offer plenty of one-on-one interaction with authors, literary agents and editors from major publishing houses. The event will be held at the InterContinental Mark Hopkins Hotel over President's Day Weekend, February 13th -15th, 2009. Full event details and on-line registration for the event are available at: www.SFWriters.org.

### New Year Wander

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff will host a New Year Wander on Sun., Jan. 4. Meet Ranger Dawn Soles at 10 a.m. at the Nature Area entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

This program is suited for those who are not big fans of the gym, but much prefer scenic surroundings for exercise. For those who would like to start an exercise program nice and slow, please join the rangers in the Nature Area for a leisurely stroll of

### Law Enforcement Officers Serving DUI Warrants

Before sunrise on Tuesday, Dec. 30, Officer Traci Rebiejo of the Livermore Police Dept. handed out stacks of DUI warrants to 50 police officers, sheriff's deputies and California Highway Patrol officers from all over Alameda County and sent them out to knock on hundreds of doors.

"We'll be out after people convicted of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs who failed to follow through on the judge's orders. They may not have shown up in court, paid their fines or attended required classes. Warrant services complete the loop of the DUI arrest," she explained.

People with warrants can avoid the embarrassment of opening the door to their homes to police officers or seeing them show up at their work just by turning themselves in at their local police stations. "Just go up to the front desk and say that there's a warrant out for you," Rebiejo said.

Judges give orders either to write the citation with a new court date to convicted DUI offenders and release them or to arrest them and take them immediately to jail. The split is about 50-50.

Avoid the 21 is Alameda County's multi-jurisdictional crackdown on impaired drivers. Its three-week crackdown ends at midnight on New Year's Day. Officers had made 768 arrests up to midnight Saturday, a 29 percent drop from last year's total of 1075. DUI suspects have killed no one, with no deaths reported for last year.

It was the third and last large strike team sent out by Avoid the 21, said Lt. Mike Peretti, also of

about one mile. This is not a "hike" but a relaxing walk to get the juices flowing and ease gently into exercise. The walk will not be on paved trails, so no strollers please. Canceled if raining.

There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee, and a \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

### Heritage Homes

"Discover Heritage Homes" will be held at the Pleasanton Farmer's Market on Saturday, January 10, from 9 a.m. to noon. Docents from Pleasanton's Museum on Main will provide information on heritage homes and buildings.

The Museum will focus on one to two structures in the valley and provide pictures and facts sheets. Appointments can also be made at that time to conduct heritage home research in the museum's archives. Learn more about Pleasanton's architectural heritage.

Discover Heritage Homes will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on March 14; May 9 and July 11.

General admission to the museum is a \$2 per person requested donation. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Contact (925) 462-2766 or office@museumonmain.org. Visit www.museumonmain.org.

### The Invention of Air

Bestselling author Steven Johnson recounts the story of Joseph Priestley, the man who embodied the relationship between science, religion, and politics for America's Founding Fathers. Johnson will discuss his book, "The Invention of Air," at the Pleasanton Public Library on Thursday evening, January 15, at 7pm.

The book tells the story of Joseph Priestley, a scientist and theologian, protégé of Benjamin Franklin, friend of Thomas Jefferson—an eighteenth-century radical thinker who played pivotal roles in the invention of ecosystem science, the discovery of oxygen, the founding of the Unitarian Church, and the intellectual development of the United States.

Johnson is also the author of the

national bestsellers The Ghost Map, Everything Bad Is Good for You, and Mind Wide Open, as well as Emergence and Interface Culture. He was the co-founder of the online magazine FEED and is a contributing editor to Wired. The program is free and open to all. No registration required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

### January at Wente

Wente Vineyards will usher in 2009 in by the Livermore Valley Winter Barrel Tasting Weekend, traditional favorites from The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, and a community library.

Wineries all around Livermore Valley will be celebrating the weekend of January 24 and January 25 with barrel samples and pre-release wines. Wente Vineyards' Estate Tasting Room and Vineyard Tasting Room, Murrieta's Well, and Tamás Estates are all participating in this special holiday offering.

The tasting is from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is a nominal fee for the public. No charge for wine club members.

The barrel tasting will take place at the following locations: Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore Valley; Vineyard Tasting Room, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore Valley; Murietta's Well Tasting Room, 3005 Mines Road, Livermore Valley; and Tamás Estates, 5489 Tesla Road, Livermore Valley.

Bay Area based Nova Starling will have selected acrylic paintings on display in the Estate Winery Tasting Room throughout all of January. Hours are daily 11:00am - 4:30pm. Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore Valley. For information call (925) 456-2305.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Sue Fordyce is one of the organizers of the show at Alden Lane.

## ORCHID

(continued from page one)

heated indoor facilities. There will be hundreds of blooming orchids for sale in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes from around the world. The greenhouse will display an array of even more orchids in a "Pathways through Paradise" exhibit where residents are welcome to enter orchids for display. Anyone who has an orchid(s) (up to six) can bring them to Alden Lane the Friday before the show to enter them in the exhibit.

The following events are planned:

- Docent garden tour conducted by Alden Lane's owner, Jacquie Williams Courtwright to include a little Livermore History and the highlights, history and heritage of Alden Lane Nursery. 2pm both Jan. 10th and 11th. Free, but please sign up with cashiers (925) 447-0280 to secure a spot for this popular event.

- Orchids Made Easy, an informal potting and question/answer session to address orchid concerns. Ongoing throughout the show hours!

- Professional Speakers Forum: Six experts address a wide variety of orchid related topics for both beginners and seasoned hobbyists. Speaker scheduled at 11am, 1pm, and 3pm both Sat and Sun. The Speakers list and their topics will be posted on our website in December (www.aldenlane.com)

- Opportunity tickets are available to win a greenhouse. All proceeds from the purchase of opportunity tickets will go to Open Heart Kitchen food pantry.

Tickets went on sale Dec. 12 at Alden Lane Nursery

• Edible Moss Basket Demo- Plant up winter lettuce, sweet violas for color, and add strawberries on the side for a scrumptious and beautiful display to hang.

Admission is free to the orchid event, so is parking.

Please contact Sue Fordyce (925) 447-0280 at Alden Lane Nursery for group booking information or questions (sue@aldenlane.com).

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# YEAR IN REVIEW

(continued from page 4)

site. The location is the oldest continuous track in California and the oldest one-mile track in the United States.

The Pleasanton City Council approved purchase of the former railroad right-of-way through downtown Pleasanton from Alameda County. The land was considered essential to supplement parking for the new Firehouse Arts Center when it opens.

The Pleasanton City Council approved a concept plan for parklands within the Staples Ranch development. The plan includes an ice arena that would be constructed by the San Jose Sharks.

The Livermore school board approved use of a K-9 drug de-

tection unit on campuses in Livermore. A German Shepherd named Andy would be used in the program.

The Livermore Noon Rotary Club raised funds to equip a children's hospital in Pecs, Hungary, the club's third such project. David Mertes led the effort.

A discussion of hillside protection measures in Pleasanton was contentious. The city council voted to place a citizens' initiative on the November ballot. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman declared that it was "poorly written." The council set a special meeting to discuss placing a council sponsored measure on the ballot.

The Livermore City Council

agreed to study the Old Lucky site in downtown Livermore as a possible location for a regional theater. Acting Mayor John Marchand suggested the idea. Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Board Chairman Phil Wentz expressed some concern about the change in location from one at the corner of South Livermore and First Street. However, he added, that LVPAC would work with the city to review benefits and concerns surrounding the proposed Lucky site.

The Livermore City Council voted to allow taller buildings on the Groth Bros. site in exchange for more open space. The vote did not approve the devel-

opment. The final plan would have to go through the complete review process and could be rejected.

The California Court of Appeals reinstated a 2006 lawsuit brought by Urban Habitat challenging Pleasanton's housing practices. The original lawsuit was dismissed after a judge ruled the statute of limitations had lapsed to contest the housing cap and growth management ordinances. The lawsuit argued that Pleasanton had violated state law because it could not accommodate the city's fair share of regional need for new housing. The suit notes that city had not rezoned land for affordable housing as described in its housing element.

## Lab Moving Forward with Personal Decontamination System

Researchers from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and two other institutions have described a major step toward creating a universal personal decontamination system for almost any toxic or hazardous chemical.

The scientists have reported on the development of a layered wipe that can be used to rapidly decontaminate people and equipment exposed to a wide range of military and industrial chemicals, including the blister agent sulfur mustard.

Their research results are described in an article slated for online publication today in the American Chemical Society journal, Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research, a bi-weekly publication.

Under a study conducted by the Lab's Forensic Science Center, researchers evaluated 30 different decontamination materials for removing gross chemical contamination from surfaces.

The study results showed that a nonwoven dry wipe material with an activated carbon core sandwiched between two absorbent layers turned in the top performance. It is designed by researchers at The Institute of Environmental Health and Human Health (IEHH) at Texas Tech University.

The decontamination system

currently used by the military - called Reactive Skin Decontamination Lotion (RSDL) - is effective for a small subset of industrial chemicals and chemical warfare agents.

However, according to Lab chemical engineer William Smith, one of the study's co-authors, "By combining the existing military decontamination system with this wipe, there is promise for treating nearly every chemical. You're in much better shape using both technologies than with either one alone."

The Lab's Forensic Science Center evaluated existing and novel materials for their chemical decontamination capabilities. They looked at the ability of the combined system to absorb sulfur mustard, a toxic liquid that causes skin blistering, as well as four other chemicals - sulfuric acid, nitric acid, methylparathion and phosphorous trichloride.

The Forensic Science Center studies found:

The newly developed fabric exhibits excellent resistance to corrosive chemicals and minimizes vapor hazards after decontaminating toxic chemicals;

The layered wipe can absorb a large volume of most liquids, while maintaining its integrity;

The fabric is flexible so that it conforms to the surface being cleaned;

The next steps for advancing the decontamination system, in Smith's view, are to conduct field trials of the wipe and RSDL used in conjunction to evaluate their usability, and to test the two systems' efficacy with other chemical agents and industrial chemicals.

The project was funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland

Security in 2004 and has been managed by the Technical Support Working Group, a joint venture between the U.S. State Department and the military.

Other LLNL researchers who co-authored the study include chemists Carolyn Koester and Adam Love, and former Laboratory employee Garrett Keating.

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