

THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



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.

Coalition Agrees with Most Federal Recommendations on Niles Canyon Rd.

A coalition of 12 environmental and residential groups has sent a letter to Caltrans about what they would support and what is unacceptable in a proposed traffic safety plan for Niles Canyon Road.

The 10-page letter, dated Jan. 1, is one more step in the ongoing conflict and dialogue between Caltrans and concerned Niles Canyon

area residents who live in Sunol and Fremont.

Most of the organizations are from Fremont, which has a higher population than Sunol. The Sunol Citizens Advisory Committee, Save Our Sunol, and the Alameda Creek Alliance (ACA), which has spearheaded the drive for changes, are also involved.

The ACA is concerned

that the initial Niles Canyon plan would pollute the creek, with detrimental results for fish habitat. Residents don't want the roadway changed because what now is a scenic drive would become a road with speeders. Many trees would be lost.

The controversy began in 2011 when Caltrans cut down 99 trees along the road. Motorists who use the

canyon were shocked by the tree-felling, and picketed at safe places in the roadway in protest.

They were also critical of a lack of public notice about the three-segment plan to alter the roadway, and remove as many as 600 trees.

State representatives arranged public meetings with Caltrans officials, which drew several hundred at-

tendees. Caltrans agreed eventually to start from scratch with a new plan.

At the invitation of Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) became involved as a consultant, and wrote reports in May and August 2012.

The citizens groups have studied the reports, and say in their letter that they like

(See NILES, page 4)

Memorial Service Scheduled for Robert Several

A memorial service is planned for 10:30 a.m. on Sat., Jan. 19 for Robert Several, who died Sept. 21, 2012 of pancreatic cancer.

Several spent nearly his entire journalism career at The Independent, serving as its editor for many years. He was on hand to help put out its first issue Sept. 21, 1963.

Those wishing to attend are asked to RSVP at 925-447-8700.

Robert was born June 19, 1937. He is survived by his two sons, Jacob and Aaron; mother, Beatrice; brother, Michael (Ruth); former wife, Rifka and long-time companion, Sarah Blakely. He also leaves his cat, Shalom, the last in a long line of beloved cats and dogs. His father, Benjamin, and first wife, Valerie, preceded him in death.

Robert briefly served in the Army. At UCLA, he found his talent for writing. For decades, he was editor, writer and photographer for the Livermore Independent newspaper. He contributed political cartoons to the editorial page. He was very active in local politics and issues in Livermore and later in Oakland.

In his 49 years with the paper, he helped to transform the Valley into a better place to live. He worked to rally residents around a variety of innovative initiatives aimed at curbing development. Because they responded in support of such measures, residents today are able to enjoy open ridge tops, hills and valleys. Because of his efforts, today Pleasanton, Livermore and Alameda County have urban growth boundaries.

Bob expressed moral indignation about what was happening in society that he believed were harmful. He argued in support of fair housing legislation in Livermore and affordable housing for all. He advocated for Tri-Valley Haven and its efforts to stop domestic violence. He favored outreach to those who might not be noticed, such as the homeless, farm workers, and those with disabilities.

In his retirement, Robert discovered a real gift for painting and created scenes that depicted the encroachment of development in natural spaces and people's interactions in neighborhoods.

The Several family stayed close and spent most holidays together throughout Robert's life. He enjoyed Oakland A's games with his sons and visited his mother almost daily in her nursing home.

His final days were spent living with his older son near the Bay in Alameda. At Robert's request, the family held a personal memorial at Flag Hill in Sunol Park, where he often hiked.



Bruce Campbell prepares to harvest some of the produce.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Filing Opens for Pleasanton Council Election

Pleasanton Planning Commissioner Kathy Narum has announced that she will seek election on May 7, 2013 to the Pleasanton City Council.

Filing officially begins on Mon., Jan. 14 and closes Feb. 15.

The council seat opened when Jerry Thorne was elected mayor. Pleasanton ordinance requires an election to fill the seat. Voting will be by mail only.

Narum, serving in her fifth year on the Commission, has been active in civic events since moving to Pleasanton in 1996. Prior to her appointment to the Plan-

(See ELECTION, page 4)

Garden a Win, Win, Win for the Community

By Carol Graham

On East Avenue, behind Asbury United Methodist Church, lies a verdant half-acre garden that cultivates a win-win-win for the Tri-Valley.

"Fertile GroundWork's Garden of Grace helps the area's disadvantaged by do-

minating fresh organic produce to Open Heart Kitchen and other local food pantries where it adds nutritious local pizzazz to meals," said Executive Director and head gardener Bruce Campbell.

"The garden is also an important community resource. It provides a variety

of classes and hands-on learning activities in support of the garden's mission to encourage, empower and teach individuals to grow healthy food," he added.

The third benefit is that the garden offers an opportunity for the community to volunteer and serve.

"Growing food and sharing with neighbors can build stronger, closer-knit, more compassionate communities and increase local resilience to economic problems," said Campbell. "Garden of Grace is a teaching garden where volunteers can learn about agroecological princi-

ples, bio-intensive gardening skills, composting, and soil and water conservation."

The nearly three-year-old Garden of Grace hit a milestone last summer when Campbell founded Fertile GroundWorks, a non-profit organization able to apply for and receive tax-deductible grants, endowments and donations from the community.

Campbell, an Alameda County Master Gardener,

(See GARDEN, page 2)

Livermore Aims for More User Friendly Process

A workshop involving the Livermore City Council and Planning Commission resulted in a direction to make the approval process more user friendly for the public.

The workshop was a first where members of both the council and commission aired issues that have arisen related to how the public perceives or understands what role each plays in approving projects, ordinances, zoning, etc.

Among the suggestions

for staff were the following:

- More information is to be provided on-line explaining the approval process and tips on how to effectively navigate it.

- Staff reports are clearly to define the type of action being considered on an item and parameters around the action. An attempt will be made to avoid the use of planning jargon.

- Reports for the planning commission are to separate (See LIVERMORE, page 12)

Board Delays Horse Arena Change in Hopes of Finding Measure D Compromise

Alameda County Supervisors decided not to risk a lawsuit, at least not yet, from the Sierra Club over a proposal to alter Measure D to double the permitted roof area over an outdoor horse facility.

The supervisors met Jan. 8, and agreed with supervisor Scott Haggerty's request to postpone the issue until March. It will allow time

for county counsel to meet with a Sierra Club attorney over the issue that has been discussed regularly at board meetings, without any resolution.

The supervisors initiated a process early in 2011 to double the Floor to Area Ratio (FAR) for outdoor horse arenas from .01 percent to .02 percent. The supervisors (See MEASURE, page 4)



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District hosted its 8th annual "Polar Bear Slide" at the Robert Livermore Community Center pool the weekend following New Years. Adults and children braved the cold water to slide down the community center's 22-foot-long spiral water slide into a pool of 42-degree water. Approximately seventy people attended the event. Participants received a certificate of completion and complimentary hot chocolate. For more photos, go to page 10.

Supervisor Miley Sworn In for Fourth Term

Nate Miley was sworn in as the District 4 Supervisor. District 4 includes Pleasanton.

This will be Miley's fourth year term.

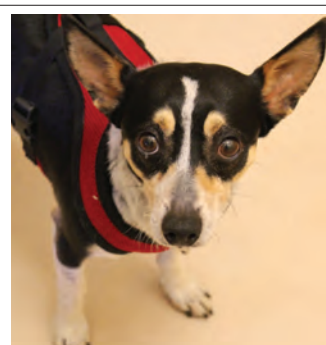
The event was held Monday in Castro Valley. Bishop Bob Jackson of Acts Full Gospel officiated.

Prior to representing District 4, he was a member of the Oakland City Council, serving its District 6.

After finishing law school at the University of Maryland in 1976, Miley moved to Oakland to work as a Jesuit volunteer. He began his community involvement by working with numerous community-based groups as well as trained community organizers through the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Liam is about a year and half old and is such a sweetheart. He has a heart of gold and loves prancing around with his red stuffed bird toy. At first he is a shy guy- he wants to trust somebody before getting too familiar with them, but once he understands you, you're guaranteed a friend for life. He has been at our center for almost two months waiting patiently for his new fur-ever home. For more information, call 925-426-8656 or go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Photo by Trina Cort

GARDEN

(continued from page one)

said that the broader base of financial support and volunteerism will help Fertile GroundWorks ratchet up educational programs and provide resources for

creating and sustaining new private and institutional community gardens.

“We always need volunteers - from greenhorn to green thumb - who en-

joy learning, sharing and helping with the gardening chores,” he said. “There are also ways of helping that require less physical exertion including admin-

istrative tasks and social media, volunteer system management, and data and crop evaluation.”

One of the primary objectives of Fertile GroundWorks is to offer education about organic gardening for food production. “For people living in urban, suburban and peri-urban communities, there are many models for producing healthy food - ranging from kitchen gardens and windowsill containers to patio gardens and mini-farms.”

On Saturday, January 19th, Fertile GroundWorks will partner with Alameda County Master Gardeners to present a seedling planting class at Asbury from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The free workshop will include planting cool and warm-season seeds for the Garden of Grace. Online sign-ups are optional; all are welcome.

“The Asbury community continues to be an important partner - providing land,

classroom accommodations and other generous donations that have helped sustain operations and provide garden infrastructure,” said Campbell.

In addition to workshops, the Garden of Grace provides a number of ongoing learning opportunities. Last May, fourteen Girl Scouts and their parents visited the garden to work on their plant badge service project. Fourth and 5th grade students visit to learn about vegetable gardening. A stream of Tri-Valley high school students come to learn about organic gardening and help with tasks while meeting their community service requirements for graduation.

The year-round, all-seasons garden is currently producing cool-season crops including cabbage, kale, lettuce, beets, spinach and carrots. Cover crops, used for putting carbon, nitrogen and other nutrients into the

soil, are sown at appropriate times after food crops are pulled.

“Growing food in urban and suburban residential spaces can reduce one’s food spending while simultaneously increasing the nutritional value of the food consumed,” said Campbell. “The more food grown and consumed locally, the lower the transportation requirements and associated fuel costs.”

“We want to inspire, motivate, educate and empower people and communities to transform our living places to produce nutritious food, create community cohesiveness and resilience, and develop a more sustainable future.”

For more information, visit www.fertilegroundworks.org, email Bruce Campbell at exec.director@fertilegroundworks.org, or like Fertile GroundWorks on Facebook.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Debra Jones and Richard Burke are among volunteers who work in the garden.



Other volunteers are, from left to right, Patti Joki, Abigail and daughter Jessica Plemmons, Judy Matthew, Ruth Hawley, Debra and Tim Jones and Lance Sloan.



The City of Livermore invites applications for appointment to the

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission advises the City Council on the adoption and on-going review of the General Plan for the physical growth of the City. The Plan, in conjunction with the Development Code, guides the general location of future public facilities, private buildings and improvements.

The Commission has specific responsibilities in the administration of the Development Code, including decisions or recommendations on subdivision of lands and other development projects. The Commission is also responsible for ensuring development projects meet the City’s Design Standards and Guidelines.

In addition, the Commission promotes public interest in planning and encourages citizen participation in the formulation of land use policies. The members also acquaint the public with problems and solutions relating to the local physical environment.

Applicants must be a resident of the City of Livermore. Prior to appointment to the Planning Commission, applicants are required to have attended at least one meeting of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission meets at the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, City Council Chambers, 3575 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. For current information on Planning Commission meetings, please speak with the Planning Manager at (925) 960-4450.

Applications can be obtained at the City Clerk’s Office, 1052 S. Livermore Avenue, downloaded from www.cityoflivermore.net, or by calling 960-4200 (TDD 960-4014).

Applications are due to the City Clerk’s Office no later than Friday, January 25, 2013 at 5:00 pm.



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<p>3530 Welch Creek Rd Sunol</p>  <p>bd 3 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 3,964 \$1,590,000</p> <p>Ready to get away? Serenity driving through a beautiful park, Leads you to your private driveway to this fabulous home. Entertainers delight w/ Bay Views from every window, Step down formal living room, Spectacular Kitchen, Dream Master bdr, 5 car garage on 22 ACRES.....</p> <p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p>	<p>7230 Clubhouse Dr Pleasanton</p>  <p>bd 6 ba 5.5 sqft +/- 5223 \$1,999,000</p> <p>Stunning Custom Estate! Dramatic two story entry with elegant crystal chandelier. Double curving iron staircase. Gourmet kitchen, Brazilian hardwood floors. Formal dining and living room. Custom window coverings. 6th bedroom is currently being used as an office.</p> <p>Bonnie King 925.736.8411</p>	<p>6324 Inspiration Ter Pleasanton</p>  <p>bd 6 ba 5.5 sqft +/- 7420 \$2,825,000</p> <p>Stunning Italian Villa on Callipe Golf Course. 4 car garage. Gorgeous views. Upgraded throughout. Gourmet kitchen. Master suite w/sitting room & balcony. Library/office. Meditation/Exercise room. Game room. Outdoor living room & kitchen. New pool, spa, fire pit.</p> <p>Larry Williams 510.339.4800</p>	<p>858 Castlewood Pl Pleasanton</p>  <p>bd 5 ba 4.5 sqft +/- 6,000 \$2,590,000</p> <p>Castlewoods Cs Street of Dreams Finest. Don't miss a chance to see this magnificent dream home on Oak Studded 1 acre parcel with water falls, Ponds, out door entertainment area. Panoramic Views from all windows, large deck overlooks 18th Green CC & Valley beyond.</p> <p>Steve Mattos 925.980.8844</p>	<p>2439 Lakeside Cir Livermore</p>  <p>bd 5 ba 4.5 sqft +/- 6,000 \$1,059,950</p> <p>Tastefully appointed, highly upgraded. Amazing backyard-custom pool and spa, outdoor kitchen, over 1/3 acre. Gourmet Kitchen, Bonus Room w/bath on 1st floor leading to pool. Master retreat. Custom paint & window coverings. Private circle of homes with views!</p> <p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p>
<p>704 Old Oak Rd Livermore</p>  <p>bd 6 ba 3 sqft +/- 3,405 \$959,950</p> <p>Gorgeous home in the Oaks! Stunning swimming pool, pergola, custom hardscape, outdoor kitchen, lawn and lush garden, & separate dog run. Beautiful hardwood floors, plantation shutters, granite counters, prep island, breakfast bar & open to spacious family room.</p> <p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p>	<p>5063 Monaco Dr Pleasanton</p>  <p>bd 5 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 3,079 \$899,000</p> <p>Incredible Mt Diablo Views, semi-custom Pleasanton Hills home! Theater room w/fireplace plus den! Theater fully sound-proofed-includes TV, sound system & sofa. Remodeled kit w/pine cabinets & slab granite. Newer roof. Huge glass block shower in Master Bath.</p> <p>Diane Sass 925.583.2168</p>	<p>4332 Central Pkwy Dublin</p>  <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft +/- 2800 \$769,900</p> <p>Beautiful Toll Brothers home featuring dramatic entry, volume ceilings, spiral wrought iron staircase, hardwood flooring, crown moulding, granite kitchen countertops and new paint. 1 bdrm and bath downstairs. Upstairs loft. No HOA! Close to parks, schools and shopping!</p> <p>Joe Frazzano 925.735.7653</p>	<p>26928 Palomares Rd Castro Valley</p>  <p>bd 3 ba 2 sqft +/- 1,944 \$879,500</p> <p>Palomares Country Charming, Gated entrance near the beginning of Palomares Canyon, Nice cement driveway to a spacious parking area. Plenty of room for Chickens, Horses and Gardens. Large living room with wood burning fire place, Newer paint/Carpet/Bathroom.</p> <p>Kristy Peixoto 925.251.2536</p>	<p>9709 Thunderbird Dr San Ramon</p>  <p>bd 5 ba 3 sqft +/- 2,720 \$824,900</p> <p>Over 1/4 Acre. Private Yard with Pool & Spa, Large Grass Yard. One BD & 1 BA on Main Level. Remodeled Kitchen with Ginger maple Cabinets, Corian Counters and Large Eating Area. Overized 3 car Garage with Plenty of Storage Cabinets. Walk to K-8 SRV Schools.</p> <p>Mike Taylor 925.855.4110</p>
<p>Camino Tassajara Pleasanton</p>  <p>bd 2 ba 2 sqft +/- 1,548 \$700,000</p> <p>Ranch on approx 1.66 acres. Features, circular driveway, Pool, backs to creek, huge barn/garage on South side. This property has a Pleasanton address, however, it is located in Contra Costa County.</p> <p>Kerry Richard 925.963.6300</p>	<p>6575 Johnston Rd Danville</p>  <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft +/- 2020 \$1,599,000</p> <p>Spectacular 58 acres of wonderful useable flat acreage. Rolling hills & meandering creek. Ideal for future home sites, barns, garages, arenas, vineyards & equestrian. Presently 2 homes on property (Rental Income.) Property in Williamson Act. ENDLESS Possibilities!</p> <p>Lisa Doyle 925.855.4046</p>	<p>6882 Crow Canyon Castro Valley</p>  <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft +/- 2,565 \$749,950</p> <p>Peace & tranquility await the right buyer for this charming single level home... While relaxing among the .97 +/- acres of land filled w/ a variety of mature trees surrounded by ridge-lines, a private in-ground pool. 6882CrowCanyon.com for over 70 photos!</p> <p>Adam Fettes 510.329.1421</p>	<p>1921 Depot Dr #103 Livermore</p>  <p>bd 3 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 1,780 \$425,000</p> <p>Upgraded townhouse style condo in downtown Livermore. Open floor plan w/ spacious kitchen. Granite counters & stainless steel appliances. Breakfast bar opens to dining room & balcony. Spacious bdrm. 2 walk-in closets, full bd & ba on first floor. Lg tandem garage.</p> <p>Mony Nop 925.575.1602</p>	<p>26 Sky Terrace Danville</p>  <p>bd 5 ba 7.5 sqft +/- 8,059 \$4,200,000</p> <p>Panoramic view of Mt Diablo-verstle fir pln. Movie Theater w/ seating for 12, Game Room, Exercise Room, 2 offices, 1000 sqft Guest House, huge basement partially finished w/ full bath.Pool/Spa, BBQ(outdoor kitchen), vast lawns w/ room for Tennis/Sport Court.</p> <p>Peggy Cortez 925.209.3451</p>

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Montclair/Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd. Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Swalwell Begins Work

Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-CA) has been chosen by Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) as a Democratic Assistant Whip. Swalwell represents the 15th Congressional District, which includes Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

Swalwell replaced longtime Congressman Pete Stark.

"I'm pleased to announce that Rep. Eric Swalwell has been appointed to serve as Assistant Whip in the 113th Congress," said Democratic Whip Hoyer. "Rep. Swalwell, as a new Member of Congress, will bring a fresh perspective to the Whip team. I look forward to working with him to advance the priorities of the American people, including efforts to promote job creation and strengthen the middle class."

The Assistant Whip team is comprised of leaders in the Democratic Caucus who work with the Democratic Whip to build unity among House Democrats. Assistant Whips are responsible for informing their fellow Democratic members about upcoming legislation to be considered in the House.

Swalwell was sworn in as a new member of the United States House of Representatives on Thurs., Jan. 3. Over 160 friends and supporters, including his parents and siblings, from the East Bay Area came to Washington to witness and celebrate Swalwell's taking office.

Swalwell stated, "I was very proud today to take the oath of office and bring much needed new energy and ideas to the 113th Congress. I am honored by the trust placed in me by the constituents of California's 15th Congressional District, and I will work hard every day to listen to their interests and work for them in the House of Representatives."

"As all of America saw most recently with the issue of the 'fiscal cliff,' Congress is broken. This dysfunction put our nation's economy at risk, and we cannot let that happen again. I look forward to being part of the effort to change

Washington for the better, by working together – not against each other – as we move forward to stabilize our economy and strengthen our middle class."

The Democratic Steering and Policy Committee recommended to the full House Democratic Caucus that Swalwell be added to the House Committee on Homeland Security for the 113th Congress. He already serves on the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Pleasanton Chamber Luncheon

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce installation and annual business luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on January 29.

The 2013 Board of Directors includes chairman Brock Roby; chairman-elect David Stark; treasurer Matt De Pretis; past chairman Apriol Mitchell; directors Jody Amos, Curt Anderson, Joe Barone, Jon Burchett, Brian Gentry, Howard Goldstein, Scott Gregerson, Pam Hardy, James Paxson, Janice Sangster-Phalen, Heather Stanek, and Keith Turner.

The luncheon will be held at the Marriott Pleasanton, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$25 for chamber members. Registration can be completed on-line at <http://business.pleasanton.org>

Corrections

A story that reported applicant Glenn Arace's request for a general plan amendment for a 7000 square foot vacant lot at 8010 Holanda Lane, Dublin, stated an incorrect figure. The story said that Arace wanted to build two 3000 square-foot houses. The correct figure is in the 1700-to-1800 square-foot range for each house. The lot has been vacant since the single family residence on it burned down eight years ago.

In the article in The Independent, "Las Positas Reaches Out To Community 2012," a name was misprinted. The 4th of July Fireworks organizer was Wendy Weathers, not Wendy Wisely.

2012-13 Bankhead Season Starts Off Strong

At the end of the first third of the Bankhead Theater's LVPAC Presents new 2012-13 season, the series of national and international performances is off to an exceptionally strong start. Of the 15 shows presented, more than half have been sell-outs, following last year's pattern of strong sales. Overall, the season, which began on September 1st has recorded attendance at 84% of capacity through December 31, the highest level since the theater opened in 2007. Audiences have come from across the Bay Area and beyond.

According to Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director, "With five seasons of presenting experience behind us, the LVPAC Presents series has been able to attract numerous and different audiences that respond to the wide variety of attractions that we now offer."

"In addition, the growing national reputation of the Bankhead Theater as a first-class venue with a diverse season of events, along with the warmth and responsiveness of our audiences, has encouraged many new artists to offer their services, giving us an even greater range of attractions to choose from."



The Kingston Trio show is exhibited to be sold out.

The remainder of the 2012-13 season also looks promising, Alexander stated. There will be likely-to-sell-out performances by The Kingston Trio, Paco Pena, The Lettermen, Arlo Guthrie, Judy Collins, The Capitol Steps, John Hammond and Kathy Mattea, among others.

Alexander added that the steady recovery in the regional economy along with the increasing nightlife activities in downtown Livermore are playing a role in the growth of Bankhead audiences. "As new restaurants and shops open and bring more people to First Street, we experience a greater awareness of our Bankhead events, which leads to increased

ticket sales," Alexander continued.

The Bankhead's success has not been limited to just LVPAC Presents events. Over the same September to December period, overall attendance at the theater reached 78% of capacity with a total of 53 events including 20 sold out performances. Several local performance companies appeared at the Bankhead for the first time, including The Smuin Ballet and the Yaliesia Flamenco Dance Company. In addition, there were a dozen performances by students ranging from Valley Dance Theatre's annual Nutcracker to band, chorus and orchestra holiday concerts by Pleasanton's Amador Valley High School.

New this season will be five performances on the national tour of the smash Off-Broadway hit "Menopause the Musical" opening on April 10. "We are delighted and grateful that the area community has come to love and cherish the Bankhead Theater. We look forward to providing endless variety and exciting entertainment in the months to come" Alexander said.

For information regarding performances go to www.bankheadtheater.org.

Latino College Coaching Workshop Organized by Two Students

"Thinking Backwards A Strategic Model for Academic Success," a Latino College Coaching Workshop, will be offered this Sat., Jan. 12 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Michael School in Livermore. Roxanne Ocampo will conduct the workshop.

Ocampo is a college ad-

missions coach who focuses on helping Latino students by providing valuable college prep information. She was the subject of an article, "Flight of the Quetzal Mama: How to Raise Latino Superstars and Get Them Into the Best Colleges."

David Pinon and Ricky Sanchez, Livermore resi-

dents and Bishop O'Dowd High School students, organized the workshop. They note that they will be graduating soon. "Earning a college education has always been one of our goals. We have realized that a low percentage of Latinos apply to and/or attend college. We want to empower Latinos

with the necessary knowledge and tools to access higher education and ultimately enhance diversity in colleges and universities."

The interactive workshop will cover the following:

- Defining "Thinking Backwards" and "Cyber Profiles"
- Practical examples

- Hands-on exercises
- The "Big Four" - four critical components most parents overlook

Parents of high school students are highly encouraged to attend. Parents with children in all grade levels are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, please contact Roberta Her-

nandez at 209-247-9919. St. Michael School is located at 345 Church Street in Livermore.

The event is hosted by the Pinon and Sanchez families.

Local businesses including El Charro Mexican Food & Cantina, Casa Mexico and Casa Orozco have supported this workshop.

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EDITORIAL

Growing Partnership

One partnership that is evolving into a more effective relationship is that between Las Positas College and the community.

The college's main contribution has been educational opportunities. In addition to academics and the arts, athletics are available to students and members of the community.

Over the last year, the college actively sought opportunities to engage and participate with civic groups, Chambers of Commerce and educational leaders. Among the events in which the college was involved were the YMCA's Martin Luther King Day remembrance in January, a regional White House event and the largest Veteran's Day celebration in the Tri-Valley. The White House Hispanic Community Action Summit brought in representatives of service providers and businesses to focus on building networks to improve quality of life and build economic networks. The college also stepped up to host Livermore's Fourth of July Fireworks celebration, when the previous site could no longer be used for the purpose.

Veterans have been a continued focus. The Las Positas College Foundation partnered with local Veterans and the Livermore Rotary to sponsor a program called Rotary Assisting Veteran's Education (RAVE).

Student clubs were active in providing service to the community. The Sustainability Club, in cooperation with Livermore Cyclery, sponsored a "Bike to College Day." Science clubs, including the Biology and Engineering Clubs, continued to sponsor the Lawrence Livermore National Lab speaker series called "Theory to Practice: How Science Gets Done."

It is exciting that the college is expanding its efforts to enhance the area's quality of life

NILES

(continued from page one)

most of what they read, because it focuses on traffic-calming measures that Caltrans could undertake, instead of alterations to the road, scenery and environmental habitat.

MOST SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS SATISFY

The FHWA came up with 15 short-term suggestions and 12 mid-term ideas. It also had some long-term ideas. However, the FHWA said that the short-term and medium-term ideas should be monitored first, to see how well they succeed, says the letter, which does not name the long-term ideas.

The FHWA also recommends a 5-to-10-year period for monitoring. Caltrans has planned to conduct three years of monitoring.

The ACA likes all but two of the short-term proposals. One is a recommendation to install steel mesh to catch falling rocks. However, the letter points out that steel mesh fences would be a blight along the scenic corridor road. Instead, cement or rock retaining walls could do the job.

The letter also objects to a suggestion to relocate "fixed objects" immediately adjacent to the roadway. That's fine, if they were manufactured objects, such as signpoles or guard rails. But Caltrans should not interpret that to mean trees and other vegetation, unless the agency can show a case-by-case need for such removal.

Also in regard to trees, the letter notes that Caltrans said at a Dec. 2010 public meeting that it would move forward quickly in early 2013 with five of the short-term measures that "it considers routine maintenance, and do not require environmental review or permitting.

Four of those measures are not controversial, but

one about "trimming" trees and vegetation within 8 feet of the white-line road edges leaves the letter-signers uneasy. They want Caltrans to define and identify any trees that would be cut down or "extensively limbed." Larger trees and heritage trees should be mapped to show where they would be removed.

SUNOL COULD GET A ROUNDABOUT

The FHWA suggests 12 mid-term measures to improve safety at six locations. All of them are in Niles Canyon, except for the Highway 84/Sunol Road intersection.

A four-way stop controls traffic at the intersection. FHWA recommends converting the intersection into a roundabout, in order to reduce the length of commute-hour long lines eastbound, and therefore decrease the danger of rear-end collisions.

Another suggestion from FHWA is to install a traffic light with proper turn lanes at the Highway 85/Sunol Road intersection. However, FHWA says that alternative may actually increase collisions and overall traffic delay.

The organizations want more information about the alternatives. Caltrans has scheduled a meeting for 7 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Sunol Glen School cafeteria to hear opinions about a roundabout, traffic light, or some other solution.

In its letter, the organizations indicated they liked some of the mid-term proposals. There was a list of specific criticisms from the organizations for the canyon area at such places as the Alameda Creek Bridge, the Rosewanes Bridge, and Palomares Road. The mid-term period would be from three to five years, said Jeff Miller, director of the ACA.

'New Face of Hunger' Being Served by Open Heart Kitchen

By Carol Graham

"The new face of hunger is hidden. The new face of hunger could be your neighbor quietly suffering and in need," says Linda McKeever, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen.

"Many people think of us during the holidays. We would like people to remember that hunger continues all year long."

Founded in 1995, Open Heart Kitchen serves nutritious hot meals free of charge to the Tri-Valley's disadvantaged every week-day, rotating between locations in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin. Last year, the non-profit organization served 589 food baskets to families at Thanksgiving, and more than 300 food baskets at Christmas time. Around 236,000 meals are provided annually.

"Our guests come from all walks of life. Some are homeless, some are senior citizens on a fixed income, but most are the working poor. Low-income single-parent families, children, and multi-generational families all are struggling to make

ends meet," says McKeever. "At Open Heart Kitchen, they find a free, healthy meal in an environment that upholds their dignity."

For Livermore's Jim Schnitter, an OHK volunteer since 2001, working with the area's struggling inspired an interest in getting to know and documenting the stories of guests. "We want to understand them," he says. "They're really not so different from us, is what we're finding out."

John, a Dublin homeless man, told Schnitter that a drawn-out divorce and health issues contributed to his losing his home. "It does not take much to get into this kind of a position," he says. "Until it happens to one of their friends or acquaintances, people tend to be unaware and not terribly understanding."

Schnitter adds that none of the people he interviewed looked like they were homeless, none had drug or alcohol problems, and most indicated that trouble with their parents or families contributed to their being homeless.

"Open Heart Kitchen serves as a safety net against hunger in the Tri-Valley," explains McKeever. "The community supports our mission through both financial and volunteer support. We do not receive federal funding for our programs."

Mary Fair is a team leader for volunteers from St. Charles Borromeo Church in Livermore. "I'm not sure residents know how many people are living on the margin and need the services of OHK," she says. "It takes a lot of volunteers to gather, prep, cook and serve the food - and also to run the Garden of Grace which supplies fresh produce."

Located on East Avenue, Garden of Grace is run by the non-profit Fertile GroundWorks, providing nutritious, delicious produce to OHK.

"We used to serve a lot of canned vegetables," says Schnitter. "Garden of Grace started donating boxes of fresh lettuce, greens and vegetables daily, including descriptions and instructions about how they might be used or served. Because

of the garden, I've noticed a change in the eating habits of our guests. Almost all take a serving of vegetables now and often comment on how tasty they are. OHK is so blessed to be the recipients of this harvest."

All are welcome at OHK; there is no qualifying process. Meals can be eaten on site or taken to go.

"The community can support us by volunteering. Food drives also really help cut our costs," says McKeever, noting that volunteer sign ups and a list of needed items is available on the OHK web site. "Of course, we always need financial support."

Adds Fair, "It is very rewarding to serve our guests. They are always so appreciative of the food we serve and the service we provide. We treat everyone like they were a welcome guest in our home. We do it for a very low cost."

To learn more, visit www.openheartkitchen.org.

To view Jim Schnitter's videotaped interviews, visit <http://trivalleysocialjustice.blogspot.com/>.

MEASURE

(continued from page one)

want to change the rule so that Chuck Moore, owner of an equestrian center in Castro Valley, will be able to cover his arena in order to conduct year-round activities.

Moore spoke, as he has at past meetings, reminding supervisors that he needs the extra coverage in order to make his riding center viable. He is trying to bring back business, which he lost during the recession.

Moore said that he stables 75 horses now, and needs to provide more roof coverage than the current 0.01 percent for his 89-acre property. He is not able to expand to meet the county's requirement, because neighbors are not willing to sell their land, which could give him the needed land area to conform to the current FAR.

Bob Baltzer, president of Friends of Livermore and treasurer of the Measure D campaign, said that the solution should be that Moore reduce the size of his horse operation so that it meets the space requirement under the current FAR.

County staff contends that doubling the FAR is permitted under Measure D, because it is a technical change. Staff argues that Measure D clearly spells out that supervisors can make technical changes.

Dick Schneider, who was

co-author of Measure D, said the change is a substantive one, and therefore is required to go to the ballot for voter approval. He contends that if the county acts on its philosophy concerning a so-called technical change, other people would claim other changes as technical changes. Measure D open space protection could unravel.

If supervisors were to make the change, it's possible that the Sierra Club would sue the county. Supervisor Nate Miley, whose district includes Moore's equestrian center, said at the meeting, and at previous meetings, that he would welcome a lawsuit, so that a judge could determine whether the change would have to go to voters.

However, Haggerty, and supervisors Wilma Chan and Richard Valle said they want to avoid a lawsuit, if possible, and favored the delay, with a goal of working out a compromise.

Schneider told the board that talks had been underway involving him and county staff and Miley, with a meeting scheduled last summer. He was told in a phone call by Miley's office that the talks had ended.

Supervisor Keith Carson asked Schneider if the talks were exhausted (by an impasse). Schneider said he

didn't know. "You'd have to ask Miley. I only heard about it."

Miley said that the topic had been around for two or three years, counting from a period before it came to supervisors.

Haggerty said he wanted the postponement not only for attorneys to meet to find a solution, but also so that he could explore with Schneider and other Measure D backers possible compromise solutions. He said

ELECTION

(continued from page one)

ning Commission, Narum served on the City's Parks & Recreation Commission for five years. Narum is also a member of the City's East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force as well as Chair of the City's Heritage Tree Board of Appeals.

She served as treasurer for Thorne's mayoral campaign.

According to a press release, under her stewardship on the Parks and Recreation Commission, many major projects in Pleasanton came to fruition. Among these are the opening of the Calilippe Golf Course and the Val Vista Park. As a Planning Commissioner and Task Force member, Narum helped to lead the creation of the Hacienda Business Park

perhaps applicants could receive more FAR for their specific needs, in exchange for agreeing to mount solar panels on the covered area.

Haggerty also suggested that the attorney talks become structured enough to include mediators, to increase the possibility of reaching a compromise.

Haggerty personally wants to look to Contra Costa County to see what that county's rules are concerning floor-to-area ratio.

transit oriented development Guidelines and the completion of Pleasanton's Housing element.

Prior to service on the City's Commissions, Narum was President of the Pleasanton Seahawks and active in the leadership of the organization for 12 years. In addition, she served on the Bernal Property and Bernal Park Task Forces and has served on the Rage girls' soccer Board of Directors.

Narum stated that she is dedicated to maintaining a high quality of life in Pleasanton, in promoting fiscal sustainability for the city, and in drawing upon her years of grassroots community involvement to make a positive difference for Pleasanton as a city council member.

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.)

Gun Owners G. Roger Gathers Livermore

The media is bombarding us with a propaganda campaign about so-called assault weapons. The coverage is highly slanted and insulting. Letters to the editor faithfully attack the mean old nasty NRA. The media buries stories that might harm their cause. Two days after the CT shooting, a man in a restaurant in San Antonio decided to kill his ex-girlfriend. After he shot her, most of the people in the restaurant fled next door to a theater. The gunman followed them and entered the theater so he could shoot more people. He started shooting and people in the

theater started running and screaming. It's like the Aurora, CO theater story plus a restaurant. There was an off duty county deputy in the theater. She pulled out her gun and shot the man before he had a chance to kill anyone. Since this story makes the point that the best thing to stop a bad person with a gun is a good person with a gun, the media is treating it like it never happened. Only the local media covered it. The city is giving her a medal. Gun free zones are a fantasy. They are actually free-fire shooting galleries for nut cases.

Dianne Feinstein's gun bill is said to protect gun owners by grandfathering their guns. The crafty catch is that they have to register their guns, giving her a list for later confiscation. Her bill bans many popular handguns that are not assault weapons. We are seeing the same old Feinstein, who is personally armed.

Save Green Space Donald R. Dowdle Livermore

Located on the east side of Livermore along East Ave, the Ironwood (formerly Rhonewood) Apartments feature a large central green

space with grass, trees, and a pool. It was a design feature agreed to by the original developer in 1970 to provide a higher quality of life for the apartment renters by providing recreation areas and avoiding a "cement city look" to the complex (Planning Commission, 24 February 1970). Surrounding home-owners at the time also sought a lower density for the complex and the green space continues to act as a buffer between the homes and apartments. The green space was preserved by zoning the property to a specific high-density and approving a site plan that reached that maximum density while including a large central green space.

Forty years later, in a rush to build high-density housing within the city's urban boundary the City of Livermore is entertaining a proposal to replace the Ironwood green space with high-rise apartments and a parking lot. The adjacent street, Norma Way, already suffers excessive on-street parking except near the green space. Ironically, the developer's solution is to build where there currently isn't a parking problem without addressing the existing issue

and if renters don't like the loss of the green space they can rent somewhere else.

I understand the city government is hungry for development dollars and desperate to build high-density housing but this development makes no sense. It would be to the detriment of renters and home owners and would only exacerbate existing problems. I encourage the City Council not to approve a zoning change to the Ironwood property and preserve this established recreation area within the city limits.

Blended Rail Robert S. Allen Livermore

"Blended Rail" - using high speed rail (HSR) bond funds to electrify Caltrain - may be illegal. It sure is dangerous! HSR trains cannot run safely at high speed on Caltrain tracks.

Vehicles and pedestrians at 43 grade crossings, and passengers waiting unprotected at station platforms inches from passing trains, pose a grave danger to public safety. High speed rail needs a more secure right of way.

Instead please consider a different route: an upgraded (More MAILBOX, page 10)

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2013 Brings New Taxes, New Laws

Californians are starting the new year with some new laws along with new income and sales taxes created by Proposition 30.

Voters' passage of Prop. 30 last year brings a one-fourth cent increase in the state sales tax. The increase was seen as a solution to a state budget shortfall. The tax will stay on the books until the end of 2016. Most of the revenue, estimated at about \$6 billion this first year, will fund public education.

Also as a result of Prop. 30, income taxes will rise for the next seven years for people earning more than \$250,000.

The wave of increased housing foreclosures brought about two homeowner protection bills, AB 278 and SB 900. They ban "dual tracking," by which a lender begins foreclosure against a homeowner at the same time a homeowner is trying to negotiate a loan to save the home.

When homeowners want to discuss their loans, the lender will be required to provide one single point of contact for each loan applicant. Banks must explain why they are approving or denying changes in loans.

Other new laws are bringing changes. Job applicants no longer have to tell their social media passwords to prospective employers or put them on their applications to state universities.

In education, students eligible for the DREAM Act, but ineligible for federal financial aid, can now receive grants and scholarships from the state.

Coaches and administrators in K-12 school districts are now required to report

suspected child abuse.

SILVER ALERT SEEKS SENIORS

The Silver Alert program for seniors has begun. It works like the Amber Alert system for missing children, although the information about missing seniors is not posted on electronic highway signs.

The CHP is required to assist local law enforcement agencies that are investigating a disappearance, and to ask news media and the public for help in finding any missing senior. The qualifying age is 65 or older.

Of interest to motorists, agencies using cameras to record violations of red traffic lights now must put up signs within 200 feet of the intersections where they are located announcing the cameras' presence. They must also make an announcement when each camera is installed, and issue only warnings to violators for the first 30 days after installation.

Drivers now can text while driving, provided it is accomplished hands-free using voice technology. It is illegal to drive while using a handheld device. Drivers under 18 are still not allowed to use a cell phone in a vehicle.

Drivers suspected of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) no longer will be offered the option of a urine test, but will be able to take a blood test.

BILLS BY VALLEY LAWMAKERS

Among bills written by Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, AB 1971 quadruples the maximum fine from \$250 to \$1,000 for junk and secondhand dealers who knowingly buy or receive

metals used in telephone, electricity or other public utilities.

Buchanan carried the bill for BART and other local agencies that have been spending tax money on replacing copper wire and other metals that are being stolen.

Buchanan also wrote AB 1540 on behalf of water agencies such as Zone 7 that rely on the Delta for water supply. The bill will allow for early treatment of an invasive aquatic weed, the South American Spongeplant, which threatens the health and stability of the Delta ecosystem, and its water quality.

Another bill by Buchanan, SB 2109, requires that parents who want children exempt from immunization first must receive information from a health care provider before they can obtain

the exemption.

Sen. Mark DeSaulnier was the author of SB 803, which establishes the California Youth Leadership Project to award scholarships to youths ages 14-18 to support and promote youth civic engagement.

This law provides programs that promote youth civic engagement with the opportunity to apply for scholarships to help fund costs for underserved youth who would otherwise be unable to participate.

Full funding for the scholarships will come from a tax check-off. Funds will be dis-

tributed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Another bill by DeSaulnier allows drivers to park at spaces with broken meters for the posted time limit without receiving a ticket.

DeSaulnier also wrote a bill that will allow former foster youths to remain in their current high school, even when they move from a foster home to reunify with their family.

TIGHTER RULE ON LONG GUNS

Among other new laws, AB 1527 prohibits the open carrying of unloaded rifles and shotguns on city streets,

with certain exceptions for parades, licensed gun shows, target shooting, hunting, and other such activities.

AB 2348 expands women's access to birth control by allowing registered nurses to dispense such drugs or devices in primary care and other clinics.

The Pacific leatherback sea turtle became the state's official marine reptile on Jan. 1. It joins a list of "official state" designations that include the state reptile, California desert tortoise; state tree, California redwood; and state flower, California poppy.



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SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School shutout Livermore 3 to 0 in men's varsity soccer on January 3 in EBAL action.



5259.

PGSL Spring 2013 Registration: 2013 Registration is still open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls in grades K-12 living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play. Two ways to register: 1) Online - visit the website at www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) By check & postal mail - Download a registration form from the website and mail to PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566. For more information or questions, email Christine Tanis at christine.t@pleasantonsoftball.org.

Last Call for Major's (7th and 8th grade players). Teams will form a little earlier this season for grades 3-8. There are only six slots left in the Major Teal division (grades 7-8). Please register ASAP, as teams will be finalized for that division by January 15.

Note: All players will be notified of team placement within the next three to four weeks. Note however, that we do allow for extra time for seniors division (grades 9-12), to allow for High School team placement in Feb. 2013.

St. Michael/St. Charles (SM/SC) 4th Grade A team were tournament champions in the LARPD Holiday Classic (5th grade division). The 4th grade A team went 3-0 on its way to the 2012 Holiday Classic title. Pictured are (back row, from left) Amy Wiesner, Kurt Wiedenfeld, Cedric Wiesner; (middle) Austin Melendez, Brendan Paterson, Landon Wiedenfeld, Eric Halsch; (front) Patrick Curulla, Caleb Chance, Landon Ratinho, Cooper Meyer, Dale Spence, and Ben Wiesner.



Pleasanton Seahawks Junior Nationals 2012 swim team representatives Maxime Rooney and Moriah Simonds turned in solid performances at the meet held Dec. 6-8 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Maxime set a National Age Group Record in the 200 free (1:38.4) and two Pacific Swimming Records in the 200 fly and 200 back. He was the 7th 13-14 boy in history to break 1:40 in the 200 Free. Moriah placed 11th overall in the 1650 free earning her first "National Time" in that event. She improved her times in all four events in which she competed.

Youth Soccer Tryouts

West Coast Soccer Club is conducting player tryouts for boys and girls in the U9 - U13 age groups on January 13th, 20th, 25th and February 1st. Teams will play in the Norcal Premier League spring and fall seasons competing against other teams throughout Bay Area region. Tryouts will be held at Robertson Park turf fields in Livermore. For more information about age specific dates and times visit www.westcoastsoccerclub.com or call 209-833-8488.

LNLL Registration

Livermore National Little League is accepting registration for the 2013 spring season. Forms and tryout information are available in the handout section on the website www.eteamz.com/LNLL.

Track and Field

St. Michael CYO Track Team is holding sign ups for its Spring 2013 season Thursday, Jan 10 and Jan 17 from 6:30-8 PM at the St. Michael Parish Hall, corner of 3rd and Maple Streets, Livermore. The program is open to boys and girls from 3rd to 8th grades. Practice begins 2/4 at 4 PM on the Granada High School track. For more information www.smisctrack.org

Girls Softball

LGSA Player Evaluations: Livermore Girls Soccer Association is conducting player evaluations on January 12 and January 19 at Joe Mitchell Elementary. All players in 8U, 10U, and Middle School must attend one of these dates. Late registration will also be available through January 12. For more details, visit www.LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org, send an email to info@LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org, or call 925-556-

2nd, Alex Holland 44.4 4th, Megan Contariego 38.5 5th; Level 9: Delaney Foote 55.5 1st
 Trampoline Girls Ages 15 & Over: Level 8: Loren Couture 49.8 1st, Kendall Aasen 46.7 2nd
 Trampoline Boys Ages 9-12: Level 5: Nicholas Abrego 22.7 1st; Level 6: Ben Tomlin 20.0 2nd; Level 7: David Davison 23.4 1st, Nick Francken 21.2 2nd, Timothy Chan 20.0 3rd; Level 8: Nicolai Petersen 48.9 1st, Nicholas Chan & Connor Tomlin 48.2 2nd (tie)
 Trampoline Boys Ages 11-12: Level 10: Ruben Padilla 60.4 1st
 Trampoline Boys Ages 13 & Over: Level 8: Jeremy Pigford 48.6 2nd; Level 10: Robathan Harries 54.4 1st
 Trampoline Boys Ages 15 & Over: Level 8: Emilio Lehmer 31.0 1st
 Double-Mini Girls Ages 6-10: Level 5: Laura Jones 55.8 1st, Dawn Powell 55.6 2nd; Level 6: Megan Wong 56.0 1st, Jael Jones 54.5 2nd, Emma Petersen 28.1 3rd; Level 7: Sabra Wilson 27.9 4th
 Double-Mini Girls Ages 11-14: Level 5: Zoe Harries 56.1 1st, Miranda

Harries 54.5 4th; Level 6: Camille Wong 56.0 1st; Level 8: Kaitlyn Clevenger 60.2 1st, Rebecca Okmin 59.6 2nd, Alex Holland 58.0 3rd, Megan Contariego 55.8 5th; Level 9: Delaney Foote 62.0 1st
 Double-Mini Girls Ages 15 & Over: Level 8: Kendall Aasen 58.9 1st, Loren Couture 57.2 2nd
 Double-Mini Boys Ages 9-12: Level 5: Nicholas Abrego 56.9 1st, Ben Tomlin 51.6 4th; Level 6: Timothy Chan 47.6 1st; Level 7: Nicholas Chan 56.0 1st, Nick Francken 55.8 2nd, Connor Tomlin 55.4 3rd; Level 8: David Davison 59.2 1st, Nicolai Petersen 58.0 2nd
 Double-Mini Boys Ages 11-12: Level 10: Ruben Padilla 57.6 1st
 Double-Mini Boys Ages 13 & Over: Level 8: Jeremy Pigford 58.1 1st; Level 9: Robathan Harries 62.0 1st
 Double-Mini Boys Ages 15 & Over: Level 8: Emilio Lehmer 57.4 1st
 Tumbling Girls Ages 6-10: Level 3: Laura Jones 49.9 4th, Dawn Powell 42.2 5th; Level 4: Jael Jones 53.9 1st,

Emma Petersen 45.4 2nd; Level 5: Megan Wong 54.0 1st, Sabra Wilson 53.1 2nd
 Tumbling Girls Ages 11-14: Level 3: Miranda Harries 52.9 1st, Zoe Harries 49.8 4th; Level 4: Camille Wong 54.87 3rd; Level 6: Megan Contariego 50.4 1st; Level 8: Rebecca Okmin 55.7 1st, Delaney Foote 52.7 2nd; Level 9: Alex Holland 32.7 1st
 Tumbling Girls Ages 15 & Over: Level 7: Loren Couture 48.5 1st; Level 8: Kendall Aasen 47.8 1st
 Tumbling Boys Ages 9-12: Level 4: David Davison 55.2 1st, Ben Tomlin 54.1 2nd, Timothy Chan 53.3 5th, Nicholas Abrego 47.3 7th; Level 5: Nick Francken 51.0 2nd, Nicholas Chan 49.7 3rd; Level 6: Nicolai Petersen 50.6 1st; Level 7: Connor Tomlin 42.8 1st
 Tumbling Boys 11-12: Level 9: Ruben Padilla 54.9 1st; Tumbling Boys 13 & Over: Level 6: Robathan Harries 49.8 1st; Level 7: Jeremy Pigford 45.0 1st
 Tumbling Boys 15 & Over: Level 8: Emilio Lehmer 52.8 1st

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SPORTS NOTES

Bulldogs Fútbol Hosts 2nd annual Winter Classic Tournament

Eleven fútbol teams closed out 2012 with 20 exciting games on Dec. 28 and 29 at the second annual Bulldogs Fútbol Winter Classic. The tournament was hosted by Bulldogs Fútbol at Junction Avenue K-8 School.

Robert Bell, head coach of Bulldogs Fútbol and a Junction teacher, describes the tournament as a tremendous success. "It was a thrill to see the bleachers packed full of energetic spectators. The atmosphere often resembled that of a high school

championship basketball game," he says. "Long time soccer families that attended were stunned at the level of skill, strategy, and the game's blinding pace. Fútbol really is soccer on a double shot of espresso."

Legends teams from San Jose took first place in all three divisions, boys u10, boys u13a, and boys u13b. Teams from Pleasanton, Richmond, and San Francisco also participated in the tournament.

"The Legends teams from

San Jose are especially talented with most of their players coming from the Earthquakes Youth Academy. I'm extremely proud of our u13 group of Junction-based players that for large parts of their games held their own against the area's best players," says Bell. "This group of kids has trained three times a week for the better part of a year and has now earned the respect of the local fútbol clubs."

Bulldogs Fútbol has

grown tremendously since Bell started the program as an afterschool club in October 2010. The first practices were held on the blacktop with cones and portable goals.

Through fees paid by participants, the Junction Avenue PTA, and community support from the City of Livermore, Stopwaste.org, Rotarian Foundation of Livermore, Kaiser Permanente, Wente Vineyards, Campo de Bocce, and the Keith S. Fraser Memorial

Fund, Bulldogs Fútbol raised enough money to install two fútbol courts on the Junction campus in September 2011. Bell describes the courts as the first of their kind on a school campus in the United States.

Bulldogs Fútbol hosts a recreational Saturday league that includes adult teams. The program is also forming u7, u9, and u13 competitive teams to play in local tournaments including the U.S. Fútbol Northwest Regional Championships in Hayward this March.

A cornerstone of Bulldogs Fútbol is affordability – fútbol at indoor sports facilities can cost hundreds of dollars a year. Kaiser Permanente recently awarded East Bay Youth and Family Initiatives, the sponsor of Bulldogs Fútbol, \$2,400 to

help low-income students with fees.

Later this month Bulldogs Fútbol, along with teams from East Avenue Middle School, Mendenhall Middle School, and Pleasanton's Hart Middle School will begin an interscholastic fútbol league.

"It appears that this league may be the first of its kind in the nation," says Bell. "The fútbol clubs at each school have overflowed with new members. Hart had 56 students show up to their first training. Plans are in motion for clubs to be formed at Harvest Park and Pleasanton Middle School next year."

The interscholastic league will conclude in March with a tournament.

To learn more about Bulldogs Fútbol, visit www.bulldogsfutsal.com.

San Jose Earthquakes Holding Development School and Pre-Academy Tryouts in Livermore

The San Jose Earthquakes, a Major League Soccer team, are utilizing the Livermore's Robertson Park and local soccer training talent for its regional youth development activities. The Earthquakes are using the new turf fields to conduct a regional development program for boys and girls U5 – U11. The fields are also home to the Earthquakes U14 Pre-Academy tryouts. Both programs are under the direction of Earthquakes Hall of Fame recipient Troy Dayak and his professional licensed soccer coaches.

The San Jose Earthquakes Regional Development School (RDS) programs are designed to bring professional experience and guidance to youth soccer players across Northern California. The professional coaching staff has created a curriculum to build the necessary foundation for children to continue to grow. The goal is to provide technical training in a fun and engaging environment designed to help plant a seed that will grow into a love for the game that will inspire kids to want to play more. Boys and girls at all levels come together

for weekly sessions to learn new skills and a better understanding of the world's most popular sport.

The U14 Earthquakes Academy is an opportunity for up and coming youth players to hone the skills they need to take their game to a higher level. Each training center will host tryouts to consider the best 1998, 1999 and 2000 players in Northern California to participate in the Earthquakes U-14 Pre-Academy program. Players selected to this program are not required to leave their current youth club of registration for participation in the pre academy program.

The Earthquakes chose Coach Troy Dayak to head these programs, not just for his playing history but more for his cutting edge coaching philosophies. Troy is the Director of Coaches and founder of West Coast Soccer Club. The club is just two years young and already several of the club's teams have won numerous tournament championships, 8 league titles, and a national championship. Multiple West Coast Soccer players currently play on the state Olympic Development

and Player Development Programs. Several West Coast players are also currently on the Regional iD2 and U.S. National training squads.

West Coast Soccer players Dougie Wynne, Mateo Crivello, Zachary Rittmann currently participate in the San Jose Earthquakes Regional Development School (RDS) held in Livermore and recently were at the U14 Earthquakes Pre-academy tryouts. In addition, U13 West Coast Wildfire Goalie, Claire Abele, got the nod from San Jose Earthquakes Regional Academy Director to jump in at goal and stop some shots from these talented players.

"It was an awesome experience," said Mateo Crivello. "Those Earthquakes players were so fast and strong it was crazy," said Dougie Wynne.

Dayak stated, "We always like to push our players to the maximum competitive level. I saw some unreal talent out there for the Earthquakes tryouts and it was a special treat to see Dougie, Mateo, and Zachary get the chance to join in."

David Mahabali, West

Coast Soccer U11 Wolves coach, commented, "What a great opportunity for these young West Coast players to be training with U14 Academy players. I'll bet they are the only 10 & 11 year olds to do so in the entire State."

Paul Giamona West Coast Soccer Club Director of Operations and Coach for the U12 Wrath and U13 Whiplash, "It was amazing to see the growth and development from last year to this year's tryouts. Several of the players who participated last year made huge steps forward in their on field skills."

The Earthquakes regional development school and academy training session take place on Friday nights at Livermore's Robertson Park. Those interested in participating in either of the programs, are asked to send an email to [email RDSearthquakes@gmail.com](mailto:RDSearthquakes@gmail.com)

West Coast Soccer Club is based in Livermore and attracts players from all over the Tri-valley region. For more information about West Coast Soccer Club visit www.westcoastsoccerclub.com

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SHORT NOTES

Improved Guide

The Pleasanton Community Services Department's new and improved Spring Activities Guide is ready to send out. The new guide features a four color print layout for easier reading, a Facebook photo contest, and additional programs and events including: the Teen Job Fair and the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Senior Center, both on Saturday, March 2, Creatures of Impulse Improv Face-off showing March 13-15, and new Filmmaking and Game Design classes.

Residents will find the Spring Activities Guide in mailboxes mid January. Additional copies can be found online at www.pleasantonrecreation.com once the Spring Activities Guide has been released. The Community Services Department publishes the Activities Guide three times a year and features local events and classes for Pleasanton residents.

The Community Services Department has also developed a new E-Newsletter to keep residents informed about happenings throughout the Department and within the Pleasanton Community. This E-Newsletter will be emailed quarterly to subscribers. It will feature promotions and program discounts, special events, local park amenities, and new programs and classes. Those who would like to be added to the E-Newsletter distribution list, email CSNewsletter@cityofpleasantonca.gov or call (925) 931-5340.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Hale, Recreation Coordinator, at (925) 931-5357 or rhale@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Vote for LARPD

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is a finalist in a nationwide contest to win a new website design.

CivicPlus, the leading provider of government website and community engagement software, is holding the "Extreme Website Makeover 2012" contest.

This year, citizen participation and involvement will be a factor in determining the grand prize winners. LARPD invites the community to nominate the District to win a free, interactive website.

According to the district, a newer, streamlined website would benefit the entire community, keeping LARPD constituents up-to-date on news and events and increasing engagement between local government and the community.

Finalists have through 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, for citizens to nominate their local organization. LARPD supporters can VOTE ONLINE at www.civicplus.com to help the District win a custom website design. In addition to the grand prize, runners-up will receive a \$5,000 discount toward their project development fees of a website.

Man Found Unharmed

Lawrence Boldrini, 89, of Pleasanton, who was reported missing last week, was located uninjured in San Joaquin County.

Boldrini had told his friend he was going to Kaiser Medical Center in Pleasanton.

Boldrini was known to visit family and friends in Livermore, Concord and Lafayette. Those family members and friends were contacted and no one had heard from him today. According to family members, Boldrini suffers from the beginning stages of dementia.

Paws to Read

The *Paws to Read* program, sponsored by the Livermore Public Library and the Valley Humane Society, matches elementary-aged beginner readers with trained and certified dogs in a non-judgmental environment. For 25 minutes, your child will read to their furry friend with the dog's owner quietly looking on to help with any tricky words. Programs of this type have been successful across the country, and testimonials from Livermore parents have been extremely positive.

The Spring program for *Paws to Read* at the Civic Center Library is as follows: January 16, 2013 through March 6, 2013. There are two sessions every Wednesday. The first session is from 7:00pm- 7:25pm. The second session is from 7:35pm- 8:00pm. Registration is underway.

Children may register for up to three sessions during the Spring program, as space allows. Drop-ins may be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participating children should not be fearful of dogs or have allergies to pets.

For more information about the Civic Center series or to register, please call the Livermore Public Library's Children's Desk at 925-373-5504.

Nature Program

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff will offer a program, Winter Compass Course, on Sat., Jan. 12. Meet Ranger Glenn Florey at 1 p.m. at the Arroyo Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park, 5211 Arroyo Rd.

Winter is the best time to explore the hidden parts of Sycamore Grove. Come learn the basics of compass navigation and then put your skills to the test on a beginner's compass course. Bring a compass at home if available. Compasses will be available to use during the program. Rain or Shine.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Award Nominations

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its 50th Annual Community Service Awards. Community members are encouraged to nominate businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Pleasanton community for five awards: Business Philanthropy, Excellence in Service, Distinguished Individual and Green Service.

The awards will be presented at the Community Service Awards Gala in March at Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center. The Community Service Awards began in 1963 to recognize good people doing great things in the community and since then hundreds of recipients have been honored.

Anyone may submit nominations for these awards. The efforts of these businesses, organizations and individuals make a real difference in the quality of life for everyone in Pleasanton. Nomination forms and information regarding the criteria for each award category are available on the Pleasanton Chamber website, www.pleasanton.org.

Nominations are due January 15, 2013 and may be submitted via email susie@pleasanton.org, faxed



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

December 31, 2012, marked the 7th annual New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore. Over 100 people had walked on New Year's Eve each of the previous six events. The walk is an opportunity to say good-bye to the old year and welcome the New Year with peace and intention.

to 925.846.9697 or mailed to the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Avenue, Pleasanton, CA, 94566.

The Pleasanton Chamber presented five Community Service Awards in 2012: Business Philanthropy Award: Sensiba San Filippo LLP; Excellence in Business Award: Goodguys Rod & Custom Association; Excellence in Service Award: Pleasanton Community Concert Band; Distinguished Individual Service Award: Bob Athenour and Green Business Award: The Dahlin Group.

Study at Globe

Fulbright Scholarships are available for area students to study at Globe Theater.

The American Institute For Foreign Study (AIFS) has announced that its Shakespeare's Globe Education Theater Program has been selected by the Fulbright Commission as one of its Summer Institutes for the next three years.

Three Fulbright scholarship winners will attend AIFS' Shakespeare's Globe Education Theater Program each year from 2013 to 2015. Students who win the awards will have the majority of their program costs covered including round-trip airfare, tuition and fees, accommodations, insurance, social program and meals.

For the Shakespeare's Globe Education Theater Program, students spend three weeks at Shakespeare's historic Globe Theater in London, where they have the opportunity to study intensively with actors, directors, and other theater practitioners. The program runs from June 17 through July 5.

Students applying for the Fulbright award should submit their application materials directly to the Fulbright Commission. The application deadline is March 11, 2013. For more information, application criteria or to apply, visit www.aifsabroad.com/england/londonglobe/summer/fulbright.asp.

To learn more about

AIFS, contact David Mauro at (800) 727-2437, ext. 5163 or email info@aifs.com, or visit www.aifsabroad.com.

Library Storytimes

The Livermore Public Library Spring storytimes are underway and continuing through the week of May 10, 2013. A variety of storytimes will be held at the Civic Center and Rincon branches:

Civic Center Library - 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore

- Baby Only (Pre-Walkers): Mondays at 11:30 a.m. "Stay and Play" until 12:30pm.

- Lapsit : Mondays and Tuesdays 10:30am. "Stay and Play" until 11:30am on Tuesdays only.

- Preschool: Wednesdays 10:30am. Preschool storytimes are suitable for ages 4 through 6.

- "Pajamatime" Family storytimes: Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

- Rincon Branch (Hora del Cuento Bilingüe) - 725 Rincon Avenue, Livermore

- Baby/Toddler: Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

- Preschool: Fridays at 11:00 a.m.

All ages are welcome to these free library programs. Contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 for more information, pick up a storytime schedule at any one of the Livermore Public Libraries, or consult the website located at www.livermorelibrary.net.

PRE-WALKERS PROGRAM

Livermore Public Library presents special story times for "pre-walkers." These 20-minute programs are for you and your baby to bond through books, songs, and gentle tickles. Plan to stay after and visit with other moms/dads and babies. Baby Storytime runs Mondays through May 6, at 11:30am with "Stay and Play" until 12:30pm.

This program will take place in the Children's Craft Room of the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Liver-

more Avenue, Livermore, and are free of charge. For further information, please contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504, or consult the website: www.livermorelibrary.net.

New Show

Slipstream is a new fast moving community news program airing on TV30 that will connect residents to things happening in the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton. Slipstream, hosted by Tom Morrison, provides information on government, education and community news and events. Topics include ways to become involved in a community, upcoming dates of City and School Board meetings, food news, entertainment, and much more.

Slipstream will air live on Comcast TV30 and AT&T U-verse via Channel 99, streaming via a computer or any mobile device at www.trivalleytv.org. Catch Slipstream Mondays and Wednesdays at 9 p.m., Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 10 p.m. or anytime on Video on Demand at www.trivalleytv.org.

Textiles and Toys

Forest Home Farms Historic Park and the Glass House Museum offer Fun on the Farm from 10:00am to 2:00pm the 2nd Saturday of each month.

On January 12, 2013 the theme for the day will be "Textiles and Toys." Visit the Walnut Barn to see demonstrations of old time fiber arts such as spinning, knitting and embroidery, and try darning. When your work is done, have fun at games such as marbles, pick-up sticks, and Jacob's ladder then make a wooden top to take home.

Tours of the restored Victorian Glass House Museum will be held at 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm and 1:00pm and tours of Forest Home Farms Historic Park,

(continued on page 10)

Sign Up for EBRPD's 2013 Trails Challenge

Beginning Wednesday, January 16, the East Bay Regional Park District is accepting registrations for the 2013 Trails Challenge. Last year 10,000 participants joined the challenge. Thanks to a partnership with Kaiser Permanente of Northern California, the Trails Challenge is offered free to residents of Alameda and Contra Costa counties. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the outdoors program.

The Trails Challenge is a self-guided hiking program that gives participants an incentive to discover their Regional Parks, while promoting fitness through enjoyable outdoor exercise. Participants who register for the Trails Challenge receive a free T-shirt and online access to the 2013 trail guidebook. The booklet includes detailed trail descriptions, including driving directions, for hikes in 20 Regional Parks or Trails. Hikes range from easy to challenging. There are trails open to hikers, bicyclists and equestrians, and many are wheelchair accessible.


To complete the actual challenge, participants are asked to hike five of the

trails and send in their logs after doing so. They will receive a commemorative pin in the mail. As in past challenges, the honor system applies.

Registration officially opens Wednesday, January 16, but aspiring participants may prepare by creating their online account at www.RegionalParksFoundation.org. No telephone registrations are accepted for this program.

2013 Featured Parks Trails are as follows: Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, Briones Regional Park, Coyote Hills Regional Park, Crockett Hills Regional Park, Diablo Foothills Regional Park, Del Valle Regional Park, Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks, Iron Horse Trail, Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, Marsh Creek Regional Trail, Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline, Martinez Regional Shoreline, Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline, Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park, Quarry Lakes Regional Park, Redwood Regional Park, Round Valley Regional Preserve, Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve, and Tilden Regional Park.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET	443-SHOW
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A HAUNTED HOUSE (R) DLP		12:00	2:20 4:45 7:15 9:45
TEXAS CHAINSAW 3D (R) DLP D-BOX		12:00	2:30 5:00 7:30 9:50
ARGO (R) DLP			1:20 6:50
PROMISED LAND (R) DLP			4:15 9:35
DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) DLP		11:45	3:05 6:20 9:40
LES MISERABLES (PG13) DLP		11:45	3:00 6:15 9:40
JACK REACHER (PG13) DLP		12:00	3:10 6:20 9:30
THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY (PG13) DLP		12:15	4:00 7:45
PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG) DLP		12:10	2:35 5:00 7:25 9:45
MONSTERS INC 3D (G) DLP			12:20
THIS IS 40 (R) DLP		3:30	6:40 9:50
LINCOLN (PG13) DLP			12:30 4:05 7:25
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) DLP		12:45	3:45 6:45 9:30



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Golden Globe Nominee for Best Actress - Naomi Watts

THE IMPOSSIBLE

Fri - Sun: 11:45 2:00 4:20 6:45 9:05

OBITUARIES

Mary Wiitala

July 19, 1930 to Dec 23, 2012
Mary Edwina Wilcox Theodore Wiitala died Dec. 23, 2012 at Eden Medical Center, Castro Valley, CA. She was born in Maysville, OK to Joseph Martin Wilcox and Henry Idel Frizzell Wilcox, both of Oklahoma.

Mary is survived by her sister Laveta Fagundes, 81, recently of Tracy, CA and brother Grady "Jimmy" Wilcox, 80, of Pleasanton; her daughter, Nancy Theodore Heredia of Temple City, CA; her son, Richard Theodore of Apple Valley, CA, 3 granddaughters, 2 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Joe and Idel Wilcox, husbands, Ed Theodore and Robert Wiitala and son Bobby Wiitala.

She came to CA in 1941 with her family, arriving in Pleasanton in early 1943. Her father owned, trained and raced Thoroughbred horses in Northern CA, County Fairs and in Phoenix, AZ. She lived in Pleasanton for 69 years.

Services were held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. Burial followed at Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery on Sunol Blvd.

Angela Hornick

Oct. 19, 1914 - Dec. 29, 2012
Resident of Livermore

Born in Sleepy Eye, Minn. Angela married in 1940 and moved to San Francisco in 1943.

She loved sewing, gardening, cooking, and art. She retired from See's Candy after 26 years. She traveled all over the world after her retirement. She was a warm, kind, sweet and generous mom, sister, and friend.

She is survived by her daughters, Connie Cozzolino (Gene), Dee Ferro (Bob), son Bob Hornick (Liz), 7 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters, Lorrie and Evie, and brother Joe. She will be dearly missed.

A Celebration of Life was held at Cornerstone Fellowship, Livermore on January 7.

Crescencia "Ising" Javier Fernandez

March 23, 1920 - Jan. 1, 2013
Resident of Tracy

Crescencia lived to be almost 93 years old. She resided in Tracy, CA

She was born on March 23, 1920 in Banglayan, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines, to Juan Javier and Petra Saldivar, both of the Philippines. She was the eldest of 3 sisters, and 1 half-brother who resides in Australia.

She was predeceased by her only child who lost her battle to cancer 4 years ago.

She is survived by 4 grandchildren, Dodi Custodia-Oie of Patterson, CA; Gina Fuller of Tracy, CA; Cheryl Balatayo of Tracy, CA; and Gary Custodia of Tracy, CA; 10 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

Crescencia loved being with her family and she enjoyed sewing and needlework.

She died peacefully at her granddaughter's home on Tuesday, January 1, 2013 due to Congestive Heart Failure complications.

Services will be held at St. Michael Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore on Thursday, January 10, 2013

with viewing from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The vigil service will begin at 7 p.m. The funeral Mass will begin at 11 a.m. on Friday January 11, 2013 at St. Michael Catholic Church.

Inurnment will take place at St. Michael Cemetery, 3885 East Avenue, Livermore on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.

Arrangements by Holy Angels Funeral & Cremation Center.

Virginia McDowell

Virginia was born 08/25/1957. She lost her battle with cancer on 01/01/2013.

She was a loving Mother and Grandmother. She will be missed.

Nicholas Raymond Gigliotti

Nicholas Raymond Gigliotti, 84, resident of Pleasanton, CA for nearly 40 years died December 30, 2012 after a short illness.

Nick was born December 9, 1928 in Pittsburgh, PA to Guiseppe and Caterina Gigliotti. Nick was the youngest of six children and was preceded in death by all his siblings and parents. Nick graduated from Connelly Vocational High School in Pittsburgh, PA. He furthered his education at the Triangle School of Drafting and the International Correspondence School. His first job was at a pie company at the age of 12. He began his career at Allis Chalmers then Hauser and Carafas before working for LK Comstock for 30 years both in Pittsburgh and the Bay Area before retiring in 1991. Nick served in the Army National Guard during the Korean War. Nick was transferred to CA in 1973 in what was the best move he ever made for his family. There was no more snow to shovel! He devoted his life to his wife, children and family with an ultimate love. He was the biggest fan at any of their activities, never missing games or performances whenever possible. Each child and grandchild knew they were so special in his eyes. Nick was a member of the "dawn patrol" or "dew busters" at Castlewood Country Club for nearly 35 years.

Nick is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Diane, his devoted children Teresa (Mark) McCloskey of Farmington, NM, Nick (Cindy) Gigliotti of Pleasanton, Ernie (Karen) Gigliotti of Houston, TX, Paul (Kim) Gigliotti of Pleasanton; ten grandchildren Nicole McCloskey Tyson of Grand Prairie, TX, Lorra McCloskey Williams (Jordan) of Flagstaff, AZ, Nicholas Gigliotti (Stefanie) of Livermore, Richard and Stephen Gigliotti of Concord, Elizabeth Gigliotti Samples (Casey) of Tulsa, OK, Jonathan Gigliotti serving in the Navy overseas, Gabrielle, Jacob and Sophia Gigliotti of Pleasanton. There are also eight great grandchildren, James, Ethan, Caroline, Raymond, Amelia, Zoey, Nathanael and Archer. He will be missed by all those that knew and loved him.

Friends and family are invited to the memorial service January 11, 2013 at 11:00. St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton, CA

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to: Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave, #100, Dublin, CA. 94568;

Make-A-Wish Foundation@ of America Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 6062, Albert Lea, MN 56007-6662; or to a favorite charity in memory of Nick Gigliotti.

Bertha Mary Koepf

March 7, 1923 to Dec. 26, 2012

Bertha Mary Koepf passed away quickly and peacefully at the Parkview in Pleasanton on December 26, 2012. She was 89 years old.

Bertha was born on March 7, 1923 in South Berwick Maine to the late Omer and Delia Saindon who were from Canada. She attended Berwick Academy and graduated in 1940. Although the smallest in the class, she was on the school's basketball, tennis and field hockey teams. After graduation Bertha attended secretarial school, and in 1947 she moved with her brother to San Francisco and got a secretarial job with the Federal Government. In 1954 she met and married Calvin Calderon and settled in San Leandro. They quickly had two children, Bradley and Denise. Bertha was a stay-at-home mom for several years and eventually went back to work for the Federal Government at the Alameda Naval Air Station. In 1984 Calvin passed away. Bertha retired from the Federal Government a couple of years later. In 1989 Bertha met and married Bill Koepf and moved to Alameda. They were married for 8 years before his passing in 1997. In 2007 she moved to Heritage Estates in Livermore to be closer to her family and lived there for three years before moving to the Parkview in Pleasanton.

In her retirement Bertha became a member of the Alameda Hospital Auxiliary and volunteered two days a week at the Alameda Hospital. Once a week she also served meals at the local St. Vincent de Paul dining room. Bertha loved spending time with her grandchildren and enjoyed knitting, playing poker, listening to music, dancing, watching sports (particularly tennis), taking bus trips to the Indian casinos and Reno and other travel. She was always smiling and laughing and was very proud of her stature. Everyone she met immediately fell in love with her. She will be thought about and missed every day.

Bertha is survived by her son, Bradley Calderon from Tracy, daughter, Denise Ortega, from Livermore, daughter-in-law, Lisa Calderon and son-in-law Bob Ortega, three grandchildren, Joseph and Rachel Ortega and Nathan Calderon, as well as three step-grandchildren, Ruben and Laurie Reyna and Chere Riggs and step great-grandson Leo Riggs. In addition to her husbands, Bertha was preceded in death by her parents, five brothers and two sisters.

Bertha Koepf was laid to rest on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at the Chapel of the Chimes Cemetery in Hayward, CA. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the Alzheimer's Association.

Jim Blades

12-23-1919 - 12-25-2012
Resident of Pleasanton

Jim Blades, 93, died on Christmas morning, Dec. 25, 2012, at his Pleasanton home with his wife of 68 years, Margaret, and his family at his side. He will be remembered fondly by his children, John, Annis, Liz, and Rick; grandchildren, Lisa, Brian, Tony, Olivia, Skye, and newest family member, great granddaughter Daisy Elizabeth of 2 months.

Jim was born in Chicago on Dec. 23, 1919. His parents moved to Brooklyn in 1931 where Jim attended Brooklyn Tech in preparation for MIT. It was in Brooklyn that Jim joined the Police Athletic League. He was the oldest known living member of PAL.

Jim joined the Navy during WWII. After his discharge he married Margaret Annette Moore in Montreal, Canada, on Dec. 19, 1944. Both Jim and Margaret's families hailed from islands in the Caribbean. Jim met Margaret on the island of Barbados where her family lived, when he was 8 and she was 5.

Jim and Margaret initially settled in Brooklyn, where son John was born in 1946. They moved to Orinda in 1947, where Jim found employment at the UC Berkeley Radiation Lab. By 1954 the family had grown to include Annis, Liz, and Rick. A cottage on a hillside in Orinda became too small for a family of 6, so Jim moved them to a larger home in Danville. By this time, Jim had transferred from the UC Berkeley Lab to the Lawrence Livermore Lab.

The family moved to Pleasanton in 1971 after he found a home there that could accommodate his aging parents, and also so that Jim could be closer to the Lawrence Livermore Lab, where he worked until his retirement as Chief Draftsman in 1980. After his retirement, Jim and Margaret traveled extensively in their motor home.

Jim will be remembered as a great teller of stories and as a character who would never pass up on an opportunity to capture the ear of any who would listen. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jim was a 33rd degree Mason. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 26th, 2 pm, at the Masonic Lodge at 3370 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Please record a RSVP at (925) 519-0034 (Annis). A memorial service at St. Claire's Episcopal Church in Pleasanton will be planned for a later date.

Cheryl Jean Burrescia

Resident of Livermore

Cheryl Jean Burrescia passed away peacefully on January 3, 2013 after a short illness. She was surrounded by family and friends. Cheryl was born in Trinidad, Colorado on January 28, 1955 and was a resident of Livermore for 37 years.

Cheryl was a loving wife and doting mother. One of her greatest joys in life was seeing her son John grow up. Whether enjoying his school activities or watching him perform in his band, Cheryl would beam with

pride. She loved spending time with her husband Joe, son, and future daughter-in-law, Sydney.

Cheryl profoundly touched many lives during her short time on this earth. Known affectionately as "Maxine," Cheryl worked as a nurse at both the Veteran's Hospital in Livermore and Valley Memorial Hospital. The special bonds she formed with colleagues there lasted a lifetime. As John began kindergarten, Cheryl became known as "Mrs B" at St Michael's School where she worked as an aide for 20 years. Mrs B made it a point to know every student and make each of them feel special. Former students often stopped her on the street to hug and reminisce. Mrs B was a creative individual whose talents and sparkling personality were enjoyed and appreciated by the entire staff. Additionally, Cheryl took up other roles at St. Michael's parish in Livermore, such as serving on the parish council and actively participating in the RCIA program.

Cheryl had extremely close relationships with her immediate family and lifelong close friends. Cheryl became a favorite aunt or "TT" to several generations of family, being counted on to provide either sage advice or comic relief as needed.

She is survived by her husband of 30 years Joseph Burrescia of Livermore, son John Burrescia of Pasadena, sister Pat Cerrone (Dave) of Arvada Colorado, and numerous nieces and nephews. Cheryl is preceded in death by her father John Piassoli, mother Ilene, and brothers John and Larry.

A vigil/rosary will be held on Friday, January 11 at 7 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary at 3833 East Ave in Livermore. Mass of the Remembrance will be celebrated on Saturday, January 12 at 11 a.m. at St Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple Street, Livermore CA.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her memory to St Michael's Catholic School at 345 Church Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Adrienne Claire Riley

July 22, 1954 - Dec. 17, 2012
Resident of Pleasanton

Adrienne was born in Willows, California, to Howard and Wilma (Wells) Detling. She passed away on December 17, 2012, at Eden Medical Center, Castro Valley, with her husband, Mike, and their



children Kevin, Megan, and Amy at her side.

After graduating from Enterprise High School in Redding, California, in 1972, Adrienne attended the University of California at Berkeley, where she met and married Michael Lloyd Riley on September 7, 1974. Adrienne earned a BS degree in Nursing and a BA degree in Human Development from California State University, Hayward. Adrienne began her career as a Registered Nurse in 1981 with Kaiser Hospital Oakland; and since 1995 has been associated with the Maternal Child Department at

ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton.

Adrienne enjoyed reading, sewing, traveling, shopping, San Jose Shark's hockey, Cal football, and playing Bunko. Adrienne's passion in life was her family; especially her love for her three children, and her granddaughter, Madison.

Adrienne is survived by her loving husband, Mike; devoted children-son Kevin, his wife Stacey Powell Riley, and their daughter Madison of Brentwood; daughter Megan and husband Patrick Bowen of Concord; and daughter Amy of San Ramon. She is also survived by her brother Doug Detling of Medford, Oregon; her brother, Martin Detling of Eureka, California; her brother, Wade Detling of Deer Park, Washington; and her sister, Valerie Liggett of Redding, California. Her caring and loving spirit will be missed by all who knew her.

A "Celebration of Adrienne's Life" will be held January 13, 2013, at 2:00 PM at Valley Community Church, at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton.

In honor of Adrienne, contributions can be made to the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation at www.valley-care.com.

Walter Harold Mobley

May 27, 1925 - Dec. 21, 2012

Walter Mobley, a longtime resident of Pleasanton, CA, passed away on December 21, 2012 at home with family members by his side.

Walter was born in Modesto, CA. He met and married Antonia Galindo in Spain in 1956, and was married to her for 56 years. She was the love of his life when he passed away.

He served in the Navy during World War II and the Korean War. Walter used to put up and take down his neighbors' flags each day, and put their newspapers on their front porch until his age affected his mobility. His eyes would light up every time he saw his grandchildren and great-grandchild. They meant the world to him. He loved photography, genealogy, walking his street, talking to neighbors, and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife Antonia Mobley; two sons: Charles and Richard Mobley; three grandchildren: Jennifer Rochin, Mathew Mobley, and Sarah Mobley; and great-grandson Daniel Rochin, Jr.

A memorial service to honor Walter's life will be held January 17, 2013 at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building at 1:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Hope Hospice located at 6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568, (925) 829-8770



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Obituary/Memorial Policies

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

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

Please send an email to editmail@compuserve.com

SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 8)

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. Forest Home Farms Historic Park is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., just south of Pine Valley Road in San Ramon.

White Elephant Sale

The annual White Elephant Sale (WES)---now in its 54rd year---returns on March 2 and 3, 2013. Sale hours are 10 am to 4 pm both days, and admission is free. Organized and presented by the Oakland Museum Women's Board, the Sale benefits the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA).

The Preview Sale is Sunday, January 27, 10 am to 4 pm. Tickets are \$15 in advance and can be purchased with a mail-in form (down-

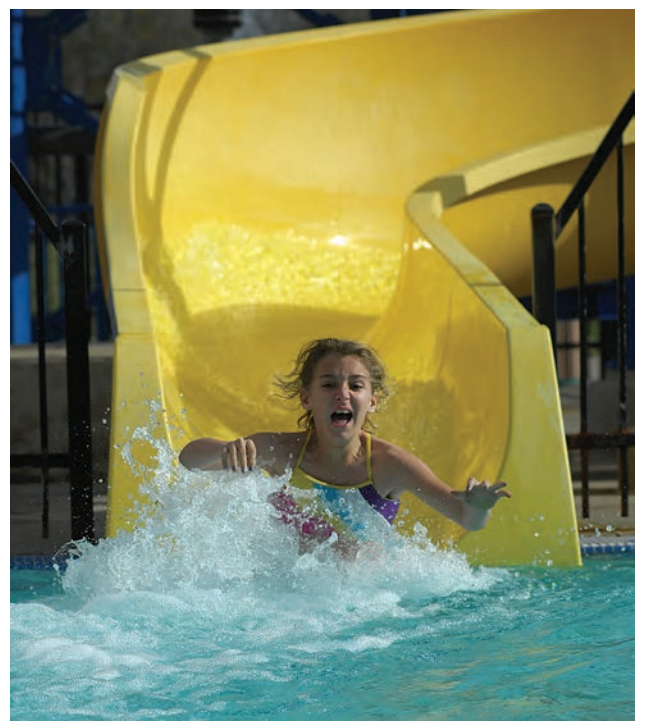
load at WhiteElephantSale.org) or at the OMCA Store during regular Museum hours through January 20. Tickets are available at the door on the day of the Preview Sale for \$20. Children under 12 are admitted free but must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Held in a 96,000 square-foot warehouse located at 333 Lancaster St. (at Glascock), in Oakland, the Sale features quality used items, including vintage clothing, fine jewelry, collectibles, tools, furniture,

sporting goods, and more. Free shuttle service is provided from the Fruitvale BART to the warehouse on Sale and Preview Sale days.

Donations by the public make the White Elephant Sale possible and gently used, good quality items are appreciated year round. For more information on donating, visit WhiteElephantSale.org.

For complete details, visit the White Elephant Sale website at WhiteElephantSale.org or call 510-536-6800.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Participants in the Polar Bear Slide hit the water.

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

UP-Amtrak line from Santa Clara north to Oakland. Use the bond funds to plan for an intermodal station in Oakland where BART's trans-Bay line crosses over the UP track at I-880 and 7th Street. Move the West Oakland BART station there, making it a four-track BART station like MacArthur. BART runs every few minutes from there to downtown San Francisco and to all of BART-land.

Include an HSR Santa Clara station, with a Mineta-rail link to the San Jose Mineta International Airport, and a BART OAC station to Oakland Airport.

This would tie the three major airports together by HSR, BART, or Caltrain. It would serve well the Silicon Valley until a 5-County BART vote.

Indeed, the time has come to update the scholarly SF-BARTC 1957 "Report to the Legislature" that led to the BART 1962 bond election. Develop a balanced five-county plan for Bay Area rail along the lines of the 1957 report, and let the voters decide. Among its elements: Grade separate and multitrack the Mulford line, Santa Clara to Elmhurst; Grade separate UP track in Oakland; Fund BART, Berryessa to Alum

Rock, along former WP and over US 101; Fund BART, Alum Rock to Santa Clara, but with an SJSU station; Grade separate and convert Caltrain to BART, Santa Clara to Millbrae; Convert Caltrain north of Millbrae to an SF Muni Airport Express line; Extend BART, Civic Center to the Presidio and Golden Gate Bridge; Extend BART at grade in a widened I-80 median to the Carquinez Bridge; Convert eBART to BART and extend it to Brentwood; Extend BART along I-580 through Livermore per the City's general plan; Extend that BART over the Altamont to Grant Line Road at I-580

(The ruling grade on the abandoned SP freight line was under 1.3%.)

Adjusted for inflation and the five-county population, a bond issue equal to BART's in 1962 would raise about \$16 billion. This 5-County BART plan should cost far less. Federal or other financial participation could reduce local financing cost even more.

There would be no cost for tunneling or HSR terminal facilities in San Francisco, and no need later for another trans-Bay HSR tube for extension or Sacramento. Capcor via Mulford would be shorter, straighter, and safer than the existing route via Decoto.



What Are You Doing This Week?



The Independent's online Cultural Arts and Community Events Calendars have events this week, this month and this year.

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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 472813

The following person(s) doing business as: RADIENCE, 7667 Amador Valley Blvd, Suite B, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kempur & Co., LLC, 7667 Amador Valley Blvd, Suite B, Dublin, CA 94568

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/ Edmund Kempur - Member

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 13, 2012. Expires December

13, 2017.
The Independent Legal No. 3361. Published December 27, 2012, January 3, 10, 2013

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 472549-53

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Tri-Valley Moto 2)KTM of Tri-Valley 3)Triumph of Tri-Valley 4)BMW of Tri-Valley 5)Calmoto Livermore, 952 North Canyons Pkwy, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Meissner, 827 Elmira Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/27/2007.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Michael Meissner, Owner/ President

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 6,

2012. Expires December 6, 2017.
The Independent Legal No. 3368. Published December 27, 2012, January 3, 10, 17, 2013

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 473195

The following person(s) doing business as: Super Nail & Designs, 983 East Stanley Blvd, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Giang T. Pham, 27635 Seminole Way, Hayward, CA 94544

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/20/2012.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Giang T. Pham

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 27, 2012. Expires December 27, 2017.
The Independent Legal No.

3370. Published January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2013

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 472607

The following person(s) doing business as: JMA Builders, 1516 Juniper St., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jacob Aro, 1516 Juniper 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 11/20/2012.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Jacob Aro, Owner

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 7, 2012. Expires December 7, 2017.

The Independent Legal No. 3371. Published January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2013

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 472483

The following person(s) doing business as: AAA Plant Brokers, 38801 Cherry Street, Newark, CA 94560, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): New Earth Plant Brokers, Inc, 1141 Catalina Dr. #267, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Robin Oberg, CEO

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 5, 2012. Expires December 5, 2017.

The Independent Legal No. 3372. Published January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2013

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCES for RFQ #901060 Patrol Vehicle Laptops South County - Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 2:00 p.m. at Fremont Public Library, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fukaya Room A, Fremont, CA and North County - Thursday, January 24, 2013, 9:00 a.m. at General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, 11th Floor, Room 1107, Oakland, CA Responses Due by 2:00 pm on February 14, 2013 County Contact: Abby Fard (510) 208-9623 or via email: Abby.Fard@acgov.org Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 1/10/13

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Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA
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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.tvlar.org.

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REAL ESTATE
NEWS AND NOTICES

'Fiscal Cliff' Settlement Impacts Property Owners

By Cher Wollard
 On New Year's Day, after weeks of tense negotiations, Congress passed the American Tax Relief Act of 2012, preventing the nation from, as pundits and economists had dubbed it, "going over the fiscal cliff." President Obama signed the bill the next day.

The focus during the run up to the vote and after has been on income tax rates and entitlement spending, but the final bill also included or omitted provisions that directly impact real estate transactions and home ownership.

In addition, Congress approved other legislation of interest to property owners.

Among the real estate provisions of the tax bill:
 • Mortgage Cancellation Relief is extended for one year, to Jan. 1, 2014.

Federal tax laws treat forgiveness of debt as taxable income. So when a mortgage holder allows a short sale, the borrower generally must claim that cancelled debt as "income."

In 2007, in response to the high levels of short sales by distressed homeowners, Congress enacted legislation that said homeowners who received principal reductions on mortgages for their primary residences or other forms of debt forgiveness would not be taxed on the amount forgiven.

However, that legislation expired on Dec. 31, 2012. The extension renews it for another year.

• Deduction for Mortgage Insurance Premiums.

The mortgage insurance premium deduction was originally enacted in 2006, but expired a year ago on Dec. 31, 2011. It allowed homeowners with private mortgage insurance or federal insurance or guarantees who itemize on their federal tax returns to write off some or all of the premiums.

Mortgage insurance is most commonly required on mortgages with low downpayments, such as FHA and VA mortgages, strongly impacting first-time and moderate-income buyers. It also applies to folks refinancing with these types of loans.

The new legislation reinstates the deduction for filers making \$110,000 per year or less, making it retroactive to cover 2012 and extending it through 2013.

• Leasehold Improvements Cost Recovery.

Leasehold improvements, also known as tenant improvements, are changes made to a property to accommodate the needs of tenants. These changes can include relatively minor improvements such as painting, installing partitions or new flooring, or major changes such as modifying rooms.

The law, which allows taxpayers to claim 15-year straight-line recovery on qualified leasehold improvements on commercial buildings, applies retroactively to 2012 and is extended through 2013.

• Energy Efficiency Tax Credit.

This 10 percent tax credit, up to \$500, applies to certain energy improvements made to existing homes. It applies retroactively to 2012 through Dec. 31, 2013.

For specifics on what improvements qualify, check the Department of Energy website, www.dsireusa.org.

Other provisions of the law will affect some property owners, especially those in the upper income areas.

• Permanent Repeal of "Pease Limitations" for Most Taxpayers.

These limitations reduce the value of itemized deductions. Originally enacted in 1990 and phased out as a result of the 2001 tax cuts, they were scheduled to resume on filers claiming more than \$174,450 of adjusted gross income. The new legislation eliminates these limitations for individuals earning more than \$250,000 and joint filers earning more than \$300,000.

• Capital Gains.

The capital gains rate, which applies to profits made on the sale of real property as well as other transactions, was kept at a top rate of 15 percent for amounts up to \$400,000 for individual filers and \$450,000 for joint filers. After that, any gains above those amounts will be taxed at 20 percent.

The \$250,000/\$500,000 exclusion for the sale of a principal residence under most circumstances remains in place.

• Estate Tax.

The first \$5 million in individual estates and \$10 million for family estates are now exempted from the estate tax. After that, the rate will be 40 percent, up from 35 percent. The exemption amounts are indexed for inflation.

Congress also enacted other legislation of interest to property owners.

• VA Loan Limits Reinstated.

On Aug. 6, President Obama signed into law the "Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012," which reinstated higher limits on Veterans Administration loans through 2014 and made the VA ARM programs permanent.

Loan limits vary by county. Most of the Bay Area, including Alameda and Contra Costa counties, are considered very high cost areas, so the VA loan limits are set at \$987,500.

The ARM program allows veterans the option of adjustable rate mortgages.

• National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorized.

Congress extended the National Flood Insurance Program for five years, as part of the Surface Transportation Conference Report.

According to the National Association of Realtors, this reauthorization "will bring certainty to real estate transactions in more than 21,000 communities nationwide where flood insurance is required for a mortgage."

To determine which Bay Area communities are affected, check out the map at <http://quake.abag.ca.gov/floods/>

• Foreign Investment Bill.

On Sept. 28, President Obama signed a bill ratifying the three-year authorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Pilot Program. These regional centers allow foreign nationals to invest in American business, development and real estate. It is believed this will stimulate the economy and help create jobs at no cost to U.S. taxpayers.

For more information about real estate related national legislation, see www.realtor.org, the website of the National Association of Realtors.

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Supervisor Scott Haggerty Begins Fifth Four-Year Term

Scott Haggerty was sworn in to serve his fifth four-year term on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors during a ceremony held Dec. 31.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley administered the oath of office in Dublin. Haggerty was unopposed in his reelection to a fifth term in June 2012, which became effective on January 1.

Haggerty represents District 1 that includes the communities of Fremont, Livermore, Dublin and unincorporated areas of eastern Alameda County. Previously, Haggerty represented the City of Pleasanton until redistricting in 2010 when, after the U.S. Census, it was revealed that the population of District 1 was more than 29,000 over that of the other four supervisorial districts in Alameda County.

"The voters have again expressed their confidence in my ability to effectively



Family and friends looked on as Supervisor Scott Haggerty was sworn into office. The ceremony was held in Dublin.

Photos - Doug Jorgensen

represent their interests and to continue to deliver important services and initiatives," said Haggerty. "I am humbled and deeply honored by

this belief in my leadership and I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead. I intend to continue to work towards meeting my early

goals of extending BART to Livermore and advancing important regional transportation projects and programs that improve mobility and air quality for District 1 and Alameda County. I look forward to working with my colleagues at the Board of Supervisors as we continue

to ensure the fiscal health of the County and the delivery of services to our constituents."

The ceremony was held at McNamara's Restaurant in Dublin. Joining Haggerty at the ceremony were his family and staff. Invited

guests included political leaders from throughout his district and the county.

For more information about Supervisor Haggerty, visit www.co.alameda.ca.us/board/district1/

LIVERMORE

(continued from page one)

design review and land use discussions with the potential for separate actions.

- Maps showing current densities and future densities in Livermore would be posted on-line.

- Greater transparency will be provided when changes are planned near existing neighborhoods. The goal would be to establish the most positive and productive way to deal with issues that arise.

The workshop included a presentation on the types of decisions that are made at the local level. A question arose regarding zoning and the expectations a property owner might have.

City Manager Marc Roberts noted that a property owner has no right to expect a change. The city does not have an obligation to change the rules to enrich someone. At the same time, the city cannot eliminate all economic use or value.

Assistant City Attorney Jason Alcalá stated, "A property owner may not like grazing as a land value. However, it is a value. Open space has value as potential mitigation."

Attorney John Pomidor added that it is difficult to prove that a property has no economic value.

Roberts explained, "Legislation actions set the rules of the game. There is tremendous flexibility in setting the rules as long as they are not discriminatory or violate laws. People tend to think of regulations as taking value. A well-written regulation can create value not only for an individual property owner, but for the community at large. Legislative actions are the place to be creative, to set a vision for the future."

Roberts pointed to down-

town revitalization and the South Livermore Valley Area Plan as examples where a great deal of public and private value has been created.

Councilmember Stewart Gary noted that there is confusion on the part of the public about how the council meeting is run, what can or cannot be discussed and what a council decision is based upon. For example, if an applicant has met the conditions, it is not up to the council to change the conditions. He suggested that staff reports list what can be considered by the council and commission during a hearing.

Gary also noted that it is important that decisions not be made to meet some council goal. "Don't let the goal of jobs, jobs, jobs trample over residential needs."

Commissioner Harriet Cole observed that there is a need to encourage business. However, that should not mean that we run roughshod over people who are impacted in a way they weren't impacted before. She suggested that with changes in circumstances, a specific plan may no longer work as envisioned. It may be time to take a look at plans to see how they may need to be adjusted.

Councilmember Bob Woerner said it should be possible to revise plans for such issues as traffic impacts. Potential problems should be addressed prior to a project being submitted for approval.

Mayor John Marchand commented, "We can put all the information in the world out there and people don't read it. That is one of the challenges we face."

Commissioner Todd Storti said one of the issues

concerns the urban growth boundary (UGB) and densities. Because growth will be concentrated within the UGB, some areas will be designated for higher density than before. He said he sees a disconnect between what the UGB has done for the city and zoning at higher densities in order to address housing allocation numbers.

Marchand said the downtown is the way it is today because the city didn't proceed with the sprawl model of development. Everyone loves the downtown. We are talking about specific areas where the general plan allows for an increase in densities.

Woerner suggested that the staff write something explaining the basis for decisions. "The more transparent we are, the better."

Several commissioners said they have felt pressure to approve a project quickly, before it has been thoroughly vetted.

Councilmember Doug Horner advised the commissioners not to let an applicant drive the process. "Just because something is requested, doesn't mean it has to be given. If you need time to make a decision, don't be afraid to form a subgroup to meet with a developer. These are buildings we have to live with. Planning is the long view, the fabric of this community for decades and decades."

Commissioners also suggested they aren't spending enough time on the design aspects of a project, raising the idea to separate the discussions on the agenda.

Woerner stated, "It is important to do what is necessary to approve a quality project in an efficient manner."

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THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Variety of Musical Performances Offered

Bluegrass will be offered by Audie Blaylock and his band Redline (pictured above) at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Lower right is country music performer and comedian Gary Mule Deer; lower right is Tom Wopat, known for his vocal style. Mule Deer and Wopat will perform at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. More information about the performances can be found inside.





Lamplighters Bring Comedy, 'Princess Ida,' to the Bankhead

The Lamplighters Music Theatre continues its 60th Anniversary season with Gilbert and Sullivan's delightful tale of cross-dressing princes and the feminists who love them, "Princess Ida."

Performances are Sat., Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

This is the show that the Lamplighters took to England in 1995, and won the grand prize at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival.

A 20 year old treaty states that Princess Ida and Prince Hilarion are to marry when they come of age. That time has come, but Ida refuses to honor a commitment made on her behalf when she was an infant, and has gone off to the country to start a women's university. There she teaches an interesting variation on Darwin's theory: that man -- not woman, just man -- is descended from apes, and thus are inferior to women.

The Prince, on the other hand, is an unabashed romantic, and decides to woo Ida and win her love. He and two friends make their way to the university, where they disguise themselves as women in order to enroll and get close to her...

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets are \$22-\$46. They may be purchased at the theater box office, on line at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 272-6800.

Pictured at left are Michael Desnoyers as Cyril, David Sasse as Prince Hilarion (double cast with Robert Vann) and Chris Uzelac as Florian. They appear in Princess Ida.

Bluegrass Blowout at the Firehouse in Pleasanton Features Grammy Nominees Audie Blaylock & Redline

Grammy Nominee for Bluegrass Album of the Year, Audie Blaylock is one of the hottest bluegrass artists today. Blaylock and his band Redline hit the Firehouse Arts Center on Friday, January 18 at 8:00 p.m. Opening the show are the acoustic quartet Snap Jackson and the Knock On Wood Players.

This tour is a special one. The band usually hits the road with the four core players. This show will feature the full 5-member Redline band on stage: Audie Blaylock on vocals and guitar, Patrick McAvinue on fiddle, Russ Carson on banjo, Reed Jones on bass, and special treat Jesse Brock on mandolin.

Hot off a string of #1 singles and sell-out live

shows featuring cuts from their newest album "Hard Country," Blaylock and Redline will also be performing songs from their award-winning album "I'm Going Back To Old Kentucky" (A Bill Monroe Celebration). Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine says, "The vocal work by Blaylock and others is topnotch, the instrumental support is right on the mark, and the Father of Bluegrass would no doubt find this release very much to his liking."

Opening the show with a bang is Snap Jackson and the Knock On Wood Players. Nominated for 2010 Northern California Banjo Player of the Year, Snap plays both Scruggs style and clawhammer banjo, as well as ukulele, mountain

dulcimer, and harmonica. Joining Jackson are Shane Kalbach on fiddle, mandolin and guitar, Eric Antrim on guitar, and Brian Clark on string bass. "Snap's original songs have a liveliness that zips across the sound barrier, and if your feet aren't dancing after a song or two, you must be tied down," according to The Bluegrass Breakdown.

Tickets are \$10, \$15, \$20. Youth tickets are \$12. Tickets can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm, and two hours prior to the performance.



Photo by Anthony Ladd.

Gary Mule Deer Brings Mix of Country Music and Humor

Gary Mule Deer's wry self-effacing style of comedy and his amiable approach to country music has kept audiences laughing around the world for more than four decades. He will appear at the Bankhead Theater for the first time in a single performance at 7:30 p.m. on January 22, 2013.

Mule Deer's shows, once memorably described as "like watching Johnny Cash and Keith Richards getting drunk with Jack Benny," have been seen at venues from the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville to the Royal Albert Hall in London, as well as on televisions and nightclubs everywhere. Tickets to see Gary Mule Deer at the Bankhead range from \$34 to \$54 for adults and \$14 for students.

Growing up in South Dakota, Gary Mule Deer always thrived on the joy of making people laugh, but he didn't set out to be either a comedian or a musician. He first tried his hand at a dozen other careers including bus boy, baker's assistant, highway construction worker and grave digger, before taking up the guitar. After learning and practicing a dozen Johnny Cash songs for just a few short weeks, Mule Deer talked his way into a gig at a small bar in Deadwood, South Dakota. As he tells it, there were not that



Gary Mule Deer

many people there and hardly anyone noticed him until he missed a few key chords. In order to distract the audience's attention from his musical shortcomings, Mule Deer started telling jokes and before he knew it, his new career as a self-described "funny musician" was born. He worked his way to Los Angeles, where he roomed with fellow comedian Steve Martin, wrote for the Smothers Brothers, and toured as the opening act for John Denver, while establishing a name for himself.

Over the decades, Gary Mule Deer has kept

audiences coming back to enjoy his good-time music and hilariously comic side notes. He feels comedy should be for everyone and say he ensures his shows have a broad appeal by doing "every act as if my grandmother were in the front row!" Mule Deer has shared the stage with everyone from Ray Charles and Willie Nelson, to Vince Gill, the Zac Brown Band, and Johnny Mathis, with whom he has regularly toured for nearly 20 years. He is a frequent guest on the David Letterman show.

Now in its sixth season

at the Bankhead Theater, LVPAC Presents showcases acclaimed performers in music, dance and other performing arts across a wide range of styles and genres. Coming just one week after Gary Mule Deer, the LVPAC Presents Comedy Series continues on January 29, 2013 with the one-man show "Exceptions to Gravity." Best known for his scene-stealing portrayal of the holy man in the major motion picture "Jewel of the Nile," Avner the Eccentric evokes the deceptively simple, yet irresistibly humorous, style of Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton. A mime, acrobat and juggler, his nonsensical interactions with inanimate objects takes an approach to physical comedy that reaches across all barriers of age, language and culture and leaves audiences helpless with laughter.

Tickets to see Gary Mule Deer on January 22nd or Avner the Eccentric on January 29th, as well as all other performances in the 2012-2013 LVPAC Presents season are available now through the Bankhead Theater box office, 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 925-373-6800 or visiting www.bankhead-theater.org

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Tom Wopat Performs Easy Listening Music

Called the “keeper of the flame of the Sinatra tradition,” singer/actor Tom Wopat will present an 8 p.m. performance at the Bankhead Theater on Sat., January 12, 2013.

While best known for his starring role in the television series “The Dukes of Hazzard,” Wopat has been twice nominated for a Tony Award for his work on Broadway and has released a half dozen albums covering everything from old jazz classics and Broadway hits, to contemporary country and popular songs. The New York Observer has described him as “so charismatic and versatile, he can lock in a lyric and lasso an audience at the same time.”

Born on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, Wopat began singing and dancing in school musicals when he was just 12 years old. He appeared in campus productions while at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, sang in a rock band, and performed in summer stock before heading to New York. Within just a few weeks of arrival there, Wopat’s broad musical talents and stage appeal won him a role in an off-Broadway musical and he went on to make his debut

on Broadway within a year. Even as his stage career was gaining momentum, he was selected for the role of Luke Duke and was off to Georgia to begin filming, but he never left his music behind.

When “The Dukes of Hazzard” went off the air after seven seasons, Wopat moved to Nashville to sing contemporary country rock music. While he released several albums and scored two Top 20 country hits, he also continued to appear in a number of other television shows such as “Cybill” and “Home Improvement” and made a successful return to Broadway. Wopat has twice been nominated for a Tony Award, first for his star turn as the smooth-talking sharpshooter Frank Butler in a popular revival of “Annie Get Your Gun” with Bernadette Peters, and again for “A Catered Affair” in 2008. In addition to appearing on television shows and in movies such as HBO’s “Taking Chance” with Kevin Bacon, he keeps a busy schedule of concerts and shows around the country.

Wopat puts his own signature spin on whatever he sings and, while he is often compared with Frank Sinatra, it is for the relaxed and



Tom Wopat

personable style he projects rather than as an imitator. Wopat is clearly at home with himself on stage, a multi-talented performer comfortable in every setting from television studios

and Broadway theaters, to nightclubs and concert halls. While he can and does sing nearly every style of music, he calls jazz his first love. Wopat’s latest album, “Consider it Swung” features

his take on favorite songs such as “But Not for Me,” “Over the Rainbow,” and “Ode to Billy Joe.” Wopat will appear at the Bankhead Theater for one performance only on January 12th at 8:00 p.m. Tickets range from \$34 to \$54 for adults and \$14 for students.

The LVPAC Presents series showcases acclaimed performers in music, dance and other performing arts across a wide range of styles and genres each season. On Tuesday January 22, 2013, the Bankhead Theater will welcome Gary Mule Deer whose amiable laid-back style of country music accompanied by offbeat commentary has kept audiences entertained for decades. Tickets for the evening with Tom Wopat or for Gary Mule Deer, as well as all other events in the 2012-2013 LVPAC Presents season are available now through the Bankhead Theater box office.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org

Art Happens to Include Poetry Readings

Art Happens series is adding a new feature – Open Mics for poetry and short prose.

Livermore’s monthly art crawl, which features works by various artists on display at participating downtown locations, is held the second Thursday of each month, 6-8 p.m..

Beginning with the upcoming Art Happens on Jan. 10, Livermore Poet Laureate Cher Wollard will host literary events at Figurehead Gallery, 2222 Second Street, Suite 21, upstairs in the Second Street Mall.

Ken and Victoria Ball, the proprietors of this charming gallery, will open their doors to both writers and those who wish to view their displays and listen to the readings.

This month’s theme is “Everything New.”

The Open Mic will begin with readings by Wollard and Connie Post, Livermore’s first poet laureate.

Writers who wish to read their poems or short prose pieces can sign up at the event.

For information, contact Wollard at 925 824-4824 or cherw@cherw.com. Or check out www.livermorelit.com

Murder Mystery Dinner Benefit for AAUW Educational Foundation

The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch of the American Association of University Women is hosting the “Martin Van Buren High School Reunion” murder mystery dinner. The “Reunion Committee” has reserved the gang’s old hangout, Vic’s All Star

Kitchen, 201 Main Street, Pleasanton, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 26, for its 25th Class Reunion; and the community is invited to attend and help identify the murderer.

“The Class” (and all their friends from the community) will “reunite” to re-

call the happy memories of the days they spent at Van Buren High School. Perri Westcott from the class is writing a new novel about her classmates. The class has a number of secrets they would like to keep hidden, and evidently someone wants to keep it that way.

A buffet dinner, featuring tri-tips, pasta, and more, will be served by Vic’s, with no host beer and wine. A silent auction will be held for a chance to win dessert for your table. There will be a 50/50 raffle.

Proceeds from the dinner will go to support AAUW’s

Educational Foundation.

Tickets are \$40, paid in advance, \$15 of which is tax deductible. Seating is limited. Reservations must be made by Saturday, January 19. Call Vicki-Dawn at 484-3321 to make your reservations or for further information.

water+color 2013: California Watercolor Association's 43rd National Exhibition at the Harrington Gallery

Free Reception Open to the Public

The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center will host this year's prestigious California Watercolor Association's 43rd National Exhibition entitled "water+color 2013."

The exhibit features watermedia paintings by 80 nationally recognized, award-winning artists from as close as Danville to as far away as Mumbai, India. The exhibit opens Thursday, January 17 and runs through Saturday, February 16. There is a free public reception on Saturday, January 19 from 1-3 p.m. The public is welcome to enjoy refreshments and meet with a number of the artists who will be in attendance.

In addition to the opportunity to discover and enjoy these exquisite nationally recognized works, the public will have the opportunity to watch live painting demonstrations in the gallery by some of the participating artists. Each Saturday of the exhibition between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. beginning on January 26, one of the artists will be on-site to discuss his or her work, answer questions, and demonstrate painting techniques.

Northern California artists are well-represented in the exhibit, including Chris Beck of Los Altos, Scotts Valley's Linda Curtis, "contemporary realism" practitioner Karen Frey, Michael Reardon of Oakland, and urban 'plein air' artist David Savellano. Other local exhibiting art-



"Time Warp" - Ona Kingdon



"Family and Friends" - Marilyn Sears Bourbon

ists of interest are Walnut Creek's Anne Fallin of the TWSA (Transparent Watercolor Society of America), Ruth Koch, known for her juxtaposition of colors and shapes, and Robin Purcell who is known for rich deep colors in the plein air tradition. These artists represent widely diverse approaches to the use of watermedia, and their inclusion makes for a fascinating exploration of the varied uses of water colors.

Christine McHugh of

The Artist's Magazine says of Chris Beck's work: "Chris Beck combines consummate watercolor techniques and a designer's eye . . . Crisp edges with brilliant watercolor. Simple shapes in compelling compositions."

Karen Frey says of her work, "In addition to painting the world around me, I often suggest a narrative. I do this with respect for my viewer. I choose not to lay it all out clearly, but leave room for individual



"Red Shadow" - Nataly Tikhomirov

interpretation . . . When someone remarks that my paintings are just shapes, colors and curious edges up close, but look remarkably like something from a distance, I am satisfied that I've done my job."

An avid traveler, Bay Area watercolorist Michael Reardon says his artistic inspiration comes from landscape and structures seen on his journeys. His extensive background in architecture and illustration informs his paintings.

Exhibitor Linda Curtis states, "I was born in the coal regions of Pennsylvania, and my surroundings were coal dust grey. In my painting, I see my world in terms of vibrant color. I'm fascinated by contrasts: light and dark, lost and found, wash in juxtaposition to hard edges. Painting for me has become an expression of my inner serenity and clarity."

Urban artist and pedagogue David Savellano notes that although he is

largely self-taught as a watercolor painter, he credits his 30 years as a practicing architect with having given him the skills and strong sense of perspective that have elevated his artwork to a professional level. Primarily a 'plein air' (outdoor) artist, he enjoys giving curious onlookers the rare opportunity to watch "creativity in progress . . . changing their idea about art. Normally they'd have no idea how a painting was created if they only saw it in a museum." He also says the most alluring subjects for him are often fleeting and temporary at best, which has interestingly driven him to develop speed and adaptability.

The works selected for this installation were chosen by special guest curator Santa Cruz artist Mike Bailey, a Signature Member of the National Watercolor Society, who in addition to being a respected and award-winning artist in his own right, also leads frequent painting workshops both nationally and internationally.

The Harrington Gallery is located inside the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, Calif. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 12-5pm, Saturday 11am-3pm, and also one hour before most performances and during intermissions. Admission for this exhibit is free, and donations are gratefully accepted.

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan
Livermore City Historian



ANSPACHER BROTHERS

Abram Anspacher emigrated from Bavaria in 1839 at the age of 21. He came to San Francisco in 1868 after a successful business career in the Midwest. Founder of Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco, he gave generously to so many Jewish charities that he garnered the sobriquet "Old Man Benevolent." Abram married Babette Rothschild and the couple had three daughters and three sons: Addie, Emma, Hannah, Philip, Simon, and Joseph. In November 1872 Abram bought property at the northwest corner of L and First Streets in Livermore for \$2,200. His sons opened the Anspacher Brothers store in January 1873. Abram never resided in Livermore, but he acted as his sons' buyer in San Francisco and visited frequently in the early days of the business. In his 1907 obituary, the *Herald* noted, "He

was held in great respect by all the old settlers who knew him and they will learn of his passing with sincere regret."

Anspacher Brothers operated a "lofty" wood frame store, 120 by 40 feet, which carried dry goods, clothes, gentlemen's furnishings, groceries, hardware, and farm machinery. In addition, they were dealers in hay, grain, and lumber; their large warehouses were located conveniently near the railroad tracks north of the store. By May 1876 they owned an entire block in downtown Livermore stretching from L to M Street and bordered by the railroad tracks and First Street, the same area more recently owned by Groth Brothers.

A 1907 *Herald* article, entitled "Livermore Business Houses," noted, "From a small beginning the firm of Anspacher

Bros. has grown to vast proportions and they employ a large force of clerks and their warehouse and store is the trading commercial factor in the Livermore Valley. The firm is progressive from the word go and much of the prosperity of our town and valley is due to their energy, enterprise and liberality."

Like most of the merchants in Livermore, they accepted cash but also traded merchandise for local butter, eggs, and chickens. Alice Anspacher Myers remembered, "We gave credit and we took mortgages on a farm, but it was the honor of the family never to foreclose but to carry these men and people until they could really make good. I think by and large it was not only our policy but it was our successful policy. I am very happy to believe



1910 ad in Livermore Herald.

that nobody ever suffered through our foreclosing on any mortgage."

Abram's son Philip and his wife Bertha lived in Livermore with their daughter, Alice, from 1888 until 1893 in the large brown shingled house at the northwest corner of South L Street and College Avenue. Although Alice was only five years old when they left, she had indelible memories of the store even at age 61: "It had a big sign on it, Anspacher Brothers. . . the store was divided in half. One side was the dry goods side of it. The other was the place where groceries and farmers' implements and seeds were kept. Behind, at the end of the store, was the office. As a

child I took great delight naturally in the food end of it. I haven't changed very much, I can hear everybody say. But I can remember distinctly being allowed to go behind the counter. They would open those bins for me, large bins, and I could plunge my hand into the prunes or the dried apricots or the dried pears, anything that was edible.

"The lovely smell of coffee permeated the store, and I was intrigued too by the many rakes and shovels and scythes. . . One section of the dry goods part was particularly intriguing to me. Along the cosmetic counter they had beautiful colored soaps, three in a box, and the cakes were quite fat as I remember. There was also a counter where there was a lot of letter paper. It was blue and it was pink and it was rather heavy and double, creased in the middle, so that there were four sides on which to write."

Alice's memories of the store were taped in 1948 and later transcribed by her daughter. She also remembered that a large hall running the length of the store was on the second floor. The Anspachers hosted dances for their employees here. Her friend, Amy Sellers,

lived behind the store (Mr. Sellers was the manager). Alice and Amy would take white candles up to the hall and shave pieces of wax onto the floor. "Then we were allowed to slide along the huge floor to make it nice and smooth so that when the dances took place everyone would have a good time and not stick to the floor. It was great fun."

Carolyn Anspacher was the granddaughter of Philip Anspacher. She recalled her years in Livermore in an interview for the Judah Magnes Museum in 1979. "I think we were the only Jews in Livermore but we had no Jewish raising. I remember the big Christmas parties at Livermore that my parents had. Practically everybody in town was there. Our Christmas trees were maybe 20 feet high."

By December 1914 the Anspachers had closed the store and sold out its stock to W.H. Taylor; they sold their lumber business to local investors Louis Altamarino, Charles M. Nissen, and E.A. Wentz in 1916. However, they kept the Livermore warehouses and bought hay and grain during the harvest seasons, possibly until the death of Simon's son, Philip B. Anspacher, in 1925.

(Readers can reach me at am50homan@yahoo.com.)

Dublin Taking Applications from Adults for Citizen's Police Academy

Dublin Police Services will be hosting the 2013 Citizens' Police Academy for adults who reside or work in Dublin. The Academy's first session will be Wednesday, April 3rd and will be held for ten Wednesdays thereafter, from 6:30pm – 9:30pm. The Academy will culminate in a graduation on

June 5th.

The goal of the Citizens' Academy is to teach the public about law enforcement operations, foster kinship between the community and law enforcement, and to promote community policing by supporting and encouraging citizen involvement.

The Academy will offer

instruction by experienced law enforcement staff on topics such as: Crime Scene/Evidence Collection, Traffic and Radio Operations, Juvenile Justice, Coroner's Bureau, Gangs and Drugs. Participants will have an opportunity to tour Santa Rita Jail, the 5th largest jail in the nation, as well as get

a taste of officer training at the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC).

Sessions are limited to 25 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Potential participants must be at least 18 years old and must successfully complete a background investigations check, sign waiver forms, and be

approved by the Chief of Police. Felony convictions or serious criminal arrests are cause for dismissing an applicant.

Applications are available on line at www.dublin.ca.gov, by e-mail, fax, or in person at the Dublin Police Services, 100 Civic Plaza. To request that an applica-

tion be sent to you by e-mail or fax, please contact Sergeant Dave Snider at 925-833-6681 or e-mail dave.snider@dublin.ca.gov. Once completed, applications may be submitted by e-mail, fax, mail, or in person.

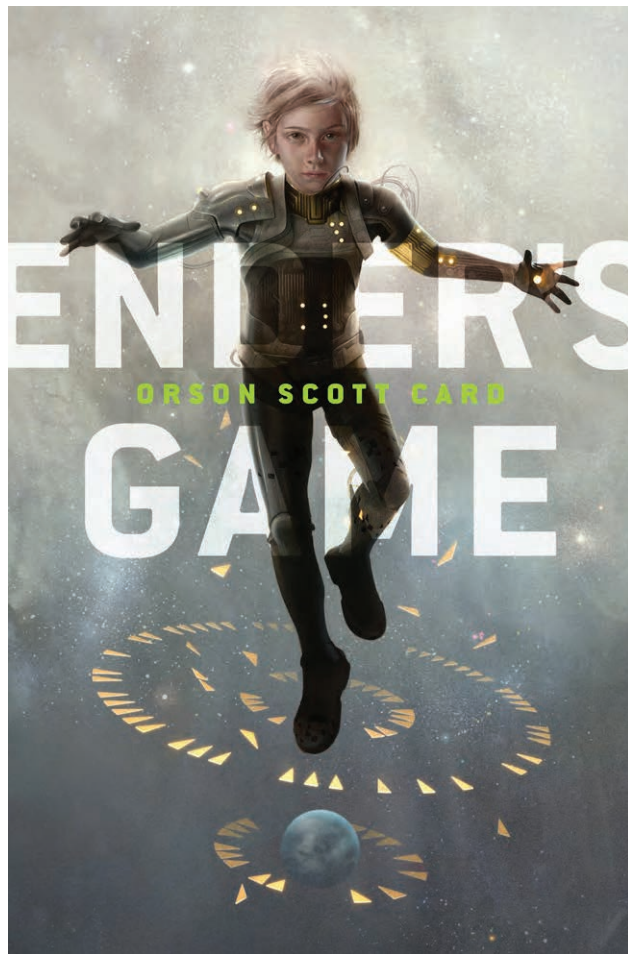
The Application Deadline is March 21, 2013.

Livermore Teens Read 'Ender's Game' Together at the Livermore Library

Teens are invited to read *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card and win prizes during the month of February 2013 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue as part of *Livermore Reads Together 2013*, the library's community reading program.

Ender's Game.... what's it all about? Ender Wiggins is plucked from his family, from his home, from earth and sent off to Battle School in a secret location in deep space. Follow him into an uncertain future as he leaves an overcrowded earth far behind to train in zero gravity game rooms with other young students to fight an alien species called buggers. The buggers are a towering enemy from another world threatening the very existence of life on earth.

To participate in Livermore Teens Read Together, read *Ender's Game* (the original classic by Orson Scott Card, recipient of both Hugo and Nebula Awards), *Ender's Game Ultimate Collection* (new graphic novel that includes *Battle School* and *Command School*), or *Earth Unaware* (the new



2012 prequel trilogy). Then register on the library's teen page by February 28th to enter a random drawing

for the following prizes: Ender Quartet Boxed Set (includes paperback editions of *Ender's Game*, *Speaker*

for the Dead, *Xenocide*, and *Children of the Mind*); *Earth Unaware*, the new prequel to *Ender's Game*; or a \$25.00 movie theater gift card. The new *Ender's Game* movie is coming November 2013. Teens can also win an *Ender's Game* button by being one of the first 10 readers to fill out a short comment form about the book at the library's Information Desk.

This program is part of *Livermore Reads Together*, a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. The community of Livermore is encouraged to join their neighbors by participating in the *Livermore Reads Together* free events for children and adults during the month of February 2013. Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations.

Livermore Reads Together is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library.

For additional events check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Concert to Present Music of Different Faiths

Sharing Our Music: An Interfaith Concert will be presented at Asbury Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, on Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 7:00 PM. All Tri-Valley residents are invited to attend this event.

Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and Unitarian musicians and singers from several congregations will present a combination of sacred and cultural music. The musical part of the evening will be followed by a reception where attendees are encouraged to mingle, meet new people, exchange ideas and enjoy multi-cultural treats.

There is no charge. However, seating is limited. Please register at <http://interfaith-concert.eventbrite.com/>.

The concert is sponsored by Interfaith Interconnect (the group that put on the Three Weddings and a Reception). The mission of the interfaith ground is "to enrich, inform and educate ourselves and others about the great diversity of faiths and cultures in our valley"

Join the Rocket Reader Reading Game at the Library

Children are invited to join the *Rocket Reader Reading Game* and win prizes during the month of February 2013 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

Start by registering at www.livermorelibrary.net, Kid's Place. Then visit the Livermore Public Library and check out a children's book from one of these genres – The Universe, Planets, Science Fiction or Travel. Books must be checked out from the Livermore Public Library. The topics are related to the *Livermore Reads Together* book selection for 2013, *Packing for Mars* by Mary Roach. For great titles to read, explore the library's book lists and displays.

After reading a book, log in and record the title and author of the book, then come to the library and report to a Children's Librarian to

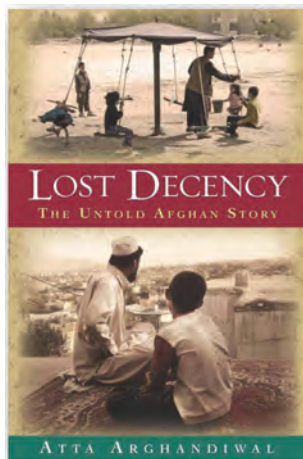
receive a prize. The last day to report and receive prizes is February 28 until 8:45 p.m. Children may read up to three books and receive a prize for each book read.

This program is part of *Livermore Reads Together*, a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. The community of Livermore is encouraged to join their neighbors by participating in the *Livermore Reads Together* free events for children and adults during the month of February 2013.

Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations. *Livermore Reads Together* is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library.

For additional events check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Author's Program at Pleasanton Library Focuses on the Afghan Story



Atta Arghandiwal, author of *Lost Decency The Untold Afghan Story*, will present a program at 7 p.m. on Thurs., Jan. 24 at the Pleasanton Library.

In his memoir, *Lost Decency*, Atta Arghandiwal shares his own as well as the people of Afghanistan's turbulent journey to escape their war-torn country. Spanning a history of 50 years, Atta tells his life story of growing up in Afghanistan and eventually having to leave. He reveals the truth

about his beloved and once peaceful nation and how it became one of the deadliest and most dangerous in the world.

Atta Arghandiwal was born in Afghanistan but has spent over half his life in the West. He left Afghanistan eight months after the Russian invasion, in August of 1980, and became a refugee in Germany before immigrating to the United States where he built a successful banking career of twenty-eight years. Arghandiwal

wrote his story to increase awareness about his country's political upheaval and the innocent people who have been caught in the chaos.

Books can be purchased at Towne Center Books or at the event. For sale information please call 925/846-8826.

For more information regarding the program, call Penny Johnson at 931-3405. There is no admission charge. Registration is not required.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Livermore artist Lenore Kreit is exhibiting her paintings at Garre Winery Cafe from January 2 through February 29. Her works include landscapes, still life and local pastoral scenes in colorful settings ranging from impressionistic to abstract. Kreit has been painting and exhibiting her art throughout the Tri-Valley area for several years and is noted for her beautiful and subtle handling of color. More of Lenore's art can be seen at the LAA Gallery, located at the historic Carnegie Building, 2155 3rd Street, Livermore. Garre Winery Cafe is open weekdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Weekends 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore.

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.

Seasons of the Valley by Bettie Goosman, An exhibit of large oil paintings and gicle'es depicting the "Seasons of the Valley" currently on display through early January 2013 at the Purple Orchid Resort and Spa, 4549 Cross Rd., Livermore. Art can be viewed every day from 8am to 6pm except when an event is being hosted. For more information call (925)606-8855.

Works by artist Maryann Kot, "Celebrating Reality," will feature paintings in oil, watercolor, and colored pencil. The show is open through Jan. 20, 2013 at the Prudential CA Realty, 1780 First St., Livermore. For office hours contact Cher Wollard 925-824-

4824 cherw@cherw.com

Art Happens, 2nd Thursday of each month, 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14, April 11. Downtown Livermore. Art displays, poetry, entertainment, special events. For the brochure go to www.bothwellartscenter.org.

California Watercolor Association Juried Exhibit, Jan. 17-Feb. 16, Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Opening reception, Jan. 19, 1 to 3 p.m. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Livermore Art Association, Pleasanton Art League, meeting Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Building, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Mazor will present a program on contemporary Mayan art.

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 email Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

Classes, colored pencil basics and beyond taught by Maryann Kot. Starting Mon., Jan. 7 9:30 a.m. to noon or 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 8 for five weeks. Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore. 925-443 3388. Space is limited.

Art Critique & Coffee Hangs at Coffee Ali, Friday at 10 a.m. sharing latest work and a gentle critique to fine tune work. Original paintings from a group of Local Professional and Emerging artists, with a New Theme, create New Works each month. Grab a cup of coffee and pull up a chair to hear what we have to say and enjoy Original Fine Art. For more information Google: Poetry on Canvas Pleasanton or call Claudette 510 543-4776.

Pleasanton Poetry League, Catch the Wave and Play with Poetic Journaling lead by local Artist/Poet Claudette McDermott. E-Mail interest to PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com. Meetings at local locations. All Poetry enthusiasts welcome. Get on the PPL mailing list: PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

Young Artists' Studio has openings in its school year art classes for youngsters in grades 2 through high school and beyond. Classes will begin in October. All kinds of drawing and painting as well as printmaking and sculpture are offered in our large and well equipped home studio. Peggy Frank has been providing art experiences for valley youth for over 30 years. Contact her by email at frank.a@comcast.net or by phone at (925) 443-8755.

WINERY EVENTS

Live Music at Winemaker's Pour House, 2241 First Street, Livermore. Jan. 10, 6 to 8 p.m. Amber McDonald; Jan. 11, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Steve Fread; Jan. 12, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Chris Lebel; Jan. 13, 5 to 7 p.m., The McCoustic Duo. 925 215-2656, www.winemaker-spourhouse.com

Sip, Savor and Smoke. An evening on the patio Port/Cigar pairing at

The Winemaker's Pour House with CigarRV. Live Satellite TV's set up with Saturday Afternoon Sports One cigar and Port flight with light appetizers. \$29 in advance \$35 at the door. Sat., Jan. 12, 1 pm - 5 pm. 2241 First Street - Livermore, (925) 215-2656.

Winter Wonderland Wine Tasting at Rodrigue Molyneaux and Las Positas Winery, Saturday, January 19, 2013, 12:00-5:00. Winter food tastings and wine pairings at both wineries. One tasting fee provides admission to two wineries in South Livermore with a full flight of wines to taste. \$10.00 per person. Wine Club members free. RM Winery, 3053 Marina Ave, Las Positas Winery, 1828 Wetmore Road. For info call 925-443-1998 or email info@rmwinery.com.

Cabernet Shootout on Treasure Island, Sat., Jan. 19, noon to 4 p.m. For the 3rd year in a row, McGrail Vineyards Cabernet Reserve has been in the top 3 out of 320 Cabernet Sauvignons in the annual Cabernet Shootout. Limited production artisan Cabernets from 56 different appellations were tasted by a panel of professionals and the top 32 wines were selected "best of the best". These wines will be presented to you at the Cabernet Shootout at the Winery SF on Treasure Island. Ticket price is \$69 and can be purchased at affairsofthevine.com/

Collector's Circle Pairing, featuring the cuisine of Chef Jimmy Connors & the winemaking insights of Steven Kent Mirassou. Wed., Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m. \$75 Per Person +, 21 and over event, reservations required 925.243.6442 The Steven Kent Winery, 5443 Tesla Road, Livermore.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

Mission Gold Jazz Band, playing at Castle Rock Restaurant, 1848 Portola Ave., Livermore. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 16.

Manzarek-Rogers Band, Blues-Rock, Jan. 12, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Tom Wopat, Jan. 12, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

John McCutcheon, Sunday, January 13, 2013, Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. www.asburylivepresents.com, 925-447-1950.

Cypress String Quartet, Dvorak's Voices, Jan. 13, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Audie Blaylock & Redline, Bluegrass concert and recording star Audie Blaylock and his 5-man band Redline hit the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Friday, January 18, at 8 p.m. Energetic acoustic quartet Snap Jackson and the Knock On Wood Players open the show. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10, \$15, \$20 reserved seating. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center.

Gary Mule Deer, Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

International Guitar Night, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Tribute to John Denver, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Juan de Marcos and the Afro-Cuban All Stars, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Eddie Money, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; sanramonperformingarts.com. 973-3343.

11th annual Youth Music Festival, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org. Information, contact Mark Duncanson at mduncanson@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Pink Floyd Concert Experience: An Evening of Pink Floyd starring House of Floyd, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org

org or 373-6800.

Bill Harley, Grammy winning music and humor, Feb. 16, children 2 p.m. adults 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Chiara String Quartet, Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Feb. 16, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The World of Webber A Cabaret Tribute To the Songs of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Feb. 17, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

The Kingston Trio, Feb. 17, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Reunion of the Doo Wop Stars, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Adrian Legg, "guitarist of the decade," Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Livermore-Amador Symphony, Feb. 23, 8 .m. Vienna Bonbon and Russian Drama. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Beppe Gambetta and Peter Ostroushko, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

More Stately Mansions, Playwrights' Theatre, presented by Eugene O'Neill Foundation. Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 13 at 2 p.m. Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville. Staged reading. Admission \$25. Reservations at 820-1818 or www.eugeneoneill.org.

The Full Monty, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre mainstage musical, weekends Jan. 19 to Feb. 3, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Rent, Pacific Coast Repertory Theater, weekends Jan. 25 to Feb. 10, 8 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Avner the Eccentric, A master of the art of physical comedy. Jan. 29, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

California Theatre Center, Miss Nelson Is Missing, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Jan. 30, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Includes lesson guide. www.ctcinc.org., 800-606-0424.

California Theatre Center, Robinson Crusoe, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Feb. 26, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Includes lesson guide. www.ctcinc.org., 800-606-0424.

Rent, Pacific Coast Repertory Theater, weekends Jan. 25 to Feb. 10, 8 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Princess Ida, Lamplighters Music Theater performs Gilbert & Sullivan, Sat., Feb. 9, 8 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Paco Pena Flamenco, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

COMEDY

Comedy @ Firehouse Presents: Popular "Leno and Letterman" comedian Dennis Regan headlines the New Year Comedy Kick-Off show. Vallejo native and Bay Area favorite G. King opens. Wednesday, January 9, 7:30pm, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. General admission tickets \$15. Purchase at www.firehousearts.org, or call 925-931-4848, or at the center box office. Parking is free.

Comedy@ Firehouse Arts, Karen Rontowski, headliner, Phil Johnson, opener, Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 7:30 pm. Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. For tickets, call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

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.

Mardi Gras Dance Festival, Livermore School of Dance, Jazz, Fri., Jan. 11, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

2013 Livermore Valley Wine Country Photo Contest, enter for a chance to win a one-year membership to Livermore Valley Wine Country (that means complimentary tastings for two at more than 40 wineries!), 2 tickets to Barrel Tasting Weekend (March 23 & 24, 2013) with a one-night stay at Hawthorn Suites (March 23, 2013). For entry information and entry form, go to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association website at www.lvwine.org

OPERA

An Intimate Musical Evening, Livermore Valley Opera Soiree Series, Jan. 26, 4:30-7 p.m. Hosted in a Frank Lloyd Wright, Robie-style home in Pleasanton. Featuring some of the Bay Area's most talented opera singers performing beloved arias. Attendance limited to 90 people at \$85-\$100 per person. www.livermorevalleyopera.com

Opera San José Giuseppe Verdi's Il trovatore. Set in 15th-century Spain, Verdi's classic has it all: vengeance, war, jealousy, and passion with an emotional, heart-stopping score including one of the most famous choral melodies ever written, the "Anvil Chorus." Il trovatore will be sung in Italian with English supertitles. Eight performances are scheduled from February 9 through 24 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at www.operasj.org. Il trovatore is made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

Metropolitan Opera Schedule,

screening at Regal Hacienda Cinema in Dublin: Aida, Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m.; Les Troyens, Jan. 5, 9 a.m., Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m.; Maria Stuarda, Jan. 19, 9:55 a.m., Feb. 6, 6:30 p.m.; Rigoletto, Feb. 16, 9:55 a.m., March 6, 6:30 p.m.; Parsifal, March 2, 9 a.m., March 20, 6:30 p.m.; Francesca da Rimini, March 16, 9 a.m., April 3, 6:30 p.m.; Giulio Cesare, April 27, 9 a.m., May 15, 6:30 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th 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*.

Livermore Reads Together Kick-Off with Author Mary Roach, Jan. 27, 2 p.m. Author of *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. Livermore Reads Together is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. There is no admission charge. Information at 373-5505.

13th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Breakfast, hosted by the Tri-Valley YMCA 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on January 28 at the Hilton Pleasanton at the Club. Keynote speaker will be Pleasanton Police Chief Dave Spillar. All proceeds benefit leadership programs for Tri-Valley

teens. For more information, or tickets contact Kelly O'Lague Dulka at kdulka@ymcaeastbay.org or 263-4444. The Hilton is located at 7050 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton.

Science on Saturdays, Feb. 2, 16, 23, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Free series for students presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

New Orleans Bash at the

Bothwell, the Center's signature Mardi Gras costume party and jazz music event, Friday, February 8, 2013. Bothwell Arts Center, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org.

Wine and Valentines, Sat. Feb. 9, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Museum on Main fund-raiser. Evening of wine and love. www.museumonmain.org

Elizabeth Blackburn, Nobel

Laureate, investigates the roles of telomeres, the specialized ends of chromosomes, and of telomerase, the enzyme that repairs telomeres. Rae Dorrough Speaker Series. 7:30 p.m. Mon., Feb. 11, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

An Evening from A Grandmother's

Perspective, Tues., Feb. 12, 7 p.m. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture series. In recognition of Black History Month, Ann Collins takes the stage to examine the Civil War through World War II including perspectives of African American women during those trying years. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Sunset Sip and Shop, Saturday, February 16 and Saturday, February 17. Livermore Valley wineries featured. Livermore Valley Premium Outlets, 2774 Paragon Outlets Dr, Livermore. www.lvwine.org.



Charity Pasta Dinner Offers Relief from Football Sunday

A pasta dinner with games for the kids and refreshments for the parents will offer Pleasanton families an opportunity to support youth programs as they decompress after a full weekend of NFL playoff football.

As a community service, Pleasanton North Rotary is sponsoring the first PNR Spaghetti Dinner & Family Carnival at the Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St., Pleasanton, from 4 to 7 pm on Sunday, Jan. 13.

The family-oriented event supports the Rotary club and Pleasanton youth programs including the Interact Club of Foothill High School and Abbie 4-H Club, according to Tina Case, Pleasanton North Rotary president.

"The event will give various local youth groups a chance to raise money by selling desserts and operating Carnival games," she said.

The fund raiser is also geared to be an inexpensive family outing. Case noted. Admission is \$10 per person. Children under 10 will be admitted for free.

Dinner includes a mixed salad with Italian dressing, rigatoni with marinara sauce, toasted garlic bread and fruit punch. Bottled water is \$1 and wine will be available by the glass (\$5) or bottle (\$15).

In addition to carnival games, face painting will be available for kids.

A bonus raffle qualifies every family to win a dinner for eight at Girasole Grill in Pleasanton.

Tickets may be purchased with cash or credit card at the event.

For more information, see the Pleasanton North Rotary website (www.pnr-rotary.org) or Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pleasanton-North-Rotary/108563172530139?fref=ts)

**THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**
2177 Las Positas Ct, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551
(925) 454-1974
www.neptune-society.com
Angie Apolinar, Branch Director

**Are You Hearing
And Understanding
The Sounds of Life?**

HEARING SERVICES

<p>Kenneth Billheimer, Au.D. Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist</p> <p>Sierra Brower, Au.D. Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist</p> <p>Jacque Pedraza Hearing Aid Specialist</p>	<p>Pleasanton 4460 Black Ave, #F 484-3507</p>	<p>Livermore 1524 Holmes St, #D 960-0391</p>
<p>www.pleasantonhearingservices.com</p>		

Wish you could see even more photos of local events in our Valley?



Our photographer, Doug Jorgensen, takes more photos each week than we can fit into our Print Edition.

Fortunately, you can see many of these additional photos featured each week on our website www.independentnews.com. Photo series rotate throughout the week, so you'll want to visit more than once each week to see all the expanded content!

To easily keep up on the rotating content, we've created a facebook page where we link to the new photo series after they appear on the site. You can "Like" us on Facebook to receive notification of new photo series or featured articles.

We hope this gives you a taste of the many WEB ONLY photos that you can see at www.independentnews.com



AND

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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. 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.)

Ahmani Trosclair was the first baby born in 2013 at ValleyCare Medical Center, Pleasanton on January 1, 2013 arriving at 4:56 a.m. Ahmani weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces at birth and measured 22 inches. She is the daughter of Nae-cionna Trosclair of Hayward, who wanted to thank the staff at ValleyCare for the excellent care received.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, January 10, 7 p.m. at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Anita Clevenger, rosarian and master gardener at the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden will speak on "34 English Gardens in 13 Days." Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 925-485-7812 or visit www.lagvc.org.

Robot Garden @ i-GATE, a new community workspace, will host a FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) qualifier tournament on Jan. 26. FTC is a robotics competition for upper middle and high-school students that features head-to-head competition in a sports model. For more information see www.usfirst.org/robotic-sprograms/ftc or www.norcalftc.org/.

Robot Garden is seeking volunteers to help run the tournament, especially hardware inspectors, software inspectors, referees, and judges. There will be a brief training prior to the event. For more information and to sign up, visit www.robotgarden.org/calendar/first-tech-challenge/ or www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0948AAA82FA64-2013

Inauguration Party, watch the Presidential inauguration and party with fellow Democrats 7 p.m. Mon., Jan. 21. After dinner pot luck - bring appetizers and desserts. See the Presidents speech starting at 7:30 p.m. IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin.

Ragin Cajun Mardi Gras Gala hosted by the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation on March 8, 2013 at the Palm Center in Pleasanton. The event includes dinner, music, dancing as well as silent and live auctions. The proceeds benefit cancer patients living in the Tri-Valley by providing healing therapies that help offset the side-effects of radiation and chemotherapy and are not covered by insurance. Information and tickets, contact the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation at 866-862-7270 or visit the website at www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org

The Climate Reality Project, a slideshow and conversation developed by Nobel Prize Laureate Al Gore, will be presented at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, beginning at 7 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 19. This one hour slideshow presented by Erica Stephan, a climate activist and former climate change policy advisor to the British Embassy in Washington DC, explains how climate change increases the frequency and intensity of "dirty weather" across the globe and how fossil fuel companies have deliberately sown doubt in the public

mind. The slideshow will be followed by a period of discussion about technological and citizen solutions to the climate crisis and how to become involved. At 6:30 p.m., set up and also a potluck that everyone is welcome to enjoy. This event is free/\$3.00 donations accepted, open to the public, wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Dress a Girl Around the World, meet once a month, next Sew-Fest is Saturday, January 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Hall (Corner of 3rd and Maple Streets in Livermore). All kinds of help needed, such as sewing, ironing, cutting. Please bring a bag lunch if planning to stay all day. There are a lot of fabric and pillowcases, so there are many kits ready to sew. Those who cannot make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact us for kits that can be sewn at home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Writing Club for Young Adults, open to all skill levels, taught by published Young Adult author J.L. Powers at the Livermore Public Library. The Club will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays, January 17, February 21, March 21, and April 18, 2013 in the Storytime Room at the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The event is free and no registration is required. For more information, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net, or contact Jennifer at 925-373-5500, extension 5576.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated invites interested persons to attend a dinner and introduction to guest speaker Judy Biviano Lloyd. Appointed by 2 U.S. Presidents, Judy handled congressional and intergovernmental relations for U.S. Departments of Labor and Agriculture. Judy also served in a senior role for the federal legislative branch as special assistant to US Senate Majority leader Bob Dole and as staff member to U.S. House of Representatives. Judy is now an editor for two online publications that focus on health care, business and economy, as well as owner of a company that offers targeted approaches to develop advocacy campaigns for non-profit organizations. The meeting is Thursday, January 10 at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore at 6:30 p.m. \$26 for members, and \$30 for visitors. To reserve your seat, please contact Mandana Moshiri at RepublicanWomen@virtuosa.net

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Jan. 12, 22 or 38 miles Cinderella training ride, meet 9:30 a.m. at Blackhawk Plaza in Danville, Carol DaShiell, 989-8321 or Julie Hampton, 389-6738. Sat., Jan. 12, 55 miles from San Ramon to Livermore, meet 9:30 a.m. at Diablo Vista Park, Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Sun., Jan. 13, 45 miles ride up Mt. Diablo birthday ride for Alberto Lanzas, meet 9:30 a.m. at San Ramon Central Park, 510-825-9581. Wed., Jan. 16, 35-55 miles from Heather Farm, meet 9 a.m. Richard Skow, 939-6964. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Annual Crab Feed, Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge #2117, Sat., Jan. 19, 6 p.m., live entertainment with Rich Dorffi Trio. Crab, clam chowder, pasta salad,

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French bread dessert on the menu. No ticket sales at the door. \$42 per person in advance; deadline Jan. 15. 455-8829. 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore.

Food for Thought, plastic bags are no longer available in grocery stores in Alameda County. Attend the forum at The Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore, located at 1893 N. Vasco, Livermore on January 13 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. to see the highly acclaimed movie, Bag It. This is a documentary that started out about plastic bags and evolved into a wholesale investigation into the "single use plastic" items. This is a look at what happens to these plastic items that we think are being recycled or just carelessly tossed. This forum will be longer than usual because the movie is 75 minutes. There will be light snacks provided, but if you need more feel free to bring a sack lunch.

ClutterLess (CL) Speaker, meets Jan. 14, 7 p.m. in room 7 at the St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church. Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton. Guest Rachel Seavey will speak to the CL Self Help Group. She is a Professional Organizer in Pleasanton, serving the entire Bay Area. She specializes in hoarding disorders and chronic disorganization. During her presentation, she will present 6 concrete tips that can be accomplished in 15 minutes. Please RSVP by e-mail ClutterLessPleasanton@Hotmail.com, or call 925-525-3992 or 925-200-1943. Meetings are free, however a \$2 to \$5 donation is requested.

GNON (Girls Night Out Network-ing) and the Coco Cabana Restaurant networking opportunities, raffle prizes, socializing, food and fun. 4 to 8 p.m. Thurs., Jan. 17, The Coco Cabana Restaurant, 4500 Tassajara Rd., Dublin. RSVP to gnoners@gmail.com by January 15. \$10/pp for members, \$15/pp for non-members.

Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CAREs), monitors nuclear weapons and environmental clean-up activities throughout the US nuclear weapons complex, with a special focus on Livermore Lab and the surrounding communities. All are welcome at the monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, January 17 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call Tri-Valley CAREs at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at <http://trivalleycares.org>

Pleasanton Library's Project Read needs volunteer tutors to help adults with English skills. Workbooks, study guides and training provided. The next training session will be Sat., Jan. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. Tutors should be at least 18 years old, fluent in American English but not necessarily a native speaker and able to devote a consistent hour or two weekly to a student for a semester. For more information, email PennyJohnson@CityofPleasantonCa.gov, or call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

Diabetes Self-Management Classes, 7- week series will teach how to manage diabetes with exercise, healthy eating and medications. Two locations: Fridays, Jan. 11 through Feb 22, 10 am -11:30 at the Dublin Senior Center and Sundays Jan. 13 through Feb. 24, 2:30-4:30 at Heritage Estates, Livermore. 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.

Cheerleading Clinic taught by Amador Valley High School Competition Cheer Team, Sat., Jan. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the high school, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Open to K-8th grade. \$45 preregistered, \$50 at the door, sibling discount available. Includes lunch, snack, instructions and an Amador gift. Parent performance at 3:00 pm. Cheer at an Amador Basketball Game on Friday, January 25. Information, contact Sue Carlstrom at 925-600-7810 or carlstrom5@att.net

Livermore LetsBellyDance. Friday January 11th, 7 p.m. at the Dance Valley Theater, 2nd Street Livermore (By the Bank of the West). Classes are open to all adults, no need to pre-book, \$15 on the door. Please come prepared to dance bare foot or with ballet shoes. www.LetsBellyDanceUSA.com, or contact Sara direct on 925 456 4404 or at LetsBellyDance@Hotmail.com

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, January 23, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Questions?? Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Widowed Men and Women of North-ern CA. Lunch in Dublin, Jan. 15, RSVP by Jan. 12 to David, 833-7647. Happy hour in Pleasanton, Jan. 17, 5 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 15 to Marge, 828-5124. Friendly bridge in Dublin, Jan. 19, 1 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 12 to Jeanne, 361-6110. Pirate gift exchange lunch in Castro Valley, Jan. 20, 12:30 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 15 to Margaret, 510-782-1819. Lunch in San Ramon, Jan. 24, 11:30 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 21 to Marsha, 830-8483. Crab feed dinner in Livermore, Jan. 26, 5 p.m., RSVP as soon as possible event sells out, Hilda, 398-8808. Lunch in Dublin, Jan. 30, 1 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 27 to Marge, 828-5124.

M.I. Hummel Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter, meets second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at a member's home. Guests always welcome. Topics include sharing of Hummel figurine news and information. For information, contact Joan Mumma, club secretary, 447-5164 or www.mumma.org/hummel/

Drop in computer tutoring. Need help with downloading E-Books from the library to your E-Reader, sending E-mail attachments, social networking, blogging, general internet questions; Pleasanton Library offers assistant Thurs. 6 to 8 p.m. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400 (press 7 for Ref. Desk). Library programs are free and open to everyone. No registration required. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

Love-A-Doll Club meets on the second Thursday morning of each month. Share the love, knowledge and collection of dolls and doll related items. For more detailed information, call 925-447-5149.

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, see our website, www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org. e-mail 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 Grafath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter, meets 9:30 a.m. first Saturday of the month from September to May at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. DAR is a women's service organization. Members are descended from a patriot of the American Revolution and are dedicated to patriotism, preservation of American history, and securing America's future through education. Contact Pat at 447-8254 for more information.

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 Gloriosi by phone: (925) 443-1797 or by e-mail: glorios4@comcast.net

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit 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. email operationsam@comcast.net or call 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

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. All services are free.

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.

Golden Circle Seniors, meets Mondays 12:30 to 2:30 at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

ValleyCare Auxiliary, Volunteers needed. Nine different areas of volunteer service available in both Pleasanton and Livermore. Floor service, information desks, office, the library, gift and thrift shops. For more information, please call 734-3368.

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 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.

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or www.uuclil.net.

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. 8:30 a.m. worship (semiformal); 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). 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, Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. 545 No. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - 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, worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Con-cannon 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/ All are welcome.

The deaf community is invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, where ASL translation will be provided every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of 4th and L streets.

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.

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.

Centerpoint 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. (new time) contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointchurch.org 925-846-4436

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Sunday service at 10 a.m. For details please see our website at www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. Leo Arrowsmith at 456-0845.

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, Sunday services with Rev. Joyce Parry Moore - Rector. 8:00 am Contemplative Eucharist with Taize music, 9:15 am Godly Play and Adult Bible Study, 10:30 am Sung Eucharist with choir; child-care available. Youth Group every Sunday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall and youth room; youth oriented programs

"Rite 13" and "Journey to Adulthood." www.saintbartslivermore.com/ for more information.

St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church (1928 Book of Common Prayer), 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore. Sunday services: 8:45 a.m. (Low Mass) and 10 a.m. (High Mass with Sunday School). Other Holy Days as announced. For information, call msg. center at 925/906-9561.

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 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 (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 for more info.

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

Philosophers' Café/Culture Chat, an informal gathering to discuss ideas. Café Rumi, 4799 Heyer Ave., Castro Valley. The topic is "Who bears the responsibility of moral education in our society?" 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 sessions are scheduled for January 6, February 3, March 3, April 14, May 5, and June 2 with topics to be announced. For information, please contact (925) 240-5612.

Grief workshops, bimonthly sessions. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. 2nd and 4th Thursday Evenings at 7:30 PM. Jan. 10 & 24, 2013 Feb. 14 & 28, 2013 and March 24, 2013. No preregistration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty at 925-846-5377 for more information.

Lynnwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Sunday worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with childcare and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. (First Sun. of month 9 a.m. is traditional with organ, 10:30 a.m. is informal with guitar.) Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister. All welcome. www.lynnwood.org. 925 846-0221.

Unity of Tri-Valley Church, ongoing groups, activities, classes, and youth services. Sunday services at 10 a.m., 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley (just 2 miles west of Stoneridge Mall). Rev. Karen Epps, minister. (925) 829-2733, www.trivalleyunity.com

Milestones



Jean Kruger is celebrating her 90th birthday. She grew up in Iowa and moved to the Livermore

Valley to be a nurse at the VA in 1946. She met Leslie (Bud) Kruger and they married in 1952. She has two children, Fred and Maggie, 6 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and a great grandchild on the way. She volunteers in her community and is an avid fan of both the San Francisco 49ers and the Oakland A's. She is loved by family and friends and those who have benefited from her lifetime of dedication to helping others.



Pleasanton American Legion Post 237 and Pleasanton VFW Post 6298 hosted an Open House at the Veterans Memorial Building for all service men and women who were home on leave. The event was held on Sat., Dec. 29. During the day, those attending shared pizza, refreshments and some great stories. Congressman Eric Swalwell stopped by to thank all of the service men and women. Pictured are (from left) Michael Padavana, senior at Foothill, leaving for boot camp July 2013; Spc. Amanda Wichern, US Army; Sgt. Kester Willy, US Army; Chad Hopkins, US Army, service complete; LCpl. Alex Beatty, USMC; Sgt. Jennifer Gomez, US Army, service complete; Sgt. Alan Wiggins, USMC; Sgt. Darren Moore, US Army, service complete; Sgt. Jesse Pearson, USMC; Cpl. Michael Pearson, USMC; Sgt. Kevin Behrendt, USMC, service complete

Community



Livermore Amador Symphony member Beth Wilson works with a student, explaining how to play the fiddle.

Education

New Fiddle Club Organized at Junction

A new club is now meeting at Junction Avenue K-8 School in Livermore. Fourth graders will have the opportunity to learn beginning violin in the Fiddle Club, sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony.

Beth Wilson, the Youth Liaison, and Jean King, the Grants Chair of the Symphony Association board, applied for and received grants from the Lawrence Livermore National Se-

curity, LLC Community Gift Program, as well as the Livermore Rotary Club to help fund a beginning violin club for the remainder of this school year.

When Wilson made a presentation to the two 4th grade classes at Junction, she was astounded to find that more than half of the students were excited to sign up for the free weekly after-school lessons. "That's an amazing number of youngsters who are interested in

learning about music. There clearly is a need for this," she stated.

On Jan. 7, families that have indicated interest, came to the school to receive their violins and music books.

The grants will cover the instruments, lessons, and materials. A field trip is planned for the club members to attend the February 23 concert by the Livermore-Amador Symphony. Ticket prices and busing are covered by the grants.