



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.

Brown 2015-16 Budget Proposes Education Changes

Gov. Jerry Brown sent his 2015-16 budget proposal to the Legislature. It showed slight growth with an increase of 1.4 percent, bringing the 4 budget to \$164 billion.

Brown will negotiate with the Legislature concerning his proposal until the firmer budget in the May Revise will be released.

Brown covered a variety of topics in his budget speech and press conference on Jan. 9.

His proposals for education stood out; they were watched by all of the Valley's school districts.

The biggest news was the governor's declaration that he has no intention of continuing the state's role

in selling bonds for school districts.

That statement was followed on Jan. 12 with a filing by a schools-interest group for an initiative to put a \$9 billion school bond on the ballot.

The sponsors are a coalition, formed by the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH), a non-profit

comprised and administered by school districts.

CASH consultant Dave Walrath said the group already has signed up the California Building Industry Association.

CASH is concerned for several reasons. The state is obligated, under its constitution, to provide funding. In addition, low-valuation

districts have a hard time raising enough local bond money to pay their share for facilities.

An unusual element exists in low valuation districts, in that some domiciles in the Central Valley have more than one family living in them. The schools receive formula credit for

(See BUDGET, page 4)



Ruben Torres New Fire Chief to Take Over Feb. 17

Ruben Torres will join the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department in the capacity of Fire Chief on February 17, 2015.

Torres brings 29 years of fire service experience to the position, including nine years at his most recent post, as interim Fire Chief and senior command for the City of San Jose Fire Department.

"I am very pleased that Chief Torres will be joining the City's management team," stated Livermore City Manager Marc Roberts. "His extensive background in firefighting and public safety coupled with his ability to plan strategically and build community relationships will continue the high quality of service in

(See FIRE CHIEF, page 12)



Scott Haggerty Haggerty Elected Board President

In a unanimous vote by his fellow Board members, Supervisor Scott Haggerty was elected to serve as President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors for the next two years. He has just completed a term as Vice-President of the Board. Supervisor Wilma Chan (D-3) was elected to serve as Vice-President.

"It is an honor to serve as President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors," said Haggerty. "We represent a vibrant and diverse population and serve a wide variety of needs here in the County. I look forward to serving this Board and our constituents."

Alameda County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, each elected on a non-partisan basis from a separate district where he/she lives. Supervisor Haggerty represents the First District communities of Fremont, Livermore, Dublin and east unincorporated areas.

For more information about Supervisor Haggerty, visit www.acgov.org/board/district1.



December rains helped to turn the hills in North Livermore a colorful green.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

City Urged to Plan for Cultural Tourism

An increase in cultural tourism would benefit local cities.

At Monday's Livermore City Council meeting, two interested parties made a pitch for creation of a long range plan to capture more of what is seen as a lucrative market.

Barbara Steinfeld, president of Visit Tri-Valley, asked that her organization be part of the planning process around a proposed hotel in downtown Livermore.

The Livermore Downtown Specific Plan includes a hotel. The potential location would be on the site where the regional theater

(See TOURISM, page 5)

Tracing Tainted Food Back to Its Source Within an Hour

Foodborne illnesses kill roughly 3,000 Americans each year and about 1 in 6 are sickened, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

However, most contaminated foods are never traced back to their source. That's because existing methods to track tainted food following its supply chain from table to farm are highly inefficient. A typical process to trace food includes interviewing consumers

and suppliers and examining every detail of the supply chain, a tedious method that takes weeks at best to complete.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) researchers, in collaboration with the startup DNATrek, have developed a cost-effective and highly efficient method to accurately trace contaminated food back to its source. Lawrence Livermore originally designed the technology, known as

DNATrax, to safely track indoor and outdoor airflow patterns.

DNATrax are particles comprised of sugar and non-living and non-viable DNA that can serve as an invisible barcode. It's an odorless and tasteless substance that's been approved by the Food and Drug Administration as a food additive, safe for consumption.

"One of the unexpected capabilities from DNATrax was being able to apply it to

food products," said George Farquar, an LLNL physical chemist who led a team of researchers that developed the technology for biosecurity applications. "You can spray it on food products in the field to identify and track the source of the food."

If the food turns out to be contaminated when it reaches the store or dinner table, DNATrax can be lifted off the food and analyzed in the lab to identify the source in an hour. A tainted apple,

for example, can be traced back to the orchards by DNATrax to determine when it was picked, who picked it and potentially which tree it came from.

"We all hear horror stories about contaminated foods," said DNATrek CEO Anthony Zografos, who recently licensed the technology from Lawrence Livermore. "We are not prepared to deal with an

(See FOOD, page 12)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Last year, the Pleasanton City Council approved designs for "Project Paint Box," a utility box beautification program that celebrates local artwork and encourages regional artists to share their creativity. In addition, artwork has been shown to help deter graffiti. Explaining her design, "Children at Play," is artist Irma Grant. Her daughters inspired the design, which reflects the diversity of children in the city. The utility box is located near Lions Wayside Park.

Talks on South Livermore Plan Will Resume

Community meetings to discuss the future of the South Livermore Valley Area Plan will begin in spring or summer, according to Alameda County Planning Director Albert Lopez and Supervisor Scott Haggerty.

The meetings are de-

signed to help the county and Livermore work together in resolving issues around creating more hospitality facilities in or near wine country. Other points of discussion include land coverage standards for non-

(See TALKS, page 5)

Lawsuit Notice Coming To Laboratory Retirees

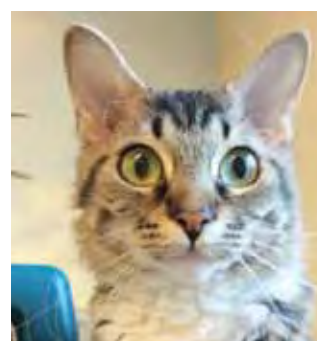
Retirees and surviving beneficiaries from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will soon receive a notice offering a one-time-only chance to opt out of a class action lawsuit aimed at reinstating them to the University of California health care system.

The notice is part of the class action procedure. It was approved by Superior Court Judge George Hernandez, who last fall ruled that an estimated 4,500 Laboratory retirees and surviving beneficiaries had enough issues in common to justify

(See RETIREES, page 12)

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PET OF THE WEEK
 One visit with 7-month-old Ella will have you wrapped around her tail! The vocal LaPerm mix will set you straight about who your next permanent companion should be. Ella is a friendly brown tabby with wavy fur and wacky whiskers who won't crimp your style. Spring into Valley Humane Society and curl up with Ella, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. For more info visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society/V. Betz

International Baccalaureate Plans for Two Livermore Schools Moving Ahead

By Carol Graham

The Livermore Chamber of Commerce's first 2015 Economic Development and Government Affairs meeting featured a presentation by Joe Michell School administrators about what is likely to become the wave of education's future.

Michell will be the first Tri-Valley school to be designated an International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme school; Granada High School is currently an IB candidate school.

"The aim of the IB Programmes is to develop internationally minded people who recognize their common humanity and help to create a better and more peaceful world," said Michell Principal Dr. Laura Lembo. "The meeting at the Chamber of Commerce was arranged by our School Trustee Anne White. We hoped to reach out to organizations in the Livermore community to create partnerships that will provide community service opportunities for our students."

The January 7th meeting

was attended by more than two dozen people including Granada Principal Philomena Rambo.

"Our goal at Granada continues to be to prepare students to be contributors in our ever-changing world," said Rambo. "The international focus of the IB education is ideal for widening our students' awareness of our world and preparing them to be communicators and critical thinkers on a global scale."

Michell is in the final year of the three-year accreditation process; Granada the first year.

Granada's IB Coordinator Valerie Nebo stated, "We have had our consultant visit our school, we are sending teachers to training, and drafting our application for authorization as an IB school."

While all of Michell's Transitional Kindergarten through 8th grade students participate in the IB Programme, Granada's junior and senior students will have the option of taking IB classes, with current

freshmen the first students eligible to enroll.

"We are still two instructional years away from offering the program," Nebo added. "This allows us the time to educate both the school and wider community about IB, get feedback, and create a program that is both international in nature and representative of the Livermore community."

In December, Granada held its first parent information meeting, which was standing-room only.

"Parents had questions about the details of how students earn the IB Diploma and how it differs from the traditional high school program, including AP (advanced placement) classes," said Rambo. "We also had several parents who indicated that because of IB, they would like their students to transfer to Granada - which is the only public high school in the Tri-Valley that would be offering the IB Programme."

The International Baccalaureate Programme was created in 1968 for

internationally-mobile students. It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Worldwide, there are now more than 3,500 IB schools in 144 countries. The IB Programme is known for setting high academic, pre-university standards emphasizing creative and critical-thinking.

"The IB programme has given Joe Michell School a new identity," said Lembo. "Students are engaged and taking responsibility for their learning. Our student enrollment increased by over 120 students in just one year. With Granada High School a candidate for the IB Diploma Programme, I imagine that our teachers will be working together to create the best IB programs for our students."

There are no fees or admission criteria to participate in IB Programmes.

"In our increasingly global economy, IB's focus on international-mindedness will prepare our students to examine, collaborate and solve problems with sensitivity to other cultural values and the international implications those solutions may have," said Nebo. "This is a necessary skill as our national workforce becomes more internationally integrated."

Michell offers school tours for interested families.

To reserve space on the one-hour February 13th or 20th tours that start at 9 a.m., call 606-4738.

"In our society, a premium is placed on workers and professionals who can both problem-solve and collaborate," added Nebo. "The more intellectual acumen a student possesses and the more culturally aware a student is, the better that student can perform both of these skills."

For more information, visit www.ibo.org, or joemichell.schoolloop.com.



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Watch Our Video To Learn More



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Artist Carolyn Lord could be found last Saturday painting a watercolor in Pleasanton. She will be offering a Plein Air painting workshop on Feb. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students will be able to paint picturesque street scenes near the Firehouse Arts Center. For information, go to ww.firehousearts.org.

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Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Trustee Appointment

The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District is soliciting applications from community members in Trustee Area 7 (Livermore and portions of Pleasanton) interested in serving as an appointed member of the Board until the next regularly scheduled election for governing board members in November 2016.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the governance of Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore.

The Board seeks a candidate who has the ability and time to fulfill the responsibilities of a Trustee. Sample responsibilities are listed below:

- Participate fully in the work of the Board; attend all meetings and some college events;
- Study issues and agenda items and participate in Trustee education programs;
- Be knowledgeable about the communities served by the colleges; be willing to act on behalf and for the benefit of those communities;
- Be committed to Chabot College and Las Positas College and their missions; understand educational, social, and economic policy issues;
- Engage in balancing the needs of many diverse groups; be able to contribute to and build consensus;
- Participate as one Trustee and support the authority of the Board as a whole.


The Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Application materials are available on the District website at www.clpccd.org. Applications must be received by January 23, 2015 at 4 p.m.

The Board will interview candidates on January 27, 2015 and make the provisional appointment on February 17, 2015.

For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Jannett N. Jackson, Chancellor
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
7600 Dublin Blvd., 3rd Floor
Dublin, CA 94568
(925) 485-5207
www.clpccd.org




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 land 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 commissioners also acquaint the public with problems and solutions relating to the local physical environment.

Applicants are required to have attended at least one meeting of the Planning Commission prior to submitting an application. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays each month at 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 3575 Pacific Avenue, Livermore.

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). Applicants must be a resident of the City of Livermore.

Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office no later than Monday, January 26, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Selected applicants will be interviewed by the City Council at a special meeting tentatively scheduled for February 19, 2015.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD OR A LEGAL NOTICE IN THE INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIEDS, CALL (925) 243-8000

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Senate District 7 Candidate Forum

The Tri-Valley Democratic Club will host a forum on Mon., Jan. 19 featuring Democratic candidates for the California 7th District Senate seat vacated when Mark DeSaulnier was elected to Congress.

Former Assemblymember (AD 16) Joan Buchanan and current Assemblymember (AD 14) Susan Bonilla will be at the forum seeking an endorsement. Republican Mark Meuser has also announced plans to run.

A special election will be held to determine who will fill the seat. The seat will be up for election again in 2016. The winner of the 2015 special election will be eligible to run for two more terms in the senate, which could mean that person could hold the seat for nine and a half years, the last year and a half the winner may be the senior most senator in the state.

Livermore Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are included in the district.

The Senate District 7 Candidate Forum will be at the IBEW 595 union hall, 6250 Village Parkway in Dublin. Doors open at 7 PM for social time, 7:30 the business meeting will start with the election of 2015 club officers. The forum should begin by 8 PM.

The format of the Candidate Forum includes opening statements by each candidate followed by questions from the audience. Questions are limited to 30 seconds with no time limit on a candidate's answers.

Trail Workshop in Dublin

In order to gain the perspective of current Iron Horse Trail users, the City of Dublin invites residents to attend a special Trail Audit and Community Workshop on Saturday, January 24, at 10:00 AM, at Core Performance (6270 Houston Place, Suite B, Dublin). This event will include a project overview and visioning exercise, a guided bike/walk Trail audit from Dougherty Road to BART, and a group debrief to place attendees' initial ideas onto maps. Workshop attendees are encouraged to bring a bike or wear walking shoes.

The City of Dublin, in partnership with the Alameda County Transportation Commission, has embarked upon the Iron Horse Trail Connectivity Feasibility Study. The goal of the Study is to identify Trail crossing improvements along the segment of the Iron Horse Trail from Dougherty Road to the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station that will better connect the Trail to BART, other trails and bikeways, and homes and businesses along the Trail. Focus areas include the Dougherty Road/Scarlett Drive crossing and the Dublin Boulevard/Scarlett Drive crossing.

The Iron Horse Trail Connectivity Feasibility Study is dependent on input from both Trail users and the wider community. This is the first event in an ongoing outreach strategy that includes stakeholder interviews, interactive community workshops, and internet-based surveys. For more information, please contact Martha Aja, City of Dublin Environmental Coordinator, at (925) 833-6630.

DSRSD Water Use Down

Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) customers responded effectively to the drought, using 24 percent less potable water in 2014 than in 2013, a reduction of 882.6 million gallons. The response surpassed Governor Brown's statewide goal to cut water use by 20 percent and nearly met the 25 percent goal DSRSD set five months into the year. On a per-person basis, water use dropped even more steeply, by 28.1 percent, from 135 gallons per person per day (GPCD) in 2013 to 97 GPCD in 2014 (12-month averages).

"We thank our customers for all they did. Unfortunately, the drought is not over," says Dan Gallagher, who leads the District's drought response efforts. "Despite good rainfall in December, the state's reservoirs are still very low and the mountains have received very little snow, so we have to keep on conserving water. Everyone's sprinklers should be turned off until the end of March."

Garage Fire Causes Damage

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) responded to the report of a structure fire on Jan. 11 on Touriage Drive in Pleasanton.

Upon arrival, firefighters found a single family detached home with the garage on fire. The bulk of the fire was extinguished in about 15 minutes, but firefighters were involved in an extensive overhaul due to challenges created by the construction of a metal roof over an older wood shake roof. The fire worked in between the wood shakes and metal roof decking and traveled across the front of the garage, requiring another 90 minutes before the fire was completely extinguished.

No injuries to the occupants, pets or firefighters were reported. The fire appears to have started in the garage and was confined to the garage with the exception of light

smoke damage throughout the residence. The garage and its contents suffered major damage. The cause is suspected to have been a smoldering cloth placed in the garage. Total damage is estimated at \$200,000.

A total of 21 firefighters from the LPFD and Alameda County Fire Departments worked at the scene. The Pleasanton Police Department assisted with crowd control, traffic control and fire investigation.

Correction

A story about middle college in the January 8 Independent stated that high school students who are accepted for the program would take high school classes at their schools. That is incorrect. All classes will be taught on the Las Positas College campus.

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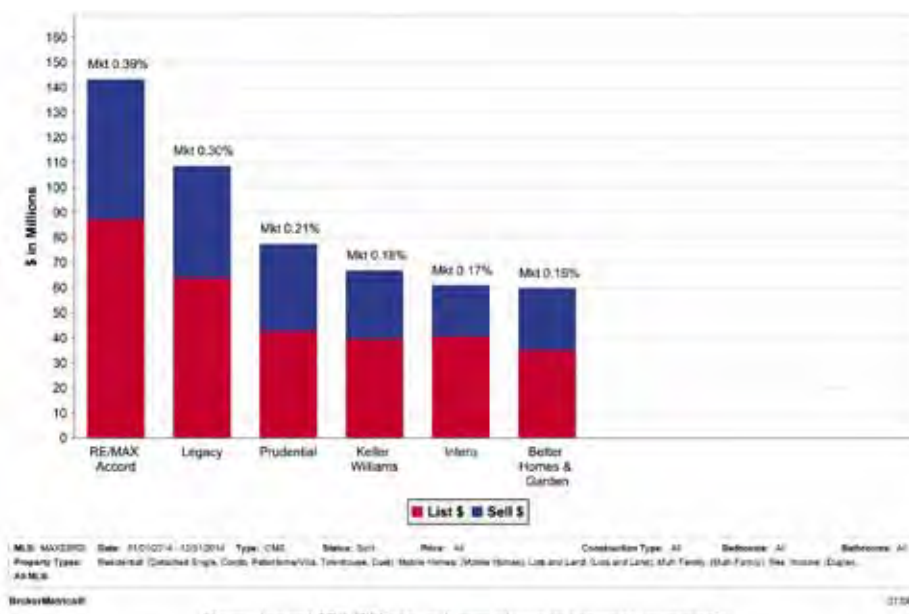
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EDITORIALS

Time to Take a Stand

The off-road division of the California Parks Department has again delayed issuing the draft environmental impact report for a proposed expansion of Carnegie Park.

In the late 1990s, the State of California Parks Department purchased about 3,400 acres in the southeast corner of Alameda County along the Tesla-Corral Hollow Road. The intent of the purchase was to expand the existing adjacent Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area off-highway vehicle park into the Tesla land.

Tesla contains wildlife corridors along with rare and endangered plant and animal species. The long-deserted mining town from which the site gets its name is a source of Old California History. Native American artifacts can be found.

The City of Livermore, LARPD, Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) and Alameda County have agreed to review the Draft EIR, but have not taken a stand in support of preservation, with the exception of a letter sent from LARPD to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

While we believe that the off-road fans deserve a place to ride. Tesla is not the right place.

It's time for Livermore, TVC and the County to step forward and take a position in support of preservation. They should urge the State Parks Department to work with interested parties toward a solution that retains the Tesla land as an open space preserve for current and future generations to enjoy.

Praise for Park District

Last week, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (larpd) took quick action to protect great horned owls nesting in trees that were scheduled for pruning.

Alerted by nearby residents who heard the owls calling at night, the District postponed the tree trimming at least until late June, when any owl chicks will have matured enough to fly away on their own.

This was the responsible thing to do from several standpoints: response to citizen concerns, respect for nature, and adherence to the state and federal laws that protect the birds. LARPD deserves praise for its actions.

BUDGET

(continued from page one)

only one domicile in the assessed valuation calculation, but there are more families contributing to the need for schools.

The last state bond passed in 2006. There is no more room for commitments to districts' requests to finance school facilities. The state bond has been part of a traditional three-legged stool. The other two "legs" of support involved a district's bond sales and developers fees.

Brown said it would be better for local districts to raise funds by reforms aimed at bonding capacity and ceilings, and developer fees.

If the state were to drop its statewide bond, Brown suggested that developer fees be changed so that all districts in the state receive the same amount. Currently most districts are at Level I. A few are at Level II, which requires developers to pay for 50 percent of cost of the local schools. At Level III, developers would pay 100 percent.

Brown said he would listen to eliminating all these levels, and require developers to pay somewhere between 50 and 100 percent of growth cost.

When The Independent asked CASH's Walrath about developers involvement with CASH's advocacy for keeping a state bond, he said that they want good schools. Furthermore, Brown gave no details concerning costs.

Brown did say in his talk that he doubted there could be 100 percent obligation for developers, since it would cause too large an impact on the economic health of the state.

On local bonding capacity, Brown noted that districts now have a lower threshold for passing bonds, at 55 percent. He proposes to raise the cap on local district bond amounts and bonding capacity to reflect more modern costs. The cap was set in 2000, and has not been raised since then.

Brown also would listen to suggestions about loosening

the regulations on the deferred maintenance fund, and allow some of it to be used instead for school construction and remodeling.

In other school funding, Brown wants to devote an additional \$1.5 billion to implement the Common Core standards, to which all districts will transition in the 2015-16 school year.

In addition, \$900 million will be committed to eliminate deferrals. The state in the past four years has deferred part of its obligation to pay cash in a timely way to districts so they can meet their bills, including paying teachers. Some districts have had to borrow money to fill in the interrupted money stream. This commitment will end the deferrals.

Officials of the three Valley school districts talked to The Independent about the proposals.

In Livermore, chief business official Susan Kinder said that the 55 percent passage requirement for local school bonds helps, but "there is still the pressure of passing a bond." The district is looking at going out for a bond in 2016, she said.

Livermore charges developer fees at Level I. Kinder said more research would have to be done before she could comment on Brown's proposal.

Allowing deferred maintenance funds to be spent on construction and remodeling would not make much difference in Livermore. The funds are part of the general budget. The district spends the money on current needs.

As for changing the local bond cap, Livermore has one of the lowest bond tax rates in the county, so the cap change would not make much difference at this time, said Kinder.

Livermore is happy to receive more Common Core funding. It would be happy to see the deferrals disappear, and never see them again, said Kinder.

In Pleasanton, Deputy Superintendent of Business Luz Cázares said that

the 55 percent passage rule for local bonds has been "very helpful to districts." However, given the district's facilities master plan with identified \$500 million of facilities needs, "losing a leg (on the three-legged stool) would be hard to replace," said Cázares.

Being able to use deferred maintenance funds is a reasonable proposal, especially if there were no state bond, said Cázares. Raising the dollar caps on local bonds and district bonded indebtedness is a good idea.

Commenting on the additional money for implementing Common Core, Cázares said that the dollars are much needed. She would prefer they be ongoing, rather than one-time. Getting rid of the state's deferrals on the cash flow is "great news," although it won't help the fund balance.

In the Dublin district, superintendent Steve Hanke said that raising bond ceilings would help, but would not be nearly enough to deal with constructing three new elementary schools.

One is due to open next year on Fallon Road. It will cost over \$70 million, and have a capacity for 950 students.

The district will finance it with \$15 million now in the developer fee fund, \$25 million in the third issue of Measure E, and by borrowing \$25 million by Feb. 19. Dublin will have to pay back the \$25 million loan by 2019.

Both Hanke and assistant superintendent of business Beverly Hieronimus said that the two remaining future schools will each cost at least \$70 million. Hanke said the district will rely on working closely with the city, landowners and developers to work out a satisfactory solution.

BUDGET ISSUES

Brown's budget also will put aside the promised \$2.8 billion for a Rainy Day fund, as approved by voters in Proposition 2. It will begin

spending on water projects designed to help the state resolve problems produced by drought and expanding state population.

Brown also is calling for flat tuition for college students, and reserving more slots in the University of California system for the state's students. "If someone comes from out of state, it should be for the intellectual environment of the school, not for revenue (to support the system)," said Brown.

Assemblymember Catharine Baker of Dublin issued a statement following Brown's address. She said that she was pleased to see the governor focus on education in the budget. "Our students deserve schools that have the resources needed to provide a quality education. We still need to reform how we spend out education dollars," she said. Baker agreed with Brown for the need to make sure colleges are affordable for the state's students.

Baker criticized Brown's funding of high-speed rail "instead of fixing regional transportation problems in California."

Baker said she was pleased that Brown is focusing on paying down government debt.

County supervisors and administrators issued a news release praising Brown for his "fiscally prudent approach." However, they say that Brown should do more to restore safety net services that were cut during the recession, and address concerns regarding access to care for the growing numbers who are enrolling in the Medi-Cal program.

Board president Scott Haggerty said that he would like to see the budget address two county priorities -- crumbling road and bridge infrastructure, and also the desirability of growing renewable energy. "We invite the governor to take this opportunity to partner with local leadership to develop real solutions to local problems."

Governor Sets Dates to Fill State Senate Seat

California Governor Brown issued a proclamation Tuesday declaring a special election for the State 7th Senate District. It will be held on May 19, 2015. The primary is set for March 17, 2015.

The seat opened up with the swearing in of Mark DeSaulnier to the House of Representatives.

Susan Bonilla, D-Concord, Joan Buchanan, D-Alamo, and Mark Meuser, R-Walnut Creek, have all announced their intent to

pursue the open California 7th District Senate seat.

The 7th Senate District includes all of eastern and central Contra Costa County, as well as Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore and Sunol in Alameda County.

If a candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote in the special primary on March 17, he or she will win the seat outright; otherwise, the top two vote-getters will advance to the special general election on May 19.

Sea Level Rise Is Topic of Wednesday Pleasanton Talk

The effects that rising oceans are expected to have on California will be the subject of a dinner meeting talk next Wednesday evening at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton.

Speakers will be Lesley Ewing and Hilary Papendick of the California Coastal Commission, addressing a monthly meeting of the Valley Study Group. The event begins at 7 p.m. Reservations and advance payment of \$32 per person are required by this Saturday, January 17, for dinner and the talk.

A study by the National Academies of Science sug-

gests that the Pacific Ocean will rise an average of more than four feet along the California coast by the end of this century. The California Coastal Commission estimates that billions of dollars of property and infrastructure are at risk as a result.

Ewing and Papendick have played key roles in developing policies to help local governments and other interested parties understand sea level rise and begin to address regulatory and administrative issues.

Doors open at 6 p.m. To make arrangements, phone 447-8876 or send an email to VSGPresident@gmail.com.

Ten Lab Researchers Named 2014 APS Fellows

Ten Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) scientists have been selected as 2014 fellows of the American Physical Society (APS).

The new fellows represent a wide selection of physics expertise, ranging from laser science to hohlraum design to theoretical solid state physics. APS fellowships are considered a distinct honor because the evaluation process, conducted by the fellowship committees of individual divisions, topical groups and forums, relies on nomination and recommendation by one's professional peers.

Physicist Michael Armstrong was cited by the Topical Group on Instrument and Measurement Science for "outstanding contributions to time-domain experimental methods applied to materials under extreme conditions."

Chris Barty, chief technology officer for the NIF and Photon Science Principal Directorate, was recognized by the Division

of Laser Science for "pioneering contributions to the advancement of ultrahigh intensity laser science and to the development of laser-based X-ray and gamma-ray science."

Physicist Ray Beach was chosen by the Division of Laser Science for "seminal contributions to high-average-power diode-end-pumped lasers, including many breakthroughs, widely adopted by the laser community, that have helped push such lasers to higher average powers and efficiencies, and for leadership in developing diode-pumped alkali-vapor lasers, and models for coherent and incoherent photon echoes."

Physicist Debbie Callahan was cited by the Division of Plasma Physics for "innovative design and modeling of hohlraums for inertial confinement fusion and leadership in the execution of hohlraum experiments on the National Ignition Facility."

Tony Gonis, an expert in theoretical solid state

physics, was honored by the Division of Computational Physics for "advancing multiple scattering theory electronic structure methods for metals, alloys and interfaces and for the dissemination of these techniques in condensed matter and materials science."

Physicist Frederic Hartmann was recognized by the Division of Physics of Beams for "remarkable insights and significant contributions to the physics of coherent radiation interacting with relativistic electrons."

Physicist Nobuhiko Izumi was cited by the Topical Group on Instrument and Measurement Science for "outstanding contributions to the development of novel neutron and X-ray diagnostic capabilities for inertial confinement fusion experiments."

Robert Rudd, group leader for Computational Materials Science in the Condensed Matter and Materials Division, was chosen by the Division of Computational Physics for "seminal

contributions to multiscale modeling of materials physics and science in support of national security."

Scientist James Tobin was recognized by the Division of Condensed Matter Physics for "use of soft X-ray spectroscopy to investigate complex systems, including actinide-based materials."

Scientist Yinmin (Morris) Wang was selected by the Division of Materials Physics for "his major contributions to the understanding of deformation physics of nanocrystalline and nanotwinned materials, and for developing effective strategies to enhance the ductility of these superstrong materials for technological applications, including fusion energy targets."

Election to APS fellowship is limited to no more than one half of 1 percent of APS' membership for a given year. In the past 30 years, nearly 100 LLNL employees have been elected APS fellows.

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.)

Freedom of the Press Lucas Nelson Livermore

We join the rest of the world in mourning the brave staff of the magazine Charlie Hebdo, gunned down by religious fanatics for defending freedom of the press. Meat industry fanatics

in the U.S. have devised a more subtle means of stifling freedom of the press. The states of Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, and Utah have enacted "ag-gag" laws that impose criminal penalties on investigators seeking to expose animal abuses and safety violations in factory farms.

According to an Associated Press report in yesterday's papers, four members of an animal protection organization were charged with violating Utah's ag-gag law. They sought to document the daily transport of thousands of pigs from the infamous Circle Four factory farm in Cedar City (UT) to the Farmer John slaughterhouse in Los Angeles.

Ag-gag laws are clearly unconstitutional and are

being challenged in federal courts. Assaults on press freedom need to be confronted wherever they rear their ugly heads, even when they assume the legitimacy of a state law.

Plutonium and NIF Jo Ann Frisch Livermore

Deadly, radioactive plutonium may be used in the National Ignition Facility (NIF) by the end of January. NIF has cost taxpayers over \$8 Billion and has failed every ignition test.

Scientists have said that experiments with plutonium may contaminate NIF usage for future non-weapons, scientific research.

Blasting plutonium with lasers in NIF will lead to more worker exposure to radiation. Nuclear waste will

increase too.

Documents obtained by Tri-Valley CAREs disclose Livermore Lab has known since 2009, but never made public, that it will be unable to contain the radioactive debris from plutonium experiments in NIF.

Also, there are plans to do at least 100 plutonium shots over a 10-year span. I believe that more information needs to be made public before these experiments begin. The public has a right to know!

I will be attending the Tri-Valley CAREs meeting on January 15, at 7:30 PM at the Livermore main library. The group will discuss this topic, and I invite other concerned community members to attend with me. For more information: www.trivalleycares.org or call 925-443-7148.

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SPORTS NOTES



Some of the action during a Granada High School girls varsity match.

Fury Advances

West Coast Fury U-12 girls advanced to the Nor Cal State Cup Quarterfinals this past weekend with a pair of victories. The Region 3/4 undefeated champions have gone unbeaten in 21 of their last 22 matches. Fury started the weekend with a 4-0 victory over Barcelona Bay Area. Gracie Alfonso started the scoring in the first minute of play off a set-piece corner kick served by Bella Romero. Fury extended the lead to 2-0 when Romero blazed down the right sideline and whipped a cross into the 6-yard box that Kourtney Kessler volleyed to the back-of-the-net. West Coast extended the lead to 3-0 before halftime when Alyssa Garza fed Kelena Brongiel with a pass and the forward darted a shot past the Barcelona goalkeeper. Early in the 2nd half, Fury jumped out to a 4-0 lead when Brongiel chipped a perfectly weighted pass to Trinity Sandridge who used perfect touch to receive and calmly place the ball in the net with a right footed shot. West Coast shut down Barcelona for the remaining 30 minutes of the second half and set themselves up for a shot to reach the quarterfinals. On Sunday, Fury met their area rivals Mustang Fusion. West Coast was looking to beat Mustang for the 3rd time this season with the winner advancing to the next round. Trinity Sandridge would net the lone goal of the game off a pass from Kelena Brongiel. Fury goalie Kelsey Hoopes made three tremendous saves to help preserve the victory. After the game, Fury coach Ray Canevari praised his team, "I'm so thrilled for these kids. They're the hardest working group I've ever been around and I just love coaching them. Our 3 defenders, Gracie Alfonso, Celina Garcia and Angie Alfonso are the best 3 defenders in the state and Brongiel was active all over the field

today. Our entire team worked their socks off. It was a true team effort."

Pleasanton Seahawks

Twenty-Seven Pleasanton Seahawks swimmers participated at the Speedo Champions Series CA/NV Winter Sectionals meet, hosted by SCS and Rose Bowl Aquatics in Los Angeles, Dec. 19-22. The Pleasanton Seahawks brought home the third place trophy in the large team division. Senior Elite Coach Steve Morsilli was voted Coach of the Meet by the other coaches in attendance. Maxime Rooney (16) had a breakout meet breaking the National Age Group Record in the 200 free, breaking 2 sectional records in the 200/500 free, breaking his own Pacific Swimming Records in the 200/500 free, and he achieved the men's high point winner award for the meet. Christopher Zhong (14) achieved a new Winter Junior National cut in the 400 IM with a time of 3:59.77 and Moriah Simonds (17) broke a 22 year old Pacific Swimming Record in the 1000 free with a time of 9:37.35. Women's Top Scoring Finalists: Christy Chong - 200 back 2nd, 100 back 5th, 200 IM 11th, 400 IM 9th, 100 brst 17th, 500 free 16th. Moriah Simonds - 1000 free 1st, 500 free 2nd, 200 free 3rd, Iris Brand - 100 brst 5th, 50 free 7th, 100 free 11th, 100 back 21st. Katie Woods - 1000 free 12th, 500 free 13th, 100 free 14th, 200 free 17th, Anna Parker - 100 back 10th, 200 back 9th, Samantha Howell - 500 free 22nd, 1650 free 13th, 1000 free 25th, Miranda Heckman - 1000 free 13th, Kennedy Truex - 100 back 15th, 50 free 24th, Eva Chung - 200 brst 18th, 200 IM 23rd, Jacqueline Davis - 100 brst 20th, 200 brst 23rd, Sarah Wang - 100 fly 21st, Ryan Skinner - 100 brst 22nd, Amber Fornoles - 200 brst 24th. Other participants with notable swims include: Caroline Eckel, Tori



Three Pleasanton Seahawk swimmers (Chris Zhong, Mackenzie Lee, Tyler Lu) were selected to represent Pacific Swimming at the Pacific Coast All Stars Meet on January 9-10, in Commerce, California. Each team selects 8 of their top swimmers to race 6 individual and 4 relay events. Zhong and Lu represented the 13/14 boys, and Lee swam for the 11/12 girls. Pacific Swimming swam away with a second place finish, while Southern California went home with the gold.

Kalet, Nawoo Kim, Rachel Knowles, Claire Suen, Danielle Zacharias. Women's Relays: 400 Medley Relay of Christina Chong, Iris Brand, Sarah Wang and Moriah Simonds finished 7th. 800 Free Relay of Moriah Simonds, Iris Brand, Katie Woods, Samantha Howell finished 5th. 400 Free Relay of Iris Brand, Katie Woods, Anna Parker, Kennedy Truex finished 8th. Men's Top Scoring Finalists: Maxime Rooney - 100/200/500 free 1st, 200IM 1st, 1650 5th, Alex Gilchrist - 200 IM 11th, 200 fly 16th, 400 IM 16th, Christopher Zhong - 400 IM 4th, Anthony Zhong - 200 brst 13th, 100 brst 21st, Jonathan Mui - 100 brst 13th, 200 brst 24th, RJ Scott - 500 free 18th, 200 free 16th, Jonah Cooper - 100 back 22nd, Jared Brandley - 1 new best time. Men's Relays: 400 Medley Relay of RJ Scott, Jonathan Mui, Maxime Rooney, Jared Brandley finished 4th. 800 Free Relay of RJ Scott, Christopher Zhong, Jared Brandley, Maxime Rooney finished 4th. 400 Free Relay of Maxime Rooney, RJ Scott, Jared Brandley, Jonah Cooper finished 4th.

GHS Off to Good Start

Granada high school Girls Soccer program is off to an impressive start. The varsity girls team defeated the highly touted San Ramon Valley 1-0 on Tuesday in their divisional home opener. The lone goal in the match to pull ahead of SRV was scored by McKenna Buti. Thursday, Granada played Foothill High School to a 0-0 draw with Granada creating much of the

possession and scoring opportunities. Granada is led by team captain Kylie Long (Sr) who has been the top goal scorer for the Matadors. Granada's stellar defense is anchored by center backs Megan Amick, Emilie Allum, while outside backs are Melissa Ellis, Rachel Braun, Bridget Rittman, Amanda Eijansantos, and Emma Halsch. These players along with GK Amanda Valentine & Claire Abele helped record the shutouts. Seniors Grace Lara and Mia Volpatti along with Kamie Lipmann, Alyssa Campbell, and Estephani Cano have been running the midfield. Kylie Long, Lauren Sandy, Alex Clowers, McKenna Buti, Allyson Marty supply the offense. Kylie Long developed her skills with her home club, West Coast Soccer. Granada JV girls are on a roll with 6 straight wins, going undefeated in their pre-season and league play. The team has not given up a goal. The team's defense is led by standouts Chloe Brickwedel and Tori Diehl, GK's Isabella Neads & Stevie Sobers along with Jenny Gibson, Katey Radermann, Jamie Zogoric, Katherine NG, and Cassidy Bates all play defense. The midfield is made up of Andrea Sommer, Colette Mardirossian, Lexi Salazar, Kylie Moore, and Tara Collier, while the offense has been spread around to multiple players including Marissa Pletschette, Ashley Cole, Amanda Zerbe, Brianna Haskins, Isabella Barber, Tori Borgna, Kira Karter & Kallee Haskins. Granada Girls Soccer Program Technical Director Troy Dayak says the Matadors Coaching staff is some



January means Baseball season is beginning, with Granada Little League holding the first of two tryouts. Shown is Calvin Fletcher diving to successfully field a ground ball during the 12 year old tryouts. The Granada Little League fields will once again host the Little League Intermediate World Series in August 2015. Photo - Bill Nale

of the best in the country. They include varsity coach Katie Poynter former Sacramento State Women's head coach; JV coach David Mahabali, 10 years HS experience; freshman coach Mady Souza; and Mady Umidon, current Las Positas College players.

second annual polo-a-thon to be held on Friday, 1/16 at 7 pm at RLCC, to raise funds for the team's upcoming trip to the Winterfest tournament in Southern CA next month.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael/St. Charles (SM/SC) 4th grade boys team, Supersonics, were defeated by St. Isidore this past weekend, in a CYO Basketball game that remained close through the third quarter. The boys started off the game with very methodical passes, great positioning and exceptional rebounding, which put them in the lead at halftime. Tyler Laymon, was a rebounding machine throughout the game, catching loose balls in mid-air, and quickly passing to open players. He also stole the ball from the other players' hands on numerous occasions throughout the game. Duncan Maxwell made a few nice shots, putting points on the board early. He also had a few great assists and played excellent defense. Jacob Woods, played very aggressively, and also helped put up a few points. He stayed glued to his opponent and never gave up.

LALL Tryouts

Livermore American Little League is holding tryouts January 17th & 18th at Robert Livermore Park. Make-up tryouts will be held the following Saturday, January 24th. Register now. Visit www.livermoreamerican.com for more details.

LGSA Registration

Livermore Girls Softball Association welcomes all Livermore girls aged 5-18, no experience necessary. Online registration is still open for T-Ball and 7U age groups at LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org. Visit the website or email info@LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org for more information.

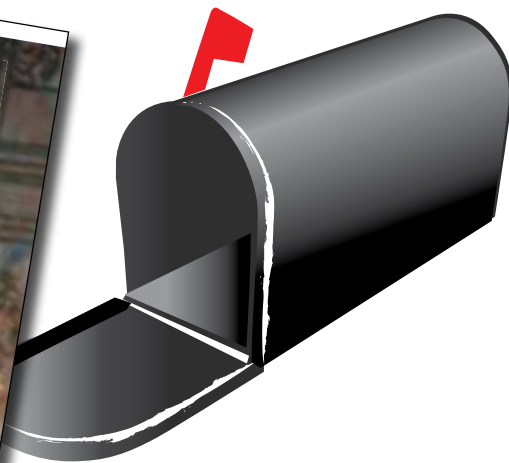
CYO Track Team

The St. Michael Parish CYO



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SPORTS NOTES



Pictured are members of the West Coast Fury U-12 girls soccer team. The Fury advanced to the Nor Cal State Cup Quarterfinals this past weekend with a pair of victories.



There was a large turnout for Livermore Fusion Soccer Club U8-U11 tryouts for boys and girls. All the coaches welcomed returning and new talent. Pictured are U10 Boys getting ready to begin their tryouts on Sunday morning. For information on Fusion, go to www.fusionsc.org



Pictured are Pleasanton Seahawks swimmers who participated at the Speedo Champions Series CA/NV Winter Sectionals meet in Los Angeles.

Track & Field Team will be holding sign ups for its upcoming 2015 spring season, for boys and girls 3rd through 8th grade. Sign ups will be held on Thursday, January 15 from 6:30 to 8 PM at the St Michael Parish Hall on the corner of 3rd and Maple Streets, Livermore. For more information www.smisctrack.org.

enced pitcher to join the 2015 Team, eligible players must have a 2002/2003 birthdate. Winter conditioning and development program is already in session. To schedule a tryout please call Mgr. Santiago at 650.922-2165 or email mavsoftball121@gmail.com.

Mavericks 12U Fastpitch

The 12U Travel Softball Program is scheduling tryouts for an experi-

Extreme 14U Fastpitch

NorCal Extreme Softball has a couple of spots available on the 14U Livermore spring team. Players must have a 2000 or later birthdate. To schedule a tryout please email kc at tap2572@gmail.com



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Participants headed down Main Street for the Saturday morning Fleet Feet run.

Occasio Ticks Towards The Past

by Laura Ness

For John Kinney, history is everything you need to know in order to capitalize on the future. Learning those lessons reigns first and foremost for this man for whom history is the teacher and the mentor. This is distinctively reflected in the philosophy behind his wine brand, Occasio, the only winery in the Livermore Valley dedicated to the heritage varietals of the area.

Kinney feels so strongly about continuing the production of the original plantings here in this unique valley, that he is trimming back his collection of offerings, even though he has had great success with delicious beverages like Pinot Gris. "Not a heritage varietal," he says, wincing a bit. "It was not planted until the 20th century here. I'm concentrating on varieties that have a history here dating back to the 19th century."

Hence it should come as no surprise that he believes in tracing the historical ways of growing and processing grapes in the Livermore Valley, in search of the ultimate ways in which to understand and perhaps improve on an old formula that once proved winning, as in the Grand Prize at the Paris Exposition in 1889. That's when a Livermore Valley wine took top honors, beating out 25k other entries, including the top first growth Bordeaux, to claim worldwide acclaim as the "Wine of the Year."

However, it's not just about honoring that achievement, or setting the record straight about when the first grapes were planted here and what they were. It's about advancing the way that grapes are farmed here and now, today. Yes, we've come a long way, and the results continue to applaud the efforts, but for Kinney, the results are not acceptable. He wants more. To that end, he has made wholesale changes to his operation, hiring a brand new winemaker from UC Davis, and a new viticulturist as well.

Explains Kinney, "Instead of getting bigger, we are getting smaller and more focused. A year ago, I decided I wanted to make wines in the more nuanced Old World style. Very few wineries do this in the Livermore Valley. I realized I needed new blood. I went looking for a UC Davis student who understood Old World style wines and had a great palate."

Dave Hendrickson, MS in Viticulture and Enology from UC Davis, came highly recommended by one of the prominent professors at the college, Hildegard Heymann, who told Kinney this young man has one of the best palates she's ever encountered.

Hendrickson, tall, pensive, organized, patient and disciplined, is the perfect foil to Kinney's expansive and often crusade-like approach to winemaking. Hendrickson hails from Seattle, where his father was involved in the spice business, which certainly helped inform his palate. Dave attended college in Pomona, where he earned a degree in neuroscience and planned to pursue a medical career. That is, until he started talking with people in the profession, many of whom were into wine.

He decided he'd become a physician, then retire and plant a vineyard and make wine. One thing led to another, though, and he found himself in hospitality, enjoying the incomparable combination of food and wine. While working at Terrance Brennan's first West Coast restaurant in Bellevue, WA, he realized this was his passion. He decided, "Why wait to pursue the winemaking dream?!"

So, he spent the 2011 harvest working at Navarro, just to be sure. The honor and experience of working with Navarro's Jim Klein, named one of the wine industry's Most Admired Winemakers by Vineyard & Winery Management, was enough to bung the barrel, so to speak.

Before long, Hendrickson was working on his Masters Degree at UC Davis, during which time he had the pleasure of working at Peay in Napa.

Meanwhile, Kinney came calling. Hendrickson had

never heard of the Livermore Valley, let alone had any experience with it. When he came down to interview with John, they went to taste at Steven Kent. Says Hendrickson, "It was the best interview I ever had! The wines were amazing. I was intrigued." They drove all around the area, which was a revelation. A positive impression was made.

It didn't take too long for Kinney to convince Dave to come on board Occasio. The concept of "micro-farming" was also a big part of the draw: more on that another time when we meet the new viticulture consultant Kinney has brought on board to handle the vineyard; tuning that must be done to meet his stringent goals.

Says Kinney, "We have emulated Napa for far too long in what we have planted and how we farm. We have planted mostly Cabernet and Merlot, based on the Napa model. However, we are far cooler than Napa." He observes, Livermore Valley wineries have made these varieties in a heavy, extracted style. He notes that Frances Ford Coppola recently fired his winemaker and is going back to an old world style of more restraint, eschewing the excess and moving towards restraint.

He seems eager to follow suit. To that end, shares some of the 2014 wines that are about to be bottled. Kinney has also recently purchased and installed a new custom bottling line. Has his son taking over most of the day-to-day cellar work.

There are two 2014 Chardonnays in the pipeline: one made in the full on oak ageing method and the other, an experiment with Acacia wood and used French. This might give you pause, as it did me. Acacia?? Really? Typically, this wood is used in aging Sauvignon Blanc, but truth be told, the barrels did not arrive in time to benefit the early picking of most white grapes in 2014. Sauvignon Blanc had already been harvested by the time the acacia barrels showed up. Consequently, the Occasio team decided to process some of the Chard in this wood. It's an interesting touch, but not one that I'd add to my "to do again" list.

Kinney pauses to remark that he respects Tom Stutz's approach to making Livermore Valley Chardonnay: once used French oak seems to be the cat's meow.

Next, we tank-sampled a 2014 Sauvignon Blanc, from Del Arroyo, about to be bottled. This luscious concoction oozes forth sweet grapefruit, gooseberries and white currant, its viscous texture beefed up by judicious lees stirring.

Then we tasted the riotously delicious Malvasia Bianca from Del Arroyo, which is truly the standout of the season: it has a wee bit of residual sugar, but the flavors and texture are fabulous, making it a killer pair with Vietnamese, Indian and spicy Chinese cuisine.

How ironic, since it was something Chris Sorenson, former assistant winemaker at Occasio, who helped John process the harvest of 2014, offered him from the Del Arroyo vineyard portfolio. Sorenson says he regrets not keeping any for Crooked Vine, but they were pretty maxed with the harvest at that point.

Although it won't be released for a bit, we sampled the 2012 Zinfandel, truly a hallmark of the style Kinney intends to adopt going forward. At barely 13%, it defies Zin convention, yet delivers the sweet taste of Zin fruit without the alcohol heft or palate weight typical of the style of Zin that became the norm in the last couple of decades. It delivers cherry marzipan aromas and tastes like classic cherry pie, yet finishes with that unmistakable grapey smack of Zin that no other grape delivers.

Says Kinney, "This is the kind of Zin I grew up on. I'm delighted with this first experiment with what we are calling 'micro-farming,' where we do all the canopy and crop load management in the vineyard to get the fruit to our specification. I'm trying to recreate the 1970s style of Zin that Paul Draper made."

Time, as it always does, will surely tell.

Cultural Arts Calendar



Community Events Calendar



Visit Our Online Calendars

The Independent's Online Events Calendars provide all of the Cultural Arts and Community events for this week, this month and this year. To see what's happening in the Tri-Valley or to submit your event, visit us online at www.independentnews.com

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Public Invited to View Results of Students' Summer Projects

By Carol Graham

When students at Vineyard Alternative High School in Livermore were assigned to artistically *Think Outside the Box, they didn't realize how much they'd gain.

"I learned that if you challenge yourself, you can get better," said sophomore Kaycee Bilke.

Freshman Dana Lam stated, "I gained appreciation for people who aren't artists but who have to incorporate art into everyday life through their jobs or lifestyles."

Added sophomore Brenna Martinez, "Photographing animals taught me a lot of patience."

On Thursday, January 22, Vineyard is opening its doors to showcase 50 pieces of original artwork at their first-ever *Think Outside the Box Student Art Exhibit. Livermore Mayor John Marchand, members of the Rotary Club, and representatives of Wente Vineyards, who sponsored the art exhibit, are expected to attend.

"Like our *Think Outside the Box assignment, our students are all originals," said teacher Joellen Simeon. "One of the joys of an independent study program is that we are given one-to-one time to interact with our students and to discover how truly individual they are."

Each year, Vineyard students are assigned a school-wide summer project designed to broaden their learning. For summer 2014, students were asked to create *Think Outside the Box projects as artists, crafters, videographers, musicians, designers, photographers or writers. Projects required a minimum of 20 hours, and were due on the first day of school.

"Summer assignments allow students to continue learning during the summer, earning one elective credit upon completion," said teacher Gretchen Reynolds. "Each student is unique and has so much to offer. I hope they became more aware of their own creative potential."

The summer project reinforced the school district's Four Cs - commu-



Kyl Ramos shows one of his paracord chains (upper left); Kaycee Bilke with her "Umbrella Girl" painting (top right); and Logan Steere holding his drawing created using pens and pencils.

nication, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration.

"The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District has a focus on 21st-century learning skills that include the Four Cs, so the assignment was aligned with the district's mission and focus," explained Principal Sheryl Howser. "Students learn time management, research skills, project planning and execution. Hopefully, they also had fun!"

The types of projects and subject matter are as varied as the students themselves.

Sophomore Tommy Mistretta, a gymnast, incorporated his love of the sport into his project. "I'm on the innovative side, so I made a product called Edible Medals," he said. "I noticed how many medals just sit in my closet so I figured out an alternative medal that was also a treat or a reward for effort - like a lollipop, in a way. I'd melt a mixture of sugar,

cornstarch and flavoring, and once it got it boiling, pour it into a mold to make a medal - but it's candy."

Kyl Ramos took the opportunity to turn his summer assignment into extra cash.

"I made paracord key chains," said the senior, who used 550 parachute cord from Dom's Outdoor Outfitters. "I made about 60. I sold some, and sent some to relatives to sell. I learned time management because it did take a while to make them all."

Teacher Helen Daniels added, "One of the most important gifts we give students here is time management. In an independent study program, students have to complete assignments every week, and this certainly was no different. Time management is a profound gift."

Students attend Vineyard Alternative High School for a variety of reasons.

"Some students are competitive athletes with

demanding schedules," said Howser. "Some have jobs, and some have medical or other issues which prevent them from being successful at the comprehensive high schools. Some want to accelerate their education, and others need to catch up. Often students have different learning styles and needs that are best addressed using a more individualized approach to learning. The independent study model attempts to address all the needs of the students in a safe, supportive environment."

The art exhibit is free and open to the public. It takes place from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Almond Room on campus at 1401 Almond Avenue. Students will be on hand to serve as docents and answer questions about their work.

"Thinking outside the box means taking something you're comfortable doing and stretching it or pulling it apart and figuring out what else you can do with it," stated senior



Logan Steere. "Art has always been something that I go to; if I get stressed out I listen to music, draw or write. I relearned that I like artistic things."

Added sophomore Jessi-ca Biggs, "To me thinking

outside the box means doing something that nobody else would do."

For the 50 students exhibiting their work, they accomplished just that.

To learn more, visit vineyard.schoolloop.com.



The Russian National Ballet Theater will bring one of the greatest works in the classical repertoire, "Swan Lake," to the Bankhead Theater for a single performance on Monday evening, February 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The ballet tells the tale of a princess cursed by an evil sorcerer to live in the form of a swan unless true love can save her. It features the famously difficult twin roles for the prima ballerina of the White Swan and Black Swan. This production demonstrates the timeless beauty of the Russian ballet tradition with its melodic score by Tchaikovsky, choreography by Petipa, and exquisite costumes. As with more than a dozen other events in the 2014-2015 LVPAC Presents season so far, tickets for "Swan Lake" are already virtually sold out. To inquire about future performances, contact the Bankhead Theater box office at 925-373-6800 or online at www.bankheadtheater.org.

Pleasanton Library Looking for Volunteers To Assist Adults with English Skills

The Pleasanton Library's Project Read literacy program is seeking volunteer tutors to assist adults with English skills. A new tutor training will be held in the large meeting room of the library on January 31, 2015, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Project Read students come to Pleasanton from all over the world. Most have basic English skills through the study of the language in their home country.

Project Read provides volunteer tutors with workbooks and study guides. The library staff will assist volunteers in the development



of teaching skills. Volunteer literacy tutors must be at least 18 years of age and fluent in American English, and able to devote a consistent hour or two weekly to a student for one semester.

To register for the Project Read training or for more information, please call or email Penny Johnson at (925) 931-3405 or pennyjohnson@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW	
AMERICAN SNIPER (R)-CC	12:10	3:25	6:40 9:55
WEDDING RINGER (R)	1:35	4:20	7:05 9:50
BLACKHAT (R)	1:00	3:55	6:50 9:45
PADDINGTON (PG)	11:55	2:20	4:45 7:05 9:30
TAKEN 3 (PG13)	1:20	4:15	7:20 10:00
TAKEN 3 (PG13)-DBOX	12:00	3:10	6:10 8:50
INTO THE WOODS (PG)	1:05	4:05	7:00 9:55
SELMA (PG13) All day Jan. 19 students get in for \$8 with ID	12:30	3:40	6:50 9:50
UNBROKEN (PG13)	12:05	3:15	6:35 9:40
HOBBIT: BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES (PG13)		12:00	3:30 7:00
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB (PG) 12:10	2:30	4:50	7:15 9:40
WILD (R)	12:40	4:00	6:55 9:40
INHERENT VICE (R)	12:30	4:00	7:30
PREVIEW JAN. 22: STRANGE MAGIC (PG)	7:00	9:15	
MORTDECAI (R)	8:00		
THE BOY NEXT DOOR (R)	8:00		

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SHORT NOTES

Blood Drive Planned

ValleyCare's wellness center, LifeStyleRx, will host an American Red Cross blood drive on Monday, January 26, 2015, between 8am and 1pm. LifeStyleRx is located at 1119 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore.

According to the American Red Cross, blood donations help millions of people. In fact only one pint of blood can save three lives and donors are needed every day.

To donate blood, a donor must be in good general health and feeling well; must be at least 17 years old and must weigh at least 110

pounds. In addition, a donor cannot have given blood 56 days prior to donating. One form of primary identification (drivers license, passport, military ID, "Green" card, student ID with photo) is required, or two secondary forms of ID if a primary is not available. All blood donors are evaluated to determine their eligibility to ensure the safety of blood donation for both donors and recipients. The final determination is made on donation day at the blood drive. To determine ability to donate blood, call 1-866-236-3276.

Making a difference only takes about one hour for

the entire process which includes screening, typing and the actual blood donation, which only takes about ten minutes. Donors are encouraged to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated as well as to eat a healthy meal (not fatty) before donating. Wear clothing with sleeves that can be easily rolled up. If on medication, bring the list.

Appointments are encouraged, so visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter LIFESTYLERX under the Sponsor Code. Or you can call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule your appointment for January 26, 2015.

Coats Sought

California Water Service Company (Cal Water) has launched the company's second annual coat drive to help keep local families a little warmer this winter.

Clothing and accessories will be collected until February 28 at the Cal Water Livermore Customer Center at 195 South N Street. Last year, more than 120 coats and 45 blankets, hats, scarves, and gloves were donated to local non-profit, One Warm Coat.

"We were blown away by the generosity of our employees and customers at last year's event and we

are confident that they will continue in the spirit of giving this year," District Manager Frank Vallejo said. "If you have warm clothing to spare, please consider coming down, donating a coat, and making a difference to someone a little less fortunate this winter."

Additional information may be obtained online at www.calwater.com.

Winter Wander

A Winter Wander will be led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sun., Jan. 25. Meet Ranger Dawn Soles at 4:30 p.m. at the Sycamore Grove Park Nature Area

Entrance (directions given when registering).

Join this program in the Sycamore Grove Nature Area for a nice, leisurely walk to enjoy the park during its winter season. Along the way, look for local wildlife and enjoy the crisp air and winter atmosphere. Wear comfortable shoes. The walk will be on unpaved paths, so no strollers please. The hike should finish as the sun is setting. Canceled if raining. Please call for reservations at 925-960-2400.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$3 donation is requested to

(continued on page 10)

OBITUARIES

Benjamin "Ben" Purmort

Mr. Benjamin "Ben" Purmort passed away unexpectedly in Livermore, CA on January 5, 2015, at the age of 71.

Ben is survived by his brother Jack Purmort and his wife Shirley of Benicia, CA and nephew Jeff Purmort. He is preceded in death by his parents Josephine and Benjamin I. and sister Joann.

Ben was born on October 6, 1943 in Oakland, CA. He graduated from San Ramon High School in Danville and went on to own and operate service stations in Livermore and Walnut Creek, CA. Later he was a 23 year member of the Teamsters Union working in San Leandro for Lucky Supermarket. Ben also served in the California National Guard during the early 1960's.

A funeral was held January 14, 2015 at 11:00 AM at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore, CA. In lieu of flowers, donations to Ducks Unlimited would honor Ben.

Francis (Frank) Anthony Genoni

Frank Genoni was born to John and Maria Genoni, March 23, 1923, and passed away at the age of 91 on January 3, 2015. Frank was born in San Francisco, attended St. Michael's Elementary school and was a graduate of Livermore High School, a true native son. He proudly served in the United States Navy on the



U S S Coral Sea (Anzio) during WW11 as part of the Pacific Fleet. Frank married the love

of his life, Gloria Marmo, in 1949 at St. Michael's Church. They were married for 54 years when Gloria passed away in 2003.

He worked at Kaiser Sand and Gravel operating heavy equipment until he retired. Frank loved to camp, fish and hunt and was especially close to his dear friends, Danny Sachau and Louie Santucci. He was a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Frank was preceded in death by his wife, Gloria, parents, brother, Joseph Genoni, and nephew, Richard Genoni. He is survived by his sister, Madeline Scullion (Donald), sister-in-law, Rosalie Genoni (Joseph), and sister-in-law, Adrienne Fagalde (Edward). He also leaves behind nieces, Ann Scullion-Foreman, Jolene Genoni Broz, Roberta Bertero, and Giovanna Watt and nephews, Jim Scullion and Michael Greene. Frank also had numerous great-nieces and great-nephews as well as great-great nieces and

nephews. We will all love him forever and know he is happy in heaven with those who preceded him.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Michael's Church on January 19th at 11 AM. If desired, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a charity of choice.

Yvonne Regina Callahan

Regina Callahan, resident of Livermore, CA, entered into rest on January 8, 2015.

Residing in Livermore since 1987, Regina was a patron of St Michaels Catholic Church. Regina was an avid member of the Livermore Art Association. She loved taking art classes in Dublin at the senior center.

Regina attended Saint Michael's High School in Saint Michael's, Pennsylvania. She was employed in Retail sales before retiring in 1987.

Regina is preceded in death by her husband Donald Callahan and her daughter Karen Callahan. She is survived by her children Glenda Heidrich and her husband John (Livermore, CA), and daughter Cindy Veres and her husband Jeffrey (Pittsburgh, PA); grandchildren Ryan, Chad, Todd and Travis Heidrich, Lia and Allie Veres.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday Jan. 14, 2015 at St. Michaels Church, Livermore.

Final resting place will be Forest Lawn Cemetery Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Ruby L. Tuck Purdy

Ruby L. Tuck Purdy was born Jan 31, 1923, and lived her early life in Arkansas. As a young adult Ruby moved with her brother to



Washington state before marrying Harold Purdy (also of Arkansas) after the

end of WWII. They lived in South San Francisco where their son Dan was born, later moving to Redwood City before making their home in Mountain View. During this time they had their second child, Judy. Ruby and Harold ran an appliance business in Mountain View for many years.

Always fiercely independent and hard working, after the appliance business, Ruby managed and worked in several different restaurants in Mountain View. She was a trailblazer in a time when most women did not work, and she carved her own path. She always remained devoted to her family, and made her home a warm place of laughter, delicious food, and fun family gatherings. As her family grew to include

her grandchildren, she filled their lives with her dotting energy and loving attention. After retirement she moved to Livermore to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren. During retirement Ruby maintained active connections with her family, church and neighbors, communicating with friends, family, and coworkers all over the country through her dedicated correspondence. Ruby passed peacefully on the evening of January 6, 2015 surrounded by her children.

Ruby is survived by her children Dan Purdy (Carolyn); Judy Purdy Gibson (John Greci); grandchildren David Gibson (Leigh); Kelly Gibson; Kim Purdy; Karen Purdy; and great-grand children Paige Gibson; Quentin Schwartz; and Dillon Acosta. Graveside services were held on January 12, 2015 at 11 a.m. Her family wishes to express thanks to her loving caregivers at Devonshire Oaks and with Pathways Hospice for their support and kindness.

Charlotte Elise Keller

May 6, 1939 - Dec. 30, 2015

Pleasanton, CA
Charlotte passed away peacefully at home after a battle with brain cancer. Her husband and four children were at her side.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Robert Keller, her children, Kathleen Lennon of Potomac,



Maryland, Jeffrey Keller of Pleasanton, Joseph Keller of Livermore and Angela Teixeira of Pleasanton, and fourteen grandchildren. Charlotte was born in San Francisco. She moved to Pacheco in 1952 with her brother Milton Kubicek to live with an aunt and uncle after the death of their parents. She is a graduate of Pleasant Hill High School. After high school, she worked in Pittsburg, CA, and then in Martinez, CA for Contra Costa County. She met her husband Bob in 1959 and they were married on November 19, 1960. After the birth of their first child, she decided to stay home to raise their four children. The family moved to Livermore in 1962 where all four children graduated from Granada High School. In 1979, Charlotte reentered the workforce at Lawrence Livermore Lab

where she retired in 1999 as an Administrative Assistant in the Electronics Engineering Department. After retiring, Charlotte enjoyed traveling with her husband Bob throughout the U.S., Western Canada and Alaska with their travel trailer and airplane.

Charlotte was active in the Catholic Community of Pleasanton where she was a greeter at Sunday Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. She was also a member of the Vintage Hills Neighborhood Christian Community (NCC) and was instrumental with setting up her group and other NCC groups to work at Open Heart Kitchen. She also participated in going to St. Mary's Soup Kitchen with the NCC group on a regular basis.

Charlotte, demonstrating her kindness and generosity to the end, donated her body to Stanford Hospital for research and educational purposes.

A Mass to celebrate Charlotte's life with a reception to follow will be held on Friday, January 23 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton, CA.

Donations can be made to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568-3024 or to Development Services, PO Box 20466, Stanford CA, 94309-0466; RE: Brain cancer research.

Bruce W. Jamieson

Former resident of Livermore 1925 - 2015

Bruce died peacefully January 3, 2015. He was born in Claremont, MN, the 4th of 7 children and attended Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis. During his senior year he enlisted in the U. S. Navy and proudly served his country during WWII in the submarine service from 1944 through 1946. Upon returning from the service, Bruce earned his B.S. degree from Bemidji State Teachers College and his M.A. from



Humboldt State University. For 36 years as a teacher, principal, administrator, and Assistant Superintendent of Business, Bruce dedicated himself to improving the lives of thousands of children and teachers in Livermore and Fremont Unified School Districts. Following retirement, Bruce and his wife resided in Tracy, CA and Lincoln, CA.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 63 years Burna; his children Bruce (Karen), Mary (Terri), Robert (Jennifer), Nancy (Richard), 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandsons. He is also survived by his sister Janet.

The family will hold a private ceremony at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in his name to: Gold Country Submarine Veterans, c/o Tim Spoon, 8237 Oahu Dr., Fair Oaks, CA, 95628

Dolores Lorraine Weidman
Jan. 8, 1928-Jan. 10, 2015
Resident of Livermore, CA
Dee (Dolores) was born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania, to Gertrude and Robert Herman. While living in Quakertown, she met her husband to be, Walter L. Weidman, Jr. They were married July 20, 1943. Three days later, Walt was shipped to Germany to fight in WWII. After his safe return, they both worked for Western Electric in Allentown, Pennsylvania and raised their five children. They moved to Modesto, CA in Aug. 1957, and then to Livermore in spring 1959. Dee worked at Lawrence Livermore National Labo-



ratory for 25+ years and went back to school to earn multiple degrees. While raising her family she enjoyed her dancing and performed in many rodeo parades in downtown Livermore. She was very proud to be dancing up and into her early eighties. She was also very active in her Springtown water classes.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Walt, and her five children, Annette Weaver (Ron) of Livermore, CA; Lynn Staysa (Don) of Livermore, CA; Les Weidman (Linda) of Hickman, CA; Bruce Weidman (Deanne) of Walnut Creek; and Jani Richards (Bryan) of Pittsburg, CA. She also is survived by nine grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren, as well as several nieces and nephews.

To honor Dolores' memory, please donate to American Diabetes, American Cancer Society, or AIDS, in lieu of flowers.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on January 20, 2015 at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore.



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

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

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Foothill Students Raising Funds To Help Pay for Trip to Germany

Students enrolled in Foothill High's German program are preparing for a trip to Halle an der Saale, Germany, departing just two days after the school year ends this June.

Under the auspices of the German-American Partnership Program, or GAPP, Foothill German teacher Heather Fleming, Ph.D., is coordinating an educational travel program to help her students better understand the language, culture, and rich historical heritage of eastern and southern Germany. Frau Fleming will be traveling with the students as their adviser and trip chaperone. She will be assisted by Foothill English teacher Valerie Rossman, who has been studying German for four years by auditing Frau Fleming's courses at Foothill.

The objective of the GAPP exchange is to integrate Foothill students into the everyday life of host families in Halle an der Saale and the classroom activities of the host school, and to welcome students

from Halle an der Saale at Foothill.

During the 30-day trip, the students will spend three weeks living in Halle an der Saale with host families, attend school with their exchange partners, and give presentations in German on topics about regional and national culture in various classes on the campus of their host school, Johann-Gottfried-Herder-Gymnasium. The group will also take part in a variety of cultural and historical outings and activities and work on a collaborative research project with their exchange partners.

Following the three-week homestay, the Foothill group will head south to the state of Bavaria to visit the cities of Regensburg and Munich, and to Salzburg, Austria.

Already planning to join the exchange are Jonathan Flynn, Sam Gholami, Cyrus and Mitra Khalilian, Darren Lee, Ben Rowland, and Jonathan Tan. Both Jon Flynn and Jon Tan have an even deeper connection to Halle an der Saale, as they both have siblings who have par-

ticipated in the exchange in years past.

The students are also working on fundraising to offset their costs and to establish a scholarship fund. Those interested in contributing to this fund may visit <http://www.gofundme.com/FHSGAPP2015> to make a donation.

Travel arrangements for the group are being made by TSA Tours, a Tempe, Arizona company that has over 25 years of experience in organizing educational travel for both student and adult groups. The group still has more room for participants with basic German skills (at least two years of study or the equivalent; 11th and 12th graders with only one year of study may also apply), so parents and students interested in joining FHS German as they explore Germany and Austria should contact Frau Fleming by emailing hlfleming@pleasantonusd.net.

Contact Heather Fleming, Foothill HS at hlfleming@pleasantonusd.net

Education Series Begins with Middle School Program on Friendship

Pleasanton's 2015 Community Education Series opens on Wednesday, January 21 with two special presentations by award-winning author and parenting expert/family coach Annie Fox.

Topic for the 4 to 5 p.m. presentation will be "Middle School Confidential: Real Friends vs. the Other Kind." The program will be presented in the large meeting room of the Pleasanton Library. Designed for middle school students, Ms. Fox, the author of the popular "Middle School Confidential" book series, will provide participants with tools to figure out if someone is a real friend, every day ways to destress, and other helpful resources.

A study conducted by the Journal of Educational Psychology found that middle



Annie Fox

school students with close reciprocal friendships are more social, helpful, and cooperative than those without reciprocated friendships.

Interested students can register for this free program (course number 59253) at pleasantonfun.com, or at the event.

Later that same day, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Fox will present "Parenting for the 21st Century: Teaching Kids

to be Good People." It will take place in the large meeting room of the Pleasanton Library. This presentation, targeting parents, will include cyber safety tips on how to raise a responsible digital citizen, how to teach children to do good, versus being good, and ways to improve parent and child relationships.

Interested participants can register for this free program (course number 59291) at pleasantonfun.com, or at the event.

The parent education series was developed by the Community Services staff in conjunction with the Pleasanton Youth Commission to meet the goals of the Youth Master Plan. For more information, please visit <http://ptownlife.org/parent-education-series>, or call (925) 931-3474.

SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 9)

help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Grant in Aid Program

The Hindu Community and Cultural Center, Inc., of Livermore has announced its annual Grant In Aid Program and invites applications based both locally (Livermore and its surrounding areas) and overseas.

A total grant amount of \$25,000 will be distributed in the year 2015. Individual grants can vary depending on the needs and suitability of the nonprofit organizations. This Grant program, initiated in 1987, is one of several Human Services activities at the temple in addition to programs such as free health screening, bone-marrow donor registration, partnering with the Alameda County Community Food Bank for canned food drives, distributing personal articles and clothing to the Livermore veterans hospital and collaborating with local shelters to help the needy.

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

address by February 6, 2015:

Chairperson, Human Services, HCCC, Inc., 1232, Arrowhead Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551-6963

Applicants will be informed of the grant decisions. Representatives of the selected organizations will be invited to an Award Ceremony to be held at the temple in 2015.

Applications sent via email will not be accepted. For questions and clarifications, please email karuna95135@yahoo.com.

Haven at Swirl

Tri-Valley Haven will be at Swirl on the Square to raise funds for its many programs.

Tri-Valley Haven creates homes safe from abuse, contributes to a more peaceful society one person, one family, one community at a time.

Visit Swirl on Sunday, January 18, 2pm-6pm. Live music 3pm-5pm by Crowding Out. 100% of One Hope Wine tasting fees and 10% of net sales from Swirl will go directly to Tri-Valley Haven.

Swirl is located at Blacksmith Square, 21 S. Livermore Avenue, Downtown Livermore. 925-447-1400, www.trivalleyhaven.org, www.swirlonthesq.com

Blood Drive in Dublin

The American Red Cross is in dire need of blood and platelet donations. In response, the City of Dublin will host a Community Blood Drive on Friday, January 23, from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM, in the Regional Meeting Room at Dublin City Hall (100 Civic Plaza). Residents may drop in any-

time during the five-hour window, or can schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org, entering the sponsor code, DUBLIN-COMMUNITY. Appointments can also be made by calling 1-800-REDCROSS.

Donors with types O negative, B negative, and A negative are especially needed right now. The Red Cross asks that donors hydrate and eat a healthy meal before donating. Photo identification is required. Participants should plan on an hour to complete the process.

Adult Ed Classes

Livermore Adult Community Education Center 2014-2015 Winter registration will start in January.

Register online at www.livermoreadulted.org or walk-in to register at 1401 Almond Avenue, Livermore, CA. The Livermore Adult Community Education offices are open Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Call for more information (925) 606-4722.

Adult ed is a Microsoft Office Specialist Authorized Testing Center.

The following classes are available:

- Computer Classes: Excel 2010, PowerPoint and PivotTables
- Art Classes: Mixed Media Art, Drawing, Water Color and Creative Writing
- Fitness: Pilates
- Retirement Workshops: Retirement Planning Today
- Adult High School Diploma, GED Preparation courses and English as a Second Language

For course dates and times, go to www.livermoreadulted.org.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 499038

The following person(s) doing business as: CMJN AVT, 1314 Balboa Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chris Burbano, 1314 Balboa Way, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above. Signature of Registrants :s/ Chris Burbano This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 10, 2014. Expires December 10, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3731. Published December 25, 2014, January 1, 8, 15, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 498969

The following person(s) doing business as: A Restorative Massage, 1062A Murrieta Blvd, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Carol Drew, 1434 Roselli Drive, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/1/2010. Signature of Registrants :s/ Carol Drew This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 9, 2014. Expires December 9, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3732. Published December 25, 2014, January 1, 8, 15, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 499264

The following person(s) doing business as: Star Anise Thai Restaurant, 2470 1st St, Ste #108, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Wongtayanuwat S. LLC, 7484 Oxford Cir, Dublin, CA 94568 This business is conducted by a Limited liability company The registrant has not yet begun to transact business

using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Sripan Wongtayanuwat This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 17, 2014. Expires December 17, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3733. Published December 25, 2014, January 1, 8, 15, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 499054-56

The following person(s) doing business as: (1) Integrated General Counsel (2) Integrated General Counsel Services (3) Integrated Legal Counsel, 4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kristen Hayes Kuse, Esq., 938 Montevino Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/14/2009. Signature of Registrants :s/ Kristen Hayes Kuse This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 10, 2014. Expires December 10, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3734. Published December 25, 2014, January 1, 8, 15, 2015.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY

Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Alameda Case No. RP14733437 Estate of Judith L. Fallin, Decedent

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, subject to later confirmation by the above entitled court, on January 26, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., or thereafter within the time allowed by law, Timothy R. Fallin, as executor of the estate of the above-named decedent, will sell to the highest and best net bidder on the terms and conditions stated below all right, title, and interest of the decedent at the time of death and all right, title, and interest that the estate has acquired in addition to that of the decedent at the time of death, in the real prop-

erty located in Pleasanton, County of Alameda, State of California.

2. This property is commonly referred to as 1826 Harvest Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, assessor's parcel number 946-3330-084 and is more fully described as follows:

Lot 12, Tract 4758, Filed May 15, 1981, Map Book 127, Page 36, Official Records of Alameda County, California

3. The property will be sold subject to current taxes, covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations, rights, rights of way, and easements of record, with any encumbrances of record to be satisfied from the purchase price to be assumed by the purchaser.

4. The property is to be sold on an "as-is" basis, except for title.

5. The personal representative has given exclusive right listing to Jonathan Kurniadi of Kurniadi Realty, 3478 Buskirk Avenue, Suite 1000, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, Telephone No. 510-467-0610.

6. Bids or offers are invited for this property and must be in writing and can be mailed to Jonathan Kurniadi of Kurniadi Realty, 3478 Buskirk Avenue, Suite 1000, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, Telephone No. 510-467-0610, at any time after the first publication of this notice and before any sale is made.

7. Bids must be sealed

and will be opened at the above address on the date and time specified above. Bids should be presented using the Probate Purchase Agreement form published by the California Association of Realtors and include the terms described in this publication.

8. The property will be sold on the following terms: Cash, or part cash and part credit, the terms of such credit to be acceptable to the undersigned and to the court, with ten (10) percent of the amount of the bid to accompany the offer by certified check, and the balance to be paid within five (5) days following confirmation of sale by the court.

9. Taxes, rents, operating and maintenance expenses, and premiums on insurance acceptable to the purchaser shall be prorated as of the date of close of escrow. Examination of title, recording of conveyance, any title insurance policy, and any government compliance requirements shall be at the expense of the purchaser. County transfer tax will be borne by the Seller.

10. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

11. For further information and bid forms, contact Jonathan Kurniadi of Kurniadi Realty, 3478 Buskirk Avenue, Suite 1000, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, Telephone No. 510-467-0610.

DATED: December 4, 2014 /s/ Timothy R. Fallin

The Independent Legal No. 3735 Published January 1, 8, 15, 2015

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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.tvvar.org

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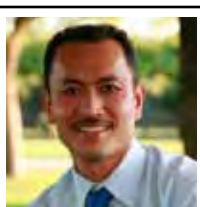
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New Laws Regarding Texts, Tweets and Online Reviews

By Cher Wollard

Texts, tweets, auctions and online reviews are among the various subjects of new regulations impacting buyers, sellers, homeowners and real estate industry professionals.

As of Jan. 1:

- Consumers cannot be forced to waive their right to post reviews of a business or its employees.

Contracts for the sale or lease of goods of services cannot include provisions prohibiting or limiting the consumer's right to make statements critical of the seller or lessor or its employees or agents, or concerning the goods or services.

The host of online consumer review sites may, however, remove any comments that it is otherwise lawful to remove.

- Landlords and tenants may agree to use electronic communications for some notices and agreements pertaining to the establishment and handling of security deposits.

The security deposit law itself, however, still requires that the itemization of the security deposit and notice to the tenant of its disposition must still be made by either personal delivery or first class mail. This law may potentially impact the use of electronic signatures for lease agreements.

- Brokers have long been required to retain copies of all significant documentation in real estate transactions for a period of three years.

Assembly Bill 2136 clarifies that this requirement does not extend to text messages, instant messages or tweets, as these are deemed to be of an "ephemeral nature." The exception would be when such communication is serving to create a permanent record.

The new law does not clearly spare emails, however, and in a Spring 2013 bulletin, the state's Bureau of Real Estate advised brokers to retain most email correspondence for the three-year period.

- Lenders and auction companies are forbidden from using "shell bids" to falsely inflate the price of a property offered for sale.

However, a bid may be placed on the seller's behalf if proper notice is given. The law also creates an exception for a lienholder (lender) making a credit bid when the credit bid can result in the transfer of title to the lienholder.

- Contractors who work under a suspended license may be guilty of a misdemeanor, unless the total price for labor and materials is less than \$500.

- The Disclosure Regarding Real Estate Agency Relationships (C.A.R. form AD), which is customarily provided to residential clients, must now be delivered in commercial transactions as well.

- A new law prohibits the practice of "document bundling" in the sale of units in a common interest development. ("Document bundling" means requiring the purchase of a package of documents together with the legally mandated HOA disclosures).

Under the new law, fees for these mandated disclosures must be itemized and billed separately from all other fees, fines or assessments. The association may collect a reasonable fee based on its actual cost of preparing and delivering the documents - but only from the seller. As a result, C.A.R. is modifying its standard purchase agreements to require that the seller alone will pay for mandated HOA disclosures, but the cost for other contractual disclosures will remain negotiable.

- HOAs and landlords must allow participation in "personal agriculture" using portable containers in a resident's outdoor backyard area. This pertains only to ground-level units, and is for planting edible fruits or vegetables for personal use or donation, and cannot include marijuana or any unlawful crops.

- Dispute resolution by common interest development associations must be in writing and signed by both parties. Members and associations may be assisted by an attorney or another person at their own costs during the dispute process.

- A common interest development's architectural or landscaping guidelines are void and unenforceable if they prohibit the use of low water-using plants as a group or as a replacement of existing turf.

- A new state law allows a stock cooperative to be sold or leased subject to a blanket encumbrance under certain conditions.

- "The Handling Prepayments: Eliminating Post-Payment Interest Charges" rule prohibits lenders from charging an FHA borrower interest through the end of the month when the mortgage is paid in full before month end, and prohibits prepayment penalties for all FHA-insured single family mortgage products and programs closed on or after Jan. 21.

- A borrower who loses a home through enforcement of judgments may have the right to redeem the property in cases of gross unfairness, even after the 90-day statutory period has ended.

- Civil penalties for violation of existing prohibitions regarding mortgage loan modification fees have been increased.

- Lenders must wait seven days from the date of loan counseling before taking applications or assessing fees for reverse mortgages.

- The "Buyer's Choice Act," stipulating that lenders may not dictate what title and escrow company a buyer will use in purchasing foreclosed or bank-owned properties, is now permanent.

- Forged and false deeds may be voided by a criminal court when a defendant is convicted of filing, registering or recording such a deed.

- Counties' and cities' right to reduce Williamson Act contract terms, in any year in which reimbursements for lost revenue are less than half of its actual losses, are extended indefinitely.

- Educational requirements for certain mortgage loan originators are increased.

- Notaries verify only the identity of the individual signing the document and not the document's truthfulness, accuracy, or validity, according to the terms of a new regulation.

- The California Bureau of Real Estate is prohibited from denying a professional license based solely on a criminal conviction that has been expunged.

- Transfer taxes may not be excluded from the recorded document. Previously, a seller or buyer of real property could demand from the county that the documentary transfer tax be stated on a separate piece of paper, enabling them to effectively keep the purchase price secret, since the amount of the transfer tax can be reliably used to reduce the purchase price.

- Penalties for late payment of Fire Prevention taxes have been reduced, the appeals process simplified and the time for appeals lengthened. The law also allows for exemption from the fire prevention fee residential structures that are subsequently deemed uninhabitable as a result of a natural disaster during the year.

For more information about these or other real estate issues, contact your local Realtor today.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Drysdale Properties, in Livermore.

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A very cold case

5,300-Year-Old Murder
Is Jan. 29 Bankhead Topic

By Jeff Garberson

By the time they caught up with Otzi and killed him, he must have been exhausted.

He had been fleeing for a day and a half, pursued by the killers up and down steep mountain slopes. He was only 40 or 45, but he had recently been sick. He was arthritic, and suffered from Lyme disease and intestinal parasites.

It was an arrow that killed him. A sharp flint arrowhead penetrated beneath his left shoulder blade and nicked the big sub-clavian artery, which connects to the aorta. He must have bled out in a few minutes.

Who killed Otzi? Where was he from? Why did he have enemies? Why didn't they take his valuable copper axe after they killed him?

Murder mysteries like these are not easy to solve, especially after 5,300 years. Still, forensic archaeologists have learned a lot, and how they did so will be the subject of a January 29 talk at Livermore's Bankhead Theater.

The speaker will be noted Stanford archaeologist Patrick Hunt, coming to Livermore as part of the Rae Dorrough Speaker Series. In addition to his scientific research, Hunt is a prolific communicator, having written some 15 books and many magazine articles on subjects ranging from human history to the role of art in society to analyses of poetry.

Dublin
Looking for
Love Letters

Entries are sought for Dublin Crush: Love Letters to Dublin.

The city is sponsoring a writing project to celebrate the people, places, and things in this community that we are crazy about. The Dublin Crush writing project invites people to tell a tale, write a love letter, or craft a poem or essay, telling how they fell in love with someone or something in Dublin.

Ideas includes views of the hills, those windy days, or beautiful park spaces.

This is not a competition, but an exhibit of works. So feel free to get creative— mash up words with photos or drawings, or share words on unusual papers or other flat media. Deadline for entries is Monday, February 2 at 5:00 PM, at 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin.

The exhibit of works will take place in the Dublin Heritage Park & Museums Little Classroom: February 7 to March 1.

An opening reception is set for Thursday, February 12.

For more information, please call (925) 556-4500.

Otzi is the name given to the famous "Ice Man" found by German hikers in the late summer of 1991 in the Tyrolean Alps. The body was protruding from a glacial pool in a ravine at the head of the Otztal Valley near the border of Austria and Italy.

The first assumption was that this was the corpse of a modern adventurer who had an accident or was caught in bad weather. The body was flown to a morgue in Innsbruck, where investigators soon recognized its age based on the tools and clothing found near it.

Since then, forensic specialists have made remarkable progress in unearthing clues to his life and death by applying scientific tools like DNA analysis, CAT scans, X rays and immunological analyses.

Much more than a murder mystery, however, Otzi's body became a kind of window into the past, revealing insights into the kinds of diets, tools and customs that might have been found in Europe during the Early Bronze Age, several hundred years before the first of the great Egyptian pyramids was built.

In a telephone interview prior to his talk, Hunt cited the work of Albert Zink of the European Academy of Bolzano as particularly important among those who have contributed to these forensic studies. They have created a partial "road map" of where Otzi had been and what he had done, Hunt said.

Wear on Otzi's teeth, for example, indicate a high fiber diet. Certain types of pollen in his esophagus and the food still preserved in his gut suggest that his last meal, and his death, occurred in late May or early June.

Alternating layers of pollen coating his breathing passages indicate that in his last 36 hours, he traveled about 30,000 vertical feet — up, then

down, then up, where he was killed.

Side to side grooves called Beau Reil lines on his fingernails indicated recent high stress. Microscopic particles of copper — 99 percent pure, with traces of arsenic and silver — suggest that he was associated with the newly developing copper industry and trade routes across Alpine passes.

The arrowhead that appears to have killed him was not found until a CAT scan was performed in 1998, Hunt said. Fibrin still found preserved around the tiny arrow wound suggests that he died shortly after the wound was made.

Many puzzles remain, Hunt said. They will be discussed at the Bankhead talk. He emphasized what he believes is the importance of public communication and his strong disagreement with academic colleagues who speak condescendingly of archaeological publications that sell more than a few hundred copies as "coffee table books."

For the past twenty-some years, Hunt has been spending one or two months per summer conducting archaeological research in the Alps, typically with other colleagues and graduate students. During that time, he has seen snow mass decline by 20 to 25 percent as temperatures have inched upwards, he said.

Global warming may have a "silver lining" in Alpine archaeology, he believes. As snow and ice disappear, more buried relics may be exposed to reveal clues about life long past.

Hunt's Bankhead talk is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 29. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://mylvpac.com/> or by contacting the box office at (925) 373-6800. The Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

FIRE CHIEF

(continued from page one)

Livermore and Pleasanton."

As Fire Chief, Torres will oversee a fire department with a staff of 120 sworn and non-sworn employees who provide services to the residents of Livermore and Pleasanton including emergency medical response, fire suppression, rescue emergencies, hazardous materials incidents, and more. The department also offers public education in fire prevention and emergency preparedness for local residents and businesses.

"Ruben Torres brings a vast background in fire-fighting and public safety to our two cities" according

to Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho. "We were impressed with his ability to tackle the complexities and challenges of the tenth largest city in the nation, particularly in the areas of community relations and budget management."

Torres began his career as a firefighter for the City of San Jose and worked through the ranks of Fire Engineer, Captain, Assistant Fire Marshall, Battalion Chief and Deputy Fire Chief. He is also recognized as a leader for the advocacy and facilitation of cultural appreciation and diversity within the Fire Department.

FOOD

(continued from page one)

outbreak of pathogens such as E. coli and salmonella in tainted foods. However, use of DNATrax is a quick and efficient way to stop these foods from sickening more people and costing producers more money due to massive recalls triggered by poor traceability."

DNATrax can also be used to trace fraudulent food back to producers using similar methods. Misleading foods are becoming a serious problem that is costing the food industry billions of dollars, Zografos said. It's particularly problematic with premium goods, such

as olive oil and wine.

In the case of olive oil, DNATrax can be added to the olives as they are pressed into oil. If the fraudulent bottle is pulled off a store's shelf, a quantitative analysis can be done on the DNATrax to determine how much of the oil has been diluted.

In the future, it is hoped that DNATrax can be used to assist in training to determine if personal protective equipment (PPE) -- such as hazmat suits used by emergency responders and health care workers to treat Ebola patients -- have been breached. The DNA

particles can be applied to the PPE's exterior, and if contaminants appear on a person's skin, then a breach has occurred.

"This is important because current detection methods give a false impression of PPEs working properly," Farquar said.

The other members of Lawrence Livermore team that developed DNATrax are Elizabeth Wheeler, Ruth Harding, Beth Vitalis, Roald Leif, Brian Baker, Christine Hara, Cindy Thomas, Maxim Shusteff, Sally Hall, Cindy Kaeser and Joanne Osburn.

RETIREES

(continued from page one)

their forming a class while pursuing their suit.

UC health programs were available to the retirees from the time of the Laboratory's founding in 1952 until 2008, when a for-profit consortium took over for the University as manager of the national defense laboratory.

The contract change led to industrial style health care coverage, which many retirees said they have found to be less reliable, more difficult to arrange and generally a violation of promises made during their careers at the Laboratory. They formed a grass roots organization called UC Laboratory Retiree Group that collected money, hired attorneys and filed suit on behalf of named individual retirees in 2010.

UC has contested the suit from the beginning, and argued last year against recognition of the LLNL retirees as a class. Court rulings to date have tended to support the retiree arguments. However, the final resolution of the suit is unclear and possibly far in the future, given the drawn out pace of legal proceedings and appeals.

Last year, the parties entered into mediation, a

process which is not binding but which can sometimes lead to agreement and save disputing parties time and money. The process appears to have broken off, at least for the time being.

In a recent email, the president of the UC Laboratory Retiree Group, Marty Crowningshield, wrote, "Although UC has asked us to return to mediation, we have made it clear that

we will not return unless their minimum offer is one allowing us to rejoin the UC Retiree System from which we were separated."

Crowningshield also said that the Group is paying about \$8,000 for the forthcoming notice, which will give retirees a choice of removing themselves from the lawsuit class. "Unless retirees opt out, they will remain part of the class," he added.

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2014 was a tremendous year for mortgage rates and real estate purchases, 2015 is off to a great start. Rates opened much lower than expected for the new year and for those who felt that they missed out in 2013, your opportunity to purchase or refinance at a much lower rate is here for now. Meanwhile, for the housing market on a whole, both New Construction and Existing Sales are up. Fannie-and Freddie-conforming loans are now offering 3% down with more flexibility on credit and income to debt ratios. With economic fundamentals back, the prediction is housing prices should increase about 25% from last year.

411 So. L Street, Ste. E, Livermore, CA | 925.858.9128



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Interfaith Interconnect to Present Three Mock Weddings



Anubhav Saggi and Anuja Kumaria will reenact their Hindu wedding.



Nova Starling and Bob Woerner of Livermore will reenact their Zen Buddhist ceremony.

Do the bride and groom exchange vows at a traditional Hindu wedding? Is there a specific liturgy for Catholic nuptials? What customs are associated with a Buddhist marriage ceremony? What do these celebrations have in common? These questions will be answered on February 15 at an event called Three Weddings and a Reception.

For the second time, Interfaith Interconnect will present three mock weddings to foster understanding of the various faith communities in the Tri-Valley area. Abbreviated Hindu, Catholic and Buddhist ceremonies will be performed from 3:00pm to 5:30pm on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, in the Lakireddy Auditorium at the Hindu Community and Cultural Center, 1232 Arrowhead Ave., Livermore. An informal reception will follow.

The event is open to the public. As space is limited, attendees must reserve a spot by visiting <https://three-weddings.eventbrite.com/>.

Interfaith Interconnect was formed in 2011 “to enrich, inform and educate ourselves and others about the great diversity of faiths and cultures in our valley,” according to its mission statement. Representatives of 16 congregations plan a variety of educational and cultural events, among them a monthly Religion Chat to discuss facets of world religions. The interfaith organization sponsored its first, Three Weddings and a Reception in 2012, and has also presented concerts, Thanksgiving services, and interfaith picnics. All of these events are open to the public and take place at various member communities.

Further information may be obtained by emailing Interfaith.Interconnect@gmail.com, or visiting facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect.



Muriel Anderson

Muriel Anderson Concert to Raise Money for Rotary Music Scholarship Fund

The Livermore Rotary Club welcomes solo guitarist and National Fingerstyle Champion Muriel Anderson back to Livermore. She will take the stage of the Bothwell Arts Center at 7:30 PM on Jan. 16th.

Advance tickets are \$15.00; \$18.00 at the door. They are available online at Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center www.livermoreperformingarts.org, or at MurielAnderson.com. Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited and subject to sellout.

Proceeds of this benefit concert will go to selected Livermore youth interested in pursuing a career in music. Over the past 15 years, the Livermore Rotary Music Scholarship Fund has provided tens of thousands of dollars to local music students to help with lessons, instrument repairs, rentals, music camps and other expenses for disadvantaged music students.

Rotarian and former downtown music store owner Michael Ferrucci has brought numerous world recognized music artists to Livermore. Ferrucci was responsible for bringing such artists as the late Doc Watson, Laurence Juber, Stanley Jordan and Al Stewart to help support Livermore's Rotary Music Scholarship Fund.

Ferrucci, a music education advocate, points out that currently local school budgets cannot facilitate music education as it has in past years. Public music education has been severely curtailed. The Livermore Rotary Club Music Scholarship is for some, the only financial aid available to Livermore's under privileged students. Ferrucci stresses the urgent need for the community's support and asks that readers share the details of this benefit concert via social media with their friends and family.

Composer, guitarist, and harp guitarist Muriel Anderson is one of the few international touring guitarists equally at home with classical, bluegrass, pop-jazz and international music. The first woman to win the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship and founder of the renowned Muriel Anderson's ALL STAR GUITAR NIGHT®, she enjoys sharing her joy of music via her charity, the MUSIC-FOR-LIFE ALLIANCE. She has recorded / performed with legends Chet Atkins, Victor Wooten, Les Paul, and the Nashville Chamber Orchestra among others. Her 10-award-winning CD Night-light-Daylight is a culmination of her creative spirit, and is the first CD in history to incorporate interactive fiber optics.

The Golden Follies Revue Sells Out Again at Firehouse; Returns in June

The Golden Follies 2015 variety show returns for the third year in a row to the Firehouse Arts Center on Sunday, January 18, at 2:00 p.m. With new routines in a new show, the Las Vegas-style revue features a large 25 member cast of seasoned performers ages 55-90 from all over Northern California. They give their "Regards to Broadway" featuring music from Motown, 42nd Street, Chicago, Pajama Game, and more. The current show is sold out. Return engagement is already scheduled for June 28, 2015.

The Golden Follies was founded 17 years ago by sister team Diane Stawicki and Susan Bostwick, who are the dynamic force behind all aspects of the show, including direction, choreography, concept, and costumes. Both have extensive professional performing backgrounds, having traveled throughout the US and Europe appearing with such artists as Wayne Newton, Robert Goulet, the Pointer Sisters, Rita Moreno, Paul Anka, Jack Jones, Sammy Davis Jr., and Dolly Parton to name just a few.

The troupe members hail from all walks of life, according to director Susan Bostwick. "The majority are retired, having been teachers, real estate agents, medical techs, administrators for the VA and Safeway Corporate, city and county employees, NASA folks and restaurant owners." She goes on to say that "all are homemakers, wives, mothers, grandmothers, and in some cases, great-grandmothers. These energetic, enthusiastic and talented seniors are active in their respective communities and committed to the Golden Follies. Besides their dance involvement, they share life experiences, love, and friendship with each other."

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Information can be found at www.firehousearts.org.



Golden Follies performers

Molly Ringwald Brings an Evening of “Jazz from the American Songbook” to the Bankhead

Although best known for her starring role in films such as “The Breakfast Club” and “Pretty in Pink,” Molly Ringwald has been singing since the age of three. She brings her vocal style to Livermore in February for an evening of music from the American Songbook. “An Evening with Molly Ringwald” will be offered at the Bankhead Theater for one performance only on Thursday evening, February 12, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$42 or \$60 and are just \$16 for students.

Ringwald has loved singing throughout her life, but never before found the right time to pursue it. Raised in Northern California, her father, pianist Bob Ringwald, is the band leader for the Fulton Street Jazz Band. He has also led the Great Pacific Jazz Band in Los Angeles and is one of the founders of the renowned Sacramento Jazz Festival. Molly Ringwald started singing as a young child and enjoyed the special times she spent with her father playing and singing jazz music. Influenced by such

legends as Ella Fitzgerald, Bessie Smith and Blossom Dearie, she fell in love with the traditional jazz standards at an early age.

When Ringwald was just 13, she was cast by Paul Mazursky in “Tempest” and for the next few decades, her focus was on acting. She appeared in numerous films, most notably the John Hughes hits beginning with “Sixteen Candles” in 1984, as well as “Fresh Horses,” “King Lear” and “The Pick Up Artist.” According to Ringwald, during those years not only was her film career all consuming, she never saw much of an opening for the big-band songbook style she prefers, although she continued to sing for her own pleasure.

Acting did eventually lead her back to singing in 2005. At the wrap party celebrating the end of the run of a Broadway play in which she had been performing, fellow actor and accomplished musician Peter Smith began playing the piano and the two discovered a mutual love for jazz. A few years later, Ringwald and Smith reunited in Los Angeles and the two began performing in small Southern California clubs. They eventually decided to put together an album and “Except Sometimes,” which features Smith on the piano, was released in 2013. All ten cuts are songs Ringwald felt a strong connection to, putting a new spin on such jazz and musical standards as “The Very Thought of You,” “I Get Along Without You Very Well (Except Sometimes),” “I’ll Take Romance,” “Sooner or Later,” and “Where Is Love.” In an affectionate musical nod to her acting career, the album features Ringwald’s rendition of “Don’t You (Forget About Me)” the iconic Simple Minds hit which was featured in The Breakfast Club. Since the album’s release, Ringwald and her band have performed over 150 concerts in four countries.

Coming next in February will be the music of the original “Teen Idol” in “Ricky Nelson Remembered” an

evening of music, memories and laughter featuring his twin sons Matthew and Gunnar Nelson. The only artist to have a #1 song, #1 movie and #1 television show in the same week, Ricky Nelson is credited as a pioneer of the country rock sound. His hits such as “Hello Mary Lou,” “Poor Little Fool,” “Travelin’ Man,” “I’m Walkin’,” and “Garden Party” put him in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Tickets are available for “Ricky Nelson Remembered” at the Bankhead on Friday, February 13, 2015, as well as for “An Evening with Molly Ringwald.”

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.



Molly Ringwald



BANKHEAD THEATER 14/15

Muriel Anderson at the Bothwell
BENEFITS LIVERMORE ROTARY
MUSIC EDUCATION
Fri **JAN 16** 7:30pm

Les Misérables
TRI-VALLEY REPERTORY THEATRE
JAN 17, 22, 23, 24, 30, 31 8pm
JAN 18, 25, 31 2pm

RAE DOROUGH SPEAKER SERIES
Patrick Hunt
GETTING TO KNOW THE ICEMAN:
NEW SCIENCE ON AN OLD MUMMY
Thu **JAN 29** 7:30pm

The Lion King - A Dance Revue
LIVERMORE SCHOOL OF DANCE
JAZZ COMPANY
Fri **FEB 6** 7pm, Sat **FEB 7** 7pm

New Orleans Bash at the Bothwell
A LIVELY PARTY, NEW ORLEANS STYLE
Sat **FEB 7** 5-10pm

BUY TICKETS
call 925.373.6800
click bankheadtheater.org
come by 2400 First Street, Livermore



Crab Feed to Raise Funds to Help Animals

Treat your Valentine to a tasty crab feast and help save the life of a loveable local pet and help prevent animal overpopulation all by attending the Paws In Need Valentine Crab Feed on Saturday, February 7th, 2015.

The evening includes dinner and a fun raffle 6-10 pm at the Shannon Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue in Dublin.

The menu includes fresh cracked crab, pasta, Caesar salad, bread, dessert, and coffee or tea. A no-host bar offering beer, wine, and nonalcoholic beverages will be available. There will also be many opportunities for lucky bidders to win awesome raffle baskets and prizes.

All proceeds will benefit local pets and animals. The Paws In Need (PIN) Spay/Neuter and "Just Like New" programs rely solely on public donations. Contributions from the community help PIN provide financial assistance for veterinary medical needs to prevent unnecessary euthanasia of animals in the Tri-Valley area.

Dinner tickets are \$50 per person, when purchased by January 17, and \$55 thereafter.

Tickets are available online at www.Paws-In-Need.org or by mail; send checks to Paws In Need, P.O. Box 3436, San Ramon, CA 94583. Contact event coordinator Cindy Ferrin at cferrin@pacbell.net or 925-323-8517 for more information.

Registration Open for Drawing Workshop Hosted by PAL

The Pleasanton Art League will offer a drawing workshop led by Francesca Pastine on May 2 and 3 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

This intensive PAL workshop provides training in drawing techniques—line, value, form, space, perspective, sighting techniques, gesture, mass, and texture—with both group and one-on-one instruction. Participants will develop their personal connection to drawing and expand their understanding of art and painting while acquiring a sound understanding of materials and the methods that lead to successful drawings.

Instructor Francesca Pastine is a visual artist and teacher living in San Francisco. Born in New York, she received a BFA and MFA from the San



Francesca Pastine will conduct drawing workshop

Francisco Art Institute. She was the recipient of a Fleishhacker Grant, a Pollock Krasner Grant, and a Kala Fellowship. Pastine's work has been shown at galleries, art spaces, and collections including the Pentimenti Gallery in Philadelphia, Eleanor Harwood Gallery in San Francisco, the Halsey Institute of Contemporary

Art in South Carolina. Her work has been widely reviewed by the press including *The Wall Street Journal*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. The workshop fee is \$199 early bird before March 15, 2015 or \$209 after that.

To register online, go

to www.palworkshop5.eventbrite.com

To register by mail, please provide name, address, phone, email and mail it with your check payable to Pleasanton Art League, c/o Workshops, P.O. Box 23, Pleasanton, CA 94566. For more information, go to www.pal-art.com

Livermore School District Music Department Planning Solo and Ensemble Festival for February 28

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Music Department will host a Solo & Ensemble Festival for music students from

the Tri-Valley Area on Feb. 28 at Las Positas College.

This will be the 53rd year the Livermore District Music Staff has hosted the event. The festival at Las

Positas runs from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm, followed by a formal, "Command Performance" at 7:00 pm in the Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts on campus.

The purpose of a Solo & Ensemble Festival is to foster a love for "Art" music. Performance literature will consist of "classical" repertoire. Students may perform either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble (duet, trio, etc.).

Participants must be music students enrolled in his or her district's music program. The festival is divided into five events (instrument families), Brass & Percussion, Woodwinds, Strings, Vocal, and Piano.

Entrants will have five minutes to perform a selec-

tion in front of a clinician. Ratings range from "needs improvement" to "superior."

Performers who have demonstrated superior musicality may receive a Command Screening. A command screening is a second opportunity to perform, this time in front of a "screening judge." Of these screenings, 12-15 performers will be selected for a formal evening performance.

All events and performances, including the evening command performance are open to the public. Admission is free.

Las Positas Collage is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

December Teen Poet Selected

Marley Mathews has been selected as the Livermore Teen Poet of the month for December. Livermore Poet Laureate Kevin Gunn holds the contests and selects the winner.

Marley is a sophomore at LHS and enjoys writing, cooking and drawing. She has a fluffy dog named Sheila. She wants to be a writer or an engineer, or both. She would like to thank her parents for educating her in literature.

The poem follows:

Deck the halls with too much holly
'Tis the season to seem jolly
Don we now our ugly sweaters
sniffle through the awful weather
See the endless cards before us

Sit all through the repetitive chorus
Expect good gifts that'll bring all pleasure
You'll only receive sock-like treasures
Feel alone while all together
Try to keep your insults tethered
Pray 'those cousins' don't miss the home flight
Write holiday parodies all through the night.

The theme for January will be tolerance. Poems should be 30 lines or less and submitted by January 30 to Livermorepoetry@gmail.com. Reference January Teen Poetry in the subject line

Include name, grade, school and interests.

The 10-Month Wait is Over: Downton Abbey, Season 5

By Linda Milanese

I was in Cost Plus World Market not too long ago and noticed a prominent display of “Downton Abbey” merchandise. Publicity shots of my favorite characters were featured on ruffled jars of orange marmalade, black currant jam, and lemon curd. Tins of tea and shortbread were alongside Downton Abbey wine—Claret and Sauvignon Blanc—with the unmistakable Downton estate logo.

Just to be sure the wine wasn't bottled in California, I checked the Cost Plus website and was surprised to see it was French. The Sauvignon Blanc was described as “A fine wine fit for Lord and Lady Grantham. . . a preferred favorite amongst the British aristocracy.” Yes, “amongst.”

Wait a minute. Isn't this copyright infringement? How could PBS tolerate this kind of piracy, such blatant commercialism, while they take the marketing highroad with DVDs and tote bags? So I went to the PBS site and guess what: no wine for sale but 78 other items for “Downton Abbey” enthusiasts which include everything from jewelry to snow globes, from light-up castles to Lady Mary “bittersweet” cologne. The Dowager Countess teddy bear in purple satin with high lace collar and brooch (\$74.99) bears no resemblance to Maggie Smith and would be more at home in a Disney store.

I began to question my enthusiasm for a PBS show that would market such cheesy products. It made the show seem so . . . frivolous. But, then again, why not? In our hearts, we all know “Downton

Abbey” is mostly a soap opera, which is frivolous by definition. Maybe it's the historical accuracy, the costumes, or the English accents that delude us into believing it's something more sophisticated. And who knows—maybe PBS can make some money selling enough Dowager teddy bears to shorten its intrusive annual fund drive. That would be nice.

So “frivolous” misgivings aside, when the program opens each Sunday night with the same sweeping music and the montage of the gleaming crystal and dinnerware, the duster on the chandelier, the rear end view of the aristocratic hunting dog—the excitement I feel is undeniable. Guilty pleasure or not, I'm not moving for the next hour.

Season 5, which began on January 4, was no exception.

What a pleasure to catch up with the Crawleys. Last season ended mostly on the upswing with a beach scene that found almost everyone paired up romantically. Past experience tells us that such happiness is short-lived at Downton, and the Season 5 premiere not only caught us up with the Upstairs and Downstairs characters, but also began to chip away at that idyllic seaside moment.

It's 1924 and the Labor Party is in power much to the chagrin of Robert Crawley. Early in the show Robert says, “The government is devoted to the destruction of people like us,” and events in this first episode reinforce his feelings of being marginalized. First, Carson, the head butler, is asked to chair a committee for a war memorial in town, a position that Robert had

expected. Later, the socialist schoolteacher, Sarah Bunting, publicly states her conflicting (and insulting) opinions at a Downton dinner party. The class lines are blurring, and it's only going to get worse—or “better” for viewers. Add in the carefully constructed network of relationships and intrigues, and the plot possibilities are limitless.

Speaking of relationships and intrigues, there are a few to keep an eye on in upcoming episodes.

- Thomas's transformations. He's always on the brink of utter depravity when suddenly he'll suffer a fall that enlists our sympathies or he'll do something noble to redeem himself. This first episode finds him up to his old tricks blackmailing Baxter, the new maid, to engage her as an informant against Bates. Then he selflessly rescues Edith from the fire, so he's the hero of the hour. O'Brien disappeared 2 seasons ago, and he's lost his leverage over Baxter, so it will be interesting to see who will be his next cohort—and there certainly will be another.

- Carson and Mrs. Hughes. What about that seaside romp at the end of last season? Will that develop into a December-December relationship this year? And will Isobel and Lord Merton get together despite the Dowager's interference? What is her reason for interfering anyway?

- Lady Mary. Is she going to remarry this season? Or will she just audition suitors in the drawing room and the bedroom as she plans to do with Lord Gillingham?

- Daisy. Her sudden interest in self-improvement by studying math seems

like a random addition to the storyline—unless Daisy really will have a future outside the Downton kitchen.

- Edith, poor Edith. Is she destined to be the family loser? She even accidentally started the fire from which Thomas rescued her. She's hiding her illegitimate daughter with a

pig farmer's family on the estate. Seems like people might start to wonder why she's always bicycling over to the pig farmer's house to bounce little Marigold on her knee. This disastrous situation can only be saved by the reappearance of Gregson, the baby's father who mysteriously disap-

peared in Germany during Season 3. Let's hope things pick up for poor Edith.

- Etc. etc. etc.

So many questions, so many possibilities. The groundwork is laid. Everything is positioned for a lively, multi-layered new season of “Downton Abbey.”

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NEW Firehouse Arts Membership Program

For more information about the program, or to become a member, visit www.firehousearts.org/memberships

Friends of the Vineyards Presentation First Event in Livermore Reads Together Programs

The Livermore Public Library's ninth annual Livermore Reads Together community-wide reading program features Peter Mayle's novel *A Good Year*.

The community of Livermore is encouraged to read *A Good Year*, and participate in events related to wine and France during the month of February 2015. Copies of books and event schedules will be available at all Livermore Public Library locations. The Friends of the Vineyards will be kicking off Livermore Reads Together on January 25 at 2 p.m.

The program titled, *Livermore Valley Wine Country: Past, Present, and Future*, will feature a panel of wine experts who will speak on a variety of topics related to the wine industry in the Livermore Valley. This event is free and open to the public.

No reservations are needed to attend. However, space is limited so plan to arrive early!

The event emcee is Norman Petermeier, owner and winemaker at Villa per Dué and oenologist for wineries Ruby Hill and Rubino Estates. Petermeier is also on the Board of Directors for Friends of the Vineyards and the Tri-Valley Conservancy.

The panel consists of David Everett, the Director of Viticulture and Winery Technology at Las Positas College who will address the history of Livermore Valley wine country; Mark Clarin, the winemaker at McGrail Vineyards with an introduction to wine making; Sudy Torbeck, Sommelier who will lead the Wine tasting; and Chris Chandler, the Livermore Winegrowers Association Executive Director with an overview of the Livermore Valley wine country.

Peter Mayle's enduring love for Provence takes center stage in his 2004 novel *A Good Year*. It tells

the story of Max Skinner, a London financial agent turned French vintner. Skinner's financial career is sabotaged when his boss steals a big client from him right before a significant deal is about to close.

As his professional life collapses around him, Skinner receives notice that he has inherited a farmhouse and vineyard in Provence. Max abandons the world of finance and sets off to become a gentleman winemaker in France. Once there, Max takes in the local scenery and the local women, including Nathalie Auzet, the notaire who handled the property transfer, and Fanny, the vivacious owner of the local bistro.

However, Max soon realizes that the wine label he inherited, Le Griffon, is virtually undrinkable, and he has to find a solution to the problems inherent in producing a wine that nobody wants to drink. Of the research he conducted in writing *A Good Year*, Mayle told NPR's Weekend Edition Sunday host Liane Hansen, "I had to sample, you know, copiously... and I'm lucky enough to have friends and neighbors who make wine. I hung around with them for a long time. It was much better than, you know, peering around in a library doing your research. It was just terrific fun."

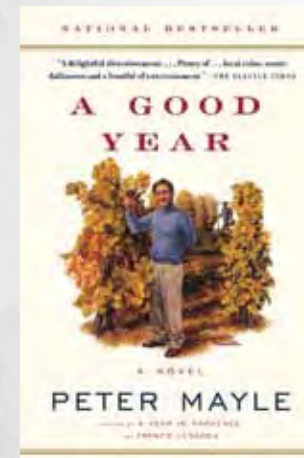
Mayle says, "One of the reasons for my enormous joy in living in Provence, is that I've come to realise the two greatest luxuries in life are time and space. What I have here is a lot of time. Nobody's in a hurry, which is delightful, and the house is big, its ceilings are high, there's room to put everything, and it's terribly peaceful and beautiful."

This event is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Library and Friends of the Vineyard.

Livermore Reads Together 2015 is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For more information, call (925) 373-5500 or check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Livermore Reads Together 2015 events include the following. Unless noted, events are held at the Civic Center Library and are free to the public.

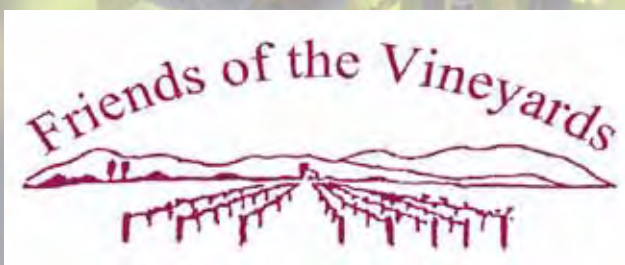
- Sunday, January 25, 2pm: Livermore Valley Wine Country: Past, Present, and Future, LRT kick-off event by the Friends of the Vineyards.
- Wednesday, February 4, 5:30pm: Grapes to Wine in Art Gallery Show and Reception, Livermore Art Association
- Thursday, February 5, 7pm: History of Wine, Professor Ken Albala, University of the Pacific
- Saturday, February 7, noon (The Vine Cinema in Livermore): Free movie at the Vine featuring *Bottle Shock*, a screening of the 2008 American comedy-



drama film, starring Alan Rickman, Chris Pine, Bill Pullman, Rachael Taylor, and Freddy Rodriguez.

- Sunday, February 8, 2pm: All About Wine, Tim Gaiser, Master Sommelier
- Tuesday, February 10: French Tales for Children, Spontaneous Combustion Storytelling Team, 4pm at the Civic Center Library and 6pm at the Springtown Library
- Sunday, February 15, 2pm: Jazz with a French twist, Duo Gadjó and Quartet
- Thursday, February 19, 7pm: France Travel Gems, Dale Schauer, Armchair Travelers Program
- Friday, February 20, 3:30: Family Movie Day featuring *Ratatouille*, a free screening of the Disney-Pixar film.
- Saturday, February 21, 2pm: Ballet Basics for Kids, ballerina sisters Talia and Tenaya Fallis, Vineyard Ballet Academy
- Sunday, February 22, 2pm: Three French Villages, Seven French Masters, Carol Nelson, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
- Monday, February 23, 6pm (Rincon Library): Family Movie Night featuring *Ratatouille*
- Thursday, February 26, 7pm: Readers' Theater: *A Good Year*, Shakespeare's Associates.

For more about Livermore Reads Together, look for the story in the *Independent Magazine* to be published on January 29.





Hope Briggs

Verdi Soprano to Perform at Pleasanton Library

Critically acclaimed Verdi soprano Hope Briggs will appear in a free concert at the Pleasanton Library on Sunday, January 25, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. Recognized for the depth and beauty of her voice and a commanding stage presence, she has performed extensively on the concert stage at venues around the world.

Also widely sought after as a recitalist, Briggs has performed for Oberlin Conservatory, African-Americans for Los Angeles Opera, Madewood Music Festival, Afrosolo Music Festival at the Yerba Buena Performing Arts Center, Concerts at the Abbey in Seattle and Caio Melissa in Spoleto, Italy. By special invitation, she performed for Jessye Norman at Alliance Française Trophée des Arts Gala and for Reverend Billy Graham at the Billy Graham Crusade.

Briggs, a native of New Jersey, drew a rave review from Opera News for her San Francisco Opera debut as the Duchess of Parma in Busoni's Doktor Faust: "... Hope Briggs was stellar, delivering one of the evening's highlights with her lusciously intoned, lovelorn area."

For more information about this and other library events, please visit the library's website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/services/library, or call (925) 931-3400 ext. 4.

The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Fresh Starts Theme of New Show

The Livermore Art Association Gallery opened the year with a new show titled Fresh Starts on January 10.

Along with new work from current member artists, Fresh Starts features artwork by new gallery members that include Lynn Bernstein, who renders a variety of subjects in pastels, and Eric Willyerd, a woodworker who produces assorted bowls and platters. The gallery also welcomes back former members, Bob Gardner a potter and Sharon Gardner, who fabricates hand woven textiles.

Additionally, January will spotlight the work of three guest artists; abstract and representational genres by watercolorist Linda Sailors, black and white photographs by Walter Davies, and abstract oil paintings by Courtney Jacobs.

The gallery is in the Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd Street in Livermore. Hours are Wed. - Sun. from 11:30 - 4pm.

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.

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at six businesses in the Pleasanton - Dublin Area. Viewing locations are: Bank of America at 337 Main Street, Pleasanton; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 4900 Hopyard

Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

California Watercolor Association's 45th Annual National Exhibition. Opening January 15 in the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. 75 artists from California and beyond have been accepted by this year's judges Eric Weigardt (selection) and Gary Bukovnic (awards). A wide variety of styles and types of water media are represented. Free opening reception and awards ceremony will be held Thursday, January 15, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The public is welcome to come preview the entire exhibit, chat with the artists, and enjoy light refreshments. Painting demonstrations most Saturdays during the exhibition, from 11:30-2:30. For complete listing of artists, visit www.firehousearts.org. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations always appreciated. Exhibit dates: January 14 through February 21, 2015.

Abstract Watercolors by Linda Jeffery Sailors at the Nancy Thompson PAL wall at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. On view Jan. 5 to Feb. 3.

Flow, exhibition of Linda Ryan's new abstracts and the Wente Vineyards Small Lot Artist Series at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Display through January 25; small lot artist series wines available while supplies last. 456-2305 or www.wentevineyards.com, www.lindaryanfineart.com.

Dublin Crush, exhibit, Feb. 7-March 1, Heritage Park and Museums. Opening reception Feb. 12. www.dublin.ca.gov, 556-4500.

Special Winter Exhibits: Photo Montage and Quilt Works exhibits, January 15 through February 21. Two unique artists will exhibit at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Fiber and quilting artist Franki Kohler; PhotoMontage artist/storyteller Deborah Griffin. The public is invited to explore and enjoy the exhibits during Firehouse Arts Center open hours. Both artists are scheduled to be on hand to chat with the public about their works

during the next Gallery Reception, Thursday, January 15, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations always appreciated. For more information, contact Gallery Director: J.Finegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov, or call the gallery: 925-931-4849.

Call for entries, Bothwell Arts Center and the Silicon Valley Women's Caucus for Art announces an open call for entries for a new exhibit entitled SWAN Day/Support Women Artists Now. Designed to raise awareness of women artists, SWAN Day (Support Women Artists Now) works towards developing opportunity and visibility for women artists. The exhibition will be on display March 3 through May 4, 2015, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The reception will be held on Thursday, April 2 from 6:00-7:30 pm. Deadline for application is Friday, February 13, electronic images via email. Visit <http://bit.ly/1zwESn4> for a detailed prospectus and agreement. Contact Anne Giancola at agiancola@livermoreperformingarts.org with any questions.

Call for entries, the Bothwell Arts Center is seeking visual artists to enter an open juried art show in conjunction with Visit Tri-Valley's Romancing the Arts Festival. The exhibition will be on display January 27 through March 3, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The reception will be held on Sunday, February 22 from 2:00-4:00 pm. The deadline for application is Friday, January 16, through electronic images via email. Visit <http://bit.ly/1zwESn4> for a detailed prospectus and agreement. Contact Anne Giancola at agiancola@livermoreperformingarts.org with any questions.

Student art contest, California Arts Council invites California students to participate in the Conservation Creativity Challenge Poster Contest. This contest supports State Drought Task Force efforts and Governor Brown's goal of awakening all Californians to the ongoing need for water conservation. The contest aims to educate students about the serious matter of California's drought, and to help raise awareness of everyday water conservation practices through the arts and creativity. All California students in 4th and 5th grade are eligible to participate and win prizes, including gift cards, and the opportunity for

their artwork to be displayed in the State Capitol. Complete contest details and teacher curriculum and lesson planning resources are available at www.arts.ca.gov/conservation. Student entries must be submitted by March 31, 2015.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

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

ACC/Art Critique & Coffee, Discuss and share work with Professional Artists in sketching, painting, exhibiting and marketing your work. ACC members currently working on exhibiting theme works, under the Inspiration of "The Artist's Edge /The Edge of Art & Chosen Pathways." Meets and Critiques Friday mornings in Pleasanton. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

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

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

Art Classes, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Homeschool classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. (925) 216-7231 or email

thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and keyboard lessons, For children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

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

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the 2nd and last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group.

Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover meeting costs.

Colored Pencil - Basics and Beyond - Classes are for beginners and intermediate students. Classes start Mon., Jan. 5th 9:30 to noon for five weeks and Tues., Jan. 6th, 6:30 to 9PM for five weeks. Instructor Maryann Kot, Location, Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th St. Livermore. Sign up, Way Up Art and Frame 925-443-3388

MTAC Master Class, Feb. 21 2:00-4:00pm in the Black Box Theater, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Free

WINE & SPIRITS

Las Positas Vineyards, Livermore, Saturday, January 17th from 4-6pm, Winemaker Brent Amos will discuss the art of blending. This 2 hour hands on seminar will allow guests to blend wines and create their own wines. Space is limited, to reserve a spot please contact curt@laspositasvineyards.com. Sunday, January 18th Sunday Funday with wine & cheesecake cupcake pairing flight. \$10 for club members & \$15 for non members. For more details contact the winery at 925-449-9463 or email curt@laspositasvineyards.com

Winter Wonderland at Rodrigue Molyneux Winery, 3053 Marina Ave., Livermore. Saturday, January 24th 12:30pm - 5:00pm. Warm up with a glass of hot mulled wine, 2

for 1 tasting fees all weekend and a 25% discount on select wines. Additional information at www.rmwinery.com

Fenestra Winery Souper Bowl on Jan. 24 and 25 from noon to 5 p.m. Guest chefs, from local restaurants, will present soups of assorted kinds. Eddie Papa's Grill will be bringing back its award-winning Artichoke & Chile soup from last year. The public is invited to sample the soups and breads, taste award-winning wine, and enjoy an afternoon in the historic winery building. Local vendors will also be on hand selling their arts and crafts. The \$15.00 entry fee includes a logo wine glass, buffet plate, soup samples, and recipes. Event charge for Wine Club "Fanatics" and non-drinkers is \$5.00. 83 Vallecitos Road, Livermore, (925) 447-5246 or email info@fenestrawinery.com

Charles R Vineyards hosting 7th Annual on Sat., Jan. 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. "Cabstravaganza." Taste the winery's big bold Cabernet Sauvignons. 8195 Crane Ridge Road in Livermore

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at: The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/on Portola Avenue-- the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

SONIC ESCAPE: "Daredevils with Instruments." Friday, January 16, 8:00 p.m., one performance only. Virtuoso trio of elite Julliard graduates deliver riveting performances on violin, flute, cello, plus voice and story to reshape the concert experience! From classical masterpieces to bluegrass, from pop-fusion to folk, plus ground-breaking original numbers. Shawn Wyckoff, flute; Maria Kaneko Millar, violin; Nan-Cheng Chen, cello. Reserved seating tickets are \$15.00-\$25.00; available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Jazz Master Bobby Hutcherson in Concert: show added at Firehouse Arts Center, January 17, 8:00 p.m. Reserved seating tickets are \$35.00 - \$45.00; available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Hutcherson is the most accomplished vibraphonist of his generation. Master of melodic, harmonic and rhythmic

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

improvisation on both the vibes and the marimba, Bobby has performed or recorded with nearly every major living jazz musician.

Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council

Presents: 'A Night to Remember' 8 p.m. Jan. 24, Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Featuring pianists Tamriko Sipsrashvili and Temirzhan Yerzhanov in concert to benefit Arts in the Schools. Tickets available at the Firehouse Arts Center, www.firehousearts.org.

An Evening with Molly Ringwald,

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

Ricky Nelson Remembered, starring

Matthew and Gunnar Nelson. 8 p.m. Fri., Feb. 13, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Three Sisters by Anton Chekhov, Feb.

13-March 8, Douglas Morrison Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., Hayward. Program and facility of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. www.dmtonline.org or 510-881-6777.

Del Valle Fine Arts, Cypress String

Quartet, 8 p.m. Feb. 14, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Pacific Chamber Symphony, 2 p.m.

Feb. 15, Romance in the Valley, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Ottmar Liebert, contemporary

Flamenco, 7:30 p.m. Wed., Feb. 18, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Music of ABBA, 8 p.m. Fri., Feb.

20, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.com or 373-6800.

Livermore-Amador Symphony, presents

Young Love, 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 21, solos by winners of the 2-14-15 Competition for Young Musicians. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Strait Country: A Tribute to George

Strait featuring Buck Ford and his Pure Country Band, Feb. 22, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Swingle Singers Versatile A Cappella

from London, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

ON THE STAGE

Les Miserables, weekends Jan. 17-

31, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Golden Follies 2015, Jan. 18, 2

p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Forever Plaid, Pacific Repertory

Theatre, Jan. 30-Feb. 15, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

The Ladies Man, Jan. 30-Feb. 15,

Role Players Ensemble, The Village Theater, 233 Front St., Danville. In Belle Epoque Paris, the recently married Dr. Hecule Molineaux tells "one, tiny, little, hardly noticeable lie" to cover an innocent but embarrassing indiscretion. From that single untruth tumbles a cascade of increasingly convoluted deceptions, misunderstandings and mistaken identities. Embracing the true essence of the chase, www.RolePlayersEnsemble.com, (925) 820-1278

The Taffetas, Pacific Repertory

Theatre, Jan. 31-Feb. 14, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Faculty Showcase, Feb. 5, 7:00pm

in the Main Stage Theater, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Free

Love Letters, Encore Players

presentation at Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore, 2466 8th Street, over Valentine's Day weekend. February 13 and 14 performances are at 8 p.m., with a February 15 matinee at 2 p.m. General seating tickets cost \$25, and can be purchased through the Bankhead Box Office, 2240 First St., Livermore or online at www.bankheadtheater.org. For more information about the Encore Players, contact Patrick Moore at moorepcleve@gmail.com.

Creatures of Impulse Presents:

Face-Off 2015, Feb. 19 and 21, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

The Intergalactic Nemesis, live-

action graphic novel. 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 28, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOVIES

"Cowspiracy – The Sustainability Secret" will be shown on Saturday, January 17th, at 7 PM at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA. Meet & greet potluck at 6:30

PM. This film shows the negative impacts that the livestock industry has on the planet – from the air, to the sea, to the water we drink. This event is unaffiliated & open to the public, free/\$3.00 donations help to fund this event, and it's wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 925-462-3459 or email flick-knight@gmail.com.

Classic Film Series, First Thursday

of each month at 7:00 p.m. through June 2015 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Feb. 5, The Miracle Worker; Mar. 5, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid; Apr. 2, Dog Day Afternoon; May 7, Coal Miner's Daughter; June 4, My Left Foot. Theme Almost True, presented by Las Positas College coordinator of the Humanities Candace Klaschus, a film historian. Pleasanton Library meeting room. The programs are free and all are welcome to attend. Note that some films are mature in content and may not be suitable for children. 931-3400, ext. 4.

DANCE**Russian National Ballet Theatre,**

7:30 p.m. Mon., Feb. 2, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Lion King, A Dance Revue,

Livermore School of Dance, Feb. 6 and 7, 7 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Includes jazz, tap, hip hop, modern, contemporary/lyrical, ballet and pointe. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Square dancing for all ages 8 years

and up, Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes are free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980.

AUDITIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Valley Concert Chorale scheduling appointments for auditions for singers who would like to be a part of the Chorale's March and May 2015 performances. Auditions will be held on Monday, January 19th. Auditions and rehearsals are held at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore, 2020 Fifth Street. The Chorale is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Chorale performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, and folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205. The Chorale's 51st concert season will feature the following performances and events: March 2015: Requiem by Gabriel Fauré, Luminous Night of the Soul by Ola Gjeilo; May 2015: Oscar Winning Songs from the movies. More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

OPERA**Livermore Valley Opera's Soirée**

Series, special evening of opera, wine and food at a private home. Intimate Musical Evening at Villa per Dué, Saturday, February 7, 2015 4:30- 7:30; \$90 before January 20, 2015 Attendance limited to 85 people. Artistic Director Alexander Katsman will accompany a selection of professional opera singers. Featured singer is baritone Daniel Cilli who performed the role of Dandini in LVO's production of Cinderella (March 2014). www.livermorevalleyopera.com

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*.

Storied Nights: An Evening of

Spoken Word. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

Patrick Hunt: Getting to Know

the Iceman: New Science on an Old Mummy. Hunt describes new research on the oldest mummy ever discovered. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 29. Rae Dorrough Speaker Series, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org. 373-6800.

New Orleans Bash at the Bothwell

Arts Center, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Saturday, February 7, 2015. Tickets are \$15 in advance and can be purchased now through the Bankhead Theater ticket office or for \$20 at the door. www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Museum on Main 2015 Ed Kinney

Speaker Series, An Evening with Pleasanton Historian Ken MacLennan, Tuesday, February 10th, 7pm: A new look at an old story with Ken MacLennan, Pleasanton historian and author of Pleasanton, California: A Brief History by History Press. Books will be available for purchase at the event and MacLennan will sign copies following the talk. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets

may be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org, at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. For more information about the Ed Kinney Speakers Series visit www.museumonmain.org or phone Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766.

Shakespeare's Associates Sonnet

Cafe: February 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 and 22. 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Dublin Heritage Center Sunday School Barn. A romantic evening of wine, chocolate and poems of passion. www.livermoreshakes.org

Loving Livermore Heritage, February

15 and February 21, Carnegie Park in downtown Livermore. Noon to 3:00 p.m. Activities will include city walking tours at \$5.00/family, the HistoryMobile, museum tours, visits with Robert and Josefa Livermore, Livermore's first couple, children's crafts, food vendors, and hot chocolate for sale by Scout Troop 939. Presented by Livermore Heritage Guild in conjunction with Romancing the Arts in the Tri-Valley.

Dessert and Murder at the Duarte

Garage, February 21, from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. a murder mystery event with dessert bar. Actors in the murder mystery will all be portraying historical Livermore characters. Homemade desserts and drinks while you try to solve a murder! Wine will be available for purchase. There will also be a raffle including original watercolors and prints by local Livermore artists Carolyn Ramsey, Tilli Calhoun, and Carol Larsen. Tickets for "Murder at the Duarte Garage" are \$20.00/person and can be purchased at The Carnegie Building or on Brown Paper Tickets. <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1072474> Presented by Livermore Heritage Guild in conjunction with Romancing the Arts in the Tri-Valley.



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Top photo, a check is presented to the Keystone Adult Learning Center; below to Axis Community Health.



Daughters of the British Empire Donate Funds to Local Nonprofits

Tri-Valley Chapter members of DBE (Daughters of the British Empire) presented donation checks from their 2014 fundraising events to Axis Community Health, Keystone Adult Learning Center, and the Valley Humane Society. During the year the group also donated funds and supplies to the Pleasanton Unified School District for its Teenage Mother-Father Program, toys for foster children through Sleep Train, and sponsored a family in need through the Salvation Army's holiday drive. Additionally funds were donated to the British Home for Senior Citizens in Sierra Madre, California, one of four homes in the United States established by DBE.

DBE is a British-American 501(c)(3) organization of women with British and British Commonwealth ancestry. Members focus on philanthropy and fellowship through fundraising events and social activities.

The local chapter of DBE meets at 11:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. For additional information about DBE in the Tri-Valley area please contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273.

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.)

15th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Breakfast, Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30-9:30 a.m. DoubleTree by Hilton Pleasanton at the Club, 7050 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton. Keynote Speaker: Napoleon Kaufman, Pastor of The Well Christian Community Church and former running back for the Oakland Raiders. Hosted by former Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti. \$40 per person. Presented by the Tri-Valley YMCA. For additional information, please contact the Y at 925.263.4444 or tvinfo@ymcaeastbay.org.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club will meet to elect Club Officers for 2015 at a Mon., Jan. 19 meeting. A Candidates Forum for California Senate District 7 vacated by Congressman DeSaulnier will follow. Assemblymembers Joan Buchanan & Susan Bonilla will tell the club why they deserve our endorsement. Q&A will follow. Members will vote by secret ballot on who to endorse. All are invited to attend. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., the forum at 8 p.m. Refreshments. IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin.

Livermore Library Board, meeting Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Livermore - Pleasanton Elks Lodge annual crab feed Sat., Jan. 17, Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., dancing 8 p.m., live entertainment by Richard Dorffi Trio. Adults \$45 per person, purchase table for 12 adults and one is free, \$495. Call Lodge office for tickets at 455-8829. Advance sale only. 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. Menu: crab, clam chowder, pasta, salad, French bread and dessert.

Meditation: Open the gate to peace, calm and bliss, program presented by Dr. Andrew Vidich at the Pleasanton Library, Thurs., Jan. 15, 2 p.m. Vidich is a author, educator, consultant and international speaker. No registration required, no admission fee. Pleasanton Library meeting room, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, nonprofit, peer-based, self-help, support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. New meeting location: Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton. Mondays except some holidays 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Come or call a volunteer at 925)289-5356 or 925-922-1467. More information at: www.ClutterLess.org

Campana Jazz Festival 40th Anniversary "After Party" Celebration. All former Amador Valley Band HS members are invited after the Festival to Dinner, Music, and more in celebration of 40 years of the Campana Jazz Festival. Saturday February 14, 2015 from 7:00pm to 11:30pm at Castlewood Country Club,

Pleasanton Tickets: \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door. Students, directors, alumni, community supporters, and anyone who loves Jazz is invited to attend the Dinner at themed Food Stations, no-host bar, and of course live Jazz music throughout the night. Tickets available at www.amadormusic.org

Covered CA and MediCal Health Insurance assistance in Spanish, Cantonese and English is available at Dublin Library (200 Civic Plaza). Walk in welcome on Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9 between 1 and 4PM. Both enrollment and information available. Open Enrollment will end Feb. 15, 2015. Do not wait till the last minute. For more information email TVP4ACA@gmail.com.

Wellness Lecture: Losing Weight on a Gluten-Free Diet, Thurs., Jan. 22. Coach Kim Rice will share with us the benefits of a gluten-free diet, how to implement it to optimize health and achieve and maintain a healthy body weight. 6pm -7pm. Free. New Leaf Community Market, Vintage Hills Shopping Center, 3550 Bernal Ave, Pleasanton. Preregister at www.newleaf.com/events/

Tasting for Tailgating, the New Leaf Way, Jan. 24, 1 pm -3 pm. Free. New Leaf Community Market, Vintage Hills Shopping Center, 3550 Bernal Ave, Pleasanton. <http://www.newleaf.com/events/>

Tea Dance featuring The Mel-lotones Combo Jazz Band, presented by Veterans of Foreign Wars Pleasant Post 6298, 1 to 3 p.m. Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. Dates in 2015 include Feb. 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, Sept. 16, and Oct. 21. Music from the American songbook played for listening and dancing in a variety of ballroom experiences. Cover charge is \$8 and includes refreshments. Proceeds benefit needy veterans and their families. Information joephylb@att.net or 443-2224.

Pleasanton Tulancingo Sister City Association youth cultural exchange summer program is beginning the candidate process. To participate in the program, a student needs to be entering his or her sophomore -senior year in high school in the fall and have completed a second year of Spanish by the end of this school year. Students can attend any informational meeting regardless of their school of attendance to learn about the application and selection process: January 15 at 7-8 PM at Amador HS, parents and students meeting Q201; January 21 at 7-8 PM at Chamber of Commerce 777 Peters Ave; February 18 7-8 PM at Chamber of Commerce 777 Peters Ave. More information about the exchange program can be found on Pleasanton Tulancingo Sister City Association's website at ptsca.org. Questions or would to recommend a student, email annangst@sbcglobal.net or call at 925 209-5825.

Del Arroyo 4-H Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Arroyo Seco School, 5280 Irene Way, Livermore. The next club meeting will be January 21 at 6:00pm. Those interested in joining 4-H are invited to come to the meeting. Anyone 9 to 19 years old can join 4-H. For more information call Margaret Miller at (925)-447-6980 or email mmiller1435@gmail.com.

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 15th from 7:30pm to 9pm. For more information call Tri-Valley CARES at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at <http://trivalleycares.org>

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, Jan. 18, 12:30 p.m., lunch in Dublin, RSVP by Jan. 15 to Bette, 510-357-7873. Jan. 22, 2 p.m. Les Mis matinee, Bankhead Theater, Livermore, RSVP by Jan. 22 to Marsha, 830-8483 for optional lunch at Uncle Yu's. Jan. 29, 1 p.m. lunch in Fremont, RSVP by Jan. 27 to Ginny, 510-656-5625.

2015 Business Expo and Flavor of Dublin is set for Thursday, Feb. 26. Co-hosted by the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and City of Dublin, will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Ave., Dublin. Businesses are invited to sign up to participate. Exhibit space is 8 x 8 and includes a 6 foot table, skirting and two chairs. The fee is \$175 for chamber members and \$275 for nonmembers. Booth participants are encouraged to donate a raffle prize for a general drawing, rather than individual booth drawings. Businesses donating a prize will be recognized at the time of drawing. Booth spaces are limited. For information, go to www.dublinchamberofcommerce.org or call (925) 828-6200.

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore encourages Tri-Valley residents to purchase gift tickets to the Bella Rosa Ball on February, 14, 2015 from 6 - 10:30 pm at the new event center at the Garre Winery at 7986 Tesla Road in Livermore. The Ball, which is a Foundation fund-raiser for Axis Community Health programs, features a divine three-course gourmet meal with choice of entree, a glass of champagne and wine, dessert, and an evening of dancing to the Cool Tones Big Band. Tickets are only \$125 per person. For more details and an online registration link, just visit rotarianfoundationlivermore.org. To learn more about Axis Community Health, visit www.axishealth.org.

Job Consultations, Pleasanton Public Library offers free consultations with an experienced Employment Recruiter. Receive help with resume writing, find employment web sites, learn how to search for a job on the web, and get help with online applications. The Pleasanton Library has support materials available to assist you. Sign up at the Reference Desk for a 20 minute consultation. Appointments available on selected Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. A new time and format added on Thursday afternoons, for a half or full hour. For appointments call the Reference Desk at 925/931-3400, ext. 4. This is an ongoing service. Library programs are free and open to everyone. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

Livermore Chapter of the National Charity League, Inc., only national

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organization committed to fostering the mother-daughter relationship through philanthropic, leadership and cultural activities together and in peer groups, meeting Wed., Jan. 21, 2015, 6:30 p.m. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. To be eligible for membership in the new NCL Chapter, daughters must reside or go to school in Livermore and currently be in 6th-11th grade. For more information and to be added to the email list, contact Kirsten Sprout at kirstenmichele@gmail.com or (925) 667-6608

Fertile Groundworks offers opportunities to volunteer in a community educational garden each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00-noon and Fridays from 3:00-6:00. Additional volunteer opportunities are available the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 9:00-noon. The organization provides organically grown produce to local food programs for those in need, as well as serving as a teaching garden. Those interested to visit www.fertilegroundworks.org and like us on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FertileGroundWorks) to sign-up for volunteer opportunities. 4743 East Ave., Livermore (directly behind Asbury United Methodist Church).

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other likeminded veterans for camaraderie and support of veteran's causes. The American Legion is the largest federally chartered veteran's organization that is the veterans lobby and voice to congress. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to <http://www.calegion.org/> or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or (925) 443-2330 or Roy Warner at 925-449-6048.

Crab Feed, Sat., Jan. 31, Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindberg Ave., Livermore, 6 p.m. to midnight. St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO basketball fund-raiser. Includes dinner and dancing as well as raffle prizes. All you can eat crab or chicken, pasta, bread and salad. Adults only please, \$45 per person. Purchase online drink and raffle tickets smscyyo.org. Additional information njfromindy@yahoo.com or 216-2519.

Crab Feed, sponsored by the Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. on Friday, March 20, 2015. Event supports programs, students, & faculty at Livermore High School. More info to come. Want tickets? Want to help? Contact livermorehighalumni@gmail.com or Ray at 925-606-5518.

Pleasanton Lions Club - welcomes visitors to come experience a great time while making a difference in our community & beyond. Dinner meetings every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. The Regalia House, 4133 Regalia Ct., Pleasanton. www.pleasantonlionsclub.org
Assistance League® of Amador

Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated 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.org. assistanceleague.org, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call (925) 461-6401.

Operation: SAM "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 morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925-443-7620.

Livermore Bridge Club meets Mondays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. (to about 2:15 p.m.) at the IOOF Hall, 2160 First Street. Information at livermorebridge.com. Each session is \$5. The club plays duplicate bridge. The game is supervised by Unit 501 of the ACBL, which covers the Tri-Valley; Unit 501 is non-profit.

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

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

Bereaved Mother's Network of the Tri-Valley meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Livermore Civic Center Library, Small Conference Room. The aim of the network is to allow bereaved mothers to make connections with, share resources, and support other mothers who have been through the worst experience of their lives, losing a child. For more information, contact katiestrube@comcast.net.

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

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.

org. All services are free.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates 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.org. assistanceleague.org, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call (925) 461-6401.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group is a twice-a-month parent support group for parents with children to age 18 diagnosed with or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets First and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite #114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. Suzi Glorioso by phone: (925) 443-1797 or by e-mail: gloriosi4@comcast.net

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. 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.uucil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Reform, Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Lawrence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-ValleyCulturalJews.org, 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 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

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

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

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

Calvary Chapel Livermore, meetings Sundays at 10 a.m. Robert Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

United Christian Church, www.uccliv.org, a gay-welcoming congregation offering community and spiritual encouragement for questioners, seekers and risk-takers. Worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 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.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School 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. Senior adult ministries meet every other month. Call the office at 846-8650 for more information.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave. Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., and Sunday School and Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday night there is adult Bible study, youth activities and children's choir at 6:30 p.m. 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.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. John Karcher at (831) 278-1916.

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

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. Church: Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:25 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided. 1:00 p.m. Youth Group. www.saintbartslivermore.com

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 Kilcare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.worship.org

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.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall. 925-449-4848.

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service with their parents. 10:30 contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointe-church.org (925) 846-4436.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, Meeting at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 6500 Garraventa Ranch Road, Livermore. Services at 10:00 a.m.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

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

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute

ute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Worship at 9 or 10:30 a.m. on Sundays with Sunday school for youth and adults at 10:30 a.m. and childcare at both services. Children are welcome in all services. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221, send an email to office@lynnewood.org or visit website at www.lynnewood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: 9050 Mocho St., Livermore. 3rd ward 9 a.m., 2nd ward 11 a.m., Mocho branch (Spanish) 2:10 p.m. 1501 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore: 1st ward, 9 a.m.; 4th ward 11 a.m., Springtown ward, 1 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org (925)828-1846.

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship on 2nd and 4th Mondays each month at 7pm, 1893 N. Vasco Rd. (UU Church). More information: Livermore-Quakers@gmail.com or (925) 315-7170.

Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 Sunday service; children's program available. All are welcome. Ongoing classes, groups, and activities. Rev. Karen Epps, minister. <http://www.unityoftrivalley.org/> 925.829-2733.

Grief Workshop. Bi-monthly workshop to help with healing. St. Elizabeth Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton. Second and fourth Thursdays evenings at 7:30pm. January 22nd, February 12th & 26th, March 12th & 26th 2015. No pre-registration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty at 925-846-5377 for more information.

Eckankar, "Fear is what separates Soul from God's Love" is the theme of the next ECK Worship Service, Sunday, January 18, at 11:00 AM. The ECK Worship service is held once a month on the third Sunday at the Four Points Sheridan, 5115 Hopyard Road. For further information, contact <http://eck-ca.org/> by computer.

Center for Spiritual Living **Livermore Valley**, people from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations are welcome. Services are a joyful celebration of our Oneness with each other and all life. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com.

Milestones

Community

Livermore Player Triumphs at the 2014-2015 Pokémon City Championships

After full days of head-to-head Pokémon Trading Card Game (TCG) battles, Ryan Chu of Livermore took first place in the Junior Division at the 2014/2015 Pokémon City Championships in Elk Grove, CA and Citrus Heights, CA. Along with the coveted titles and City Championship trophies, Ryan earned valuable Championship Points that count toward a potential invitation to compete at the 2015 Pokémon World Championships. In addition, players that achieve a top Championship Points ranking after the 2015 Spring Regional Championships in May will earn Travel Awards to compete at the 2015 Pokémon U.S. National Championships in Indianapolis next summer.

"The Pokémon City Championships provide a

great opportunity for both new and more experienced players to compete together in a game they really enjoy," said J.C. Smith, director of Consumer Marketing for The Pokémon Company International.

The Pokémon City Championships provide a great way for new players participating in premiere events for the first time to compete alongside more experienced players in a game they really enjoy," said J.C. Smith, director of Consumer Marketing for The Pokémon Company International.

Organized Play events are sanctioned by The Pokémon Company International and locally managed by Premier Tournament Organizers who run hundreds of Pokémon TCG and video game tournaments every year throughout North

America. Collectively they oversee tens of thousands of Pokémon competitors who train and compete at various local league events and sanctioned tournaments on their quest to become a Pokémon World Champion.

Players of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to participate in Organized Play events that guarantee competitors the opportunity to play in multiple rounds, no matter what their win-loss record is. For more information on future tournaments including dates, locations, prizes, and tournament rules and regulations, visit www.pokemon.com/play.

"Like" the official Pokémon Facebook page at [Facebook.com/Pokemon](https://www.facebook.com/Pokemon) and follow Pokémon on Twitter @Pokemon for the latest Pokémon news.

Austin Roeder Earns Eagle Scout Award

On October 4th, 2014 Austin Roeder, son of Marta and Loren Roeder of Livermore, earned the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Award. Austin is a member of Livermore's Troop 942.

Austin's Eagle Project consisted of building cabinets for the vestments at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Livermore. Austin measured the room dimensions and designed the cabinets before leading fellow scouts and other friends to cut, construct, sand, stain and finish the cabinets, where they were then moved into and installed in the sacristy of the church. The parishioners of St. Charles donated the needed funds to purchase all the supplies to construct the cabinets. The project took a year and a half and close to 500 man hours to



Austin Roeder

complete.

Upon being awarded the Eagle Scout rank he has successfully earned 29 merit badges, Conservation award, completed National Youth Leadership training, 50-miler award and participated in a 120 mile backpacking trip at Philmont Scout camp in Cimarron, New Mexico.

Austin's Court of Honor was held January 3rd, 2015 at St. Charles Borromeo Church. He was especially grateful to have his Eagle Scout Grandfather(1944) in

attendance. He is a third generation Eagle. Austin is attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo studying Mechanical Engineering.

Young Musician Invited to Perform His Composition at International Festival

Jason Hale, a student at New World Music Academy has been invited to participate in the Golden Key Music Festival (<http://goldenkeyfestival.com/>) of Vienna and to perform his composition in Ehrbar Hall.

As a Festival participant, he will also be entitled to perform in Bosendorfer Hall at the Mozarthaus, to participate in an International Talent Show, and to take part in master classes with professors of the Vienna Music and Arts University and Prayner Conservatory.

Jason submitted his piano composition to the Golden Key Piano Composition Competition, "Sonatina-The Original." It was called "exceptional" by the festival adjudicators. Jason competed with 69 participants from Greece, United States, Hong Kong, Singapore, Ukraine, China, Canada, Serbia, South Korea, South Africa, Italy,

Russia, Poland, and Switzerland. He was awarded fourth place. His composition has been recommended for the program of the World Young Composers Recital at the Golden Key Music Festival of Vienna, July 20-27, 2015, where the diploma and Winner's Medal will be presented on the stage of Vienna's historic Ehrbar Hall during the Award Ceremony.

Jason takes his lessons at New World Music Academy. He is a former piano student of Mark Anderson and is currently studying piano with Markus Pawlik. He is also a composition student of Eric Zivian.

The Academy is located in the Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton across the street from Thomas Hart Middle School at 4430 Willow Rd Suite M.

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