



## Find Out What's Happening

**Check Out Section A**  
Section A is filled with information about arts, people, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board.

# Driest Year in Water Record History Is Having An Effect

By Ron McNicoll

Last year went into the record books as the driest year since rainfall totals have been tallied in the Valley.

Zone 7 Water Agency general manager Jill Duerig said that 4.5 inches of precipitation were measured for the year at a station in Livermore. That's virtually

the same as the 2013 depth recorded on a private website that shows 4.16 inches at an amateur weather station located at a home in the south Pleasanton hills.

Duerig said that the Zone 7 reading of 4.5 inches was 32 percent of average annual rainfall. Previous record low at the same station was 6.4 inches (44 percent of aver-

age) in 1975. Zone 7 came into existence in the 1950s. However, Valley records from other sources date back to the late 19th century.

Duerig said that Zone 7 is in good shape when it comes to water storage. There is one to two year supply, if all outside sources of water fail to be available to the Valley. Ranchers, though, are

already hurting. John Greci, a Zone 7 board member who has had a house in the Livermore hills for the past 50 years, said that his spring dried up this year. It's the first time he has seen that happen.

Two other properties near him depend on the same spring. Greci has enough tank storage, so he is all

right. However, if the other property owners have not stored up, they could run short. Zone 7 sells water to rural properties that have storage tanks. "It costs just pennies (per gallon), but it costs a lot more to pay truckers to get it there," said Greci.

Greci said there are (See DROUGHT, page 5)

## Film and Discussion Focus on Hunger

Open Heart Kitchen (OHK) will host a free screening of the award winning documentary: A Place At The Table: One Nation Underfed.

The program will be presented on Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. The event is co-sponsored by the City of Pleasanton and the Dublin Rotary Club.

A Place At The Table examines the paradox of hunger in the wealthiest nation on earth, through the stories of three Americans who face food insecurity daily and exposes how hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation. The film includes added insights from experts including hunger activist and actor Jeff Bridges, author Raj Patel, and Top Chef's Tom Colicchio. The musical score features original music by Grammy-award winning indie folk duo, The Civil Wars, and Grammy and Oscar winning producer/composer, T Bone Burnett.

The film will be followed by an overview of hunger in the Tri-Valley presented by Open Heart Kitchen Director Linda McKeever, and a Question and Answer session with the audience.

For more information about the event, please visit [www.openheartkitchen.org](http://www.openheartkitchen.org).

Open Heart Kitchen feeds the hungry every weekday as an interfaith effort. It serves more than 260,000 meals annu-

(See HUNGER, page 5)



Lisa and Jacob Parnell dressed up as a bridal couple before taking the plunge during the annual LARPD Polar Bear Slide. For more photos, go to page 7.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

## Shoppers Drawn to Premium Outlets Seen As Resource

Livermore Premium Outlets attracted between six and nine million visitors in 2013.

Dave Ackerman, Director of Marketing, Livermore Premium Outlets, suggested at a recent meeting of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce economic development committee that local businesses and destination entities could tap into those visitors as a potential source of business.

He said that shoppers come from around the world. They fly into San Francisco and Oakland international airports. Ackerman pointed out that the local outlets welcomed 54 motor coaches from China in October. China tends to be the number one point of origin for international tours.

He said, "We see many guests at Livermore Premium Outlets who have not visited the Tri-Valley or Livermore before. There is an outstanding opportunity to reach these guests and educate them to the opportunities available nearby. Livermore Premium Outlets offers a variety of on-site advertising opportunities that can place information on behalf of local businesses and area attractions in front of our shoppers. Since they are currently visiting the region, it is an easy sell to

(See OUTLETS, page 4)

## Out of This World First Light Images Emergy from Gemini Plant Imager

After nearly a decade of development, construction and testing, the world's most advanced instrument for directly imaging and analyzing planets orbiting around other stars is pointing skyward and collecting light from distant worlds.

Probing the environments of distant stars in a search for planets has required the development of next-generation, high-contrast adaptive optics (AO) systems, in which Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is a leader. These systems are sometimes referred to as extreme AO.

"Even these early first-light images are almost a factor of 10 better than those taken by the previous generation of instruments. In one minute, we were seeing planets that used to take us an hour to detect," says Bruce Macintosh of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, who led the team who built the instrument.

For the past decade, the Lab has been leading a multi-institutional team in the design, engineering, building and optimization of the instrument, called the Gemini Planet Imager (GPI), which will be used for high-contrast imaging

to better study faint planets or dusty disks next to bright stars. Astronomers – including a team at LLNL – have made direct images of a handful of extrasolar planets (those outside our solar system) by adapting astronomical cameras built for other purposes. GPI is the first fully optimized planet imager, designed from the ground up for exoplanet imaging deployed on one of the world's biggest telescopes, the 8-meter Gemini South telescope in Chile.

Macintosh said direct imaging of planets is challenging because planets such as Jupiter are a billion times fainter than their parent stars. "Detection of the youngest and brightest planets is barely within reach of today's AO systems," he said. "To see other solar systems, we need new tools."

Those new tools are installed in the Gemini Planet Imager. In addition to leading the whole project, LLNL also was responsible for the AO system.

Designed to be the world's "most sophisticated" astronomical system for compensating turbulence in the Earth's

(See IMAGES, page 6)

## Measure B Sales Tax Revenue Bonds Rated AAA

Fitch Ratings and Standard and Poor's Ratings Services have both assigned a AAA rating, the highest-possible rating, to the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) sales tax. This AAA credit rating comes just months after independent auditors and the independent Citizens Watchdog Committee publicly reported Alameda CTC's eleventh consecutive year of 100 percent clean audits and full compliance on the delivery of voter-approved programs and projects funded by Measure B for countywide transportation improvements.

Alameda CTC is now the first transportation agency of its kind in the state of California with a credit rating of AAA on a sales tax revenue bond issuance. This rating has the potential to significantly reduce the interest cost over the life of the bonds.

What the AAA credit rating means for Alameda County:

- Early delivery of transportation projects including the BART Warm Springs Extension, BART Oakland Airport Connector (to open this fall), Route 84 Interchange and I-580 Corridor

(See MEASURE B, page 4)



Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club's annual New Year's Day ride ended at the summit of Mt. Diablo. Cyclists posed for pictures after completing the 25 mile climb.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



**BUNNIES AT PETSMA**  
Anna says "Big girls are FUN." She's over 10 lbs of bunny to love. Meet Anna and 12 + bunnies this Saturday from 12-3 pm at the Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. For more info, call 925-519-1723, or email [ebrabbit@comcast.net](mailto:ebrabbit@comcast.net). Visit [www.eastbayrabbit.petfinder.com](http://www.eastbayrabbit.petfinder.com) to see more pet profiles.

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Drop Pebbles into your life, and ripples of love will spread to the farthest reaches of your heart. A petite, friendly gray tabby, 1-1/2-year-old Pebbles will roll along beside you wherever you go. Skip in to Valley Humane Society (VHS) to visit Pebbles today! VHS is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm and Sunday from 11 am - 2 pm. For more information please call (925) 426-8656 or visit [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org).

Photo - Valley Humane Society/D. Smith



# Monte Carlo Themed Gala Raises Funds for Safe and Sober Graduation Celebrations at Livermore High Schools

By Carol Graham

Its name brings to mind opulence and beauty, both natural and man-made.

Glittering seas ripple along the French Riviera toward the shores at the base of the Maritime Alps from which arise Hotel De Paris, Hermitage, and the Place du Casino.

It is Monte Carlo, just one of Monaco's four quarters, but the most exalted due to its glamour, romance and promise.

On Saturday, February 22nd, the spirit of Monte Carlo comes to Livermore for all to enjoy. The Monte Carlo & Auction Evening opens its doors at 7 p.m. for revelers to try their hands at poker, black jack and craps while enjoying finger foods, and bidding on auction items.

However, beyond merely offering the hedonistic pleasures of its namesake, the Monte Carlo & Auction Evening is a fundraiser that provides attendees with an opportunity to do seriously good work: all monies raised support Safe and Sober Grad Nights at Livermore's two main high schools.

"Statistics have shown that students celebrating on the evening of graduation can experience one of the most dangerous nights of their young lives," said Christina Thyrring-Jackson, event co-chair and Granada High School's Grad Night Chair. "Our goal is to save lives by providing a safe and sober celebration. But it's not just about one night, it's about spreading awareness. It takes every parent, teacher and community citizen to help our student community."

Since 1988, parents have spearheaded the grad night events that create a win-win-win for Livermore: graduating students have a fun place to let off steam and celebrate the milestone with friends; parents can rest assured their teens are safe and enjoying themselves; and the community doesn't have to fear being out on the roads, or what the morning's headlines will report.

"High school graduation is a celebratory time for students and families," said Livermore Police Chief Michael Harris. "We know graduating seniors will want to celebrate with friends on the night of their graduation. Oftentimes when teens attend private graduation parties, alcohol is involved and these celebratory events can turn tragic, impacting the entire community. Anything we as a community can do to prevent tragedies from occurring is critically important."

The Monte Carlo & Auction Evening provides the main source of fund-

ing for the Safe and Sober Grad Nights. Although Granada and Livermore High Schools usually maintain a friendly cross-town rivalry, this fundraiser is one night when parents of students from both schools come together for a common cause.

"Parents and members of the community enjoy the concept of bringing together both high school communities for one fundraiser," said event Co-Chair Linda Stanford. "It's an evening of good company, good cheer, and all working towards a common goal of raising money to have a Safe and Sober Grad Night for our high school seniors this year."

The Monte Carlo & Auction Evening will take place at the Robert Livermore Community Center's Cresta Blanca Ballroom from 7 to 11 p.m. Attire ranges from dressy to casual - whatever attendees enjoy wearing. This year's MC will be KKIQ's Steve Fox. Tickets, \$45 beforehand and \$50 at the door, entitle participants to chips for use at the casino along with local fare, while raffles and silent and live auctions are available for additional donations.

"We want the community to get involved through donating, attending the Monte Carlo event, or helping at grad night," said parent Teri Edwards. "Many students can't afford a party to celebrate their graduation, so this also helps with that. Its purpose is to provide a safe, sober and fun environment for our graduates."

Funds raised are split equally between the schools with one exception: each high school will retain the money it earns from auctioning front row seats and convenient parking to its graduation ceremony - a coveted acquisition that often leads to uproarious bidding wars.

"The graduation seating and parking spots are a big hit every year, and it's always exciting to watch the bidding unfold," said Livermore High School's Grad Night Chair Laurie Cano, adding that "We rely greatly on the community for donations. Some of our event sponsors include Orchard Supply Hardware, Office Max, Ising's Culligan, the Altamont Cruisers, Livermore Downtown Inc., and Livermore's two Rotary Clubs."

All monies raised go directly toward providing top-notch grad nights in June. Starting at 10 p.m. and lasting till 5 a.m., events are held at each campus. Themes are kept under wraps to give the teens something to look forward to, but typical activities include hypnotists, karaoke, photo booths,



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Community members are shown at last year's fundraising that benefit both Granada and Livermore high schools.

laser tag, boxer bingo, caricaturists, henna artists, inflatables, sumo wrestling, bungee runs, music and, of course, plenty of food.

"It takes all of us in this community to guide our young people to make the right decisions about drinking and driving," said Thyrring-Jackson. "I'm looking forward to seeing the community come together to support our graduating seniors."

Chief Harris added, "Safe and Sober Grad Night is a fantastic example of citizens taking on the responsibility of ensuring that our youth stay safe. The parents who plan this event have spent countless hours organizing and fundraising, and they need our support."

For more information, visit [lhsgradnight.org](http://lhsgradnight.org), or [granadagradnight.com](http://granadagradnight.com).

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# VALLEY ROUNDUP

## County Adds Budget Website

Alameda County has launched a new Budget Website that breaks down the many aspects of the County's Annual Budget of \$2.7 billion. The website is designed to draw the public's interest and encourage closer examination of how the County finances a broad range of programs and services for its 1.5 million residents – and supports a workforce of more than 9,000 employees.

The new Budget Website, available at <http://budget.acgov.org/>, is the outcome of a long-term effort to support government efficiency and increase civic participation in local government.

The website breaks down the annual budget in ways that appeal to users with a wide range of interests.

The website includes a short video overview that provides key facts about the County and its budget – including population figures, a Budget-at-a-Glance review, and the County's program priorities, how the budget supports community-based organizations, and the County's key accomplishments from the past fiscal year.

It shows details of the County's Final Budget for 2013-14, the County's spending plan for the current fiscal year. The website will be frequently updated as information relevant to Alameda County's current financial picture is produced and as new County Budgets are adopted.

An easy-to-navigate Budget Overview allows the user to review Budget appropriations by program, budget balancing strategies, total available financing by funding source, and an overview of discretionary revenue. For those who wish to drill deeper, the website includes links to a multitude of documents, including all 567 pages of the County's Final 2013-14 Budget.

## Arrests in Mail Thefts

Pleasanton Police arrested four mail theft suspects last Friday.

The police responded from a call from a resident on MacDonald Court who reported seeing a subject removing mail from nearby mailboxes. Officers located a silver 2011 Nissan Versa at the end of Olsen Drive occupied by four male subjects who were not from the area. A consent search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of suspected stolen mail from multiple addresses in Pleasanton, as well as thirteen other cities within Contra Costa, San Mateo, and Solano Counties.

The suspects were arrested and booked into Santa Rita Jail for possession of stolen property, forgery, conspiracy, and drug related charges. They were identified as 18 year old Elmer Aguilar of Concord, 26 year old Gustavo E. Rivas of Concord, 31 year old Ruben J. Ramirez of Concord, and 23 year old David A. Gonzalez of Antioch.

## Election Forum

A forum featuring the Democrats running for the California State Assembly District 16 will be held Thurs., Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Lafayette Library, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

The primary election is set for June 3. The event will be moderated by KTVU reporter John Sasaki. Candidates include Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, Orinda City Councilman Steven Glazer, and Danville Mayor Newell Americh.

Attendees may submit written questions for the candidates. Those running for office will remain after the forum to mingle with the audience.

The event is sponsored by the Democratic Clubs of LaMorinda, Diablo Valley, Tri-Valley, and San Ramon and the Contra Costa Young Dems.

The public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. Information can be found at [www.TriValleyDems.com](http://www.TriValleyDems.com)

## Military Bands Can Perform

U.S. Representative Eric Swalwell (CA-15) announced that his work to allow military bands once again to perform at community events was successful, with the signing into law of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) last month. A provision in the NDAA, based on an amendment Swalwell passed in the House, would fix a bureaucratic problem at the Department of Defense (DoD) that

had been preventing events, like the Scottish Games in Pleasanton, from hosting military bands even when their sponsors agreed to pay the cost.

"I am glad this issue is resolved and military bands can play again at community events. The provision represents a common-sense solution to a needless, bureaucratic problem," said Swalwell. "Residents in my congressional district will once again be able to enjoy the patriotic music of the military bands at the Pleasanton Scottish Games."

Maj. Brooks Wilson, Military Liaison, Caledonian Club of San Francisco, declared, "I am delighted, as we all are, that the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act has been passed and signed. I believe this will be of great benefit to the Caledonian Club of San Francisco and their annual Scottish Games and Gathering in Pleasanton."

Swalwell introduced his amendment after a Marine Corps veteran in his congressional district brought to his attention that the Marine Band San Diego was prohibited from playing at the Scottish Games held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton over Labor Day 2013. The Caledonian Club would have fully funded the band's expenditures as it had in years past.

Earlier this year, DoD changed its prior policy and stopped allowing military bands to perform at community events. DoD claimed that reimbursements from sponsoring organizations were not going to the correct account.

## Express Lanes on I-580

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) are holding a public meeting at 5 p.m. on January 22, 2014, to discuss the upcoming I-580 Eastbound Express Lanes Project.

Caltrans and Alameda CTC propose to convert the existing I-580 eastbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to an express lane facility. The express lanes would allow carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, buses and eligible clean-air vehicles to travel for free, while giving solo drivers the option to pay to use the lanes to avoid traffic. The project limits extend from just west of the Hopyard Road/Dougherty Road overcrossing to just east of the Greenville Road undercrossing in the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton in Alameda County. The total length of the project is approximately 12.1 miles.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide additional congestion relief, enhanced operational and safety improvements, expand the mobility options in the corridor and to implement express lanes in an HOV system in Alameda County.

The public meeting will be held at the Dublin Unified School District Board Room, 7471 Larkdale Avenue, Dublin. The meeting consists of an open house for the public to learn about how the proposed express lanes will work and have the opportunity to talk with members of the project team.

For more information, including an opportunity to view the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment document, visit the I-580 Express Lanes website at [http://www.alamedactc.org/app\\_pages/view/11406](http://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/11406) or the Caltrans website at [www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm).

## Driver Sought

The Livermore Police Department is asking the community's help in locating the driver of a pick-up truck that left the scene of an injury accident that happened early Monday morning on State Route 84 (Vallecitos Road) just north of the main entrance to Ruby Hill.

The vehicle, described as similar to a dark colored Toyota Tacoma pick-up, collided with a black Honda Civic causing the driver of the Civic to lose control. The Honda slid sideways into oncoming traffic and collided with a Jeep. The crash resulted in serious injuries to both drivers.

The driver of the pick-up did not stop and continued northbound on Isabel Avenue.

The Livermore Police Department is seeking possible witnesses to the collision. Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to call Officer Traci Rebiejo at (925) 580-9665.

# Panel to Discuss Senior Housing Opportunities

Senior Housing in the Tri-Valley" will be the topic of a panel discussion as part of the ongoing Coffee and Conversation Lecture Series at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

The discussion will take place on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

The program will be held at the senior center, located at 5353 Sunol Boulevard. It

will feature property managers from several of the major senior housing complexes in Pleasanton who will discuss their respective properties. City Housing Specialist Scott Erickson will open the program with an overview about senior housing in Pleasanton.

The panel will conclude with a question and answer session.

Those attending will learn about the number and type of senior housing units available in the city, their features and amenities, eligibility requirements, and the availability, application and waiting list process for units.

For more information, please contact Amy Statham at (925) 931-5369 or [astatham@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:astatham@cityofpleasantonca.gov).

# Pleasanton to Host Festival to Encourage Volunteerism

The community is invited to the free Make A Difference for Pleasanton Festival 2014. The event will take place from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 18, in the Community Room of the Pleasanton City Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

The community service expo theme is "Get connected, stay connected, through community involvement," encouraging festival visitors to sign up to volunteer. Opportunities will be available for adults, teens, and families.

"The Make A Difference Festival 2014 will take place on the Day of Service that precedes Martin Luther King, Jr. Day," noted W. Ron Sutton, CEO of ACCUSPLIT Make A Difference Programs, co-sponsor of the event. "We have formerly tied the event in with National Make A Difference Day in October, but we wanted to emphasize that doing good deeds should not be limited to only one day per year. Come explore the possibilities."

Organizations participat-

- ing include the following:
- ACCUSPLIT Make A Difference Programs
  - Alameda County CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates)
  - Alviso Adobe Community Park
  - American Cancer Society – Relay for Life
  - American Red Cross
  - Blankets for Kids
  - Boy Scouts of America
  - Bundles of Joy
  - eScrip
  - Hope Hospice
  - JustServe.org
  - Lions Club
  - Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club
  - Museum On Main

- Open Heart Kitchen
- Pleasanton City Library
- Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative
- Pleasanton North Rotary Club
- Pleasanton Police Department
- Senior Support of the Tri-Valley
- Special Olympics
- Tri-Valley Youth Court
- Valley Humane Society
- YMCA

An updated list of participating groups will be posted on [www.CommunityofCharacter.org](http://www.CommunityofCharacter.org). Pleasanton's Community of Character Collaborative is the co-sponsor of the festival.

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## I-580 Eastbound Express Lanes Project

### Notice of Environmental Document Release – Notice of Public Meeting

**WHAT'S BEING PLANNED.** The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) propose to convert the I-580 eastbound high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to an express lane facility. The express lanes will allow HOVs to travel without cost and give solo drivers the option to pay to use the lanes. The project area is from west of Hopyard Road/Dougherty Road to east of Greenville Road in Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore, Alameda County.

**WHY THIS AD.** Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Caltrans, in cooperation with the Alameda CTC, has studied the environmental effects of this project. These studies show that the project would not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that discusses these findings is called an Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration/ Environmental Assessment (IS/EA). This notice is to inform you that:

- The IS/EA is available for review and comment, and
- A public meeting will be held on January 22, 2014, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Dublin Unified School District Board Room, 7471 Larkdale Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568.

A noise study was conducted, and no new sound walls are proposed. Project-level conformity analysis shows that the project will conform to the State Implementation Plan, including localized impact analysis with interagency consultation for carbon monoxide (CO) and particulate matter (PM2.5) required by 40 CFR 93.116 and 93.123. This project is considered a Project of Concern regarding particulate matter (PM2.5) as defined in 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1) and the 2006 U.S. EPA Particulate Matter Hot Spot Analysis Guidance. A detailed PM2.5 hot spot analysis was completed, as required by 40 CFR 93.116 and 93.123, based on U.S. EPA Guidance. The project comes from a conforming Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Comment is requested regarding the project-level conformity analysis, which is included in the IS/EA.

**WHAT'S AVAILABLE.** The IS/EA is available for review online at [www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm) and [http://www.alamedactc.org/app\\_pages/view/11406](http://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/11406) and at these locations:

- Caltrans Office of Environmental Analysis, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612
- Alameda CTC, 1111 Broadway, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94607
- Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA 94568
- Livermore Public Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550
- Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566

**WHERE YOU COME IN.** If you would like to give public comments on the IS/EA, please do so at the public meeting on January 22, 2014. If you would like to submit written comments on the IS/EA, please do so no later than 5 p.m. on February 5, 2014. If there are no comments requiring additional studies, Caltrans will respond to comments received and proceed with the design of the proposed project.

Please submit comments by 5 p.m. on February 5, 2014, to: Valerie Shearer, Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans District 4 Office of Environmental Analysis, P.O. Box 23660, Oakland, CA 94623-0660; email: [valerie\\_shearer@dot.ca.gov](mailto:valerie_shearer@dot.ca.gov). For more information contact Valerie Shearer, Caltrans, at (510) 286-5594.





# EDITORIAL

## Get Involved

Pleasanton will hold a Make A Difference for Pleasanton Festival 2014 on Saturday, January 18 with the theme, "Get connected, stay connected, through community involvement."

The goal is to encourage festival visitors of all ages to sign up to volunteer. Organizations seeking assistance offer a range of interests from Museum on Main to Alameda County Court Appointed Special Advocates to the Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club, and Valley Humane Society.

Originally, the festival was held on Make a Difference Day in October. However, it was moved to the national Day of Service that precedes Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (MLK). Organizers explained they wanted to emphasize that doing good deeds should not be limited to only one day per year.

Taking place each year, the MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service. It is described as a "day on, not a day off." The initiative calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to the nation's most pressing problems.

Pleasanton has organized an event. Livermore maintains a website, volunteermatch.org, that lists organizations seeking volunteers.

Area residents can learn about opportunities to make a difference at the event or the website.

According to organizers of the national Day of Service, helping to be part of the solution empowers individuals, strengthens communities, bridges barriers, and creates solutions to social problems. We agree.

# Focus Is On TVLC Meeting Transparency

By Ron McNicoll

Live streaming of Tri-Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) board meetings is a new goal announced by TVLC CEO Bill Batchelor.

Batchelor told directors at a special board meeting Dec. 28 that it's desirable to stream the meetings in live time, though they would not be archived for on-demand use.

At the meeting, Batchelor said that when board meetings move to the school's library, facilities there will enable streaming.

"At that point, we would restrict the ability of people to come in to record our meetings on their own, and edit and post as they please, just like any other entity does," said Batchelor.

Batchelor apparently was referring to two charter school parents who bring their own camcorders to record the meetings, then post them on the internet.

Asked about whether they edit their recordings, both women told The Independent that they don't. From time to time, there may be battery pack issues that result in discontinuity, said one of the parents, Kathleen Schoening.

The other parent, Tristan Pico, said that she has to continue the camera by hitting the record button every 20 minutes. Sometimes she is so engaged in listening to the meeting that she doesn't get to the button right away.

There are lapses, but no intentional editing.

Since Batchelor's declaration at the board, he has changed his mind. He wrote to The Independent in an e-mail on Jan. 6, "TVLC will not restrict or limit the ability of others to record its meeting unless those actions prove to be a persistent ongoing distraction to TVLC meetings."

"It is the intention of TVLC to direct its stakeholders to our official minutes and video, as we control the quality and consistency and can confirm authenticity," wrote Batchelor.

Batchelor's remark about disruptions was borne out by Peter Scheer, executive director of the First Amendment Coalition, which was founded in 1989. Only disruption would legally justify a prohibition, said Scheer.

As to the content of what appears on-line from the public's records, "the last thing that officers of a school board can do, is to try to control the content of whatever publication someone wishes to make from the recorded material," said Scheer.

If anyone were to edit tapes to prove some point or produce humor, including satire, that's still permissible, said Scheer.

People can run recordings on the internet unedited, or edited as much or as little as they please, said Scheer.

At the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School

District, which has review duties over TVLC, assistant superintendent Chris Van Schaack said in an e-mail, "TVLC has been made aware that the public has the right to tape meetings so long as, by doing so, they do not create a significant distraction or disruption."

Van Schaack has attended 17 charter school board meetings during the past year, and came up with a list of recommendations as part of the public school's duty in monitoring TVLC.

The report was to be presented at the Livermore School District's board meeting on January 7 for discussion. Although the district has oversight duties on TVLC schools, it has no regulatory powers. That is left up to the Alameda County and state, said Van Schaack.

The report checked a total of 264 items for compliance in seven categories. They included fiscal and education operations, governance, facilities, and reporting to state and federal authorities.

TVLC was compliant in 229 points on the checklist. Among the 35 not compliant were 13 in governance, which has to do mainly with the TVLC board and administration.

The report says that most of the items related to non-compliance in governance were linked to the lack of public disclosure of information "that should be public, or the ill-defined relationship between the TVLC CEO, the TVLC board and the LVCS (the k-8 charter school) leadership. It is not always clear who is making decisions regarding the direction of LVCS. The TVLC board's role is not well understood."

"The confusion may or

may not have an impact on the functioning of LVCS, but it creates challenges for parents and other interested community members who seek to understand the current status of LVCS and the direction in which TVLC/LVCS is heading.

"It should be noted, however, that significant improvement has been seen in this area over the past several months," said the report. Agendas are now complete and made public before meetings, "which was not always the case."

"Though the TVLC board meetings appear to be used primarily for the dissemination of information rather than for public discourse regarding important decisions, the TVLC board seems focused on the success of the students, and appears to be functional as a group," says the report.

In line with the progress noted, The TVLC Dec. 28 meeting was devoted in part to an annually required session on the Brown Act, the state's open meeting law. Batchelor, and the board's attorney, Derek Austin, instructed the board concerning confidentiality of such things as personnel sessions and e-mails, including avoidance of having a serial meeting by sending e-mails to other board members about something before the board.

On another item, Batchelor handed out copies to the board and public of an evolving matrix, which contains 19 questions that will help TVLC evaluate schools that want to join TVLC.

The topics range from assessment of a diversified employment base to API scores, to the cash-to-debt ratio of a school to assessment of a school's key leaders.

## OUTLETS

(continued from page one)

have them extend their stay or plan a return visit."

He added, "A shuttle bus would allow visitors the opportunity not only to shop but to discover the region without having to research how to get to different points of interest. It could expose many people to the gems of the Tri-Valley including wine country, vibrant downtowns, world class cuisine, galleries, etc."

Ackerman added, "I think people who have never been to this region would love to experience everything the Tri-Valley has to offer."

He proposed that all local entities pool resources whenever possible to promote the area. He mentioned local Chambers of Commerce, arts organizations, Livermore Downtown Inc. - everyone who can promote the area and has access to business owners and service providers who can benefit from increased visitorship to the region.

Dale Kaye, CEO of In-

novation Tri-Valley and interim CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, agrees. "It is definitely on my deliverable list this year to tap into the resource." She said, "I don't think we realized how many international visitors were coming in. There has to be a way to take advantage of those visitors."

Ideas range from brochures and possibly a video available at the kiosks in the outlets, to actual programs. Kaye continued, "I think the biggest message we heard from Ackerman was the need for a shuttle service. Right now the closest restaurant to the outlets is in Dublin. It benefits. It would be nice to bring people to downtown Livermore where there is a plethora of restaurants. The bus could also connect to wineries. Tours could be arranged through organizations such as Livermore Downtown, Inc. and the Livermore Valley Wine-

growers Association."

Innovation Tri-Valley (ITV) is interested in acquainting the international audience with local opportunities. Kaye pointed out that ITV was launched with the idea of branding the area to attract both businesses and tourists. The outlets provide an opportunity to promote what is happening locally.

Kaye said that she and Ackerman had looked at other places where shuttle services are provided. The systems included publicly subsidized buses as well as public-private partnerships. "We now need to look into how to provide a shuttle service and how to advocate for one," Kaye said. Both the Chamber and ITV will be discussing the possibilities.

The winegrowers association already holds wine tasting at the outlets. There is the potential of organizing shopping - dining - theater packages according to both Ackerman

and Kaye.

Ackerman added, "We have a number of hotel partners already offering Shop and Stay packages. I encourage local accommodations to partner with local restaurants, attractions, wineries etc. to offer compelling packages to individual and group visitors."

"Each entity knows its product much better than I do. I encourage each to consider what is most compelling about what they do, then find a way to communicate that to the many guests who visit us. There are tons of great reasons to spend time in the Tri-Valley region. We just need to find great ways to tell our story," Ackerman stated.

Kaye added, "It is important that we work together. The economic impact of the outlets is already huge. Tapping into that power will have an exponential economic impact in branding the area both as a destination and a center of ideas."

## MEASURE B

(continued from page one)

Improvement projects, including carpool and express lanes.

- Jobs creation in construction and supporting industries to complete these projects.

- Reduced costs for project delivery.

"This is a testament to the agency's strong leadership, supported by highly experienced and qualified staff, providing excellent financial management and a stellar track record of delivering projects," says Alameda CTC Chair, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. "The Alameda County economy is supported by a diverse and sustainable business base, and the investments funded with the bonds will deliver transportation solutions, create jobs and support continued economic growth."

The AAA rating was as-

signed for the Alameda CTC sales tax revenue bonds of approximately \$145.8 million expected to be sold around the second week of February 2014 and to be repaid within eight years with current sales tax revenues to fund important voter-approved projects.

Over the past 12 years, since voters approved Measure B with 81.5 percent support in 2000, Alameda CTC has funded projects on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The agency will go to the voters this November to ask for a thirty year extension of the tax. Voters will also decide whether or not to double the county sales tax for transportation from a half-cent to a full cent. Among the projects that would be funded if the revenue stream continues is the BART extension to Livermore, with \$400 million identified for that purpose.

## MAILBOX

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

### BART to Livermore

Robert S. Allen  
Livermore, Former  
BART Director

A recent letter questioned BART along I-580 beyond Isabel.

The Livermore City Council adopted our initiative petition regarding a BART extension, rather than bring it to a vote. They thereby amended the City's General Plan, adding Action Item 8 to the Circulation

Element:

"Advocate for a first-stage extension of BART along the I-580 freeway to a station at Isabel Avenue/I-580 with an eventual extension to a station at Greenville Road/I-580 as the City's preference."

They affirmed other provisions advocating BART extension in the I-580 median, establishing Plan Lines, and preserving right-of-way adjacent to I-580 to allow widening for HOV lanes, auxiliary lanes, and BART.

While the petition mentioned neither a Vasco/580 station nor future extension beyond Greenville, it certainly did not preclude them. Extending BART over the Altamont generally along the former SP would greatly cut GHG and I-580 congestion, but BART trains even now are often full leaving the Valley. BART would do well to add direct service to downtown Oakland, Berkeley, and the Richmond line.

### Change Mission

Pamela Richard  
Danville

In 2014, I would like to see a change in the priorities at Livermore Lab. If the Lab's mission would shift from nuclear weapons to civilian science, the community, the country and the world could all benefit.

In the current situation, the safety of the 7 million people who live within a 50-mile radius of the Lab is at risk. A major accident could contaminate the air, soil and water on which our lives depend.

In the coming year, I hope the government decides not to bring plutonium bomb cores from Los Alamos to Livermore to be tested. Instead, my wish is for 2014 to bring more cleanup of the radioactive and toxic pollution that already exists at the Lab's Main Site in Livermore and at Site 300, where explosives were detonated in the hills between Livermore and Tracy.

Let's employ more of our scientists to solve the pressing problems of our planet, such as climate change, renewable energy, water scarcity, ocean acidification, depletion of our natural resources, and more. Livermore Lab has small programs in several of these areas. I hope 2014 is the year that they become its central focus.

### Other Needs

Joe Pavlak  
Livermore

Seriously? One of our 2 high schools was built in 1930 while the other will celebrate 50 years in 2014. Don't we think that money used for a 50 meter pool could be better spent?

Both schools could use renovations and upgrades or we could even restore some programs that we had to eliminate the last 10 years. How about adding some more patrolmen and police motorcycles to help with our traffic problems and speed limit enforcement?

How about a city wide Wi-fi network or a boys and girls club for after school activities? Come on. Let's be sensible.

### Why a New Bomb?

Gil Stratton  
Livermore

Apparently, the military wants to develop a new bomb and I wonder why. It is to be called the B-61-12 with as many as four variations.

What has happened? Have all the usual ones stopped exploding? Have we discovered new cities to obliterate? Have we gotten such a good deal borrowing from China that we just have to buy something?

And, the price tag for

800 of the 'guidance tail assemblies' alone so far is \$1.6 billion, from Boeing. Assuming there is some valid reason to buy a new bomb will the military really trust it to work without a test? Maybe 'Test Ban Treaties' only apply to other people not us?

### BART Options

Ruth Gasten  
Livermore

I was impressed with Andreas Berg's letter in the December 26 Independent in which he suggests we re-evaluate the appropriateness of a downtown BART extension. He wrote . . . "It is not difficult to image San Franciscans deciding to travel to wine country . . . and deciding to step on a train that takes them there in less than an hour, right in the middle of shops, restaurants, and businesses that connect them to that."

This summer we spent two weeks in Switzerland and traveled with rail passes. Everywhere we went—large cities or small mountain towns—the train station was in the center of town. We were able to find tasty food, pleasant shops, and, often, museums and other sites of interest in the town center.

Based on our Swiss experiences, I see Mr. Berg's point. I realize it would be disruptive to those in the line

of construction and complicated to build a downtown BART extension. However, I believe Livermore would become a popular Bay Area destination. Day visitors would spend money here resulting in increased tax revenue and better local services. Let's keep our future options open.

### Other Project

Patricia Hoenig  
Livermore

The old library building at the Civic Center (not the Carnegie) needs upgrading consideration before Livermore needs a 50 meter swimming pool. The Livermore Aquacowboys have produced many outstanding swimmers from the pools we have here or the 50 meter pools in other parts of our Valley.

As the parent of two Livermore swimmers who went on to excel, I believe the building at the Civic Center would be a much more valuable goal as a 2014 project for our city. That building would make an outstanding home for city council meetings, planning commission sessions, beautification and other such groups that could use that indoor space.

Outside, without the councils' portable, there would be more parking space for events in that area.

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# DROUGHT

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about 60,000 acres around his place in the country. "Ponds have gone dry. Lots of ranchers are selling their cattle, because there is no water in the ponds, and no feed, either."

Karen Sweet, an Alameda County Resources District executive officer, said that the ranchers she knows still have some grass, but it is in select areas on their lands. They have had to buy hay. The effect on ranchers is that they have to drive a lot more driving to go out to their cattle to drop off the hay, and to herd the cattle to spots where grass still survives.

Ranchers who have several pastures at some distance from each other have to hire a truck or use their own to deliver hay daily. They find expenses rising, both for hay cost and its transport.

"Cattlemen are grumbling about the cost of hay. Some say they may not buy any more hay, even if there is no more grass. Some people have sold off cows. It affects the herd size. Then, if you get good grass for a few years, you have to buy replacement females, in order to rebuild the herd," said Sweet.

Phil Wentz of Wentz Vineyards, said that in the wine industry, vines now are in a part of their cycle where they are not dependent on water.

Wentz said he is hopeful that it will rain by late February or March. "I hope

it will be a flip of last year, where it rained early in the season. This time, it may come later," said Wentz.

The vines are hearty. A lack of rain would not kill them. However, a low amount of water, from the skies, or from irrigation, could result in having to reduce the crop. Wentz, one of the fourth generation of the family on the land, said that in his many years at the winery, he has never seen the need to cut back the crop.

Normally, urban water districts and farmers can rely on the State Water Project (SWP), which is operated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to provide enough water. A full allotment from DWR is not 100 percent, but about 60 to 66 percent of the original SWP plan. The allotment has never been 100 percent, because the plan has never been fully built out. In addition, a court decision over threatened fish species in the Delta resulted in a water management plan that shrank the allotment percentage to the current level.

DWR won't release its final decision about what percentage allotment it will dole out until May. Its first announcement last month set it at 5 percent. It ties the record 5 percent low issued in 2010. DWR always starts low, and ends up higher as rain falls in the winter months.

In line with that low first quota, DWR took its first measurement of the snowpack on Jan. 3 at various

places the Sierra. In the northern Sierra, from which melting snow runoff goes into Lake Oroville and the Feather River, the measurement was 11 percent of normal for the date, and 4 percent of the average that occurs April 1, when snowpack reaches its peak. Zone 7 obtains its water from Lake Oroville.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein wrote to Gov. Jerry Brown on Dec. 9, asking him to declare a drought emergency in California. She cited previous emergencies declared in 2008 and 2009 by former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. An emergency declaration can make certain water users and districts eligible for federal funding to assist in drought remedies.

Brown has not declared an emergency. However, on Dec. 17 he informed department heads that he was creating a drought emergency task force, which will meet weekly to review expected water allocations and preparedness, and to determine whether conditions warrant declaration of a statewide drought.

Brown said the task force should create a clearing house of information concerning water shortages, assess regions most affected by dry conditions and the

"local community socio- and economic impacts within those regions." Also included would be the potential for infrastructure improvements, water trucking and anything else that might help in a water shortage.

## FORMATION OF STATEWIDE PLAN

In May, Brown also directed the Natural Resources Agency and two other state agencies to develop a California Water Action Plan. Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird sent out the draft for public comment last fall. He said the plan was made after consultation with stakeholders in industry, government and non-governmental organizations "who understand the urgency of tasks before us." Climate change, drought and population growth are the challenges that prompt it, he said.

The public comment period on the plan is still open. DWR intends to keep it open, said spokesperson Richard Stapler.

Laird will be appearing in Dublin to talk about the plan at 6 p.m. Jan. 30 in the City Council chamber. The talk will be sponsored by Zone 7.

Laird will also address another key element proposed by the Brown Administration, the Bay Delta

Conservation Plan (BDCP). It was begun seven years ago to meet the challenge of water availability, whether in drought wet years.

Brown is proposing a plan to build two 30-mile-long tunnels as part of the BDCP. Estimated cost for the state is \$25 billion. Local water agencies that benefit from the project will have to pay for their proportional cost, so the cost of local agencies' financing, if included in the final price tag, will raise it much higher.

Some of the money for mitigating parts of the plan could come from existing

state and federal funding categories.

Duerig estimated that statewide the project could increase costs by 15 to 20 percent for water rate payers over a 10 to 12 year period. At Zone 7, that could mean \$150 million, through the costs are not firm yet. That \$150 million would be lower than the cost of what Zone 7 pays for its share of the current State Water Plan, said Duerig.

The comment period on the 34,000-page final EIR on the BDCP plan opened Dec. 13, and will close April 14.

## Documentary Looks at Water in California

"Over Troubled Waters: The Fate of California is In Your Hands," a 45 minute documentary about the Delta & the conveyance narrated by Ed Begley Jr, will be shown on Sat., Jan. 25 at 7 PM at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin.

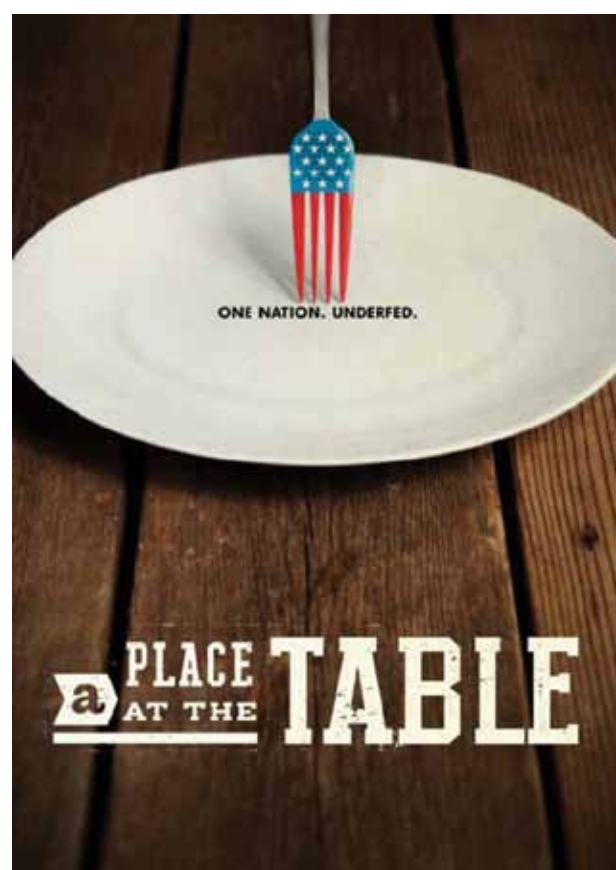
A guest speaker from Restore the Delta will conduct a Q & A discussion after the film.

This film shows the history of these water battles, what this plan to bypass the Delta, sending water to Southern California means to watersheds here in the North, as well as showing better solutions for all of California.

Paulette Kenyon, the food editor of the largest fishing newspaper on the West Coast also invites local anglers to show up & find out how to join the fight to save fisheries.

A meet & greet potluck begins at 6:30 PM, the film begins at 7:00 PM, and is followed by a Q & A discussion.

This event is open to public, free (\$3.00 donations accepted), and is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 925-462-3459.



# HUNGER

(continued from page one)

ally. The program feeds the hungry at five locations in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin.

There is no qualifying process to receive meals. Meals can be eaten at OHK's multiple serving sites, or taken to go. OHK works in cooperation with the Alameda County Community Food Bank, more than a dozen local food pantries, and various Tri-Valley non-profits with missions to promote

nutrition and hunger relief.

In addition, Open Heart Kitchen provides the low-income seniors of the Tri-Valley area a senior meal program at the Ridgeview Commons Senior Center, 5200 Case Avenue in Pleasanton. Hours are 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. each Monday through Friday. Open Heart Kitchen also provides a weekend box lunch program for children of low income families in Tri-Valley.

## Pleasanton Offering Parent Education Series

The City of Pleasanton will launch 2014 with a free Parent Education Series for parents of children of all ages.

Developed by the Community Services staff, in conjunction with the Pleasanton Youth Commission, the series was designed to meet the goals of the Youth Master Plan. All programs will be held in the large meeting room of the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The first program is slated for Wednesday, January 22, 2014. It will feature a presentation about The Well Balanced Student by Gina Morris, M.A., from Stanford Challenge Success. This workshop examines the tensions that can occur between students, parents, and educators over issues such

as homework, grades, and the culture of competition. Parents will learn research-based strategies to create healthier home and school environments.

Subsequent monthly presentations will be held in the same place, at the same time, on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 26, 2014 Raising Resilient Children

Wednesday, March 26, 2014 A Balanced Approach to Navigating Youth Sports

Wednesday, April 23, 2014 The Wonder Years: Transition to Middle School

Wednesday, May 28, 2014 I'm Talking But They're Not Listening: Communicating with Children

For more information, please visit <http://ptownlife.org/parent-education-series>, or call (925) 931-3434.

# Don't Miss Out on the News in 2014 . . .

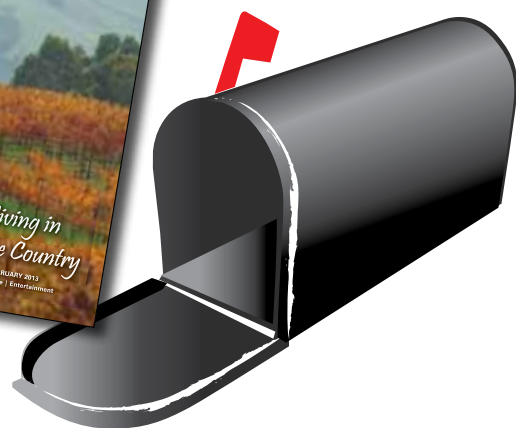
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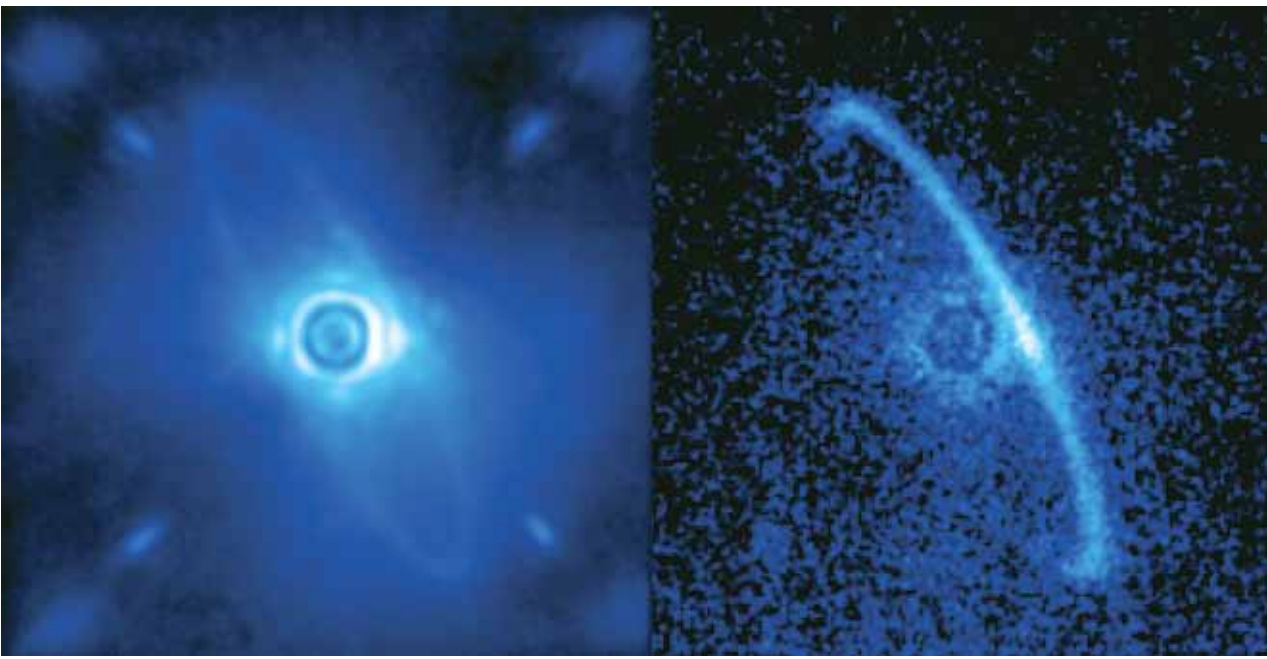
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**Gemini Planet Imager's first light image of the light scattered by a disk of dust orbiting the young star HR4796A. This narrow ring is thought to be dust from asteroids or comets left behind by planet formation; some scientists have theorized that the sharp edge of the ring is defined by an unseen planet. The left image shows normal light, including both the dust ring and the residual light from the central star scattered by turbulence in the Earth's atmosphere. The right image shows only polarized light. Leftover starlight is unpolarized and hence removed from this image. The light from the back edge of the disk is strongly polarized as it scatters towards us.**

## IMAGES

(continued from page one)

atmosphere – an ongoing problem for ground-based telescopes -- the system senses atmospheric turbulence and corrects it with a 2-centimeter-square deformable mirror with 4,000 actuators. This deformable mirror is made of etched silicon, similar to microchips, rather than the large reflective glass mirrors used on other AO systems. This allows GPI to be compact and stable. The new mirror corrects for atmospheric distortions by adjusting its shape 1,000 times per second with accuracy better than 1 nanometer. Together with the other parts of GPI, astronomers can directly image extra-solar planets that are 1 million to 10 million times fainter than their host stars.

GPI carried out its first observations in November 2013 during an extremely smooth debut for an extraordinarily complex astronomical instrument the size of a small car. "The GPI team's huge amount of high quality work has begun to pay off and now holds the promise of many years of important science to come," said LLNL Project Manager David Palmer.

GPI's first observations targeted previously known planetary systems – the 4-planet HR8799 system (co-discovered by an LLNL-led team at the Gemini and Keck Observatory in 2008) and the Beta Pictoris system, among others. GPI has obtained the first-ever spectrum of the very young planet Beta Pictoris b.

The first-light team also used the instrument's unique polarization mode – tuned



**GPI team pictured during the first light run in November 2013, (from left), Pascale Hibon (Gemini), Stephen Goodsell (Gemini), Markus Hartung (Gemini), Fredrik Rantakyro (Gemini), Jeffrey Chilcote (UCLA), Jennifer Dunn (HIA), Sandrine Thomas (NASA Ames), Bruce Macintosh (LLNL), Dave Palmer (LLNL), Dmitry Savransky (LLNL), Marshall Perrin (STScI), Naru Sadakuni (Gemini); not shown Andrew Cardwell, Carlos Quiroz, Leslie Sadelmyer. Photo by Jeffrey Chilcote/UCLA.**

to look at starlight scattered by tiny particles – in order to study a ring of dust orbiting the very young star HR4796. The images were released Tuesday at the 223rd meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Washington D.C. Jan. 5-9.

"GPI's performance requirements are extremely challenging," explained Lab engineer Lisa Poyneer, who developed the algorithms used to correct for atmospheric turbulence, and led the testing of the adaptive optics system in the laboratory and at the telescope. "As a result, the AO system features several original technologies that were designed specifically for exoplanet science. After years of development and testing,

it is very rewarding to see the AO system operating so well and enabling these remarkable images."

Imaging exoplanets is highly complementary to other exoplanet success stories like NASA's Kepler mission. Kepler is extremely sensitive to small planets close to their parent star – GPI detects infrared radiation from young Jupiter-like objects in wide orbits, the equivalent of the giant planets in our solar system not long after their formation.

"GPI represents a critical step in the road toward understanding how planetary systems form and develop," said Dmitry Savransky, an LLNL postdoc who worked on the integration and testing

of GPI before moving to a position at Cornell. "While broad survey missions, such as Kepler, have revealed the variety of planets that exist in our galaxy, GPI will allow us to study a few dozen planets in exquisite detail."

GPI is an international project led by LLNL under Gemini's supervision, with Macintosh serving as principal investigator and LLNL engineer Palmer as project manager. In addition to Macintosh, Palmer and Poyneer, the LLNL team consisted of Brian Bauman, Scot Olivier, and former employees Dmitry Savransky, Steve Jones, Christian Marois, Quinn Konopacky, Gary Sommargren and Julia Evans.



**John Rothmann**

## Talk Show Host to Address America's Global Policies

Well known talk show host John Rothmann will talk on "American Presidents and the Middle East" on January 22 at 7:30 PM at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton. Rothmann, who is an annual guest on Ron Owens' KGO radio show every President's Day, is a national expert on presidential history.

"I don't know anyone better than Rothmann who can elaborate on the evolving relationship between America and that part of the world," notes Bob Block of Congregation Beth Emek, the sponsor and venue for the lecture. "The Obama Administration's Middle East policy has undergone many changes since the Bush years, and I am sure that our audience will have a lot of questions about the Arab Spring, Iran's nuclear agenda, and America's role in the Arab-Israeli peace process."

A native of San Francisco, Rothmann is a frequent radio talk show host on 910 AM as well as a foreign policy consultant specializing in American history, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. From 1996 to 2011, he worked at ABC affiliate KGO Newstalk 810 AM. In addition, he has been politically involved on the national, state and local levels, having worked on the 1968 campaign of Richard Nixon and the 1976 Campaign of Senator Frank Church. He also worked for Senator Quentin Kopp. Rothmann is known for his unique insights on both American and Middle East politics.

An author of several books, including the Icon of Evil: Hitler's Mufti and the Rise of Radical Islam. Rothmann is a popular speaker who has lectured at more than 150 college and university campuses throughout the world. In 1982 he delivered the Baccalaureate address at the United States Air Force Academy.

The January 22nd lecture will take place at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. Admission is \$10, payable at the door. For more information about this presentation and others on Beth Emek's winter and spring schedule: 925.931.1055.



**A ewe in Livermore gave birth to four lambs in the new year. Two of the babies are now bottle babies, as the mom does not have the milk to feed all of the lambs.**

## Dublin Crush Project

Dublin Crush will be featured at the Dublin Heritage Park and Museums Feb. 9 through March 2.

Opening reception will be held on February 13.

The city is launching a writing project to celebrate the people, places, and things in the community.

The Dublin Crush writing project invites residents to tell a tale, write a love

letter, or craft a poem or essay, telling us how you fell in love with someone or something in Dublin.

This is not a competition, but an exhibit of written works. So feel free to get creative—dash up words with photos or drawings, or share your words on unusual papers or other flat media. Or go purist and simply put pen (or computer printer ink) to paper.

All entries that comply with the Submittal Instructions will be included in an exhibit at the Dublin Heritage Park and Museums from February 9 to March 2, and will also be published in an online gallery on the City's website at [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us).

Entry details are available on the website.

The deadline for all submittals is Monday, February 3, 2014 at 5:00 PM. Please mail or deliver submittals to Parks and Community Services Department, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA 94568. Attn: DUBLIN CRUSH

For information, contact Ann Mottola at (925)556-4500 or [ann.mottola@dublin.ca.gov](mailto:ann.mottola@dublin.ca.gov).

## Some of Domus Lives On in New Hardware Store

A new Workbench True Value Hardware store has opened in the location of the former Domus store on Main Street in Pleasanton.

Workbench True Value Hardware opened Dec. 21 at 652 Main St. near St. Mary Street. It is the second Workbench True Value store in Pleasanton, joining the original in the Valley Plaza at Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue. That store will remain open.

The new store occupies 10,000 square feet, which is

twice the size of the Valley Plaza store.

Fred Nichandros, along with his 95-year-old father John, own both stores. John Nichandros started the business in Dublin in 1970, when he was a custom homes builder. He wanted to display upgraded home improvements that customers could order for their homes. He later closed the Dublin store, and opened at the Valley Plaza location.

Domus retained an enthu-

siastic customer base, and many customers said they were sad to see the store close when owner Margaret Smith retired. However, Smith has been hired as a consultant by Workbench. She is advising on some goods to stock. They will include some of the same kitchen preparation equipment and soft goods that she sold at Domus.

Workbench is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

on Fridays and Saturdays, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. The later closing on weekends can attract downtown diners, and some already have dropped by the store, said Nichandros.

The last hardware store on Main Street closed its doors in 2004. It started as Cruikshank & Kolln in 1905 in a building at 600 Main Street, and became Kolln Hardware in 1931. The building was reconstructed when the hardware

store went out of business, and now houses shops and offices.

Nichandros said that downtown residents have welcomed him to the neighborhood. Main Street merchants have dropped in for items that they need for their stores, including everyday stationery.

A staff of 12 works at the store. Nichandros said he plans to hire two more employees in the spring, when the home improvement business traditionally picks up.

## SPORTS NOTES

### CYO Basketball

The Spartans, boys' 7th grade SMSC (St. Michael/St. Charles) 715, were outscored 39-22 by St. Raymond's 714 in an exciting first game of the new year in CYO basketball action. The Spartans showed great energy and teamwork the first time back out on the court. Top scorers included Hadi Zeid with 6 points, followed by Jacob "JP" Peterson with 4 points and Max Bauer and Jacob Blaha with 3 each. Demonstrating outstanding defense and rebounding were Aden Cavalcanti and Max Bauer. Top St. Raymond's scorers were Josh Borden, Rishi K. and Will Wong.

### LGSA Evaluations

Livermore Girls Softball Association (LGSA) Evaluations: LGSA player evaluations will take place on January 11 at Joe Mitchell. All players in age groups 8U through 14U

must attend an evaluation. Players must be registered prior to January 11. On-site player registration will not be available at evaluations. Visit [www.LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org](http://www.LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org) for more information.

### Track and Field

Athenian Athletics Track Club invites athletes ages 7-18 to participate in fall and winter practice sessions to prepare for the 2013-2014 Track and Field season as well as training for the upcoming Winter season series of competitions at Cal Berkeley and Los Gatos High School.

Practices will be held on a voluntary/drop-in basis Monday through Friday. Club participants will have the option of competing for either (or both) AAU and USATF Track and Field events.

For practice time and location, please visit facebook page, and group under Athenian Athletics.

Any questions please feel free to contact Coach Rik Richardson at 925-518-9356 or e-mail [athenian-track@hotmail.com](mailto:athenian-track@hotmail.com).

### Bocce Kits for Rent

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is making bocce ball kits available for rent to the public.

Bocce ball kits can be checked out for a week at a time from the Robert Livermore Community Center. The kits are available at the front counter from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rental for one week is \$20, plus a \$40 refundable deposit by credit card or cash – a total of \$60. The \$40 deposit is refundable if equipment is returned in good condition. Kits are rented on a first-come, first-served basis; reservations are not available in advance. Rental of a bocce ball kit does not guarantee a bocce ball court will be available.

The Robert Livermore Community Center is located at 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Bothwell Park is located at 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. For more information, call 925-373-5700.

### Half Marathon

The new Livermore Half Marathon will run on March 29, 2014. Runners will pass through our downtown, into the vineyards and finish on First Street.

Local leaders have been working with Project Sport to conceptualize a springtime event mixing fitness with entertainment. The result will be the 13.1 mile run followed by a downtown festival of local wineries, craft beer, artisan chefs, specialty boutique shopping and live music.

Registration for the Livermore Half Marathon is underway. Pre-registration will continue at \$69 through January 3. Entry will approach its full price of \$89 as race day nears.

Register at [runlivermore.com](http://runlivermore.com).

### Triathlon Club

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club will hold its 2014 Kick Off Meeting on Wednesday, January 15.

It will be held at TriNow Fitness in Dublin starting at 7 p.m. New, current and continuing members are invited to attend. Meet the coaches and sponsors.

A free race entry will be among the prizes given away (must be present to win).

For information, go to [www.trivalleytriclub.com](http://www.trivalleytriclub.com)

### Outlaws 13U Baseball

The Livermore Outlaws Baseball Club is currently holding team tryouts for the Spring season travel team. Practices and evaluations are now being held in Livermore. The Outlaws are in their fourth year of operations and the coaching staff

has over 40 years of combined baseball coaching experience. All competitive players from the Tri-Valley area are welcome to attend an open practice. Please contact the Outlaws to schedule an evaluation at [Outlawstravelball@yahoo.com](mailto:Outlawstravelball@yahoo.com).

### Mavericks FastPitch 12U

The Mavericks FastPitch 12U Livermore team is still looking for a few more girls to round out its roster for 2014. The focus for this coming year is player development, play time and growth as an A-team. The coaching staff is committed to applying their positive coaching philosophies to foster a safe and ideal growing environment. To schedule a private tryout or to learn more about the Mavericks organization please contact us at [MavericksFastPitch@hotmail.com](mailto:MavericksFastPitch@hotmail.com) or visit [www.mavericksfastpitch.com](http://www.mavericksfastpitch.com).





Photos - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District held its annual Polar Bed Slide last Saturday at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Hot chocolate awaited those brave enough to plunge into the unheated water.



## SHORT NOTES

### Fun on the Farm

Forest Home Farms Historic Park and the Glass House Museum present Fun on the Farm from 10am to 2pm the 2nd Saturday of each month.

The theme for January 11, 2014 will be Chicken Tales. A chilly winter day is a great time to sit in a sheltered spot and listen to a good story. Stop by to hear some chicken tales, make a chicken craft, and meet the chickens that live here on the farm. You can also learn about eggs, discover how these birds take a bath without water, and how some people are bringing a piece of farming to their homes with backyard chickens.

Tours of the restored Victorian Glass House Museum will be held at 10am, 11am, 12pm and 1pm and tours of Forest Home Farms Historic Park, including the tractor museum, at 11am and 1pm. Each tour lasts approximately 45 minutes and the fee is \$5 per person or \$8 for both tours taken on the same day. Tour tickets can be purchased in the Gift Shoppe. Children ages 2 and under are free.

For more information about Forest Home Farms Historic Park call (925) 973-3284 or visit [www.SanRamon.ca.gov](http://www.SanRamon.ca.gov). Forest Home Farms Historic Park is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., just south of Pine Valley Road in San Ramon.

### Computer Classes

The Livermore Public Library is offering a variety of computer classes beginning in January 2014.

- Computer Basics,

Wednesday, January 15, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Never used a computer? Learn how to use the mouse and keyboard, how to work with the windows 7 operating system and gain a working knowledge of computer terminology.

- Searching the Internet, Wednesday, January 22, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Need help searching the Internet? Review the features of Internet Explorer and learn how to search Google and get the best results.

- Introduction to Microsoft Word, Wednesday, January 29, 2:00pm-3:00pm

Learn the basics of word processing and how to maneuver through the Word menus and toolbars to create and edit a simple document.

Classes are held in Community Room B at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore on a first come, first served basis. For more information call 373-5505.

### Islamic Scholar to Speak on Jesus

The public is invited to attend a lecture at Lynnewood United Methodist Church on "Jesus in Islam," January 12 at 7:00 pm given by Ali Ataie. Ataie teaches at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, where he earned his Master's Degree in Biblical Studies. He is currently working on a PhD in Islamic Biblical Hermeneutics while he is also teaching at the GTU.

Lynnewood UMC participates in interfaith events in the Tri-Valley and has hosted Ataie as a speaker for a small group in the past.

The lecture is free and people of all faiths are invited. The church is located at 4444 Black Avenue in Pleasanton. Lynnewood is a progressive church serving the Tri-Valley.

For more information, call 925 846-0221 and ask for Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer, or go to [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org).

### Using eBooks

The Livermore Public Library offers multiple options for library patrons to check out and enjoy free e-books, and all from the comfort of home. The first platform is Overdrive, which is the best option for the latest releases, best sellers and other widely known titles. Overdrive also contains audiobooks that can be checked out and downloaded directly to a tablet or phone, or loaded onto an mp3 player.

Another option for checking out e-books is called Enki. This e-book collection really shines by offering a wide variety of e-books from independent publishers and a stellar non-fiction selection.

The third platform for downloading e-books is Freeding. Patrons who sign up with Freeding receive four tokens per week to spend on more than 30,000 fiction or non-fiction titles in

this vast e-book collection. Freeding is a great option for patrons who want to avoid hold lists, as all of the e-book titles are available for download, regardless of how many patrons have them checked out.

All e-books platforms can be accessed through the library's website by going to [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net) and clicking on "Virtual Library" and then the "eBooks and eAudiobooks" link.

The library will offer one-on-one appointments to help library patrons get started, troubleshoot and answer questions about any of the e-book platforms the library has available to the public. Library patrons may reserve a one hour appointment on Monday evenings or on Wednesday mornings.

For more information about any of the Livermore Public Library's e-book platforms or to book a one-on-one training session, call 925-373-5500, or visit the library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

### Grants Available

The Hindu Community and Cultural Center, Inc., of Livermore is taking applications for its annual Grant In Aid Program for nonprofit agencies based both locally (Livermore and its surrounding areas) and overseas.

A total grant amount of \$30,000 will be distributed in the year 2013. Individual grants can vary depending on the needs and suitability of the nonprofit organizations.

This Grant program, initiated in 1987, is one of several Human Services activities at the temple in addition to programs such as free health screening, bone-marrow donor registration, partnering with the Alameda County Community Food Bank for canned food drives, distributing personal articles and clothing to the Livermore veterans hospital and collaborating with local shelters to help the needy.

Human Services agencies that meet the needs of the elderly, abused women, and youth that are primarily funded by private donations, are encouraged to apply for these grants. Organizations should provide the following details along with their application: a mission statement, sample project(s), specific project for which the grant will be utilized, and any other information in support of the application.

All applications must

be mailed to the following address: Chairperson, Human Services, HCCC, Inc., 1232, Arrowhead Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551-6963.

The deadline for receiving the applications is by 7th February 2014.

Applicants will be informed of the grant decisions Representatives of the selected organizations will be invited to an Award Ceremony to be held at the temple in 2014.

Applications sent via email will not be accepted. For questions and clarifications, please email [karuna95135@yahoo.com](mailto:karuna95135@yahoo.com).

(continued on page 8)

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# SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 7)

## Library Storytimes

The Livermore Public Library will present Spring Storytimes through Friday, May 16, 2014. A variety of storytimes will be held at the Civic Center, Rincon, and Springtown branches:

Civic Center Library- 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

- **Babies Only (Pre-Walkers):** Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. with Stay and Play until 11:30 a.m.

- **Toddler Time (New walkers to age 36 months):** Choose one Monday session: Session 1- 10:30 a.m.-10:50 a.m. with Stay and Play from 10:50 a.m.-11:20 a.m.; Session 2- 11:30 a.m.-11:50 a.m. with Stay and Play from 11:50 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- **Pajamatime Family Storytimes:** (All ages welcome.): Mondays at 7:00p.m.

- **3 and Up Club (Ages 3 to Kindergarten):** Wednesdays at 10:30a.m. to 11:00a.m. with Stay and Play until 11:30a.m.

Rincon Branch Library - 725 Rincon Avenue, Livermore.

- **Toddler Time (New walkers to age 36 months):** Fridays at

- 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.
- **3 and Up Club (Ages 3 to Kindergarten):** Fridays at 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Springtown Branch Library- 998 Bluebell Drive, Livermore.

- **Children's Storytime (All ages welcome.):** Thursdays from

- 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with Stay and Play from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Please contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 for more information, or pick up a storytime schedule at any one of the Livermore Public Libraries, or consult the website: [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## Young Professionals

Pleasanton Young Professionals meet at 4 p.m. on Jan. 16 at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce office, 777 Peters Ave., Pleasanton.

Guest speaker is Joseph Cristiano, former president and CEO of Kelly-Moore Paint Co. He was the prior division president of Sherwin-Williams Paint Co., current chairman of the board of Bank of San Francisco and co-owner of Better Homes and Gardens Tri-Valley Realty.

Guests are welcome to attend one Professional Development Meeting at no charge as the monthly meetings are a benefit of Pleasanton Young Professionals membership.

For information, go to [business.pleasanton.org](http://business.pleasanton.org)

## Dublin Still Taking Nominations

The City of Dublin is still accepting nominations for the 2013 Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Organization of the Year.

These awards recognize outstanding individuals and groups who have contributed to the quality of life in Dublin in 2013. The Young Citizen of the Year recognizes the volunteer service of a Dublin youth in the 1st - 12th grade.

Nominations for the awards are based on five established criteria: the Dublin Pride - Integrity in Action Program's ten characteristics (i.e. Responsibility, Respect-

fulness, Caring, Giving, Positive Attitude, Trustworthiness, Cooperation, Doing One's Best, Honesty, and Self-Discipline); originality and uniqueness of the activity/project; overall relevance and importance to the Dublin community; time and effort spent; and challenge(s) in accomplishing the activity/project.

All nominees will be recognized at the Volunteer Recognition Event to be held at the Shannon Community Center on Wednesday, February 19, 2014, where the winners will be announced. The Organization of the Year will receive a \$500 cash prize, and a \$300 donation will be given to each of the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year's favorite non-profit organization.

Nominations can be completed online at the City's website, [www.dublin.ca.gov/vre](http://www.dublin.ca.gov/vre), or by calling the City Clerk's Office at (925) 833-6650. The nomination deadline is Friday, January 17, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

## Free Job Counseling

Free counseling on job search skills and resume writing is available at the Pleasanton Public Library.

The library offers free consultations with an experienced Employment Recruiter.

Receive help with resume writing, find employment web sites, learn how to search for a job on the web, and get help with online applications.

The Pleasanton Library has support materials available to assist job seekers.

Sign up at the Reference Desk for a 20 minute consultation. Appointments available on selected Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

For appointments call the Reference Desk at 925/931-3400, ext. 4. This is an ongoing service. Library programs are free and open to everyone.

## Arts Grants Workshops

The Alameda County Arts Commission will present three free grant application workshops to provide information about the 2014 ARTSFUND Grants Program.

Workshops will be held on Wednesday, January 15 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library in Fremont; Wednesday, January 22 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Alameda County Lakeside Plaza Building in Oakland; and Wednesday, February 5 from 6:00 - 7:30pm at the Livermore Community Center, Livermore.

Contact the Arts Commission at [artscommission@acgov.org](mailto:artscommission@acgov.org) or phone (510) 208-9646 to reserve a seat at workshop location at least seven days prior to the workshop date. Standard grants awards are \$1,000 each. The application deadline is March 5, 2014.

The ARTSFUND Grants Program supports all types of arts programming such as dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual arts, and multidisciplinary arts programs presented in Alameda County by Alameda County nonprofit organizations. Last year's ARTSFUND program awarded grants of \$1,000 to \$2,500 to 48 nonprofit organizations throughout Alameda County. During the 2014 funding cycle, between 40-50 arts organizations may be

awarded grants. The Alameda County Arts Commission, a division of the County of Alameda, is dedicated to improving the quality of life in Alameda County by nurturing a thriving environment for the arts, promoting economic opportunities for Alameda County's artists and arts organizations, and encouraging public participation in the arts.

Funding for the ARTSFUND Grants Program is provided by the County of Alameda, individual contributions submitted with County property tax payments, and donations to the Foundation for the Arts in Alameda County.

Further details are available within the ARTSFUND Grants Program Application Packet available at the Arts Commission website [www.acgov.org/arts](http://www.acgov.org/arts) or contact the Alameda County Arts Commission by email [artscommission@acgov.org](mailto:artscommission@acgov.org) or phone at (510) 208-9646.



Volunteers along with Boy Scouts placed 1030 trees in Quarry Lakes to create bass fishing habitat. Troop 975 helped to tie the unused Christmas trees to chains that were secured to the banks of one of the chain of quarry lakes in Fremont. The trees provide a safe haven where young fish can develop and grow to adulthood. The annual project is coordinated by Mike Riehl.



**GARDEN CLUB READIES BOOTHILL FOR SPRING:** In December, on a cool 33-degree morning, members of the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club (LAVGC) were planting another 1400 daffodil bulbs on Boot Hill/Daffodil Hill in Livermore. Boot Hill/Daffodil Hill is located at the corner of Stanley Blvd. and Wall Street. The Garden Club has provided this service since 1994 planting several thousand daffodils to beautify the area. LAVGC member, Jack Pons, holds these annual work parties to add new bulbs to enhance the existing ones. For information about the garden club, go to [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org) and then to "Contact." The lower file photo shows the daffodils in bloom.



## Jackson to Begin Healthy Active Program

Jackson Avenue Elementary School's Healthy Active Stingrays program kicks off on Wednesday, January 15th from 8:00-8:30am on the playground. The event will include the distribution of water bottles to all students and staff.

The student community will Walk and Roll to School (walking, skating, skateboarding or riding a scooter, or biking) and will meet at the parking lot off of Pomona Avenue. The teachers and staff will join the students in a walk around

the LARPD park and then onto the playground.

On the playground there will be a small ceremony with a ribbon cutting to kick-off the full implementation of a Kaiser Permanente Grant. Superintendent Kelly Bowers; Director of Student Services, Scott Vernoy; Barbara Lee, Director of Campus Catering Projects; and Shari Johnston, Jackson Avenue Principal will attend the ceremony.

The funding from Kaiser Permanente has provided Jackson Avenue the abil-

ity to install two hydration units for fresh filtered water daily; a salad cart to offer a fresh selection of foods each day; hiring of a Community Liaison, Jessica Torres, who provides structured active games and activities for students during recess and lunch times.

Jackson School will also be providing families with hands-on wellness activities and cooking classes.

## Young Readers Invited to Join Book Clubs

The Livermore Public Library invites readers in grades 2 through 5 to join Mr. Jonathan Hamilton for an afternoon of reading, book discussion and fun at the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

The Adventure Book Club, for children in grades 2 through 3 will meet every first and third Friday, January 17 through March 21, 2014, from 3:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m..

The Mystery Book Club,

for children in grades 4 through 5 will meet every first and third Friday, January 17 through March 21, 2014, from 4:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.. These free book clubs will meet in the Storytime Room.

Registration is not required.

For more information about this program, please contact the Youth Services Desk at (925) 373-5504, or visit the Library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

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Playing for the FINAL WEEK!  
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Golden Globe Nominee for Best Picture & Actress  
**PHILOMENA**  
Fri - Sat: 12:00 2:10 4:30 6:45 8:45

Best Picture Nominee **NEBRASKA** starts Jan. 17

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LONE SURVIVOR (R) DLP		12:30	3:35	6:40	9:45
THE LEGEND OF HERCULES (PG13) DLP			1:25	4:25	
THE LEGEND OF HERCULES (PG13) DLP-3D				7:15	9:55
HER (R) DLP		12:10	3:25	6:35	9:50
AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY (R) DLP		12:35	3:15	6:25	9:35
FROZEN (PG) DLP		12:00	2:40	5:20	8:00
AMERICAN HUSTLE (R) DLP		1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
SAVING MR. BANKS (PG13) DLP		12:05	3:10	6:20	9:20
THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG (PG13) DLP			2:00	5:30	9:00
HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE (PG13) DLP		11:45	3:00	6:15	9:30
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE MARKED ONES (R) DLP-DBOX		12:00	2:30	5:00	7:30
THE WOLF OF WALL STREET (R) DLP			12:00	3:45	7:30
ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES (PG13) DLP		12:40	3:55	6:45	9:35
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (PG) DLP		12:50	3:50	6:50	9:40
PREVIEW JAN. 16 JACK RYAN: SHADOW RECRUIT (PG13) DLP-DBOX					9PM



## OBITUARIES

### Former Sandia Vice President

**Thomas B. Cook, Jr.**  
Resident of Pleasanton, CA

Aug. 28, 1926—Dec. 27, 2013  
Dr. Thomas B. Cook, Jr. passed away suddenly at home the evening of December



27, 2013 at age 87. He was retired from Sandia National Laboratories and was the

longest-serving vice president of the Sandia/California laboratory.

Tom was born in Richmond, Kentucky, the son of Willie Ethel and Thomas B. Cook, Sr. He graduated from Bowling Green High School, Western Kentucky State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics and Mathematics, and Vanderbilt University with both a Masters and Ph.D. in Physics. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1946; then married Virginia Preston in 1947.

At age 24 Tom, hired by Sandia in 1951, was the youngest Ph.D. on staff in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His scientific talent and managerial skills were recognized early as he moved from section to division supervisor, then to department manager, all within eight years. He was promoted to Director of Physics and Mathematics Research in 1962, then Vice President of Research in 1967, and next was chosen to head Sandia at its Livermore, California site in 1968, a position he held for 14 years. Following that he was promoted once more, to Executive Vice President back at Albuquerque until his retirement in 1986. He and his wife Virginia then returned to their home in Pleasanton, California.

During his career he received numerous awards and honors. In 1971 he was given the prestigious E.O. Lawrence Award by the U.S. Department of Energy. Other recognitions include being elected to the National Academy of Engineering, given the DOE Distinguished Associate Award, named a Fellow of the American Physical Society, chosen to be chair of the Vulnerability Task Force for the Defense Science Board, and selected as a member of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, the Department of Defense Scientific Advisory Group on Effects, and Steering Task Group of the U.S. Navy Strategic Systems Office. He was also a member of the Sigma Xi Honorary Research Society. In 1986 he was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel. After retiring he served as a consultant to numerous

other governmental agencies as well as major U.S. industries.

Former Sandia/California vice president Mim John, who worked at Sandia while Tom was vice president, offered these comments: "Tom represented everything that has always been the best of what Sandia stands for. He lived the lab's motto of 'exceptional service in the national interest.' His technical accomplishments were instrumental in establishing the Nation's defense strategy, so much so that his peers recognized him with election to the National Academy of Engineering, one of the highest honors in the nation's science and technology community. He was a pioneer in diversity, hiring and nurturing technical women and minorities at Sandia in the 60s and 70s well before other organizations. He also recognized in the 70s the need for Sandia/California to expand its portfolio of programs. A very visible and enduring testament to his foresight is the internationally respected Combustion Research Facility, which he effectively defended in its start-up phase from both internal and external challengers while the technical team got it off the ground."

Tom is survived by his loving wife of 66 years Virginia, son Dr. Thomas B. Cook, III, of Princeton, New Jersey and daughter Shelley L. Cook of Pleasanton. Grandchildren are Dr. Hilary H. Cook of Miami, FL, and Jeffrey H. Cook of Austin, TX. His brother is W. Wilson Cook of Bowling Green, KY. He was preceded in death by his parents.

### John Edward Torrison

June 17, 1946—Dec. 27, 2013

A funeral service was on Wednesday, Jan. 8 for John Edward Torrison, who died December 27, 2013 from surgery complications at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley. He was 67 and received very warm compassionate care from the medical staff there, according to his family.

Though he was a long-time resident of Patterson, Mr. Torrison maintained a residence in Livermore. He was born of Norwegian immigrants who farmed the valley for many seasons; hence, his love for the land and his work.

He graduated from Patterson High School and attended Modesto Junior College where he excelled in mechanics and agriculture.

His family describes him

as a man of generosity who gave of his time to the community. He was a volunteer firefighter for 20 years, member of the Lions Club, lifelong member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and active in the Patterson Township Historical Society.

Mr. Torrison was self-employed in the agricultural industry. He loved tractors, farming and heavy equipment machinery and was a collector. He loved animals, too, especially his canine companions. He especially enjoyed family gatherings in both Patterson and Livermore and was present at many.

Mr. Torrison was preceded in death by his parents, John and Bernice Torrison and son-in-law, Marty Hance.

Mr. Torrison is survived by his wife of 27 years, Barbara; his son, Jeff and his wife, Vicki and his daughter, Donna; grandchildren, Samantha, Erica and her husband, Nick, Cambria, Rebecca, Kurtis and Justin; his great-grandson, Noah; his sister, Joyce, and her husband, Fred, and nephews, nieces and extended family.

The funeral was held at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Patterson; followed by a reception. Burial was private.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

### Thomas Milburn Allred

June 2, 1947- Dec. 24, 2013

Tom Allred passed away in Livermore, California, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Poughkeepsie, New York. He gained

his first degree from SUNY New Paltz in geology and his second in electronic engineering from University of Arizona. He worked as a civilian for the Department of the Army at Fort Huachuca in Arizona and later in the Pentagon. During his leisure time, Tom enjoyed choir and Chorale and sang in a number of events in Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. He devoted over a decade to mission work with the Lakota Indians on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Tom was a poet who shared his passion for travel and life experiences through the written word.

He is survived by his siblings Khabira Hartwig of Livermore, CA, Kit Sinclair of Hong Kong, and Tim Allred of Ulster Park, NY.

A memorial service was held at Asbury Methodist Church in Livermore.

To support the continuing work of his mission

team, memorial donations may be sent to Lakota Mission Team, Church of the Good Shepherd, UM, 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, VA, 22181.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

### William Clifford Wissler "Bill"

Born in Minneapolis, MN. Aug 12, 1938, he was the 10th of 15 children, orphaned at age 7 by parents John and Jeannette (Boyce) Phaneuf. He is predeceased by adopted parents Clifford and Victoria (VenZant) Wissler and



stepfather Hubert DeBardleben, brothers John and Richard Phaneuf, David Galles, Robert Peterson, Charles and Michael Boyce of MN, twins Verne and Vaughn Williams of CA, sister Jeanette West of AZ. He is survived by siblings Lorraine Allen, Gene (Betty) Phaneuf, Dale (Mary) Galles, Ronald (Judy) Peterson, and Sharon (Ben) Street all of MN.

Survived also by his loving wife of 43 years, Patricia; children Colleen (Sam) Gomes, of Covington, WA., Kari (Jim) Holtman of Livermore, CA., Daniel (Nicola) Wissler of Visalia, CA., Victoria (Brian) Barker of Tracy, CA. He was lovingly known as "Papa Bill" by grandkids Jared, Isabella, and Maddox Gomes, Chris, Abby, and Trenton Holtman of Morongo, Valley, CA, Noah and Gavin Wissler, and Aidan, Quentin and Mia Barker, and soon to be born "Baby" Holtman also many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was a graduate of Livermore High Class of 1958 and Chabot College. He served 2 years in the US Army stationed at Fort Ord. He was employed by PG&E, Janitorial Supervisor at Parks Job Corps, warehouseman at Volkswagen in Dublin, CA and completed 25 years of employment at LLNL retiring in 1999 at the age of 60 years.

Bill loved the outdoors hunting, fishing and especially gardening, always wanting to share his bounteous harvest with friends. He was a lifelong member of the Livermore Rod and Gun Club winning many competitions in Trap and Skeet shooting.

Services were held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

In Lieu of flowers contributions may be made to The Livermore Rod and Gun Club in his name.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary

### Wayne Eugene Miller

8/03/63 - 12/26/13

Wayne passed away unexpectedly after a brief battle with the flu. He was a brilliant firmware engineer; he was ingenious, happy, and productive. He had numerous friends and will be missed by many. He was a long time resident of Livermore, CA, and former resident of San Jose, CA, and Palm Beach County, FL.

His cats, Jake and Elwood; his sister April Miller of Orange County, CA; his brother Nathan Miller, and parents Betty and Bob Miller from North Palm Beach, FL survive him.

### Gertrude Governor

Gertrude Governor passed away Sunday, December 22, 2013. Gertrude loved many and was loved by many.



She enjoyed watching her Oakland A's and the Raiders.

Through the years she attended many games. She also loved going to Reno, sitting at the video poker machines for hours.

Gertrude is survived by her daughter Debbie Pease of Livermore and Eddie Governor of Springtown, as well as fifteen grandchildren.

She will be missed, but forever in our hearts.

### Renee Garcia Santucci

Renee Garcia Santucci passed away peacefully on

January 3, 2014. Renee spent her childhood in the Bay Area, most notably Russell City where she met her late husband, Louis A. Santucci. Before marrying Louis, Renee worked in the Oakland Naval Shipyards, Oak Knoll Commissary and managed several grocery stores in the Bay Area and Napa County.

Along with Louis she was a member of the Hayward Dance Club and an active participant in the St. Rose Follies. She was a fabulous cook and hostess and was known for her dinner parties and her quick wit. Her greatest joys were her family and co-managing Louis Santucci and Sons Cattle Company with her late husband and two sons and driving her pink pickup.

Renee is survived by her children Louis (Cindy), Deborah (John) and Albert (Michelle); grandchildren Vanessa, Louie, Diane (Erik), Erik, Rachelle (Matt), and Nicole; and great grandchildren Leah, Chris and Carly.

Services will be held at Callaghan Mortuary on Tuesday, January 14 at 12 noon.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations to the Wounded Warriors Project, 4899 Belfort Rd, Ste.300, Jacksonville, FL. 32256.

### Vera V. Moore

Vera V. Moore born May 16, 1923 and died January 4, 2014 in Livermore, CA, at age 90.

Vera was preceded in death by her beloved husband Melvin R. Moore and her 5 sisters. She is survived by her daughter Bridget Nelson and her husband David and two grandchildren Nate and Sara.

Vera was born in San Mateo and was a resident of San Mateo County for 88 years. Her last years she resided with her daughter in Livermore. She was very proud of being a California native. She enjoyed watching football, baseball, singing, and spending time with her grandchildren.

Friends are invited to attend Chapel services, 12 noon, Thursday, January 9, 2014, at Gates of Heaven Cemetery 2255 Cristo Rey Drive Los Altos.

## Remembering Taylor Family Foundation Co-founder, Barry Taylor

Family and friends will gather to celebrate the life of Barry Taylor on Saturday, January 11 at 2 p.m. at Camp Arroyo in Livermore. Known for his compassion and generosity, Barry passed away suddenly on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

Born in 1938 and raised in Northern California, Barry lived the American dream. A self-made man, he obtained his provisional driver's license at the age of 14 so he could get a job to help support his family. In 1972, he founded Taylor Made Copy Systems with \$7,000 in borrowed capital and five employees, several of whom spent their entire careers with the then start up company.

By 1980, Taylor Made was a multi-million dollar company with 2,500 employees providing copiers

and service to corporations in four different counties.

No stranger to philanthropy, Barry sat on the board of the March of Dimes in the 1980s and held fundraisers on their behalf at his home shared with wife Elaine in Lafayette.

"Every time Barry saw a kid in need he would find a way to help," says his wife Elaine Taylor. "He always thought of something bigger than himself."

When the AIDS pandemic began to decimate the smallest, most innocent lives in the San Francisco Bay Area - the children - the Taylors made the decision that they needed to do something to be of assistance. In 1990, The Taylor Family Foundation (TFFF) was founded to raise money and provide support for the families of Bay Area children fighting

AIDS. Today, TFFF facilitates more than 30 summer and weekend camp sessions at Camp Arroyo for children living with HIV/AIDS, skin disease, Crohn's & colitis, diabetes, brain tumors, autism and other chronic and critical illnesses. More than 3,000 children attend camp each year at no cost to their families.

Father of seven, Barry lived life by the simple, yet profound principles of good living: rise to the challenge, work hard, enjoy life and always take care of each other. "He was the best visionary I ever met," said his wife. "The Foundation will probably live on forever. He definitely left his footprint on this planet."

The public is welcome to attend the January 11 service. For details, visit [www.tfff.org](http://www.tfff.org) or call (925) 455-5118.

## Covered California Presentation Scheduled at the Livermore Library

Axis Community Health will give a free presentation of Covered California, the new online "marketplace" that makes it simple and affordable to purchase quality health insurance, on Saturday, January 18, 2:00pm, at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, and again on Monday, February 3, 6:30pm, at Rincon Library, 725 Rincon Avenue.

Attendees will learn how they may be eligible to receive financial assistance

to pay for health insurance plans, or for free coverage through Medi-Cal.

Axis Community Health provides quality, affordable medical, mental health, and substance abuse services that promote the well-being of all members of the community. A non-profit organization founded in 1972, Axis Community Health provides services for 14,000 local residents. In the last year, Tri-Valley residents made more than 115,000 visits to one of their five locations.

Axis Community Health is recognized by Covered California as a Certified Enrollment Entity. This organization has eight Certified Enrollment Counselors who have undergone training to help individuals navigate the new system. For more information about Axis Community Health, call 925-462-1755 or visit [www.axishealth.org](http://www.axishealth.org).

To learn more about additional library events, visit [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## Obituary/ Memoriam Policies

Obituaries are published in The Independent at no charge. There is a small charge for photographs in the obituaries.

Memoriam ads can also be placed in The Independent when families want to honor the memories of their loved ones. There is a charge for memoriam ads, based on the size of the ad.

Please send an email to [editmail@compuserve.com](mailto:editmail@compuserve.com)





## 2014 TRAILS CHALLENGE Park It column

by Ned MacKay

East Bay Regional Park District marks its 80th anniversary this year. People can help celebrate by joining the 2014 Trails Challenge.

Now in its 21st year, the Trails Challenge is a free program encouraging health, fitness, and fun in the regional parks. It's sponsored by the park district, Regional Parks Foundation, and Kaiser Permanent health maintenance organization.

Here's how it works. Beginning Jan. 15, visit the foundation web site, [www.regionalparksfoundation.org](http://www.regionalparksfoundation.org), click on the Trails Challenge logo, and register online. Once registered, you can download a guidebook listing 20 trails throughout the regional parks. There are also instructions on how to obtain a free Trails Challenge T-shirt while supplies last.

Travel any five of the trails, or complete 26.2 miles, send in the log that comes with the guide. A commemorative pin will be sent, while supplies last.

Hiking is not the only way to take on the challenge. Any non-motorized mode of transport is okay, including horse and bicycle. There are trails accessible to wheelchair users, too. The 20 trails are located throughout the district, and vary in difficulty so that all levels of fitness can participate. It's a great way to explore new parklands and discover hidden treasures of an agency that has served the public since 1934.

Although it may seem early to be thinking about spring and summer, the park district will soon be offering seasonal full and part-time positions for youth ages 16 and older. Jobs include lifeguards, recreation leaders, gate attendants and student laborers. The district also has two training programs for student aides to work year-round at visitor centers or in the Public Safety Department.

For more information, visit the web site at [www.ebparks.org/jobs](http://www.ebparks.org/jobs) or contact the park district Human Resources staff at 510-544-2154, or e-mail to [jobs@ebparks.org](mailto:jobs@ebparks.org).

There are two hikes from which to choose this weekend in Richmond. The first is from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11 at Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline, led by naturalist "Trail Gail" Broesder. It's an exploration of life beneath the waters of San Pablo Bay, so be prepared for wet hands and feet. Pt. Pinole Regional Shoreline is on Giant Highway off Richmond Parkway.

The second hike is from 9 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Jan. 12 at Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve, led by naturalist Anthony Fisher. Sobrante Ridge has beautiful views, and is home to the rare and endangered pallid Manzanita. This is one of Anthony's "Tracking the Urban Edge" series, looking for signs of wildlife that lives close to our homes. Meet at the trailhead near the end of Heavenly Ridge Lane in Richmond.

Both programs are free, though Pt. Pinole has a parking fee of \$5 per vehicle. For information on either program, call 510-544-2233.

Tilden Nature Area in Berkeley will host several nature walks and talks in coming days.

Fungi will be the focus of a program from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 12 at the Environmental Education Center, led by interpretive student aide Morgan Rani Evans. You can learn about distinguishing traits of the major groups and which ones grow in the nature area.

To reach the center, park at the end of Tilden's Lone Oak Road off Central Park Drive, then follow the signs on foot.

From 2 to 3:30 p.m. the same day, Anthony Fisher will lead an easy walk to discover the Nature Area's beauty. Meet him at the end of Lone Oak Road.

Bird watchers will join a walk that Anthony is leading from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Jan. 13, from the end of Lone Oak Road through the eucalyptus groves in search of our feathered friends.

All three programs are free. For information, call 510-544-2233.

Art created by youngsters who participated in the "Get to Know" contest is on display at the center through January and February. Canadian naturalist and artist Robert Bateman conceived the contest in an effort to connect youngsters to nature. Center hours are from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Wetland bugs will be featured in a hands-on program from 2 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 12 at Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley. The idea is to see what the little guys can tell us about the Delta ecosystem.

It's free of charge. Big Break is located on Big Break Road off Main Street. For information, call 888-327-2757, ext. 3050.

# Change in Pacific Nitrogen Content Tied to Climate Change

Using deep sea corals gathered near the Hawaiian Islands, a Lawrence Livermore scientist in collaboration with UC Santa Cruz colleagues have determined that a long term shift in nitrogen content in the Pacific Ocean has occurred as a result of climate change.

Overall nitrogen in the North Pacific Ocean has increased by about 20 percent since the mid 1800s, -- a shift, similar to major paleoceanographic transitions in the sedimentary record. This long-term change appears to be continuing today, according to a study published Dec. 15 edition of the journal, *Nature*.

The study combines a unique compound-specific isotope technique (largely being pioneered at University of California, Santa Cruz), measured in deep-sea proteinaceous corals, to reconstruct changes in biogeochemical cycles from the North Pacific subtropical ringlike system of ocean currents.

Using chemical information locked in organic skeletal layers, the team used these ancient corals as detailed recorders of changes at the base of the open Pacific food web over the last 1,000 years. This represents the first detailed biogeochemical records for the planet's largest contiguous ecosystem

"The timing of the change

-- at the start of the anthropogenic era (post-industrial, and coming out of the Little Ice Age) -- begs the question as to whether there is more than just a correlation between our record and, for example, northern hemisphere temperatures and increased dust deposition due to land use change," said Tom Guilderson, a Livermore scientist working at the Laboratory's Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry.

The study, authored by UCSC's Owen Sherwood and Matt McCarthy and LLNL's Guilderson, is a collaborative project to develop novel isotopic measurements, and use them in long-lived deep sea proteinaceous corals.

Colonial corals can live for multiple millennia, making them likely the world's longest living animals. They deposit layers of protein rich skeleton that record the chemical signatures of the constant rain of detrital plankton material from the ocean's surface (the corals' food), making these animals akin to "living sediment traps," according to Sherwood.

However, unlike sediment traps, the corals provide highly detailed records not for decades but for up to thousands of years. This aspect is critical in places like the open Pacific where sediment accumulation is so slow that it is essentially

impossible to get meaningful data for recent centuries.

"We reconstructed highly detailed records of how ocean biogeochemical systems have changed through the Holocene and, in particular, to understand what the 'baselines' really were before instrumental record, and dramatic anthropogenic changes began," Guilderson said.

The results may fundamentally change how we understand open ocean ecosystem stability, Sherwood said. The Pacific contains the largest contiguous ecosystem on the planet. Time series data near Hawaii have shown dynamic decadal scale variability. But the new records from deep corals now show that the decadal-scale time series changes are really only small oscillations superimposed on a dramatic long-term shift at the base of the Pacific ecosystem.

"This also has very significant implications about how we understand, and perhaps, can better predict effects of global warming in the Pacific, but also likely in other subtropical regions," Guilderson said.

The team used isotopes of nitrogen in both the bulk skeleton and in individual amino acids and noticed a significant change in nitrogen isotope ratios in the coral skeleton since the end of the Little Ice Age (about 1850). The observed change

is not due to changes in trophic level but reflects changes in the nitrogen source at the base of the food-web. Nitrogen in the ocean and just like in many gardens is usually a limiting nutrient. Plants (phytoplankton) require nitrogen to turn dissolved inorganic carbon into plant material and start the biological cycle.

"In the marine environment, the two major sources of nitrogen are dissolved nitrate, which is more concentrated in the subsurface and deep water and is brought to the surface by upwelling and mixing, and nitrogen fixation by specialized microorganisms that are like the legumes of the sea," explained first author Owen Sherwood, who worked on the study as a postdoctoral researcher at UCSC and is now at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

The results indicate an increase in nitrogen fixation of 17 percent to 27 percent since the end of the Little Ice Age. This implies that the surface waters are becoming less well mixed with the waters below them and more stratified. The obvious linkages with anthropogenic climate change are increased sea surface temperatures, which increase stabilization of the water column, and changes in the overlying surface winds. A corollary to this, and given the location of the samples, is an expansion of the gyre itself.

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### LEGAL NOTICES

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#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 485645

The following person(s) doing business as: THE QUAD, 5860 W. Las Positas Blvd #7, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): CAT G Enterprises, LLC, 5860 W. Las Positas Blvd #7, Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by a limited liability company The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants :s/ Channing Azzolino, Managing Member This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2013. Expires December 5, 2018. The Independent Legal No. 3582. Published December 19, 26, 2013 January 2, 9, 2014.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 485678

The following person(s) doing business as: Grafco Mini Mart, 1309 Portola Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Harbans Singh, 352 Greenpark Way, San Jose, CA 95136 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants

:s/ Harbans Singh This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 6, 2013. Expires December 6, 2018. The Independent Legal No. 3583. Published December 19, 26, 2013 January 2, 9, 2014.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 485705

The following person(s) doing business as: Crav N Corn, 5334 Starflower Way, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

JVJ Family Foods LLC, 5334 Starflower Way, Livermore, CA 94551 This business is conducted by a Limited liability company The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants :s/ Jennifer M. Vergen - Owner/CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 9, 2013. Expires December 9, 2018. The Independent Legal No. 3585. Published December

19, 26, 2013 January 2, 9, 2014.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 485382

The following person(s) doing business as: A Beautiful Gathering, 1826 Broadmoor St., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amanda Bea Gagliardi, 1826 Broadmoor St., Livermore, CA 94551 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s)

listed above on 10/01/2013. Signature of Registrants :s/ Amanda Bea Gagliardi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 26, 2013. Expires November 26, 2018. The Independent Legal No. 3586. Published December 19, 26, 2013 January 2, 9, 2014.

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 486274

The following person(s) doing business as: Diablo Valley Property Management, 1779 Mill Springs Common, #315,

Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Judith D. Pipkin, 1779 Mill Springs Common, #315, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/20/2013. Signature of Registrants :s/ Judith D. Pipkin This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 26, 2013. Expires December 26, 2018.



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**REAL ESTATE NEWS AND NOTICES**

## Moving with Children

By Cher Wollard

Buying a new home is exciting. Moving into it, though, can be stressful. And if it's stressful for the adults in the household, imagine how difficult it can be for children.

A little planning ahead of time can make a big difference, whether you are moving across the street or across the country.

1. Do not wait to tell your children about the move. Kids need time to get used to the idea. Explain where you are moving and why you are moving.

Be short and to the point when trying to explain the move to younger children. Use words they can understand such as, "Daddy got a promotion at work and we're moving to where his new office will be," or "Since your grandfather got sick, Grandma needs our help." We're moving to be closer to them," or "We need a much bigger house and we've found a place that has what we all need."

Highlight benefits of moving that your kids can understand.

For example, if you say that that you're moving to another town because the schools there are better, that may not mean much to younger children. Pointing out that the new schools will have more activities your child will enjoy, however, such as more sports teams or a band, are reasons children can comprehend and look forward to.

2. Welcome their questions about moving. Most kids want to know about their new school, neighborhood, sport teams and city. But they may also have questions you hadn't thought of, such as, "how hard is it to make friends?" and "are we taking our dog?"

Their questions may even give you ideas of how to get them involved in the moving process, such as suggesting they get online to locate nearby libraries or parks.

Use maps and pictures as illustration to make the move more concrete.

If your children can understand maps, have one that shows the community where you are moving to. Together, locate where you will be living and places of interest around your new place.

If you are moving far, have a map that shows where you are now and where you're moving. Help them trace the distance and even plot out a route you might take when moving from here to there. If possible, have photographs of the community and your new home that your kids can appreciate.

3. Be positive and upbeat about the move. This can be challenging, especially if you are moving due to divorce, foreclosure or job loss, or being transferred to an area you are not sure about.

But even in the best of circumstances, grownups can get caught up in the many details involved and lose sight of the benefits the move will bring their family. Your attitude will influence your kids' reaction.

4. Let your children know they can help with the move. The more involved children are, the more they will feel connected to their new home before they even arrive. Let them help pack their own toys and clothes. If they are older, they may want to research the area you are moving to or help plan the route to their new home.

5. Give your child a plan for his or her room. Providing your child with as much information as you can about the new house will help them make some decisions beforehand, such as where to place furniture and what color to paint their walls.

6. Help your child plan goodbyes. Some may want a party while others prefer having a few close friends over for a final slumber party. Your child may want a few separate events, for example, one for school friends, one for neighbors and another for the baseball team.

Then, help your child to create an address book – on paper or online -- where contact information for friends, teachers, coaches, etc. can be kept.

7. Give each child a list of tasks to do, including sorting out their room. Help them donate or add to the garage sale items any unused toys or toys they no longer play with, along with clothing they've out-grown.

Show children how to properly pack and label a box, then make a "packing date" where both you and your child spend time sorting and packing. Reward "packing dates" with pizza or movie nights.

8. Help your children make a "Moving Survival Kit" – a special box with games, books and photographs of their friends to keep them busy on the road.

9. Make time for saying goodbye to favorite haunts. Is there a special ice-cream shop your child liked to visit? What about a museum, or park, or swimming pool? Make a calendar and mark out the days and event/place you'll go. This will prepare your child for saying goodbye to special places.

10. Reassure them that their life won't change dramatically.

They will still have a school and a place to play; pets and favorite toys and belongings will go with them.

Then make sure the first night in your new home is very special for the whole family.

Here are 10 well-reviewed children's books about moving (there are many more to choose from):

- Saying Good-bye, Saying Hello by Michaelene Mundy
- The Berenstain Bears' Moving Day by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- Alexander, Who's Not (Do you hear me? I mean it!) Going to Move by Judith Viorst
- I Don't Live Here by P. Conrad
- I'm Moving by M. W. Hickman
- Maggie and the Goodbye Gift by S. Milord & J. Milord
- Moving House by Anne Civardi
- Big Ernie's New Home by Teresa Martin
- Boomer's Big Day by Constance W. McGeorge
- The Moving Book: A Kids' Survival Guide by Gabriel Davis

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

The Independent Legal No. 3587. Published January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2014.

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**

**FILE NO. 470643**  
The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Diablo Valley Property Management, 1860 Meadow Glen Drive, Livermore, CA 94551.

The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on October 10, 2012 in the County of Alameda.

The full name of Registrant: Victor A. Romero, 1860 Meadow Glen Drive, Livermore, CA 94551

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Victor A. Romero

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 26, 2013. Expires December 26, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3588. Published January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2014.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**FILE NO. 485891**

The following person(s) doing business as: Erin's Cookies, 2179 Autinori Ct, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Erin Sue Crimale, 2179 Autinori Ct, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/15/2013.

Signature of Registrants: /s/ Erin Crimale

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 12, 2013. Expires December 12, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3589. Published January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2014.

**ANIMALS**

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**ADOPT A DOG OR CAT.** For adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656.

**Adopt a new best friend:** TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, call Terry at (925)487-7279 or visit our website at [www.tvvar.org](http://www.tvvar.org)

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# Benefit to Raise Funds for Fallen Heroes

By Carol Graham

What Fire Captain Kurtis Dickey misses most about his friend is his laugh.

"Paul was fun and funny," Dickey said of Paul Chenkovich, a retired Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Captain who passed away on November 5, 2013 after a three-year battle with occupational brain cancer. "He was a sincere friend. I miss his laugh, which I can still hear."

To help Chenkovich's widow, eight-year-old daughter and 15-year-old son, the local non-profit Benefits For Fallen Heroes (BFF Heroes) is holding a Benefit Poker Tournament on Saturday, January 25th. All are invited to participate.

"Our foundation supports police, firefighters and military service members who die in the line of duty," said founder and CEO Bob Bishop. "I didn't know Paul, but I attended his funeral and witnessed the massive display of support from the community and his fellow firefighters. Paul is the first person who we know of from Alameda County to die in the line of duty since we started the foundation last year."

The poker tournament will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Livermore Elk's Lodge located near the Springtown Golf Course, at 940 Larkspur Avenue.

"Our success is dependent on the participation of the community," added Bishop. "Skill level is not important. I've heard people say, 'I'm not very good at poker.' Great! Come have fun. We group people based on skill so everyone has an equal start. A lot of effort has been put into this tournament, but it will only be successful if people sign up and participate. All the people who help me with the foundation are volunteers. None of us receives any compensation, and 100% of the profits from the event will go to helping Paul's family."

Chenkovich, LFPD's 2013 Firefighter of the Year, grew up in Pleasanton and started his career with the U.S. Forest Service. He then spent 10 years with the El Dorado Hills Fire Department before joining the LFPD in 2000, with a promotion to Fire Captain in 2008. He was involved with EMS and Fleet issues as well



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Well wishers paid tribute as the funeral procession for Fire Captain Paul Chenkovich drove past.

as department programs including "Every 15 Minutes" and the Child Safety Seat Program.

While flames and smoke are well-known threats to firefighters, occupational cancer is a more silent killer. Researchers with the National Institutes of Safety and Health have found high instances of cancers of the respiratory and digestive systems and brain cancer in firefighters. Synthetic foam stuffing in couches, wood preservatives in tables and chairs, fire retardants in curtains and upholstery, and asbestos in older structures all produce known carcinogens when they burn.

LFPD Chief Jim Miguel said Chenkovich's passing has been a wake-up call.

"Captain Chenkovich was a friend to all, very good at his job, and a triathlete with a beautiful young family," he said, adding that new preventative practices, such as monitoring air and disinfecting gear, have made a big difference.

For now, however, it's about helping a grieving family. The poker tournament's entry donation of \$100 will net participants \$100 worth of coupons to local merchants in addition to gaining eligibility for the tournament's grand prize of a week-long Hawaiian vacation for four, plus \$500 in gift cards from local merchants.

"This is really a win-win for everyone. Players get

their \$100 back in coupons to places they'll probably go anyway, plus great free food and soft drinks just for playing," said Bishop.

Food is provided by local favorites Sauced, Melo's, Casa Orozco and Buffalo Wild Wings. A full, no-host bar will also be available.

Throughout 2014, BFF Heroes (no affiliation with other Fallen Heroes organizations) will continue to raise money for others through events including a golf tournament, 5K run, Wente Concert featuring Madison Rising, bowling tournament, and black tie dinner. Those interested can sign up for email notifications on the foundation's Web site.

"All of our events give participants a feeling of be-

ing involved in something that is bigger than any of us alone. The events are fun and well-attended so people can meet others from all walks of life," said Bishop.

The poker tournament is limited to the first 50 players. Online pre-registration is required.

"We hope that everyone will show their support for those who became our best friends forever when they traded their lives for our safety," said Bishop. "We also hope that people will meet their new best friends forever among all the great people who attend our events."

For more information, visit [www.bffheroes.com](http://www.bffheroes.com), or email [info@bffheroes.com](mailto:info@bffheroes.com).

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~ T.S. Eliot

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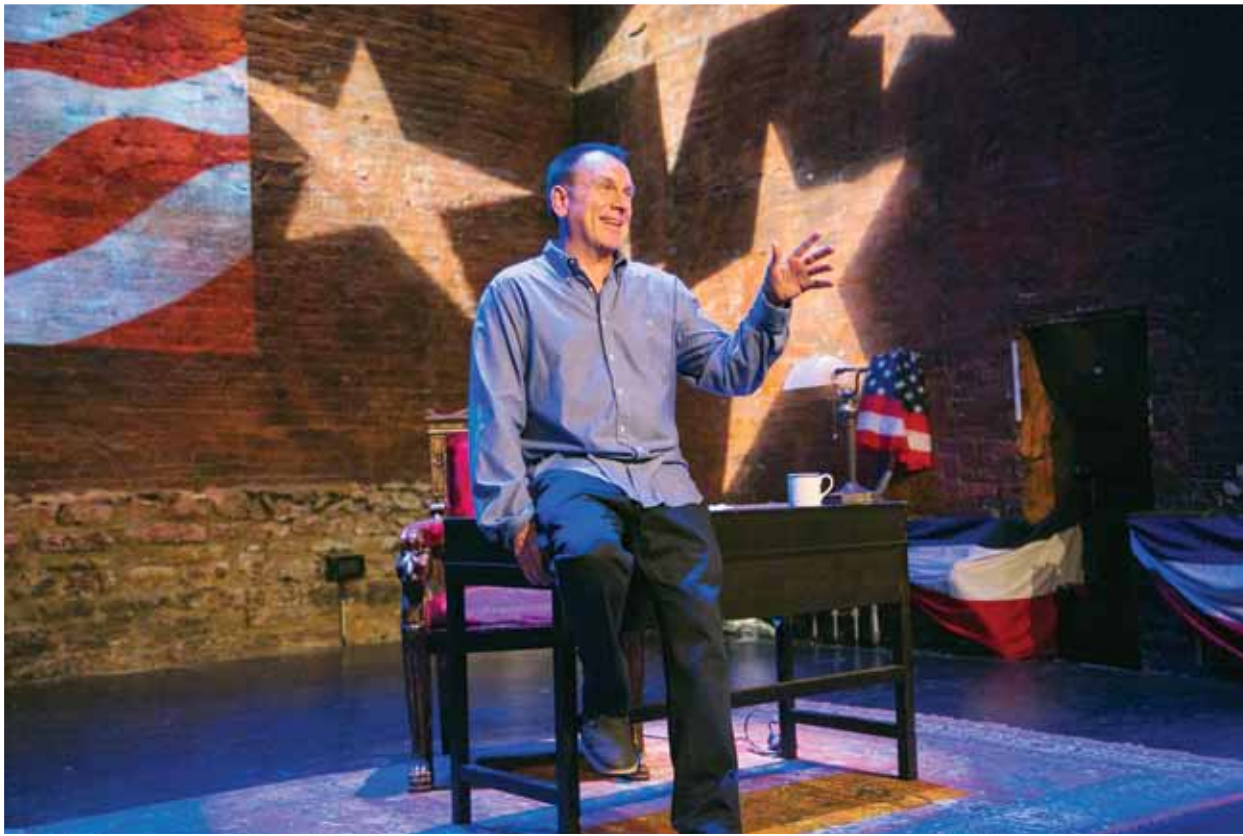
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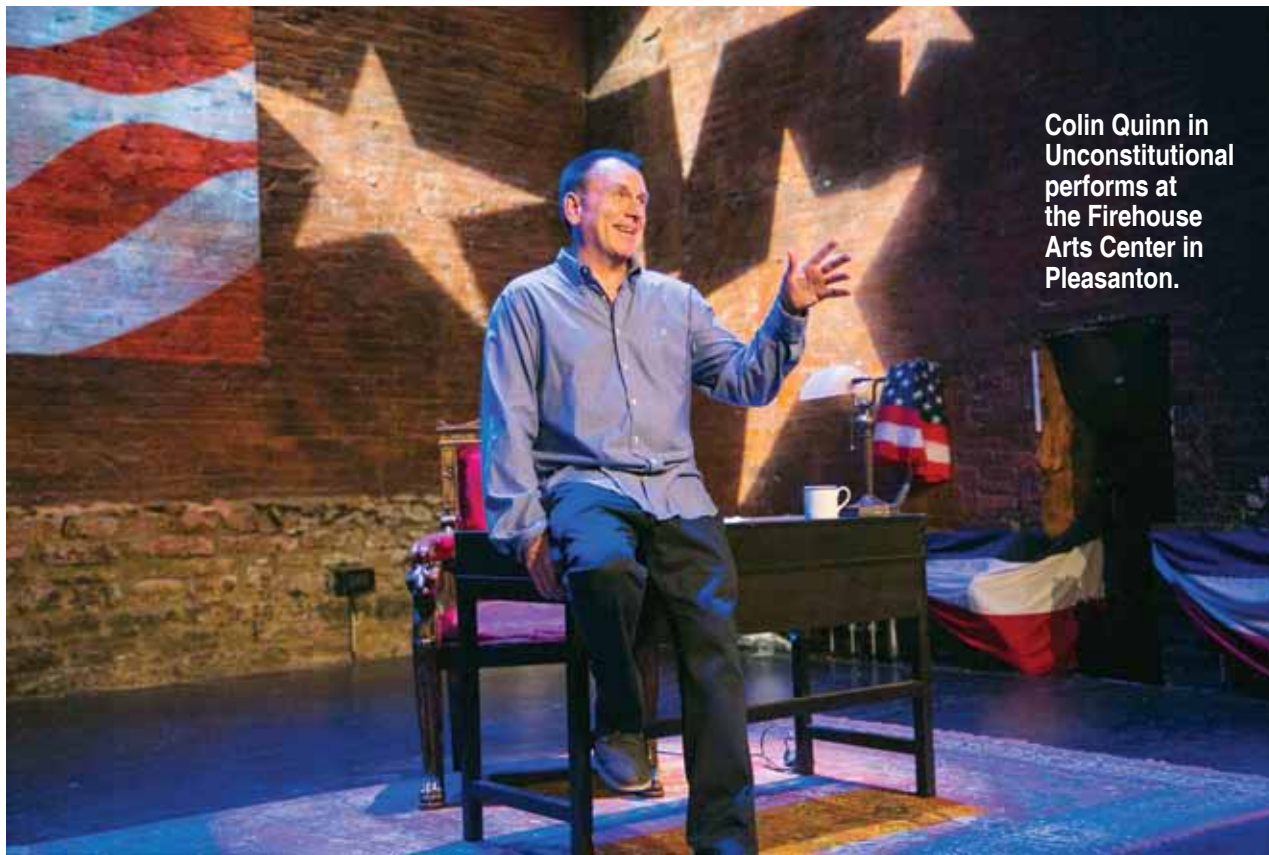
# THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Events pictured include (starting at top left and moving clockwise) Comedian Colin Quinn (page 2); art exhibits open at Harrington Gallery (page 4); Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's 'The Drowsy Chaperone' (page 3); author at library (page 7); and folk singer John McCutcheon (page 6).







Colin Quinn in *Unconstitutional* performs at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

## Emmy Nominated SNL Comic Tackles 226 Years of American History in One-Man Show

TV, stage, and film star Colin Quinn hits the Bay Area on the national tour of his new solo show, *Colin Quinn: Unconstitutional*. He will perform one show only on Friday, January 17, at 8:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

“On May 25th, 1787, fifty-five delegates in wigs and tights sat down to create a country from scratch,” says Quinn. Now in 2014 he offers his unique comedic perspective on our national character, pulling no punches on everything from predator drones to the Kardashians, and asking if this was really what the Founding Fathers had planned. New York Daily News called the show “Fast, furious and funny! In Quinn we trust,” and Broadway World said, “70 hilarious minutes of plainspoken wit!”

Reserved seating tickets

are \$30, \$35, \$40. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.

A native of Brooklyn, Colin Quinn began his stand-up career in New York as a regular on the comedy club circuit.

He made his television debut as co-host of MTV’s popular game show *Remote Control*. In 1995, Quinn landed a spot on the legendary late-night show *Saturday Night Live* (SNL), where he entertained audiences for five seasons, creating a number of iconic characters and

celebrity impersonations, as well as headlining the recurring segments “Colin Quinn Explains the New York Times,” and “Week-end Update” with his well-known closing catchphrase “That’s my story and I’m sticking to it.”

After SNL, Quinn hosted “The Colin Quinn Show” on NBC, and tackled societal issues on Comedy Central’s “Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn,” in which he served as the show’s host, creator, and executive producer from 2002-2004.

In addition to his television work, Colin has appeared in many films, including *A Night at the Roxbury*, *Comedian*, and the 2010 Adam Sandler movie *Grown Ups*.

Colin’s first one-man show, *Sanctifying Grace*, began off-Broadway in 1994 and was later produced as *Colin Quinn: An Irish Wake*,

and played the famous Helen Hayes Theater on Broadway. In 2010 he returned to the Helen Hayes Theater and starred in the hit Broadway one-man show “Colin Quinn Long Story Short,” which was directed by Jerry Seinfeld. That production was not only nominated for a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Solo Performance, but also for an Emmy Award when it aired as an HBO special in 2011. In that show, Quinn focused his trade-mark satirical lens at the “history of the world,” exploring the attitudes, appetites and habits that toppled some of the world’s most powerful empires.

Among Quinn’s current projects in addition to his national tour of *Colin Quinn: Unconstitutional*, are a couple of films, a role on the Emmy-winning hit “Girls,” oh, and he claims to be the current king of Twitter...

## Playwrights' Theatre Presents 'Inspired by O'Neill'

“Inspired by O’Neill” — Playwrights’ Theatre, January 11 and 12 Features Emerging Bay Area Writers  
Audiences attending the January 11 and January 12 Playwrights’ Theatre event, presented by the Eugene O’Neill Foundation, will be treated to a selection of short plays by an important group of emerging Bay Area playwrights, plus a work by a Danville student.

Writers from Playground Theatre Company of San Francisco and Pear Avenue Playwright’s Guild in Mountain view will offer seven ten-minute plays inspired by the very O’Neillian theme “Haunted by the Past,” provided by the Eugene O’Neill Foundation. The seven plays were selected from over forty submissions.

Performances are scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on January 11, and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 12 at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Avenue, Danville. Tickets are available on-line at [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org), or by phone at (925) 820-1818. Seating at the Museum is limited, so advance reservations are recommended.

The January program augments the annual Playwrights’ Theatre events held each May at the Old Barn at the Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site in Danville, where playwright O’Neill lived from 1937-1943, and where he wrote his most famous plays, including *A Long Days Journey into Night*, *The Iceman Cometh*, and *A Touch of the Poet*, among others.

The seven plays included in the January program are: *Attention Must Be Paid* by Patricia Cotter; *Spring Cleaning* by Ruben Grijalva; *Only Forever* by Karen Macklin; *What Doesn’t Kill You* by Diane Gribshaw; *Dibs on the Scotty Dog* by Katie May; *Significant People* by Amy Sass; and *So Much History* by Robin Lynn Rodriguez.

“Both Playground and Pear Avenue Theatre have done presentations at Tao House before,” says O’Neill Foundation program director Eric Fraisher Hayes. “We want to encourage the fine work that they do.”

In addition to the short plays from Playground and Pear Avenue Theatre, a short “curtain warmer” will be featured at the top of the program. *A Girls’ Night Out* by Jenelle Doolittle, a student at Monte Vista High School in Danville, was written as part of the Foundation’s educational O’Neill Studio Retreat held each summer at Tao House.

The Eugene O’Neill Foundation, Tao House is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the legacy of the only American playwright to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. The Foundation works closely with the National Park Service at the Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site in the Danville hills.





Rehearsing for the opening of Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's production of "The Drowsy Chaperone" are (from left) Meghan Ihle (Kitty); Jeff Seaberg (Feldzieg); Janet van de Graffe (Catherine Williamson); Gangster #1 (Justin Isla); and Gangster #2 (Daniel Quezada).

## Musical Comedy, 'The Drowsy Chaperone,' On Stage

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre begins 2014 with a production of musical comedy, "The Drowsy Chaperone."

Performances are set for weekends January 18 through February 1 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

"The Drowsy Chaperone" tells the story of a modern day musical theater addict known simply as "Man in Chair." To chase his blues away he drops the needle on his favorite LP - the 1928 musical comedy, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. From the crackle of his hi-fi, the musical magically bursts to life on-stage telling the tale of a pampered Broadway starlet who wants to give up show business to get married, her producer who sets out to sabotage the nuptials, her chaperone, the debonair groom, the dizzy chorine, the Latin lover and a pair of gangsters who double as

pastry chefs. Man in Chair's love of *The Drowsy Chaperone* speaks to anyone who has ever been transported by the theatre.

The completely original musical comedy is directed and choreographed by Christina Lazo and Misty Megia and the musical direction of Joe Simiele, with music and lyrics by Tony Award winners Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison and a book by Tony Award winners Bob Martin and Don McKellar.

The cast for the production includes Man in the Chair: Ron Lytle, *The Drowsy Chaperone*: Alexis Rogers, Janet van de Graffe; Catherine Williamson, Robert Martin; Ryan Cowles, George; Marty Newton, Adolpho; Alex Orenberg, Mrs. Tottendale; Belinda Maloney, Underling; Scott Maraj, Feldzieg; Jeff Seaberg, Kitty; Meghan Ihle, Trix; Anne Milbourne, Gangster #1;

Justin Isla, Gangster #2; Daniel Quezada, Super; Bob Stratton, Ensemble; Erin Carrino, Max DeSantis, Carmen Hanson, Lisa Otterstetter, Liz Schinella, Nick Sears.

Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays with an extra matinee on Sat., Feb. 1.

### Public Invited to Paint Like Jackson Pollock

The Bothwell Arts Center and its Downtown Arts Studios invite the public to celebrate Jackson Pollock's Birthday Month and try a little Action Painting themselves. First, with action painting cookie decorating at the Downtown Art Studios at 62 So. L Street, from 6-7:30 during Open Studios on January 9th.

Next, on Tuesday, January 21st, head over to the main Bothwell Arts Center at 2466 8th Street, Livermore from 7-9pm and try some full-on action painting. Wear painting attire, this can get messy. Bring canvas (stretched or unstretched) or something you want to spatter, splatter and streak. Paint will be supplied.

For information, visit. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org).

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

Tickets are available at the box office, online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or by calling 373-6800.

For more information, about Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, visit [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org).

## BANKHEAD THEATER SEASON 13/14



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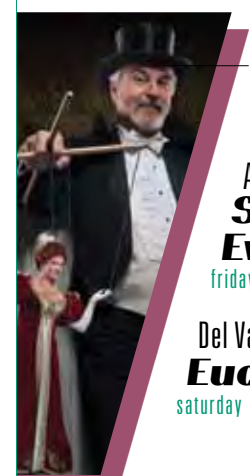
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Pictured are (from left) *Still Life with Squash* by Cary Bailey; #213 by Rebecca Fox; *Summer* by Claire Schroeven Verbiest; ceramic vessels by Mark Goudy; and *Transparent Umbrellas* by Melanie Lacki.



## Just Add Water / Black on White: New Installations at Harrington Gallery

The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center presents the first major exhibit of 2014, a double installation, taking advantage of the unique gallery architecture to present two interestingly paired yet distinct exhibits.

The large gallery will host “Just Add Water,” featuring four prominent Bay Area watercolorists and two ceramic sculptors: Melanie Lacki, Claire Schroeven Verbiest, Anne F. Fallin, David Savellano painters, and Mark Goudy and Liza Riddle ceramists. In contrast, the adjacent Old Engine Bay Gal-

lery will exhibit “Black on White,” with artists Cary Bailey, Holly Wach, and Rebecca Fox and works in ink, charcoal, and welded steel respectively.

The Opening Artists’ Reception will be held on Wednesday evening, January 22, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome to come explore the exhibit, ask questions and chat with the artists and gallery staff. The reception is free and open to the public.

The four watercolorists whose works are on display in Just Add Water

are all nationally known, award-winning artists who are highly regarded in their field, with a combined 100-plus years of experience in painting with watercolor between them. Their styles and techniques range from wet-in-wet, dry-brush, plein air, realism, abstract, and sometimes an interesting mix of the above.

Painter Melanie Lacki has pieces hanging in collections throughout the world and catalogued in numerous museums. Lacki, who currently resides in Pleasanton, has displayed her work in national and international ex-

hibitions, and has received many notable awards and honors. *American Artist Magazine* featured an article about her distinctive use of color, and her works have been published in a variety of books. Of her work, she says: “I prefer to work in a representational style, as this style lends itself to a wide range of interpretations. To me, a painting must be simply stated, while allowing the subject to dictate the medium and technique.”

Claire Schroeven Verbiest is a native of Belgium who lived in the Congo and Germany before moving to

San Jose. An award-winning artist and a signature member of several art societies, Verbiest’s painting “Haute Cuisine” received the High Winds Medal at the American Watercolor Society’s prestigious annual exhibition in 1999. In addition to teaching painting and pastel classes and workshops throughout North America and Europe, Claire often serves as an art show juror. “My obsession is to charm the eye with intense color, dramatic light and strong design,” states Verbiest.

David Savellano works primarily en plein air (out-

doors), creating watercolor paintings that capture random moments on the street, in nature, and especially in urban settings. Savellano says he finds that “the most alluring subjects and scenarios are often fleeting or temporary at best... When you paint outdoors, you’re completely immersed in the scene, the atmosphere, the mood... and actually capture its essence.” A native Californian living currently in Alameda, David credits his 30 years experience as an architect with having given him the drawing skills and strong

(continued on page 5)



## HARRINGTON

(continued from page 4)

sense of perspective that inform his art.

The recipient of over 200 art awards, Walnut Creek's Anne F. Fallin has exhibited her paintings throughout the US in numerous prestigious national shows. Her paintings are in public and private collections across the United States as well as many foreign countries. They are recognized by their upbeat and sometimes humorous themes, dramatic color, and strong design.

The two sculptors who will be showing in the Just Add Water exhibit are art studio partners and husband and wife Mark Goudy and Liza Riddle (www.thundercloudstudio.com). Both create burnished earthenware vessels, often extremely fine and smooth, with intricate and surprisingly colorful markings, but with very different forms and aesthetics. Goudy describes his current work: "These vessels are constructed from asymmetric parabolic surfaces that project a unique contour with each viewing angle... My approach is to combine ancient methods of stone-burnishing and earthenware firing with computer-aided shape design to produce talismans that fuse traditional and modern aesthetics." Riddle says of her pieces: "I have been deeply inspired by the rhythm, patterns and forces of life... during extensive travels around the world." She continues to describe part of her process: "Instead of glazing, I paint the bisque vessels with water soluble metals - iron, nickel, cobalt, and other slats - chemicals that permeate the non-vitrified clay... I have developed my own mixtures of metal salts and techniques for apply-

ing these almost transparent 'watercolors'."

The "Black on White" exhibition in the Engine Bay gallery space was the inspiration of Harrington Gallery Director Julie Finegan in response to the colorful "Just Add Water" installation. San Francisco artist Cary Bailey uses black ink to create still lifes that are intricately detailed and slightly whimsical.

Charcoal artist Holly Wach's works are sensuous and expressive, and evidence her fascination with the mythical. Wach has a variety of exhibits and solo shows, having received her MFA summa cum laude from New York Academy of Fine Arts in 2001.

Rebecca Fox also lives and works in San Francisco, and has been creating welded steel sculpture for sixteen years, and has developed an extensive following of collectors with her work in over 150 private and public collections throughout the United States. Among her career highlights are exhibitions at the SFMOMA Artists Gallery and ArtSpan's prestigious Selections 2010. Fox's work shown at "Black on White" will be selected, in addition to their intrinsic interest, for their dark silhouettes in the gallery in complement to the wall art, states Finegan.

The exhibit will be on display January 22 through February 22 at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and one hour before most performances and during intermissions. Admission for this exhibit is free, and donations are accepted.



Out of the Dark by Maryann Kot



Theater Blues by Jonathon Miller

## Exhibitions Explore the "New" Medium of Colored Pencil and Cyanotype

"To the Point," an exhibition by local colored pencil artists, will explore the vibrant and versatile art created by artist Maryann Kot and her students. The show will be on view for Bankhead Theater patrons from January 8th to March 5th, 2014. A reception for the artists will be held on January 16th from 6:00-7:30pm. The reception is free and open to the public.

Colored pencil used to be considered a medium mainly for teens and sketchbooking only. Not anymore. Artists across the country are taking the pencil to new heights, and interest in the medium has been exploding in the east bay area. Thanks to

the efforts of artist and instructor Maryann Kot, who has spent the past year teaching new technique and helping to develop the skills of her students in the medium, Livermore now boasts enough colored pencil artists to now be considered the seat for the Colored Pencil Society of America's Northern California Chapter. Society workshops will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center, where Kot teaches and has her working studio space.

Kot is an award-winning artist with a Nature Illustration Certificate from the Tucson Desert Museum Art Institute in Arizona, has had solo shows in Tucson and the Bay Area, and

shown across the country. Her students, many of whom are known for their works in other mediums, have created works of beauty under Kot's tutelage.

"Theater Blues," an effort to capture images of aging movie theaters in cyanotype, presents the works of Bothwell's Downtown Art Studios artist Jonathon Miller in the Bankhead Theater's Founder's Room. The use of cyanotype processing creates an unforgettable and unique image. Miller's singular sense of composition and light, combined

with his sensitive eye, make the viewing an artful experience. As his works will show in the Founder's Room, which is open to Bankhead Members only and only during LVPAC Presents events, viewing during the artists reception, shared with "To the Point" artists, on January 16th, is particularly important.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. Rotating art exhibitions are also presented in the lobby and Founder's Room throughout the year. For information, visit [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org).

THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
2177 Las Positas Ct, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551  
(925) 454-1974  
[www.neptune-society.com](http://www.neptune-society.com)  
Sam Miller, Branch Director



**Kenneth Billheimer, Au.D.**

Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

**Sierra Parini, Au.D.**

Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

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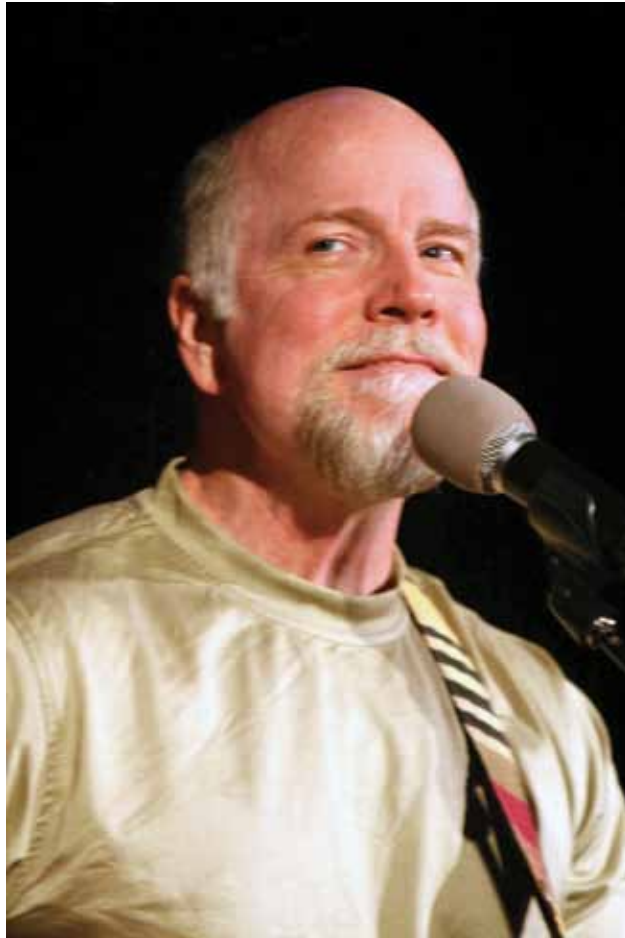


# John McCutcheon, Folk Music Master, in Concert at Asbury in Livermore

One of America's best known and most prolific folk artists, John McCutcheon, will be in concert at 4 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 12 at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore.

McCutcheon, whose annual trips to northern California over the past three decades have generated a legion of faithful fans, is a Wisconsin native who Johnny Cash once called "the most impressive instrumentalist I've ever heard." With over thirty recording collections in his career, and a hundred concerts annually around the country and internationally, McCutcheon has emerged as one of our most respected and loved folksingers. As an instrumentalist, he is a master of a dozen different traditional instruments, most notably the rare and beautiful hammered dulcimer. His songwriting has been hailed by critics and singers around the globe and he has received seven Grammy nominations.

Gifted as a live performer McCutcheon's ease with people of all ages makes his concert performances



**John McCutcheon**

engaging theater; and now, for the first time, he is using his gifts to create a one-man

stage production. Gifted with a storytelling style that has been compared to

Will Rogers and Garrison Keillor, The Washington Post described John as folk music's "Rustic Renaissance Man," and the Dallas Morning News once said of him "Calling John McCutcheon a 'folksinger' is like saying Deion Sanders is just a football player..." People of every generation and background seem to feel at home in a concert hall when John McCutcheon takes the stage, with what critics describe as "little feats of magic," "breath-taking in their ease and grace..." and "like a conversation with an illuminating old friend." Information on John McCutcheon can be found at his web site [www.folkmusic.com](http://www.folkmusic.com).

Tickets are \$15 in advance, as well as for students and seniors. \$20 at the door. Tickets may be purchased during the week at the church office open M-F, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to noon. Doors open at 3:15 p.m. – seating is limited.

For concert details and ticket purchasing on-line see the concert website at [www.asburylivepresents.com](http://www.asburylivepresents.com). Further information by phone 925-447-1950.



## Paws in Need Benefit Set for February 8

Treat your Valentine to a tasty crab feast and help save the life of a local pet and help prevent animal overpopulation by attending the Paws In Need Valentine Crab Feed on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

A dinner, raffle and silent auction will take place from 6-10 pm at the Shannon Center, 11600 Shannon Ave. in Dublin.

The menu includes cracked crab, pasta, Caesar salad, bread, dessert, and coffee or tea. A no-host bar offering beer, wine, and nonalcoholic beverages will be available.

There will be many opportunities for lucky bidders to take home raffle baskets and silent auction items.

All proceeds will benefit local animals. The Spay/Neuter and Just Like New programs rely solely on public donations and contributions from the community to provide financial assistance for veterinary medical needs to prevent unnecessary euthanasia of animals in the Tri-Valley area.

Dinner tickets are \$48 per person when purchased by January 18, and \$53 thereafter.

Tickets are available online at [www.Paws-In-Need.org](http://www.Paws-In-Need.org), or by mail; please send checks to Paws In Need, P.O. Box 3436, San Ramon, CA 94583. Please contact event coordinator Cindy Ferrin at [cferrin@pacbell.net](mailto:cferrin@pacbell.net) or 925-323-8517 for more information.

## Murder in the Library Event

Murder on the Menu® presents "Murder in the Library: Dewey Decimated!" at the Livermore Library on February 22 starting at 7 p.m.

This Livermore Reads Together event is for adults 21 and over. Tickets are available for \$10 per person at the Friends of the Library Bookstore located in the Civic Center Library. Light refreshments and wine (with ID) will be served.

Dewey has been found "decimated" at the Livermore Public Library. Help is needed to uncover the killer – interview suspects and collaborate with fellow detectives to solve the crime.

This interactive murder mystery event is part of Livermore Reads Together 2014, a community-wide reading program sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. Tickets are available starting on January 15. For more information, call 373-5505.

## December Teen Poet of the Month Recognized

Adam Lam has been selected as the December "Teen Poet of the Month."

His winning entry is "Relationship"

She waited for him day after day  
a young Chinese "maiden", to her dismay  
she would subsidize her love  
without having but a penny  
her love was to paralyze her  
each moment she longed for proposal  
only to see the thoughts of her to his disposal

Days pass the maiden by and by  
emptiness in her like a cloudless sky  
once an iron bound love  
now an emaciated dove  
betrayal between the bond of people  
so much torment upon her steeple

Livermore Poet Laureate Kevin Gunn sponsors the competition. The theme for January is "Bullying."

Send poems to [livermorepoetry@gmail.com](mailto:livermorepoetry@gmail.com) by January 25. They should be 30 lines or less in length.



## Storied Nights at Peet's on January 9

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center and Peet's Coffee and Tea sponsor Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word. The fun and eclectic literary series is produced by Livermore residents Cynthia Patton and Marilyn Kamelgarn.

This month's theme is Fire and Ice and New Beginnings. Local writers James Bonacci and Richard Thorne (whose work will be read posthumously) will share

their work. They will be joined by John Hutchinson, Marilyn Kamelgarn, and Cynthia Patton who will read Ogden Nash, Naomi Shihab Nye, Robert Frost, David Sedaris, and other literary delights.

The event will take place on Thursday, January 9, 2013, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 South Livermore Ave, in downtown Livermore.

Cynthia Patton, the

event's host, says: "Storied Nights showcases the best of the local literary scene, featuring amazing Tri-Valley poets and writers. Come join us for an evening of caffeine and creativity."

Storied Nights will continue on the second Thursday of each month and features local authors reading their work.

For more information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

## Local Author of 'The Golem and the Jinni' to Speak at the Commonwealth Club

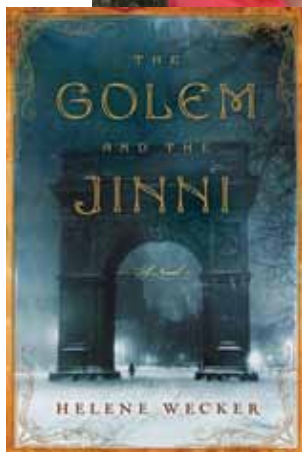
The Commonwealth Club's Middle East Forum presents an author and book signing starting at noon on Fri., Jan. 10.

Featured will be Helene Wecker, Pleasanton author of "The Golem and the Jinni." The event will be moderated by Raeshma Razvi, Director of Arts and Culture at the N. California Islamic Center

Wecker will discuss *The Golem and the Jinni* her imaginative novel, which blends Jewish mythology and Arabic mythology to create a fascinating story that cultural borders. It was named one of the 100 best books of 2013 by the S.F. Chronicle.

Free to students and club members; \$20 to the public. Information at [www.commonwealthclub.org/4155976705](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/4155976705).

The Commonwealth Club is located at 595 Marek St., San Francisco (next to Montgomery BART).



Helene Wecker featured in program.



Kevin Smokler

## Author Presents Program at Livermore Library

Kevin Smokler, author of *Practical Classics: 50 Reasons to Reread 50 Books You Haven't Touched Since High School*, will speak at 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 19, 2014 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event.

He asks: what do the great books of your youth have to say about your life now? Remember reading *Catcher in the Rye* and *The Great Gatsby* in high school? How about *Slaughterhouse-Five* and *Pride and Prejudice*? Would you read them again now that no one is grading you, just for your own enjoyment? This book helps you decide to do just that.

Smokler will guide you through fifty books commonly assigned in high school English class and show you why you'd probably enjoy rereading the same books as an adult. His essays on the classics-witty, down-to-earth, appreciative, and insightful-are divided into ten sections, each covering an archetypal stage of life-from youth and first love, to family, loss and the future. The author not only reminds

audience members about the essential features of each great book, but gives a practical, real-world reason why revisiting it in adulthood is not only enjoyable but useful. Can *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* help you cope with aging? What does *To Kill a Mockingbird* have to say about being a parent? How about *Fahrenheit 451* on not getting stuck in a crappy job? *Practical Classics* gives you an incentive to reread and a reason why.

Kevin Smokler ([www.kevinsmokler.com](http://www.kevinsmokler.com)) is a writer, thinker, and public speaker based in San Fran-

cisco. He has lectured on the arts and their role in contemporary society at The Commonwealth Club of California, The Idea Festival, Book Expo America and universities such as Stanford and Johns Hopkins. He sits on the advisory board of the South by Southwest Interactive Conference where he has been a featured speaker since 2003.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).





## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

**Livermore Art Association Gallery**, located in the Carnegie Building, offers art classes, unusual gifts, painting rentals, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 2155 Third St., Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and is run as a co-op by local artists. Hours are Wed.-Sun. 11:30-4 p.m. For information call 449-9927.

**"Where We Live,"** the beauty of the Livermore Valley, is the theme of an invitational art show at Prudential California Realty. Artists displaying work are Carolyn Ramsey, Nova Starling, Bette Goosman and John West. The show will be on display at the new office at 1983 Second Street through January 13, 2014. The public is invited to view the show during regular business hours or by appointment. For information, contact Cher Wollard at 784-4679 or cherw@cherw.com.

**Pollock-style action painting** on canvas at Bothwell Arts Center, Jan. 21, at 2466 8th Street, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org.

**Just Add Water — Black on White:** The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center presents two new concurrent exhibitions. The large gallery will host "Just Add Water," featuring four prominent Bay Area watercolorists and two ceramic sculptors: Melanie Lacki, Claire Schroeven Verbiest, Anne F. Fallin, David Savellano painters, and Mark Goudy and Liza Riddle ceramicists. In contrast, the adjacent Old Engine Bay Gallery will exhibit "Black on White," with artists Cary Bailey, Holly Wach, and Rebecca Fox and works in ink, charcoal, and welded steel respectively. Open January 22 through February 22 at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Free reception with artists Wednesday, January 22, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations always appreciated.

**"Multiply by Six Million: Portraits and Stories of Holocaust Survivors,"** an exhibition showcasing photographer Evvy Eisen's 15-year-long project to create portraits of Holocaust survivors living in California and to collect their personal histories. Museum on Main, Jan. 8-Feb. 28. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in historic downtown Pleasanton. It is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. For more information about

current exhibits and programs, visit the Museum's web site at www.museumonmain.org or call (925)462-2776.

**To the Point**, an exhibition by local colored pencil artists, will explore the vibrant and versatile art created by artist Maryann Kot and her students. The show will be on view for theater patrons from January 8th to March 5th, 2014, with a reception for the artists on January 16th from 6:00-7:30pm. The reception is free and open to the public. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org.

**New Show at the Livermore Art Association Gallery, "Winter: Waiting for Spring"** opens on Sat., Jan 11th. Artwork will be displayed to make the viewer feel warm and cozy, think about vacationing in the snow or traveling to warmer climates. Of Winter here in the area will be a major focus on the walls of the Gallery at the Carnegie Building, 2155 Third Street, Livermore.

## MEETINGS/CLASSES

**Livermore Art Association, Pleasanton Art League**, meeting 7:30 p.m. Mon., Jan. 13, Cultural Arts Building, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Guest artists: George Allen Durkee, landscapes in oil. No admission charge. www.livermoreartassociation.org and www.pal-art.com.

**Classes at the Figurehead Gallery:** Figure Open Studio: Long Pose, on the Third Saturday of the month 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, 4/19, 5/17, 6/21 with Jacob Hankinson, Ozell Hudson, or Carolyn Lord. 9 am - 1 pm. \$30. Painting the Figure with a Limited Oil Palette, Weekend Workshop with Carolyn Lord, Sat., 1/11, 11 am-5 pm, Fee: \$150. Introduction to Figure Drawing, Level 1, Instructor: Carolyn Lord, Mon., 1/20 - 3/31, 7-9 pm, (10 Lessons), No Prerequisite, Fee: \$250. Introduction to Figure Drawing, Level 2, Instructor: Carolyn Lord, Mon., 1/20 - 3/31, 9-11 am (10 Lessons), Prerequisite Level 1, Fee: \$250. Intro to Perspective Drawing, Level 1, Instructor: Carolyn Lord, Fri., 1/24 - 4/4, 7-9 pm (10 Lessons) No Prerequisite, Fee: \$250. Intro to Perspective Drawing, Level 2, Instructor: Carolyn Lord, Fri., 1/24 - 4/4, 9-11 am (10 Lessons) Prerequisite Level 1, Fee: \$250. Clothed Figure Drawing, Instructor: Ozell Hudson Jr., Tues., 1/14 - 2/11, 7-9 pm, (5 Lessons), Fee: \$125. Composition, Instructor: Ozell Hudson Jr., Wed., 1/15 - 2/12, 7-9 pm, (5 Lessons), Fee: \$125. Please register at www.figureheadgallery.com/classes.html or call Ken Ball at 925-353-0419.

**Show and Tell**, Artists are invited to a monthly function at the Bothwell Arts Center, called "Show & Tell. 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Artists bring finished or unfinished work to show and if desired, receive a critique from the group. Refreshments are brought by the artists, and a donation of \$5.00 is desired although not mandatory. Contact for this event is D'Anne Miller at danne\_miller@att.net, or Linda Ryan at LRyan@Livermoreperformingarts.org

**ACC / Art Critique & Coffee** meetings now at New Leaf in Pleasanton's Vintage Shopping Center on Bernal & Vineyard. Brings together professional, local and emerging artists meetings each Friday at 10:30 a.m. to share latest work, fine tune each piece with gentle critiques and share tips, techniques and opportunities. Join the mailing list and receive the latest news on when and where the next meeting will be held. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

**Figure Drawing Workshop**, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

**Preschool Art classes:** Thursday mornings 9:45 - 10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join this class. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information please contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin\_d@hotmail.com or visit http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/

**Art Classes**, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Homeschool classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. Please phone (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin\_d@hotmail.com for further info.

**Piano and keyboard lessons**, For children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. Please phone (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin\_d@hotmail.com

for further info.  
**PPL/Pleasanton Poetry League**, now meeting the 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 at The Corner Bakery Cafe in Pleasanton. Join us as we challenge ourselves to poetically relay our thoughts, emotions and experiences through poetry. Become a member & share your work - Contact Poetry-OnCanvas@Mac.Com for more info on Theme Challenges, Membership & Opportunities.

**Ukulele Circle**, Meetings held the 2nd and last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 2222 Second St., Suite 2, Livermore. Please confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover meeting costs.

**Nature Photography Hike along the Callippe Preserve Trail** on Saturday, January 11, 2014 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Hosted by Community Services Department of the City of Pleasanton. Participants must be 18 and older. Learn more and register at www.pleasantonfun.com  
**Colored Pencil Classes "Basics and Beyond,"** Instructor Maryann Kot. Starting at 9:30 a.m., Mon., Jan. 6th for five weeks and also 6:30 p.m. on Tues., Jan. 7th for five weeks. Classes will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore 925-443-3388. View Maryann's artwork at www.maryannkot.com

**New Art Workshop: Fun-Tangles.** Instructor Maryann Kot. One day Workshop - Sat., Jan. 18th 10 am to 3 pm. Fee \$45. Fun-Tangles incorporates pen and ink drawing in repetitive patterns with colored media to enhance the design. Workshop will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore 925-443-3388.

## WINERY EVENTS

**Wine Wednesdays**, Livermore Valley wineries will be hosting "Wine Wednesdays" each Wednesday through October. One featured winery will be open from 5 to 8 p.m. to help guests "wine-down" from the work week or just grab a taste of wine before going out to dinner in the Tri-Valley. Check for the winery listings at www.lvwine.org.

**The Winemaker's Pour House**, Live with: Jan. 9, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Natalia Sings; Jan. 10, 7-10 p.m. Timmy G & Dueling Guitars; Jan. 14, 6-9 p.m. Glenn Osur at the

Piano; Jan. 16, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Natalia Sings; Jan. 18, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Chris Lebel; Jan. 21, 6-9 p.m., Glenn Osur at the Piano; Jan. 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Natalia Sings; Jan. 24, 7-10 p.m., Tumbledown House; Jan. 25, 8-9:30 p.m., Comedy Show; Jan. 26, 4-7 p.m., Steve Kritzer & Friends; Jan. 28, 6-9 p.m., Glenn Osur at the Piano; Jan. 30, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Natalia Sings; Feb. 4, 6-9 p.m., Glenn Osur at the Piano; Feb. 6, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Natalia Sings. 2241 First St., Livermore. www.winemakerspourhouse.com or 215-2656.

**Evening with the Winemaker with one of Livermore's newest wineries**, The Winemaker's Pour House, 2241 First St., Livermore; 925 215-2656. Thursday, January 16, 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Dante Robere Vineyards Winemaker Dan Rosenberg will be pouring three of his fine wines.

**Movie Night**. Las Positas Vineyards, Sat., Jan. 18, 6 p.m. 1828 Wetmore Road, Livermore. laspositasvineyards.com. Popcorn, wine & beer available.

**Live, LAUGH, Love Wine Comedy Night:** Saturday, February 1, 7:00pm \$10. Bunjo's Comedy All Star Show featuring comedians from the Bay Area and beyond. Hosted by Jim Kruder with Anthony Hill, Ben Feldman, Bob Lieberman, Brendan Lynch, John DeKoven and Nina G. Limited seating. Wine and food for purchase. Purchase tickets at 925-264-4413 info@bunjocosmody.com. The Winemaker's Pour House, 2241 First St., Livermore; 925 215-2656.

**Presidents Day Weekend Barrel Tasting**, Retzlaff Vineyards, 1356 So. Livermore Ave. Feb. 15-17, noon; \$5. retzlaffwinery.com. Come dressed as your favorite President or First Lady and the barrel tasting is on us!

**Barrel Tasting Weekend** Sat., March 29 and Sun., March 20. noon and 4:30 p.m. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more. Each winery will host a unique experience during barrel tasting weekend including at least 1 barrel sample for each ticket holder. Tickets are \$40 advance/ \$45 day of the event. This is a fundraiser for the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. www.lvwine.org.

## MUSIC/CONCERTS

**Blacksmith Square**, music every Saturday 3 to 6 p.m. in the courtyard, 21 South Livermore Ave., Livermore.

**Chris Bradley's Jazz Band** appears regularly at: The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/on Portola

Avenue-- the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

**Ricky Nelson Remembered:** Live at Firehouse Arts Center. Matthew and Gunnar Nelson, Ricky's twin sons and multi-platinum recording artists in their own right, in concert at the Firehouse Arts Center on Friday, January 10, at 8:00 p.m. Featuring hit songs like "Hello Mary Lou," "Poor Little Fool," "Travelin' Man," "I'm Walkin'," "I Gotta Feeling," "Teenage Idol," "Garden Party" and many more, RNR showcases his life with never-before-seen interviews from artists he influenced, including Paul McCartney and Chris Isaak. Reserved seating tickets are \$40-\$50; available at www.firehousearts.org. 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

**The Special Consensus: Bluegrass with an attitude!** Firehouse Arts Center, Jan. 11, 9 p.m. 2012 Grammy-nominated acoustic bluegrass band returns to the Firehouse. Four-man bluegrass in classic vein, with modern edge, spotless vocals, and boundless energy. Opening act: duo of singer/songwriter Melody Walker and picker extraordinaire Jacob Groopman with their unique 'Americali,' Americana with a California twist. Tickets \$12, \$17, \$22; available at www.firehousearts.org. 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

**Wailin' Jennys**, folk harmonies. Sat., Jan. 11, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

**Folk artist, John McCutcheon**, will be in concert at 4 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 12 at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. Tickets are \$15 in advance, as well as for students and seniors. \$20 at the door. Tickets may be purchased during the week at the church office open M-F, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to noon. Doors open at 3:15 p.m. - seating is limited so get your tickets right away. For concert details and ticket purchasing on-line see the concert website at www.asburylivepresents.com. Further information by phone 925-447-1950.

**Wyrick Chamber Players**. Acclaimed family of classical musicians comes to intimate Firehouse Arts Center. Selections include the Beethoven A Major and Schubert C Major string quintets. Guest artist Nancy Ellis. Sunday, January 12, at 2:00 p.m. Tickets \$10, \$15, \$20; youth discounts available. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org. 925-931-4848, or at the center



## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

**International Guitar Night.** Wed., Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Upright Citizens Brigade Touring Company.** Jan. 31, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) or 973-3343.

**Celtic Nights.** Tues., Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Some Enchanted Evening.** sounds of Broadway. Fri., Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Valentine's Day With the Incomparable Clairdee.** Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Del Valle Concert Series, 8** p.m., February 15, Euclid String Quartet: a top prize winner at Osaka International Chamber Music Competition. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**In The Mood,** music of Glenn Miller, The Andrews Sisters, Dorsey, Shaw, Goodman and Sinatra in a nostalgic, patriotic, upbeat swing-era musical revue. 19 on stage. Big Band plus six singer/dancers including some high flying boogie woogie with authentic music arrangements, costumes and choreography. Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Pink Floyd Concert Experience:** An Evening of Pink Floyd starring House of Floyd. Fri., Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Livermore-Amador Symphony,** American Idols, Copland, Hanson, Schubert, winners of Competition for Young Musicians. Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Guitar Passions,** evening of Latin inspired jazz. Wed., Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Richard Marx,** Grammy Award winning songwriter. Thurs., Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Cyrille Aimée,** jazz vocalist, Fri., Feb. 28, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater,

2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Under the Streetlamp,** Feb. 28, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) or 973-3343.

#### ON THE STAGE

**"Inspired by O'Neill," a Playwrights' Theatre** production sponsored by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation. Tao House. January 11 at 8:00 p.m. and January 12 at 2:00 p.m. Performed at Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Avenue, Danville. A selection of short plays by Bay Area playwrights who have been inspired by Eugene O'Neill. Writers from The Pear Avenue Theatre of Mountain View and Playground of San Francisco are featured. Tickets at \$20.00 each on-line at [eugeneo-neill.org](http://eugeneo-neill.org) or (925) 820-1818

**The Matchmaker,** Role Players Ensemble, Jan. 17-Feb. 8. Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. <http://roleplayersensemble.com/>

**The Drowsy Chaperone,** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Jan. 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31; and Feb. 1, 2014. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**A Chorus Line, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre,** Jan. 24-Feb. 9 Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Mercy Watson to the Rescue.** Bay Area Children's Theatre, Feb. 22 and 23, March 1 and 2 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) or 973-3343.

**Civic Arts Stage Company Presents The Secret Garden,** Feb. 28-March 9. Fri. 7:30 p.m., Sat. 2 and 7 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

#### COMEDY

**Made-to-Order Fairytales: Creatures of Impulse,** the City of Pleasanton's award winning teen improv troupe, and the Pleasanton Public Library present 5 completely different interactive programs for children ages 5-10. Creatures of Impulse will take suggestions from children to create fifteen to twenty minute improvised fairytales. Programs: Saturday, January 25, 2012, 2:00-2:30 p.m., 3:00-3:30 p.m., and 4:00-4:30 p.m. All programs are free, and no tickets required. Free parking. Library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue,

Pleasanton.

**Colin Quinn, 'Unconstitutional,'** Popular stand-up comedian (and Emmy nominated TV/film actor, writer, and producer) brings his new one-man show to the Bay Area. Quinn returns to the stage to tackle 226 years of American history in 70 minutes, from predator drones to the Kardashians, pulling no punches in asking "is this what the founding fathers planned?" Friday, January 17, 8:00 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$30-\$40. Tickets online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Live, LAUGH, Love Wine Comedy Night:** Saturday, February 1, 7:00pm \$10. Bunjo's Comedy All Star Show featuring comedians from the Bay Area and beyond. Hosted by Jim Kruder with Anthony Hill, Ben Feldman, Bob Lieberman, Brendan Lynch, John DeKoven and Nina G. Limited seating. Wine and food for purchase. Purchase tickets at 925-264-4413 [info@bunjocosmedys.com](mailto:info@bunjocosmedys.com). The Wine-maker's Pour House, 2241 First St., Livermore; 925 215-2656.

**Second City,** comedy, Sun., Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

#### MOVIES

**Classic Films at the Pleasanton Library,** 7 p.m. first Thursday of each month through June 5, 2014. Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present "Make 'em Laugh" Series" Hosted by Candy Klaschus, film historian and Coordinator of the Humanities Program at Las Positas College. A brief talk about each film is presented prior to the screening. Refreshments are served. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925-931-3405. Admission is free. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

#### DANCE

**Friday Evening Group Dance!** Learn how to dance with great instructors from It's All About Dancing, new dance every week from Salsa, Tango, Swing and more. Group lesson starts at 7:30, followed by open dance until 9:45 in our new location at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore; 925-449-9292. \$15.

#### CHORAL

**Broadway Chorus.** Sings Your Favorites, Jan. 10, 11, 12, Fri. and Sat. 8

p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre community chorus. Tickets 462-2121.

#### OPERA

**22nd Anniversary Celebration, Livermore Valley Opera,** January 25, 5 p.m. Ruby Hill Golf Club, Pleasanton. Formal concert followed by dinner and an auction. Black-tie optional. [www.livermorevalleyopera.com](http://www.livermorevalleyopera.com) or 960-9210.

**Die Fledermaus,** Lamplighters Music Theatre production. Feb. 8, 8 p.m. and Feb. 9, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**Political Issues Book Club** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

**We're Talkin' Books! Club** is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

**Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word.** 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152

So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

**An Evening with Mark Twain.** Jan. 14, 7 p.m. Museum on Main 2014 Ed Kinney Speakers Series, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors, \$5 members, and \$3 students/teachers with ID. Tickets may be purchased at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. Tickets purchased by phone will be available for pick up at Will Call in the lobby of the Firehouse Arts Center on the evening of the event. Tickets may be available at the event subject to availability. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

**Livermore Reads Together Kick-off Event,** Jan. 26, 2 p.m. Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. afternoon with Laurie R. King, author of *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*. Chosen as one of the 100 Favorite Mysteries of the 20th Century, *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* presents Mary Russell, a fifteen-year-old American orphan, who meets Sherlock Holmes in 1915 in Sussex Downs. Holmes, who spends his quiet days studying beekeeping and dabbling in detective work, takes the spirited Russell on as an apprentice. In her, Holmes finds his perfect partner in detection. [www.cityoflivermore.net](http://www.cityoflivermore.net) or 373-5500.

**Mike Montemerlo,** Rae Dorough Speaker Series, 7:30 p.m. Tues., Jan. 28: Google Self-Driving Car Project - A Glimpse of the Future. Mike Montemerlo is a Staff Soft-

ware Engineer at Google working on self-driving cars. He received his B.S. and M.S. in Electrical/Computer Engineering and PhD in Robotics from Carnegie Mellon University. \$30, \$15 for students 21 and under. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**An Evening with Hugh Liang:** Eyewitness to the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake & Fire, Feb. 4, 7 p.m. Museum on Main 2014 Ed Kinney Speakers Series, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors, \$5 members, and \$3 students/teachers with ID. Tickets may be purchased at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. Tickets purchased by phone will be available for pick up at Will Call in the lobby of the Firehouse Arts Center on the evening of the event. Tickets may be available at the event subject to availability.

**Kissin' the Chocolate Blues,** a live celebration of Black History Month with Faith Alpher as Dr. Maya Angelou with musical entertainment by Pleasanton's Debra Knox. Tues., Feb. 11, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Monte Carlo and Auction Evening,** Feb. 21, 7 to 11 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Fund-raiser for Safe and Sober Grad Nights for Livermore and Granada high schools. \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door. [www.granadagradnight.com](http://www.granadagradnight.com) or [www.lhsgradnight.org](http://www.lhsgradnight.org).

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After several successful fundraising events in 2013, ladies from the local chapter of Daughters of the British Empire (DBE a non-profit group), were able to provide year-end monetary donations to local organizations. They included Axis Community Health, Valley Humane Society, and the Keystone Adult Learning Center. The group also donated a large number of toys to Sleep Train for foster children, and adopted a family through the Salvation Army holiday giving event. Earlier in the year an additional donation was made to PUSD's Horizon School teenage mother and father program along with many baby items that had been donated at their Royal Baby Shower fundraiser. The DBE also provides support to the British Home for senior citizens in California, one of four homes in the USA supported by the organization. Information about DBE can be obtained by contacting Edith Caponigro at 925-462-1960.



## Guide Focuses on Themes That Tie the Tri-Valley Together As a Destination

Visit Tri-Valley unveiled its 2014 Visitors Guide featuring a black-silhouetted image and a strip of color on the cover.

"Visit Tri-Valley is excited to introduce a new format that is more visitor-friendly and dynamic," said Visit Tri-Valley President Barbara Steinfeld. "We feel it has a modern look and feel."

The 80-page magazine is focused on the themes that tie the Tri-Valley together as a destination: Wine and Dine, Outdoors with a focus on golf, Arts & Culture, Accommodations, Festivals, Shopping, Meetings and Weddings.

Travel writers were hired to provide content and have been touring and tasting from Danville to San Ramon to Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore, to convey the message that the Tri-Valley is the place to visit. The guide has many special features and fun facts designed to entice visitors to explore the Tri-Valley. From tarantulas to miniature mowing sheep, this new version of the Guide will surprise and delight.

In addition, the Guide features maps and informational grids to make it easy for visitors to discover more in the Tri-Valley.

The 2014 Visitors Guide is free to individuals at member hotels, city offices and various marketing partner businesses throughout the Tri-Valley. Bulk orders can be purchased from Visit Tri-Valley at a cost of \$1 per Guide.

For a downloadable version of the guide, visit [www.VisitTriValley.com](http://www.VisitTriValley.com).

## BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to [editmail@compuserve.com](mailto:editmail@compuserve.com). Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club**, will meet on Thursday, January 9, 2014, 7:00pm at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Dan Resor, a local pruning expert, will demonstrate basic hands-on pruning techniques. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 925 485 7812 or visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org).

**Annual Crab Feed**, Livermore - Pleasanton Elks Lodge #2117, Sat., Jan. 18, cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. and dancing 8 p.m. Menu includes fresh locally caught cracked and cleaned crab, clam chowder, pasta, salad, French bread and dessert. Tickets adults \$45 per person, children under 12 no crab, \$10. Buy a table for 12 adults and get one free - \$495. Live entertainment by the Richard Dorffi Trio. Advance sales only. Reservation deadline Wed., Jan. 15. 455-8829. Lodge office, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore.

**Dress a Girl Around the World**, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Next Sew-Fest is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Michael's Hall, Livermore. Help is needed sewing, ironing, cutting. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) There is a lot of fabric and pillowcases, so there are many kits ready to sew. Those who can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com)

**Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society** will have a presentation on "Researching Your Old House" on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014 at 7:30. Loretta Kaskey will share her research on local homes in Livermore. She has served on the Historic Preservation Commission and now serves on the Livermore City's Planning Commission. All are welcome, no charge at the Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton.

**Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club**, Sat., Jan. 11, 56 miles, Danville, 3 Bears loop, meet 9:30 a.m. at Diablo Vista Park, Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Sat., Jan. 11, 38 miles, Feather Pedals conditioning ride for Cinderella Classic, meet 10 a.m. at Blackhawk Plaza, Rebecca Wood, 577-3842. Sun., Jan. 12, 45-55 miles from San Ramon Central Park to Livermore, meet 9:30 a.m., Gail Blanco, 872-1001. Wed., Jan. 16, 40 miles, from San Ramon Central Park to the Diablo Junction and Walnut Creek, meet 9:30 a.m., Jim Conger, 876-4849. Wed., Jan. 15, 30-35 miles, from San Ramon Central Park along Iron Horse Trail, meet 9:30 a.m., Gail Blanco, 872-1001. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**Tri-Valley CAREs**, meets 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 16 at the Livermore Library in community room A, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Tri-Valley CAREs works to strengthen global security by stopping the

development of new nuclear weapons in the US and promoting the elimination of nuclear weapons globally. New and long-time members welcome.

**59th annual Crab Feed**, Livermore Rotary Club, Friday, January 31, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Aahmes Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore. The event features a crab dinner and dancing to live music by the Gabe Duffin Band Tickets \$45 per person. Please call for special pricing for groups of 8 to 10 people. To order tickets call Debbie Peck (925) 447-4300.

**Pleasantonians 4 Peace**, A Peaceful War Protest will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, January 22 between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com); or [kdowling@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowling@pacbell.net). [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org)

**Beginner internet and e-mail classes**, Free classes for absolute beginners who have never clicked a mouse, used e-mail, or surfed the net. Learn the basics in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Pleasanton Library, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Four one-hour classes in each series. Registration is required, as space is limited. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400, extension 4. Library programs are free and open to everyone. An ongoing program. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 ext. 4 for information. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

**Free Diabetes Self-Management Classes**, 7 week series teaches how to manage diabetes with exercise, healthy eating and medications, and answer all questions about living with diabetes. Saturdays January 11 through February 22, 9:30-11:30, Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Class is open to adults of all ages (not just Seniors) with pre diabetes or type 2 diabetes. Please call the Alameda County Diabetes Program at 510-383-5185 to register. Space is limited.

**Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch of AAUW** will have Mary Knox, a Deputy District Attorney for Contra Costa County speak about Homicides, Drugs and Gangs on Thursday, January 30 at Diablo Country Club, 1700 Clubhouse Rd. Diablo at 11 AM. A three course lunch will be served. The public is invited. Mail checks in the amount of \$29 to DAW-AAUW, PO Box 996, Alamo, CA, 94507. For more information email [daw.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:daw.aauw@gmail.com).

**ClutterLess (CL)**, ClutterLess is a nonprofit, peer-based, self-help, support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meeting 7 p.m. Regular meetings Mondays at the St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton. Just come or call a volunteer at 925-525-3992 or 925-200-1943 or visit [www.ClutterLess.org](http://www.ClutterLess.org). No meetings on holidays. Meeting free, optional \$2 to \$5 appreciated.

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA.**, Happy hour in Pleasanton, Jan. 16, 5 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 14 to Marge, 828-5124. Friendly bridge in Pleasanton, Jan. 18, 1 p.m. RSVP by Jan. 11 to Ruby, 462-9636. Lunch in Pleasanton, Jan. 19, 12:30 p.m. RSVP by Jan. 19 to David, 833-7647. Lunch in San Ramon, Jan. 25, RSVP by Jan. 22 to Bette, 510-357-7873.

**Birthright of Livermore needs**



# BULLETIN BOARD

**volunteers:** Office is open M-Tu-W-F, 10 am-2 pm and Th. eve. 6-9 pm. To discuss a variety of volunteer opportunities please call John M. Kupski evenings at 606-8230 (or Thursday evenings 6-9 pm at Birthright office 449-5887). Birthright offers free pregnancy tests, guidance, adoption and medical referrals, baby and maternity clothing, and more. Those in need of services, please visit the Livermore office at 1520 Catalina Ct., or call (925) 449-5887 during business hours. The 1-800-550-4900 Hotline number is staffed 24 hours a day. Please see our website at [www.birthright.org](http://www.birthright.org) for more information. All Birthright services are free and confidential.

**Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) Pleasanton**, meets Wednesdays 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton (not affiliated with the church. Information at [www.dbsalliance.org/pleasanton](http://www.dbsalliance.org/pleasanton) or contact chapter leader, Al Pereira, 462-6415.

**Crab Feed**, benefit for St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO basketball. Sat., Jan. 25, Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore, 6 p.m. to midnight. All you can eat crab or chicken, pasta, salad, bread. Raffle prizes. Tickets \$40, at [www.smscoyo.org](http://www.smscoyo.org). Additional information at [njfromindy@yahoo.com](mailto:njfromindy@yahoo.com) or 216-2519.

**Shepherd's Gate Thrift Store**, 1362 Railroad Avenue, Livermore. Open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Last Friday of every month 50% off most of the store sale. For more information visit [www.shepgate.org/holiday](http://www.shepgate.org/holiday)

**Josela Higuera Livermore Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution**, meets the first Saturday of the month through May at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel of Asbury United Methodist Church, Livermore. Members are descendants of patriots of the American Revolution. DAR is dedicated to preserving American history, promoting patriotism and securing America's future through patriotism and better education. For information contact [jhlchapter@yahoo.com](mailto:jhlchapter@yahoo.com) or 784-1935.

**Arthritis/Chronic Pain Support Group**, Wednesdays, 4 to 5 p.m. Asbury Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Information, contact Barbara 503-449-3861, or email [blitrey@gmail.com](mailto:blitrey@gmail.com). Room rent will donations accepted toward room rent.

**Pleasanton Newcomers Club**, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925-215-8405 or visit [www.PleasantonNewcomers.com](http://www.PleasantonNewcomers.com)

**Overeaters Anonymous**. All are welcome. No weigh-ins, free will donations for rent. Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Call Nora for further information at (925) 447-1676

**Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL)** offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains

offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at [abril.tamayo@cril-online.org](mailto:abril.tamayo@cril-online.org). All services are free.

**Lawyers in the Library**, program offers free legal information and referral. The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Bar Association the third Tuesday of each month at the Pleasanton Library. Each person will have a 15 to 20 minute free consultation with a member of the Alameda County Bar Association. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30 to 5:45 p.m. Names will be selected at 5:50 p.m. Must be present when names are drawn. Appointments begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. For more information, call Merry Luskin, 931-3400, extension 4.

**Assistance League® of Amador Valley** invites all visitors to join this group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, go to [www.amadorvalleyassistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalleyassistanceleague.org), e-mail [assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com), or call (925) 461-6401.

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group** meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the second floor conference room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

**NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)**, Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group is a twice-a-month parent support group for parents with children to age 18 diagnosed with or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets First and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite #114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. Suzi Glorioso by phone: (925) 443-1797 or by e-mail: [glorios4@comcast.net](mailto:glorios4@comcast.net)

**DBE Daughters of the British Empire**, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, please contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

**Operation: S.A.M.** "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued support of deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale

support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit [www.operationsam.org](http://www.operationsam.org), email [operationsam@comcast.net](mailto:operationsam@comcast.net) or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

**VFW Post 7265, Livermore**, invites Veterans of Foreign Wars, all military veteran welcome to meetings held 1st and 3rd Mondays, 522 South L St., Livermore. Camaraderie, support, connections, advocacy, distinction and community service. Meetings on the 1st Monday begin at 7:30 p.m. and on the 3rd Monday at 8 p.m. Information, call 455-5039.

**Good News Bears**, nonprofit with a mission to distribute stuffed animals to social services, emergency services, medical facilities and anyone who needs a hug. Based in Livermore, the group reaches around the Bay Area and the world. Volunteers needed to hold collections of gently used teddy bears and other stuffed animals, assist with fund-raising and deliver the animals to organizations supported by the group. Meetings 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Livermore Police Station. Log on to [www.goodnewsbears.org](http://www.goodnewsbears.org) or call 373-7982 for more information.

**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. Also available on tour days are a gift shop featuring unique Victorian gift items and the Ravenswood Progress League's Tankhouse Tea Room. Special events each year include the Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social on the second Sunday in August and Victorian Yuletide the second Sunday in December. Ravenswood is located at 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. For more information, call 925-443-0238 or visit the LARPD Web site at [www.larpd.dst.ca.us](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us).

## RELIGION

**First Presbyterian Church**, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information [www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us) or 925-447-2078.

**Tri-Valley Bible Church**, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or [www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com](http://www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com).

**Unitarian Universalist**, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or [www.uucil.org](http://www.uucil.org)

**Congregation Beth Emek**, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055.

**Tri-Valley Cultural Jews**, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore**, services 10 a.m. every Sunday.

Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

**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. Information, call 447-6282.

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church** Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

**Our Savior Lutheran Ministries**, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship (semiformal); 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925-447-1246.

**Asbury United Methodist Church**, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

**Calvary Chapel Livermore**, meetings Saturdays at 6 p.m. 5860 Las Positas Road, Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - [www.calvarylivermore.org](http://www.calvarylivermore.org).

**St. Matthew's Baptist Church**, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

**United Christian Church**, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worship 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.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday; Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. [www.livermoresda.org/](http://www.livermoresda.org/) All are welcome.

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God**, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

**Trinity**, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen. for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848, [www.trinitylivermore.org](http://www.trinitylivermore.org).

**St. Charles Borromeo**, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 447-9800.

**St. Innocent Orthodox Church**, 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details please see [www.liv.org](http://www.liv.org)

[stinnocent.net](http://stinnocent.net) or call Fr. John Karcher at (831) 278-1916.

**St. Clare's Episcopal Church**, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. Sunday Services: Contemplative Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:20 a.m. Choral Eucharist with choir 10:30 a.m.; child care for children under 5 available at 10:30 service.

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ** at 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, worship service 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Sundays, all are welcome. 925-447-4333 (a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

**Little Brown Church**, United Church of Christ 141 Kilkare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. [www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org](http://www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org) 925-862-2580

**Pathway Community Church**, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcomed. [www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org](http://www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org) (925) 829-4793.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email [pmjrmueller@gmail.com](mailto:pmjrmueller@gmail.com) for more info.

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ**, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore; 447-433.3 [www.trivalleychurch.org](http://www.trivalleychurch.org). Update on classes for The Story 9 to 10:00 a.m.. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

**Bethel Family Christian Center**, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

**Centerpointe Church**, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare offered for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service. 10:40 a.m. contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. [www.centerpointechurch.org](http://www.centerpointechurch.org) 925-846-4436.

**Valley Bible Church**, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301, [www.thecrossing.org](http://www.thecrossing.org)

**Valley Bible Church**, Livermore, Meeting at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 6500 Garraventa Ranch Road, Livermore. Services at 10:00 a.m.

**Cedar Grove Community Church**, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. [www.cedargrove.org](http://www.cedargrove.org) or call 447-2351.

**St. Francis of Assisi Anglican**

**Church** (1928 Book of Common Prayer), 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore. Sunday services: 8:45 am (Low Mass) and 10 am (High Mass with Sunday School). Other Holy Days as announced. For information, call msg. center at 925/906-9561.

**Chabad of the Tri-Valley**, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. [www.jewishtrivalley.com](http://www.jewishtrivalley.com). Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

**Philosophers' Café/Culture Chat**, an informal gathering to discuss ideas, 10:45 a.m. at Café Rumi, 4799 Heyer Ave., Castro Valley. The topic is "What will happen to Jews in the United States over the next 25 Years?" Philosophers' Café/Culture Chat is an activity of the Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, a Secular Humanistic Jewish community, but is open to the entire community. (Non-members are asked to donate \$5 per session.) Further session scheduled for February 2 with topics to be announced. For information, please contact (925) 240-5612.

**Healing journey after death of a loved one**. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton. Second and fourth Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. January 9 and 23. February 13 and 27, 2014. No pre-registration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerly at 925-846-5377 for more information.

**Lynnwood United Methodist Church**, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Sunday worship times 9:00 am (nursery care) and 10:30 am (nursery and Sunday school). All welcome, Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer, Pastor. [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org). 925 846-0221 (across from the aquatic center, parking behind church).

**Unity of Tri-Valley Church** - Sunday services are at 10:00 a.m.; all are welcome. Ongoing small groups, weekly activities, choir, classes, and Children's church. 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley (2 miles west of Stoneridge Mall). (925) 829-2733, [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com) Rev. Karen Epps.

**Class on Luke's Gospel**, In response to feedback received from the successful Bible from Scratch class last fall, First Presbyterian Church of Livermore will offer a 7 week study of Luke's Gospel from Scratch taught by the author of the study book, Rev. Dr. Don Griggs. The study of Luke's Gospel will teach about Jesus as well as about what is expected of those who would be his followers. The class will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM for seven weeks from January 15th through February 26th. The public is welcome to join in this fascinating study, but registration is required. The study book is available for purchase from the church office at 2020 5th Street. Registration will begin Sunday, January 5, 2014 in Fellowship Hall at the church, or you may register online at [www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us)

**Lynnwood United Methodist** to host "Jesus in Islam," free lecture by Ali Ataie, January 12, 7:00 pm; book group on The Ultimate Gift by Jim Stovall, January 16, 10:00 am. Worship services are 9:00 and 10:30 am with childcare at both times and Sunday school at 10:30 am. 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer, pastor. 925 846-0221. [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org).





Photos - Doug Jorgensen  
**The Livermore School of Dance Jazz Companies stepped out for Steppin' Up! Saturday at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The show was a benefit for Sleep Train Foster Care children and families. Dancers performed four different acts: Broadway Tribute, Salsa Fever, Urban Funk, and a piece dedicated to the children.**

