



The Albers Trio performs in Livermore.

Varied Program Planned by The Albers Trio

A three-sister group, The Albers Trio, will perform the third concert in the Del Valle Fine Arts series. The concert will be presented on Sat., Feb. 2 at 8:00 pm in the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, 2400 First Street.

The Albers Trio's program for the Livermore concert is Serenade in C Major by Dohnanyi (1877-1960), Trio for Strings No. 2 by Hindemith (1895-1963), Trio in G Major, Op. 9 No. 1 by Beethoven (1770-1827) and Medley by Mark O'Connor (b. 1961).

The sisters began studying Suzuki violin with their mother at the age of two. From their early performances on the Pearl Street Mall in Boulder, the sisters have gone on to perform at Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center, National Theatre in Taipei, Severance Hall, Weill Recital Hall and Zankel Hall. Their performances have been seen and heard on Live from Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center (See ALBERS, page 11)

Council Wants Art Project Explained

The Livermore City Council decided they wanted more information about an art project before they are willing to fund it.

The council voted Monday to have someone from the city's Commission for the Arts come to a council meeting and defend the project. The vote was 3 to 2 with Mayor Marshall Kamena and Councilmember John Marchand wanting to reject the project outright.

Proposed is an event called Bus Obscura. It is a passenger bus converted to a multiple aperture camera obscura using a back projection technique that allows the individual images to flow into one another. Passengers sit in the seats as usual. However, instead of looking out of windows at the scenery, they see a real time "projection" of the same scene. As the bus moves along, the exterior view from the bus is projected onto the interior of the bus creating a 360-degree, 2-dimensional animation of the world outside.

The bus will be converted by international artist, Simon Lee, and be available for 12 days. Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin would have use of the bus four days each. It was proposed (See PROJECT, page 8)

Automotive, Welding Programs Open to Women

Las Positas College has been selected to participate in a program designed to help women who want to learn a trade.

Las Positas is one of four community colleges from California selected for Tech Project, a grant sponsored by National Institute for Women in Trades, Technology and Science. The four 2008 selections join four other community colleges named last year.

The career fields involved at Las Positas are automotive and welding. The instructors will be invited to the two-day training in February that will help them assist current female students and to promote more women in the trades.

The institute recently received a \$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation to support colleges as they recruit and retain women. Through the grant, Las Positas and the seven other colleges will receive free intensive training and assistance focused on women in the trades. "The American Welding Society predicts a possible shortage of more than 200,000 skilled (See WOMEN, page 2)

Court Stops City Actions on Oak Grove

A temporary restraining was granted Tuesday that stopped the Pleasanton City Council from certifying the Oak Grove referendum petition at its meeting.

According to Pleasanton City Attorney Michael Roush, the judge indicated a hearing would be held on a permanent injunction to prevent the city from certifying the petition until a pending litigation has been heard by the court.

There are two lawsuits pending. One, filed by landowners Frederic and Jennifer Lin, seeks to throw out the referendum. The second is a motion filed by Kay

Ayala, former city councilmember and leader of the referendum. Both will be heard on Feb. 22 in Superior Court in Oakland.

The landowner lawsuit names both the city and Ayala. It alleges that the signature gatherers did not follow state law in circulating petitions because they did not provide the development and all related documents with the petition. The lawsuit makes the claim that the petitioners would suffer "serious, irreparable harm," if the referendum were to go forward.

The backers of the referendum have also accused of pro-

viding inaccurate facts to the public regarding the referendum.

Ayala said she is not worried about the outcome of the lawsuit. She said that she and the other volunteers worked hard to follow state code and to provide accurate information to the public. "This is a frivolous lawsuit. It is costing us time and money that we could spend on educating the public about the referendum," declared Ayala.

In response to the suit, Ayala filed a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP) motion with the courts last Wednesday. She is asking the court to dismiss the original law-

suit filed on behalf of the landowners and to award attorney's fees and costs incurred.

Ayala noted that acting as a proponent for a referendum is protected by the First Amendment. She said that if the lawsuit seeking to stop the referendum were not challenged, citizen groups that follow may be reluctant to voice their opinions fearing a lawsuit.

Ayala added, "The City Council should also exercise its legal authority and rescind the approval of the Oak Grove Development to send a message to developers that this type of intimidation will not be tolerated

against citizens."

Her request for the council to rescind the Oak Grove approval was echoed by members of the public during Tuesday's council meeting.

Former councilmember Steve Brozosky said, "The Lins are using intimidation to prevent the referendum. Their lawsuit is a direct challenge to democracy. All of you have collected signatures for various referendums and initiatives. How would you feel if you were sued for exercising democracy?" He then asked the council to rescind the approval. "You need to respond firmly and (See OAK GROVE, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students were given the opportunity to make movies as part of the Reel Focus program at the Rincon Library in Livermore. The library received a grant to finance Reel Focus program, which runs through June 2008. It is for Livermore students in the 5th through 12 grades. Part of the program includes learning how to use cameras and other film making equipment to make a movie. Mary Sue Nocar, Rincon Branch manager, said the beauty of the film making is that each child has a chance to try out each element of film making, from being a cast member to working as a crew member. Pictured is Ariella Hartley marking a scene.

Livermore Council Wants Visuals of The Impacts of Taller Buildings

A request to increase the height of buildings on the Groth Bros. site in downtown Livermore was continued by the city council.

The council wanted more visuals on what taller buildings would look like in relation to other buildings in the area. Groth Bros. is located at the corner of North L and First Streets. It is one of three catalyst sites identified in the Downtown Plan. The car dealer is moving to a location along the freeway, making way for a proposed mixed use devel-

opment.

Jenny Turnbull, associate planner for the city, said that increasing the allowed height from three stories at 45 feet to four stories and 55 feet would allow for more flexibility in developing the site and make it more financially feasible. Four story buildings would occupy no more than 60 percent of the site.

As yet, no specific project has been proposed for the site. However, Barry Swenson Builder has been working with the city on a proposal. Jeff Current, the head

architect for the project, said the developer is looking at 25,000 square feet of retail, 220 to 250 residential units, below grade parking for residents and on grade commercial parking. There would also be ample open space.

The request for an increase in height would not increase the density on the site. Current said what changes is how the units are stacked up. Four stories would allow for more variation in the architecture. He felt that three stories would create a feeling of

(See BUILDINGS, page 4)

Measure 'A' Would Ensure Children's Hospital Continues

Children's Hospital Oakland, the only Eastbay hospital specifically focused on treatment of children, will be looking for \$300 million from Measure A in the presidential primary election Feb. 5. The money would be used to build a new hospital on its current site in north Oakland.

Failure to rebuild the hospital by 2013 to meet new state

standards for hospital earthquake safety would force the hospital to lose its license and close, said hospital CEO Frank Tiedemann.

If two-thirds of those voting on the Alameda County ballot's Measure A parcel tax approve it, the revenue would be part of an overall financing package to pay for the project's \$750 million est- (See MEASURE A, page 2)

Gift Will Help to Provide More Arts Programs for Students

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Executive Director, Len Alexander, on Tuesday announced receipt of a gift of \$50,000 to help subsidize the cost of providing increased LVPAC arts programming for local students.

The donation will underwrite the cost of providing \$11 tickets for students seventeen and under at remaining LVPAC sponsored performances in the

Bankhead Theater through the end of August, as well as providing support for the presentation of additional school performances and workshops of music, theater and dance events in the current school year.

"We are delighted that a generous Livermore family recognizes that providing affordable student access to music, theater and dance presentations is a (See GIFT, page 4)

Proposed State Cuts Would Drop \$4 Million From Pleasanton Schools

The Pleasanton school district faces the grim prospect of cutting \$850,000 from the current budget, and as much as \$4 million from the next fiscal year budget, based on projections from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed \$10 billion statewide budget cuts.

By contrast, cities and special districts won't be tapped to aid the state budget, the way they were several years ago in a budget crisis that was not as severe as the one projected now by Schwarzenegger.

Nevertheless, directors of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) sounded

a cautionary note in wanting to give careful scrutiny to the district's current budget right away, so they are ready in case the state changes its mind, and turns to local government again for a bail-out.

Cities can breathe relatively easy, because the governor did not invoke the Proposition 1A-permitted borrowing from cities and counties, said Pleasanton city finance director Dave Culver. However, there will be some taking.

The state probably will charge a jail access fee centered on jail bookings, something it (See BUDGET, page 4)

School Board Denies Charter School Renewal

By Patricia Koning

Nearly four years later, same question, same answer. On Tuesday, Jan. 8, the Board of Education for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) voted unanimously to deny a renewal of the charter for the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS).

Matthew Brandstetter, executive director of the Livermore Charter Learning Corporation (LCLC), which oversees LVCS and any future schools, said the petition renewal was sent to the California Department of Education (CDE) last week. LCLC hopes to be on the March 17 meeting of the Advisory Commission on Charter Schools, at which the State Charter Schools Division would make a recommendation for placing the appeal on the agenda of the State Board of Education meeting in May.

LCLC leadership will submit the petition for the high school

to the Alameda County Office of Education and can also appeal to the state if necessary. Last year's conditional approval of two earlier petitions, one for an 8/9 school and the other for a 10-12 school, still stand. If the conditions were met, LCLC could open its high school under that approval.

The LVJUSD Board also denied a petition for the Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School, a 9-12 school that was projected to open in the fall. Livermore School Superintendent Brenda Miller recommended that the LVJUSD Board deny both petitions based on concerns over finances.

"They've been fiscally unsuccessful and are under FCMAT supervision," she explained. "They still haven't filled the controller position. Until that person gets into place and FCMAT leaves we have concern about things run-

(See CHARTER, page 4)



Photo Doug Jorgensen

Ramp meters along all eastbound I-580 on-ramps between Foothill and San Ramon Boulevard in Pleasanton and Greenville Road in Livermore will be activated on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. The ramp meters will be on from 2:30 to 7:30 pm on weekdays. Three on-ramps in Pleasanton are currently metered on weekday afternoons. These are Hopyard Road, Hacienda Drive, and Santa Rita Road. It is anticipated that traffic at affected on-ramps and along arterials leading to the freeway will back up substantially on the first day, and will taper off during the rest of the week. Traffic conditions will be monitored and adjustments made to the metering rates as needed.

Inside

Anne Homan	7	Roundup.....	3
Art & Entertainment.....	8 & 11	Short Notes.....	12
Bulletin Board.....	9	Sports.....	6
Classifieds.....	9	Obituaries.....	7
Editorial.....	4	Open Homes.....	9
Mailbox.....	4		



PET OF THE WEEK

"Squiggly" is a 7-year-old short hair Tonkinese breed of cat. Tonkinese cats are known for their colorful personalities, and Squiggly is no exception. He loves to talk your ear off and tell you all about his day- you can see he is talking even in his picture! He is a gregarious and loving kitty. He

also has a brother ("Lenny") and would love to go to a home with him. Valley Humane Society cats can be seen Wednesday through Sunday from 11AM to 5PM at VHS, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. For more information, call us at 925.426.8656 or visit our web site: www.valleyhumane.org.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A rainbow framed the Livermore Valley Plaza following last week's storms.

MEASURE A

(continued from page one)

estimated cost of a new hospital. The \$300 million would be joined by private fund-raising efforts, cash reserves and state grants to comprise the \$750 million total. Some \$100 million of it would be on the state ballot in November in the form of a bond especially for construction of Children's hospitals.

Asked what he'll do if the November bond issue fails, Tiedemann said that he is more concerned right now with passing Measure A. He is confident it will pass, based on feedback he has received from the community. However, the vote may be close.

The parcel tax would amount to \$2 per month per residence, no matter what the amount of the property's assessed valuation. Small businesses would pay \$100 per year, said Tiedemann. Larger non-residential properties would be taxed at \$250 per year. People over 65 and disabled people would be exempt from paying.

The non-profit hospital is within one mile of the Hayward fault, a distance close enough that state law requires Children's Hospital to have a new hospital replacement structure to meet the earthquake safety deadline by

2013. Hospitals that need upgrades, but that are farther from earthquake faults, will have an additional two to five years to replace their old facilities, said Tiedemann.

Children's Hospital will retain the current hospital building. It will be remodeled and used for doctors offices and clinic space, said Tiedemann. Such facilities don't have to meet the same seismic standards that the hospital does, "so they are perfectly fine," said Tiedemann.

"One of the things that we think we'd do is take a floor, and expand the family house (that we have). It's like Ronald McDonald House. It houses people who have to be here for a protracted time, and need an in-expensive facility in which to stay. In this Children's Hospital, the patients tend to be 5 years old and younger. Generally the parents and families are quite young," said Tiedemann.

MEASURE A PREFERRED OVER 'B'

The \$300 million is also the subject of county Measure B. The hospital would like voters to reject that measure, and vote instead for Measure A, said Tiedemann. The initiative with the most votes is the one that will go into effect.

Children's Hospital support-

ers gathered initiative signatures to place Measure B on the ballot first. However, county supervisors said that there were no provisions for the county to be reimbursed for its costs in implementing the parcel tax. Supervisors said that millions of dollars in staff time would be needed to create the various parcel tax categories and exceptions in Measure B.

Then county officials huddled with Children's Hospital representatives and created the compromise Measure A. Measure A would collect the tax for 35 years, a longer period than the 30 years originally proposed in Measure B. The change was made to raise more money during that extra five years to cover the county's cost.

Besides having to meet the earthquake safety law for hospitals, Children's Hospital also wants the new project to increase its number of beds. Currently, there are 190 licensed beds at Children's Hospital, with another 20 being leased at Alta Bates-Summit. The project would bring the total to 250 beds, all single patient rooms.

The increase in beds is needed for future demand, said Tiedemann. He said that the Bay Area will grow by 1.1 million people, and add about 250,000 to 300,000 children in the next six or seven years.

The new building would be 12 stories high, to keep the footprint from spreading out into the neighborhood, which is between Shattuck Avenue and Martin Luther King Way, near 52nd street in north Oakland. Tiedemann said that only a handful of residential properties would be taken.

Neighbors have complained about the proposed building height. They have said in the press that there has been a lack of notification concerning the hospital's plans. Tiedemann said

Haggerty, Kamena Honored for Work on Theater

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) Board of Directors honored two elected officials who were instrumental in construction of the Bankhead Theater.

At Monday's city council meeting, Supervisor Scott Haggerty and Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena were singled out for recognition. The VIP room in the theater was named for Haggerty; the green room for Kamena.

Board president Phil Wente said of Haggerty, "He aggressively pursued bringing to fruition the performing arts center. Without his vision and early participation, it would never have happened."

The mayor Wente described as a tireless advocate for the Performing Arts Center, the Bankhead Theater and the regional theater. Through his determined leadership and wise counsel the Bankhead Theater along with a new vision for downtown of shopping and din-

ing experiences have become a reality.

Kamena said of Haggerty, "He had a chance to do something and he did it. Bricks and mortar are something that will stand forever." Kamena said he was asked recently what he saw as the most important event in Livermore in 2007. "The Bankhead Theater was my answer. It symbolizes so much of what Livermore is all about, culture and live performances" He added that it would not have happened without Wente and the LVPAC board, and Haggerty.

Haggerty offered comments. "The council has shown tremendous tenacity on a project that benefits the city and the region. LVPAC is a great group of tireless people who knew what they

wanted and didn't stop until they got it. Joan Seppala was my inspiration. She is someone who doesn't take 'no' for an answer.

"I think I played a small part in making the theater a reality. LVPAC, the council, city staff and the Seppala family had a large part. I was just in the right place at the right time to make it happen. We still have work to do. A larger theater will need a lot of work, particularly in these economic times," declared Haggerty.

Haggerty was responsible for obtaining a host city impact fee on refuse taken to area landfills. The fee is being used to help finance the Bankhead Theater. The fee is projected to generate over \$10 million. The landfill is under the jurisdiction of Alameda County.

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WOMEN

(continued from page one)

welders by 2010. Our local Automotive Advisory Board assures us there is a critical regional shortage of qualified automotive technicians," said Birgitte Ryslinge, the Dean of Academic Services, Vocational Education and Economic Development at Las Positas College.

"Given this context, how can we disregard 50 percent of the potential workforce by failing to recruit women? Increasingly, these are high-wage, high-skill positions which provide students with a meaningful career path," she continued.

The institute provides the tools to successfully integrate women into male-dominated careers through workshops, publications, products, e-strategies and technical assistance. The institute offers a full range of educational consulting and training services that will help Las Positas

recruit, train and retain female students in the technical programs offered.

"The automotive trade is more than just working on cars. There is a need for service writers, warranty clerks, parts personnel, sales people and, of course, technicians. I look forward to working with an increasing number of women to fill the Tri-Valley's automotive openings," said automotive instructor Brian Hagopian.

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Council Rejects Easement Proposal for Ravenswood

A conservation easement over the historic Ravenswood site isn't in the cards, as far as the Livermore City Council is concerned.

The council voted 5 to 0 not to proceed with establishing an easement. They did not like the idea of giving up land use jurisdiction over the property.

The council did agree to establish a subcommittee comprised of representatives from the city council and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board. The subcommittee would discuss Ravenswood to determine if there were problems at the site, if so how to deal with them. The city owns the property. LARPD manages it.

The Tri-Valley Conservancy had proposed the easement as a way to provide additional protection for the city against future

development. The easement would prohibit any future subdivision or sale of the property.

Paul Spence, principal planner for the city, added that the easement could prevent some of LARPD's plans, which include expanding the parking lot and constructing a pavilion in which to host events such as weddings. LARPD is concerned that holding major events in the historic buildings could damage the buildings.

Councilmember Marj Leider suggested that a building envelope of one acre could be included as part of the easement. That would allow the park district to construct a pavilion. The city would retain approval rights of the building envelope. The Conservancy would have jurisdiction over the remainder of the property.

Laura Mercier, associate director of the Conservancy, said the nonprofit was very interested in holding an easement over the property as a method of protecting agriculture uses and the historic values of the site. She said the Conservancy was interested in holding further discussions with all parties to look at issues.

Mayor Marshall Kamena was the most adamant member of the council in opposing the easement. He asked, "Why do we want to give this asset away? Over 35 years, I've never seen even the most pro-growth council suggest there could be a modification or sale of the property."

"LARPD, the city and Conservancy don't look to be in concert. I'd much rather see the status quo retained. I can't see any council touching the property. To have another level of bureau-

cracy is surreal," Kamena declared.

He suggested that the city could take back the property and operate it. Another option would be for representatives from the council and LARPD to meet and come up with something that works for everyone.

Councilmember Doug Horner saw no reason to hand over land use rights to another agency. "I think the council has been a very good steward of the property."

Looking at other options, such as deed restriction, could provide protection in the future, stated Councilmember John Marchand. He, too, was concerned about giving up control of the property.

Jeff Williams wondered what concerns had prompted the Conservancy to request the easement.

Mercier said if the facility were to burn down what would happen to the property. What would prevent it from being developed.

Williams said that if folks have a problem with LARPD plans it would be nice to discuss how to iron out the issues. People seem to have different visions for the property.

LARPD, at its facilities com-

mittee meeting, recommended placing an easement only over the 10-acre vineyard area. The committee indicated an easement over the entire site could be acceptable provided it gave the greatest flexibility in the management of the site.

At its July 11, 2007 meeting, the LARPD Board recommended approval in concept of an easement over Ravenswood. The terms of the easement were to be worked out in negotiations.

Ravenswood was built between 1885 and 1891 as the country estate of Christopher Buckley, Jr., a San Francisco political boss. In 1931, the property was sold to the Redemptionist Fathers, a Catholic religious order. During the 1960s up until 1972 the site was occupied by a succession of single-family tenants.

In 1972, the property was sold to developer Massud Mehran. In the mid-1970s, 33 acres of the original 100 acre site was given to the City of Livermore as the park dedication requirement for a development project.

Ravenswood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a California Historic Point of Interest.



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VALLEY ROUNDUP

McNerney Tours Border

Earlier this week, Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) visited the U.S.-Mexico border to meet with Border Patrol Agents, tour border control operations along the San Diego Sector, and gain a firsthand perspective on efforts to stem the flow of drugs and illegal border crossings.

"I wanted to tour the border because it is hard to understand the depth of the challenge our country faces at its border just from reading briefings, watching television or going to hearings. It was important for me to actually go and see it for myself," said Rep. McNerney.

The trip took place January 13 and 14. It included tours of and briefings about many different aspects of the border control and enforcement operation along the San Diego Sector, which covers 66 linear miles of the international boundary with Mexico.

On Monday, McNerney toured the San Ysidro Port of Entry, the busiest land border port in the United States which during 2006 saw over 40 million people cross the international border, along with the Otay Mesa Cargo Facility, where screening of Mexican trucks and agricultural products is conducted.

Later on that afternoon, McNerney met with San Diego Sector Chief Mike Fisher and received a briefing about the Border Patrol specialty teams, such as the Border Patrol Search Trauma and Rescue Team, the Air Mobile Unit, and the International Liaison Unit. After that, there was a tour of different parts of the U.S.-Mexico border.

There were meetings with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, including Special Agent in Charge, Miguel Unzueta. McNerney was briefed on drug smuggling investigations, as well as efforts to stop human trafficking.

McNerney is a cosponsor of the Secure America Through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act. This legislation addresses border security by adding 8,000 border patrol agents, funding and making new technology available for border enforcement, and expanding the E-Verify program to give businesses the tools they need to ensure workers are here legally. The SAVE Act enjoys wide bipartisan support in the House.

McNerney is also a cosponsor of the AgJOBS bill, which would create a legal, federally supervised program to permit agriculture workers to be in the country for a temporary, specified period of time with a specific job. In meeting with his agriculture advisory board as well as other farmers, ranchers and growers across California's 11th district, the lack of a stable, reliable workforce to pick crops means that some fruits and vegetables simply wither on the vine.

"I believe that we need to take a balanced, broad approach to immigration reform. It should start with securing our border, which is why I am

a supporter of the SAVE Act. I also believe it must address the need for temporary foreign workers in certain U.S. industries, including the agricultural sector," McNerney said.

Plutonium Shipped from Lab

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced last week that it has removed another shipment of nuclear weapons grade plutonium from NNSA's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

NNSA, a separately organized agency in the Department of Energy, recently moved the plutonium under high security to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.

The shipment is part of an accelerated effort announced last month to remove nuclear material from the Lab by 2012 - two years earlier than planned. Similar actions are underway at other nuclear weapons complex sites, including the removal of weapons materials from Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico.

Register Online

The Parks and Community Services Department launches its new online registration system beginning on Wednesday, February 13, with the Spring Activities Guide. At that time, the public will be able to register online for after-school recreation programs, aquatics, exercise and sports classes, teen activities, and much more.

Online registration offers customers the flexibility to browse or register at any time of day, from the comfort of their own home. Secure registration and credit card processing is available by using a MasterCard or Visa to pay for classes, which includes a small convenience fee.

To register, just log on to <http://online.activecommunities.com/pleasanton> to view activities and begin the registration process.

McNerney Hosts Events

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) will hold his first Congress at Your Corner of 2008 this Saturday, January 19 in Pleasanton as well as a Veterans Assistance Workshop in Danville.

The Congress at Your Corner will be held at Coffee Beans & Bistro on Main St in Pleasanton at 11 a.m. Congress at Your Corner is a program designed to allow constituents to meet and discuss issues with McNerney in the places where they already shop and recreate.

The Veterans Assistance Workshop will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Hall on Hartz Ave. in Danville at 3 p.m.

The Veterans Assistance Workshop will feature service providers who can aid local veterans in filing VA claims, and obtaining or replacing service medals. Housing, employment and educational opportunities information will also be available.

Ron Paul 2008

HOPE FOR AMERICA



"There is no convincing evidence that Iraq is capable of threatening the security of this country, and, therefore, very little reason, if any, to pursue a war." - Ron Paul, From a speech delivered on the House floor, October 8, 2002

Dr. Ron Paul will end the Iraq occupation

- advocates an immediate and orderly withdrawal
- believes the US presence is aiding the recruitment of terrorists
- admonishes recent calls for a 100 year troop presence in Iraq
- advocates hunting down the terrorists responsible for 9/11

Dr. Ron Paul will fix the economy

- never voted for an unbalanced budget or to raise taxes
- will stop the looting of social security
- will save trillions overseas by ending police actions around the globe
- will work to restore jobs lost to NAFTA, CAFTA, and GATT

Dr. Ron Paul will limit government interference in your private life

- voted against the Patriot Act
- voted against the REAL ID Act
- voted to reinstate Habeas Corpus
- opposes regulating the internet

Deficits mean future tax increases, pure and simple. Deficit spending should be viewed as a tax on future generations, and politicians who create deficits should be exposed as tax hikers. - Ron Paul

I am absolutely opposed to a national ID card. This is a total contradiction of what a free society is all about. The purpose of government is to protect the secrecy and the privacy of all individuals, not the secrecy of government. - Ron Paul

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EDITORIALS

Martin Luther King Day

That glorious day Martin Luther King dreamed of, the day when all will be judged by the content of their character rather than by the color of their skin, is still a day that waits in the future.

However, a monumental leap in that direction seems imminent. The traditional biases — race, gender, religion — seem to be fading. An African-American or a woman or a Mormon could be our next president.

Locally, Saint Matthew's Baptist Church of Livermore will hold its annual community celebration of Martin Luther King Day. The event is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday (January 21) at the church, 1239 North Livermore Avenue, with a dessert reception to follow. RSVP is requested (606-7230), but not required.

We applaud Saint Matthew's for doing its part to keep the dream remembered. In this remarkable election year of 2008, Martin Luther King Day seems more relevant than ever.

BUDGET

(continued from page one)

formerly did, then eliminated. The impact will be relatively minor, said Culver.

Also, there apparently will be a delay of gas tax receipts to cities, because the state will have a cash flow problem April through August, and will defer payment until September. Culver said he is not sure the cities will be made whole by the state with regard to the gas taxes. The amount in question is under \$20,000 or \$30,000 for Pleasanton, he stated.

Schwarzenegger announced his cuts last week. He intends them to be 10 percent reductions across the board in every department of state government.

Legislative budget analyst Elizabeth Hill, considered a neutral party in budget analysis, commented Monday that the governor should change his approach by prioritizing the cuts, sparing the top priorities, such as education, as much as possible.

Livermore school staff was unavailable for comment. However, in the Pleasanton school district, superintendent John Casey said the proposed cuts are the deepest that he has seen in his education career. "It's very concerning. It looks like we'll cut \$3.5 million to \$4 million from our budget (for the next fiscal year). We've used up some options available in the past, that are not available now. The amount of deficit in state budget is larger than in the past," said Casey.

Further, the current district budget is scheduled to finish \$850,000 in red ink, because the school board made a decision for this year's budget to enrich the educational program during the current school year. The idea was to recoup it next year out of increased state revenue. That is obviously out the window. Cuts must be made before this fiscal year ends June 30, said Casey.

The \$850,000 worth of expenditures to be cut in the current fiscal year is necessary to keep the district's reserve fund up at about \$5 million. Right now reserves are at about \$4.5 million. "If I can cut out \$850,000 now, then raise the reserves to \$5.3 million, we can enter next (fiscal) year with reserves at a maximum level, and not be in the hole," said Casey.

"We are frantically going through all the budgets to pull out as much money as we can (for this year). When we have a vacancy in a position, we will decide whether to fill it or leave it open. The goal is to roll into next year with maximum reserves," said Casey.

The state requires a minimum of 3 percent in reserve. In Pleasanton's approximately \$100 million budget, that would be about \$3 million. Casey wants to reach 5.3 percent to serve as a safety cushion.

After cutting from the current budget, the district will have to look at \$3.5 million to \$4 million in cuts for the next fiscal year, which will begin July 1. "Everything will be on the table, except the classroom core (curriculum), and 32 students per class," said Casey. He said that he would like to make the cuts without having to lay off any teachers.

Asked about class size reduction, which has been very popular with teachers and parents, Casey said, "Yes, even class-size reduction (is on the table). It costs this district about \$275,000 to \$300,000 per grade level for class size reduction." The state pays the bulk of the cost for smaller classes, primarily for the hiring of more teachers to

achieve a 20-to-1 ratio of students to teacher. However, the district has to contribute a percentage of the cost.

The school board will hear a status report on how the budget looks at its meeting Jan. 22. There won't be a board discussion until the picture is firmer. That is expected at the board meeting Feb. 26.

LARPD TO SCRUTINIZE BUDGET

LARPD general manager Tim Barry said that if the state sticks with Schwarzenegger's budget, "there wouldn't be many impacts directly on us. There are some grant programs that may suffer. The big impact would be if they fail to cut sufficiently in the state, and then go after local government again," said Barry.

Passage of Proposition 1A limits the state to two raids on local revenue during a 10-year period. So far, Schwarzenegger hasn't invoked the language that would allow the state to take the money. Under Prop. 1A, the money would be considered a loan, and would have to be paid back.

The state did not pay back money it took in a budget crisis in 1992 from local government and special districts like LARPD, or money it took from special districts several years ago in another crisis. In fact, it is still taking that revenue stream. Barry said, "Forty-eight percent of our property taxes currently are shifted to the state to assist balancing the budget. It would be even more, if they come back to local government to try to solve their problems. It could be devastating for some of our programs, and the things we do for the community."

Now that it's the middle of the fiscal year, there is always a budget review anyway, so "we'll take a hard look at holding the line on this year's expenditures, and try to save money in case we have to cut back in the coming fiscal year," said Barry.

LARPD director Scott Kamena said at the last board meeting that "everything needs to be on the table when we look at the budget." There should be a look at the money that doesn't have to be spent now, and that is allocated for projects. Kamena said that during the last fiscal crisis, LARPD had to lay off 14 employees. Looking at potential cuts now might save jobs later, he said. Directors Maryalice Faltings and Steve Goodman agreed with Kamena's statements.

Barry told The Independent, "The good news for us is that since the last shift (to the state) in 2004 and '05, we have been able to sock money away in reserves to help on a rainy day, in case of fiscal uncertainty. So the district did a good job."

Barry said that the district is encouraging the public to tell the Legislature and the governor not to take money again from local government, "because it is directed at services that are important to the community. Last week we sent them a reminder letter."

HOUSTON: BUDGET SMOOTHS PEAKS, VALLEYS

Assemblyman Guy Houston, who represents Livermore, said in a brief press release that he supports "putting a policy in place that helps to smooth out the peaks and the valleys of state spending. We are in this situation because we have made commitments that we cannot afford." Houston added that the state "cannot sustain a strong economy and a healthy state government, if we don't reduce the amount of money we spend."

Public Asked Whether Smelt Should Have Endangered Listing

The state Department of Fish and Game is trying to find out whether the Delta smelt, whose dwindling numbers impact the Delta water distribution system, should be made an endangered species.

The species is currently listed as threatened, which is just one level below, "endangered," in the levels of seriousness for the outlook of species survival. The fish lives only in the Delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers. Its population has dropped drastically in the past several years.

The decline prompted three environmental organizations to petition last April for a raising of the listing. The fish was first listed as threatened in 1993.

The Delta is used as a conduit for the snow-melt water that travels from mountain rivers to Zone 7 Water Agency in the Valley and to 28 other state water contractors in Central and southern California. Because the fish has been listed as threatened, the state water project has had to manage the pumping of its water out of

the Delta on a careful schedule, so that there is minimum impact on the species' spawning habits.

The fish are caught in the Delta pumps. The kill is minimized if pumping is avoided during the peak spawning times, because fewer fish are located in the vicinity of the pumps.

It's unlikely that raising the listing status would change the water picture for Zone 7, said general manager Jill Duerig. Zone 7 and the other contractors have been taking part in long-term planning for the environmental safeguarding of the Delta and its continued water delivery use. "We are already doing things in the Bay Delta project to protect the smelt. We are doing our part to try to get the smelt off any listing at all," said Duerig.

She noted there are other stressors on the species besides the water project's pumps. For example, some algae that have come into the Delta from other areas are causing problems for the fish. The algae is grown by

predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors or subcontractors who were monitored, or should have been monitored, for internal exposure to mixed fission and/or activation product radionuclides while working at the Lab. Sick workers must demonstrate that they worked at Livermore Lab for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days from January 1, 1950 through December 31, 1973, or in combination with work days under another class of the SEC. Workers whose jobs kept them in administrative facilities—e.g., library, cafeteria, offices—outside of radiological areas will not be included in the class.

Other stressors might come along, too, such as an invasion by zebra mussels and quagga mussels. "Until January 2007, they hadn't been found west of the Continental Divide. Last year they were found in Lake Mead for the first time. Now they are spreading around southern California," said Duerig.

They travel on the hulls of boats being hauled home from a lake. If the boat owners don't wash and dry the hulls, the mussels can eventually get into the Delta and cause problems there, she said.

If there does need to be changes to pumping schedules to provide more protection for the Delta smelt, Zone 7 and other contractors will do their part, said Duerig. However, other contributors to fish stressors, such as upstream waste water treatment plants and the state itself, which might overstock bass that eat big quantities of smelt, have to do their part, too, said Duerig.

New Class of Sick Workers to Be Considered

petition highlighted a couple of important but still unresolved issues. One Board member questioned the December 31, 1973 cut-off date for the proposed class, because there is little evidence that sufficient records are available to perform accurate dose reconstructions after that date.

In addition, there was some confusion regarding the precise class definition and whether Lab administrative workers should be included. In the end, the Board agreed to have its Work Group on SEC Issues monitor the situation to ensure that workers who may have been exposed were not being excluded from the class.

The SEC is a designation given to a class of workers for whom sufficiently accurate dose reconstructions cannot be performed. Without such a designation, sick workers must have their doses reconstructed by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in a process that is often incomplete when a sick worker dies.

The proposed class for the Livermore Lab SEC petition includes all employees of the Department of Energy (DOE), its

predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors or subcontractors who were monitored, or should have been monitored, for internal exposure to mixed fission and/or activation product radionuclides while working at the Lab. Sick workers must demonstrate that they worked at Livermore Lab for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days from January 1, 1950 through December 31, 1973, or in combination with work days under another class of the SEC. Workers whose jobs kept them in administrative facilities—e.g., library, cafeteria, offices—outside of radiological areas will not be included in the class.

The Board's recommendation to add the class of workers from Livermore Lab to the SEC will go to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, who will then make a final decision. Once the Secretary makes that decision, he will send

his decision to Congress, which has 30 days to reverse or expedite the Secretary's decision. To date, Congress has never acted, and after 30 days the Secretary's decision becomes final.

If the class of workers from Livermore Lab were added to the SEC, then all claims at NIOSH will be sent back to the Department of Labor (DOL). DOL will then be responsible for determining eligibility for compensation under the new class. DOL will also review all claims currently in its possession for individuals from Lawrence Livermore.

The EEOICPA was enacted by Congress in 2000. The Act provides for qualified claimants or their surviving spouses to receive a maximum of \$250,000 in compensation. If living, related medical treatment for the sick worker is included. If there is no surviving spouse, a child may file on behalf of a deceased parent.

BUILDINGS

(continued from page one)

greater mass than four stories. Councilmember John Marchand said he felt it would be helpful to see drawings of the massing. He was disappointed that the drawings were not available for the council meeting on Monday.

Current explained that the project hadn't reach the point where it would be possible to show what the massing would look like.

Councilmember Jeff Williams was concerned about tall buildings in the downtown. He said that three stories looked pretty big to him. "I have heard from citizens they don't want tall buildings in the downtown. Hopefully, we can avoid a canyon-like affect." One concern was the lack of set-backs from the street.

City staff pointed out that the council can reject the development plan once it comes forward. If the council decides it doesn't like the look of four stories, it doesn't have to approve the project.

Williams didn't want to proceed with a change in the general plan that would allow four stories on the site. He felt that

once amended, the option would become the standard, making it difficult to reject the plan in the future.

The architect said the developer didn't anticipate having carte blanche to plan four story buildings over 60 percent of the entire site.

Councilmember Marj Leider pointed out that Livermore Village is allowed four stories. It looks fine. For the Groth Bros. project, she asked to see the massing in connection with Livermore Village and the new building opposite the site on First Street.

Councilmember Doug Horner said that Livermore Village is behind lower buildings on First Street. It is an internal development on one block. "I'm more concerned about this (Groth Bros.) project, because of its very prominent location. The city has invested a lot in First Street. We would like assurances about what this project looks like before we go ahead with the taller buildings. This is a big step for the city."

Mayor Marshall Kamena stated, "I believe there is a basis for a very wonderful project."

CHARTER

(continued from page one)

ning smoothly.

Last spring, Miller raised concerns about the amount of loans LCLC was carrying, which led to a state review of the school's finances. Over the summer the LCLC Board voted to hire the Fiscal Crisis and Management Team (FCMAT) to oversee its finances, cut 20% from the school's operating budget, and developed a fiscal recovery plan.

"I view the charter school as a great competitor to our schools and good for the community," said LVJUSD Board President Bill Dunlop. "But you must get your financial house in order. We are not ready to take over this fiscal situation."

According to Brandstetter, LCLC's total debt as of July of 2007 was approximately \$613,000. The total debt represents approximately 10% of LCLC's current operating revenues. Nearly \$600,000 are expected to be paid off within four years.

"These start-up costs are not out of the norm for charter schools and have been adequately accounted for in our five year budget projections," he explained. "We are comfortable that our current fiscal position is healthy and manageable, with the debt repayment schedules posing little or no risk to ongoing operations."

At the meeting, LVCS leadership admitted mistakes have been made but disagreed with Miller's assessment.

"We've had our challenges. Our Board is committed to right the ship," said Katie Hazen, an LCLC trustee and LVCS parent.

Last week, the national Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health voted unanimously to recommend adding a class of sick workers from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

Next, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and Congress must support the petition, which they are expected to do.

If the SEC were approved, it would allow sick workers who meet certain employment qualifications to receive compensation for specified cancers often associated with radiation exposure without having to go through the bureaucratic snarl of individual dose reconstruction, which is impossible to do correctly in the absence of records.

Raili Glenn, a Dublin resident, spoke to the Board in support of the petition. Glenn's husband, who died of radiation-linked illness, was employed at Livermore Lab and the Nevada Test Site.

The Board's discussion concerning the Livermore Lab SEC

OAK GROVE

(continued from page one)

stand up for the process."

Karla Brown declared, "It's rare. But, I'm speechless to think that lawyers are so involved in the referendum." The developer is using deep pockets to sue the city and a private citizen.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman pointed out that the council could not comment on the remarks made by the public. However, she added, "I think the item will be on an agenda sooner rather than later." She did not clarify what she meant by the comment.

As for certification of the referendum petition, published reports quote Roush as recommending a delay in the certification until pending litigation concerning the referendum were settled.

Backers of the referendum were up in arms over the delay. They pressured the city to place the item on the January 15 agenda. It was added as a late item. However, the restraining order stopped the process.

In an email, Roush wrote that he saw no particular harm to anyone in delaying the decision.

Ayala said, "This is wrong." The harm comes from the fact that the city is ignoring the election code.

According to the code, once the signatures have been verified, the governing body responsible for certification is to take action at its next regular meeting. In this case, that should have been at Tues., Jan. 15 meeting. The restraining order trumped the election code requirement.

When the issue comes before

GIFT

(continued from page one)

highly desirable and wonderful goal," Alexander said. "This donation will allow us to set aside fifty student tickets for each of our remaining performances, encouraging young people to try music, theater and dance events that might be unfamiliar or too costly. At the same time, we will be able to offer additional programs and workshop, to area schools, expanding beyond our initial six events."

The donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, is a Livermore family with children attending Livermore schools. The family has been active in the support of arts and civic activities in the community and wished to make a supportive improvement for arts education opportunities for Livermore students.

"While the family has previously donated to the Bankhead Theater's capital campaign, the opportunity to assist us in broadening the reach of LVPAC's programming for young people and families was particularly appeal-

ing to them," Alexander commented. "We hope that this donation will serve as an example to other individuals and businesses as to the creative ways that can be developed to enhance and support the arts in our community."

LVPAC has recently announced a new sponsorship program for LVPAC Presents activities for the current season and for the 2008-09 Season beginning in September. Individuals and/or businesses have an opportunity to help underwrite specific LVPAC performances or to combine underwriting for similar performance events such as dance or music series. Currently, Shea Homes is the overall sponsor for the Bankhead Theater's inaugural season. For schedule of remaining performances visit www.livermoreperformingarts.org or call 925-373-6800.

The Bankhead Theater ticket office is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore.

Livermore and Granada Principals Push for Trimester Schedule

By Patricia Koning

At last week's meeting of the Livermore Board of Education, Granada High School Principal Chris VanSchaack and Livermore High School Principal Darrel Avila presented a proposal to change to a trimester schedule at both high schools. Such a schedule, said the principals, would provide students more flexibility and balance in their schedules.

"This is the first time I've seen a community of excitement coming out of these two schools," said trustee Bill Morrison. "I'm tired of seeing classes approved but not implemented because we don't have a place to put them. I'm ready to push for this."

Making the change, however, would come with a price tag of close to \$1 million. Most of the cost, approximately \$750,000, would be to hire 11 additional teachers. The remainder would go towards purchasing new textbooks, recreating master schedules, and reworking courses and assessments.

The proposed trimester schedule would divide the school year

into three 12-week trimesters. Class periods would be 70 minutes long, much shorter than the current 90-105 minutes. Each course would be an independent 5-unit section. Students would take four to five sections per trimester.

Both high schools would operate on the same bell schedule with school starting at 8 am and ending at 3:05 pm. Students taking four classes would have the option of a late start at 9:20 am or early release at 1:45 pm. The new schedule would move teacher prep periods from before the start of school to within the school day.

Keith Pickering-Walters, president of the Livermore Education Association, questioned if the new schedule would violate the teacher contract, which limits the teacher workday to 6.5 hours. He also asked about the feasibility of the proposed 3-year trial.

"I think we'll be locked into these schedules even after three years because graduation requirements will have to be changed," he said.

Concern was also raised about hiring enough teachers if more students choose to take five classes and the fate of the program if budget cuts force staff reductions. "I'm afraid that if staffing is cut, class sizes will go up," said Granada teacher Shelley Fields Tejada.

Currently both schools operate on a block schedule. Granada students are on the 4 x 4 block schedule, meaning that students take three or four classes plus a seminar course each semester. Students complete a year-long class in one semester on the 4 x 4 block schedule.

Livermore High School students are on an A/B alternating day block, meaning that they take six to eight classes per semester, but attend each class on alternate days.

A problem with both schedules, according to the principals, is limited time for electives. At Granada, students wishing to take an extra class must begin the school day at 7:05 am.

VanSchaack said that the trimester schedule would address issues with math achievement by

allowing students to take year-long math without it dominating their schedule. On Granada's current schedule, year-long math could take up as much as one-third of a student's schedule (for a student taking three courses). On the trimester schedule, year-long math would only take about 20% of a student's schedule.

"The pacing of current math classes is too fast for most students. We need to allocate more time," said VanSchaack. "For advanced students we can offer a two-trimester accelerated course."

The trimester schedule also would include an athletic fifth period for students on sports teams. The athletic fifth period would allow practices to start earlier and prevent students from missing academic classes when they have to leave early to travel to a game or meet. The trimesters would match sports seasons, so that students would only take the athletic fifth period when they are on a sports team.

"The athletic fifth period is well-liked at other schools on the trimester schedule," said

VanSchaack. "It gives student athletes the opportunity to get home at a reasonable time."

James Peters, a junior at Granada, disagreed with this assessment, stating that academic PE would limit his opportunity to participate in band. He also voiced a concern that the trimester schedule would result in more homework.

With both high schools on the same schedule, concurrent enrollment between sites would be feasible, making it easier to meet enrollment requirements of unusual classes. The trimester schedule would allow an AP seminar course to help students prepare for AP exams.

John Carter, a special education teacher at Granada, said the trimester schedule would benefit special education students.

"Seeing kids for the entire year is huge. This is an issue we've been concerned about since Granada started on the block schedule. And 70-minute periods are more conducive for kids with special needs," he said. "But will the cost take money off

the bargaining table? Are we moving too fast?"

A disadvantage of the trimester schedule is that Granada students would no longer be able to double up on classes. Doubling up takes place when students sign up for two courses in a single subject, such as math or foreign language—essentially completing two years of instruction in a single school year.

VanSchaack noted that only about 2% (42-46) of Granada students are taking a fifth year of foreign language or a second year of Calculus. More often students doubling up are doing so because they failed a course in the first semester.

Trustee Anne White stressed the need to incorporate a fifth year of foreign language into the trimester plan.

The Board will review a more specific plan for implementing the trimester schedule at the Jan. 22 meeting. For more information, VanSchaack's presentation on the trimester schedule is available on the Granada website at www.granadahigh.com.

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. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed.)

Pays Taxes

Brian Boerman
Livermore

I am quite excited to learn from Mr. Lenz that as a bicyclist, I don't pay taxes for county or city roads, their maintenance, or law enforcement patrols. Mr. Lenz, can you tell me whom I can contact to be refunded the 30+ years of taxes that I have mistakenly paid under my (apparently false) assumption that I was to pay my fair share as a citizen, regardless of my mode of transportation?

Ignorant Motorists

Jennifer Burton
Livermore

I read a recent letter with an increasing amount of incredulity. Do you really think that our own expensive vehicles, annual registration fees, and hidden highway taxes? How do you think we get to work? Do you think motorists have a lock on being tired from a long day at the office? During the week, I am a motorist, but on the weekend, I am a cyclist. I ride to maintain my health and my personal well-being. I ride my bike in order to get out of my car and enjoy being outdoors, breathing fresh air and making my body stronger. I do not cycle to disrupt, aggravate or delay motorists. I also do not "flout the law."

Before you spout off any more against cycling, let me ask you: how big is your carbon footprint? How is your health? I recommend bicycling.

Cycling on Mines Road

Brett Wayne
Livermore

Each year, thousands of California bicyclists are struck and injured by motor vehicles. While the overwhelming majority of those are accidental, many are not. I can't help but wonder if some of those non-accidental incidents are fueled by the same ignorance, intolerance, and hostility manifested in several recent letters published in the Independent.

To say the least, it is profoundly misleading to assert that bicyclists don't pay taxes.

Each year my wife and I pay property, use, and fuel taxes on the vehicles we own and the home we live in Livermore. In

fact, over the past six years, we've spent over \$50K on various taxes on our vehicles and our home. Our property tax checks were written to the very same Donald R. White, Tax Collector, Alameda County that the residents on Mines Road make their checks out to. The taxes we paid also support a myriad of other services that are used by Mines Road residents that are provided by the state and county. Think about that the next time CDF is called in to suppress a wildfire that threatens your homes.

The reality is that there are less than 100 homes on the 20-mile stretch of Mines Road between Tesla Road and the county line. I know that because I've flown my airplane over that valley and counted them. There's no way that the tax revenue collected on the vehicles owned by those residents could possibly cover the millions that were spent developing that road and the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent by the county each year maintaining it.

I don't expect Mr. Turner or Mr. Lenz to thank us for it or even like it. I do, however, believe that we've earned the right to expect them to at least extend the simple courtesy of sharing the road with us while we're bicycling.

What a Laugh

John Chamorro
Livermore

Boy what a laugh! The bicycle community continues to attack the man rather than address the issue brought up by Turner's letter. We have some real issues that need to be addressed by the Counties and by the Amgen people concerning the safety of both riders and residents alike. Given that this forum seems to print anyone and everyone's point of view, then why don't the cyclists present their side for all to read? I suppose that if you have no valid argument, the attack on the man rather than the issue would be the only rebuttal. Sort of like the childish remark "your mother wears combat boots."

As far as road use taxes, bikes do not pay any sort of tax, road use fee, license fee, or insurance. Yes, the owners pay taxes just like the rest of us do for each and every individual car, truck RV that travels down the road. Why not bikes? I continually hear of the counties crying the blues of under-funding. Here's a great way of generating more revenue for the State and Counties. Mr. Rose has even suggested that Mr. Turner should move so that he not have to put up with the issues we have to deal with on a daily basis. Rose also volunteered to pay Turner's taxes. If all this is true then one could therefore assume that he would

also be happy to pay a licensing fee and a road use fee for the bicycle that he so passionately loves to ride.

My personal opinion is that if bike riders were required to display a license plate just like the rest of the licensed, insured vehicles on the road then there would be a lot fewer incidents involving bikes and motor vehicles. As long as the anonymity of the cyclists are protected then we will have to continue with the problems that we face on a daily basis.

If the bicycle community has something constructive to say, let's hear it.

Martin Luther King Day

Jedidjah de Vries
Livermore

On January 21st we honor Dr. Martin Luther King. We honor his courage to fight for the soul of this nation. When hatred threatened to drown righteousness he stood up as our moral guide. As we prepare to come together to pay tribute to his legacy I look around me and see a world in which freedom and equality have not yet settled.

Now, as then, we face a difficult future. There are still many mountain tops to climb and many dreams to fulfill. I am proud to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, but we must also use this day to learn from his struggle for justice. We should be inspired by his commitment to peace and emboldened by his fight for freedom. We can continue his work by dedicating ourselves to creating peace in our lives, our country and our world today.

Join me and the Tri-Valley Peace Coalition in honoring Dr. Martin Luther King on January 21st. We will gather, as a community, at 10 am at the United Christian Church on 1886 College Ave., Livermore.

Oppose Auto Dealership

Stacy Kovisto
Livermore

Do you realize that the Livermore Planning Commission has approved the largest Toyota dealership in the Bay Area, to go in next door to McDonald's off Vasco, using all the open land on both sides of North Front

Street between Vasco and Herman Ave?

The Livermore Planning Commission says that this brand new dealership will not impact traffic, even though it will add over 3000 cars a day to the Vasco intersection. How can this be true? The proposed dealership will cover 16+ acres, employ over 230, have 56 mechanic bays, contain over 800 parking places for both new and used cars as well as a full detail shop.

The City Council is planning to discuss this proposal by the Livermore Planning Commission on Monday, February 11 at 7:00, 3575 Pacific Avenue. If you live off Vasco, commute down Vasco, drive your kids to Altamont Creek, Croce, Christensen, soccer, softball, baseball get gas, use the ACE train or go to the LNL, please come tell the City Council that you do not want this huge Auto Dealership in our neighborhood! We must show the City that the community does not approve of adding over 3000 additional car trips a day on the roads our families must travel every day to get to and from our homes.

Use Whistles

Rod Mitchell

I'm not sure this would work, but has the windmill group considered putting the whistles like they do on cars in deer country so that when the car is moving it creates a high pitched sound that animals shy away from. The whistles would attach to the blades and only work when the blades turn. Just a thought.

Toys-for-Tots Goal

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) would like to acknowledge and thank the businesses and communities of the Tri-Valley for their support and generous donation of toys this Christmas season. LPFD Fire Captain Ken Atkinson reports that the number of toys collected for 2007 surpassed the 2006 toy drive by 21%.

"The success of providing toys for families experiencing hardship is due to the generous

support of our communities," adds Atkinson.

Expectations in reaching a 2007 goal of collecting 15,000 toys for the Toys-for-Tots Foundation were exceeded due to the tireless efforts of the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters (Local 1974) and the charitable contributions made from members of the Tri-Valley communities. Businesses, schools, and residents worked in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps to collect 15,124 toys this Christmas season.

Firefighter/Paramedic Greg Huver shares, "It was comforting to know that over 3,300 families in the Tri-Valley area had a better Christmas than they would have had without all of our efforts."

LPFD would like to acknowledge and thank the following non-profit organizations and community business partners

who contributed to the success of the 2007 event:

Non-Profit Organizations: Home at Sunset, Marilyn Avenue School, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Tri-Valley Haven, Tri-Valley Jubilee; Local Business Partners: Budget Truck Rentals, Cor-O-Van, KKIQ Radio, PJMB Properties, and Toys "R" Us.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters (Local 1974) are looking forward to the 2008 Toys-for-Tots Toy Drive and have set a goal of 18,000 toys. Anyone interested in becoming a local business partner and/or would like to be a designated Toys-for-Tots donation location, please contact Co-Chairpersons Captain Ken Atkinson at katinson@lpfire.org or Firefighter Greg Huver at ghuver@lpfire.org.

Once again, thank you for making Christmas in 2007 fantastic!

Purse Party

by Nicole



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Date Monday, January 21

Time 7:00 p.m.

Location Hawthorn Suites Conference Room
1700 Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA 94551


Speaker Ken Coburn
Vice President-Investments

RSVP Ester Lee
Client Service Associate
2185 North California Boulevard
Suites 400 and 310
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925-746-0207 800-433-7992
ester.h.lee@ubs.com

www.ubs.com/fa/kencoburn

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LIVERMORE
CITY OF LIVERMORE

The City of Livermore is seeking applicants for the position of

CITY HISTORIAN


The role of the City Historian is to increase public awareness of the history of the City and community of Livermore. The duties may include:

- Making presentations to organizations and social groups
- Developing an education program for schools, including history walks
- Preparing and teaching adult educational courses in local and regional history
- Providing articles on local history topics for publication in local media
- Assisting and providing resources to the City's Historic Preservation Commission
- Supporting the endeavors of the local historical society

The person appointed to this volunteer position will serve a two-year term and must be a Livermore resident. Qualified applicants will have experience presenting local historical information to community groups or teaching courses in local and regional history to students at a school or community classes, or an affiliation with an organization associated with the advance.

Applications can be obtained at the City Clerk's Office,
1052 S. Livermore Avenue, 960-4200, TDD 960-4014, or
www.ci.livermore.ca.us.

The deadline to apply for this position is noon on January 30, 2008.
NOTE: INTERVIEWS BY THE CITY OF LIVERMORE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD ON THE EVENING OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008.
APPLICANTS WILL BE CONTACTED WITH SPECIFIC APPOINTMENT INFORMATION.



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SPORTS NOTES

Youth Soccer

The **Livermore Elite Fury girls U12 D3** team advanced to the Sweet 16 round by winning its bracket in Association Cup play.

In the first game against the Folsom Lightning, the Fury played strongly early as Katie Lortie and Mikayla Molien had a couple of nice runs into the Folsom box. Defenders Morgan Brandt, Erin Winegamer and Alyssa Stevenson had several nice stops on Folsom rushes while goalie Emily Kalantar played solidly. Rebekah Johnson led the midfield attack with a shot on goal and Skyler Kriz and Ryley Landreth defended well during a scoreless first half.

The Lightning opened the second half with good pressure in the Livermore end until Lortie countered with a strong run towards the Lightning box, drawing a foul. Amanda Fairclough took advantage of the ensuing free kick by drilling a long, high shot over the outstretched Folsom goalie for a 1-0 lead in the 33rd minute. The Lightning responded with several attacks into the Fury zone but the Livermore defense held, highlighted by Stevenson stopping a Folsom break down the middle and Brittany Arhbeck knocking away a dead ball in the Fury box. Despite the Folsom pressure, Livermore held on for a 1-0 victory.

In the second game against the Hayward Amazons, the Fury pressured early as Amanda Fairclough and Skyler Kriz set up forwards Katie Lortie and Alison Pierson with some good rushes and shot attempts. Livermore finally broke through in the 16th minute when Kaitlin DaDahl tapped in a rebound off a Marissa Scheid shot for a 1-0 lead. The Fury continued its attack as Mikayla Molien, Rebekah Johnson and Kaitlyn Bulhoes made some nice plays on offense. Hayward had one scoring opportunity in the final minute of the half but Brittany Arhbeck hustled back to help clear the ball out of the Fury box. Hayward opened the second half with some good offensive pressure but Erin Winegamer and Alyssa Stevenson made some big stops on defense. Midway through the half, goalie Emily Kalantar made a great play as she dived on a ball with two Amazon players surrounding her. A minute later, Katie Lortie set a long pass to Alison Pierson who broke behind the Hayward defense and fired a hard, high shot over the Amazon goalie for a 2-0 lead. The Fury kept up the pressure to limit any Hayward counterattacks as Callie Crowe worked hard to maintain possession and Kaitlin DaDahl had a nice run from midfield deep into the Amazon to force a corner kick. Livermore finished with a 2-0 win and a spot in the next round of Association Cup play.

The **Pleasanton Rage U14 D3B** team owned their Association Cup bracket with a phenomenal weekend in Morgan Hill.

The Rage first faced the Mt. Diablo Rebels on Saturday, and despite an aggressive offense and multiple shots on goal, tied 0-0. Sunday morning the Rage team came out ready for a win against Redwood San Carlos Park. Erin O'Loughlin scored two blistering goals, and Devon Gold and Nicole Ponzini added one more each for a crushing 4-1 win.

The Rage girls needed to win their third game of the weekend to advance in Association Cup, and they did just that, thanks to a 40-yard boot by Molly Rowse from her defender position, and outstanding goalkeeping by Natalie Tiongo and Shannon Easley. The Rage girls rallied to hold off the extremely physical Rohnert Park team, resulting in a satisfying 1-0 victory. The girls now advance to the Sweet 16 next week in Ripon.



Four Pleasanton Seahawk Swimmers were honored by Pacific Swimming at the annual awards banquet on January 5 for their Outstanding Achievements of 2007. Pictured above from left to right are: Head coach Steve Morsilli, Andrew Seitz, Nick Silverthorn, Catherine Breed, Rachel Knowles, and head age group coach Todd Tucker.

in the paint all game. A nice game enjoyed by a packed Livermore gym.

LHS JV girls basketball team defeated Amador Valley 46 to 44. The Livermore team got a great offensive out put from Brittany Silva popping in 19 points and Stephanie Quon pouring in 12 of her own. The Livermore team traded the lead several times with Amador but Kylie O'Neal (4 pts), Julie Blach (2 pts), Gabby Barbalinardo (4 points), Kaitlynn Amaral (5 pts) kept the scoring pace up the entire game. Laura Linden and Kathryn Rambo came up with key rebounds and defensive stops when needed against a very good Amador squad.

LHS Varsity girls basketball team vs Monte Vista lost 66 to 25. Monte Vista came in as a heavy favorite to win the EBAL and in the second quarter against Livermore exploded for 31 points. The "3 Towers" Margaret Donovan (2 pts), Kayla Webber (2 pts) and Sammy McConvey worked hard all game and sprinted the floor to slow the high powered Monte Vista offense. Offensively the Livermore team was led by Scott Hoehne (8 pts all from the line), Taylor Borba (5 pts), Ryan Raber (4 pts) and Sami Edwards (3 pts). Livermore's Erica Schell, Veronica Garza, Shayla Raber and Brooke Betts (pt) worked hard to put the brakes on the whirlwind offense of Monte Vista.

LHS JV girls basketball team vs Monte Vista lost 42 to 38. The Livermore team found themselves in a double figure hole after the 2nd quarter but got on track quickly with Gabby Barbalinardo's 2-3 pointers in the 3rd quarter. The Livermore JV scored 17 in the 3rd quarter to close the MV lead. Great games by Brittany Silva (8 pts), Kaitlynn Amaral (4 pts) and Julie Blach (3 pts) kept the Monte Vista team in striking distance in the second half. Great second half rebounding by Laura Linden (2 pts), Stephanie Quon (5 pts) and Kylie O'Neal (3 pts) diminished the rivals scoring opportunities. A great effort off the bench by Carrie Melrose and Kathryn Rambo almost put Livermore in the win column for the second time this week.

Meredith, Janelle Reali, and Stephani Davis led the rebounds with Elyse Telford, Carolyn Fletcher, and Sarah Bachelor playing a fantastic game as well.

CCOP 6th grade boys team #61 played short handed against a stronger St. Joan's team #63 and lost 37-15. With only 7 players, CCOP kept it close and found themselves only down one midway through the 2nd quarter. Turnovers and fatigue caught up to CCOP. They kept their heads up and fought hard right up to the final buzzer.

SM/SC 6th grade girls (#6009) took on St. Isidore (#6008) in an exciting and closely matched game, won by SM/SC, 16-14. SM/SC player Taylor Smith led the offense with 8 points. Marlo Callon, Kassidee Rusniak and Christie Swinton also scored for SM/SC, while Sarah McCallister and Haley Emerson played great defense.

The Grizzly Bears (SM/SC #607) played an exciting game against St. Raymond's 1 (#604). The score was close throughout the entire game. The Grizzly Bears worked hard together, with great passing from Sean Mahoney, Vincent Barton, Tammer Hughes and Matt Santos. Tio Quihuis played an excellent game, and was ready for many of the rebounds under the basket. Domine Kovacs and Hunter Ashby made some great steals. Josh Revay made an awesome basket with one second left on the clock. The game was tied 27-27 at the end of Q4 and went into overtime. Despite the Grizzly Bears great effort, St. Raymond's won the game 31-28 in overtime.

The Dribblers, SM/SC (5004), lost to St. Joan of Arc (5007), 20-6. The Dribblers played hard the entire game but were not able to overcome St. Joan's 3rd quarter offensive surge led by #4 Tallero who had 8 points. For the Dribblers, Taylor Lange, Sarah Partridge and Paige Walker each had 2 points, and their teammates all played great defense pulling down lots of rebounds.

CYO Basketball

CYO Basketball results from last week: St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 8th grade girls America team (#80005) defeated St. Catherine, 24-15. SM/SC led the entire game, starting out very strong with great teamwork and defense. Top scoring players for SM/SC were Sammi Schiller 8 pts and 2 rebounds, Teresa Keane 6 pts, 6 rebounds and 2 steals, McKenna Daly 5 pts, 6 rebounds and Camille Cauthen 3 pts, 6 rebounds and 2 steals. Also playing well for SM/SC, with some great rebounding and defense, were Ashley Holmes 1 pt, 7 rebounds and 3 steals, Kaila Williams 1 pt and 3 rebounds, Alyse Kline 1 pt, Nicole McDougall 6 rebounds and Jennifer Plantenga 6 rebounds.

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 8th grade girls (team 80011) dominated St. Isidore's (team 8008). CCOP crashed the boards and knocked down shots in their 37-13 win. Brittany Bicomeng scored in each quarter for a total of 8 points while Jessica Morselli ran the court scoring 10 points on the fast breaks. Top scorer Lyndsay Godwin had 6 field goals and went 2 for 3 at the line for 14 points (8 rebounds). Contributing to the score were Sydney Okumura and Jessica Woodruff 2 points each and Kim Beaudin with 1. Taking over the boards and making aggressive plays were Okumura with 12 rebounds 4 steals, Woodruff 11 rebounds 3 steals, and Morselli and Beaudin 9 rebounds each with a combined 7 steals. With a lot of energy Nicole Torquato added momentum to the offensive and defensive plays.

SM/SC 8th grade boys (#808) too on St. Isidore's (#811). In a very exciting well played game by both teams SM/SC ran out of gas in the end and lost a tough 54-52 decision to the unbeaten St. Isidore's team. SM/SC used some tenacious full court man-to-man defense to open up the second halfing, which helped to erase a 30-19 halftime deficit and actually take a late fourth quarter lead. The game went back and forth the entire fourth quarter and was filled with extraordinary play by both teams. Offensively SM/SC was led by Justin Olsen with 17 points and 7 assists. Ricky Sarraica also turned in a strong performance with 12 points in which he converted his last 6 consecutive shots. Damarly Drew helped keep SM/SC in the game with his season high 18 rebounds. Defensively it was the whole SM/SC team of Adam Sylvia, Nadeem Gross, Brandon Ganguet, Spencer Mead, Kendrick Huynh, Michael Noble, Justin Olsen, Chris Benavidez, Damarly Drew and Ricky Sarraica all who created some timely turnovers throughout the game.

CYO 8th Grade Girls SM/SC (#8005), the Pride beat CCOP (#8009) 36-18. Down 4 players and their head coach recuperating from open heart surgery, the Pride went into this game knowing they had to bring their best effort to the court. They used beautiful teamwork and did a great job. The leading scorer for the Pride was Cassidy Sherman with 9pts, 7rebs and a steal. Top rebounder was Monica Atkins with 9, she also had 8pts and 3 steals. Allie Parker led in steals with 4. Kris Spalasso turned in her best offensive showing to date with 6pts and 8rebs. Erin Walthall had 7pts, 1reb and 2 steals. Jamie Elliott had 4 pts., 4rebs and Niki Lupu contributed 2pts, 4rebs and 3 steals.

The Hippies (SM/SC #7003) 7th grade girls took on (St. Isidore #7006) and won with a score of 32-20. It was a great effort with each of the girls scoring points. Jennifer

SM/SC #326 third graders Warriors beat SM/SC #328 18-12 in a hard fought battle Sunday. SM/SC #326 top scorer was Eric Pinon with 10 points. Matthew Benavidez played an awesome defense with two blocked shots and 6 steals. Ben Kerling was the top rebounder with 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, and 4 points.

SM/SC 3rd grade girls (#3011) withstood a furious fourth quarter rally by St. Raymond's (#3013) to win 11-8. SM/SC built a 11-2 lead behind 8 points from sharp shooting Adriana Sblendorio and great passing from Maggie Sneed and Savannah Vasquez. Riley Heffron added a bucket and Holly Julson nailed a free throw to round out the scoring for SM/SC. There was no quit in the St. Raymond squad as they scored 6 points in the last two minutes behind the strong play of Michaela Courtemanche, Lauren Flom and Jillian Weber.

SM/SC 1st/ 2nd grade boys 2BN3 vs. 2BN7 offensive standouts for 2BN3 were Brian Mahoney and Jared Stanley. Matthew Riddick and Christian Pitcher played good defense for 2BN7 while Austin Pfeiffer and Alec Lewis contributed on the offensive side. Good defensive efforts for 2BN3 were turned in by De Andre Hawkins and Daniel Sherman.

SM/SC 1st Grade: Offense: Matthew Neufeld, Jacob Peterson; Defense: Tyler Revay, James Rocha; Offense: Connor Livingston, Troy Wentworth; Defense: John Elmore, Joshua Esteva.

California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy competed in the Guard Young High-Tech Invitational hosted by Technique Gymnastics in Rancho Cordova, January 12-13.

RESULTS (by event): LEVEL 5 Age Group: 7-9 yrs old FLOOR - Rex Lueth, 10th place (8.4) POMMEL - Lueth (5.3) RINGS - Lueth (8.2) VAULT - Lueth (5.1) PARALLEL BARS - Lueth (6.1) HIGH BAR - Lueth (7.1) ALL AROUND - Lueth (43.2);

LEVEL 6 Age Group: 9-11 yrs old FLOOR - Eric Beckerman (6.8); Dvir Reif (6.0); Yanni Constantinides (5.5) POMMEL - Beckerman (5.0); Reif (5.0); Constantinides (4.0) RINGS - Beckerman (5.3); Constantinides (3.7); Reif (3.6) VAULT - Beckerman (9.0); Reif (8.7); Constantinides (8.6) PARALLEL BARS - Beckerman, 10th place (7.5); Reif (5.2); Constantinides (5.0) HIGH BAR - Beckerman (7.2); Reif (6.1); Constantinides (6.0) ALL AROUND - Beckerman (40.6); Reif (34.65); Constantinides (32.8);

LEVEL 10 Age Group: 14-15 yrs old FLOOR - Brandon Jessup, 1st place (13.2) POMMEL - Jessup, 3rd place (10.9) RINGS - Jessup, 2nd place (11.9) VAULT - Jessup, 1st place (12.8) PARALLEL BARS - Jessup, 1st place (12.8) ALL AROUND - Jessup, 2nd place (61.6); Age Group: 16-18 yrs old FLOOR - Nick Crowfoot (12.2) RINGS - Crowfoot (9.6) VAULT - Crowfoot (11.8).

PGSL Registration

Registration is still open for all divisions in the 2008 Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play PGSL softball. Two ways to register: 1) Online at www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from our website). For more information visit the PGSL website at www.pleasantonsoftball.org.

Pony Baseball

Pony Baseball is now accepting registrations for the Spring 2008 season. Open to players ages 5-18. Three ways to register: online at www.pleasantonpony.com; download a registration form from the website and mail in or fax to 435-603-7669; or register at All Star Sports on Hopyard Rd. in Pleasanton. For more information, email amo10@comcast.net.

Track and Field

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO track and field is taking sign-ups for the spring season. Registration will be Jan. 17 from 7:30 p.m. at the St. Michael's Parish Hall, corner of Third Street and Maple Street, Livermore. Grades 3 to 8 are welcome. Information, Terri

Hometown Favorite Back for Wine Country Championship

Inaugural Wine Country Championship, is on the list of early commitments, as are former PGA Tour winners Keith Clearwater, Gary Hallberg and Chris Riley. (The field is subject to change.)

The Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship features a total purse of \$600,000, with \$112,500 going to the winner. Competition is 72 holes. The

Herigstad, marstad@aol.com.

Free Skills Clinic

Livermore High School head baseball coach David Perotti, his coaching staff and current LHS Baseball players are hosting a youth baseball clinic for kids of all ages on Saturday January 26. There is no charge. It is from 10:00-1:00 at Livermore High Varsity Field. Donations will be accepted, if people are wanting to help the baseball program. Please call Coach Perotti at (925) 606-4812 x2438 for info on how to sign up, or go to www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball for more info.

Baseball Camp

Tigers Baseball and TrN Training are sponsoring Winter Training Camp 2008. Players from all leagues ages 11-14 are invited to this event.

Winter Training Camp 2008 will be held this year at the Foothill High School Varsity field with proceeds going to support the FHS baseball program. Space is limited to 60 players and the first 40 players to sign-up will be invited to a special private session with Coach Robert "Skip" Claprod Saturday morning.

Players interested in participating in this event should go to the Tigers Baseball website: www.eteamz.com/baseball/tigersbaseball to download the event registration form, fill it out then make a check payable to TrN Training. Mail both check and registration form to Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Road, Pleasanton, CA. 94588;

If the weather is bad this event will move to The Total Player Center in Pleasanton. Registered players will receive an email with directions, location and time changes. Tigers Baseball is a nonprofit baseball program that works in cooperation with well known collegiate coaches and professional players to teach dedicated young players who wish to play baseball at a higher level. The mission of Tigers Baseball is to provide young players with the opportunity to develop and learn the sport of baseball from some of the finest teachers in our area. Tigers Baseball is not affiliated with or in any way associated with the Detroit Tigers or any other Major League Baseball related entity.

East Ave. Basketball

East Avenue 8th grade girls basketball team defeated the Livermore Valley Charter School 46 to 13. The East Avenue team came out firing on all cylinders 14 points in the first quarter. Katy Crash Jones (12 pts, 12 rbs, 2 stls) and Ashley Holmes (8 pts, 8 rbs, 3 stls) scoring a combined 10 points. The second quarter had Alyse Kline (rb, 8 stls) scoring 6 of her 9 points with help from Jamie Elliott knocking down a bucket also. The defense of East worked hard to slow down the Charter school offense with Sami Schiller (3 pts, 5 rbs, 3 stls), McKenzie Hubert (2 pts, 3 rbs), Jessica Beckwith (4 pts, 4 rbs, 2 stls) and Cassidy Sherman (6 pts, 5 rbs, 4 stls) leading the way. Great first game in a packed gym.

The team downed Fallon MS, 50 to 10. The East Avenue team dominated the boards to limit the second shot opportunities with Jessica Beckwith (6 pts, 8 rbs), McKenzie Hubert (6 pts, 5 rbs), Katy Jones (6 pts, 6 rbs, stl) and Ashley Holmes (4 pts, 9 rbs, 2 stls) blocking out nicely all game. Sami Schiller (10 pts, 4 rbs, 5 stls), Jamie Elliott (2 pts, rb, stl), Alyse Kline (10 pts, 2 rbs, 2 stls) and Cassidy Sherman (5 pts, 2 rbs, 4 stls) racked and attacked for the East Avenue Lady Dolphins.

Winter Boot Camp

STRETCH Ministries presents The Third Annual STRETCH Winter Boot Camp. Softball/Baseball Camp for Girls U10 and U12 Prior to December 31st 2008. Boys 10-14 Prior to April 30th 2008. Date: January 25th-27th Valley Community Church Pleasanton/Amador Valley High School 4455 Del Valle Pkwy Pleasanton. Any Questions Email info@gostretch.org or sign up at gostretch.org

Adventure Racing

On January 26, teams of two will gather to compete in Lake Chabot's first-ever adventure race, a multi-sport, off-road competition featuring running/trekking, kayaking and mountain biking. Pleasanton bike shop Cyclepath is putting together the "sprint distance" (which refers to a shorter distance)

event especially for people with little or no adventure racing experience.

Participants must run/trek 1.5 miles, kayak 1.5 miles and mountain bike between 10 to 20 miles, all while collecting points by navigating correctly to collect hidden items at various checkpoints. The race should take teams between two and five hours to complete.

The idea for a local adventure race was hatched on one of the shop's weekly mountain rides at Lake Chabot. The rides are often attended by the Cyclepath-sponsored adventure racing team whose enthusiasm for the sport got other riders excited about trying adventure racing.

The race takes place January 26, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. and starts and ends at the Ranger Station at Lake Chabot in Castro Valley. Registration is \$30 per person and is limited to 50 people (25 teams of two). You must have your own mountain bike and helmet to participate. Kayaks will be provided. To register, visit www.cyclepath.com. You must be 18 years or older to participate.

Prizes will be awarded to all divisions: all male, all female, coed and masters (over 40). Race participants will also receive SWAG (Stuff We All Get) bags with free goodies as well as post-race food and beverages.

Hats Off Run/Walk

The 10th Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Walk on Saturday, will be held on Saturday, February 9. The event begins at 10 a.m. at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville, rain or shine.

Entry fee is \$35 per person. All runners and volunteers will receive a red t-shirt and lunch donated by El Balazo Restaurant. There is no entry fee for volunteers.

For information or to register or volunteer, contact Sparky George at (925) 855-1950 or thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com Visit www.hatsoffamerica.us. The site includes links to other organizations that support our troops. Hats Off America is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Shotgun Scrambles

Pappy Ridge Golf Course will be offering "Sunday Social Shotgun Scrambles" once a month throughout 2008. Golfers have expressed an interest in playing social tournaments, "just for fun" and are not concerned about improving their handicap. They want to meet other golfers to play with as a single golfer or couples.

The Sunday Social Shotgun will include 9-hole green fees and golf cart, family style dinner, themed event and specially priced drink during dinner, starting at 2PM on Sundays with dinner at 5PM for \$75/person.

For those new golfers, a shotgun tournament is formatted, all foursomes tee off simultaneously on every hole. Each player tees off and makes subsequent shots from where best ball lands. There will be contests for everyone. Each shotgun tournament will be a themed event. For more information, call (925) 456-8202.

PGSL Jr. Umpire Training

PGSL is looking for boys and girls in 7th grade or older to become Junior Umpires. This is a way to be part of the games, have fun, earn money, and build confidence at the same time! If interested, email name, address, phone numbers (home & cell), age, grade and any previous experience to Carlos Castaneda, carlosjr62@yahoo.com, or Mark Tanis, mark@tanisinfo.com. Training session will take place in early March. Please visit the PGSL website, www.pleasantonsoftball.org, for additional information.

Golf Benefits Baseball

The baseball program at Livermore High will be hosting the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Poppy Ridge on March 7 at 1:00 p.m. It will be a scramble format with door prizes, cart, lunch and dinner included in the price. There will be a raffle afterwards giving away some great prizes.

The cost is \$155 before Feb. 1st and \$175 after that date. There are also sponsorship opportunities available. For more information, please visit www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball and click on the "Golf Tournament" link at the top or contact David Perotti at 925-606-4812 x2438

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Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Murray Township

The city of Livermore is in Murray Township, the easternmost and largest political division of Alameda County. On January 1853, the township was established by the Court of Sessions and named for Michael Murray, who came west in a wagon train from St. Joseph, Missouri, with his sister, Eleanor (called Ellen), her husband, Jeremiah Fallon, and their two young children. They all had emigrated from County Roscommon, Ireland, and lived for a time on the east coast before deciding to come west. Their wagon train arrived safely in California in October 1846 before the winter snows set in on the passes.

Michael Murray and the Fallons settled first in old adobes abandoned at Mission San José. When the Gold Rush began in 1848, the men went up to the gold mines. Perhaps Murray and Fallon had good luck in the dry diggings at Hang Town, because in November 1850 they each paid \$1,500 to José María Amador for land near today's Dublin. Michael Murray had married Amelia Nash in San Francisco in February. By 1852 each family had moved to its approximately 250-acre holding and begun farming; they specialized in raising sheep. They are listed in the 1852 Contra Costa County census: Michael with his wife, Amelia, and two young sons, ages one and two; Jeremiah and Eleanor with four children, seven and under.

Tom Green, John Green's son, told how Murray and Fallon worked together to build, not the usual adobe of the time, but frame homes. "They hauled the timbers for the frame work and rafters, together with bolts for the shingles, from Redwood Canyon in the redwoods back of Oakland. They split the shingles themselves and even the nails were home made." Fallon and Murray gave four acres of land and helped build both Murray School and St. Raymond's Catholic Church. Michael Murray served as Alameda County supervisor, representing Murray Township, in 1860 and 1861.

Complications arose over the family's land holdings. In 1852, Amador sold the south half of Rancho San Ramon to J.W. Dougherty for \$22,000—including the land he had already sold to the Murrays and Fallons. John Green had squatted on the property now in dispute by Murray and Dougherty. He paid both men for this land in 1862. After Amelia Murray died in March of that year, Michael remarried; he included his house in the sale with Green and moved with his family to San Francisco. He died in the city in September 1881 at age 74 of bronchitis, bequeathing to his family his San Francisco real estate investments.

Michael Murray's nephew, Peter Murray, and his future wife, Margaret Donlon, emigrated separately from Ireland to California in the late 1850s. They married in February 1860 and lived in Dublin until 1862. They claimed 165 acres in the Livermore Valley that year with agricultural college scrip, qualifying for proof in 1872, and claimed an additional 80 acres with a military bounty land warrant proved in 1878. This land was north of Livermore in sections 30 and 31 T2S/R2E. Peter's sister, Mary, also emigrated and married Michael McCollier in Dublin in 1857; they lived on a ranch in Collier Canyon. Two of Peter Murray's sons, Peter J. and Daniel J., worked as butchers in Livermore. A third son, Michael Raymond Murray, married Mary Elizabeth Fallon, daughter of William J. and Anne Coppinger Fallon, who had come to this country in the 1870s from County Galway, not from County Roscommon as had Jeremiah and Eleanor Fallon. The Galway Fallon family acquired land along what is now called Fallon Road. By the 1900 census, they had 10 children; Mary Elizabeth was the oldest.

The specialty at Peter and Margaret Murray's ranch on sections 30 and 31 was raising large work horses, which they sold to drayage firms in San Francisco and Oakland. "They had their own stud, they raised their own colts, broke the horses, trained the teams." A grandson of the Murray/Fallon marriage, Michael Richard "Mike" Murray, remembered that his great-uncle William Fallon had an almost magic touch in training horses and dogs on the ranch, "even to his dying day."

The Murrays also raised hay, and their nephews, the three bachelor Fallon brothers of Mary Elizabeth, would come over to the Murray place for two or three weeks to help with the haying. William "Skipper" Fallon was one of them. According to Mike Murray, the Fallon brothers "usually had a jug of wine on whatever rig they were running. It was a gallon jug with a burlap sack sewed on it. And they'd soak the sack in the trough overnight so it'd be nice and wet and then they'd put the port wine in there and they'd carry that all day. Well, (one day) Skipper never came in for lunch. And you know, lunch in those days, that was like a sacred thing. Everybody came in to lunch. So they went looking for him. And there's the horses up on the hill where Skipper was running the rake, but the horses are stopped, and Skipper's down in the rake with the hay. Got a bit saturated and fell off his seat, and the horses kept going, and he hollered 'Whoa,' and they stopped, but he was scuffed up. I remember he was really scuffed, 'cause he got drug in that rake."

In 1902, Pleasanton Township was carved from the west end of the original Murray Township. Descendants of Peter Murray sold his original acreage north of Livermore to Las Positas College last year.

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

Festivities Planned in Pleasanton To Celebrate Chinese New Year

To celebrate the 2008 Chinese New Year and promote Chinese cultural heritage, Chinese American Cooperation Council (CACC) will host the 5th Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day on February 17, at Amador Theater and Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

This annual event has become the largest Chinese community event and a great tradition in the Tri-Valley area since it was first introduced in 2004.

This year's celebration features three programs:

- Major Regional Chinese Cuisine Competition and New

Year Pot-luck Luncheon: 12:00pm to 2:00pm, Amador Valley High School. Pre-registration required at www.caccusa.org.

- Festival Gathering, Vendor Booths, and Carnival Games: 2:30pm to 5:00pm, Amador Valley High School. Free Admission.

- Evening Gala: 7:00pm to 9:30pm, Amador Theater. Ticket (\$10-\$15) sales is on in Chinese School office on Sundays. Online/mail ticket ordering is also available. Please check details at www.caccusa.org or call Lina at 925-249-1298.

Annual Crab Feed Benefit for Animal Rescue Group

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR) will host the 3rd Annual Crab Feed on Sat., Feb. 2, from 6-10 p.m.

This will be a fun evening of all-you-can-eat crab, salad, pasta, French bread, dessert and coffee/tea. A no host bar will

also be available. The event is being held at the Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore.

The evening will include live and silent auctions and a cash drawing (\$1 per ticket - winner need not be present). Funds

raised from this event support TVAR's mission to rescue homeless animals through providing medical treatment, a low-cost spay/neuter program and a foster program that provides temporary homes for homeless animals.

The Raving Dave's Band will

provide live music for dancing or just listening. Dinner tickets are \$50 after that time. Buy online [tvvar.org](http://www.tvvar.org) or send payment to TVAR, P. O. 11143, Pleasanton, CA 94588. For more information, please contact Cindy at 925-828-8664 or Susan at 925-337-4946

OBITUARIES

Henry "Hank" Lawrence Bettencourt

Late Tuesday evening January 8, 2008, the lord called home a great cowboy and Livermore resident, Henry "Hank" Lawrence Bettencourt. He was 77. Henry passed away at his ranch from cancer of the pancreas and complications of Diabetes.

He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years Juleda Bettencourt, son John Bettencourt, sister Helen Dickson, brother-in-law Julius Favilla (all of Livermore) and his brother Bill Bettencourt of Auburn, CA, as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins throughout northern California.

A lifetime Livermore resident and proud rancher Henry was born at St. Paul's Hospital to John and Ellen Bettencourt on October 12, 1930. He was then taken home to his family's ranch just north of Livermore where he would spend the rest of his life. He was raised in a family with three sets of twins, his brothers Bill and Bobby, Pete and Paul and his twin sister Helen. Henry always had a great love and respect for his mother, who raised the family alone after his father's death in 1936.

He attended the Highland School and then Graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in Danville. As a young man, Hank cowboied on many of the local ranches in Danville, Livermore and Brentwood, as well as his family's ranch in Livermore. Much of that time was spent on the Ordway ranch off old Vasco Road, which is now under the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. He would later lease that ranch to run his own cattle in the 1970's and 80's.

Henry served with the 24th division of the U.S. Army in the Korean war, the only time he left his ranch for an extended period and the two coldest years of his life. Upon returning home in 1954 he raised cattle and worked the ranch with his mother until her passing in 1955, and his brother Bobby until his passing in 1957. He then took over the ranch thus keeping it in his family for over 100 years. He named it "The Open Diamond," where he went on to raise many good horses and Border Collie dogs, several sheep and cattle and one very grateful son.

In 1959 Hank went to a round-up at Chris Bettencourt's and met Juleda Favilla. They were married June 21, 1968. He claimed, he fell in love with her the first day he met her and it would stay that way for the rest of his life. Although they vacationed twice to Alaska and several short trips with their senior citizens club, Hank always preferred to be at his home with his family and his animals, a kind and honest man who will be forever missed by the people who were lucky enough to cross his path.

A funeral mass will be celebrated at 1 p.m. on Thurs., Jan. 17 at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore.

Dorothy Micheli

Mrs. Dorothy Micheli, a native of Oakland and 83 year resident of Livermore, died January 10, 2008 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore. She was 89.

Dorothy attended Livermore schools. She was a parishioner of St. Michael's Church of Livermore; a member of Young Ladies Institute, The Golden Friends, St. Michael's Mother's Club, and United Ancient Order of Druids. Dorothy worked for 17 years at Safeway as a meat wrapper, retiring in 1968. She was a member of the Meat Wrapper's Union.

Dorothy's hobbies included crocheting, bingo, Reno-Tahoe trips, card parties and her excellent cooking including her famous cookies.

She is survived by her son, John Micheli of Livermore, grandchildren Frank (Cindy) Micheli of Livermore, Kathy (John) Luppe of Tennessee, Tim (Donna) Lehman, Jeff (Diane) Lehman of Michigan, William (Debbie) Rose of Livermore; nine great grandchildren and two

great great grandchildren, a sister, Alice Deck of Auburn, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Frank Micheli in 1996 and a daughter, Pat Allison in 1998.

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated January 16 at St. Michael's Church in Livermore. Burial followed at St. Michael's Cemetery in Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Armand R. Drivon, Jr.

Armand R. Drivon Jr. passed away on January 11, 2008 in Livermore, California, at the age of 43.

He will be missed and remembered always by his family and dear friends. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Ana Drivon; his mother Georgette Wallis, sister Natalie Paridy; in-laws of Mario and Mary Blanco; brother-in-law of Teresa, Mario Jr. and Leticia Blanco; nieces and nephews, Davey Castle, Ashley Blanco, Josefina Blanco-Macias, Nikko and Alexis Blanco-Barron and two goddaughters Erica Vera and Victoria Blanco. He touched many lives with his positive outlook and great sense of humor.

Friends and Family are invited to a memorial service on Saturday, January 19 at 1 p.m. at the Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton.

Albert (Ray) Rodrigues

Livermore native Albert R. (Ray) Rodrigues passed away suddenly January 9, 2008 at the family ranch. He was 64.

Born at St. Paul's Hospital in Livermore, Feb. 18, 1943 to Alfred John and Evelyn Worth Rodrigues, Ray lived in Oakland as a child. He spent weekends and summers at his grandparent's ranch on Mines Road. He graduated from Castlemont High School in Oakland. After Ray and his father built a house on the family property in 1970, he moved there with his first wife Carlyn and their small children to enjoy country life. They lived on the ranch for many years, moving back into town in 1975. After he and Marilyn married, they moved to the ranch where they resided for 28 years.

Ray was a quiet man who didn't talk much. However, anyone could call on him for anything and he was right there doing whatever was needed. He was extremely proud of his Portuguese heritage and the fact that he was a native born Californian. He was an active member of Las Positas Parlor No. 96 of the Native Sons of the Golden West for 25 years.

When his daughters and step-daughter were involved in 4-H, he was swine leader for Crane Ridge 4-H Club and also volunteered as a barn supervisor during the Alameda County Fair. He enjoyed country music and was an avid muscle car fan. He was going to start the restoration of his 1967 Mustang after he retired this coming February.

Ray worked for GC Gas Division for PG&E for 28 years. After recovering from an injury he retired from PG&E and worked for Roadrunner Dawes Transportation in Livermore for 14 years.

He is survived by his wife Marilyn, daughters Sandra Lynn Rodrigues of Tracy, Renee Elin Sanchez of Gilbert, AZ, Karen Ray Rodrigues of Hollister and Kim Burnett of Flagstaff, AZ; grandchildren Kent Rinker and Tiana Sanchez of Gilbert, AZ, and Brandon Rodrigues of Tracy. He is also survived by former wife Carlyn (Bill) Eaton of Campbell, mother-in-law Mabelle

Thornburg of Livermore and many cousins and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister.

Friends and family are invited to visitation 5 to 8 p.m. on Fri., Jan. 18. There will be a memorial service at 1 p.m. Mon., Jan. 21 at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Native Sons of the Golden West Charitable Foundation, 414 Mason St., Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94102 or a favorite charity.

Roseline Ferreira

Roseline Ferreira passed away on January 10, 2008 in Tracy. She was 92.

She was born in San Jose and lived in Livermore for 56 years.

She is the mother of Delores Henriques and son-in-law Alfred, grandmother of Jill Warburton and husband Kent of Marietta, GA, and Molly Watkins and husband Kenny of Linden, and great-grandmother of Kenneth and Elisabeth Watkins. She is survived by a sister Evelyn Bettencourt of Vernalis, brother Jack Cabral of Fremont and caregivers Maria and John Santos of Tracy. She was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Peter.

Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at noon on Sat., Jan. 19 at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Burial will follow at St. Michael's Cemetery in Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Norma Jeanne Motta

Norma Jeanne Motta a native of Bristol, Rhode Island and a resident of Livermore since 1952 died January 7, 2008 at the age of 79 in Walnut Creek.

Mrs. Motta was a telephone operator at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 14 years, retiring in 1984. She was a member of the Retired Telephone Operators. She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church where she taught CCD and served as former President of the school PTA.

Mrs. Motta is survived by her children; JoAnn (Marshall "Mo") Motta Owen of Livermore, Patricia Scoville, Minnesota, Brian Motta of Livermore, Phillip (Heather) Motta of Truckee; grandchildren: Steve and Michael Bruan, Hope Arlt, Samantha and Amanda Motta; great grandchildren: Steven Jr. and Nathan Bruan, Cullen Wheaton, Peyton Bruan, Logan and Ciarra Arlt, Stephanie Owen; niece Lori Martin and great niece Lindsay Martin. She was preceded in death by her husband Augustine "Bud" Motta in 2000.

Friends and family are invited to attend the visitation Thurs. January 17, 2008 3-8:30 pm at the Chapel of Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, with vigil services to commence at 7:00 pm. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated Friday January 18, 1:00 pm at St. Michael's Church 458 Maple St. Livermore. Funeral Procession will depart Callaghan's at 12:45 pm. Burial will be at St. Michael's Cemetery.

Contributions in Mrs. Motta's name can be made to the American Diabetes Association or to St. Vincent De Paul Society care of St. Michael's Church.

Eva Inga-Lisa Cassell

Eva Inga-Lisa Cassell was taken unexpectedly on January 4, 2008. She was 72.

Lisa was born in Almsele, Sweden in 1936 and immigrated

to the United States in 1964. She settled in Livermore, where she remained until her death. Lisa came to Livermore as a caretaker to the six children of Donal Cassell, whom she married in 1965. Together they had one daughter: Eva Marie. Lisa worked for 14 years at Clorox in Pleasanton. Most recently, she enjoyed working at the Senior Center in the Robert Livermore Community Center.

Lisa enjoyed traveling, cooking, gardening, walking, reading, watching movies, volunteering in her community, and spending time with friends and family.

She is preceded in death by her father, Robert Salomon Sjodin, mother Edia Aurora Ingeborg (Jonsson) Sjodin, and sister Charlotte Sjodin. She is survived by brothers Anders and Lars-Olov Sjodin, sisters Yvonne Petersson, Birgitta Andersson and Lillemon Skoglund, daughter Eva Cassell, and stepchildren Gary Cassell, Delanie Cassell, Donna (Homi) Vazifdar, Cristen Cassell, Loelynn (Michael) Weddle, and Laura Cassell, grandchildren, Cyrus and Brian Vazifdar and Mark Frydendal (Laura's son), and many nieces and nephews in Sweden.

Her family wishes to acknowledge Lisa for her courage, strength and commitment in raising seven children. Her playful humor, warm smile and comforting hugs will be greatly missed.

A celebration of Lisa's life will be held from noon to 4 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 26 at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations in memory of Lisa to the local blood bank.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Megan Renae Whipple

Megan Renae Whipple passed on January 3, 2008 at Children's Hospital in Oakland. She was nine and a half years old.

She is survived by her parents Richard and Laura Whipple of Livermore, brother Michael Conley, sister-in-law Kristie, and niece Amanda, all of Buckeye, AZ. Megan is loved by many grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Jennie Martinez.

Megan was born with cerebral palsy and an autoimmune disease. However, it did not prevent her parents from providing her with a full and exciting life. They introduced her to kayaking and bicycling. She loved to travel, especially to Hawaii and New Mexico. She loved to be read to and enjoyed listening to music with her favorite being Hawaiian music.

Megan brought joy to everyone who crossed her path. She had a smile that would light up a room, an infectious laugh, and a funny and loving personality.

A celebration of her life will be held at 4 p.m. Fri., Jan. 18 at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore.

Contributions can be made to Children's Hospital Foundation in memory of Megan, or to Asbury United Methodist Church Megan Whipple Endowment Fund.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

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Dane Cervine (left) and John Rowe guest poets.

Century House Poetry Reading Set for Feb. 3

Pleasanton Poet Laureate Martha Meltzer will host the next in the Century House Poetry Reading series on Sunday, February 3, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Two guest poets, Dane Cervine and John Rowe, will entertain.

Century House is located at 2401 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton. Admission is \$5.

More than 100 of Dane Cervine's poems have appeared in various journals, including *The Hudson Review*, *The Sun* and the *Atlanta Review*. His poem, *The Jeweled Net of Indra*, was chosen as the winning entry in the 2005 National Writers Union competition, and his poem, *Holography*, was chosen for honorable mention. *Accordions & Shotgun* was a finalist for the Wabash Prize for Poetry and appeared in *Purdue University's Sycamore Review* (Winter/Spring 2005). Dane Cervine lives in Santa Cruz, Calif. where he is a therapist as well as a poet and a member of the Emerald Street Writers in Santa Cruz. His new book, *The Jeweled Net of Indra*, was published in 2007 by Plain View Press.

John Rowe's poems have appeared in numerous publications, including *Bay Area Poets Seasonal Review*, *Brevities*, *GRRRRR-A Collection of Poems About Bears*, *Carquinez Poetry Review*, *Minotaur*, *Poetry Depth Quarterly*, and *Remembering* (an anthology of Poets' Dinner contest winners). His chapbook, *At My Wit's Beginning*, has received many awards for poetry, including a grand prize in the *Dancing Poetry Festival Contest 2002*. A San Francisco East Bay native, Rowe is a regular participant in the local poetry scene. He serves as president of the Bay Area Poets Coalition and associate editor of *Poetalk* magazine.

An open mic segment will follow when aspiring and accomplished poets of all ages will be invited to read a favorite or original poem of 40 lines or less.

Light refreshments will be served during intermission. For more information, contact Michelle Russo at (925) 931-5350 or

George Winston Concert Will Benefit Open Heart Kitchen

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents award-winning pianist George Winston at the Bankhead Theater on Wednesday, January 23rd at 8pm.

In his first concert appearance in Livermore, Winston will perform songs from his latest CD, *Gulf Coast Blues and Impressions - A Hurricane Relief Benefit*, along with selections from his seasonal favorites *Autumn*, *December*, *Winter into Spring* and *Summer*, and his *Forest and Plains* recordings, played in his melodic folk piano style. He also plays some of Vince Guaraldi's *Peanuts* pieces, as well as New Orleans R&B piano, stride piano and more.

Winston, best known for his melodic rural folk piano style, has made no secret of the debt his playing owes to the musicians of New Orleans. *Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions - A Hurricane Relief Benefit* was inspired by Winston's desire to support the Gulf Coast after the recent hurricane related devastation.

Winston cites the pianists of New Orleans as the biggest influences on his own piano playing. He is donating his artist royalties from the album to organizations involved in helping those on the Gulf Coast and in New Orleans to rebuild and return. In unity with the artist, RCA Records will donate the bulk of its net profits from the album to benefit musicians in the New Orleans area.

Winston's concert in Liver-

more will also benefit the Tri-Valley's Open Heart Kitchen.

Open Heart Kitchen will conduct a food drive. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring donations of small cheese and cracker packets, granola bars, single packets of cookies, and nuts. The organization will be collecting these non-perishable items at the concert. In addition, Winston will donate a portion of the receipts from CDs sold before and after the concert to the Open Heart Kitchen. This food drive will benefit Open Heart's box lunch program.

Each Friday during the school week, Open Heart Kitchen volunteers distribute close to 900 box lunches to elementary school children who receive subsidized lunches during the week so they will have something for the weekend. Open Heart Kitchen, a non-profit agency, is dedicated to providing nutritious prepared food to families and individuals in need in Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin. A small staff and hundreds of generous volunteers prepare and serve over 3,500 meals every week.

The Bankhead Theater ticket office is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore, and is open Monday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the ticket office remains open through intermission. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800, or visit the LVPAC website at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

CVB Photo Contest Winners Announced

The Tri-Valley, California Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) has selected a photo by Marc Crumpler of Livermore as the grand prize winner of the CVB's first "Show Us Your Roots" photo contest.

Crumpler's entry, entitled "Tree at Sunset," took the top prize of \$600. Kevin Wright and Jill Farrell placed second and third, and will be awarded \$250 and \$150 respectively. Prizes were presented to all winners at the CVB's 11th Annual Tri-Valley Regional Mixer. "It's been great combining my two favorite pastimes, photography and hiking," said Crumpler. "And it's a great honor to have placed in the Tri-Valley CVB photography contest."

A total of 108 photos were submitted for consideration. Photos were judged on a variety of factors including, composition, arrangement, focus, sharpness, lighting, creativity, imagination and impact. The professional panel of judges included Linda Birch, art director for *Diablo Custom Publishing*, Stephanie Secrest, photographer for the *East Bay Business Times*, and Amy Blaschka, president & CEO of the Tri-Valley, California CVB.

Crumpler has been a resident of Livermore for more than 20 years. His hobbies include hiking in the hills and parks surrounding Tri-Valley, and photography.

Winning photos can be viewed online at www.trivalleycvb.com.

Nominee for Best Picture
The Kite Runner (PG-13)
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 Tues - Thurs: 2:20 4:50 7:20

Nominee for Best Picture & Best Director
No Country for Old Men (R)
 Playing Fri - Mon: 1:45 4:30 7:00
 Tues - Thurs: 2:30 5:00 7:30

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'Dune' Chosen for Community Reading Program

The Livermore Public Library will hold its second annual "Livermore Reads Together" community-wide reading program in 2008. The read will feature the science fiction series *Dune*.

The community of Livermore is encouraged to read one of the books in the Frank Herbert, Brian Herbert, or Kevin J. Anderson series. There will be book discussions and free events for children and adults during the month of February 2008. Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations.

Dune, an award winner written in 1965, is considered to be one of the greatest science fiction novels of all time - an entirely new kind of science fiction that combined futurism with a self-contained new world, an elaborate plot, and intricately developed characters. Frank Herbert subsequently penned five *Dune* books, and inspired numerous sequels, a film adaptation, two television mini-series,

games, and more.

The stories in the *Dune* series reflect the major events that shape the world today: a civilization dependant on the sparse resources in a remote region controlled by religious fanatics. Like all great literature, the stories in the series encourage discussion on weighty issues such as the role of family in politics, man's relationship with God, and what it means to be human.

Livermore Reads Together: The Dune Books is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Public Library. For additional events check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us. For more information contact Rosemary Dukelow at 925-373-5514.

Some of the special programs include:

Sci Fi B-Movie Night Cat-Women of the Moon hosted by Will the Thrill of Parkway Theater's Thrillville on Saturday, February 2, 7pm at the Civic Center Library

Family Storytime: Far Out People! Saturday, February 9, 11 am at the Springtown Branch Library

Planetarium of the Stars Portable planetarium, courtesy of Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Saturday, February 9 noon-4:30pm and Sunday, February 10 1pm-5:30 pm at the Civic Center Library

The Artists' Universe International Association of Astronomical Artists, an exhibition of 32 astronomical artworks on display during February at the Civic Center Library Gallery.

Witness to Roswell, Donald R. Schmitt, author of *Witness to Roswell: Unmasking the 60-Year-Cover-Up*, Tuesday, February 12, 7pm, Civic Center Library.

The Science of Dune, Kevin Grazier, author of *The Science of Dune: An Unauthorized Exploration into the Real Science Behind Frank Herbert's Fictional Universe*, Sunday, February 17, 2pm Civic Center Library.

Anime in Science Fiction;

Gilles Poitras, author of *Anime Essentials: Every Thing a Fan Needs to Know* will discuss and present his work of anime in science fiction. Bob Borden, owner and manager of *Fantasy Books and Games* in Livermore, will be at the program to show some of his best works of manga graphic novels. Thursday, February 21, 7pm Civic Center Library.

Dune-Scape Game Fest, a RuneScape® Gaming Event for Young Adults. Register for "Dune-Scape" in the Youth Services Department. Children 12 and under will need a parent present to start a new account. Saturday February 23, 10am-4pm Civic Center Library

Space Music by Robert Rich; Electronic ambient music, Saturday February 23, 2pm Civic Center Library

An Exploration of Dune: A discussion with Kevin J. Anderson, author of *Sandworms of Dune*, and other *Dune* series books, Sunday, February 24, 2pm, Civic Center Library.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Chinese New Year Stage Gala, Sunday, February 17, 7 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. The Chinese American Cooperation Council (CACC), a non-profit organization based in the Tri-Valley area, will present a full stage show featuring traditional and modern Chinese performances in celebration of the Lunar New Year. Tickets are \$15 and \$10. To order tickets online or by mail, please check details at www.caccusa.org. (925)249-1298.

Volunteer ushers are being sought by the City of Pleasanton for the Amador Theater. After a brief hiatus, renovating the theatrical lighting system,

and completing a full makeover of our lobby, the Theater is back up and running, with a full slate of programming through July 2008. Anyone interested in supporting the performing arts in the community, contact Amador Theater House Manager, Larry Valenzin at 931-3472 or lvalenzin@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Auditions are scheduled for City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company production of *The Boxcar Children*, a play adapted from the classic children's series by Gertrude Chandler Warner. All auditions will take place at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Auditions for youth will take place

on Monday, February 4, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. for ages 7-9; at 7:30 p.m. for ages 10-12; and at 8:30 p.m. for ages 13-16. Auditions for youth 17 years and older and adults will take place on Tuesday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m. Call backs will be held on Wednesday, February 6, by invitation. Adults and children who wish to audition should dress comfortably and be prepared to have fun. They will be asked to read from the script with some improvisation. This is a non-union production and offers no pay. The *Boxcar Children* will be directed by Andy Jorgensen and Paula Wujek. Rehearsals are scheduled for Monday-Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:30 p.m., beginning Monday, February 11, and some Saturdays during March and April. Performances will take place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton, on April 18-20, 22-24 (daytime performances) and April 25-27, 2008. Scripts and other forms are available online at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us. For more information, contact Michelle Russo at (925) 931-5350 or mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Pleasanton Art League, Livermore Art Association, general meeting 7:30 p.m. Mon., Jan. 21, Cultural Arts Bldg., 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Tricia Poulos Leonard will present a demonstration on acrylic painting. No admission charge.

The Art of Our Past, Jan. 21, 1 p.m. St. Matthews Baptist Church, 1239 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Featuring mezzo soprano Rachel Waiters, pianist Kanako Nishi and saxophonist Emit Collins in a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration. Includes Black History exhibits by "Grandmothers Who Help, Inc." Dessert reception to follow. RSVP at 606-7230.

The Wizard of Oz, Pleasanton Playhouse musical production, Jan. 18-Feb. 3, 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat. (except Feb. 2), and 2 p.m. Sun. and Feb. 2, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. tickets at 462-2121, www.pleasantonplayhouse.com.

Friends of the Vineyards, annual meeting 7 to 9 p.m. Wed., Jan. 23, Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. David Everett, Las Positas College, is the guest speaker. He will discuss the research vineyard and classes on food and wine pairing at the college. Information www.vov.org.

Student Art Exhibit, Alamo-Danville Artists Society, January 25-27, showcases work by high school students from the San Ramon Valley School District. This exhibit will be downtown at the Pioneer Art Gallery, 524 Hartz Ave, Danville. Awards ceremony & reception are on Sunday, January 27 (3-6pm).

8th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Breakfast, Mon., Jan. 28, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Pleasanton Plaza Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd., Pleasanton. Featuring Assemblyman Guy Houston; hosted by the Tri-Valley YMCA. \$40 per person. Information, call Marilyn Casper at 475-6108 or go to mcasper@ymcaeastbay.org.

Pulp Writer: Twenty Years in the American Grub Street, Jan. 30, 7 p.m. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Free admission. Arts & Authors series. 373-

5505.
Amador Valley High School Drama's 4th Annual Middle School Drama Festival January 28, at Amador's Second Stage/multipurpose room. All middle school students are welcome, no matter what their drama experience. Fee of \$20. Information, contact Ms. Hartman, Amador Drama Director, by email at khartman@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

The Great American Trailer Park Musical, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 24, 25, 26, at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, January 27, at 2:00 p.m. The performance will take place at the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, 715 Central Avenue, between Seventh and Eighth Streets, in downtown Tracy. Tickets are \$40, \$45, \$55, \$60 & \$65. They can be purchased online at www.atthegrand.org by phone at (209) 831-6TKT (6858) or in person at the Grand Theatre Center for Arts Box Office. Box office hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and one hour prior to each performance.

New Orleans Bash at the Bothwell Arts Center, Sat., Feb. 9 from 6 to 10 p.m. The evening includes Louisiana-style food, various beverages, "Preservation Hall" style concert featuring the Gumbo Band at 7 p.m. (limited seating). New Orleans party music and dancing, "Royal Street" featuring collector's masks, artists and street vendors as well as palm reading and fortune telling. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street Livermore. There is a \$10 cover charge in advance, \$15 at the door, which includes one beverage; a \$20 cover charge includes Preservation Hall jazz concert and one beverage. Purchase tickets in advance at the Bankhead Theater Ticket Office, 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore, call 373-6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

One Nation Under Blog by The Second City will appear at the Amador Theater on Saturday, February 2, at 8:00 p.m. The Second City has spawned such renowned comedians as Bill Murray, Dan Ackroyd, Gilda Radner and John Candy. The show is appropriate for Adult Audiences. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host. \$20, \$25 & \$30. www.civictickets.org or 931-3444.

Artist Sally Haig has a show at the Tri-Valley, California Convention & Visitors Bureau through February 8, 2008. It is called, "Loving Life in the Valley, a Painter's View" and includes landscapes of the vineyards, foothills and oak trees that grace the tri-valley area. The Visitor's Bureau's hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office is located at 349 Main Street, Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA. (925) 846-8910. www.sallyhaig.com.

Surf-N-Turf exhibit, Alan Ryall & Catherine Lindberg; meet these two oil painters at reception on Saturday, January 19th (4-7pm), Pioneer Art Gallery and Studios, 524 Hartz Ave., Danville. Hours: Fri 3-7pm, Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 1-5pm. Operated by the Alamo Danville Artists Society.

Jesse and the Rippers Perform at Library

Jesse and the Rippers will perform a program of Jazz in California at the Pleasanton Library on Jan. 19 starting at 8 p.m.

Jesse Scheinin, 18-year-old tenor saxophonist and composer born and raised in Santa Cruz, now attends Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. He has studied with Dann Zinn, Mark Sowlakis, Victor Morosco, and Hal Crook. He plays thoughtful, well-structured solos that belie his youth. His sound

conjures a lexicon of saxophonists from Ben Webster to Michael Brecker.

Jesse and his band - Alex Wintz on guitar, Julian Smith on bass, and Hamir Atwal on drums - will perform an evening of original jazz. His music can be heard at www.jessescheinin.com.

All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required.

For more information, call Teresa Parham, 931-3400.

Artists Invited to Create Work From 400-Year-Old Oak Tree

The 400 year old tree that was at the entry of Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore was felled by the recent storms.

Local artisans will be paying tribute to this fine old tree by taking pieces of the wood and creating artistic works, furniture, and other creative endeavors to be on exhibit in July.

Anyone that is interested in being part of this exhibit can go to Alden Lane during business hours and pick up a piece of the tree before March 1. The wood

will be given out on a first come first served basis.

The exhibit will be up during the Livermore Art Association's annual "Art Under The Oaks" that will be held on July 12-13 at Alden Lane Nursery.

There is no fee to participate in the Memorial Tree Project, just a commitment to help honor the memory of this wonderful old tree. For more information, call Linda Jeffery Sailors at (925) 449-7274.

PROJECT

(continued from page one)
 that the Bus Obscura be in Livermore during the California Independent Film Festival, if possible.

The Bus Obscura project replaces the Art Takes Place program. Each of the Valley cities had approved \$30,000 to finance Art Takes Place, which was envisioned as a year-long celebration of the arts in the Valley. However, private funding failed to materialize, forcing the organizers, the Dublin Fine Art Foundation, to propose a scaled back art experience.

Marchand declared that he had been a vocal proponent of Art Takes Place as first proposed. "It didn't happen. We have to settle for something really small." He said people he had talked to felt that the \$10,000 could be put to better use. For example, a real bus could be hired to take kids to a program at the Bankhead Theater, or, the money could be used to present an art assembly at every school.

He wondered how many people would actually participate in Bus Obscura.

Jeff Williams felt it would be fair to ask a representative of the arts council to explain why they feel this project is the best use of the money.

Mayor Marshall Kamena declared, "I'm happy being an art

critic after what John (Marchand) said. This is a little different from the ordinary item. Someone should be here to defend the proposal."

Both Doug Horner and Marj Leider felt most comfortable continuing the item and giving the arts council an opportunity to discuss the project.

Horner stated, "I'm not willing to immediately reject it. I would rather continue the item to the next meeting and find out from the arts council why they want it and what purpose it would serve. If they don't show up to defend the project, we have our answer."

ENERGY FROM SEWAGE

The city council approved an agreement with Loganenergy to allow cogeneration of electrical power at the water reclamation plant using digester gas.

Loganenergy would construct and operate a fuel cell cogeneration at the plant. It would sell the power to the city of Livermore. The plant is expected to generate over 4 million kilowatts per year of electrical power. It is expected to save the city approximately \$1.6 million over the projected cost of purchasing power from PG&E.

Councilmember Leider commented, "I think it's a great idea."

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 First Street 443-SHOW	
CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) DLP	12:15 2:45 5:00 7:30 9:50		
27 DRESSES (PG-13) DLP	1:15 4:00 6:50 9:40		
MAD MONEY (PG-13) DLP	1:30 4:15 6:50 9:15		
THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13) DLP	12:05 2:25 4:40 7:15 9:40		
NATIONAL TREASURE 2 (PG) DLP	12:20 3:30 6:40 9:45		
JUNO (PG-13) DLP	12:05 2:20 4:50 7:05 9:30		
ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) DLP	12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:35		
WATER HORSE (PG) DLP	1:00 4:10 6:45 9:20		
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) DLP	4:50 7:10 9:25		
PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING (G) DLP	12:00 2:15		
ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) DLP	12:10 2:20 4:55 7:25 9:30		
FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) DLP	12:00 2:15 4:35 6:55 9:15		
ATONEMENT (R) DLP	1:10 3:50 6:40 9:25		
I AM LEGEND (PG-13) DLP	12:30 2:50 5:15 7:30 9:50		

BANKHEAD THEATER

THE WIZARD OF OZ
 Pleasanton Playhouse
 January 18-20, 25-27, February 1-3 • 2 & 8pm
 \$21, \$29, \$31

ALBERS TRIO
 Presented by Del Valle Fine Arts
 February 2 • 8pm • \$19, \$24, \$29

MOZART AND BARTOK
 Pacific Chamber Symphony Concert
 February 8 • 8pm • \$26, \$32, \$38

*** LLNL SCIENCE ON SATURDAY ***
 Geothermal Energy: Harnessing the Heat Beneath Your Feet
 February 9 • 9:30 & 11:15am
 Free Lecture Series for Middle & High School Students

SAILORS GOTTA DANCE
 Livermore Amador Symphony
 February 9 • 8pm • \$21, \$26, \$31

2400 First Street, Livermore
 For tickets 925-373-6800
www.livermoreperformingarts.org

BULLETIN BOARD

Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1188, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included.

Youth volunteers needed. Tri Valley Youth Court (TVYC) is looking for high school student volunteers to serve as jurors and court clerks. TVYC meets the first Tuesday on each month at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton from 5:45 - 8:00 pm. For more information, visit our website at www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com.

US-Photo Group meets Tuesday Jan. 22, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. If you love taking pictures as much as we do, come and join us. No need to be professional, novices are welcome. Presenting how to shoot on cloudy days, wildlife, sports, panoramas and most important... what the light meter really does and how to use it with the Ansel Adams' Zone System. Also, if time permits, a showing of exceptional images from National Geographic. Questions, call Kerry at 925-449-6391.

27th Annual Crab Feed. Foothill Band Boosters on Friday, February 1. No host bar and silent auction 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., Sunol Valley Golf Club. Entertainment by Foothill Jazz Band. Tickets are \$40 per person and will be available until January 15, 2008. Contact forman@ixnet.com for ticket information. For more information on this event contact Foothill High School at 925-461-6600, or Becky Yeffa, 426-2347 or byeffa@aol.com.

New Student Information Night. St. Michael's School, February 7, 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's School is a K-8 Catholic school that has been providing a Catholic education in the Tri-Valley since 1913. Faculty and parents will be on hand to provide information and to answer questions. The program will take place in the kindergarten classroom, 345 Maple Street, Livermore, 925-447-1888. Open House will be on Feb. 13th at 7:00 PM and this will provide an opportunity to visit the classrooms and meet with teachers.

Booklegger Volunteers Needed. Bookleggers present book programs to the schoolchildren of Pleasanton. Volunteers are needed: if you are interested in bringing together books, children and libraries through community service, join the Pleasanton Bookleggers. Training classes are set to begin February 6th at 7:00pm at the Pleasanton Library. The Booklegger Program is a literacy program supported by the City of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Unified School District. For more information about the Booklegger Program please call Chris Spitzel, Booklegger Coordinator, at 925/931-3400 x26.

Livermore Library Board meeting 7 p.m. Thurs., Jan. 24 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Jan. 19, 62 miles American River to Folsom Lake, meet 10 a.m. at Discovery

Park in Old Town Sacramento, Mike Smith, 628-4333. Sun., Jan. 20, 60 miles, Petaluma and beyond with stop at Freestone Bakery, meet 10 a.m. in Walnut Park, Edith Norby, 707-748-1508. Wed., Jan. 23, 40 miles Franklin Canyon Park and Ride to Pig Farm Hill then over Three Bears, meet 10 a.m. at park and ride lot on Franklin, Donna Cerri, 229-2567. Thurs., Jan. 24, 14 miles hilly ride from Castro Valley to Hayward campus of Cal State, meet 10 a.m. at tennis courts on Cull Canyon Rd., Linda Longinotti, 510-313-2631. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Runaway Sale. First Presbyterian Church, 451 So. K St., Livermore, Feb. 1 and 2, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Title VII Indian Education Program. public hearing on grant application set for Tues., Jan. 22, 7 p.m. American Indian Center, 298 Union Ave., Livermore. The public is invited to attend. Goal is to meet the academic and cultural needs of American Indian students in local public schools in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol. Additional information, call Mary Puthoff at 606-3405.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Story, a 1965 Academy award winning documentary, will be shown at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin on Sat., Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. Meet & greet begins at 6:30 PM. A short discussion follows the film. The event is free/ \$3.00 donations accepted, refreshments are served, and the hall is wheelchair accessible. Eleanor was the conscience of a generation, working tirelessly to place humanity first in national and international policy making. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Rustler's Moon, Bluegrass Concert Friday, January 25 at 8 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Rustler's Moon with Kathy Kallik and Bill Evans and special guest Megan Lynch offers an exciting mix of traditional styles and innovative sound. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Order tickets by phone 925-447-1950 ext. 0 or by mail. Tickets also available in the church office. www.AsburyLive.org.

Livermore READ Project needs volunteer tutors to work with adults who need to improve basic literacy skills. Free training will provide volunteers with all the skills needed to be a tutor. Come to the Livermore Public Library on January 29th from 7-9 PM & February 2 from 9AM-4PM. Call 925-373-5507 for more information.

Women's health issues will be the topic of the Livermore Valley Business and Professional Women on Thurs., Jan. 31. Dr. Namrata Sidhu from Kaiser Permanente will be discussing how to prevent, how to recognize symptoms and less invasive treatments for such issues as breast cancer, heart disease and colon cancer. The public is invited to attend the meeting in Pleasanton at the Nordstrom Cafe, Stoneridge Mall. Registration 5:45 p.m., dinner at 6:15, program 7 p.m. Cost is \$20. Call Mona at 829-3505 for reservations.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group, meets 10 a.m. Tues., Jan. 22 at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, second floor conference room, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Guest speaker is Aurora Mathias, who will speak about acupuncture, and Jin Shin Jyu 1su as treatment options. All are welcome. Contacts: Lorene Slack, 447-6158, or Ann Laye, 443-4098.

Free Yoga and Breath Workshop, January 28, 7 p.m. Two hours of yoga,

breathing and meditation. Open to all above the ages of 18. No prior experience required. Taught by an Art of Living teacher. The Art of Living Foundation is a non profit educational humanitarian organization in over 142 countries worldwide. Bring a yoga mat, a blanket for warmth in meditation, and dress in loose comfortable clothing. All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, please call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

Inner and Outer Peace Through Meditation, free seminar with Marshall Zaslove, M.D. on Thursday, January 24, 7 pm. Zaslove, a Board certified psychiatrist, author and meditation practitioner for over 30 years, will offer simple, effective techniques and will demonstrate the most practical methods of controlling and befriending the mind for better meditations and many other health benefits. Pleasanton Public Library Meeting Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. The program is free and open to all. No registration required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network, parent-child yoga classes under the guidance of yoga instructor Kim Love. Children of all ages are welcome. Meetings on Monday, January 21, at CrossWinds Church located at 6444 Sierra Court in Dublin at 7PM. Regular meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at the same time and location. For further information, please visit www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com.

Acupuncture, its potentials, its possibilities with cancer, program Thurs., Jan. 31, 6 to 7 p.m. at the Regional Cancer Center at ValleyCare, Suites 240 A & B, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton. Dr. Amy Matecki will discuss how combining acu-

puncture with conventional therapies may assist in reducing pain, lessening anxiety, alleviating the side effects of chemotherapy or other traditional treatments. For cancer patients, families and friends. Free. Reservations call 933-0107.

Everyday challenges. Discover new ways to live an active, safe & independent life. Join us as Karen Marshall of Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) shares skills to maximize the quality of your life. Tuesday, January 22, 10 am to 11:30 am at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Activity fee: \$1.50 Residents, \$2 Non-residents. 931-5365

RELIGION

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Services are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Lenten Service at 7 p.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9 a.m.; Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Sequel (Contemporary worship) at 10:30 a.m. 447-1246.

Tri-Valley Unity Church meets at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Sunday service at 10 a.m. Ongoing classes and groups. All are welcome. Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call (925) 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Circle of Friends—Ministry to Unmarried Believers, will be hosting Lonnie Ellis, of Blazing Fire, who will be speaking at the Friday (Jan. 25th) meeting at 7pm. Meetings every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at Parkway Baptist Church, 7485 Villalobos Pkwy, in Dublin. For directions and information contact Rose Kuo: Rose.Kuo@timebyte.com or 925-648-3295. Meetings are open to all unmarried believers.

Place your ad online at www.independentnews.com

CASTRO VALLEY

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$639,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	25339 Gold Hills Drive
cross street Boulder Canyon Dr J. Rockcliff Realtors Jane Myrenget 925 251-2577			

DANVILLE

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$695,000	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	31 Mountain Valley Pl
cross streets Camino Tassajara - Old Blackhawk Prudential CA Realty Jan Pegler 925-519-1455			
\$1,282,888	4+1BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	842 Matadera Circle
cross street Diablo Blvd - Ackerman - Matadera Keller Williams Brigitte Huntermann 925 260-2508			

DISCOVERY BAY

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$523,000	6BD/4BA	SUN 1-4PM	6383 Crystal Springs Circle
cross street Fallman J. Rockcliff Realtors Jane Myrenget 925 251-2577			

DUBLIN

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$639,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	6974 Prince Dr
cross street Amador Valley - Penn - King Tri-Valley Realtors Tom Worster 925-270-9000			
\$679,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	7765 Dublin Green Ct
cross streets Dublin Green Ct J. Rockcliff Realtors Kelly Patterson 925-200-2525			
\$689,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	11474 Silvergate Dr
cross streets Dublin Blvd J. Rockcliff Realtors Susette Clark-Walker 925-251-2547			
\$748,888	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	6023 Hillbrook Pl
cross street Tassajara - N. Dublin Ranch - Someset Coldwell Banker Romar De Clara 925-784-3068			
\$750,000	5BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	8346 Ferncliff Ct
Prudential CA Realty Ron Meyers 925-218-1270			
\$1,028,000	4BD/4.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	10762 Inspiration Cir
cross street Dublin Blvd Alain Pinel Realtors Kim Ott 925 583-1121			

FREMONT

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$739,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 2-5PM	5480 Comberland Park Ct
cross streets Auto Park Mall - It - Grimmer - It - Valpey - It - Isle Royal - It - Everlade - It - Comerland Park Ct Coldwell Banker Kristy Peixoto 510-583-5436			
\$838,888	3BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	5418 Alamo Terrace
cross streets Gannon J. Rockcliff Realtors David Azimi 510-386-4844			

LIVERMORE

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
TBD	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 12-3PM	540 Alden Ln
cross streets Holmes - Alden Valley Properties Nancy Balbutin-Collins 925-455-6048			
\$399,000	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4:30PM	79 Meritage Cmn #103
cross streets Collier Canyon - Meritage Cmn Valley Properties Ivy LoGerfo 925-998-5312			
\$455,000	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4:30PM	54 Meritage Cmn #102
cross streets Collier Canyon Valley Properties Ivy LoGerfo 925-998-5312			
\$479,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-5PM	5903 Crestmont Ave.
cross street Vasco Rd No. 1ft Crestmont Owner Chris Hollis 650-504-6590			
\$499,950	3BD/1.5BA	SUN 2-5PM	648 Swallow Dr
cross streets Olivina J. Rockcliff Realtors Lisa Lorenz 925-251-2551			
\$514,999	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	5525 Haggin Oaks Ave
cross street Dalton J. Rockcliff Realtors Max de Vries 925-625-0116			
\$555,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	1828 Cassiopia
cross street Scenic - Centaurus - Pisces Steiger Properties Barb Steiger 925-443-3110			
\$599,000	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1119 Madison Ave.
cross street East Ave. J. Rockcliff Realtors Max de Vries 925-625-0116			
\$608,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 11-1PM	566 Kinglet Rd
cross streets Olivina Valley Properties Ted Rudolph 925-321-0468			
\$649,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	1159 Caroline Ct
cross streets East Jack London Alain Pinel Realtors Gina Huggins 925-640-3762			
\$695,000	3BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	399 Covellite Ln
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\$719,500	4BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1141 Baltusori Ct
cross streets Vasco - Augusta Prudential CA Realty Tracey Esling 925-249-6831			
\$749,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	2624 Decker Ln
cross streets Charlotte - Senger - Decker Tarantino Real Estate, Inc Christopher Tarantino 925-918-2662			
\$789,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 12:30-3:30PM	1579 Frankfurt Way
cross street Kingsport J. Rockcliff Realtors Michael Duffy 925-251-2523			
\$819,000	4BD/2BA	SAT 12-3PM	4278 Milton
cross streets 1st St - Bellmawr - Milton Valley Properties Nancy Balbutin-Collins 925-455-6048			
\$819,000	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	1083 Shery Wy
cross streets College Ave Alain Pinel Realtors Gina Huggins 925-640-3762			
\$835,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	5489 Carnegie Loop
Prudential California Realty Sandee Uterback 925-487-0524			
\$939,000	5BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1642 Feldspar Ct
cross streets Tourmaline Ave Alain Pinel Realtors Kim Ott 925-583-1121			
\$940,000	5BD/4BA	SAT 1-4PM	5550 Maybeck Lane
cross street East Ave - Charlotte Way Prudential California Realty Tracey Esling 925-249-6831			
\$977,500	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	2792 Vernazza Dr
Prudential California Realty Bobbie Gregory 925-380-6538			
\$1,150,000	4BD/3.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	2648 Saint Helena Court
cross street Oakville J. Rockcliff Realtors Max de Vries 925-625-0116			

MARTINEZ

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$399,000	3BD/1BA	SUN 1-4PM	1436 Court St
cross streets Pine - Haven - Court Windermere Welcome Home Kelly De Torea/Sue Griffin 925-824-4840			

NEWARK

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
Call Agent	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	6378 Normandy Dr
cross streets Lido J. Rockcliff Realtors Adam Fettes 510-329-1421			

PLEASANTON

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$479,500	2BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	7303 Stonedale Dr
cross streets Springdale Prudential CA Realty Tracey esling 925-249-6831			
\$689,950	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4677 Heltport Ct
Prudential CA Realty Dave & Sue Flashberger 925-463-0436			
\$749,900	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	1037 Hometown Wy
cross streets Main St - Del Valle Pkwy Alain Pinel Realtors Brad Slabaugh 925-447-2723			

SAN LEANDRO

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$399,000	3BD/1BA	SUN 1-4PM	1055 Halcyon Dr
cross streets Hesperian J. Rockcliff Realtors Jane Myrenget 925-251-2577			
\$589,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	737 Collier Dr
cross streets San Rafael - Collier Dr Intero Real Estate Linda Futral 925-980-3561			

SAN RAMON

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$220,000	2BD/1BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	9024 Claydon Cir
cross streets Alcosta - Fircrest - Craydon UCB Brian Wright 925-417-7138			

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 404748

The following person (s) doing business as: Kennedy Supply, 588 Alameda Dr., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):
Jeremy Kennedy, 588 Alameda Dr., Livermore CA 94551
Deena Kennedy, 588

Alameda Dr., Livermore Ca 94551
This business is conducted by: husband and wife
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/ Jeremy Kennedy and Deena Kennedy
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 18, 2007. Expires December 18, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 404746

The following person (s) doing business as: Creative Solutions, 3860 Apian Street, Pleasanton CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):
Carol Purkis, 3860 Apian Street, Pleasanton CA 94588
This business is conducted by: an individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/ Carol Purkis
This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda County on December 18, 2007. Expires December 18, 2012.

The Independent Legal No. 2277. Publish December 27, 2007. January 3, 10, 17, 2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 405396

The following person(s) doing business as: Bella Roma Pizza, 853 East Stanley Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s) Hamid M. Asem, 11683 Hiarland Rd, Dublin, CA 94568 This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/ Hamid M. Asem

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 8, 2008. Expires January 8, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2278. Publish January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 2008.

ANIMALS/PETS

1)CATS/DOGS

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PM. Adoptions at Dublin PetsMart on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM and rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. visit www.tvr.org or call (925) 803-7043.


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CASTRO VALLEY

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$639,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	25339 Gold Hills Drive
cross street Boulder Canyon Dr J. Rockcliff Realtors Jane Myrenget 925 251-2577			

DANVILLE

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$695,000	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	31 Mountain Valley Pl
cross streets Camino Tassajara - Old Blackhawk Prudential CA Realty Jan Pegler 925-519-1455			
\$1,282,888	4+1BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	842 Matadera Circle
cross street Diablo Blvd - Ackerman - Matadera Keller Williams Brigitte Huntermann 925 260-2508			

DISCOVERY BAY

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$523,000	6BD/4BA	SUN 1-4PM	6383 Crystal Springs Circle
cross street Fallman J. Rockcliff Realtors Jane Myrenget 925 251-2577			

DUBLIN

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$639,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	6974 Prince Dr
cross street Amador Valley - Penn - King Tri-Valley Realtors Tom Worster 925-270-9000			
\$679,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	7765 Dublin Green Ct
cross streets Dublin Green Ct J. Rockcliff Realtors Kelly Patterson 925-200-2525			
\$689,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	11474 Silvergate Dr
cross streets Dublin Blvd J. Rockcliff Realtors Susette Clark-Walker 925-251-2547			
\$748,888	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	6023 Hillbrook Pl
cross street Tassajara - N. Dublin Ranch - Someset Coldwell Banker Romar De Clara 925-784-3068			
\$750,000	5BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	8346 Ferncliff Ct
Prudential CA Realty Ron Meyers 925-218-1270			
\$1,028,000	4BD/4		

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Jeffrey Siegel : A Witty and Enlightening Musician

By Nancy O'Connell

On January 11th Jeffrey Siegel spoke and performed on the new Steinway piano at the Bankhead Theater - a piano he actually had a hand in selecting for the city of Livermore. He tested about nine magnificent Steinway instruments in New York, where he resides, and loved the resonance of this particular piano. He felt it would also develop a greater richness of tone as it's performed on and cherished. This will be true for quite some time and it is thanks to Jean King that this \$100,000 piano is in our new concert hall.

Len Alexander, the Executive Director of the Bankhead Theater, told of another magnificent gift to the theater. As I looked around at the nearly full house and heard Jeffrey's Siegel's opening remarks I thought of how few young people were in our audience. This new gift is from an anonymous family. It will provide \$50,000 to enable children and teenagers under the age of 17 to attend future performances held here. What a far-sighted and generous act! The love of classical music for young people in the community has to be encouraged.

I confess I was not interested in the programming for this particular concert at first. I believe many of the more musically sophisticated listeners in Livermore did not attend. "Fur Elise" and the "Moonlight Sonata," have been introduced to almost every piano student who has attained a certain level in his or her studies, and has been badly mangled by many of them. Thanks to Del Valle Fine Arts and the many talented local performing groups, Livermore's musical tastes have matured. Thirty years ago, those two pieces might have drawn a bigger audience starved for good music.

However, Mr. Siegel's remarks were witty and enlightening. I heard members of the audience say they appreciated his approach, that by speaking first before each piece, their understanding of the music was enhanced. He described "Fur Elise" as a love poem, a private gift from Beethoven to a young woman he may have been romantically drawn to. Beethoven himself did not want it published, and it was discovered 40 years after his death in papers belonging to her estate. The mysterious woman's name was not even Elise, but the publisher was unable to decipher the composer's handwriting.

The second piece on the program had the nickname of "The Rage Over a Lost Penny." This also was not published during Beethoven's lifetime. Mr. Siegel told the audience that after Beethoven moved to Vienna as a young pianist, the Viennese admired his technique and tremendous power at the keyboard. Set in the form of a Rondo, the theme returns again and again, each time becoming increasingly difficult. The tune at first sounded somewhat banal and lacks the depth of his later works. As Jeffrey Siegel pointed out, however, it's possible that Beethoven did not want it published and made available to other pianists, because it served as a showcase for Ludwig's own formidable technique.

The "Moonlight Sonata" was written in 1801 and was truly revolutionary for its time. Everyone then expected a bright, vivacious first movement. Instead this famous sonata opens slowly. This is a solemn tone poem with one melody throughout, without the several contrasting melodies that listeners of his day expected. Beethoven called this sonata a fantasy - *Sonata*

quasi una Fantasia - and the movement has the directions to the pianist, *sempre pp e con sordini*. (Always play softly and with the damper pedal.)

Jeffrey Siegel pointed out that Beethoven knew he was breaking many rules. The last movement is not depicting the cheerful, well-ordered world that the listeners of his day expected. Instead it is suspenseful and tumultuous, filled with rage and passion. By this time, Beethoven knew that he was becoming deaf. Is he expressing his sorrow and later, his rage, at his fate?

Mr. Siegel gave a sensitive performance of the first movement, but when the fireworks came later in the sonata, he surmounted every technical difficulty. His playing was clean. Every note was articulated; there was no muddy slurring or overuse of the sustaining pedal. His fingers flew over the keys and there were good contrasts between the forte and piano passages. Even the most jaded listener who has played or heard the first movement hundreds of times would not fail to be moved by Jeffrey Siegel's interpretation.

Composed in 1821 and finished on Christmas Day, Beethoven composed the second major work - his piano Sonata in A Flat Major, Opus 110 - on this program while totally deaf. Mr. Siegel describes the "exquisite tenderness" of the melodies in the first movement, celestial otherworldly sounds that Beethoven heard only with his inner ear.

The third movement begins in an introspective, contemplative way. The profound inner sorrow almost sounds like muffled sobs. From this pit of despair will emerge a fugue which gathers in force and leads to a glorious ending. In the third movement the mood first dark-

ens to sorrow and exhaustion, almost as though he is approaching death itself, but a musical miracle occurs as the fourth movement becomes a fugue, a life-affirming return to an ordered world.

Because of so many personal difficulties in 1821, this is the only work Beethoven was able to complete in that year. As Jeffrey Siegel played, the audience could hear the lament, the despairing cry. The fugue became complex and technically demanding. There were contrasts with the dark, somber chords in the lowest register and the sunnier, brighter conclusion.

Mr. Siegel closed his program with questions from the audience, which he answered with modesty and wit. As a child of a musician, he was not forced to practice when young, and for many years, preferred playing baseball after school. But when he truly was drawn into the realm of music, he feels that even today he does not practice enough. There is always a new challenge to be met.

His goal is to make music listening a richer experience for those who come to his concerts. His wish is to help the listener have a greater understanding of this strange, abstract world that classical artists inhabit. He wants to climb down from the silent pedestal that many artists stand upon, where not a word is spoken on the stage, and open up this mysterious world for everyone. If that is his goal, then I think he succeeded, but I personally would have preferred a concert *sans* "Fur Elise" and "The Rage Over a Lost Penny."

To hear his unique way of presenting music, Mr. Siegel will return to the Bankhead Theater on April 9 with a salute to American composers - Bernstein, Copland and Gershwin.



Puppets Bring Story of Peter & The Wolf to Life

Peter & The Wolf by Jim Gamble's Puppets will open the City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents 2008 season.

The show will be on Saturday, January 26. The 11:00 a.m. performance will take place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

Family favorites around the globe, Jim Gamble's Puppets interpretation of Prokofiev's classic symphony won a Citation for Excellence in Puppetry award by Union Internationale de la Marionette.

The story, in which orchestra instruments depict characters' voices and personalities, is about a boy who disobeys his grandfather and encounters a dangerous wolf. Peter, a young boy, lives with his grandfather in the Russian countryside. One day, he leaves the garden gate open and the duck takes the opportunity to go swimming on the nearby pond. She starts arguing with a little bird. Then, Peter's pet cat sneaks up on them and the bird, warned by Peter, - flies into a tall tree.

Peter's grumpy grandfather takes him back into the garden and locks the gate should any wolves come near. Shortly afterward, "a big, grey wolf" does indeed come out of the woods. The cat climbs into the tree, but the duck, who has left the pond, is swallowed by the wolf.

Peter, in an effort to protect the rest of the animals, fetches a rope and climbs over the garden wall into the tree. He asks the bird to fly around the wolf's head while he lowers a noose and catches the wolf by his tail.

"After a hiatus of several months while a new lighting system was being installed and the theater's décor upgraded, we're back in business," says Civic Arts Manager Andy Jorgensen. "Jim Gamble's Puppets are always popular with our audiences and Peter & The Wolf will be a great show for families on a winter Saturday morning.

"The next weekend, The Second City will offer its special brand of adult comedy with One Nation, Under Blog while parents take advantage of our new Parents' Date Night program. City youth supervisors will keep the children busy and entertained at Kids Create Improv while their parents enjoy The Second City show."

Tickets to Peter & The Wolf are \$10, \$14 & \$18 for adults and \$6, \$10 & \$14 for children. They may be purchased on line at www.civcartstickets.org, by phone at (925) 931-3444 or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office, at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

Registration for Kids Create Improv is available at (925) 931-5340.



The Lions Club District 4C3 Peace Poster judging was held recently at the Ruby Hill Golf Club. Pictured is the winning entry. Five artists from the Livermore Art Association acted as judges. They were Angela Johal, Linda Sailors, Karen Fleschler, Linda Beach, and Barbara Stanton. Scoring sheets were tabulated by tellers: Region Chair Carl Lanhorst, Region Chair Mary Jane Dukellis, and last year's Peace Poster Chair Mary Desmond. The following are the winning entries: 1st Kelsey Girardelli, Livermore Valley Charter School, Livermore; 2nd Matt Miller, Walnut Creek Intermediate School, Walnut Creek; and 3rd Marlene Arevalo, Creekside Middle School, Castro Valley.

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INFORMATION NIGHTS

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Tuesday, January 22	7:00pm	Grades 4 - 5
Thursday, January 24	7:00pm	Grades 6 - 8
Wednesday, January 30	7:00pm	18 Months - 3 years
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'Hardy Heart Kind Of Night' for Saturday Salon

4th Street Studio invites writers to read and listeners to attend its monthly Saturday Salon on Saturday January 19th at 7:30 p.m. at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street, in Livermore.

Readers have up to ten minutes to read. Public is welcome to attend.

This month's salon is a Hardy Heart Kind of Night.

"Why celebrate Thomas Hardy," 4th Street Studio founder Karen Hogan asks. "Hardy died in January of 1928. His literary stature merited his ashes a resting place in Westminster Abbey. But his family wanted his heart to be buried in his native Dorsetshire. They agreed that his heart would be buried there. His heart was placed in a canister and given to an elderly cousin. The night before it was to be buried, her cat sniffed it, knocked the canister over, and ate Hardy's heart. The cousin replaced the lid on the canister and buried it as if all was as it should be. The cousin confessed the truth years later.

"This must be true," adds Hogan. "I got it from the Internet."

Bring a nose and something to drink to share.

Contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100 with questions.

Livermore Artist Work Accepted for Triton Museum Exhibition

Livermore artist Carolyn Lord's work is included in an exhibition at Triton Museum in the Triton Museum of Art State-wide Painting Competition and Exhibition.

The exhibition runs Jan. 19 through March 22. The opening reception is Fri., Jan. 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. There is no admission charge. Artists will be present. Refreshments will be served.

The juror was Dominic Cretara, Professor of Art at California State University, Long Beach.

Over ninety California Artists are represented in the show, including Carolyn Lord, Cay Drachnik, Terri Ford, Jaya King, Michael Brennan, Donald Bruce Wright, Susan Brott Lawson, and Vicki Walsh.

ALBERS

(continued from page one)
Honors, Japan's NHK, Washington D.C.'s Voice of America and Bavarian Radio. Their current season includes performances in California, Florida, Missouri, New Jersey, New York and Vermont.

Violinist Laura is the Associate Concertmaster of the San Francisco Opera. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Juilliard School. Laura performs in the bay area with the Broderick Ensemble and the Empyrean Ensemble, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra in New York City and Sarasota Opera in Florida.

Violist Rebecca resides in Ann Arbor, MI as a member of the Phoenix Quartet. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School. She currently teaches in the Juilliard pre-college program and is a touring member with Appalachia Waltz Trio. As winner

of Juilliard's 2002-03 viola competition she made her solo debut performing the New York premiere of Samuel Adler's Viola Concerto with the Juilliard orchestra in Alice Tully Hall. She has performed across the United States, France and Switzerland and has performed with such artists as Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman and Richard Goode.

Cellist Julie studied at The Cleveland Institute of Music. She made her major orchestral debut at the age of 17 with the Cleveland Orchestra, and has performed in recital and with orchestras in the U.S., Europe, Korea, Taiwan, New Zealand and Australia. Julie received the Grand Prize in South Korea's Gyeongnam International Music Competition and Second Prize in Munich's Internationaler Musikwettbewerb der ARD. Julie is in the middle of a three-year residency with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln

Center Two. October of 2005 marked the release of her solo debut recording on the Artek Label.

Reserved tickets are \$29, \$24 and \$19. They are available at the LVPAC box office, Mon-Sat noon to 6:00 pm, or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Free tickets for youth through high school and half-priced tickets for college students may be obtained at the box office on the day of the performance.

Parking is available in the Livermore Valley Center Parking Garage on Railroad Avenue across the street from the theater. Wheelchair seating can be arranged by calling or visiting the box office. Handicapped persons may be dropped off behind the theater on Railroad Avenue or in the parking lot west of the theater on Livermore Avenue. Additional information is available at www.delvallefinearts.org or by calling 447-2752.

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SHORT NOTES

Free E-Waste Recycling

An EarthCare free electronic waste recycling event will be held Sat., Jan. 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Granada High School teacher parking lot. The lot is located in front of the school at 400 Wall St., Livermore.

The event is a benefit for Granada Grad Night.

The following will be accepted: desktops, laptops, and PDAs, monitors and televisions, printers, copy & fax machines, computer systems (HDS will be erased), mice and keyboards, stereos, radios and players, VCRs, DVD players, etc., telephones and cell phones.

Freezers, air conditioners, batteries or anything with motor oil will not be accepted.

For additional information contact Steve Ramona at EarthCare Recycling, 408-943-9943 or email steve@earthcarerecycling.com.

Bird Program

New Year Birds is the theme of a Sun., Jan. 20 nature program offered by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

Meet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 8 a.m. at the nature area entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. Participants will look for birds and listen for their songs and calls. Bring binoculars and field guides. Beginning birders are encouraged to attend. This bird walk will last about two hours. Cancelled if raining.

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

Coats and Blankets

Bob and Deborah Cilk of United California Brokers are conducting their 8th Annual Warm Coat and Blanket Drive (as well as hats, gloves, scarves and mittens) to benefit the homeless in Alameda County.

Donations in new and 'gently used' condition can be dropped off at United California Brokers, 351 St. Mary Street in downtown Pleasanton during business hours. Donations received will be distributed via a mobile outreach van to homeless encampments throughout Alameda County, along with a warm meal and medical treatment.

For more information, please call (925) 487-8735.

Garage Open

The 1915 Duarte Garage, located on the old "Lincoln Highway," will be open on Sunday, January 20, from 10 am - 2 pm.

The Duarte garage is located on the corner of Portola and L Streets in Livermore. The public is invited to visit the garage and view memorabilia of a bygone era: collection of California license plates, old photos, a 1920's office and shop area that includes a grease pit, "Flying A" display, and 3 vintage fire trucks (Ford Model "T", 1920 Seagrave, 1944 Mack). In addition, books about vintage cars are available for purchase.

The Livermore Heritage Guild sponsors the Duarte Garage. There is no charge for admission. Donations are appreciated. For more information call (925) 443-9740.

Scholarships Available

Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) International, an organization of about 100,000 members worldwide, is dedicated to upholding the ideals of research, service, and leadership in education. As part of fulfilling these ideals, the CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter of PDK is offering three \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue a teaching career. These recipients also may be eligible as candidates for 30-40 scholarship grants of \$500 to up to renewable awards totaling \$5,000 over four years from PDK International.

Seniors attending high schools in or residing in Castro Valley, Dublin, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Pleasanton, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Sunol, and Union City as well as Eastern Contra Costa County are eligible to apply.

All applications must be received by Friday, February 1, 2007. Completed applications consist of an application form, two letters of reference (at least one from an educator), an essay (up to 500 words), and an official transcript. Winners will be notified by February 28, 2008. To obtain an application, write to Phi Delta Kappa, CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter, 1822 Harms Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566, or call 925-484-0169.

Battain in Downtown

Battain Cellars has opened its new tasting room in Blacksmith Square in

downtown Livermore. The tasting room is open Fridays 4-7, Saturdays and Sundays 12-5. Battain will be celebrating the opening now through the end of January.

Battain Cellars will be sampling some of the different sparkling wines produced by using the secondary bottle fermentation developed by the French called "Methode Champenoise." Wines range from traditional Chardonnay based Bruts, to the obscure, like the bold Syrah blend Cuvee Rouge.

Other wine tasting boutiques at the same location are John Christopher Cellars, Thomas Coyne, Retzlaff, Hidden Creek and Red Skye.

For more information about the winery, contact Dustin Battain at 925-245-9242 or info@battaincellars.com

Winery Events

A series of special events is planned at Crooked Vine and Stony Ridge wineries.

On Jan 19-21, Martin Luther King weekend, Corbett will open the tasting room all three days from noon to 4:30 p.m. The tasting room is usually closed on Mondays.

On the weekend before Valentine's Day, Feb. 9-10, Crooked Vine and Stony Ridge will offer special pairings of its dessert Port, Sparkling Wine and Cabernet with chocolate. For \$10, guests can sample a variety of chocolates with their wine and can take home a souvenir glass. The tasting room will be open from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Finally, on President Day Weekend, Feb. 16-18, the tasting room will again be open from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For \$5 guests can sample a wide array of cheese and barrel taste Crooked Vine and Stony Ridge wines scheduled for release later in the year.

More information is available by calling the winery at 925-371-8156. The tasting room is located at 4948 Tesla Rd. in Livermore.

Book Events

Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street, Pleasanton, is hosting the following events:

- Anniversary Party Sat., Jan. 19, 4:00 - 6:00: entertainment, refreshments, and special discounts.
- Read It and Eat with Vendela Vida on Mon., Jan. 28, 11:30 social, 12:00 lunch. Let the Northern Lights Erase Your Name is her latest book about family secrets. \$20.00 for lunch and book; \$15.00 for lunch. Call 925-846-8826 for reservations or reply to this email.
- New poetry group is forming. Join Pleasanton's Poet Laureate, Martha Meltzer, and other local poets in a new writing group. The Place for Poetry

will meet the first Monday each month from 7-9 beginning Jan. 7. Read and write poetry in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

• Tri-Valley Writers will share their work at Towne Center Books on Wed., Jan. 30. Open to writers, those thinking about being a writer, or interested in hearing writers.

Amateur Radio Exam

The Livermore City Council Chambers at 3575 Pacific Avenue will be the site for an examination to be held January 26 for amateur radio operator licenses. The test session starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m.

The cost to take the test is \$14. Two forms of ID are required. Anyone who is a US citizen may take the exam, regardless of age. Morse code proficiency is no longer a requirement for an amateur radio operator license.

Appointments are not necessary to take the test, although encouraged. For more information, contact Ron Kane (AD6KV) or 960-1590.

The Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) is administering the test. For information, visit www.livermoreark.org.

Educators' Scholarship

Four scholarships, each worth \$1,250, are offered through the Tri-Valley Retired Educators Scholarship Fund. The awards are offered to high-school graduating seniors and college/university students.

A requirement is that applicants be residents of the Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol area who are planning a career in education. Questions about the scholarship may be obtained by emailing greegno@pacbell.net.

Application packets for the scholarships have been distributed to each of the Tri-Valley high schools and are available on the scholarships links at Las Positas College and Cal State University East Bay. Applicants from other institutions may obtain application packets by calling 925-443-6097 or emailing greegno@pacbell.net. The completed applications are due by March 3, 2008.

Eligible students planning a career in education are encouraged to apply for one of the four \$1,250 scholarships, which will help the winners in this time of rising tuition and materials costs.

School Open House

Carden West School has scheduled two evening Open Houses during open enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year. The two events will take place on Tuesday, January 22, and Wednesday,

February 20, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Carden West is located at 4576 Willow Road in Hacienda Park in Pleasanton.

"Open House is a great time to talk to the people who know the most about Carden West School in a relaxed and casual atmosphere" says Peter Van Court, Principal and Executive Director of Carden West. "Current families, teachers and administrative staff will be on hand to answer questions."

In addition, parents of prospective students may tour the school any Tuesday or Saturday morning from 10 a.m.-12 noon. For more information, call the school at (925) 463-6060.

Detailed information is available at www.cardenwest.org.

Parenting Parents

"Parenting Your Aging Parent" is a free class designed for baby boomers who are sandwiched between the needs of growing children, the needs of aging parents and other relatives, and their own needs.

In this class, students will receive information and resources to assist them. There will be guest speakers on topics of interest. Class members will be encouraged to support and learn from each other.

Instructor Ruth Gasten has taught parenting classes in the Valley for over 35 years. She is a mother and a grandmother, who cared for her own mother until her death at the age of 95.

"Parenting Your Aging Parent" will be held once a month beginning January 22. The following classes will be on February 19, March 18, April 15, and May 20. Classes will be held at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Avenue, Pleasanton, in Room B-18 from

6:30 to 8:30 PM.

To register, please call Amador Valley Adult and Community Education at (925) 426-4280.

Write and Illustrate

Children from kindergarten through ninth grade are invited to submit entries in the Livermore Public Library's Newcott-Caldebery Book Writing and Illustrating Contest. Books submitted will be judged by local authors and awarded prizes at each grade level for best writing and for best illustrations. The Sonia Anderson Cordill Award will also be given for the most outstanding entry.

One or more children may contribute to each original work. An entry

form from each child must be attached to the entry. Forms and rules are available at all Livermore Public Libraries or from the library's website at <http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us>. All books entered in the contest will be added to the library's collection and will be able to be checked out. The deadline for entries is Saturday, March 1, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Contestants will be honored at an awards ceremony on April 17.

The Newcott-Caldebery contest is supported by the Livermore Public Library and the members of Writers' Bloc. For more information on this program, call the Youth Services Desk at the Livermore Public Library at (925)373-5504 or log on to www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

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<p>LIVERMORE \$649,000</p> <p>1159 Caroline Ct. Open Sun 1-4 Shows great! This 2,100+/-sf home offers 4bd/2.5ba. Sparkling inground pool and built in BBQ. Great court location.</p>	<p>PLEASANTON \$640,000</p> <p>By Appointment Single story 4bd/2ba, 1,700+/-sf home built in 1981. Formal LR and FR with wood burning fireplace.</p>	<p>FREMONT \$509,950</p> <p>By Appointment Beautiful 3bd/1ba, 1,000+/-sf home located in the desirable Irvington district. Remodeled throughout. Don't miss this!</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$409,000</p> <p>By Appointment Clean Faxer Upper great for someone who wants to add their own touches to the baths and kitchen. 3bd/2ba, 1,471+/-sf home.</p>	<p>MANTECA \$275,000</p> <p>By Appointment Country living in town. Semi Custom 1,580+/-sf home with 3bd/2ba. Large kitchen. Huge side yard!</p>

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