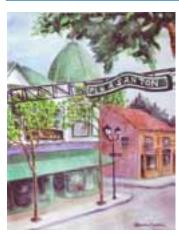


VOLUME XLVI, NUMBER 2

Your Local News Source Since 1963

SERVING LIVERMORE • PLEASANTON • SUNOL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2009



"Downtown Pleasanton"

Artist Ask for **Paintings to** Be Returned

Three paintings belonging to artist Charlotte Severin were stolen from the Pleasanton Hotel.

There were watercolors of local scenes. The missing paintings are a 18x24 of the "Old Game Warden's Home" valued at \$850; a 15x22 of the "Old Cavestri Ranch" valued at \$650; and a 12x16 scene of Koln Hardware under the Pleasanton sign entitled, "Downtown Pleasanton" valued at \$495. All were painted on location.

Severin commented, with the Pleasanton Hotel closing its doors, "I think someone took the opportunity to grab a souvenir. (See PAINTINGS, page 3)



Gossamer Albatross

'Flight of Imagination' **Next in Series**

The Rae Dorough Speakers Series at the Bankhead Theater continues with "Flight of Imagination" on Thursday, January 15th at 7:30 p.m. featuring engineer and venture capitalist, Morton Grosser.

In 1978 Grosser was recruited by Paul MacCready to the team which won the two largest prizes

Law Change Could Pose Threat To TV 30

By Ron McNicoll

A state law provision, which went into effect Jan. 1, requires cable TV firms to switch the city governance of their franchise agreements to state governance.

The change has the potential to radically alter the funding picture for operation of PEG, which is the acronym for public access, education and government stations.

In the Valley, the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon operate Tri-Valley Community Television. Its production arm is TV 30, which carries the education and government program parts of PEG.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said, "The outlook is bleak. I was very nervous when the state became involved, and plunked local control of TV into the state (jurisdiction). They can't even come up with a budget."

"Local programming and origination will suffer. Some 55 percent of our Livermore residents watch TV 30. It's a valuable resource. It's close to my heart. I was involved in it at the beginning (in the 1970s, the first time he was mayor). I don't think it has to stop,. However, we need

to reorder our priorities," said Kamena.

The channels show city council and school board meetings, and interviews with residents in the arts and community organizations. The programs are broadcast on channels 28, 29 and 30. Separately, the "P" part of PEG is provided by Comcast with

channel 26, the public access channel. It broadcasts videos produced by residents. "Grassroots Issues," which has

been on Channel 26 for 10 years, is an example of a public access program. It is created weekly by Bob and Barbara Hickman. Bob

uses his own video camera. Barbara interviews local community activists about issues.

LOCALAGREEMENTS GOAWAY

The new law, the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act (DIVCA), was passed by the Legislature in 2006. It took time to for the state Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to get up to speed to administer it.

On Jan. 1, a provision went into effect that allows cable TV firms to dissolve their local franchise agreements. The cable TV firms would then switch over to DIVCA, which created a onesize-fits-all franchise agreement, and requires all cities to use it. Even if a cable firm were to stick with the life of its contract, cities can't negotiate a renewal agreement. The firm must switch over to the state-mandated franchise conditions when the current local franchise agreement expires.

Comcast's franchise agreement with Tri-Valley Community Television expires in 2011, so it must switch then. Comcast is free to switch to the state agreement at any time before then, if it wishes.

The firm hasn't said it will ter-(See LOCAL ACCESS, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Cold water and cold weather greeted those brave enough to take part in Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's annual Polar Bear Slide held last Saturday. The swift ride down the 22-foot spiral waterslide at the Robert Livermore Community Center ended abruptly in 42 degree water. Hot chocolate was served to warm up participants. They also received a certificate of completion.

Lab Retirees Upset over Health Care Changes

Retirees of the Lawrence Livswered.

ermore National Laboratory are caught up in the latest trend in medical coverage, "defined con-

Those covered by Medicare or Blue Cross type plans say that they are finding that they will have to spend more out of pocket

just be reinstated into the plans enjoyed by the other U. C, retirees. He answered, "It would cost \$13,000,000. That is an unacceptable expense.'

Recession Affects Fido And Tabby, Too

By Ron McNicoll

The national economic recession is having yet another effect on people: more of them find it necessary to put their pets up for adoption.

Ânimal adoption sources told The Independent they are seeing an increase in the number of people who have lost jobs, and can no longer afford the food and care needed by animals.

Since summer, there has been an estimated 20 percent increase in the number of pets put up for adoption at the Valley Humane Society, which operates a shelter in Pleasanton.

The Alameda County animal shelter at Santa Rita has also noticed an increase, although no numbers were available, said Sheriff Sgt. Herb Walters. "Our secretary mentioned at a (staff) meeting that a couple of owners came in, and were saddened they had to give up their pets," said Walters.

There has been a small, silver lining. The Valley Humane Society came up with a program of making donations of pet food to both Meals On Wheels and the Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry. "Meals on Wheels drivers found that some seniors would leave their plates on the floor so their pets could eat, too. This wasn't good for the pets, or the seniors,' said Natalie Giordano, operations manager for the Valley Humane Society (VHS)

VHS sends pet food with (See PETS, page 4)

New Book Highlights Marylin Avenue's Success

By Patricia Koning

The year 2008 was a good one for Marylin Avenue Elementary School in Livermore. The school increased its API by 37 points, from 705 to 742 and met all criteria for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as defined by No Child Left Behind. This fall a new book, Data, Data Everywhere by Victoria Bernhardt, Ph.D., documented Marylin's gains and how they were accomplished. Marylin Avenue Principal Jeff Keller and other staff members first met Bernhardt in the summer of 2006 at a data analysis workshop offered by the Education for the Future Initiative, of which she is the executive director. "We realized we needed to use multiple sources of data, be-

come more focused and really bring the entire staff together," says Keller. "We really liked Victoria's process because it looks beyond student achievement.'

After attending the workshop, Keller's office was filled with flip charts and post-it notes, outlining the school's vision and site plan. The staff developed essential standards to focus on and began common frequent assessments. The results from assessments helped teachers collaboratively plan and target instruction for all students, and informed the effectiveness of their teaching practices.

in the history of aviation.

Grosser helped design and build components for three human-powered airplanes including the Gossamer Albatross, which flew successfully across the English Channel. This engineer and scientist has written eight books and more than a hundred papers, and has eleven patents issued or pending. He is currently President of a technology consulting company and a venture capital investor in Menlo Park.

The program, "Flight of Imagination," begins with a quick historical scan of humanpowered flight through the 1959 Kremer Prize. It then goes on to

(See FLIGHT, page 3)

Lab to Present **Science Chats**

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will host a "Science Chat" series this year.

The first chat on Tues., Jan. 13 will feature Lab scientist John Knezovich discussing "Carbon Dating, Anthrax and Forensic Science.

The talk will highlight the principles of carbon dating and will include examples of how this approach is being used to provide insights useful for forensic investigations.

Each talk will be presented by a Lab scientist and open to the public. There is no admission charge.

The program begins at 7 p.m. at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Community rooms A and B.

This year, the world celebrates the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth, the 150th anniversary of his publication of On the Origin of Species, the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first use of a telescope to study the skies and the 400th anniversary of the publication of Kepler's first two laws of planetary motion.

To mark these significant events, the American Institute of **Biological Sciences**, the National Academy of Sciences, and more than 150 other organizations have declared Year of Science 2009, a national year of engaging the public and enhancing the understanding of science, why it matters and who scientists are.

Under the new program, the Lab is moving retirees from a group policy to individual policies.

tributions.'

Several retirees, who preferred not to be quoted, noted they are seeking legal advice. In addition, they are exploring other options, such as contacting Congressional representatives, in an effort to have questions and concerns anfor the same coverage they received last year.

Others, who have been part of Kaiser, find themselves up in the air. The latest information is that Kaiser may or may not be available in 2009 to retirees.

At an open forum where the changes were discussed, Lab spokesman Paul Rosenkoetter was asked why retirees couldn't

Retiree Bob Schock is one of those impacted by Kaiser. Schock said one of the concerns is the lack of information with regard to what is happening with health care plans. He noted that at meetings where health plans were discussed, those with Kaiser plans were led to believe they shouldn't worry. Now, they are hearing

(See HEALTH CARE, page 4)

The Marylin staff also gathered data on perceptions about

(See BOOK, page 4)

Election Highlights 2nd Six Months of 2008

The last six months of 2008 saw most incumbents returned to office in the November election. Arts facilities continued to be in the news.

JULY 2008

Livermore turned to Sacramento in an attempt to regain sales tax transferred to Fillmore, a small town in Ventura County. Livermore officials estimated that a company's decision to switch sales tax away from Livermore had left a \$2 million annual shortfall. Owens & Minor owns a warehouse in Livermore. A site designated as a sales office was set up in Fillmore so that Fillmore could receive the sales tax revenues that otherwise would have gone to Livermore. Livermore representatives appealed to the state board of equalization, which oversees sales tax distribution, and also testified before Sacramento lawmakers.

The Pleasanton City Council voted to place two hillside protection measures on the November ballot. One qualified for the ballot through the initiative process. It provided specific requirements for hillside development. The second was sponsored by a council majority of Jennifer Hosterman, Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Jerry Thorne. The council measure set up a process to establish a hillside development ordinance.

The Pleasanton Library received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host 'The Big Read" in Pleasanton. The book, "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was selected for the program.

The Pleasanton school board decided not to place a parcel tax on the November ballot. The decision came after Superintendent John Casey told the board that the budget, with cuts already approved, would be sufficient to carry the district into the coming school year with all important priorities retained.

The Department of Energy expanded the research role of its National Nuclear Security Administration laboratories. Among them are the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories California. Rather than a complete focus on nuclear weapons, the research would encompass a full spectrum of national security interests, which include (See HIGHLIGHTS, page 5)

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Bill Laube (at left) hosted a sale of the Pleasanton Hotel's antiques and memorabilia last Sunday. In the photo, Laube discusses some of the history behind items to be sold with potential buyers. On Jan. 14, there will be a furniture and fixtures auction, beginning at 11 a.m. The Pleasanton Hotel was first built in 1864 by early settler John Kottinger. The original hotel burned to the ground March 18, 1898. It was rebuilt. At right is one of the items that will be sold on January 14.





Art & Entertainment8	Roundup6
Bulletin Board9	Short Notes7
Classifieds9	Sports6
Editorial4	Obituaries9



PET OF THE WEEK

Saffron is a stunning Siamese with piercing blue eyes. She is sweet and snuggly and has a friendly disposition. She is young (about 1 year) and will be available for adoption after her spay surgery. As the song goes, "I'm just wild about Saffron..." To meet Saffron, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City at 3670 Nevada St in Pleasanton. Open Tues-Sat from 11AM to 5PM. Visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org or call 925-426-8656 for more information.

Funds Available to Pay for Most of Livestock Pond Restoration or Repair



Local stockpond.

The Alameda County Conservation Partnership comprised of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD), are offering technical assistance and up to 90% funding to private landowners and managers who are interested in repairing and restoring their failing livestock ponds.

The funding is part of the Wildlife-Friendly Pond Program, a program that aims to restore existing livestock ponds specifically to benefit native wildlife. Through the program, participants receive assistance with pond design, permitting, construction, and protection from endangered species regulations. Types of projects funded under the program include repair of existing spillways, pond de-sedimentation, partial pond fencing and native vegetation plantings.

Those interested in repairing and restoring their livestock ponds are invited to sign up through NRCS' Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). Sign-ups for FY 2009 run through Friday, January 23, 2009. The NRCS' WHIP program provides 75% of the cost of pond repair and other approved practices undertaken to benefit wildlife. The program was reauthorized last year under the new 2008 Farm Bill. In addition, ACRCD with support from federal, state and local sources, has a separate pool of \$250,000 in funding allocated to the pond program. This funding, combined with the WHIP program dollars, allows ACRCD and NRCS to fund 90% of each

fies the salamanders, the frogs. And the ducks are back after being gone for years. I don't know if we could be any happier."

To be eligible for funding assistance applicants must be agricultural producers in Alameda County. The program is competitive. Projects will be ranked based on their natural resource benefits. The current available funding for the pond program does have a 10-year restriction on any development and easement acquisitions for the footprint of the restored pond.

To find out more information about pond repair opportunities or to sign up for the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, contact Jackie Charbonneau, NRCS Ecologist, at (925) 371-0154 ext. 114 or

jackie.charbonneau@ca.usda.gov. Also visit www.acrcd.org to learn more about the Conservation Partnership.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The annual New Year's Eve labyrinth was held at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore on Dec. 31. The walk provides an opportunity to say good-bye to the old year and welcome the New Year with peace and intention. First Presbyterian's courtyard labyrinth is an 11-circuit, Chartres-style labyrinth and measures 42 feet in diameter. A Harmony Walk using hand bells ushered in the New Year.

Police Officers Arrest 49 on Outstanding Warrants

Fifty-three police officers from Avoid the 21's DUI warrant sweep knocked on 501 doors in Alameda County yesterday and arrested 49.

deal with the permitting. This

program made it possible. I'm

just glad the pond is back. I like

it, and the wildlife like it. It satis-

The operation was the third and last major team effort for the three-week winter holiday crackdown, following a 125-officer countywide DUI team on Dec. 12 and a 60-officer effort at the Oakland Raiders football game on Dec. 21.

Avoid the 21 ended its holiday run at midnight Jan. 1. It is a multi-jurisdictional police crackdown on impaired driving.

Officer Traci Rebiejo of the Livermore police, warrant team coordinator, served two 21-yearold warrants on a 44-year-old woman from that city. "See what happens? It will come around to bite you no matter what," she told the woman before arresting her.

Rebiejo credits cooperation among counties neighboring Alameda County, extensive news coverage and cooperation among the police departments in the county for the warrant sweep's success.

"Our high contact numbers will bring in even more in the coming weeks because we talked to a lot of neighbors who filled us in on information of where the person we were looking for lives and works and when he or she comes home every night. We

also left business cards, and we're already seeing people with warrants out for their arrest calling us to clear up the warrant,⁷ Rebiejo commented.

The crackdown, along with eight others in the San Francisco Bay Area and 32 more in the rest of the state, is funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



. House Cleaning . Power Washing . Carpet Cleaning . Porter Service · Window Cleaning · We provide all equipment and supplies



 Insured PI/PD Workers Comp CALL FOR PRICING! Weekly • Bi-weekly • Monthly • 1x Basis Serving Tri-Valley Area (925) 485-3280

www.cjscleaningservices.com





Gleusteen-Ordronneau Duo, Violin and Piano Del Valle Fine Arts

Since 1999 when they first began to work together. Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordronneau have established themselves as one of the most important duos in the interpretation of sonatas for violin and piano. Their repertoire encompasses a myriad of short pieces representing the countries where they perform.

Jan 9 • 8pm 529/524/519/511 students

Masked Marvels and Wondertales LVPAC's Family Fun Series

Michael Cooper's one-man extravaganza features his original stories of courage and wonder, breathtaking handcrafted masks, outlandish stilt dancing, and a physical repertoire that ranges from the madcap to the sublime. This true Renaissance Man is an eye-popping visual artist and a virtuoso mime whose exquisite performances both dazzle and inspire his audience. Jan 11 · 2pm \$30/\$25/\$20/\$12 students

The Longevity of the Short Piece

Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel Distinguished concert planist and conductor Jeffney Siegel creates a unique learning experience, providing lively commentary about the music before performing each work in its entirety. Byte-size musical jewels and gems-masterpieces in miniature. Mendelssohn's Sangs Without Words, Grieg's Lyric

andford Woodwind	Guys and Dolls
Quintet	Tri-Valley Repertory
Del Valle Fine Arts	Theatre
	the second second second



\$8 LUNCH

Featured Selection

pond project, leaving the landowner with only a 10% cost.

Rancher Connie Jess, one of the first landowners to enroll in the program, stated, "It would have been a long time before we could have afforded the repair on our own. And as farmers and ranchers, we don't know how to

Limited Openings for Productive Agents.

J. Rockeliff		for Productive Agents. iew and see why we are different! TER REAL ESTATE COMPANY. 251.2501		
	www.HuntoonHomes.com	www.PhyllisandCarolyn.com	www.TonniChandler.com	www.MaxdeVries.com
LIVERMORE	LIVERMORE	PLEASANTON	PLEASANTON	LIVERMORE
Survey satisfuary in the milling hills? It is also the pier. Feel home her entertaining with high wellings, a flavetog florer plan, a goarmat AEK with a hardwood florer and open living-diving room with a private glassed kilches.	4 bedroom single story in desirable Senset global food. Chose to schoold shopping, easy reak ce location. Gorganose revealed senset make the location. Gorganose revealed senset make the processing download one paper constrand. This is your docare real track.	MBER LANE \$1,048,000 w antheness and charms of country living, just the scenic Happy Valley Loop, and the Dype Preserve Golf Country, and be chose to en Chart a nonminitable, spanious forme with 6 red that a nonminitable, spanious forme with 6 red that a nonminitable, spanious forme with 6 red that a nonminitable, spanious forme of the red that a nonminitable, spanious forme of the red that a nonminitable spanious former of the red that a nonminitable spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious former of the spanious for the spanious former of the spanious former	6045 ACADIA COURT \$599 Beautifully maintained 3 bedreen 2 bath single dy bene close to developers. Presenten, Add patielsan room net included in the separe level for family entertaining This bone fattures a sp bather updated with granite siyle maniners. M ers sink, skriftpin, hardward, etc. TONNI CHANDLER 925.251	Bienald Livermore, includes a 2 unit laptes. Mate house and 1 ignati anti-completely recordends, hardwood and hile thouse, actions granite counters, two much to fort Walking distance to entrasecarts, therepring and contestaioneed. Both units control with long term leaves.
LIVERMORE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE 1001 Murrieta Blvd. Unit 16 \$145,000 Condo. 2 Bed 1.5 Bath, Bait 1972. 947+/- SQFT. PENNY CHRISTENSEN 925.730.5262 263 MARTIN AVE \$294,900 Single Family, Great Valuel 1,400+/- SQFT. 3 Bed 2 Bath. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 2271 WALNUT ST \$349,950 Residential Income, Built 1952. Excellent Income property. EUA VALENCIA 925.784.0667 4368 ARABIAN RD 5369,950 Single Family, Home was up dated 4 years ago. 4 Bed 2 Bath.	937 VIA SEVILLE Single Family, Sumset, 5 Bed 3 Bath, 1,846+/- SQFT, 1 MADELINE WALKER 1.80 564 ANDREA CIR Single Family, Brookmeadow, 4 Bed 2 Bath w/ Pool, 1,986	\$505,000 464 DEL SOL AVE Pir Sngle Family, Specious 4 55 Sngle Family, Specious 4 55,996,5112 STACLARMARIO \$529,000 3748 SELVANTE ST F 54,976,000 3748 SELVANTE ST F 54,977,000 SFS 20,000 \$548,75,000 SFS 27,510,000 \$64,50,71 20115 REDWOOD RI 5487,6360 SAS7,6360 S695,000 MAX DE VRIES	bed. 2 1/2 bath home with a 3 car garage. 925.251.2526 998.000 Views of ML Diablo and Pleasanton Hills. 925.899.6011 VIEAL ESTATE FOR SALE 0 Unit 24 Castro Valley \$349.995 2 Bio 25 Bath. 860+/50FL 925.251.2511	EAST BAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE 11601 ALEGRE DR Dublin \$675,000 Single Family, Silvergale, Fantaxis; Hume, Court, 2/400+/- SQFT. 925,251,2534 34655 BAHAMA CMN Fromonit \$335,000 Townhouse, Updated, 4 Bed 2,5 Both, 1,470+/-SQFT. 910,414,8224 42200 VARGAS ROAD Fremonit \$2,700,000 Single Family & Land, Hone Flanch, 56+/- Acres, 4 Bed 1 Bath Hone. 925,251,2536 44763 AGUILA TER Frimmonit \$3,500,000 Single Family, 5 batms, 5,860+/- SQFT, Massion San, Jose. \$3,500,000
Single Family, Both Bill (1996) 925,447,9062 1986 CORNFLOWER CMN \$399,000 Single Family, Walk to continuently Pool. 3 Bed 2 Bath 925,846,7997 146 ESTATES ST \$399,000 Single Family, Possible in Law unit, 1,550+/ SQFT, 3 Bed 2 Bath, 925,846,7997 146 ESTATES ST \$399,000 Single Family, Possible in Law unit, 1,550+/ SQFT, 3 Bed 2 Bath, 925,371,0771 2155 SHETLAND RD \$399,950 Single Family, 3 Bed 2 Bath, 1,470+/-SQFT, Built 1968 925,998,5112 243 COVELLITE LN \$3400,000 Single Family, 3 Bed 2 Bath, 1,271+/- SQFT, Built 1071 MADELINE WALKER 125 SCHERMAN CT \$474,950 Single Family, Highly desirable neighborhood & school district, CAROUN FORSBERG 925,447,9662	VICKIE KELLER 92 2752 CHABLIS WAY Single Family, Just a 10 min, walk to town, 4 Bed 2: ANGELA ADAMS 3 2599 COWAN WAY Single Family, Longue, REO, 5 Bed 4 Bath, 4,600+/ MAX DE VRIES 92 1817 BUENA VISTA AVE Single Family, Longue, REO, 5 Bed 4 Bath, 4,600+/ Single Family, Longue, REO, 5 Bed 4 Bath, 4,600+/ Single Family, Longue, REO, 5 Bed 3,5 Bed, 1,000+/-SQFT, 2 Bed VICKIE KELLER 92 302 ALDEN LN Single Family, 5 Bed 3,5 Bath, 3,439+/- SQFT, Built 2 MADELINE WALKER 1,80 5665 VICTORIA LN Single Family, Scarp horse property located on a private	S371.0771 Single Family DPPER VALL \$855.000 MICHAEL TESSAR0 5 Bath 0 PALOMARES ROAD 25.580.4513 Home & Land. 3.594-Arx \$869,500 KRISTY PEXOTO \$995.000 Britty PEXOTO \$995.000 Britty PEXOTO \$1 Bath home. 7100 CROW CANYON \$3,71.0771 Single Family & Land. 5.2* \$995.000 Britty PEXOTO \$3,71.0771 Single Family & Land. Work \$3,751.0771 Single Family & Land. Work \$51,299,550	Bed 2 Bath 1, 149 50 FT, Batt 1954 925, 519, 5099 Castro Valley \$980,000 es. 1,754+/SQFT, 2 Bed 1 Bath Home. \$925,251,2536 ROAD Castro Valley \$1,157,000 / Acms, 2,400+/SQFT, 3 Bed 2 Bath Home. \$925,251,2536 I ROAD Castro Valley \$3,500,000 King Horse Boerding Facily, Lot Acres +/ 73. \$925,251,2501	Single Family, 5 bd/mis, 5 bd/m, 5 bd/m

Blackhawk

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300 925.736.6000

Blackhawk West Danville 3880 Blackhawk Road 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000

Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diable Blvd., Ste. 100 Lafayette, CA 94549 925.253.7001

Livermore Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 Orinda, CA 94563 925,667,2100 925 253 7000

Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd., Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500

Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500

WWW.ROCKCLIFF.COM

LivermoreForeclosures.net

FLIGHT -

describe the Gossamer team's adventures from 1976 through 1981. It is illustrated with slides and a short version of the Emmy Award Winning film of the 1979 Gossamer Albatross flight across the English Channel. After the receipt of the £100,000 Kremer Prize from H.R.H. Prince Charles, the story continues with the Solar Challenger's 1981 sun-powered flight from France to England, and concludes with a look at some of its new electric-powered descendants.

Grosser is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He learned to fly at 16, received two engineering degrees from M.I.T., a Ph.D. from Stanford University, and was a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellow at U.C.L.A. Medical Center.

He has lectured at venues including M.I.T., Stanford University, and the 2008 Symposium on the Electric Airplane, and gave a keynote address at EAA AirVenture 2008 (Oshkosh).

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. On performance days the ticket office remains open through intermission. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800, or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

The Rae Dorough Speakers Series, named for long-time Livermore resident and community activist Rae Dorough.

Additional programs in the series include: Bob Borchers, "Innovation: The Search for New Ideas" Thursday, March 5, 7:30 p.m. David M. Kennedy, "A Tale of Three Cities: How the United States Won World War II" Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. Amory Lovins, "Oil Solutions" Thursday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

PAINTINGS (continued from page one)

The paintings are owned by me. I would like to have them returned. If anyone knows where they are, please bring them back."

Severin is an award-winning Bay area Plein Air artist whose works are displayed in public and private collections in the United States and many foreign countries, including Japan, Guatemala, France, Germany and Mexico, as well as the foreign consulates and embassies in San Francisco.

On the Pleasanton Art League website, Severin declares, "Paint-

ing is for me a celebration of life, an opportunity to express my joy and awareness of the beauty and fascination of life all around. Nature abounds with color and form. When I paint old buildings full of history, I feel I am a part of that time." Severin said anyone with information with regard to the whereabouts of the paintings can contact Bill Laube at the Pleasanton Hotel, 846-8106, to arrange for the return of the paintings "no questions asked." The police case# is 09-0089.



START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!

It's DOLLAR DAYS at LifeStyleRx

The quicker you join, the less you pay on enrollment!



January 1st \$1

January 5th \$5

January 27th \$27

Call (925) 454-6342

for more information on this dollar-a-day enrollment special





1119 East Stanley Blvd. • Livermore, CA 94550 www.lifestylerx.com

EDITORIAL

Citizen Views Sought

Citizens, the Cities of Livermore and Pleasanton need your input!

Some innovative zoning code changes are in the works in Livermore, while in Pleasanton an important trail survey is taking place.

Livermore received a \$300,000 grant from Caltrans in 2007 to update its Planning and Zoning Code. Two focus areas have been designated, both older neighborhoods, one south of downtown, the other north. A process called form-based coding is being applied to emphasize the traditional patterns and character of the two neighborhoods.

Underlying it all are "smart growth" principles. One of the goals is to increase pedestrian traffic and transit ridership. Another is to promote in-fill development that maximizes the use of existing infrastructure.

Public comments on the zoning code changes will be taken at a three-day "community charrette" slated for Monday through Wednesday next week. The setting will be informal and residents will have considerable opportunity to acquaint themselves with form-based coding and voice their views. For the schedule, call Christine Rodrigues at the city planning department, (925) 960-4450.

This is an exciting project. As a means to create a more livable community, form-based coding looks promising.

Meanwhile in Pleasanton, the city's trails committee is soliciting opinions regarding Pleasanton's 21-mile trail system. The survey is brief. It's at www.tinyurl.com/ trailsurvey. Deadline is Monday.

The larger the response, the better Pleasanton will be able to keep on top of its future trail needs.

HEALTH CARE

something different.

"There is concern that those of us with ongoing medical issues will have to find some other organization to deal with (other than Kaiser). That's the worry," said Schock.

Those on Medicare or other medical plans have other issues. Defined contributions allow employers to shift the cost of rising health care premiums onto recipients. Under the program, an employer lays out a limited pot of money, called Health Retirement Accounts (HRA). The recipient uses it to purchase health care insurance on the open market and to cover co-payments, deductibles and other health care expenses. Any unused money rolls over into the next year. Any costs over the amount provided are paid by the retiree.

The account funds are provided on a tax free basis. HRA funds can be used to pay the monthly costs for plans and to reimburse for co-payers. However, funds retirees are entitled to can run out before the end of the year if there were a lot of costs early in the year.

Extend Health Inc. has been hired by the Lab to handle the

riod before coverage kicks in. She added, "Worst of all, retirees will now face annual premium raises with each birthday, unlike all other U.C. retirees, who remain under the group plan protection. As we age and develop more medical problems, we are also at risk of being dropped by our cur-

rent plans in future years." Comporato stated that Medicare Supplemental rates are based on age. "The rates are very competitive." Comporato added, "When people sign up during open enrollment, there is no waiting period."

The biggest hit many retirees will face is the "donut hole."

The term "donut hole" refers to a "coverage gap" within the defined standard benefit under the Medicare Part D prescription drug program. Under the defined standard benefit package there is a gap in coverage between the initial coverage limit and the catastrophic coverage threshold. Within this gap, the beneficiary pays 100% of the cost of prescription drugs before catastrophic coverage kicks in.

Under the new plan, the Lab will reimburse retirees up to \$4350 annually for prescription drugs to close the gap. Payment would be prorated for the year based on the month a retiree reaches the gap. Instead of being reimbursed with a check, the cost will be deducted from the account. Any reimbursement for drugs in the "donut hole" are taxable to the retiree.

McNerney Skeptical About Delta Canal

By Ron McNicoll

With a new administration in charge of environmental policy, Rep. Jerry McNerney, (D-Pleasanton) has called on an incoming federal official to pay very careful attention to the impact that building a diversion canal would have on the Delta.

McNerney wrote to Nancy Sutley, designated chair of the Council on Environmental Quality on Jan. 6, saying that he is concerned that a "conveyance system to divert water around the estuary, in any form, will destroy the Delta ecosystem and with it, the agriculture and commerce, including the nation's second largest inland port, (that) the region supports."

The potential conveyance is reminiscent of the Peripheral Canal, which was authorized by the Legislature, but rejected by voters in 1982 in a statewide initiative. It lost overwhelmingly in northern California, because it was perceived as robbing the Delta of fresh water from snowmelt, and sending it to Los Ange-

LOCAL ACCESS (continued from page one)

minate arly. However, Comcast spokesman Andrew Johnson said that, like any business, Comcast keeps its eye on the market, and on changes in state law. That could lead to a change in position, if circumstances warrant it, he said. "The situation is not static. Our answer (about switching to the statewide agreement) on Jan. 5 could be different than on Feb. 5. The playing field could change. Something could be passed that we don't know now," said Johnson.

NEW RULES EXCLUDE PERSONNEL COST

Whether Comcast makes the switch soon or in 2011, the new rules present a bigger financial challenge for producing local TV shows for PEG. The 5 percent franchise fee would remain in place. However, that has been going into city general funds, on the logic that cities use it to repair streets that the cable firm digs up.

The cities have never earmarked any of the franchise fee for local TV production. A logical question for the future would be whether they would consider diverting some of the funds once the franchise plays under state rules. That will remain for future meetings of the four cities' mayors, who comprise the community television board.

DIVCA also allows an additional 1 percent to be charged to the cable TV firm, if a city passes an ordinance requiring it. Theoretically, the 1 percent of gross revenue could replace the 50cents-per-customer of gross revenue that Comcast pays now. The

les for more growth there.

However, a Delta task force, which has been meeting for years, has shown more tolerance of a canal. Even environmentalists, once firmly opposed to the old Peripheral Canal, have said they see some advantage in having more flexible management of Delta waters through the year, which can help animal and plant species there.

McNerney's congressional district includes a part of the Delta, near Stockton (the inland port to which he referred), and other places in San Joaquin County. Central Valley farmers are concerned that installing a canal will make Delta water too salty and hurt their crops. Also, there is talk of possible flooding of some of the Delta islands as part of the Delta recovery plan. However, flooding would remove agriculture there.

McNerney's district also includes the Valley, which obtains its water from the Delta via Zone 7 Water Agency. Its priority is improved water quality and holding the line on water availabil-

ity, although they also support environmental restoration goals, too.

Although McNerney appears to be opposing a canal, or at least expressing heavy skepticism, Zone 7 has a wait-and-see attitude. Directors at their last meeting authorized \$1.5 million over a two- year period as their part of a state-federal study about the feasibility of installing various Delta solutions, including a canal.

At the Stockton end of McNerney's district, agricultural exports are a big business. Cutting back on agricultural production could result in jobs lost in shipping, rail, and truck transportation. McNerney's letter to Sutley urges her to "pursue other water management strategies that would negate the need for an alternative conveyance around the Delta, including water reuse, conservation, recycling, reclamation, and perhaps even additional surface storage."

McNerney wrote to Sutley because the federal government plays a major role in the Delta. It oversees a federal water project built in the 1930s. The federal EPA has jurisdiction over many endangered species in the Delta.

The letter questioned the validity of some statistics in a report issued by the Public Policy Institute of California, which recommended a new conveyance around the Delta. Andy Stone, a spokesman for McNerney in Washington, did not dispute any of the numbers, but said a report by the University of Pacific source challenged the PPIC report.

As for Zone 7, general manager Jill Duerig said that the agency's \$1.5 million contribution for the Delta study includes the possibility of a conveyance. "However, it is not leaping to the end game. We want to see what the impacts are, and address the coequal goals of water quality and environment."

"If the answer (after the study) is still alternate conveyance, it would be only because it would be best for both the ecosystem and water supply reliability," said Duerig.

enues to the cities seems to bear it out. However, the new law restricts

the 1 percent to paying only for capital costs, such as studio improvements, and probably equipment such as cameras. It doesn't allow anything for salaries of the executive director and any paid staff of TV 30.

TV 30 receives some money from businesses that underwrite programs, and private grants can be tapped as a source. But even at the current funding level, TV30 was in trouble last year when it came to paying staff and meeting technical expenses. It had to end its 20-year-old daily newscast, because the program consumed nearly one-half of the \$600,000 annual budget, which was not covering all expenses.

There are lobbying efforts in Sacramento to split the 1 percent into capital costs and salaries. Ron Cooper, executive director of Access Sacramento, said he and others representing public access groups are trying to get

such a change in the law. PUBLIC ACCESS ALSO A DILEMMA

Another decision that will face the Tri-Valley Community Television board is what to do about public access. Johnson said that once the

Johnson said that once the local agreement expires, Comcast does not want to be "responsible for administration of public access channels. It is outside our responsibility. It should be administered by public groups or municipalities."

So the big question is whether the cities want to fold public access under their own wing. Municipalities have shrunk away from producing public access

shows, because sometimes the topics and program producers are controversial, said Access Sacramento's Cooper.

Sacramento stays away from that problem by having Access Sacramento, a non-profit, administer the pubic access portion. "By having a separate nonprofit, we deal with ensuring and protecting people's right to speak. Our job is to facilitate local creation of political, religious and every other (point of view in programs)," said Cooper.

However, in the Valley, which has a relatively small population, there is no established nonprofit large enough to deal with public access. A group organized around public access puts on the "Grassroots Issues" program. It was begun in 1999 by some valley residents who said that the government programming produced by the cities had a narrower spectrum of political discussion than they wanted to see on such local issues as planning.

Grassroots Issues provides all of its own funding. The show is filmed on a set that includes a small table in Barbara Hickman's sewing room. There is only one camera. Iinterviewees sometimes take the lead in interviews. The public can see the videos on a web site. www.grassrootsissues.com. Although the group has a board of directors, mainly local community activists, it is not one designed to operate a large-output public access channel.

Livermore assistant city attorney Jason Alcala said, "The viability of public access in the 'Yau Tuba' association" is being lic access organizations. On the other hand, there is also the desire to allow the public to have the opportunity to speak, said Alcala.

Ellyn Axelrod, assistant to the Livermore city manager, said it is up to the mayors to make decisions about the future of public access. However, on a personal basis, she said she is a "big supporter of community TV and pubic access. There are many successful ones in the country. Denver has really fine public access. There is room for everything. I hope they continue some sort of public access, even if Comcast no longer has it," she said.

Time Warner, which provides extensive cable service in Los Angeles, intends to close down 14 public access channels under DIVCA. That will leave four, with the many local producers there competing for time on the narrower outlets.

One producer in Los Angeles, Leslie Dutton, is a 16-year veteran of local access production. Her show, Full Disclosure Network, won a Southern California Emmy in 2002 for its coverage of a city political issue that was ignored by the local press. Full Discovery networks website, www.fulldisclosurenetwork.com, has a 12-minute video about DIVCA and the Los Angeles City Council's response in failing to stick up for public access.

Only Duton is a paid staffer, thanks to private donations, but the editing, news writing and photography are at a professional level. It appears that where there are motivated people with enough funding, it is possible to sustain a public access effort.

new program. The firm acts as a health insurance broker. Andrea Comporato, vice president of sales for Extend Health, argued that both the Lab and retirees will save money. There are more choices for health care, she pointed out.

Under the new system, each person (and spouse) with 20 years of service or more at the Lab receives \$2400 placed into a health care reimbursement account. The money, according to some retirees, is not enough to provide the same coverage they currently enjoy. Nor will it cover future increases in health care coverage as retirees age.

Susan Steinberg, the spouse of a retiree, provided several examples. In 2008, Lab retirees on Medicare received reimbursement for their Medicare B premiums. In 2009, they will receive no reimbursement. Premiums are \$96 per month, so this is an automatic out-of-pocket expense of \$1,156.80

She stated, "Last year, many retirees, including myself, chose a Medicare supplement from Blue Cross. It included both the 20% of medical bills that Medicare doesn't pay, plus most prescription costs. This plan was free to U.C. retirees as part of their group coverage. In 2009, retirees will pay much more to buy a comparable policy individually - in my case nearly \$1600. To add insult to injury, we will need to purchase a separate prescription policy. A comparable plan will add a cost of \$600.'

Steinberg estimates that her 2009 expenses for medical policies will change from zero to \$3,356.80.

The change in procedure also makes policy holders vulnerable, according to Steinberg. For example, if a person were to sign up for a Medigap plan, and then decide to switch to another coverage, the new provider could refuse to accept the individual or require a 90-day waiting pe"In theory, we are UC retirees," said Steinberg. "However, we are not receiving the same treatment as other UC retirees."

Lynda Seaver, a spokesperson for the Lab, said that Lab retirees are considered to be UC retirees only when it relates to their pensions. The health care coverage was switched to LLNS (Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC).

At the same time, retirees from Los Alamos National Laboratory remain UC employees for both health care and pension plans.

Schock said that the management contract for the Lab contains a provision that LLNS would manage the health plans, not UC. "During meetings where the contract was discussed, they kept assuring us that would be to our benefit," he stated.

Health care management was first subcontracted to Hewett Associates, which in turn subcontracted to Extend Health. Schock said there were questions asked about how health care costs would be reduced when there would be three different entities involved, each taking an administrative fee. "How could they do better than UC, which is a notfor-profit entity negotiating for coverage for roughly 100,000 individuals?" asks Schock.

On the Lab retirees website there are several questions raised. One is why remaining under a UC medical plan was not an option. Saying it's too expensive is not a sufficient answer retires claim. "Many retirees would still like to have the UC medical plans as an option even if it will cost them more."



comparison numbers are believed to work out to be approximately equal now.

Johnson said that under FCC rules, he can't say how much revenue is being generated. However, a look at quarterly reports of rev-

PETS

(continued from page one) Meals On Wheels drivers for about one-half dozen clients. It ensures the seniors are eating enough, and the pets receive healthy food in sufficient quantity. "That way, they can keep the animals in their homes. Otherwise, the pets would be homeless or have to go to an animal shelter," said Giordano.

The humane society started a program in June of making pet food donations to Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry in Livermore. Fish and birds, as well as dogs and cats, are covered. There are also pet toys, bones and pet cookies. "That's been a very popular program. We try to provide the clients with pet food, so they don't have to surrender their pets. They line up even before we get there. The pet food is all gone in an hour," said Giordano.

Since the program started in June, the humane society has donated about 2000 pounds of dry food to the pantry. A major pet food company is the source of much of the supply, with volunteers raising more.

Clare Gomes, of the food pantry staff, stated, "The pet program is wonderful. I'm excited that Wendy and the humane society started this program."

Another response for pets in the tough economic times has been a new law, which went into effect Jan. 1. Written by Concord Democratic Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier, AB 2949 requires property owners, including realtors, banks and others, to notify animal control agencies immediately about move-outs, so that pets in abandoned and foreclosed homes can be rescued quickly. Previously, animal control services had to wait from one to three days before being able to take a pet to a shelter.

DeSaulnier wrote the legislation in response to a suggestion entered in his contest called "There Ought To Be A Law."

BOOK (continued from page one)

the school from students, parents

and other guardians, and themselves. They created a schoolwide behavior plan supported by the entire school community.

"We communicated high expectations and worked together to hold the students accountable," says Keller. "The result was that attendance increased from 94% to 97% and referrals to the office decreased dramatically."

In 2007, a team from Marylin returned to the Education for the Future Initiative and presented the results of their hard work. Marylin showed a gain of 40 points on the API that year and all of the school's subgroups exceeded their growth targets.

Bernhardt had been asked to write a small book about how schools can accomplish student achievement gains in just one year. Five of her other books are over 400 pages long, with CDs containing hundreds of tools a serious, multi-year commitment. When she heard the Marylin team's presentation that summer, she knew she had found her subject.

"Their words were powerful and easy for other schools to follow. These words gave me the confidence to be able to put the ideas into a small package," she explains.

"I was impressed with how committed the Marylin Avenue staff was to achieving different results for their students. They did all the hard work to make the change happen and stick. So many schools want shortcuts, and do not do all that it takes to make the change happen. They are committed to producing even better results—and they will."

The book details how the staff at Marylin took the time to understand where they really were when they started—not where they thought they were—with respect to staff collaboration, a vision, knowledge of instructional and assessment strategies that work, and commitment to

You Tube' generation" is being questioned." He has come across that idea in discussions by pub-

"They developed a vision for

what they wanted to have hap-

pen, and then supported each

other in implementing the vi-

sion," Bernhardt says. "It was,

and is, not an option not to be a

part of the vision. Collectively,

they can make a difference for

each and every student. If schools

listen to what it took for Marylin

Avenue to achieve these results,

they can produce similar results."

him and the rest of the Marylin

staff feel validated and even more

proud and excited to be a part of

the school. "I attribute our gains

to the incredible teamwork of this

staff," he says. "We work to-

gether, have a focus together, and

continue to learn together. We

know we can continue to im-

Marylin's staff returning from

summer vacation three days early

for a retreat. They used the extra

time to "unwrap" the essential

standards-a process that in-

volves teachers analyzing each

standard and identifying its es-

sential concepts and skills, re-

sulting in more effective instruc-

tional planning, assessment, and

assessments. Typically, a teacher

gives a class a pre-assessment

before teaching a particular con-

cept, such as multiplication. Two

weeks later, the students com-

plete another assessment. The

assessments guide instruction

because teachers know right

away if what they are doing is

working or not. They spend

Wednesday afternoons, when

students are released from school

early, crunching the numbers and

year's API performance this

school year-meeting all crite-

ria for AYP and showing a gain

of at least five API points—the

school will exit program im-

provement. Keller has more am-

bitious plans, however. "We're

going to make 800 this year," he

If Marylin Avenue matches last

sharing successful strategies.

There were common frequent

Actions taken included

Keller says the book made

change.

prove.'

learning.

says. "That's a prediction."

Data, Data Everywhere was published by Eye on Education and is on the web at (www.eyeoneducation.com) or through Amazon. For more information on the Education for the Future Initiative or Victoria Bernhardt, visit http:// eff.csuchico.edu.

Wheels To Have Workshops On Fare Boosts

A proposal to raise standard bus fares and make other changes to costs and service will be the subject of two workshops next week.

Wheels staff is proposing to boost the standard fare from \$1.75 to \$2, the senior fare form 85 cents to \$1. Also proposed is the elimination of the free senior bus fare, which is granted now between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekdays.

Changes to some routes are in the works, including the elimination of the 810 night owl service after midnight, which connected travels between the Livermore transit center and the Bayfair BART station.

Executive director Paul Matsuoka said that low ridership is the reason to propose cancelation. When the service was introduced, it was touted as an opportunity for low income riders coming home from night jobs outside the Valley to have an affordable ride home.

The first Wheels workshop will occur from 6 to 8 p.m. on Jan. 12 at Wheels headquarters, 1362 Rutan Ct., Livermore, which is on the 12 line. The second will be from 6 to 8 p.m.. Jan. 14 at the Dublin public library, which is on the 10 line.

The LAVTA board, which operates wheels, will have a public hearing at 4 p.m., Feb. 2, before voting on whether to make the changes. The board meets at the headquarters building.

HIGHLIGHTS of 2008

(continued from page one) sensor and detection technology, high performance computing, microsystems, chemical and biological technology and explosives science.

TV 30's afternoon live news show went off the air after 20 years of continual broadcasting. The funding was not available to continue the program.

The Livermore Valley Performance Acts Center (LVPAC) announced its second season of attractions at the Bankhead Theater. Among the programs are The Smothers Brothers, Tango Fire, and Arlo Guthrie, as well as a performance by the national touring company of the Broadway Musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

An agreement between Tri-Valley Artists Guild and the Bothwell Arts Center meant that the annual ArtWalk would be held in 2008. The event became a fund-raising for the Arts Center.

Axis Community Health began registering patients in the Alameda County Excellence (ACE) program. The program was designed to meet the needs of patients with chronic health problems, such as diabetes, congestive heart failure and hypertension.

The California State Board of Education voted to extend the Livermore Valley Charter School's operations though 2013. Both the Livermore School Board and Alameda County Board of Education had voted to reject the extension of the charter because of concerns about funding.

Pleasanton asked the State Supreme Court to review a decision that reinstated a lawsuit brought by affordable housing advocates against the city. The original lawsuit was dismissed after a judge ruled the statue of limitations had lapsed to contest city policies such as the housing cap and growth management. A Court of Appeal ruled the lawsuit had been improperly dismissed.

Construction began on the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. The center will include a theater with flexible seating for 240, an art gallery, two arts classrooms, a grand lobby and offices. The cost is \$12.8 million with projected opening sometime in 2010.

The Livermore City Council heard a report from Economic Development Director Rob White that included information that the Bankhead Theater had been "dramatically successful" during its first year. There were 204 performances and 53 rehearsal dates at the theater, well above projections.

Livermore proposed adding a fee on development that would fund more facilities for social services. The fee of \$1600 per single by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. The extension is controversial, with residents living near the road opposed to it because of the traffic that would travel along it. Others want it open to help with traffic circulation in other parts of Pleasanton and the entire Valley.

Following the close of filing for the November election, the Livermore school district kicked off its effort to renew the district's parcel tax. The district asked voters to extend the tax for five years at an annual rate of \$138 per parcel. In Pleasanton, incumbent Jennifer Hosterman and Steve Brozosky found themselves in a rematch for mayor. Council incumbents Cindy McGovern and Matt Sullivan and challengers Jerry Pentin and Howard Neely filed for the two council seats. (Neely would eventual drop out of the race.) Two candidates, John McPartland and Linda Jeffery Sailors, sought the District 5 BART Board seat. There were six candidates for the three Pleasanton school board seats, Valerie Arkin, Jeff Bowser, Jamie Yee Hintske, Prasad Rallipallli, Stephen Page, and incumbent Chris Grant. The Livermore school board attracted four candidates, incumbents Tom McLaughlin and Bill Morrison, and challengers Stewart Gary and Charles Rogge, Jr. Incumbents Steve Goodman and Beth Wilson faced one challenger, Barbara Kraybill for the two Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board positions.

The Board of Directors of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center voted to pursue a change in the proposed site for the 2000 seat regional theater. The new site would be within the old Lucky Shopping Center complex at Livermore and Railroad Avenues. The theater would face Livermore Avenue.

The Tri-Valley Business Council created a task force geared to form a partnership among educators, business people and government officials to expand options for people wanting to enter the growing field of sustainable business. One of the main tasks would be to provide education for workers to take jobs in green technology and energy fields. The effort is being led by Jim Caldwell.

The City of Livermore was happy with a recommendation made by the State Board of Equalization, which oversees sales tax distribution. The board withheld the first quarter sales tax from Fillmore, pending a final resolution of the issue of whether Livermore or Fillmore should receive revenues.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District voted to prohibit alcohol from being served at events attended mainly by youth.

The Livermore Valley Char-

54,000 square foot theater would seat 500 with a 1500 seat outdoor amphitheater. The cost is \$35 million.

The Wente Family Estates' 125th harvest got underway with the harvest of Sauvignon Blanc in the family's Ruby Hill Vineyard.

The Livermore Chamber of Commerce was the first area chamber to enroll in a program that makes the business office officially a "carbon neutral" workplace.

The City of Pleasanton launched its mandatory campaign finance e-filing system on the city's website.

Issues raised during the first debate among Pleasanton mayoral and council candidates included the two hillside protection measures, the Stoneridge Drive extension, and affordable housing.

SEPTEMBER 2008

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District heard a plan for the recovery of trees at Sycamore Grove Park. Board members learned that Zone 7 summer water releases were not the cause of the decline of the sycamore trees. Rather, a study found that trees became conditioned to the releases and suffered when water was not available, such as during drought years. The recovery plan included planting new trees in areas where water would be available during the summer.

Joe Michell Elementary School in Livermore was expanded to include sixth graders for the first time.

Zone 7 Water District predicted that water rates could increase by as much as 30 percent in 2009. There are fixed costs the district needs to cover. Conservation has resulted in less use of water, which means the district needs to raise its rates to provide the needed funds.

Proponents of the Oak Grove referendum filed an official appeal of a Superior Court decision that declared the referendum to be invalid. The court ruled that petition gatherers did not carry the proper information. The referendum seeks to overturn the approval of development on the property in the southeast hills of Pleasanton. The plan includes 497 acres of public open space and 51 custom lots.

A report presented to the Livermore City Council found that a proposed regional theater in downtown Livermore continued to be a viable project. Revised financial figures indicated that moving the theater to the Old Lucky site would reduce both the construction and operating costs.

The Pleasanton City Council endorsed plans to build an ice rink within the 17-acre park site on the proposed Staples Ranch development.

BART to Livermore topped the Livermore Chamber of Commerce survey amenities wish list. forming Arts Center board announced that David Dial would replace Len Alexander as executive director on October 1. Dial had been the general manager for over a year.

The Livermore City Council approved a social services fee on new development. At the same time, the council supported moving forward to consider making the fee citywide, possibly through a parcel tax or a bond measure. The fee on new development would be used to build or rehabilitate existing facilities where services are provided.

A blessing of the grapes began Concannon Vineyard's 125th harvest.

The Livermore City Council approved staff plans to move forward with planning for several major projects in the downtown, including a regional theater and upscale hotel. Staff was directed to interview five potential mixed use developers for the former Lucky site between Livermore Avenue and L Street.

The Pleasanton City Council approved a plan to build 350 apartments near the West BART station. Matt Sullivan was opposed, stating he believed it to be the wrong project because it was too small to be a true transit oriented development. Twenty percent of the units are affordable to very low income residents.

OCTOBER 2008

The Livermore Education Association, the teachers' union, rejected an offer by the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District for a 3 percent salary increase. The two sides had been negotiating the salary increase and other issues for nearly 16 months. A mediator called a close to mediation and certified both parties for fact finding.

A report prepared for the Livermore City Council recommended that the Springtown Golf Course remain as it is. The city should look for a new operator and look for ways to increase play and revenue at the course. The council voted to seek new management.

The Tri-Valley Adolescent Youth Initiative received two statewide awards. The program involves a partnership that includes the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, the Board of Supervisors, and the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton. Awards presented were the League of California Cities Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in Local Government and the City, County and Schools Partnership Award for 2008.



The Lab was announced that radiation detection technology developed by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists was being used by state and local governments to monitor for nuclear materials.

A study found that noise from operations at the Livermore Airport had not increased over the last seven years. The report indicated that noise levels were less than anticipated. At the same time, the study found that single aircraft events, mainly jets, exceed the recommended noise threshold.

Festivities marked the long awaited opening of the new Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton. The historic adobe is the centerpiece of the seven acre park that tells the story of how one piece of land has been inhabited and used in different ways.

A summit was held to form an action plan to help fill jobs in the medical profession. To provide workers, it was noted that educational institutions must respond to devise a curriculum to keep pace with changes in the profession. Jim Caldwell organized the summit.

The Pleasanton school district reported that state budget woes could bring mid-year school cuts. The district would await the outcome of budget discussions in Sacramento to learn how great the drop in funding would be.

Developers gave over \$30,000 to help gain voter approval of Measure QQ, the council sponsored hillside development measure on the November ballot.

Granada High School science teacher Frankie Tate was named Alameda County teacher of the year.

A reward that eventually

topped \$20,000 was posted to catch the unknown person or persons who killed two horses and a cow on Collier Canyon Road.

The Livermore Valley Charter School dropped plans to build a K-12 complex south of Robertson Park. The tight bond market was cited as the reason.

Improvements to Highway 84 were completed three years ahead of schedule. The project included realignment of the road, climbing lanes and a median buffer to separate traffic.

The Pleasanton City Council reversed previous support of an increase in the Tri-Valley Transportation Committee traffic impact fee. The move followed a recommendation by Livermore, Dublin and Alameda County to add wording asking that Highway 84 improvements be dropped from the funding priority list. Improvements to Highway 84 are a top priority for Pleasanton.

NOVEMBER 2008

Open Heart Kitchen said it would have to close its doors unless additional funding were provided. The community responded, and by the end of December had raised enough money to keep the kitchen open until at least the end of March. Fundraising efforts continued.

Election results showed that incumbents fared well at the polls, as did measures asking voters to provide funding for schools and parks. In Pleasanton city races, Jennifer Hosterman was reelected mayor and Cindy McGovern and Matt Sullivan were returned to the council. The lone incumbent running for the Pleasanton school board, Chris Grant, was elected along with newcomers Valerie Arkin and Jamie Yee Hintske. Both hillside protection measures were ap-

(continued on page 12)



family home would be offset by a \$3000 dip in the current in-lieu affordable housing fee, which is currently \$36,000.

The Las Positas College wine program won awards at the Alameda County Fair. One was for its first vintage, the 2005 Las Positas College Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon and one for the label designed by students in the college's design shop.

Steve Brozosky announced plans to run for Pleasanton mayor, taking on incumbent Jennifer Hosterman. Brozosky had run in 2006, losing in a close vote to Hosterman.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District unveiled its new master plan. Open space parks, trails and a sports park were among the facilities listed as desirable in the plan.

A new study found that bird deaths had increased in the Altamont Wind Power corridor. The increase came despite some partial shutdowns of towers and replacement of some of the older towers.

AUGUST 2008

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty said the county would pay for the Stoneridge Drive extension in Pleasanton. He made the statement during a State of the County talk hosted

EDUCATION THAT OPENS YOUR WORLD

Exciting and Engaging Curriculum Teaches Critical Thinking

Classes Average 15 Students

Unmatched International Opportunties

Nearly 100% Admitted to Outstanding 4-Year Colleges

Inclusive Community

Extraordinary 75-Acre Campus

Transportation and Financial Aid Available ter School proposed purchase of 13.5 acres of property just south of Robertson Park. The plan was to build facilities to house the current school and a proposed Livermore Valley Charter Prep. Neighbors weren't happy with the plan, pointing to increased traffic as a major concern. They also said the site was too small to house the charter school facilities.

Work began on a new arts center at Las Positas College. The Business people in Livermore were surveyed. Closely following BART was redevelopment of aging retail centers.

The Livermore school district and Livermore Education Association continued to be at odds over salary increases. Teachers held a rally to gather support for their demand for a 3.75 percent increase. The district had offered a 1.5 percent increase for salary and health care benefits.

The Livermore Valley Per-



DID YOU KNOW?

Axis offers the Tri-Valley's only outpatient drug and alcohol recovery program for teens. Our accredited program serves several hundred teens from Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin each year.

For more information or to donate to Axis Community Health online, please visit www.axishealth.org.

Axis Community Health ... Here when you need us.



ADMISSION OPEN HOUSES For Fall 2009 Enrollment GRADES 6-8: JANUARY 10 @ 1PM GRADES 9-12: JANUARY 11 @ 1PM

THE

ATHENIAN SCHOOL DANVILLE For information: (925) 362-7223 www.athenian.org

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

SPRING CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 20 REGISTER NOW!

www.laspositascollege.edu | (925) 424-1000 STUDENTS FIRST

3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore

_EY ROUNDUP

Chamber Awards Dinner

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Community Service Awards will be presented at the 46th Annual Community Service Awards and Chamber of Commerce Annual dinner on Fri., Jan. 30.

The event will be held at the Hilton Pleasanton at the Club, 7050 Johnson Drive. No-host cocktails are at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and the program at 7 p.m.

Cost to attend is \$75 per person. Business attire. RSVP by January 26th by calling 846-5858.

Tasting Room Renovation

Concannon Vineyard closed its tasting room on Monday for renovation as part of its \$30 million revitalization program.

The project will have two phases. The tasting room will reopen on a temporary basis on weekends beginning in mid-February. There will be a celebratory re-opening of the renovated facility in the spring.

Jim Concannon said, "This is just another step for the future of Concannon. We've been working in the vineyards and at the winery so now it's time for a new home for many wines found only at the tasting room. It also shows our commitment and belief in Livermore Valley."

During the hiatus, wines can be ordered online at concannonvineyard.com or by calling direct at (924) 583-1561. Concannon wine club Gatekeeper and other special events will con-

tinue to be held. For further information contact Jim Ryan at (925) 583-1561.

Presidential Inauguration

The Tri-Valley Democratic Club offers an opportunity to view on a large screen the inauguration of Barrack Obama as President of the United States Of America. The inauguration begins on January 20 at 8 a.m.

The large screen will be located at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Dublin Parkway, Dublin. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served served. The public is invited. For information, go to www.trivalleydems.com.

Social Security Increase

Over 50 million Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries will ring in the New Year with a little extra in their pocketbooks each month: a 5.8 percent increase in benefit payments beginning with their January payments. This 5.8 percent increase is the largest since 1982

The average retired worker will receive \$1,153 per month in Social Security benefits in 2009, up from \$1,090 in 2008.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits increase automatically each year based on the rise in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), from the third quarter of the prior year to the corresponding period of the current year.

Along with the annual COLA come other changes, including an increase in the amount of wages subject to Social Security tax. In 2008, the maximum taxable amount was \$102,000. Beginning in 2009, the maximum taxable amount will be \$106,800. This change will affect about 11 million of the 164 million workers who pay Social Security tax. The tax rate remains the same: 6.2 percent for employers and employees, and 12.4 percent for the self employed.

To learn more about Social Security changes coming in 2009, visit the online fact sheet at www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/factsheets/ colafacts2009.htm.

Book Highlights Research

Finding new and better ways to detect and treat cancer, Parkinson's disease and other debilitating diseases; developing new, cleaner and sustainable fuels and technologies to power vehicles and homes; safeguarding nuclear weapons; and developing discoveries that are altering our understanding of the universe – these are just a few examples of research and discoveries performed by the U.S. Department of Energy's 17 national laboratories.

As part of an effort to highlight a decade of quality research and innovation at the national laboratories, the Department has released a commemorative book entitled "A Decade of Discovery." The national laboratories throughout this past decade have partnered with industry, business, government agencies, and other researchers in developing discoveries in energy and the environment, national security, and sciences crucial for our communities, the nation, and the world.

"As this book makes clear, collectively the Department's national laboratories remain the single greatest scientific enterprise in the world," said U.S. Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman. "As a nation, we will continue to depend on the power and promise of science and engineering to push back the boundaries of what is possible."

Since the founding of the first DOE laboratory more than 60 years ago, the complex has been associated with the recipients of more than 80 Nobel Prizes. "A Decade of Discovery" illuminates the advancements in science and technology, energy, and national security at the national laboratories.

To learn more about the Department of Energy's "A Decade of Discovery," visit: www.energy.gov/discovery.

Corrections

David Mertes is president of the Rotarian Foundation, not the Livermore Rotary Club, as was stated in an Independent story last week. The president of the Livermore Rotary Club is Bill Geyer.

A story about "Guys and Dolls" in the Independent Magazine stated that Frank Sinatra played the role of Sky Masterson and sang "Luck By a Lady" in the movie. Marlon Brando played the role. Sinatra later recorded the song.

PORTS NOTES

Youth Soccer

This past weekend, the Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club boys U-13 soccer team played in the Mustang Winter Turf Invitational soccer tournament in Danville This is the premier winter tournament that Northern California teams play in preparation for the State Cup that starts later in the month.

In the first game Saturday morning, Ballistic came out strong against Milan, a team from Hillmar, California. Ballistic controlled the game from the beginning and took a 1-0 lead on a goal by Joey Devivo halfway through the first half. Eric Toombs and Devivo, the two Ballistic forwards, had many other chances to put the game out of reach, but could not close the deal with many scoring opportunities going wide or stopped by the Hillmar goalie. The second half was a hard fought battle

with both teams playing well. Ballistic had a few additional scoring opportunities and Milan also provided relentless pressure to try to get back into the game. The Ballistic back line played solidly though, and the game ended 1-0 in Ballistics favor. This was a very satisfying result since Hillmar is considered one of the top 1 or 2 teams in Northern California and this avenged a 6-2 Ballistic loss to them in a Nor Cal game three weeks

In the second game of the day, Ballistic played the defending State Cup champions, Placer Prestige. In the first half, Ballistic continued their high level of play but were unable to score. Placer was also unable to generate any offense and they went into halftime tied. Shortly into the second half, Placer was called for a foul just over the mid field line. Nate Grixti launched a 45 yard cross into the box and Marco Neves fought to reach it and headed the ball past the Placer goalie

to put Ballistic up 1-0. Ballistic had other great scoring opportunities on set pieces as well, especially on corner kicks where Jackson Adams launched perfect crosses in front of the net, but Ballistic could not capitalize. From that point, the intensity of the game increased a Placer desperately tried to tie the game and Ballistic fought to keep them off the score board. With 3 minutes left, Placer played a long diagonal through ball to their right forward who out ran the Ballistic defense and tied the game at 1-1. Neither team was able to create any additional scoring chances and the game ended tied 1-1. On Sunday, Ballistic played the Ceres Earthquake in the final pool game needing a win to move into the championship game. Though Ceres was winless, their two losses were in close games to Placer and Hilmar. The game see-sawed back and forth with both teams having scoring opportunities, but neither being able to finish. The ballistic forwards had an almost comical string of balls hit the goal posts or cross bars on various shots and headers, with all bouncing out. Halfway through the second half, a Ceres forward beat his mark, received a pass and beat Ballistic goalie Daniel Slominski to put Ceres up 1-0. Ballistic pushed hard to try to regain that goal, but the score remained 1-0. This loss pushed Ballistic into the consolation game against their local rivals, Mustang soccer club from Danville. Ballistic took out their frustration of the earlier loss on the Mustang team and jumped out to a 2-0 nothing lead in the first half on goal by Joey Devivo. In the second it was all Devivo with two more goals to give him a total of 4 for the game. The score was capped off when Devivo picked the ball up on the right side, played a perfect pass to Eric Toombs who was streaking between the two Mustang defenders who tried to cut off his route to goal. Toombs held the ball until the defense had completely committed to him, and then laid if off to the left where a trailing Salvador Morales fin-ished the ball into the wide open goal to make the score 5-0. The back line of Sam Olson, Max Molz, Brendan Inchauspe and Nate Grixti and goalie Daniel Slominski played solid all weekend, only allowing a total of 2 goals in 4 games. Ballistic will now be preparing for state



Pictured are members of the CCOP 7th grade girls basketball team (back, from left) Jacquie Price, Juliet Logan, Uma Paranjpe, Roxy Moran, Jessie Medina; (front, from left) Jaime Rinetti, Haley Brodnick, Rachael Miller, and, Moira Andrews.

more chances to score with their strong play Rage White's final game of the weekend came down to a match-up with Pleasanton Rage's Premier team played on an icy field in fog so thick that the far side of the field wasn't visible. Rage White fought hard and matched up evenly with the Premier team. The midfield of Makenna Elias, Monica Martinez and LisaDeFeo played tough and moved the ball deep, with great distribution by Sadie Moore and Darcy Kron. Julia Densmore scored the first goal of the game with an assist by Sadie Moore. Rage White's entire defensive squad played vigorously to keep the Premier team out of the goal with the exception of one goal which ended regulation play in a 1-1 tie. Unfortunately for the White team, Rage Premier scored first in overtime and advanced to the final game. The Premier team ended up winning the tournament.

had her usual strong game on defense. Delaney Sommerhauser had a solid game passing and defending, and had a great game in transition. This was a hard, physical game that saw both squads in the double-bonus for the final three minutes, but SM/SC managed to make a few more from the line and held on for a 26 to 22

SM/SC 6th grade girls (#6005) vs St. Isidore (#6006) lost 14-9 in a tight, evenly matched game. Scoring for SM/SC was led by Alyssa Gonzalez, Samantha Schwartz, Ashley Breyer and Carly Grossano. Top defenders and rebounders were Cameo Schubert, Carly Grossano, Samantha Schwartz, Rachel LaRont and Lainey Hibbard.

to SM/SC#3016. Sierra Marshall and Gianna Cole were the top scoring players for SM/SC #3016. All the players played well.

There was double overtime for two Livermore 3rd grade teams on Sunday afternoon as SM/SC team #318 edged SM/SC team #320 18 to 16. SM/SC #318 was ahead 10 to 6 at the end of the first half, but team #320 would not give up, putting together a strong third and fourth quarter to tie the score 14 all at the end of regulation. Both teams played excellent defense in the first overtime, allowing only one basket each and forcing a second overtime tied at 16. Team #318 scored the only bucket in the second overtime to win 18 to 16. Team #318 was led by the offense of Samuel Miller, Garret Barker and Vassilis Dimitripoulos and the defense of Reece Kerstetter, Junior Rubio and Noah Rakestraw Team #320 (The Cobras) was led by the offense of Riley Van Trease and Grant Blockley, while the defense was led by Cody Skinner and Connor Sweeney. Joseph Murphy and Jacob Rasmussen put in great efforts on both sides of the ball for the Cobras (team #320).

The SM/SC Hot Shots (3015) lost to CCOP (3013) 14-4 in a game that was tied 4-4 at halftime. Jenni Kovisto and Madison Kahwaty each scored 2 points for the Hot Shots. The Hot Shots' leading rebounders were Regan Wiedenfeld and Courtney Hayes.

SM/SC "Wildcats" 3rd grade girls (#3014) had a tough match last Sunday against SM/SC (#3016) losing 8 to 16. The offense and defense both played hard. Gianna Cole was the top scorer with 6 points. Sierra Marshall brought her team 2 points in free throws. Daniela Walker, Kailyn Stow and Sarah Wenzel led the defense

SM/SC 1st/2nd grade boys Warriors vs. Warriors. Both teams came out ready to start the new year off right. Offense led by home

player or brand new to the game of lacross 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 Mezeul at 925-425-9901. or contact Bob

Football/Cheer Signup

Livermore Youth Football & Cheer Liv-ermore Youth Football & Cheer (LYF&C) is starting registration for the upcoming season. This is a full contact football league that

has been established for 36 years. The league's motto is "children first, game second." goal is to teach the fundamentals of both football and cheer needed to make the transition into high school. The league works together with the local high schools to ensure its participants are learning the fundamentals needed for their very competitive football & Cheer programs. LYF&C's emphasis is on proper technique and fundamentals, responsibility, accountability, and most impor-tantly being a good person and teammate.

My neighbor told me

cleaner bag can go in her

able pet hair. I think she's

Deborah

wrong, since vacuums also

pick up stuff that belongs in

A You are correct. Please

advise your neighbor to place

the contents of her vacuum bag

in her Garbage cart. The debris

collected in a vacuum bag or

dirt, metal, glass and plastic

canister usually contains bits of

that don't break down during

the composting process-and

compost product. Accepted

in Green Waste carts: Food

scraps, food-soiled paper, plant

clippings and uncoated wood.

end your questions today!

AskKathleen@wm.com

U.S. MAIL: Ask Kathleen Waste Management

6175 Southfront Road

Livermore, CA 94551

would contaminate the finished

a Garbage cart. Who is correct?

the contents of her vacuum

Green Waste cart for composting

because it's full of biodegrad-

All coaches are required to attend coach ing clinics each year to strengthen their

owledge of the game. Football and cheer squads have been very successful in the highly competitive Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference (DVYFC). Registration will be held January 8, Feb. 12 March 12 and April 16 from 6-8 pm @ Round Table Pizza 1024 East Stanley Blvd. Discounts are available at January and February dates. Information go to web-site www.eteamz.com/lyfc or emai emai lyfc@onebox.com/lyfc

The league is currently accepting applications for both football and cheer coaches for the upcoming season

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



and Zach Patterson SM/SC Wild Cats (#3014) lost 8 to 16

cup play starting in three weeks. The Pleasanton Rage U11 AC White

team was well represented well at the Bullard Classic tournament in Fresno, January 3-4, 2009. They began by winning their first game against the Fresno Monarchs 4-0. Goals were scored by Sadie Moore, Madison Avery, Julia Densmore (assisted by Madison Avery) and Monica Martinez (assisted by Julia Densmore). The defense of Nicole Tsuno, Megan Martin, Megan Shackley, Christina Echavia and Jasmine Dessouky played skillfully, and goalies Juliet Allen and Bryanna Schreiber kept the balls out of the net for a shutout.

Rage White played another strong game against the Bullard Soccer Club out of Fresno despite losing 2-1. Pleasanton's one goal was scored on a penalty kick by Julia Densmore after Makenna Elias was fouled in the box Players on offense, Taylor Campbell, Sadie Moore and Madison Avery created several

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 7th grade American team Fury played hard against Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) #70001, coming away with a win of 31 to 24 in CYO basketball. CCOP led during the first two quarters. In the 3rd, SM/SC pulled ahead by 2 points and continued to stay ahead until the end. The girls had to give it their all with only six players who were able to make it to the game. Top scorers for SM/SC were Hailey Lasit with 12, McKayla Saavedra with 6, Madeline Glaviano with 5, Rebecca Johnson with 4 and 2 each from Shannon Melrose and Skyler Kritz. Skyler was also on fire with her defensive playing, with 5 steals and 4 great blocks. McKayla helped out tremendously with her 11 defensive rebounds during the game. All the girls were playing well to-gether, each having at least one steal and assist but Shannon had 3 assists that were timed perfectly. Madeline led the SM/SC offense with her great leadership and used her ball handling skills to break a tough CCOP press which gave the SM/SC girls more opportunities to score.

The CCOP 7th Grade Girls continue to roll with consecutive wins after beating St. Joan of Ark 20 to 5 on Sunday, January 5th. Jessie Medina was the high scorer with four baskets as well as four steals. Jacquie Price, Uma Paranjpe Roxy Moran and Jaime Rinetti also contributed points. Rebounds were collected by Moira Andrews and Juliet Logan Rachael Miller and Haley Brodnick played awesome defense with several steals.

In 7th grade girls CYO basketball St. Raymond's team #7010 defeated SM/SC team #7003, 26 to 14. SM/SC managed to close to within 4 in the second half, but St. Raymond's pulled away in the 4th quarter. For St. Raymond's, Madison Ricks and Michelle McQuiston were the leading scor-ers. Camille Perich was the leading rebounder and Emma Schoenthal and Jessica Ramsey the top defenders. Kelly Borden was the leading scorer for SM/SC, followed by Rebecca Bernstein, Natalie Land, Sarah McCallister, and Taylor Smith. Cassie Dukes led the defense for SM/SC.

SM/SC CYO 6th Grade Girls American League team started out 2009 with a league battle at home against St. Joan's. They got out to an early lead, which they held until early in the final period when St. Joan's rallied to tie. Danielle Dufek capped a great defensive day by breaking the tie with a clutch front end of a 1-and-1, after which the girls really tightened up on defense. Shannon Rosemark earned all 12 of her points the hard way out of a continual scrum underneath, and

PLEASANTON

484-3507

SM/SC 5th grade boys (#504) partici-pated in the LARPD Winter Tournament and finished 2nd in their division. Leading scorers for the team were Ben Parker and Sean Savert with points also contributed by Aaron Spiller, David Harmison and Jarrett Powell. Ben Parker, Sean Savert and Aaron Spiller were strong defenders along with Cole Jacobs.

Despite tenacious defensive efforts by Alexa Chavarria, Kirsten Floyd (2pts), Saba Salari, and Isabella Widmann, the SM/SC Swishers 5th grade girls (#5004) lost to St. Isidore (#5002), 6-20. Madeline DeWalt (8pts) and Katherine Peters (6pts) played strong offense for St. Isidore. St. Isidore's full court press, assisted by Kayla Seaman and Emily Kaye, kept SM/SC's scoring in

SM/SC 4th grade girls (#4004) played St. Joan (#4003) and won 16 to 2. Both teams came out playing great defense making it hard to find the basket early on. Madison Jackson. Holly Julson and Alexandra Lonsinger led the SM/SC girls with 4 points each. Samantha Dukes and Taylor Peterson each added a bucket to finish off the scoring for SM/SC. Emily Hawkins, Mila Steinberg and Jennifer Gibson played solid defense to hold St. Joan to two points. SM/SC is now 6-0 in league play.

St. Isidore Leprechauns 4th grade girls worked the CCOP Bulldogs 28 - 16 in a hard fought game. The Bulldogs came out strong with Lexi Blair nailing the tip-off to Alexis Simmons for a quick lay-up. The Lepre-chauns charged back with Carina scoring a total of 8, Ariana adding 2 with a nice teardrop in the second half, with Smith, Hornruckle, Halie, and Kuptz adding to the pot. Simmons and Daniela Block added 3 buckets each for the Bulldogs with Elena Angst and Lexi Blair each contributing a hoop. Orla Lamont and Reya Paulos provided a tough defense for the Bulldogs.

SM/SC 4th grade boys (4BA) vs St. Raymond (45) lost 43-24. Top scoring play-ers for SM/SC were Wesley Katz with 12 points, Zach Patterson with 6 points, and Chase Madrid with 3 points. Top defensive players were Jordan Buranis, Wesley Katz,

team JJ Knight, Skyler Ferguson-Rosa and Connor Livingston. Warriors away team led by Amanda Price, Caleb Hardesty and Connor Hardesty. Home team net protection led by Kevin Lee, Ryan Wenzel and Steven Lee. Warriors (away team) net guarded by Matthew Reddick, Alec Lewis and Frank Silva.

SM/SC 1st & 2nd Grade Cougars played a tough game on Sunday showing that even with the long holiday break, they came out fighting on defense and ready to score. Top scorer for the Cougars were Robert Sandoval, who put up six points. Also scoring for the Cougars was Nicholas Melendez. Driving the defense were Melendez who led in rebounds along with Alex Clarke, Ethan Payne and Grant Thrailkill also contributing in rebounding. Leading in steals for the day were Max Higgins and Noah Lignell.

Little League Signup

Livermore National Little League is still accepting registrations for the 2009 Season. For more information on registration and tryouts, check out the new website www.eteamz.com/LNLL or call the League Line at (925) 443-5655.

PGSL Registration

The 2009 season is quickly approach-ing. Registration is still open for all divi-sions 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, please gsl@pleasantonsoftball.org or visit the PGSL website the PGSL website 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



Gina Trentacest, O.D. + Kerl Owyang, O.D. VSD Jimmy Vip. O.D. 5575 W. Las Positas Bivd. #240 28 Fenton Street Livermore, CA 94550. Pleasantan, CA 94588 (925) 449-4000 (925) 460-5000 On LASKI www.ValleyEyeCareCenter.com



Can I recycle used cooking oil? Patrick

A Cooking oil is not recyclable through WM. Therefore, here's how to handle cooking oil, fat and grease: 1) Never pour down sink drains, garbage disposals or toilets to avoid clogs caused by coated pipes. 2) Curbside customers can collect small quantities of hardened oils in biodegradable ice cream or similar paper cartons-discard in Green Waste cart. 3) All customers can mix small guantities of liquid oils with absorbent materials, such as cat litter or sawdust, then transfer to covered container or tied trash bag-discard in Garbage cart or bin. 4) Livermore residents can dispose of large quantities by calling Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste in

Livermore at (800) 606-6606.



From everyday collectors to environmental protection, Think Green # Think Waite Management



Bilheimer, Au. D.

SHORT NOTES

Volunteers in Action

The Volunteers in Action program with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District will hold a Leadership-in-Training Experience schoolyear session to teach teens how to become involved.

"Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Ap-preciating the Diversity Within Us" is a program to promote King's vision of building broad and diverse coalitions, breaking down barriers and making the community the best it can be. The program will begin with shar

ing information about how teenagers can volunteer and what they will gain from it in return. LARPD's volunteer program will be discussed, along with future opportunities, why volunteer-ing is important from both a personal and community standpoint and how each person can make a difference.

In addition to learning how to give back to the Livermore community, those who attend will join in a canned food scavenger hunt and then donate the findings to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank.



Gurbaksh Chahal

'G' Will Talk about 'The Dream' at Library Program

Gurbaksh Chahal, known as "G," will present "The Dream" at a January 18 program at the Pleasanton Library.

This young entrepreneur dropped out of school to form his first company, ClickAgents, becoming a multi-millionaire at age 18.

G is featured on the new primetime network show The Secret Millionaire. He has appeared on The Oprah Winfrey Show, FOX Business Network's Cavuto, among others, and has been profiled in such publications as The New York Times, Entrepreneur magazine, and The San Francisco Chronicle. His memoir, "The Dream" is the story of his road to success.

The program is at 2 p.m. in the meeting room, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. The program is free and open to all. No registration required.

Towne Center Books will sell The Dream at the event. Call 846-8826 for pre-sale information.

For more information call

The training will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. This program is geared toward youth in sixth through 12th grade. The fee to participate is \$5 per person. Pre-registration is required. Registration can be completed online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or by phone at 925-373-5700.

New Year Birds

New Year Birds is the theme of a Sun., Jan. 11 nature program presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff. Meet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 8 a.m. at

the Nature Area entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. Come check out the new 2009 bird models and see what they have to offer. Take a look at the eyecatching colors and sleek lines, and come see if you can spot any sporty new models to add to your bird lists. The group may even get some special things such as bird songs and calls thrown in at no extra charge. Don't forget binoculars and field guides. There will be a few to lend. This bird walk will last about two hours. Cancelled if raining.

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

ZooMobile at Library

The Oakland Zoo's ZooMobile will bring an array of small animals to the Pleasanton Library on Saturday, Janu-

ary 24. Children from Pre-K through 1st grade learn about appropriate behavior around animals, are introduced to simple facts about animal classes and physical structures, and learn to observe similarities and differences in the appearance and behavior of various animals. An underlying theme is that of appreciating and respecting animals and nature.

No registration is required for this 30 minute program, which will be offered at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.. Free tickets will be distributed at the Children's Desk 30 minutes prior to each show. Attendance will be limited to 100 per session. Doors will be closed to late arrivals once the program be-gins. For more information about library programs and events check the library's website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

Court Volunteers

Adult volunteers needed for the Tri-Valley Youth Court (TVYC), a youth driven justice program for first time offenders. The court meets the first Tuesday evening of each month at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton from 5:30 - 7:45 pm. For more information, visit our website at ww.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at (925) 337-7175.

Teen Volunteers Needed for new Tri-Valley Youth Court (TVYC) to serve as Advocates (youth attorneys) and jurors. Advocates prepare and present the case for the Defendant. Jurors are needed one evening per month - the first Tuesday from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton. TVYC is a youth driven adjunct to the traditional juvenile justice system for first time teen offenders. For more information, visit website our www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at (925) 337-7175

Shot Clinic

Axis Community Health has scheduled free immunization clinics for chil-dren on January 10, February 7, and March 7, 2009 from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Avenue, between Main and First Streets in downtown Pleasanton.

Saturday Immunization clinics are open to all Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured, including those enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care. Parents should bring child's immunization records and information about family income and medical insurance. There is a fee for some immunizations.

Immunizations by appointment are also available at (925) 462-1755.

Child Care Programs

Child Care Links provides free workshops to employers in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin

Workshop facilitators will provide valuable information on important issues to parents at their work site. Workshops are available on a variety of topics and can be tailored to the needs of employees. The length of each workshop can range from 45 minutes to 2 hours. Workshops can be during the lunch hour, or at another time arranged by the employer. Child Care Links can

also provide a series of workshops. Training Topics include: Choosing Child Care, Parenting Skills, Child De-

velopment, and Work/Family Balance. A Child Care Links facilitator will present the curriculum, related handouts, resource materials and answer questions. Child Care Links' staff is available during business hours to answer further questions, provide free child care referrals and community resources

Employers or employees are en-couraged to call for further information on this free service. For more information contact Shauna Brown at (925) 249-3925. There is no charge for this service.

Arithmetickles

"Math + Fun = Arithmetickles" that's the educational idea behind a unique in-school assembly program that's coming to Northern California's K-8 schools in January.

Arithmetickles is a one-of-a-kind, interactive touring show that for 12 years has taken the fear out of numbers at elementary and middle schools in 26 states nationwide.

Livermore's Marylin Avenue Elementary (800 Marylin Avenue; 925-606-4724) will host daytime assemblies of this acclaimed math show on Tuesday, January 20 at 9 and 10 a.m. Arithmetickles takes math "off the

page and onto the stage" by blending fast-paced theater games, audience participation, improvisation, mime, puzzles, skits, and stand-up comedy to capture the attention of school children ages six to fourteen.

Produced by ArtsEcho (a national nonprofit arts organization founded in 1987), Arithmetickles demonstrates that numbers, shapes, percentages, fractions, and logic are a vital part of our everyday lives. The performance shows kids how to creatively explore and solve math problems in real life situa-

LeapFish Search Engine

LeapFish, a multi-dimensional search aggregator, launched of its beta search engine, LeapFish.com, that promises to conveniently surprise us-ers with new-found search information as it combines the best of the web in a single search. Type in a search term and LeapFish

instantly delivers a plethora of relevant results from Google, Yahoo, and MSN, along with blogs, news, Q&A, videos, images and shopping results from major online destinations including Ebay and YouTube, all conveniently organized in a single, easy to use interface.

"The growing complexity and va-riety of the Internet has naturally fragmented data accessibility online. Today's users are driven to utilize more than one online destination to find the data they seek," said Behnam Behrouzi, President and CEO. "LeapFish offers a

ance repair, private investigator,

private security, burglar alarm,

repossession, locksmith, security

guard, baton and firearm train-

ing, hearing aid dispenser, and

one-stop convenient solution for more complex searches by querying the web's most sought-after destinations and rendering the results to users in a surprisingly easy-to-use format." LeapFish features a clean interface

with search widgets that display up-tothe-minute news, images, videos and more, on every search term. Click "see more" under a search widget and view a complete list of relevant results.

Behrouzi points out that LeapFish does not intend to race alongside Google or Yahoo, but instead seeks to leverage what is already working and wanted online. "LeapFish utilizes what already works to capture the breadth and variety of the web and lends more accessibility to what is already valuable to us in the vastness of the Internet," he says. LeapFish utilizes proprietary hyper-

threading technology to communicate with all major online portals simultaneously to deliver the various search results from across the web to users in a single search query. The beta search platform has been under development since early 2008 and is geared for considerable advancements over the coming months.

'Invention of Air'

Bestselling author Steven Johnson will be featured in a Thurs., Jan. 15

program at the Pleasanton Library. In his book, "The Invention of Air," Johnson recounts the story of the Joseph Priestley, a man who embodied the relationship between science, religion and politics for America's Founding Fathers.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. in the library's meeting room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. 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 cofounder of the online magazine FEED and is a contributing editor to Wired.

Towne Center Books will sell "The Invention of Air" at the event. For presale information call 925/846-8826. This program is free and open to

everyone. For more information about the library program call 931-3405.

Garden Docents

The City of San Ramon is looking for adults interested in becoming garden docents for the school tour programs at Crow Canyon Gardens.

The school tour programs run in the fall and spring seasons, September to November and March to May. The programs consist of age-appropriate, 1-hour tours in the gardens for stu-dents, grades K-5. The programs run weekday mornings. Training sessions

will be held by appointment. Crow Canyon Gardens is located at 105 Park Place in San Ramon, behind Mudd's Restaurant, just off of Crow Canyon Road. Crow Canyon Gardens is an organic 7-acre garden site that is dedicated to educating the public about organic gardening practices in a beau-tiful natural setting. There is a demon-stration garden, community garden plots and a natural riparian area. Students will learn about natural science. including organic gardening concepts

in a peaceful setting. Those interested in becoming a garden docent, please contact Jessica Palacios at (925) 973-3213 or (925) 314-0362 or email her at jpalacios@sanramon.ca.gov.



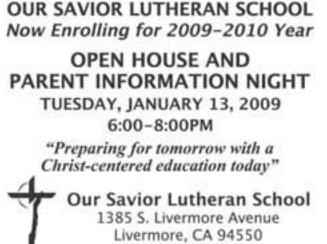
Dublin Center

(corner of Dublin Blvd. and Tassajara Rd.)

A Sutter Health Affiliate



The Go Green Environmental Club of Christensen Middle School (students in photo) in Livermore did their part this fall to clean up local waterways. With the help of Leslie Koenig from the Alameda County Conservation Partnership's Handson-Conservation Program and the City of Livermore, students collected trash along the Arroyo Las Positas on September 20th to support Coastal Clean-up Day. The garbage pulled from the creek and banks filled a dump truck to the top. The Conservation Partnership, City of Livermore, and LARPD organized a second clean-up along Altamont Creek, with students from Altamont Creek Elementary School joining the middle school students. During both activities, students noticed a high amount of pet waste near the water. "I wish people would clean up after their pets and pick up their trash," commented one student. "The water in this creek is part of our drinking supply!" Pet waste is a neighborhood nuisance and a carrier of potential illness into our streams and rivers. To prevent this from occurring in local creeks, take a plastic bag or pooper scooper along and pick up your pet's waste. Once you pick up the waste, put it in the trash. For more information on the Conservation Partnerships Hands-on- Conservation Program, please visit www.acrcd.org and click on youth education.



Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

The clinics will take place at Axis Pleasanton Clinic only, 4361 Railroad

Pleasanton to Provide Help for Consumers

ment of Consumer Affairs. The

program is responsible for resolv-

ing consumer complaints that

pertain to the following indus-

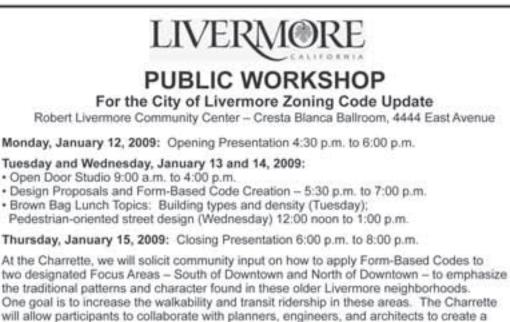
tries: automotive repair, home fur-

Pleasanton residents can ring in the New Year by learning about their consumer rights at a new Consumer Affairs Clinic offered through the Pleasanton Senior Center, located at 5353 Sunol Boulevard. Hosted by the Department of Consumer Affairs, the clinic will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning on Tuesday, February 3.

Residents can call (925) 931-5365 to make an appointment with a Consumer Affair counselor who will assist in resolving consumer specific issues. The type of disputes typically handled through the program relate to refunds, repair/rework, service, product exchange, electronic and appliance service contracts and warranty issues.

This free Complaint Resolution Program is part of the Consumer and Community Empowerment Division of the Depart-





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

vision for the Focus Areas, including the character and scale of future development.

THE CURE FOR COMMON MEDICINE

Foundation

🔬 Palo Alto Medical

Second Floor Conference Room pamf.org

Community Education Programs

January 2009

4050 Dublin Boulevard

Featured Lecture



Understanding Your Body: Fertility and Pregnancy Planning Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

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



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.

Sinv Jr. MD. **RMF Approductiv** Endodrinology and Fartility

Upcoming Lecture



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.

Nitarijan Kamik, M.D., Ph.D. FIMME Psychiatry and Elehavioral Health

PAGE 8 - The Independent, JANUARY 8, 2009



The Stanford Woodwind Quintet

Stanford Woodwind Quintet Performs at Bankhead Theater

Del Valle Fine Arts presents The Stanford Woodwind Quintet in concert on Saturday, January 17, 8 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater.

Formed in 1988, this quintet-flutist, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and French horn- includes principal musicians from Bay Area musical establishments such as the San Francisco and San Jose Operas and the Midsummer Mozart Festival Orchestra; all are faculty members at Stanford University. Quintet members are Alexandra Hawley, flute, James Matheson, oboe, Mark Brandenburg, clarinet, Rufus Olivier, bassoon and Lawrence Ragent, horn.

The January 17 program includes pieces by Antonia Vivaldi and more recent pieces by Jacques Ibert, Jean Francaix, Robert Muczynski and Frigyes Hidas.

Reviewers have cited the palpable enthusiasm of these versatile players and the warm audience rapport established by their informative commentary on the music.

Tickets are \$29, \$24, \$19. Children and students through high school are admitted free. Day of concert tickets for college students are \$10. Online tickets and more information are available at 925-447-2752 www.livermoreperformingarts.org, www.delvallefinearts.org and www.avedisconcerts.org/HTML/ SWQBio.html.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

Two Events Planned in Pleasanton to Celebrate Chinese New Year

To celebrate the 2009 Chinese New Year and to promote Chinese cultural heritage, the Chinese American Cooperation Council (CACC) is hosting the Sixth Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day at the Amador Theater and Amador Valley High School.

The Sixth Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day features two distinct programs on two different days.

Chinese New Year's Eve Gala will be held Jan. 24 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Amador Theater. It will feature VIP introductions, awards and a professional stage performance. Tickets (\$10-\$15) are on sale in the CACC Chinese School office on Sunday, Jan. 11 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. To order tickets online go to www.caccusa.org. For more information, send an email to newyear@cacc.usa.org or call Jane at 925-577-5850.

Chinese New Year's Carnival with food and entertainment will be held Feb. 15 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Amador Valley High School. There is

Dublin's New Poet Laureate to Host First Reading

The City of Dublin will host its inaugural poetry event on Sun., Jan. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. Dublin's Poet Laureate, Ronnie Holland, will host the event. It will feature poets Rebecca Foust and Jeff Knorr.

The program will be held at the historic Old St. Raymond's Church, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. It will include complimentary refreshments and an open mic segment. Admission is \$5, free to students with ID.

Holland is Dublin's first poet laureate, appointed for 2008-2010. She has lived in Dublin since 1982. She is a published poet, has a degree in English from California State University Hayward (East Bay), and draws her inspiration from folklore, the environment, relationships, and travel. Holland serves as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of the literary arts by providing poetry at civic events and collaborating with

other regional poets laureate, literary groups and organizations.

Foust won the 2007 and 2008 Robert Phillips Poetry Chapbook prizes and was a finalist for poetry's 2007 Emily Dickinson Award. Nominated for two 2008 Pushcart Prizes, Foust's recent poetry appears or is forthcoming in Atlanta Review, Nimrod, North American Review, Spoon River, Women's Review of Books and elsewhere. She lives in Northern California.

Knorr is the author of three books of poetry, The Third Body (Cherry Grove Collections, 2007), Keeper (Mammoth Books), and Standing Up to the Day (Pecan Grove Press). His poetry and essays have appeared in numerous literary journals and anthologies. He lives in the central valley. He is professor of literature and creative at Sacramento City College.



the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore. The program will feature regional works from such areas of the world as Spain, Brazil, and Argentina. Works are by composers Sor, Albeniz, Piazzolla, Pereira, and others. The concert begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person. They can be purchased at the door. The Bothwell Arts Center is at 2466 8th Street, Livermore. For information, call 925-447-ART. Specializing in Classical, Brazilian, Flamenco, Bossa Nova, and Jazz musical styles, Glenn has been performing as a soloist and accompanist for 25 years. He has studied with outstanding mentors and instructors such as Dusan Bogdanovic, Rey de La Torre, Julian White, and Bill Tapia.

For additional information, go to www.ci.dublin.ca.us.

Valley Concert Chorale, will hold auditions by appointment on Mon-day, January 12 and 26, at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. The church is located at the corner of 4th and L Streets. The Chorale is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Chorale performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, and folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205.

Cuda Ridge Wines hosting a tasting at First Street Wine Company on Thursday, January 15th from 6:00 - 8:00. Cuda Ridge winemaker, Larry Dino, will be pouring the 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2005 Cabernet Franc, and 2005 Merlot. There is a small tasting fee of \$5.00. All of these Cuda Ridge Wines are available for sale at First Street Wine Company. First Street Wine Company is located at 2211 1st Street near the flagpole. Go to www.CudaRidgeWines.com for more information

Artist Show & Tell Night at the Bothwell Arts Center, Tuesday, January 13, 7:00 pm. All artists are welcome. Bring a drink or snack. This is a chance to obtain advice and feed-back on works completed or inprogress. Bothwell is located at 2466 8th St, Livermore. Questions email Linda Ryan at lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org, or call 925-337-0567.

Broadway Chorus, a community chorus located in the Tri-Valley area, seeks new members to join the 80member group. No prior singing experience is necessary although an ability to read musical scores and experience singing within a chorus is preferred. Those interested should attend the first practice session for the 2009 season which will be held Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the Ridgeview Dining Commons, 5200 Case Ave., Pleasanton. The room is located directly across Case Ave. from Pleasanton Middle School. Broadway Chorus is part of the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, formerly known as Pleasanton Playhouse www.broadwaychorus.org. Seventh Annual Youth Music Festi-

hold auditions on Wednesday and

Thursday, January 14 and 15, 2009,

between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. All

auditions will take place at the

Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita

Road, Pleasanton. Solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and in-

strumental ensembles, ages 18 and

under, are welcome to audition. Rock

bands are not included in the Festi-

val. Audition appointments are required and may be made by calling (925) 931-3481. Performance date

is Friday, February 20, 2009, at 8:00

The Wild Vine, Trish Fenton is the

featured artist for the month of Janu-

ary at the Wild Vine Gallery. Fenton

will display her expressive and allur-

ing females. She uses collage to cre-

ate 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

Kai Gleusteen and Catherine

Ordronneau, 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.

2 to 4 p.m. \$3. 6600 Donlon Way,

Movies at Old St. Raymond's, Jan. 10,

St., Livermore

p.m. at the Amador Theater.

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 931-344 caboxoffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. 931-3444,

Masked Marvels & Wondertales, Sun., Jan. 11, 2 p.m. Bankhead The-ater, 2400 First St., Livermore. LVPAC Presents Michael Cooper's one-man show. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org Keyboard Conversations®, Concerts with Lively Commentary, Jeffrey

Siegel, Pianist, Tuesday, January 13, at 8 p.m. Program: "The Longev-ity of the Short Piece;" Tickets \$45/ \$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org The Power of Flight, Thurs., Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. Livermore Speakers Series features Morton Grosser, who helped design and build components for three human powered airplanes. Tickets are \$30 and \$40. 373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Irvin Mayfield and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra All Stars, Friday, January 16, at 8 p.m., spirited, swing-ing, 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., down-town Livermore. 373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org. The Underpants, Role Players Ensemble, Danville, Jan. 16-Feb. 7. 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 his-tory 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.sanramonpeformingarts.com by phone at (925) 973-ARTS, or the night of the show, 1 hour prior to performance.

Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Civic Arts Presents tickets available at 931-3444, caboxoffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Guys and Dolls, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Play-house), 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 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellow ship Breakfast, Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Radisson Hotel, Dub-lin. 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 ben-efit 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 groups playing the hits of the Drifters and Del Vikings. Tickets \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., (continued on page 11)

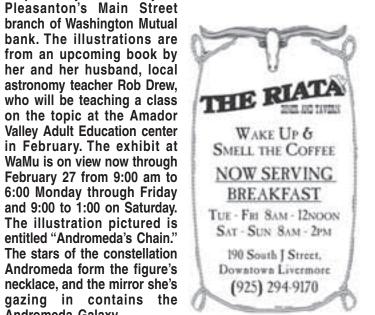
'The Snow Queen' Performance Set

The Russian Children's Theater will stage a children's enactment of the classic Hans Christian Andersen fairytale, The Snow Queen at the Pleasanton Library on Sat., Jan. 17.

The 11 a.m. performance, about 45 minutes long, features children acting and singing in Russian. They will be accompanied by a storyteller providing English narration.

This performance is best suited for children ages 4 and older. No registration is required.

For information on additional library activities and events, visit the library website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library/programs-and-events.html or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 extension 8.



no admission charge.

Events during the festivities include cooking demonstrations and food tasting from 5 to 6 p.m.; food shows and competitions from 5 to 6 p.m.; a potluck dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; festival performances, vendor booths, children's games and raffles from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Chinese dishes range from from the Xinjiang BBQ Lamb to special Taiwanese food. Local chefs and cooks will share their knowledge, skills, and favorite dishes. Those planning to attend the Feb. 15 event are asked to RSVP at www.caccusa.org.

Amador Theater and High School are located at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

This celebration has become a tradition in the Tri-Valley area and the largest Chinese community event since it was first introduced in 2004. The last five Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day celebrations were huge successes with packed audiences from Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and other neighboring cities.

Talk Focuses on Collectors & Collecting

"Collectors and What They Collect" is the title of a lecture to be presented at 7 p.m., Thursday, January 15.

The talk is sponsored by Pleasanton's Museum On Main. It will be held at the Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. The lecture is one in the Ed Kinney Lecture Series.

John April, who collects trains, will talk about many different types of collectible trains and how Boy Scouts can earn a train merit badge. Charles Huff will talk about his vintage license plate collection.

Items from both collections will be on display at the museum, 603 Main Street, beginning January 16.

No lecture reservations are necessary. Admission is \$5 for museum members and \$10 for non-members. Memberships will be available for purchase that night.

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.

Best Children's Films to Be Screened

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.

The Children's Film Festival Review 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.sanramonpeformingarts.com by phone at (925) 973-ARTS, or the night of the show, 1 hour prior to performance.

val, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will

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., Livermore. 925-373-6800, 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.atthegrand.org or 209-831-6858. Folksinger John McCutcheon, per-

forms Mon., Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m. at St James Episcopal Church (37051 Cabrillo Ave. at Thornton in Fremont). McCutcheon sings and plays traditional as well as original tunes. Tickets \$25, \$15 for children ages 12-5, children under 5 admitted free. To purchase tickets, call the St. James' office at 510-797-1492 or visit St. James' Episcopal Church on Sundays 9am-12:30pm: 37051 Cabrillo Ter-race (at Thornton), Fremont. For information, visit www.saintj.com or www.folkmusic.com

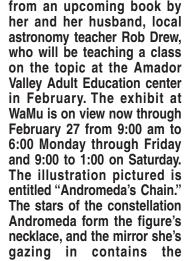
ScrapArts Music, five musicians play over 140 instruments fashioned from industrial scrap. Jan. 23, 8 p.m.

LIVERMORE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 36th Annual Crab Feed • Jan. 17, 2009

4444 East Avenue, Livermore • Starts at 5:00 PM Live Music by OpenRoad • Ticket Donation \$40 Ticket Info., Call Steve Wilson at 925-487-8541

Real Estate Market update available at www.Livermorehomes.com

LIVERMORE	CIN	EM	AS	2490 First Street 443-SHOW	
GRAN TORINO (R) DLP		1:10	4:00	6:50	9:30
BRIDE WARS (PG) DLP	12:10	2:20	4:45	7:15	9.25
THE UNBORN (PG13) DLP	12:25	2:40	5:00	7.25	9:40
VALKYRIE (PG13) DLP		1:20	4:00	6:45	9:45
MARLEY & ME (PG) DLP	12:40	1:40	3:15	4:25	6:40
			7:20	9:15	9:55
DOUBT (PG13) DLP			4.25	7.05	9:30
BEDTIME STORIES (PG) DLP	р	12:05	1:00	2:30	3:50
			4:50	6:30	9:00
THE CURIOUS CASE OF E	ENJAM	IN BUT	TON (PC	313) DLP	20120
		12:00	3:30	7:00	8:00
SEVEN POUNDS (PG13) DU	p	12:50	4:10	7:00	9:50
		12:00	2:10	4:20	
YES MAN (PG13) DLP			4:40	7:10	9:35
THE DAY THE EARTH STO	OD STI	LL (PG13	3) DLP	6:40	9:00
BOLT (PG) DLP		12:35			



Elaine Drew is showing a

collection of illustrations

inspired by astronomy at







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.

Peace and Healing Through Action: the Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. January 19th at 10:30 am UCC Livermore 1886 College Ave. Program will highlight the stories of local peacemakers who have been touched by the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. and how anyone can make a profound impact in their community. There will be coffee at 10 am and a march to downtown at 11:30 am. This event is sponsored by the Tri-Valley Peace Network. For questions please call 925-433-7184 or 925-449-6820.

15th Annual Burns Supper, Pleasanton-Blairgowrie-Fergus Sister City Organization celebrates Robert Burns' 250th birthday, Jan. 31, at the Pleasanton Marriot 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd., Pleasanton. 5:30 p.m. no host bar/registration, 7 p.m. dinner. Advanced registration required by Jan. 17, no refunds. Burns is known as the "Bard of Scotland." For information go to PBSCO.org and print out the flyer. For information, call Kathy Tollworthy, 462-6378 or Malcolm Carden, 510-654-7627.

Protest against the Defense of Mar-riage Act will be held in Livermore at 11 a.m. on January 10th, at the intersection of South Livermore Ave and First Street

Tri-Valley Democratic Club, meets 7 p.m. January 19 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin. Election of 2009 officers followed by speaker Craig Cheslog, Chief of Staff for Assembly member Tom Torlakson. He speaking about "Death by a thousand cuts," the latest on the state budget. Information, www.trivalleydems.com.

Recognizing depression and suicidal warning signs, Teens, learn how to help yourself or your friends by the signs. Discussion and social program designed to increase knowledge and confidence for teens and their peers. Program Thurs., Jan. 29, 6 to 8 p.m. at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Speakers include Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and Mercedes Coleman from Crisis Support Services of Alameda County a local non-profit that provides community education. Snacks and door prizes will be offered. This program is free and presented by the Teen Health Education Club from Foothill High School for teens ages 13-18. 931-3404.

Girls' Youth Group Informational Event held by Job's Daughters Bethel One of Dublin on Sunday, January 25, 2-4pm in the Dublin Library Program Room located at 200 Civic Plaza Dublin. The International Order of Job's Daughters is a organization for young women from ages 10 to 20. Members learn important skills that benefit them now, as well as in the future, such as leadership organization, teamwork and self reliance. For more information or questions, please con-tact Jennifer Christensen at tact at havejl@yahoo.com or 925-371-1648. Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network,

meets Monday, January 19 at 7 p.m. for a member led discussion about detoxing. Learn techniques others use to rid their bodies of toxins. Meet the group at Living Vine Fellowship, 4100 First St., Pleasanton. Event is free for members & first-time visitors. For more information e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com or visit www.holisticmoms.or

36th annual Crab Feed, hosted by the Livermore Knights of Columbus. Sat., Jan. 17 at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Music by Open Road. Social 5 to 5:45, dinner 6 to 7:30, dancing 8 to 11 p.m. Lots of crab, salad, pasta, and cake. Raffles. \$40 before Jan. 22 and \$50 per person after Jan. 22. Ticket information, call Steve and Julie Wilson, 487-8541, Jake and Angel Raposa, 449-1278, or Mark and Claire Duguid, 443-5873.

Read Project tutor, volunteers sought. Training sessions, Jan. 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. and Jan. 31 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Information or to register, 373-5507 or jahardin@livermore.lib.ca.us.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical So-ciety meets Jan. 13. Program: Isabel Nolte speaking about "The Early Pioneers in the Livermore Valley, California Were One Big Family." This book is a genealogical record of many Irish families in the Livermore Valley who intermarried. 7:30 pm, Congre-gation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton, Admission is free

Hearing Loss Association of America,

Club, Sat., Jan. 10, 15-20 miles Carmel and points south, meet 10 a.m. at foot of Ocean Ave., Bob and Bonnie Powers, 828-5299. Sun., Jan. 11, 21 miles, from Livermore Cyclery to bike trails around Livermore, meet 10 a.m., Bob Geady, 980-7989. Wed., Jan. 14, 26.7 miles through Walnut Creek and Pleasant Hill to Martinez waterfront, meet 10 a.m. at Heather Farm Park, Peter and Sharon Culshaw, 932-0790. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring

Retirement: Achieving Your Dreams, ented by Amy Hittner, Professor Emerita at San Francisco State University. Jan. 11, 2:00 pm at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Friends of the Livermore Library Authors and Arts program. For information call 373-5505.

Mariachi historian Jonathan Clark presents a multimedia presentation, Origins of the Mariachi, Jan. 18. He traces the roots of mariachi music from the 16th century to the present--instruments and attire, urbaniza-tion, the female presence in mariachi music and the US mariachi movement. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore. Ave. Friends of the Livermore Library Authors and Arts program. For information call 373-5505.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club meets Thursday, January 8th, 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.

Service news, Air Force Airman Ryan T. Coakley has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of William Coakley of Livermore. Coakley is a 2008 graduate of Granada High School, Liver-

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, is sponsoring a candlelight vigil in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, downtown Pleasan-ton, January 14, Wednesday, at 7 p.m. The vigil will be followed immediately by a peaceful march to City Hall. Those attending will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Questions?? Contact Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net.

Student news: Names of students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll Fall term have been announced by Oregon State University. Students on the Honor Roll included: Dublin, 3.5 or Better: Lisa M. Baptiste, freshman, Animal Sciences. Liver-more, Straight-A Average: Claire C. Pierce, senior, Exercise and Sport Science. Liver-more, 3.5 or Better: Austin D. Miller, freshman, Political Science. Pleasanton, 3.5 or Better: Sarah E. Cooley, senior, Elect & mputer Engineering. 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 Se-Ĉenter at 925-931-5365. nio

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. Girasole 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 Case 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 website, visit our webs amadorvalleyquilters.org. http://

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 Transpublic and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle and carry personal automobile liabil-ity insurance. Please contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at (925) 931-5387 or email: 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 informa-

NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

5565 Tesla Road, Livermore

Ca 94550 is hereby registered

Portico Arts, Inc., 5565 Tesla

This business is conducted

The registrant began to trans-

act business under the ficti-

tious business name (s) listed

above on February 8, 2008.

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

on December 15, 2008. Ex-

pires December 15, 2013.

Signature of Registrant:

road. Livermore Ca 94550

by:a Corporation

/s/:Karl Wente

by the following owner (s):

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., 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, Lunch and movie in Dublin, Jan. 20, 11:30 a.m., call Kathy at 398-8005 by Jan. 18. Happy hour in Castro Valley, Palomares Cafe, Jan. 23, 4 p.m., call Vea at 510-782-4168 by Jan. 21. Crab feed dinner in Lviermore, St. Michael's School, Jan. 24, 5 p.m., \$40 open event, call Hilda 398-8808 with payment ASAP. Lunch in Sunol at Bosco's Bones and Brew, Jan. 28, Lapm. call Ginny, 655, 5625 by Jan. 26,

1 p.m., call Ginny 656-5625 by Jan. 26. 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. ValleyCare 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.

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. Be-

gins in late January. 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.WhiteCraneWinerv.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 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 Cen-ter, 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@vom.com. White Elephant Sale, Saturday, March

7, and Sunday, March 8. Hours are 10-4 both days 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. 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 Tur-bulent 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

Ravenswood Historic Site, operated by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. Ravenswood, is a restored Victorian country estate. The public is invited to join free tours noon to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Sundays of each month except December, with the last tour starting about 3:15 p.m. on tour d are a featuring unique Victorian gift items and the Ravenswood Progress League's Tankhouse Tea Room. Ravenswood is located at 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. For more informa-tion, call 925-443-0238 or visit the LARPD Web site at www.larpd.dst.ca.us. RELIGION Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Informa-

tion, call 447-6282

United Christian Church, 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information. 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 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore as part of 2008-2009 L.I.F.E. (Lessons in Faith Experiences) adult education series. Lisa Fullam, ThD, 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 upcatholic@aol.com or 447-4549 ext. 114.

Dealing with loss, of loved one, sessions second and fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

OBITUARIES

Susan Sarah Reckas

At rest after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's, Susan Sarah Reckas, artist, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, business owner, teacher and animal lover, died on January 4, 2009. Her family was by her side. She was a Pleasanton resident.

She was born January 31, 1911 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Jasper E. Searles and Gertrude Koontz Searles. Susan was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Past Worthy Matron, 1000 Oaks Chapter, Berkeley. She, along with her husband, Nick, owned and operated Hi Fashion Fabric and Sewing Machine Store in Albany. She taught sewing in Albany Adult Education for 30 years. Susan and her husband retired to Pleasanton in 1973.

Susan was preceded in death by her husband Nicholas Peter Reckas in 1994. They had been married for over fifty years. She was also preceded in death by a brother Jasper Eugene Searles, sisters Nina Searles Thomas, Marcia Searles Core, Margaret Searles Collins and sister-in-law Edith Walkup Searles.

She is survived by daughters Stephanie R. Morgan, Jackie Reckas-Reteles (Sam) and "Mama Reckas" to Robbie Ebey-Bush. She is also survived by five granddaughters and six great grandchildren.

A special thanks goes to Terry and Grace and the staff at Pleasanton Guest Home for their devoted care of Susan for seven and a half years. Thank you to the special Angels of Hope Hospice and the caregivers of Silver Oak Manor.

A memorial service was held January 7 in Pleasanton.

Donations may be sent to Hope Hospice in Dublin or the Alzheimer's Association.

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

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. Preregistration is required. Contact Mark Porter at 846-9693 or mcporter@hotmail.com.

Tri-Valley Lighthouse, Aglow Inter**national**, 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 The Third Jesus, Deepak Chopra's

and by his side. Frank was born

in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. At

age 14, he moved with his fam-

ily to Los Angeles. He was a

proud Army Veteran and was

drafted while still a Canadian citi-

zen, receiving his US citizenship

after his Army discharge. He

worked for 24 years at the

Lawrence Livermore National

Frank loved sports, especially

Laboratory as a Metal Spinner.

the SF Giants and the 49ers. He

enjoyed coaching his children in

Little League and soccer. When

he was not coaching, you could

always find him on the sidelines

watching his children, and later

his grandchildren play their

sports. For many years he was

active in Asbury Methodist

Church, UNCLE Credit Union

Board of Directors and LHS

Linda of Livermore, his son John

(Stacey) of Yuba City, son

Michael (Tama) of San Ramon,

daughter Rina (Bryan) Moran of

Pleasanton and aughter Cynthia

(Cindy) (Bruce) Brown of Pleas-

anton, 5 grandsons and 6 grand-

vate graveside service with his

donations may be made to the

Foundation for Sarcoidosis Re-

search, 122 S. Michigan Avenue,

Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois

4-24 hour in-home care.

Franks' wishes were for a pri-

In lieu of flowers

Frank is survived by his wife

Boosters.

daughters.

family.

60603.

best-selling new book, will be the focus of a study group by Rev. Steve Maynard of Tri-Valley Unity in Dublin. The class will study and discuss not only the book but also the DVD interview series between Dr. Chopra and Rev. Wendy Craig-Purcell, which was recently featured on KQED. The book/DVD study will be held six Tuesday mornings, starting Jan. 20, from 10 to noon, or alternately on Wednesday evenings starting Jan 21, from 7:00 to 9:00. The classes are held at TVU's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. The classes are on a love-offering basis. The book is available at Towne Center Book Store in Pleasanton or in class. Call if interested in attending or for more information (925) 998-0038.

Stretch Ministry 2009 Winter Bootcamp Softball/Baseball Camp and Lead-ership Skills January 23 4-8:30PM January 24 8-8PM January 25 8-4:30PM Valley Community Church 4455 Del Valle Pkwy Pleasanton Sing Up and more info @ GoStretch.org. \$125.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Frank M. McGuire

Frank M. McGuire passed away peacefully at home in Pleasanton December 27, 2008 at the age of 85. He was born Sept. 28, 1923.

Frank was a resident of Pleasanton and a former resident of the greater New York area for 70 years. He attended the University of Virginia and served in the US Navy during WWII as a bomber pilot.

He was a loving father and grandfather who enjoyed spending time with his family. He is survived by his sons Tom (Pat) McGuire, Chris McGuire and Dan (Beth) McGuire all of New York and Tim (Valerie) McGuire of Pleasanton, California; grandchildren Samantha, Colin, Tyler, Jake, Maddie and Nicholas. He was preceded in death by his son Ted, his brothers Edward and Tom McGuire and his sister Kathleen Regan.

A memorial service will be held 10 a.m. on January 14, 2009 at St Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

In Lieu of flowers the family prefers donations to be made in his memory to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568 or the American Cancer Society 7000 Village Pkwy, Suite E., Dublin, CA 94568.

+ Local appointment transportation



Bathing, Grooming & Dressing - Personal Care Home in Wine Country

(925) 443-3101

60 Fenton Street, Suite 4 . Livermore, CA 94550

(Locate Owned and Operated)

ANIMALS

1) CATS/DOGS

925 426-8656.

at 925-243-8000

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for

adoption information contact

To place an ad, call Barbara

Adopt a new best friend: TVAR.

the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

offers animals for adoption ev-

ery Saturday and Sunday, ex-

cluding most holidays. On Sat-

urdays 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 Ra-

mon from 11:00 to 3:00. For

more information, call TVAR at

(925) 803-7043 or visit our

LOST OR FOUND AN ANI-

MAL? Free Section. Call Bar-

bara 243-8000 to place an ad.

website at www.tvar.org

Valley Humane Society at

p.m. at Valley Community Church at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. The program will start at 7:30 PM. The meetings are free. The public is invited. Refreshments are served. The speaker will be Glenn Phillips of the FCC (Federal Communications Commission). He will explain the television differences we will experience with the new HDTV. For more information Email Hiram Van Blarigan at hvanblarigan@hotmail.com or phone at 455-6591.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring

by:an Individua

The registrant began to trans

act business under the ficti-

tious business name (s) listed

above on October 10, 2008.

/s/:Stephanie A. Mendenhall

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

on November 20, 2008. Ex

The Independent Legal No.

2426. Publish December 18

25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418602

The following person (s) do

ing business as: The Fine

Wood Box, 3575 Bernal Av-

enue Apt. D, Pleasanton Ca

94566 is hereby registered by

Marcy Schmidt, 3575 Bernal

Avenue Apt. D, Pleasanton Ca

This business is conducted

Registrant has not yet begun

to transact business under the

fictitious business name or

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

on December 5, 2008. Expires

The Independent Legal No

2427, Publish December 18

25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418928

The following person (s) do-

ing business as:Good Fuels

STOP LEG CRAMPS

Calcet's triple calcium formula is

designed to help stop low calcium leg

cramps. Just ask your pharmacist.

BEFORE THEY STOP YOU.

Signature of Registrant:

/s/:Marcv Schmidt

December 5, 2013.

the following owner (s):

94566

by:an Individual

names listed.

pires November 20. 2013.

Signature of Registrant:

LEGAL

FOR INFORMATION

PLACING LEGAL NOTICES

CONTACT BARBARA @

925 243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418092

The following person (s) do

ing business as:Delightful

Whimsy, 3955 Vineyard Ave

#41, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is

hereby registered by the fol-

lowing owner (s): Teresa Maria Cruz Carns

3955 Vineyard Ave #41,

This business is conducted

by:an Individual Registrant has not yet begun

to transact business under the

fictitious business name or

/s/:Teresa Maria Cruz Carns

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

on November 20, 2008. Ex-

The Independent Legal No.

2424. Publish December 18,

25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418077

The following person (s) do-ing business as:Back in the

Day Mx, 1728 Knoll Ct., Liver-

more Ca 94551 is hereby reg-

istered by the following owner

Stephanie A. Mendenhall

94551

1728 Knoll Ct., Livermore Ca

This business is conducted

C Mission

pires November 20, 2013.

Signature of Registrant:

Pleasanton CA 94577

names listed.

LEGAL NOTICES

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Frank Peter Lego

A resident of Livermore for 42 years, Frank P Lego, age 77, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 29, 2008 with his wife of 47 years and his children

www.independentnews.com

que haya un formulario que

usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontratr

estos formularios de la corte

y mas infornacion en el

Centro de Avuda de las

Cortes de California

(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/

selfhelp/espanol), en la

biblioteca de leyes de su

quede mas cerca. Si no

puede pagar la quota de

prasentacion, pida al

condado o en la corte que le

secretario de la corte que le

(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 nombra, la dirección 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

DATE: (Fecha) December 17, ,2008 Clerk (Secretario) Rosa Junqueiro Bv/s/: Deputy (Adjunto) Polly Khieu

15, 22, 2009.

AUTOS/BOATS/RV/S/TRUCKS

VISA

9)AUTOS WANTED DONATE VEHICLE: RECEIVE \$1000 Grocery Coupon. Your Choice, Noahs Arc - Suppor No Kill Shelters, Advance Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deductible, Non-

Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL*SCAN) DONATE YOUR CAR: Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Va-

cation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (CAL*SCAN) SELLYOUR USED CAR

HERE. Call Barbara at 925-243-8000 OR www.independentnews.com Pay by Credit Card for any Classified or Display ads.

EMPLOYMENT

56) ADULT CARE

CAREGIVERS NEEDED for elder care Light housekeeping errands transportation neal prep personal care. Please fax resume 925 371-8118

60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

100% RECESSION PROOF! Do You Earn \$800 in a Day? Your Own Local Vending Route Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625



(CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NO. 39-2008-00183365-CU-BC-STK NOTICETO CROSS-DEFENDANT:

SUMMONS

(Aviso a Acusado): DAN LARSEN, individually and doing business as IMPE-

RIAL LEASING LTD YOU ARE BEING SUED BY CROSS-COMPLAINTANTS: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO

AUTOMOTIVE FINANCE COR-

and legal papers are served response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call written response must be in a proper legal form. If you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court your responses. You can find these court forms and more information at the California



caso en la corte. Es posible

Self-Help Center selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association Tien 30 DIAS DE

tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte je podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia Hav otros requistios legales. Es recomendable que liame a un abogrado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede liamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpia con los requisitos para obtener sevicios





CAL-ERROFT Rev (200088) Copyright 12 2008 Mission Pharmacel 1

service. If you cannot afford de un formulaio de exencion an attorney, you may be elligible for free legal de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a 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 (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/

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, vou may

your wages, money, and

There are other legal

If you do not know an

attorney, you may want to

call an attorney referral

the court.

lose the case by default, and

property may be taken without further warning from

requirements. You may want

to call an attorney right away.

CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entreque una copia al demandante. Una carta o una liamada telefonica no lo pretegen. Su respuesta por Legal Services, escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procosen su

2405. (CAL*SCAN) real estate auctions 160+ CA Properties January 7th - 28th MANY PROPERTIES AVAILABLE



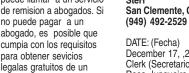
7)WANTED CAT Will Give a

Cat a Good Home Call 925 449-9568

williamsauction.com



(www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California.



The Independent Legal No. 2429. Publish January 1, 8,



155) NOTICES

REAL ESTATE

The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of

1964, and state law prohibit

advertisements for housing

and employment that contain any preference, limitation or

discrimination based on pro-

tected classes, including race

color, religion, sex, handicap

familial status or national ori-

ain. IVPC does not knowinaly

accept any advertisements

that are in violation of the law.

157)APT/CONDOS/HOUSE/

STOP RENTING! Own A Home.

100% Financing. Zero Down

No Closing Costs. Federally In

sured. 1st Time Buyer OK. Call 866-903-8051. Green Planet

Mtg. DOC LIC#4130948.

GOT A HOUSE FOR RENT? Let

the 49.119+ households that

read the Independent find out

about it. . To place an ad go to

www.independentnews.com

or call Barbara at 925 243-

160)BOAT/RV and RETAIL

LOOKING FOR RETAIL

OR STORAGE SPACE?

Freat Location Off Hwy 58

On Kitty Hawk Road

For Details Email:

Pmatharu@lagmail.net

163) HOMES/TOWNHOUSE

FORECLOSED HOME AUC-

TION. Northern California

Sold!

Brochure: 1-800-470-9314

www.USHomeAuction.com

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENT-ALSTO SHARE

RENTYOUR EMPTY LIVING

SPACE By Advertising with The

Independent reaching over

49.119 homes and busi-

nesses with your ad. Call Bar-

176)BUSINESS SERVICES

A BEST-KEPT CLASSIFIED

ADVERTISING SECRET! A 25

word classified ad costs \$550

is placed in 240 community

newspapers and reaches 6 million Californians! Call for

more information (916) 288-6010; (916) 288-6019 w w w. C a I - S C A N. c o m

bara 925 243-8000

SERVICES

(CAL*SCAN)

REDC. (CAL*SCAN)

Homes

Must

Free

(CAL*SCAN)

8000

FOR SALE

1000

TOWNHOUSE/RENTAL

NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS GA

www.independentnews.com

Automotive Sales

People Wanted

We need 10 people who want to make

100K in the next 12 months.

Experienced preferred but will train

the right people. \$6,000 guarantee

for the 1st 90 days for training.

Call or apply online. 925-294-7700,

www.livermoreautogroup.com

VISA

VENDING BIZ w/HUGE Cash Income! Name Brand Beverage & Food. Great Routes. Investment required. 1-888-858-8363. (CAL*SCAN)

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

68)HEALTHCARE

CAREGIVER 1-on-1 home care for elderly. CNA or experienced. Must Drive. Good Pay. CALL 935-9506

71) HELP WANTED

INTERNET SALES MANAGERS Experience preferred but will train the right person Plenty of leads and great hours EOE

Call 925 456 1239

FIREFIGHTERSWANTED. Paid training, good salary, S for School, regular raises, benefits, retirement. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

PART TIME COORDINATOR needed for highly reputed student exchange program. This work from home position requires a motivated individual who enjoys recruiting, training and supervising volunteers and likes working with young people from abroad. Some travel: expenses reimbursed Please call: 1-800-733-2773 veryl@asse.com (CAL*SCAN)

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED

AD call Barbara 925 243-8000 or go on-line at www.independentnews.com

Also available pay by Credit Card for Classified and Display Ads.

72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

DRIVER - CDL Training \$0 down, financing by Central Re-frigerated. Drive for Central, earn up to \$40K/year. Owner Operators average \$60k/Year 1-800-587-0029 x4779. www.CentralDrivingJobs.net (CAL*SCAN)

Driver - West Coast Regional NEW HIRING AREA. Newest equipment on the road. Competitive Pay. Run the Western 11 States On Site - Full Service Maintenance Shop. Reasonable Home Time. Western Express - 22 yrs old. Good MVR, EOE, CDL-A, 1yr. OTR. Call Edna Today! 1-866-863-4112. (CAL*SCAN)

13 DRIVERS NEEDED. Sign-On Bonus. 35-41 cpm. Earn over \$1000 weekly. Excellent Benefits. Need CDL-A & 3 months recent OTR. 1-877-258-8782. wwwMeltonTruck.com (CAL*SCAN)

Vintage ROOFING Sunday Word **Residential • Commercial • Industrial** All Types of Roofing Serving the Tri-Valley Since 1980

ADVERTISE EFFECTIVELY! Reach over 3 million Califor-"NOTICETO READERS: Calinians in 140 community newsfornia law requires that con papers. Cost \$1,550 for a tractors taking jobs that total 3.75"x2" display ad Super \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the value! Call (916) 288-6010; (916) 288-6019, www.Cal-Contractors State License SCAN.com (CAL*SCAN) Board. State law also requires that contractors include their Looking for a cost efficient license numbers on all adverway to get out a tising. Check your contractor's NEWS RELEASE? The status at www.cslb.ca.gov or California Press Release Ser-800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlivice is the only service censed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in with 500 current daily, weekly and college newspaper contacts in California. Questheir advertisements that they are not licensed by the Con tractors State License Board. tions call (916) 288-6010. www.CaliforniaPressRelease

182) LEGAL SERVICES Eviction for Landlord's Only Michael Notaro, Esg. (510) 522-2666 Visit: www.notarolaw.com PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE / CALL-IN Reach over 49,118 homes & usinesses with The Independent, plus online covera

It's easy as 1-2-31 Submit your ad adepen or call Barbara at (925) 243-8000. Service.com (CAL*SCAN)



REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY



Livermore Marketing group ready for New Year

By Cher Wollard

The Livermore Marketing group is starting 2009 with new ideas, a new venue and a new board of directors.

"The marketing groups are great networking opportunities for Realtors and other professionals," said Jo Ann Luisi, a Realtor with Alain Pinel of Livermore and the incoming president of the board of the directors. "We also want to provide education about our community and the industry.'

Even before Luisi and the rest of the new board had taken office, the group was challenged with an immediate need to find a new venue for the meetings.

"The Carvery – new neighbors to the community – offered to let us rent their space," she said. "They have been very gracious and we really appreciate that."

The start of the new year usually attracts large crowds to the Thursday morning meetings. Luisi hopes to capture that first-ofthe-year enthusiasm to grow the organization.

"Our board this year is definitely going to be putting efforts into building membership," she said, adding that they hope to increase attendance with great programs.

The first speakers in 2009 will include a member of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, who will talk about plans for the new outlet mall that will be built off of Isabel Avenue, and a tax accountant, who will bring valuable information for consumers involved in short sale and bank-owned transactions.

The new board also plans to continue offering panel discussions, like those pioneered by the 2008 board, with experts on such topics as "changes in financing," "short sales," "the importance of staging" and "appraisals in a down market."

"I think the past boards have done a wonderful job of attracting really good speakers, and also setting up panels," Luisi said. "We'll certainly continue the use of panel discussions to cover issues that are relevant for our members.

The group has been drawing 60-70 people to its weekly meetings. The new board hopes to encourage more agents and real estate affiliates to attend. The Livermore group will be working more closely with other area marketing groups and working on improving its web presence.

We'll be cooperating with the marketing groups in Pleasanton, Central County and the Tri-Cities to find out about their communities as well. And also to share what works at our meetings," she said.

She said she hopes the marketing group will be able to attract Realtors from other areas as well as Livermore agents who have not been attending the meetings regularly.

Luisi especially sees opportunities for agents with new listings to present the information about those properties to the group.

'A good portion of our meeting is dedicated to agents talking about their new listings and inviting others to visit them on tour. Their listings receive exposure."

"Tour" is the weekly Broker's Tour, in which homes are held open for agents to preview. These tours are held after the Thursday early morning marketing meetings, from about 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Luisi said she has been a member of Livermore Marketing group since she became a Realtor in 2003.

"It has really benefited my career," she said. "It has given me a chance to get to know people I would not have otherwise gotten to know. And I've received information that has been valuable in my business and for my clients. I really do believe in it. I'm hoping that, as president, I can give back.

'The way the industry is now – not just real estate, but all businesses are becoming more more-customer focused. It used to be that you walked into a business and they ignored you, because there was someone else walking in right behind you. We have to learn more so we can serve our clients better. Livermore Marketing can help agents do that." Part of the value of the group in the past couple of years has been in sharing market statistics. The group's Tour Director produces tour sheets - which offer a list of properties open for viewing that week, along with maps and other information - that now include data about Livermore market trends. Tour Director Holly Bruce of Windermere Welcome Home will continue in the role she has had since 2007. "The market statistics are so important, because there is so much information given out in the media that is nationally based," Luisi said. "This market is really a local market, even a neighborhood market.' She noted that much of the broadly disseminated, mostly negative market information pertains more to the Central Valley than to the Tri-Valley. We need to educate ourselves and our clients," she said. "Our market is still strong. The inventory of bank-owned properties is really dropping.



"Prices are down from the high point, but houses are selling." In addition to serving its members, Livermore Marketing group traditionally gives back to the community in various ways.

In 2008, the group raised funds for Open Heart Kitchen, played "Santa" to four local families and contributed to Members Helping Members, a fund for Bay East Association of Realtors members in emergency situations.

One of the more popular fund-raisers was a weekly raffle. But Bay East's attorney has cautioned that such raffles may not meet the state's legal guidelines, so Livermore Marketing is looking for other means to raise money for these charitable causes.

Incoming Vice President Jeff Repine, also with Alain Pinel, is making this his mission for the year.

One possibility is to implement a program he wants to call Realtors for Change, something that is more based on giving back monetarily, but include other ways that don't come from the pocket book.

"Save your change during the week. Then take that money out of your pocket and bring it in to donate," he explained. "Everybody's probably good for two or three or five dollars per week that they wouldn't miss. If you do the numbers, we probably will replace the raffle.'

At the end of the year, the group will decide where to donate the funds raised. Repine said they may partner with the Pleasanton marketing group in this effort.

In addition to Luisi, Repine and Bruce, the 2009 Board of Directors includes: Rick Benitez of Residential Pacific Mortgage, treasurer; Leslie Faught of Alain Pinel and Carolyn Thomas of Cherry Creek Mortgage, correspondence officers; Karen Long of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, affiliate liaison; Gary Koehmstedt of Legacy Real Estate and Associates and Carla Winter of Re/Max Accord as sergeants-at-arms; Randi DeHollander of Vintage Mortgage and Francine Bauer of Placer Title Company, public relations officers; and Sasha Markham of MSR Value, communications officer.

"I think they are a really good group of people," Luisi said. "They are really dedicated and we're committed to helping each other. I'm optimistic we'll make this a really good year for marketing association members.'

The Livermore Marketing group meets Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. at The Carvery, 2491 First Street.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Windermere Welcome Home, Livermore.

1755

Role Players Ensemble Opens 2009 with Comedy

Steve Martin's funny adaptation of Carl Sternheim's 1910 comedy, The Underpants, opens January 16th as the second play in Danville Role Players Ensemble's 25th season.

The Underpants is described as a laugh-out-loud satire on bourgeois manners and customs with a sharp focus on hypocrisy. Area theater goers can't afford to miss this hilarious production.

Performances are at 8 p.m. on Thursdays through Saturdays and at 2 p.m. on Sundays through February 7th at the Village Theatre, 233 Front Street in Danville,

Directed by RPE artistic director Sue Trigg, the play starts with an embarrassing domestic accident, when a young wife's undergarments fall down while she is waving to the royal entourage. The impact on her husband and her marriage is nearly catastrophic as he fears that his career and, more importantly, his social reputation have been damaged beyond repair. "Don't underestimate the power of a glimpse of lingerie," says Theo Maske in The Underpants.

The consequences as the action unwinds are both wonderfully funny and sharply satiric.

'Steve Martin's career as a writer, stand-up comedian, actor and sometime Grammy-winning musician has been extraordinary" said Sue Trigg, the play's director. "Had he concentrated on playwriting, with works like Picasso at the Lapin Agile and The Underpants, he would have been among our greatest writers for the theatre. The Underpants is theatrical comedy at its very best."

This is Sue Trigg's third show as a director after becoming RPE Artistic Director in 2006.

Martin has always believed in the seriousness of comedy and has been winning writing awards since his 1969 writing Emmy for The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour. His writing career has included 1990s pieces for The New Yorker, later published in a collection called Pure Drivel. He is also the author of two novellas,



Xanadu Bruggers as Louise Maske

Photo - Patrick Tracy

The Shopgirl (later a movie) and The Pleasure of My Company. His 2007 memoir, Born Standing Up, was critically acclaimed.

Sue Trigg has assembled an excellent cast for The Underpants. Bonnie DeChant was last seen in RPE's outstanding production of Bus Stop. John Blytt played an unforgettable Sylvia in RPE's Ruthless, The Musical and also appeared in RPE's The School for Scandal along with Xanadu Bruggers and Craig Eychner. Michael Sally has appeared in productions at theatres throughout the Bay Area, including Hillbarn, Hapgood, Chanticleers, Bus Barn, Ross Valley Players, Dragon Productions, Theatre-in-the Woods, and Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Eddie Peabody showed his comedy skills as an ugly sister in RPE's 2005 production of Thinderella.

The Underpants will be staged at Danville's Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. It runs January 16th through February 7th, Thurs. - Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m. Tickets for \$22-25, \$15 for students with ID and groups of 10 or more available at www.villagetheatreshows.com, the Danville Community Center, 420 Front St. Danville, or call (925)314-3400. For information visit www.danvilletheatre.com or call (925) 820-1278.

Award Winning Artist Featured Guest at Artists' Meeting

The Livermore Art Association (LAA) and Pleasanton Art League (PAL) hold their joint monthly meeting, featuring an art demonstration by Bryan Mark Taylor on Jan. 12.

Taylor was the featured in Artist's Magazine's 2007 "25 Under 40" article, which recognizes



& ENTERTAINM

(continued from page 8)

925-373-6800, Livermore. 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 iilock/020103@yabao.com or.coll jjlock080103@yahoo.com or call-ing 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.

Punch Brothers featuring Chris Thile of Nickel Creek fame, Sun., Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore. The acoustic bluegrass Punch Brothers formed by mandolin player Chris Thile of Nickel Creek fame, serve up bluegrass with modern classical composition. The quintet includes Thile, Gabe Witcher on fiddle, Noam Pikelny on banjo, guitarist Chris Eldridge and bassist Greg Garrison. \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students, 925.373.6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Tango Fire, Wed., Feb. 18, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore. Featuring a

quintet of brilliant young musicians, ten torrid dancers and one of Argentina's finest singers, Tango Fire traces the history of Tango, from its origins in the red light district of Buenos Aires to the glamour of the Roaring Twenties, and its evolution to the world of contemporary ball-room, accompanied by the music of Astor Piazzolla and many others. \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. 925.373.6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Tribute to Glenn Miller and Gene Krupa featuring the Tex Beneke Orchestra, Sat., Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore. Experience the 13-piece Tex Beneke Orchestra's showcase of big band classics from Glenn Miller's "In The Mood" and 'Tuxedo Junction" to Gene Krupa's "Sing Sing Sing" and "Don't Be That Way." The evening also stars Mary Lou Metzger, a featured singer and dancer on the Lawrence Welk television series and the recent host of several music specials on PBS. The award winning String of Pearls group rounds out the. Tickets available at 373.6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

O'Neill Foundation to Honor Paul Robeson; Others

Actor, singer and social activist Paul Robeson will be honored Jan. 21 along with two individuals and an institution for work that has embraced and supported the legacy of American playwright Eugene O'Neill and the Danville based foundation that bears his name.

The Eugene O'Neill Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service will present awards at a dinner, open to the public, on Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. Reservations at \$80 per person may be made at 820-1818.

The event will feature a musical tribute to Robeson by bass baritone Lawrence Beamen. Beamen will sing Robeson's trademark song, "Old Man River," and other selections.

Robeson's son, Paul Robeson Jr., and his wife, will be present at the dinner to accept the award posthumously in honor of his fa-

ther who starred in O'Neill plays, including "The Emperor Jones" and "All God's Chillun Got Wings." Two longtime foundation

leaders, Diane Schinnerer of San Ramon and Carol Sherrill of Danville will receive the foundation's "Open Gate Award." The award, which Sherrill helped establish during her 18 years on the foundation's board, is given to individuals who have worked to preserve O'Neill's Tao House estate in Danville, and the playwright's legacy. A special "Partnership Award"

will be presented to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in Danville, "in recognition of working together through exhibits and special community projects to perpetuate the life and literary legacy" of O'Neill.

He is the only American playwright to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature and four Pulitzer Prizes.



The Independent .IANIIARY 8 2009 - PAGE 11

(510) 967-6869 http://www.TheWriteCV.com E-mail: yguzman@TheWriteCV.com







- "Just Like 6%" Service!
- Multiple Color Photos On The M.L.S.!
- Realtor.com Gold Showcase!
- Buyer Rebate Program!

Work Directly With A Local Broker!

Two Full Time Agents Working For YOU With 39 Years Combined Experience And 491+ Homes Sold!

emerging artists on a national scale, and was a finalist in their 2008 national competition. He is an accomplished landscape painter and active in the plein air movement Taylor will demonstrate techniques in oil painting at the meeting.

This is a free event. The public is welcome to attend. The meeting is on Monday, January

SSOCIATE



Bryan Mark Taylor work titled "Lakeside Rockfall."

12, 7:30-9:00 pm at the Almond Avenue School, 1401 Almond Avenue in Livermore. Additional parking is at the rear of the school. For more information visit

the LAA website www.livermoreartassociation.org.

Sellers: Why Pay Thousands of Dollars More to Sell Your Home???

Julie and John Meredith, G.R.I. (925) 447-4200

E-mail: jjmeredith@aol.com · Internet: www.listingmyhome.com

BEAL EST/ Livermore Dublin

 Pleasanton San Ramon

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is listed with another Realtor. Offer expires December 31, 2009

A tradition of excellence since 1971.



PAGE 12 - The Independent, JANUARY 8, 2009 HIGHLIGHTS of 2008 (continued from page 5)

proved by Pleasanton voters. The one race where incumbents were not favored was the Livermore school board where newcomers Stewart Gary and Chuck Rogge were elected. The Livermore school parcel tax was approved by 76 percent of the voters. Steve Goodman and Beth Wilson were returned to the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board. Measure WW, the EBPRD park bond was approved. Democrats won the various Congressional and Assembly races. Joan Buchanan was chosen to represent the 15th Assembly District; incumbents Ellen Tauscher was re-elected to the 10th Congressional District and Jerry McNerney to the 11th Congressional District. John McPartland won the BART District 5 director's seat. Democrat Loni Hancock was elected to the fill the State Senate District 9 seat.

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger visited the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to learn more about a plan to use nuclear waste and lasers to provide clean, abundant energy. The research program aims to produce a demonstration hybrid nuclear power plant by the year 2020.

Rancho Las Positas School in Livermore received a check for \$5000 to purchase physical fitness equipment and \$1000 worth of gift cards for school supplies. The school was the winner of the 2008 Governor's Physical Fitness Challenge Competition for the Bay Area region.

Passage of Proposition 1A on the November ballot meant that the Valley remained in the running for the high speed train proposed to run from southern to northern California. The Valley could see a spur built from the central valley through the Altamont.

Superior Court Judge Frank

Roesch granted a request by Jennifer and Frederic Lin ordering Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho to sign the Oak Grove development agreement. The Lins are the landowners of the property that is the subject of a referendum now making its way through the courts.

The Olivina Gate, Olivina Winery home site and a tree-lined allee that connects the sites were designated as a California Point of Historic Interest by the State.

Livermore took steps to establish plan lines to allow for the widening of I-580. The widening is needed to accommodate the construction of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes and a possible BART extension to Livermore.

Sutter Health purchased 45 acres east of Collier Canyon Road in Livermore. It was the latest medical group to buy land in the Valley. Earlier Kaiser Permanente purchased a site in Dublin.

Alameda County received the 2008 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award for its Juvenile Justice Center, an innovative green building.

The Livermore City Council selected two developers, Federal Development LLC and Holliday Development for further consideration to redevelop the former Lucky Shopping Center in downtown Livermore. The city would conduct a comparative study to create more detailed proposals to be used in selecting a final developer.

DECEMBER 2008

New cable TV 30 executive director Melissa Tench-Stevens said she hoped to expand programming.

The downturn in the economy lowered the estimated cost of building a regional theater in



FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL (925) 667-6054

downtown Livermore. The total project cost to build the theater was reduced from \$74.3 million to \$70.8 million. LVPAC announced that it had received a new \$2 million commitment to the project, particularly noteworthy, they believe, because of the economy. LVPAC has secured approximately \$9 million toward the five year \$20 million capital and annual fund-raising goal.

The Livermore City Council voted to combine the functions of the Planning Commission and Design Review Committee. All current members of both would serve on the new Planning Commission. The number of commission members would decrease through attrition. Final size is to be determined. There would be either 5 or 7 members.

The Pleasanton City Council adopted both hillside protection measures approved by voters in November. Measure PP, which qualified for the ballot through the initiative process, received the most votes, so its provisions would prevail if there were any conflict between the two measures.

The Livermore School District and Livermore Education Association reached agreement on a new contract that would run through the 2010/11 school year. The agreement covered salary increases and health benefits. The raise is 2 percent retroactive to July 1, 2008, with another 2 percent raise Jan. 1, 2009 and a third increase of 0.53 percent on July 1, 2009.

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation delivered a check to the city for \$275,000, bringing the total donated by the Foundation towards the construction of the Firehouse Arts Center to \$500,000.

Marvalice Faltings was elected president of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board.

The Pleasanton City Council approved a proposal to sell new burial sites at the city's Pioneer Cemetery. There would be 200 two person plots and 200 niches. Pleasanton residents would be given preference to purchase the sites for the first six months they were available.

The Pleasanton Hotel restaurant announced that it would close its doors on January 1, 2009. The restaurant had been at the site for twenty five and a half years. Future plans for the his-toric building were not announced.

Livermore is to take part in a national survey of homeless people on January 27. Volunteers are to be trained on January 20 at UC Berkeley.

The Livermore Library announced selection of the book, "In Defense of Food," for the annual Livermore Reads Together program.





Reviek Lane

Home of the

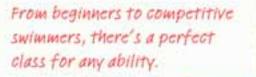
"We love coming to swim class...

It's smiles all around at American Swim Academy where kids and adults of all ages and abilities come to improve their swim skills. Classes are available year-round, 7 days a week, in comfortable indoor pools where the water's a cozy 92 degrees.



Our Aqua Bables program for infants 6 months and older is a fun parentparticipation class designed to make your child comfortable in the water and safe at pool-side.

NCAN SWIM ACADEMY







We keep class sizes small - usually no more than 4 students per class - so every student receives personal attention. And our instructors are all fully trained and CPR certified!



Call or log-on today for more information!

No.4 customers! Bring in this ad for a

Equires 1/31/09

LIVERMORE • DUBLIN FREMONT • NEWARK

ACADEMY

AMERICAN

1.800.810.SWIM www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com