



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

## Downtown Livermore

# City Ends Negotiations with Lennar, Extends Presidio for a Short Time

An Exclusive Negotiation Rights Agreement with Lennar Multifamily Communities to build housing and commercial uses in the center of downtown Livermore expired last Monday night, after the Livermore City Council declined to extend the agreement. Livermore will allow Presidio Companies to continue as the sole

hotel developer for a few months as the community creates its wish list at workshops.

The city council voted unanimously at its meeting on Monday to extend the Exclusive Negotiation Rights Agreement (ENRA) with Presidio for an additional four months. They did not take a vote on whether or not to extend

the ENRA with Lennar Multifamily Communities, which means it automatically expires.

Prior to the vote on Presidio, both Mayor John Marchand and Councilmember Bob Woerner advocated to extend the ENRA for both Lennar, as well as Presidio.

The motion to extend Presidio's ENRA reflected the fact that only

one qualified hotel developer had submitted a plan during the application period over a year ago. There were many for the housing, it was noted. Councilmember Steven Spedowski, in making the motion to extend the ENRA, said, "It will be good to have a quali-

(See DOWNTOWN, page 6)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Planning will begin future uses for the Springtown Open Space, formerly the Springtown Golf Course.

## Planning Process Begins for Springtown Open Space Area

By Carol Graham

Two public meetings are taking place next week to obtain community input regarding the future of the Springtown Open Space, formerly the Springtown Golf Course.

Last November, Livermore residents overwhelmingly voted to pass Measure FF, which permanently preserves the 85-acre land as open space. The City of Livermore has asked the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) to lead the Springtown Open Space Master Plan process.

"I'm most often asked, 'What will the property be used for?'" said John Lawrence, assistant general manager of LARPD. "The answer is, 'That hasn't been decided yet, and is why it's important for residents to participate in the process by attending meetings

or sending in their comments by email or letter.' The space has been designated as open space by a vote of the Livermore residents, which means that housing and business development is not an option for this master planning process. No plans or designs have been created yet. They will only be developed after receiving the input from these first two public meetings."

Community members are welcome to attend either or both of the meetings, though it is not necessary to attend both. The meetings will include the same information, with the first focused on input from Springtown residents, the second on input from the entire community.

The first meeting takes place on Monday, January 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room of (See SPRINGTOWN, page 6)

## Brown's State of State Has Trump in Mind

By Ron McNicoll

California Gov. Jerry Brown's annual State of the State speech took on a new caste, coming only five days after President Donald Trump's Inauguration.

Brown spoke to the Legislature and his Administration in the Assembly chamber Jan. 24.

He said that there will be serious challenges to California in the coming months from Washington, but Californians need to persevere, and maintain the rights and benefits that all Californians have earned.

The board also approved a 0.85% pay increase for teachers, and stipends for various employees.

and the leadership to solve Climate Change challenges.

Brown mentioned his newly appointed Attorney General, Xavier Becerra, whose parents came from Mexico. They saw California as a place, "where through grit and determination, they could realize their dreams. They are not alone.

Millions of Californians have come here from Mexico and a hundred other countries, making our state what it is today: vibrant, even turbulent, and a beacon of hope to the rest of the world."

Part of that hope has been Brown's action on working to sup-

(See STATE, page 10)

## Pleasanton City Council to Take Up Owens Drive Issue

The Pleasanton City Council will take up an issue that has drawn complaints at several council meetings.

The city has narrowed Owens Drive, in front of the East BART station, from three lanes to one lane. The road was narrowed in front of a new apartment building to allow for diagonal parking in front of the building, where work-live units will be offered.

Prior to taking comments during the public forum last Tuesday, Councilmember Jerry Pentin announced that Owens Drive has been placed on the February 21 council agenda.

Resident An Li said that she was excited to hear the issue will be on the agenda. "As commuters, we really need to get the lanes back.

(See OWENS DRIVE, page 10)

## Pleasanton School Board Appoints Interim Superintendent, Discusses New Search

By Ron McNicoll

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board appointed Micaela Ochoa as its interim superintendent until June 30, when the board expects to have a permanent replacement for former superintendent Rick Rubino.

The board announced the closed-session decision at its meeting Jan. 17. Trustees set the wheels in motion for the Superintendent search by appointing a committee. The board also approved a 0.85% pay increase for teachers, and stipends for various employees.

The vote to appoint Ochoa as Interim Superintendent was unanimous. Board president Joan Laursen said that the enthusiastic unanimous vote for Ochoa reflected the board's high esteem for the work she has done since joining the district in 2014.

Ochoa came to the district as a substitute for Deputy Superintendent Luz Cázares, who had taken a personal leave. When Cázares chose not to return, Ochoa was named permanent Deputy Superintendent of Business Services, a

(See SUPERINTENDENT, page 10)

## Council Votes to Move Historic Train Depot

The historic Southern Pacific Train Depot will be moved from its current location to take on a new life at the transit center in downtown Livermore.

The Livermore City Council determined Monday that the depot would best be protected by moving it. The vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Bob Coomber noted that it was more painful for him to watch the building deteriorate rather than move it. "We have the money to move and rehabilitate it. I would love to see this piece of history remain intact."

Councilmember Bob Carling agreed. "I am very much in support of the move."

"It makes sense to move it," said Bob Woerner.

Councilmember Steven Spedowski added that he questioned the well-being of the building at its current location.

Mayor John Marchand pointed out that no one has offered to restore it in over 40 years. "We have \$2.5 million to be able to restore it to its original glory and use it as it was intended to be used. This is a fleeting opportunity. If we wait, the window closes and we will lose the \$2.5 million."

The depot, which currently sits in the parking lot at L Street and Railroad Ave, has been at

(See DEPOT, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A festive Chinese New Year celebration took place at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Saturday. Dancers from KungFu Dragon USA performed the traditional lion dance. Demonstrations and crafts were offered as part of the celebration marking the year of the Rooster.

## The Rising Costs of Retiree Benefits Could Impact Salaries

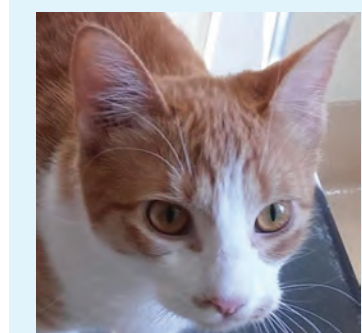
Rising costs of retiree benefits to school districts was a concern raised by the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District School Board last week.

It was noted that the increasing percentages of contributions would take money that would not then be available for salaries.

Comments regarding the budget process came following an update on the potential impacts of the Governor's 2017-2018 proposed budget.

Susan Kinder, Chief Business

(See COSTS, page 5)



### PET OF THE WEEK

Need a little flavor in your life? Kimchi will make every day less bland with his spicy playfulness. At six months old he's still very much a kitten and should settle nicely into most households. Savor the sweetness of new companionship - adopt Kimchi today from Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. For more info visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society

## INSIDE

### MAIN SECTION

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Classifieds.....  | 10 |
| Editorial .....   | 4  |
| Mailbox .....     | 4  |
| Roundup.....      | 3  |
| Short Notes ..... | 9  |

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Sports .....             | 7  |
| Obituaries.....          | 9  |
| <b>SECTION A</b>         |    |
| Art & Entertainment..... | 8  |
| Bulletin Board.....      | 10 |
| Milestones.....          | 12 |

# Zone 7 Reviewing Marijuana Site Rules, Oil Field Water Injection

By Ron McNicoll

Zone 7 Water Agency has been providing comments to the Alameda County Planning Department about what it would like to see included in future regulations concerning medical marijuana growing facilities and water reuse by oil drilling operations.

The Zone 7 board heard staff reports about both issues at its meeting Jan. 18.

The county has been in the process of drawing up a medical marijuana facility ordinance to be ready for any future applications in the unincorporated area of the county. Supervisors are due to vote on it in March.

One operator has expressed interest in opening such a facility on Flynn Road in the Altamont, which would have indoor cultivation of marijuana. Assistant County planning Director Liz McElligott provided the Zone 7 board with background about the ordinance development.

General Manager Jill Duerig said that Zone 7 staff will want to make comments to ensure that groundwater is protected, and that there would be an adequate water supply. Zone 7 manages the groundwater basin.

Zone 7 participates in the county Agricultural Advisory Committee meetings, but not as a voting member. Duerig said that Zone 7 has made comments concerning its interests, although so far not given any technical comments.

If there were a specific application, Zone 7 would review it for any septic tank use or well permit. "We would evaluate whether our concerns would need to be addressed further," said Duerig. McElligott added that any application would have to conform to Zone 7 standards.

Director Sarah Palmer said that the "emotional" aspects of the issue were of no concern to Zone 7. The relevant issue would be whether the activity does harm to the underground water basin through nitrate percolation from fertilizers, or from drawing too much water from the basin. Past high concentrations of fertilizers in spots in the Valley have resulted in high nitrate levels underground.

Director Bill Stevens said

that he was concerned for ranchers, because he heard that marijuana growers in other areas have put out rat poison. There could also be impact from it in water run-off.

However, McElligott said in regard to both directors' comments that the facilities in the ordinance would be indoor growing sites, not outdoor cultivation.

The Planning Department is preparing a CEQA document, which likely will turn out to be a negative declaration, said McElligott.

On water reinjection after oil is removed, the operator of the only oil field in the county, E&B Natural Resources, is asking the state to allow it to expand an underground area to 75 acres. The field located on Patterson Pass Road is about 3/4 mile east of Greenville Road.

The water pulled up with oil is separated from it, and reinjected into the oil-level aquifer, 1500 to 2000 feet below the deepest fresh-water well aquifer. The water has relatively little oil in it. E&B has been using this process for years.

Duerig said that staff has commented to the State Water Resources Control Board, stating that the process presents no problems for the Zone 7 underground water basin. The area is

about 4 miles away from the main basin; in addition, its deep depth is below the well-water aquifer.

Director Sandy Figuers said that he has visited the site several times, and as both a director and a geologist. He sees no problem with the E&B application. As with the medical marijuana item, the discussion was for the board's information only, not for a vote.

During public hearings on the application to expand the injection area, speakers have pointed out that there are earthquake faults in the area. There is no guarantee that if an earthquake were to occur that the water would be contained within the injection area. It could leak out into potable water.

Duerig also announced a Zone 7 workshop on water rates to be held at 5 p.m. in the board's meeting room at 100 N. Canyons Drive, Livermore on January 30. It is not a board meeting, but will enable the public to hear from staff and ask questions concerning setting of water rates, available water supplies, and related items. The meeting is a result of a big delegation of Pleasanton residents speaking up at the December meeting about the rates, which went into effect Jan. 1. The board approved the new rates in November.



Work crews worked to remove a large tree that was uprooted during the recent storms. The tree was located at Centennial Park on the northeast corner of 4th and Holmes.



A series of storms filled local arroyos to overflowing. Pictured is Sycamore Grove on the Veterans side.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

On Monday, areas such as Palomares Road, Tesla Road, Mines Road, and Old Altamont Pass Road had been closed, but were now open. On Tuesday, it was announced that Kilkare Road, Sunol, was open. Alameda County Public Works Agency crews are on scene removing mudslide debris. Traffic control is in place to direct motorists around mudslide area. Flooding had subsided on Tesla Road and debris removed from the roadway. Pictured is the intersection of Raymond Road and Dagnino. Visit the Public Works Agency at [www.acpwa.org](http://www.acpwa.org) for updates on road closures.

## Air District Taking Comments on Draft Clean Air Plan

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has released the 2017 draft Clean Air Plan/Regional Climate Protection Strategy entitled, Spare the Air - Cool the Climate. The plan focuses on two key priorities: addressing climate change and eliminating health disparities in communities throughout the Bay Area.

The plan lays out a blueprint designed to enable the Bay Area to reduce smog, dust and soot, acute air pollutants and greenhouse gases to meet regional clean air and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

The draft document outlines more than 85 measures that will guide the region in the following areas:

- Developing a region-wide approach to reduce health risk and air pollution from many sources comprehensively
- Reducing health risk from acute air pollution
- Finding strategies to reduce methane and fossil fuel pollution
- Providing helpful guidance and research to local governments enabling them to reduce energy in buildings, reduce waste and create clean air communities
- Working with the Metropolitan Transportation

Commission and local governments to reduce vehicle miles traveled throughout the Bay Area

- Partnering with energy providers and the public to find ways to transition energy use from natural gas to renewable energy.

The Air District will host eight Open Houses throughout the region January 30 through February 8 to make the document available to the public, answer questions and take comments. The document can be viewed on the Air District's website at [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)

One session will take place on Monday, February 6, 5:30 - 7:30 PM at the Holiday Inn Dublin, 6680 Regional St., Dublin.

Highlights of the draft 2017 strategy include:

- Limit Combustion: Develop a strategy to improve fossil fuel combustion efficiency at industrial facilities, beginning with the three largest sources of industrial emissions: oil refineries, power plants, and cement plants.
- Stop Methane Leaks: Reduce methane emissions from landfills, and oil and natural gas production and distribution.
- Reduce Exposure to Toxics: Reduce emissions

of toxic air contaminants by adopting more stringent limits and methods for evaluating toxic risks at existing and new facilities.

- Put a Price on Driving: Implement pricing measures to reduce travel demand.
- Advance Electric Vehicles: Accelerate the widespread adoption of electric vehicles.

Promote Clean Fuels: Promote the use of clean fuels and low or zero carbon technologies in trucks and heavy-duty vehicles.

- Accelerate Low Carbon Buildings: Expand the production of low-carbon, renewable energy by promoting on-site technologies, such as rooftop solar and ground-source heat pumps.
- Support More Energy Choices: Support of community choice energy programs throughout the Bay Area.

Make Buildings More Efficient: Promote energy efficiency in both new and existing buildings.

- Make Space and Water Heating Cleaner: Promote the switch from natural gas to electricity for space and water heating in Bay Area buildings.

The complete document can be viewed on the Air District's website at [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)

**LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY**  
**New Superfund Program Tours**

Get a close-up look at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's ongoing program to clean up historic soil and groundwater contamination at its Livermore Site and Site 300 near Tracy.

**Wednesday, March 8 at Site 300: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, March 15 at the Livermore site: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

The tours are free and open to U.S. citizens 18 years of age and older. They will be led by LLNL's Public Affairs Office and Environmental Restoration Department. Site access badges will be required. On-site transportation will be provided. Participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign up, contact Billie Christian in the LLNL Public Affairs Office at [christian6@llnl.gov](mailto:christian6@llnl.gov) no later than Monday, Feb. 6.

For further information, contact the LLNL Public Affairs Office at (925) 422-4599.

[www.llnl.gov](http://www.llnl.gov) | [www-envinfo.llnl.gov](http://www-envinfo.llnl.gov)

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## VALLEY ROUNDUP

### Investigating Contacts with Russia

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15), Ranking Member of the CIA Subcommittee of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement Monday regarding new reports of investigations into President Trump's associates' contacts with Russia:

"News reports of an active investigation of National Security Adviser Michael Flynn's contacts with Russian officials – the latest of at least four Trump associates probed for such contacts – intensifies concern that the campaign and transition team communicated and possibly coordinated with the Russian government.

"Now more than ever, we need an independent, bipartisan commission – as our H.R. 356, the Protecting Our Democracy Act, would provide – to complement full investigations by the law enforcement and intelligence communities. For the sake of our national security and future elections, it's long past time that we put country above party."

Swalwell along with Rep. Elijah Cummings (MD-07), have reintroduced legislation to establish such a commission: HR 356, the Protecting Our Democracy Act. If approved, the bill would create a 12-member, bipartisan, independent commission empowered to interview witnesses, obtain documents, issue subpoenas, and receive public testimony to examine attempts by the Russian government and others to use electronic means to influence, interfere with, or sow distrust in this year's U.S. elections. The commission, which also would examine similar efforts by any other foreign governments or entities, would issue a final report with recommendations for future security protections to Congress and the President within 18 months of the bill's enactment.

### Water Projection Raised to 60%

As winter storms continue to fill reservoirs and boost the snowpack, the Department of Water Resources (DWR)

has increased its estimate of this year's State Water Project (SWP) supply from 45 to 60 percent of most requests.

Zone 7 Water Agency purchases water from SWP. "Our water supply outlook is definitely brighter, but we still haven't shaken off the effects of our historic drought," said DWR Acting Director William Croyle. "Californians' in some areas still depend on bottled drinking water, some reservoirs remain low and groundwater basins are still in decline and have yet to recover."

DWR initially estimated it would be able to deliver only 20 percent of the 4.1 million acre-feet of SWP water requested this year. That projection (allocation) was increased to 45 percent as reservoirs rose from December storms. The latest increase to 60 percent of collective delivery requests is due to the atmospheric river storms that have filled many reservoirs and brought flood waters to some areas. With more rain and snow in the forecast, DWR hopes it will be able to increase the allocation further.

### Public Awareness Campaign

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley has introduced 2017's public awareness campaign that directly confronts the buyers of child sex trafficking victims and the need for men to fight child exploitation. This campaign, timed to coincide with National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, marks the third year in which a billboard campaign raises awareness of the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Alameda County, the region and the state. The work is the result of a collaborative effort between the District Attorney's Office and Clear Channel Outdoor. The billboards appear on roadways and in neighborhoods throughout the County of Alameda.

With increased community awareness and a focus on the buyers who purchase trafficking victims, the campaign hopes to make clear the fact that men must be a partner in

the effort to stop commercial sexual exploitation. Without people willing to pay for sex, traffickers have no incentive to lure vulnerable men, women and children into the illegal sex trade. Remove the buyers, and the whole system stops.

The billboards offer a resource for people to learn how they can reduce demand for sexual exploitation and trafficking. For more information, visit: [www.stop-it-now.org/](http://www.stop-it-now.org/).

For additional information on Human Exploitation and Trafficking, please visit the Human Exploitation and Trafficking (H.E.A.T.) Watch Program website: [www.heatwatch.org/](http://www.heatwatch.org/)

To report suspicious activity or human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center 24-hour Hotline: 888-3737-888, or text "BeFree".

### Crow Canyon Work

The Alameda County Public Works Agency will be performing emergency road repairs on Crow Canyon Road, between Cold Water Drive and Norris Canyon Road, Castro Valley. This work began between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25 and will continue on Thursday, January 26, 2017.

During this emergency road work, traffic control will be in place to direct motorists around the work zone. Motorists should expect delays. When travelling through the work zone, motorists are encouraged to exercise caution and adhere to all traffic regulations, and use extra caution around Public Works Agency personnel and equipment.

Visit the Public Works Agency at [www.acpwa.org](http://www.acpwa.org) for updates.

### Correction

Last week's article describing tonight's Rae Dorrough Speaker Series presentation ("Talk Next Week in Livermore on Geologic Beauty and Seismic Risk") incorrectly referred to a website for estimating earthquake risk as [temblor.com](http://temblor.com). It is [temblor.net](http://temblor.net).

### Correction

Last week's article about a book of poems published by Peggy Schimmelman ("Local Writer Publishes Volume of Poetry") incorrectly stated that she had taken writing classes at Las Positas College. While one of her poems won first prize in the Las Positas Anthology, she attended writing classes through the Livermore adult education program.

## Maps to Help Open Space Committee Determine Which Lands Would Meet Preservation Goals

The Altamont Landfill Open Space Advisory Committee authorized the expenditure of up to \$10,000 to create maps to use in determining how to get the most bang for the buck through land purchases.

Currently there is over \$12 million available to buy land in the Livermore area and just over \$650,000 could be spent in the Pleasanton area. The funds are derived from a lawsuit that established fees to be paid at local landfills to offset the impact of the landfills on the area.

The committee, comprised of representatives from Livermore, Pleasanton,

the Sierra Club and Alameda County, has been working to establish a tiered priority list to use in acquiring land.

Committee members felt that a map showing habitats, biological resources along with connections linking areas would be useful in establishing the list.

Livermore Councilmember Bob Woerner suggested access to such information would be more important than just noting biological resources. Using overlays indicating habitat, connectivity and other factors, committee members could determine how to rank the land

using a weighted system that the committee would determine.

For example, red legged frog habitat could be considered more important than habitat for a non-listed species. Using the maps and weighting system, committee members would be aided in deciding between purchasing a small or large area that contain similar resources.

On the eastside, the top priorities, as established by the committee are Doolan Canyon area, Springtown Alkali Sink, Tesla/Corral Hollow, Cedar Mountain, Brushy Peak and I-580

wildlife corridor. On the westside, areas include the Arroyo Mocho, Pleasanton Ridge and Dublin Ridgeland. Specific parcels would not be designated on the newly created maps.

The committee voted to have the City of Livermore lead the effort to create the mapping utilizing a contract it has with Alameda County Resources Conservation District.

The governing bodies of the members will have to approve the expenditure of the \$10,000 from the organization's funds. No money from the cities or the county would be used.

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# EDITORIAL

## Depot to Move

We agree with the Livermore City Council in deciding to move the Southern Pacific Depot.

While it would have been ideal to leave it at its historic location at the corner of Railroad Avenue and L Street, there have been no plans brought forward to make that happen.

It has been deteriorating. The opportunity arose to rehabilitate it and move the depot to the downtown transit center. There it will be given new life as a ticket office for buses and ACE trains. As such, it will be eligible for listing on the National Historic Registry.

In addition for use as a ticket office, it will become a stop on the downtown history tour walk.

Councilmember Bob Coomber noted that he would love to see this historic building remain intact. Moving it will allow that to happen in a timely manner.

## Lab Offering Tours of Superfund Sites

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) will host a pair of "Superfund Program tours" in March to provide the public a close-up look at the ongoing program to clean up historic soil and groundwater contamination.

The first tour will take place at Site 300, LLNL's experimental testing site in the hills between Livermore and Tracy on Wednesday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The second tour will be offered at LLNL's Livermore site Wednesday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The tours are free and open to U.S. citizens 18 years of age and older. On-site transportation will be provided. Prior registration is required. Seats will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. To participate, contact Billie Christian in the LLNL Public Affairs Office at christian6@llnl.

gov no later than Monday, February 6.

Soil and groundwater contamination was discovered at the LLNL Livermore Site and Site 300 in the 1980s. This contamination resulted from early research activities. In the case of the Livermore site, a good portion of the soil and groundwater contamination also has been attributed to solvents and degreasers that were used to clean airplane engines while the site served as a U.S. Naval Air Station in the early 1940s.

The two sites were subsequently placed on the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) list, more commonly known as Superfund list, which provides a mechanism for cleaning up pollutants and contaminants in the environment. LLNL has partnered with EPA, the

U.S. Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards to clean up this legacy waste material. A great deal of progress has been made at both sites. While environmental impact studies have shown that existing contaminants do not pose a health risk to the surrounding community, LLNL will continue the cleanup until all goals have been met.

Documents and reports on the process are publicly available on the LLNL environmental information website. Additionally, LLNL has provided CERCLA/Superfund-related tours to interested parties upon request. In an effort to expand on that community activity, LLNL is now offering these informational tours to the general public on an annual basis.

## Profile Shows High Housing Costs Accompany Bay Area Jobs Boom

By Ron McNicoll

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has released a report showing a strong economy in the Bay Area, and the high housing prices and rents that go with a boom time.

Released last week, the report taken from data recorded in 2015, is called Vital Signs. It gives snapshots of data on a variety of topics. They include jobs, housing, transportation choices by commuters, and a slowdown in development of greenfields compared to the last decade of the 1990s.

The Bay Area reached a record \$722 billion in economic production in 2015. If the Bay Area were a nation, it would rank 25th among the world's economies, says

the report. Unemployment continued to decline. Median household income reached its highest levels since 2008, prior to the start of the Great Recession.

Biggest job sector growth was in high-tech businesses, especially those that are web-related, with San Francisco and Silicon Valley growing 20 percent over two years.

The lowest-cost homes in the Bay Area remain in eastern Contra Costa and Solano counties, with median housing prices at \$300,000. The Bay Area median is \$708,400, and in Alameda County it is \$604,800.

In the Valley, the median price home in 2015 ranged from a low of \$620,500 in Livermore, to a high of \$880,300 in Pleasanton. Dublin's median price was \$706,900.

Listed rental median prices in the Valley in 2015 were a low of \$1940 per month in Livermore, \$2350 in Pleasanton, and the high of \$2410 in Dublin. That compares to the Bay Area at \$2340 and the county at \$2160.

The type of housing has changed. In 2005, 45 percent of new homes were multifamily; in 2015, 63 percent were multifamily.

Household incomes in the Valley range from \$101,000 in Livermore to \$124,800 in Pleasanton, with Dublin reporting \$118,800. The median in the county was listed at \$81,700 and in the Bay Area \$88,800.

One aspect of growth, development of greenfields slowed from 2000 to 2012, to the point where it was 32 percent lower than greenfield development in the 1990s. The report said

that the Great Recession's damper on incomes and home finances was responsible. However, other reasons may include the trend away from greenfield development, which is a theme of smart growth. It would also represent "growth management strategies established by cities and counties across the region," which include urban growth boundaries designed to preserve open space and edge agriculture.

Economically, the region improved immensely in recovering from the Great Recession. There are no statistics for individual Valley cities. However, eastern Alameda County saw a gain of 17,700 jobs between 2010 and 2015. East County lost 1900 jobs from 2005 to 2010, the period that included the beginning of the Great Recession.

Many more jobs were created in San Francisco and Silicon Valley, both before and after the Great Recession. San Francisco grew 125,400 jobs from 2010 to 2015, but added 139,900 in the five-year period previously. Northern Santa Clara County and San Jose combined added 185,000 jobs before the Great Recession, and 156,000 afterward.

Those big job centers are a magnet for commuters around the Bay Area. San Francisco pulls in a net 150,000 commuters daily, Santa Clara County attracts 100,000 workers. Suburbs with significant amounts of housing, but few high-wage jobs contribute heavily to the flow. In addition, nearly 120,000 commute into the Bay Area each day.

Most commuters are driving alone to work, although some are carpooling, taking public transit or

telecommuting. In Livermore, 79 percent drive alone, 8 percent carpool and 4 percent use public transit.

In Pleasanton, 73 percent drive alone, 8 percent carpool, 8 percent use public transit, and 7 percent telecommute. In Dublin, 72 percent drive alone, 9 percent carpool, 10 percent take transit and 6 percent telecommute.

Although the report does not say it, Livermore's statistics might reflect two variables not present in Pleasanton and Dublin. One is the presence of two major science labs, with about half of their employees living in Livermore. That could explain a higher number of single-car drivers compared to other Valley cities, because of relatively short commutes within Livermore. That statistic could bear on the lower transit figure, too, because fewer people would need to take BART. The lack of a BART station would discourage commuters who might have job destinations near BART, but who do not want to drive to Pleasanton or Dublin and look for parking there.

In the Valley, overall commute times are close among the three cities. Dublin and Pleasanton check in with 31 minutes, and Livermore's time is 29 minutes. With a high number of local Lab employees, the statistic could reflect that fact.

People driving alone averaged 27 or 28 minutes; carpools ranged 31 to 33 minutes among the three cities. The fastest transit commute is in Pleasanton, with 60 minutes, Dubliners take 64 minutes and Livermore residents 68 minutes.

## MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com)

### One Lane Sophie Li Pleasanton

We all love the beautiful town of Pleasanton for its respected characteristics of combining rich history and tradition with orderly and rational development. But the reduction of the Owens Drive lanes from three to one right next to the BART station is a notorious example opposite to all the common sense and values that I can think of.

As a mother of a teenager, I find it my duty to petition the expansion of lanes to three again, because otherwise it will be hypocritical and I would never be able to look at my teenage daughter or teach her about value again. It is under our own eyes that the three lanes were reduced to one, the mistake being so obvious yet unnoticed. Are we going to correct our wrongdoings as soon as possible, or are we going to wait?

Come on, residents,

Pleasanton city councilmembers, your daughters and sons are watching you for your every move. You are their role models. We are all watching.

### Protesting Keith Jackson Dublin

I see that some Republicans are saying that the protesters should leave Mr. Trump alone and let him do his job. Does this mean that he cannot do his job if anyone disagrees with him? How is this possible? Maybe if he spent less time insulting people who disagree with him on Twitter, he would have more time to do his job.

### Public Road Carrie Zhang Pleasanton

The city allocated two lanes of a public road on Owens Drive to the developer of a building at the expense of BART commuters and others who use the eastbound lanes of Owens Drive.

In the last eight months the traffic on that road has become a nightmare. It is an important and busy road and its change will impact Pleasanton residents' daily lives. It's unreasonable to sacrifice the majority of Pleasanton residents' right for a developer. We are requesting that the city return these 2 lanes back to public.

### Losing Its Charm Trudi Hartley Pleasanton resident

I am writing to add my voice to the letter of Jan. 20 regarding the "Pleasanton Building Boom." I too have considered moving away after 28 years here. The traffic is getting terrible and yet more building continues.

I was especially frustrated when we were told 2 years ago that we needed to cut back on water usage and yet there was apparently enough water to keep adding more users. I believe we have met the requirement for low income housing. Some views of the surrounding hills are being blocked by high risers. Those views were part of what made Pleasanton beautiful.

It is my feeling that builders with big projects are now destroying the charm and character of Pleasanton. Slow growth, which most residents appreciated, has disappeared. City Council, please listen to the people.

### Buy Back Congress Glenn Hage Pleasanton

Here's a good way to take advantage of having a billionaire president.

He could "buy back" the members of Congress and Senate who are "owned" by the National Rifle Association and the drug industry. With enough votes, close the stupid loopholes in gun control laws and allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, like the rest of the civilized world. We could "drain the swamp."

### Emergency Operations Bruce Shore Livermore

The proposed Community Center Meeting Hall, to be built where the old library now stands abandoned and whose plans were presented to the City Council last year, has two major components: First: Roughly half would be

an auditorium layout where the City Council would hold their regular meetings. Second: Roughly half would be a large room, partitionable into two, where the various city commissions would meet to do their work, and where city staff meetings would be held.

This meeting space would also serve, when needed, as an Emergency Operations center, or EOC. You might think, because we now have an EOC in our Police Department building, that such a construction would be a luxury. Not so. Here is what I have learned about our EOC and its proposed replacement.

Our city employees must prepare for a variety of calamities. On our behalf, they must prepare for the inevitable earthquakes, for fires and collapsing buildings, for hazardous material spills, for firearm attacks, and many other imaginable catastrophes. It is important that our city deal with such bad scenes as wisely as planning will allow. Our Fire Chief would be Chief of Operations and our city employees

— the police force, the fire fighters, the city engineering department, the various safety inspectors — all of these folks must be ready to take action if called upon. If and when such an emergency occurs many people must work well together in some central location. That is what an EOC is for. Our present EOC is in a small room of the Police Department. When there is an emergency drill some 30 people crowd into that cramped and noisy space — folks from Operations, from Planning, from Logistics, from Finance and Damage Assessment. There will be a Policy group too — the Mayor and City manager and others in positions of responsibility. Try to imagine the noise and confusion when these folks try to manage the details of a real emer-

gency. The new facility will be roughly twice as large, and have even more room in the adjacent hallway.

In the present EOC the communications to the outside are restricted by what was available when it was built, in the days before WIFI and prolific cell phones. The new design will make use of contemporary technology for communication and active display.

The present EOC has very little wall space for maps and event updates. The new design has lots of wall space.

Lastly, in the new facility those who deal with informing the public will have space in the Council Chamber to make their presentations. An important space, as you can easily imagine.

Our community has need for better facilities in which to do its work and better facilities for dealing with emergencies. I urge the City Council to proceed with the steps needed to create this new Civic-Center Meeting Hall.

### Move the Depot Alan Frank Livermore

The plan to rehabilitate and return Livermore's historic Depot to service as a rail depot, is largely funded by the 2.5 million dollar grant of Federal Transportation funds through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. This is the only funded plan for the rehabilitation and long term use of the Depot that has emerged in the over forty years since the Heritage Guild saved it from total demolition.

This plan calls for the historic restoration of the exterior and modernization of the interior in the historic style. To return the Depot to railway service, it must be moved to the tracks that were moved away years ago. The MTC grant can only be used to place the Depot into

transportation service and cannot be used to restore the Depot for some other purpose.

The Depot will never be returned to railway service where it is located. The tracks will not come back to Railroad Avenue. Returning it to its historically intended service will enhance its eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places overriding any issues due to its move. Of the eleven remaining depots of this design none are in railroad depot service. Two on the Register have both been moved.

None of the viable redevelopment proposals for the downtown property include the Depot. No funded alternative proposal for the Depot has emerged, before or since the council approved this project. Nor has any alternative business plan emerged that provides for the long term upkeep of the depot. For these reasons the Heritage Guild voted to support this project.

Changes made to the historic fabric of the building have been so great that a full restoration is extremely costly. Most damaging was its conversion to a restaurant, which did not survive. No subsequent tenant has provided the wherewithal even to maintain the building and it has continued to deteriorate.

It is not likely that a few well intentioned individuals could easily or quickly come up with funds necessary for repair and restoration even considering volunteer labor. Without restoration the Register will consider it an "ineligible wreck".

In the years since the Depot saw its last railroad service no funded program has emerged that could preserve it in the long term. This project will rehabilitate the building, return it to its historic service and provide a permanent funding stream for its upkeep.

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# Participants in the Women's March Report on the Event

Two women from the Tri-Valley offered their views on the atmosphere surrounding the women's march held in Oakland last Saturday.

Christine Steiner reported, As we face uncertain times globally and nationally, joining the Women's March in Oakland affirmed what America is all about.

It was truly inspiring to experience the camaraderie on the BART train from Pleasant Hill as we appeared to have one destination. Drums, French Horns fought for space, and laughter and smiles bound everyone together. These feelings continued as our group joined the mass of humanity waiting patiently to join the main throng.

Talking to others, I realized that not only were the participants of every age - infants in strollers to seniors, disabled and every race and religion, they represented every income bracket. There were doctors, health professionals, attorneys, teachers and techies to name a few. Many came as families - the men equally concerned about equality.

Health professionals were driven by concern for their vulnerable patients and health care in general. For housing professionals, it was concern for providing stable, safe and affordable housing. For the legal profession the focus was on equal justice and representation.

There was no violence only smiles and acceptance that we shared one goal to better our communities and uphold the values America represents.

For us seniors, it was a reminder of battles fought and won, but often taken for granted by a younger generation. Gloria Steinem is a foreign name to many. My granddaughter, who marched in Washington DC, was surprised at the number of older people marching. The Grey Panthers are long forgotten, but the concerns young and old share are the same. The message was loud and clear from all over the country and world.

Women matter and we are in this together. Yes we can.

Elva Cooper described her experience. On January 21st, three generations of Coopers marched in Oakland in



The Cooper family from Livermore took part in the Women's March in Oakland last Saturday.

opposition to Trump's proposed policies. Elva Cooper says they were happy to do something positive in the face of a very different future.

"I was very proud that not only my daughter and granddaughters marched, but my husband and son, together with his family, joined in. Even though it was a rainy day, we were all in a good mood. There were bands, singing of "We Shall Overcome," and chants. It was a huge human crush, but we

did not care. Everyone was friendly. It was very peaceful. There were people of all races, ages and ethnicities. It was very impressive that many handicapped people came with walkers, canes, and wheelchairs.

"All were there to band together for human rights of every kind. I told my grand daughters that they were participating in an historical event."



The photo shows the depot in service. It was taken by John Harder in 1969 and is part of the Livermore Heritage Guild collection.

## DEPOT

(continued from page one)

that location since 1892. In 1976 the tracks were moved away from the depot several blocks to the north. Since then, the depot has seen a variety of uses, ranging from a real estate office to a restaurant; none of them transit oriented.

At its new location, it will be returned to service as Livermore's depot for ACE trains and LAVTA (Wheels) buses.

The city will use \$2.5 million dollars of federal grant funds for the project. To be eligible for the grant, the Depot must be used for transit related purposes. The total cost of the project will be \$4.1 million with \$221,000 coming from the general fund, \$1 million from former redevelopment funds, and \$21,000 in Measure B money.

The council heard from those who favored moving the depot, as well as those who voiced the view that it should remain where it has stood for well over a 100 years.

Those opposed, pointed out that history is Livermore's connection to the past. In moving the depot, a false history would be created.

Kathy Chase declared, "I do not want it moved." She suggested that no decision should be made on mov-

ing the depot until a plan for the property had been determined. It could be possible to integrate it into any development plan. Bus and ACE tickets could be sold at its current location.

Nancy Mulligan said it saddened her that Livermore has never made the effort to save historic buildings. She launched an online petition urging the council not to move the depot, turning in 23 pages of signatures to the city clerk. Mulligan said she would be willing to lead the effort to raise funds, if needed, to restore the depot.

Jeff Kaskey, president of the Livermore Heritage Guild, told the council that he agreed with the staff recommendation to move the depot. The Guild, which voted to support the move, believes the opportunity to restore the depot and put it back into use for transit represents the best possible outcome for this resource. Since it will be used as it was historically, it would meet the criteria to be listed on the National Historic Registry.

Dawn Argula stated that the depot had languished at its current site. No long term use has worked. Now the city is planning to use it for transit. The funding has been identified to restore and maintain it.

Barbara Soules, a mem-

ber of the Heritage Guild, pointed out that funding options were limited to restore the depot at its current site. She said she had debated on whether or not to support the move, deciding to endorse it. She was pleased that the suggestion to use it as a ticket office was implemented. The funds for renovation are secure. It will become a stop on the history walk. She suggested signage be put up to let people know where the depot is located.

Alan Frank noted that at its current location, it would never be returned to rail service. Placing it back in use will enhance the opportunity of placing it on the Historic Registry.

Rehabilitation of the building planned by the city will include improvements to the foundation, roofing, lighting, heating and ventilation, and restoration of existing walls and ceilings, interior stairways and bathrooms.

Also planned are re-creation of a passenger waiting area featuring a museum to showcase photographs and artifacts belonging to the Depot.

## COSTS

(continued from page one)

Official for the Livermore District, who along with other district representatives, attended a presentation by School Services of California. It addressed the Governor's proposed 2017-2018 budget and summarized the findings.

Kinder pointed out that the proposed budget reflects a recovery slowdown and the fact that there are many unknowns at the federal level.

In analyzing the impacts on the district, Kinder noted that contributions to California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) continue to go up. In 2017-2018, there will be a 20% increase, handicapping school districts, said Kinder. "Any new money from the state goes back out to pay into the retirement systems."

Budget numbers aren't final. The Governor issues what is called the May revise each year. Kinder commented, "Hope is not a strategy, but we can always hope that the market will help. We need to be thoughtful and strategic in how we plan."

Trustee Kate Runyon stated, "The uncertainty at the federal level is an issue." Runyon, who also attended the meeting in Sacramento, said that revenue is down due to anticipated tax law changes. People are deferring actions, such as selling stock, hoping to have lower tax rates in the future. "California is extraordinarily dependent on high income people paying income tax for its state budget."

In looking at the proposed 1.48% COLA (cost of living allowance) in funding for the coming

year, Runyon said that is not enough to cover the retirement contributions. "That means there will be nothing for salary increases." She suggested that the district monitor actual collection of revenues at the state level and compare them to projections prior to issuance of the May revise.

Board President Craig Bueno expressed frustration over how schools are funded. California is the home of Google, Apple, Facebook and other tech. The stock market is at an all time high. CalPERS is tied directly to the stock market. He said, "It makes no sense that we are doing this well as a state and cannot rely on funding for schools. The system is fundamentally flawed. It puts a lot of pressure on districts. Jobs are tied to the budget. Notices are sent out each year telling people they may not have jobs. No industry could possibly work with a budget like this."

### COMMENTS ON TRUMP NOMINEE

Cate Sarraille, President of the Livermore Education Association, read a prepared statement regarding President Trump's nominee for Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos.

She stated, "Those of us familiar with education are puzzled by Mr. Trump's nomination. If she applied to be Superintendent of the Livermore School District, I don't think she would make it through the first round. She has never taught in the classroom,

has no experience in public education, believes that taxpayer funds should be used to fund private schools, and thinks public schools should be privatized."

Sarraille went on to compare DeVos's experience with what is expected of educators at a local level. "Based on the requirements of the California Teaching Commission and California State Legislature, counselors, nurses, speech pathologist, psychologists and teachers have to meet specific requirements in order to work in public education."

She pointed out that the union has provided funds to allow for its members to enroll in education development classes, and to attend a variety of conferences to improve teaching by learning. She hoped that the district's upcoming budget would also provide funding for teachers to be able to improve their skills.



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## DOWNTOWN

(continued from page one)

fied developer at the table to discuss the location and size of a hotel."

Both Presidio and Lennar had requested a nine month extension of the ENRA to allow them to continue to work with the city and the community in development plans.

A spokesperson for Presidio said the company is 1000% committed to building an upscale hotel somewhere on the site, including the potential to build it next to Blacksmith Square on the westside of Livermore Avenue.

Lennar's spokesperson said the company was looking to follow staff and council's lead engaging the community to look at the site plan.

In arguing to extend the ENRA for both Lennar and Presidio, Marchand said that the plan presented to the public represented the information in the request for proposal (RFP) issued by the city. Lennar and Presidio were selected because it was believed they had the ability to build whatever the community wanted. The city has not had a chance to negotiate with them, because the council had asked for more information.

Marchand said later that there had not been a real plan, rather a response to the RFP, which was based on the Downtown Specific Plan.

Councilmember Bob Coomber pointed out that the public had been asked to comment on a real plan that had been presented by Lennar and Presidio. Participants at the workshop were asked to comment on such aspects as design, not on such items as housing numbers and the location of a hotel.

Woerner said that speaking in favor of extending the ENRA for both Lennar and Presidio was a tough one for him. "The council, in selecting them, concluded that they had the corporate substance to deliver the product." He felt there had been a distortion of reality and the community became polarized. He stated, "We need to work together to get it right. I heard Lennar say they are willing to work with the community. The question is, is the community willing to work with them." He suggested the city proceed with workshops, extend the ENRA for Lennar and Presidio, perhaps not for nine months, to see if it would be possible to come together on a plan.

Spedowski said he found that people were in general agreement on the need for a hotel in the downtown. He was pleased that Presidio was willing to look at building it on the western parcel. He encouraged the city to focus on the hotel in the first workshops. He wanted to know how a hotel would work at either location, next to the Bankhead or on the western parcel.

Councilmember Bob Carling supported the downtown hotel. He was less supportive of residential. He favored extending the ENRA for Presidio, stating, "I think Presidio is a first class operation. I am impressed with their willingness to work with us."

Coomber spoke in favor of moving forward with the hotel and extending the ENRA for Presidio. He said that while he had heard over and over again the need for housing, "I'm not sure Lennar is the best fit."

The two companies had been selected by a previous council as the developers of two catalyst sites in the downtown: the Old Lucky Site, and land located to the west of the Bankhead Theater. Presidio would build the hotel on the eastside of Livermore Avenue, Lennar the housing and commercial on the westside. The Lennar/Presidio team proposal included 260 housing units, a 12,000 square foot market hall, a 135-room hotel, retail space, a conference center, and a 550 space public parking garage.

The city is in the process of conducting studies in regard to parking, traffic, and

housing in the downtown. Workshops are being scheduled to take public input on planning the area. Staff suggested that extending the ENRA would allow for the studies and workshops to be completed prior to working on any development plan. They felt that it would take 4 to 6 months to complete the workshops, after which they could develop a plan for public comment.

Those who spoke in favor of extending the agreement with both Lennar and Presidio were interested in preserving housing on the site. They were also in support of a hotel. Sblend Sblendorio, representing Innovation Tri-Valley, stated, "I support continuing negotiations with Lennar and Presidio. I support workforce housing and amenities businesses require, such as a hotel in the downtown. The companies have invested a lot of time and money." He would like to see if it were possible to meet the community's vision and their vision in one plan.

Livermore Downtown, Inc. Executive Director Rachael Snedecor stated that a hotel is a missing link in the downtown. Businesses know they need the hotel. "We endorse moving forward with both Lennar and Presidio."

Dawn Argula, CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, also endorsed moving forward by extending the ENRA with both Lennar and Presidio. She said she was surprised and pleased to hear they were interested.

However, residents who spoke commented on terminating the ENRA with Lennar and Presidio.

Tamara Reuss told the council not to extend the agreements. She said the previous proposal had put the cart before the horse, which created an unworkable plan. "Lennar doesn't match the pulse of the community. We want this to be done right." She did not want to see too much housing in the downtown, adding that there were companies who would be willing to take a fresh look at the issue.

Jean King urged the council not to extend the ENRA. "Open up the process. With a new plan, we need to hear from other developers. Hold workshops, start the process over and don't try to rework the plan."

Jan Brovant said she agreed with speakers who did not want to extend the ENRA for Lennar and Presidio. People don't like the idea of stack and pack housing as represented in the 2004 specific plan. There should be some housing, a hotel and a parking garage.

David Rounds said the results of the last election, where two councilmembers were voted out of office, represented a mandate. The main issue during the election was the downtown plan. He said he would like to see a new RFP focused on what residents would like to see in the downtown: much less housing and more open space.

Jeff Kasky also brought up the election, calling the results a clear message that people want to be involved at the beginning in planning the area. He didn't know how to explain to the community continuing with the current process. He opposed extending the ENRA for both Lennar and Presidio. To come up with a plan that responds to the community's needs, will require some creative collaboration and could result in a solution such as creative communities where the residents are more engaged in the overall development.

"The community-focused process may make different developers interested or may cause you to weight the developers differently. It is important to do it right. We should move as quickly as we can, but no quicker," he concluded.

Beth Trutner, board president of Livermore Shakespeare Festival, was interested in a hotel, which she believes is needed as part of the growth of tourism.



Looking over the former golf course.

## SPRINGTOWN

(continued from page one)

Croce Elementary School, 5650 Scenic Avenue. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 31, at 6:30 p.m. in the Cresta Blanca Room of the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue.

"Holding more than one meeting for public input provides options so if a person is busy on one date, they can hopefully attend at another time," said Lawrence. "For this planning process, we believe that the people most impacted, the residents of Springtown, should have a meeting in their neighborhood and focused on collecting their input. Yet, because the final results of the plan, future development, and possible funding for development and operation may come from a community-wide source, it is important to receive input from the

entire community."

Both meetings will include: an introduction to cover the intended scope, process and schedule of the master plan process; explanation of the constraints, opportunities and issues involving the site. Meetings will include breakout or small-group sessions to brainstorm ideas for land use, features, facilities, amenities, specific proposals, costs and funding; and a question and answer period.

When asked about suggested options for the open space, Lawrence stated, "That is wide open. There are so many, but a few possibilities are open or natural space, trails and walkways, community gardens, spray park, recreational spaces or fields, a dog park, and an amphitheater."

He added that this plan-

ning process is not intended to address ownership of the property, property lines or reviving the area as a golf course. The consultant (RRM Design Group), LARPD and the City of Livermore are aware and mindful of the site's constraints involving access to Springtown, parking and environmental restrictions.

"After these first two public meetings, creation of the first alternative plans will take about eight weeks," said Lawrence. "Then, after the public input on the options, it will take about six weeks to develop the preferred plan or design. After that, it will take the consultant about nine weeks to prepare the final plan and final report."

The public Springtown Golf Course closed in 2015 due to ongoing annual deficits. Today, the land reflects

the inherent beauty of the valley - grassy knolls dotted with century-old olive, pine and eucalyptus trees with distant views of Mount Diablo and Brushy Peak. The land is home to native wildlife, and many birds including owls, hawks, kites and geese.

"The City bent over backwards trying to resolve the issue of the property's use for years and worked with a number of golf operators trying to keep the golf course operational, but it just had not been a feasible concept for years," said Lawrence. "Now we want to make sure that residents have the opportunity to be heard and involved in the process."

For more information, including updates and meeting announcements, visit [www.larpd.org](http://www.larpd.org), or call (925) 373-5786.

## Assassin Game Triggers Call to Police in Pleasanton

The Pleasanton Police and Pleasanton Unified School District are warning students and parents concerning the consequences of the Assassin Game, which last week led to a 911 call reporting a burglary in progress.

Police officers who responded found the suspected burglars were playing the "Assassin" game.

The annual game "Assassin" is now being played by students from Foothill High School and Amador Valley High School. This game is not sanctioned, supported, or approved by the Pleasanton Unified School District. The Pleasanton Police Department and the school district are collectively concerned about safety. They are reaching out to parents and students with important information about this dangerous activity.

For those who are unaware of the game, teams of seniors are assigned "targets" whom they have to "assassinate" using toy Nerf type guns that fire foam darts. Each participant pays an entry fee and after several rounds and several months of play, the winner is the last person standing. The winner collects a large pot of cash. The collection and custody can create liability for the game organizer as participants often make accusations of mishandling or gouging of funds. There are specific rules concerning the type of weapon used. The weapon cannot be altered or painted in any fashion, there are rules regarding times and locations the subjects may be "assassinated," and so on.

A major concern for parents, school staff, and police is that the thrill of the game overrides common sense in many instances. Participants do not think about how their behavior is being viewed or interpreted by community members who see people with potentially dangerous weapons, often chasing others on foot or in vehicles, and surprising their "targets" in stores or at their homes. Non-participants are frightened or feel threatened because only participants are aware at the time that the behavior is not real but rather a game being played.

Unfortunately our students are engaging in behavior that has possible dire consequences. Thus far there have been no serious injury or situation, but there is significant concern that day is coming.

Some examples of dangerous behavior among participants include: painting or disguising weapons to make them look more realistic; reaching for concealed weapons in public places;

lying in wait behind bushes, trash cans, vehicles or fences; accessing or hiding on the property of another, often late at night; waiting for a target while dressed in all black or camouflaged clothing; reckless driving to avoid being targeted; car loads of teens driving around "stalking" or "hunting" their targets; jumping out of moving vehicles to attack or flee from other participants; and conducting a "drive by" shooting of a target in a parking lot or public street.

When viewed through a non-participant's eyes, the behaviors look and have all the elements of an actual threatening or violent event unfolding. They often prompt multiple calls to the police who respond to what they believe is a dangerous and potentially violent incident in progress. Not only does this consume significant time and resources of emergency personnel, it also jeopardizes the safety of the community when actual emergencies cannot

be responded to in a timely manner. Furthermore, in the eyes of a startled homeowner protecting his or her family or property, a violent response to a player is quite possible.

The Pleasanton Police Department and the Pleasanton Unified School District urge students to consider the potential ramifications of their behavior and to avoid playing this game. Students will face suspension if any weapons, even imitation guns, are brought to school. If evidence is discovered of the game being played on campus, students will face disciplinary action.

To the parents of participants and high school aged children: have a serious and candid conversation with your children about the very real dangers of this behavior. To participants: recognize that the only people who know this is a game are those directly involved; others who see your behavior likely believe a real threatening situation is unfolding.

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# SPORTS NOTES



Pictured is the Granada High School Wrestling Team at the King of the Mat Tournament, Windsor High School.



Last Thursday the Amador Valley High School JV soccer team shutout Cal High 2-0. The Amador team plays again tonight, 4 p.m. at home against San Ramon Valley.



Alexis Yciano of Discovery Bay, who trains at Pleasanton's Tri-Valley Judo represented the USA in the Pan American Championships in the Dominican Republic where she placed 3rd and earned a Bronze Medal. Alexis who has been training with Tri-Valley Judo for three years has been the #1 US player in her age and weight for the last two years. As a result of Alexis's hard work, she has earned a spot on the US Jr National Team. Alexis prepared for the competition by training 5 days a week. Always the athlete, Alexis started Jiu-Jitsu at age 6. Looking to expand her Jiu-Jitsu skills she started Judo and fell in love with the sport. The tournament took place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on November 11, 2016. Alexis was one of 46 athletes from throughout the US that were part of the US Jr National Team. Alexis had a competitive division facing girls from Colombia, Brazil, as well as the Dominican Republic.



Kevin Cai, pictured at far left, captured second place in a regional fencing tournament: Redwood Empire RYCat Y14 Men's epee. The Livermore resident is an 8th grade student at Mendenhall Middle School. He trains at the Las Positas Fencing Center where fencing is taught through Las Positas College's Community Education program.



Pleasanton Seahawks' swimmers Miranda Heckman and Chris Jhong were selected to participate at USA Swimming National Select Camp at the Olympic Training Center.



Katie Strong scored two goals to help West Coast Wildkatz advance to final Four.

### Pleasanton Seahawks

Pleasanton Seahawk swimmers, Miranda Heckman, age 15 from Livermore, and Chris Jhong, age 16 from Pleasanton, were chosen as two of 68 swimmers from across the country for USA Swimming's National Select Camp which took place Jan. 19-22 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

During the three-day camp, Heckman and Jhong experienced the day-to-day routine of a National Team athlete and utilized the state of the art training facilities. The campers learned from top professionals about post-race recovery, psychological training skills, nutrition and race strategy. The athletes also had the opportunity to hear from Olympian Elizabeth Beisel

and National teamer Seth Stubblefield about their National team experience. "One of the longest standing Club Development programs, the National Select Camp is part of the pathway to the USA Swimming National Team," said Pat Hogan, USA Swimming's Club Development Managing Director. "A strategic element of this camp is teaching and reinforcing the National Team culture which has always been a key part of the USA's success in international competition. We want these athletes to cultivate a deep-rooted allegiance to Team USA."

Swimmers were selected from the SWIMS database of top times during the 2016 qualifying period, where the two fastest athletes in each event, ranging from age 14 to 16 are invited to the camp. Coach Caitlin DeNise of the Pleasanton Seahawks was also invited to attend the camp.

### Granada Wrestling

The Granada High School wrestling team has had a very busy 2017 thus far as a result of hosting 2 tournaments and a dual, as well as participating in 2 tournaments and a dual for a total of 6 events in 2 weeks.

Granada High Duals versus Amador Valley on 1/18 and Dublin on 1/19  
The Granada High Wrestling Team lost a close and competitive

match to a very tough Amador Valley team on Wednesday, January 18, with a team score of 23-30. Granada won 7 matches, lost 6 matches, and forfeited one weight. The following day, Granada defeated Dublin 48-15 where they lost 3 matches, won 8 matches, and there were forfeits at 182, 220, and 285 pounds.

Each dual featured eleven JV matches which is a high number of JV matches for a dual. That volume of matches speaks to the concerted efforts of people in the Tri-Valley area working to grow the sport here, and Granada is very proud to be a large part of that effort and the positive effects brought with it.

King of the Mat Tournament at Windsor High School, 1/21/17  
Varsity Tournament  
Granada High School placed 9th out of 44 teams with 84.5 points

- The individual results are as follows:
- 108 Ethan De La Torre (1-1) 11th
  - 122 Jonathan Nguyen (3-1) 9th
  - 128 Edward Vilchis (1-2)
  - 134 Joseph Lestochi (1-2)
  - 140 Ahmet Gueye (3-2) 7th
  - 147 Jackson Volkir (2-2) 7th
  - 154 Anthony Martinez (2-2) 6th
  - 162 Jack Kilner (2-1) 3rd
  - 184 Jack Lutz (3-1) 3rd
  - 184 Zachery Stewart (3-1) 3rd
  - 222 Francisco Midkiff (3-1) 9th

Barnburner Tournament at Livermore High School, 1/21/17  
Junior Varsity Tournament, 24 teams participating (no team scores kept)

The individual results are as follows:

- Zachery Armstrong (3-0) 1st
- Jordan Bets (3-0) 1st
- Dylan Krauss (3-0) 1st
- Moheb Salemi (3-0) 1st
- Max Gomez (2-1) 2nd
- Robert Gonzalez (2-1) 2nd
- Jacob Gutke (3-1) 3rd
- Majed Moussalli (1-0)
- Tre Savino (1-2)
- Richard Gonzalez (1-2)
- Joshua Collom (1-2)
- Haiden Rotermund (0-2)
- Cody Brown (0-2)
- Jacob Zayas (0-2)

away with a 4-3 shoot out win. The WildKatz will continue with State Cup play as they take on Ajax Green in the battle for 3rd place in the State Top 8 Bracket on February 12th.

### Youth Track Club

FTC Track Club, a USATF (USA Track and Field) certified club that specializes in youth athletes from ages 7 to 18, is building a team to compete this winter/spring in USATF track meets including a meet at the national level in July. The organizers are looking for athletes of all ages and different events, especially relays. Visit [www.ftctrackclub.com](http://www.ftctrackclub.com) or contact Coach Jorge Quero. [jquero@ftctrackclub.com](mailto:jquero@ftctrackclub.com) or (925) 209 7520.

### Basketball on TV

For the sixth year, Tri-Valley TV 30 will broadcast four varsity basketball games this season including three boys games and one girls match-up. Starting on February 4th at 7 p.m., catch the Foothill boys varsity team facing off against California High School. The games will be tape delayed and debut every Saturday through February 18th. Watch on Comcast TV Channel 30 and AT&T U-verse via Channel 99 as well as streaming live on the TV30 website at [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org).

Play by play and color announcing will include TV 30 sports personalities Ian Bartholomew, George "Dr. B" Baljevich and Tim Sbranti.

The schedule will include: Foothill @ Cal - Boys (airs 2/4); Dublin @ Amador Valley - Boys (airs 2/11); and Granada @ Livermore - Boys & Girls games (air 2/18)

Games will air on TV30 multiple times including every Saturday night at 7 p.m. For complete air dates and times visit the TV30 website at [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org). DVDs of the games may also be purchased by going to the website.



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(925) 447-8700







# Free Tax Preparation Offered

The Tri-Valley One-Stop Career Center, a service of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, is once again providing free tax preparation services to qualified low-to-moderate income individuals, families, and seniors from the end of January through April 15, 2017. The program is offered in partnership with the United Way of the Bay Area through its Earn It, Keep It, Save It program. Tax returns are e-filed so that patrons can receive their refund in as little as ten days.

All tax returns are prepared and double checked by trained and IRS-certified volunteers at two locations in the Tri-Valley---the One-Stop Career Center offices at 6300 Village Parkway, Suite 100 in Dublin, and at the Pleasanton Library located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton.

Tax preparation can cost a family between \$300-\$500 to have their tax returns prepared. For a family on a limited budget, that is money that could be spent on rent, food, clothing or childcare. The Earn It, Keep It, Save It program offers piece of mind at a stressful time.

Those interested in benefiting from this free service should assemble the following documentation to present to

the tax preparer, and then call (925) 560-9431 to schedule an appointment in Dublin or Pleasanton.

- Photo ID for each person listed on the tax return
- Social Security card or ITIN for each person on the tax return
- W-2's from all jobs held in 2016
- Savings and checking account and routing numbers for direct deposit
- Household's health coverage information (1095-A, 1095-B, 1095-C)
- Last year's tax return
- Also bring, if applicable:
  - Property tax bill paid during the tax year
  - Child care provider information
  - All 1099s, 1098s and any other tax forms
  - Landlord's name, address and phone number for CA renters credit
  - Record of college-related expenses
- For additional information or to schedule an appointment, contact the Tri-Valley One-Stop Center at (925) 560-9431.

# Annual Walk Set in the Memory of Ilene Misheloff

On January 30, 1989, thirteen-year-old Ilene Misheloff was kidnapped while walking home from Wells Middle School in Dublin. Ilene's family, friends, and members of the community meet each year to remember Ilene and follow the path she was taking to ensure that she will always be remembered. The investigation into Ilene's disappearance continues in an effort to return Ilene safely to her parents.

The public is invited to join Ilene's family and friends in the annual Candlelight Walk and Prayer Service in honor of Ilene Misheloff. The walk will be held on Monday, January 30, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. The walk will begin at Wells Middle School (6800 Penn Drive, Dublin) and proceed to Saint Raymond's Church (11555 Shannon Avenue, Dublin).

Anyone with information regarding Ilene Misheloff's disappearance should contact Dublin Police Sergeant Daniel McNaughton at (925) 833-6673. All tips will remain anonymous.

## SHORT NOTES

### Dance Party

This winter, Kiddie Academy of Livermore® will promote the social-emotional and health benefits of dance by inviting children and their parents to the company's second annual Dance Party. During the event, Kiddie Academy staff members will teach different dances to attendees. The day then culminates in an energetic and exciting DanceParty! to showcase everyone's dance moves.

This event is free and open to the public including current students, new friends and families who would like to partake in this fun and unique experience. It will take place starting at 10 a.m. on January 28 at 1400 North Vasco Road, Livermore.

To reserve a spot to attend, visit [www.kiddieevents.com/danceparty](http://www.kiddieevents.com/danceparty). For more information about Kiddie Academy, please visit [www.kiddieacademy.com](http://www.kiddieacademy.com).

### Advisory Committee

The City of Dublin is seeking applicants to fill one unscheduled vacancy on the Senior Center Advisory Committee. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at 100 Civic Plaza by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

The Mayor recommends all appointments, subject to confirmation by the City Council. Because this is an unscheduled vacancy, the appointee will fill a term ending December 2018. It is anticipated that the appointment will be made at the February 21, 2017, City Council meeting.

Dublin residents interested in serving on the Senior Center Advisory Committee must complete an application. Applications may be downloaded and/or submitted online at the City's website, [www.dublin.ca.gov/commissions](http://www.dublin.ca.gov/commissions), or obtained at the Dublin Library, Dublin Senior Center, Civic Center, or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (925) 833-6650.

### Pet of the Month

3 potato 4 potato at Stoneridge Shopping Center is holding a pet of the month photo contest.

All pet owners are eligible to enter. The photo with the most "likes" will receive prizes.

The winner will be announced on Feb. 14 on 3 potato 4 potato Facebook page and contacted shortly after to claim the prizes.

To enter, email a picture of a pet to [Stoneridge@3p4shop.com](mailto:Stoneridge@3p4shop.com)

For information, call 425-7205 or email [Stoneridge@3p4shop.com](mailto:Stoneridge@3p4shop.com)

### Scholarships Available

Stoneridge Shopping Center is once again helping a deserving graduating senior pay for college. Simon Youth Foundation, a national nonprofit that provides educational opportunities for at-risk high school students, is now looking for qualified applicants who live near Stoneridge Shopping Center and the surrounding community.

The application period has begun and ends on March 1, 2017. Students can apply online by visiting [syf.org/scholarships](http://syf.org/scholarships).

Any student who will be graduating in the class of 2017 and lives in the community surrounding a Simon property is eligible. Applicants can check their eligibility by entering their ZIP code at [syf.org/scholarships](http://syf.org/scholarships). Recipients will receive up to \$1,500 to enroll in an accredited college, university, vocational or technical school.

In 2016, the Simon Youth Foundation awarded \$1.2 million to 300 students nationwide.

Recipients will be notified in May.

## OBITUARIES

### Lois Lenfest Wheeler

Resident of Fremont, CA  
Aug. 11, 1928 - Jan. 4, 2017

Lois Wheeler, age 88 passed away on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 after a year-long battle with breast cancer.



Lois was born in Dinuba, California the second daughter of Marian Gamble Lenfest and Jasper D. Lenfest. During her early years, the family moved several times between the San Jose area and Stanislaus County. Finally in the late 1930's, the family settled outside of Waterford on a 125 acre parcel - a place that, for the next 40+ years, was fondly known as "the Ranch." Lois graduated from Oakdale High School in 1946 and then began her undergraduate studies at College of the Pacific in Stockton. In August of 1949, she married Douglas Wheeler and they shared four children and a 27 year marriage.

In the early 1950's, Lois began her teaching career - working in schools in Eureka, Oakdale, and Sunnyvale. With a move to Livermore in 1960, Lois began a long and distinguished career in the Girls PE Department at Granada High School. One of 13 original teachers, she was instrumental in getting the school up and running, as well as being a well-known pioneer and advocate for equality in the fields of girls sports. She was teacher, bus-driver, coach, mentor and friend - and always foremost in her mind, were the best interests of her students.

Retiring in 1991, with 27 years in the District and a total of 33 years in education, Lois embarked on her second career. Always an avid reader and book collector, Lois spent the next 15+ years doing just that. She ran consignment collections in several places on the Central Coast, buying and selling and having a great time. Finally in 2006, she was able to realize her life-long dream of owning her own book store - Page One Used Books located in Historic Downtown Mariposa. After a couple of years of fun, Lois sold the shop and spent more time reading her own books and enjoying her time

in Mariposa with family and friends.

Lois is survived by her younger sister, Mrs. Jeanne Houllis of Los Osos, CA. She was a devoted mother and mother-in-law to Cindy and John Thayer, Celeste and Deb Wheeler-Glover, Bruce and Jamie Wheeler and Lance Wheeler; a loving grandmother of Melissa and Carlos Blanco, Nathan, Wayne and Kevin Wheeler, Craig and Ashley Thayer, Mark Thayer, Lindsey and Jon Thorne and Nolan and Sam Glover; and doting great-grandmother of Daron and Gavin Thayer, Jack Thorne, and expected soon another great-grandchild. Lois is also survived by nephew Jim Houllis and his wife Morgen, nephews Doug and Neil Wheeler, niece Lee D. Wheeler, and several great nieces and nephews.

Friends and family are invited to attend a Memorial service on February 4, 2017, 1:00 p.m. at the Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the "Pioneers of Granada High School Physical Education Scholarship," c/o Mrs. Danielle Mintz, The Career Center, Granada High School, at 400 Wall St., Livermore, CA 94550. The scholarship was founded in honor of Mrs. Wheeler, along with Mrs. Janet Freytag and Ms. Donna Fong.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Wheeler family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com)

### Robert Gordon Ferro

Mar. 15, 1944 - Jan. 13, 2017  
Livermore

Bob Ferro, 72, passed away peacefully January 13, 2017 after a 4 year battle with pancreatic cancer. The



youngest of four children, Bob was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. His family moved to San Francisco in 1958 where he attended Riordan High School. In 1964, he married his high school sweetheart, Darlene Hornick, at St. Anne's Church in San Francisco. They moved to San Ramon in 1968 and to Livermore

in 1977. Together they have four children, 12 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Before dedicating his life to ministry full time, Bob worked at the S.F. Naval Shipyard, in the finance, banking, and leasing business, and owned a Corvette restoration business called The Glass Shop. In 1978 he started with Youth For Christ/Campus Life where he worked for 16 years. His favorite time was the annual trip to Catalina Island with high schoolers that changed so many lives. During 1983-1987, he was also the Youth Minister for St. Charles Catholic Church in Livermore. Part of the beginning Bible study, he officially joined the Cornerstone staff as an Associate Pastor in 1994. Following his passion, he opened Agape Christian Counseling in 2002, where he counseled until his passing.

He enjoyed spending time with his family and grandkids, restoring corvettes and classic cars, coaching and attending many soccer games, watching football, vacationing at the ocean, and sharing Jesus with friends and strangers.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Dee, of 52 years; his son Todd, Kathy (Deering), and their 3 children, Nathan, Evan and Rayna; his daughter Tanya, Ken (Olsen), and their 4 children Brian, (wife Lindsey and 2 children Austin and Kambria), Kaley, Hayden, and Chandler; his son Troy, Brandy (Gagaza), and their three children, Brianna, Carson, and Camden; his daughter Tresa, Scott (Patterson), and their 2 children Chaz and Shea.

A celebration of life will be held at Cornerstone Fellowship, Livermore on February 4 at 10:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Cross on the Hill (Capstone Christian Ministries, 1695 Prima Drive, Livermore, 94550). or Valley Pregnancy Center, Pleasanton.

He will be greatly missed, our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend...restorer of cars and people.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Ferro family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com)

### Mark Palajac

1923 - 2017

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, January 30, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church



in Livermore for Mark Palajac, 93. Rev. Mark Wiesner, pastor, will be the celebrant. Interment will be in the Bakersfield National Cemetery in Arvin, CA.

Mr. Palajac was born to Peter and Mary Palajac on November 11, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan and passed away on January 20, 2017 in Livermore. He served his country as a member of the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946---truly a member of the Greatest Generation. He moved to Southern California in 1948 where he met and fell in love with a beautiful Irish redhead, Una Hunter. They were married in 1949 and there began a 67 year "courtship." He was an electrical design engineer and worked in the aerospace industry. He was employed by Hughes Aircraft Company in Culver City for 25 years. In 1981 he and his wife moved to Livermore, California when he began working at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and retired from there at the age of 65. He derived much pleasure in

tinkering in his garage and watching TV.

He is preceded in death by his brothers, Andrew and Joseph and grandson, Nicholas. He is survived by his wife, Una Palajac of Livermore; his seven children and their spouses, Jennifer and Charles Landwehr of Taft, Mark and Jan Palajac, Nancy and John Johnsen, Jo and Jim Lucas all of Livermore, Bill and Tara Palajac of Santa Cruz, Tom and Pam Palajac of Livermore and Stephanie and Todd Schwenk of Placerville; 12 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; his brother and sister-in-law, Peter and Patricia Palajac of San Diego; sister-in-law, Patricia Hunter of Downey; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews; and cousins.

A viewing will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 1st Street, Pleasanton.

To express online condolences or sign an online guestbook please visit [www.EricksonAndBrown.com](http://www.EricksonAndBrown.com). Erickson & Brown Funeral Home in Taft is entrusted with funeral arrangements.

### Audrey Shelton Coupe

Audrey Shelton Coupe, 91, a longtime resident of Dublin, died Sunday Jan 15th, 2017

Born on November 18, 1925, in Nelson County, she was the daughter of the late Lucas Farrar Shelton and the Effie Harris Shelton. She is

also preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Thomas Coupe.

She retired from the San Ramon Valley Services District. While retired, she enjoyed taking cruises and traveling throughout the United States. She also enjoyed spending time with her sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

She is survived by her sister Marion Schilling of Pasadena, CA; her sons Thomas Coupe and his wife Dawn of Corvallis, OR, Robert Coupe and his wife Cheryl of Antioch, CA; her grandchildren, Jason, Dustin, Emerald, Christie and Nicole and eight great grandchildren.

Callaghan Mortuary is honored to be serving the Coupe family. An online guestbook is available for condolences at [www.callaghanmortuary.com](http://www.callaghanmortuary.com)

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

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Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Students contemplate the answers to questions posed during the competition.

## 5th Grade Students Compete in Annual Academic Olympics

By Carol Graham

Though many people may not remember what PEMDAS means, it's guaranteed that certain Livermore 5th-graders will never forget.

"We took the words parentheses, exponents, multiplication, division, addition and subtraction, and put it together to make our team name," said Junction Avenue K-8 School student Cristian Osorio, referring to the mathematical order of operations.

On January 18, Osorio was one of 40 students who participated in the 7th annual Academic Olympics hosted at Junction. Fifth-grade students from Rancho Las Positas Elementary School and Junction competed in two fields - mathematics and science - to earn gold, silver and bronze medals.

"Both of our gold-medal teams were all-girl teams," said Erin Grajeda, a Junction literacy coach and intervention teacher. "Girl power!"

The Academic Olympics took place after school in the multipurpose room, with around 100 family members and friends cheering on the academic competitors. Ten teams in each field were formed to include students from both schools - a format ensuring that when students begin middle school next year, they will already know acquaintances. (Although Marilyn Avenue Elementary School, the third feeder school into Junction, typically joins in, a scheduling glitch precluded their participation this year.)

"The Academic Olympics gives kids an opportunity to collaborate with their peers in a fun and competitive way," said Grajeda, who served as quizmaster and co-organized the event with Junction 5th-grade teacher Michelle Nunes.

Nunes added, "I would like to thank School Board Member Ann White who was one of our scorekeepers. She has always supported the students of the Livermore schools. I'd also like to thank Superintendent Kelly Bowers for coming and supporting us. We're all fortunate to be part of such a fantastic school district."

Science competitors included: Junction's Natasha Garoutte, Lillian Bozeman, Leslie Molina-Juarez, Sanai

Hawkins, Isabel Mercado-Barrios, Brittany Robles-Camacho, Cooper Walter, Jacqueline Cortez-Rodrigues and Liam Tamisiea-Davis; and Rancho's James Hackney, Jenessa Mazerlev, Gabriel Ruiz, Charlize Maravilla, Tyler Herndon, Jacob Arnold, Isabelle Hart, Sunny Glagla, Ana Pacheco and Ayden Duffin.

Math competitors included: Junction's Andre Pascal, Tyreese Beaird, Ana Garcia-Reyes, Christopher Cacciatore, Gabriel Colmenares, Nora Blair, Cristian Osorio, Jimmy Probst, Dyllin Son and Dominic Soto; and Rancho's Sofia

Gamez, Quinn Boyd, Rachel George, Kaitlyn Perez, Victoria Stimpfig, Preston Suess, Daniel Walter, Naomi Penner, Jacob McLaughlin and Daniella Averill.

The winning teams members were:

Science: Gold - Lillian Bozeman and Isabelle Hart; Silver - Jenessa Mazerlev and Gabriel Colmenares; Bronze - Charlize Maravilla and Liam Tamisiea-Davis.

Math: Gold - Kaitlyn Perez and Nora Blair; Silver - Sofia Gamez and Andre Pascal; Bronze - Quinn Boyd and Ana Garcia-Reyes.

## PUSD Board Taking Applications for Oversight Committee

The Pleasanton School Board is taking applications from community members to serve on the District's Citizens' Oversight Committee. The committee is being organized as the result of the passage of Measure II, a \$270 million general obligation bond measure, last November.

The money will fund projects outlined in the Board approved project list including 21st Century science labs at all Pleasanton middle and high schools, state of the art classroom technology and new systems to improve energy efficiency and cost savings.

The general responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- Ensure Measure II funds are spent only on projects listed in the voter approved Measure II project list, and that no funds are used for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

- Receive and review copies of the annual financial and performance audits with respect to the bond projects as required by state law.

- Provide information to the public concerning the expenditure of bond funds.

The Committee will be comprised of at least seven (7) members and no more than 10 members including representatives from the following populations:

- One member who is active in a business organization representing the business community located within the District.
- One member who is active in a senior citizens' organization.
- One member who is active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization.
- One member who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District.
- One member who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District and who is active in a parent-teacher organization, such as the PTA or school site council.
- At least 2, and not more than 5 members selected from the public at large.

Appointed committee members will serve two year terms. The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee is required to meet annually, however the District will likely hold meetings quarterly to ensure meaningful committee engagement and oversight.

District employees as well as vendors, contractors or consultants are not eligible to apply for the Committee.

Community members are invited to apply by February 28, 2017. Download a CBOC application and view the Committee bylaws at [www.pleasantonusd.net](http://www.pleasantonusd.net)



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### AGENT OF THE WEEK



**Suzan Gladioux**  
925.336.1108  
CalBRE# 01245705

With a strong background in teaching, Suzan Gladioux became a Realtor in 1993. As with everything Suzan tackles, she takes great pride in working hard to stay up with market knowledge, negotiating skills and contract laws. Suzan was awarded the Rookie of the Year her first year, and continues her energy and zest for Real Estate as evidenced by her Top Producer Award Status, which she consistently earns year after year.

Suzan is a great mentor. She has leveraged her teaching skills to assist many Realtors to become successful agents today.

As a member of the USAA affinity and Relocation Team, Suzan's hard work and dedication are applauded by her peers and management alike.

Coldwell Banker is proud to be affiliated with Suzan Gladioux.



**PLEASANTON**  
1455 Groth Circle  
**DANBURY PARK ~ PLEASANTON!!**  
3 BR 2 BA Home in Danbury Park Area. Freshly Painted, New Carpet & Laminated Flooring. A Must See!  
Nancy Sutorius, CalBRE #00628232 925.847.2314



**BRENTWOOD**  
1948 Parsley Dr.  
**BEAUTIFUL BRENTWOOD HOME!**  
5 BR 4 BA 3300+ Square Foot with a 3 Car Garage and Side RV Parking with much more!  
Lynne Palmer, CalBRE #01172616 925.586.1641



**LIVERMORE**  
1935 Santa Croce Court  
**LIVERMORE**  
5 BR 3.5 BA Gorgeous Vinsanto Home, all the Bells and Whistles, Upgraded throughout, Large Lot.  
Mary Anne Rozsa, CalBRE #00783003 925.963.0887



**SAN RAMON**  
3342 Casa Grande Dr  
**HIDDEN GEM IN SAN RAMON**  
4 BR 2 BA Spacious San Ramon Home! Beautifully Upgrd Ktchn, Grnt Cntr, New Paint, New Carpet, Come See!  
Tae Terry Kim, CalBRE #01363454 925.847.2259



**LIVERMORE**  
2090 Hall Circle  
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Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council

# 'Festive, Enriching' Concert to Benefit the Arts

By **Carol Graham**

Moscow, London, Prague, and Pleasanton. On Saturday, February 4, internationally-acclaimed musicians are joining with the Tri-Valley's Orchestra Gradus ad Parnassum to present the benefit concert "Four Hands and a Baton" at the Amador Theater.

"Piano duo Temirzhan Yerzhanov and Klara Frei are playing four-hand piano," said Dave Wright, co-president of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC). "The baton refers to conducting the orchestra, with Yerzhanov and Imant Airea holding the baton in this concert."

Four-hand piano features two musicians playing on a single piano, as opposed to a piano duet which features two musicians on separate pianos. Four hands on a single piano creates rich, complex melodies. Four Hands and a Baton is the third annual PCAC-sponsored concert to benefit arts in the community and Pleasanton schools.

"The atmosphere will be festive and enriching," said Wright. "The music of Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Mozart, and the Leopold Kozeluch Concerto for four hands (one of only three written in the world, and its premier in Pleasanton) will introduce the magic and wonder that the audience should enjoy."

Yerzhanov and Frei are a husband and wife team with stellar musical credits.

Yerzhanov attended the Moscow Central School of Music, and earned a master's degree in Piano Performance from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory. His career took off when he won first place at the Robert Schumann International Competition for Pianists and Singers in 1993. He has performed at London's Wigmore Hall, New York's Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and the Moscow and St. Petersburg Philharmonic Halls.

Frei studied piano in her native country of Kyrgyzstan, and earned Russia's prestigious Ministry of Culture Scholarship. She continued her education at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, then graduated from the Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel in Switzerland. She has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician in Switzerland, France, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, the Czech Republic, United Kingdom and United States.

Imant Airea, described as a musician "whose performance touched to tears" by conductor Evgeny Svetlanov, is a Latvian-American conductor who has worked with the Bolshoi Theater Orchestra, the Monterey Symphony, and the Symphony of New Russia, as well as having made

guest appearances with such notable orchestras as the Moscow Philharmonic, the Gyeonggi Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Perm Tchaikovsky Opera and Ballet Theatre.

Together they created the Orchestra Gradus ad Parnassum ("steps, or ascent, to perfection"), a year-round program that gives talented Tri-Valley youth an opportunity to work directly with world-class profes-

*"The music . . . will introduce the magic and wonder that the audience should enjoy."*

sionals.

"Four Hands and a Baton will feature 31 youths and five professionals," said Wright. "The study of classical music is the best basis for the mastery of all kinds of music. What a wonderful opportunity for the kids in the East Bay to study with and perform beside world-class performers. I wish I had had that when I took up the trombone in the fourth grade."

Tickets for the benefit concert are \$35 for general admission, \$30 for seniors aged 62 and over, and \$20 for youths aged 18 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, or online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), with remaining tickets

(continued on page 3)



Temirzhan Yerzhanov and Klara Frei

# Come for Craft Beers, Stay for the Crepes!



Shadow Puppet Brewing Company proprietor Brian Blackburn will select some of his craft beers for sampling at the Feb. 26 beer tasting. Nick Boer Photo

A quartet of Livermore microbreweries will offer a pub's worth of foamy flights at the Fourth Annual Beer Tasting and Sudsy Supper Feb. 26 at Saint Bart's parish hall in Livermore.

Returning this year are Altamont Beer Works, Working Man Brewery, and Eight Bridges Brewing. Pouring for the first time is the intriguingly named

Shadow Puppet Brewing Company, which opened in October on Arroyo Vista in Livermore.

Founder and CEO Brian Blackburn takes no credit for the unique name; that belongs to his daughter Bailey, 6 years old at the time. "Dad," she said during their age-old game of making hand-shadows on the wall, "Why don't you call it Shadow Puppet?"

Bailey had heard her Dad complain that his fledgling business was still nameless. "You can't use anything that another brewery or winery or distillery has used," said Brian. "I couldn't even use my own last name—a company in Paso Robles owned it and wouldn't give it up."

Now the Shadow Puppet name has the attention of local beer lovers, as Brian

has already found out. On a recent weekend night, more than a hundred people piled in to the spacious barroom, which seats 60 at its rustic tables and handmade birchwood bar, with plenty of standing room besides.

Brian, whose brewery sells food as well as beer and even allows outside food to be brought in, is very much in sync with the beer plus food philosophy. For example, at the Feb. 26 event hard cider from Crooked City Cider in Oakland is offered for pairing with another Sudsy Supper innovation this year—authentic French crepes whipped up by authentic French chef extraordinaire Pierre Eplattenier, for whom the combination of crepes and cider recalls happy times in Brittany.

The crepes are a respectful nod to the traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake supper before Lent. The other entrée, a sausage sandwich, is a curtesy to Britain's tried-and-true pub fare.

Ticketholders at this year's Beer Tasting will be given vouchers for a flight of five samplings, and may purchase additional flights or a mug of a favorite beer. Dinner is also included, as is dancing or dreaming to the big-band music of the Mellotones Jazz Combo and the songs of the Queen of Hearts voice-guitar duo.

For movie buffs, the Academy Awards, also presented that night, will be streaming in the lounge area, where youngsters can also find games and amusements to keep them occupied. A silent auction of baskets of treasures will be held during the evening.

Father Andy Lobban of St. Bart's will emcee the proceedings.

The event is scheduled for 5:30-9 pm Sunday, Feb. 26 at the St. Bartholomew's Church parish hall, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. The Sudsy Supper is scheduled for around 6:30. Adult admission at \$35 in advance (\$40 at the door) includes the five beer samplings, a

tasting glass, and the dinner platter of your choice. Youth tickets at \$15 cover supper, beverage and dessert. Additional beer may be purchased at the event.

To reserve tickets, email [beertasting@comcast.net](mailto:beertasting@comcast.net) or visit [saintbartslivermore.com](http://saintbartslivermore.com). Tickets are also available at the parish office, (925) 447-3289. Proceeds support St. Bart's programs.

## Science on Saturdays Sessions in February

Science on Saturday series will begin on February 4 with a talk focusing on "Forensic Science in Crisis: How Proteins Can Help."

The events held at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore offers two one-hour sessions, 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Science on Saturday (SOS) is a series of science lectures for middle and high school students. Each topic highlights cutting-edge science occurring at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The talks are presented by leading LLNL science researchers supported by master high school science teachers. Presenting the program on Feb. 4 will be Brad Hart, Dean Anex and Katelyn Mason from LLNL and Elizabeth Lopez, Granada High School.

The topic for Feb. 11 will be "Reconstructing a Rabies Epidemic Byte to Byte" presented by Monica Boruki and Jonathan Allen, LLNL, and Elizabeth Lopez, Granada High.

3D Printing from Imagination to Realization will be addressed Feb. 18 by Eric Duoss, Chris Spadacini, Julie Jackson, William Smith and Melody Golobic, LLNL, and Dean Reese, Tracy High.

The final talk, Feb. 25, will focus on "Building Biologically Inspired Nano-Bots," presented by Matt Coleman, Amy Rasley and Wei He, LLNL and Erin McKay, Tracy High.

Admission is free of charge. Seating is on a first come basis. Seats may not be reserved in advance. Seating is limited.

Students receive a "Student Notes" worksheet to record key information from the talk. The worksheet will be marked with the official SOS stamp at the end of the presentation. Many teachers use the worksheet to award "extra credit."

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. For more information, go to [education.llnl.gov](http://education.llnl.gov).

# Ghostlight Focuses on Power of the Arts

Theater and arts groups across the country took part in the Ghostlight Project on January 19. According to a statement describing the event, "It was organized as a statement of the belief in the power of the arts to provide a safe place for expression and communication."

Inspired by the tradition of leaving a "ghost light" on in a darkened theater, participants across the nation renewed a pledge to stand for and protect the values of inclusion, participation, and compassion for everyone--regardless of race, class, religion, country of origin, immigration status, (dis)ability, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) hosted a gathering at the Bankhead Theater. At 5:30 pm, participants held a moment of reflection and shined a light.

The goal of the Ghostlight Project is to create brave spaces that will serve as lights in the coming years. A brave space is defined "as a place where it is safe to be who you are, regardless of race, class, religion, country of origin, immigration status, (dis)ability, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Diverse opinions, dissent, and argument are not only tolerated, but invited."

LVPAC Executive Director Scott Kenison commented, "We thought it was important to join theaters across the country to open our doors and shine a light on the idea that the theater is a place where everyone is welcome. One of the main components of the Ghostlight Project was that it isn't a political action, but reaffirming that theater is a safe space where diverse thoughts and opinions are not only welcome but encouraged."

He points out that since he began working at LVPAC, he has felt strongly that there is a need to encourage people to come and visit. "We opened our doors as a visitor center and gallery, provided free concerts and increased our educational outreach by leaps and bounds.

"Our hope is that this will continue and that we can be a light for positive actions in our community," he added.

## Hart Kids Heading for Their Own 'Super' Bowl

A team of five 6th graders at Hart Middle School in Pleasanton will be heading for a bowl game on Jan. 28.

It's not the Super Bowl, but for the Hart Science Bowl team, it may as well be.

The game will be played at Las Positas College, using a quiz show format, complete with buzzers that contestants have to ring to be first with the answer.

A correct answer qualifies for a bonus question, just like on television. The pace is fast, and the students really have to be on top of their game, said coach and science teacher Janice Mitchell.

It's not the first time for a Hart team in the Science Bowl. Hart finished 3rd in 2015 in Bay Area competition. That group was in 8th grade. Some of those students have come back to coach practices on Thursdays. They run the middle-schoolers through the drills in chemistry, life science and other subjects.

At the practices, no buzzers are used, so the contestants compete for recognition from the quizmaster by hitting staplers, said Mitchell. She has been at Hart for 17 years, starting as a math teacher and moving over to teach science.



Shown with the Bankhead's official "Ghostlight" are Denise Bridges (development officer), Arthur Barinque (concessions manager), Scott Kenison (executive director), and Bernice LaRosa (graphic designer).

## BENEFIT CONCERT

(continued from front page)

available at the door. The Amador Theater is located at 1155 Santa Rita Road, on the Amador Valley High School campus.

Added Wright, "I hope audience members take away inspiration, awe at seeing the level of the youths and world-class

professionals, a sense of community as professionals and youths join to entertain the audience, and satisfaction that such music is being created right here in the Tri-Valley."

To learn more, visit [www.pleasantonarts.org](http://www.pleasantonarts.org), and [www.gradusap.org](http://www.gradusap.org).

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>L I V E R M O R E</b><br>— arts —<br><b>BANKHEAD THEATER</b>   |  |
| <br><b>Russian National Ballet Theatre</b><br>Tue FEB 7 7:30pm                        |  |
| <br><b>Jesus Christ SuperStar</b><br>TRI-VALLEY REPERTORY THEATRE<br>JAN 28 - JAN 29 | <br><b>Ross Stein</b><br>RAE DOROUGH SPEAKER SERIES<br>Thu JAN 26 7:30pm                      |
| <br><b>Tom Papa</b><br>HILARIOUS STAND-UP COMEDIAN<br>Fri JAN 27 8pm                 | <br><b>Bothwell Bash</b><br>MARDI GRAS PARTY<br><i>Big Money in Gumbo</i><br>Sat FEB 4 6-10pm |
| 925.373.6800 LVPAC.org<br>2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore   |  |

# Livermore Reads Together Begins with Program on the Airport

The Livermore Reads Together will kick-off with an event featuring Livermore Airport, and pilots Bruce Anderson, Candace Harding, Barbara Blissert and Jacquie



Warda. The program will take place at 2 p.m. on Sun., Jan. 29 at the Civic Center Library. Those attending will learn about the Livermore Airport, flight, and what it takes to be a high-flying pilot.

This will be just one of the programs that will tie in with this year's book, "Flygirl" by Sherri L. Smith

This will be the 11th Livermore Reads Together.

Flygirl, a novella, tells the story of an African American woman who joins the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program during World War II. It examines the themes of racial and gender identity in America. Flygirl was the 2009 California Book Awards Gold Medalist.

Flygirl is about Ida Mae Jones who wants only to fly. Her daddy was a pilot, and years after his death she feels closest to him when she's in the air. But as a young black woman in 1940s Louisiana, she knows the sky is off limits to her, until America enters World War II, and the Army forms the WASP--Women Airforce Service Pilots. Ida has a chance to fulfill her dream if she's willing to use her light skin to pass as a white girl. She wants to fly more than anything, but Ida soon learns that denying one's self and family is a heavy burden, and ultimately it's not what you do but who you are that's most important.

Throughout the month of February 2017, the library will host a series of events for children and adults that celebrate the spirit of aviation.

On Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m. there will be a Q&A with the award-winning author of Flygirl, Sherri L. Smith.

Sherri L. Smith writes YA novels. Her publications include Lucy the Giant, Sparrow, Hot Sour Salty Sweet, Flygirl and Orleans. Her books have been listed as Amelia Bloomer, American Library Association (ALA) Best Books for Young People, and Junior Library Guild Selections. Smith was a 2014 National Book Awards judge in the Young People's Literature category. She is a three-time writer-in-resident at Hedgebrook retreat in Washington State, as well as a resident at Wassard Elea retreat in Ascea, Italy.

Author Susan Wels will also visit the library to talk

about her non-fiction book Amelia Earhart: The Thrill of It. The library will also host a talk by Craig S. Harwood, author of Quest for Flight: John J. Montgomery and the Dawn of Aviation in the West. There will also be readers theater presentation of Flygirl by Livermore Shakespeare Festival.

On Feb. 4 at 1 p.m. there will be a screening and discussion of The Tuskegee Airmen (1995, PG-13), the HBO movie starring Laurence Fishburne at 1 pm, followed by a discussion with the president and members of the William "Bill" Campbell Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

Aviation pioneer Fred Wiseman will be the subject of a presentation by Stephen A. Lehmann, president of the Windsor Historical Society, on Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m. Learn about Windsor, California's Fred Wiseman, who built the first airplane in California and flew the first airmail flight in the U.S.

A guided tour of the Livermore Airport will be offered on Saturday, February 11, 11 am. Sign up is required starting January 29. Call Paul Sevilla at the Livermore Public Library at (925) 373-5573 for more information.

- Sunday, February 12, 2 pm: Author Susan Wels discusses her book Amelia Earhart: The Thrill of It.

The final event, Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m. will feature The Swingin' Blue Stars in concert. They will perform vocal renditions in 3-part harmony of WWII era songs—especially those made famous by The Andrews Sisters and groups like The McGuire Sisters.

In addition, throughout the month of February the Civic Center Library Art Gallery will display aviation photographs by local photographer John King and Livermore Airport pilot Dan VanDusen.

All Livermore Reads Together events are free and open to the public. Livermore Reads Together 2017 is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For more information about all of the planned events, call 925-373-5500 or visit [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## Journey to Broadway Theme for Dance Jazz Company Presentation at the Bankhead Theater

Livermore School of Dance Jazz Company presents "Journey To Broadway," at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Directed by Liz Roberts, performances will take place on February 4, 2017 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

"Journey To Broadway" takes the audience on a virtual trip across the country, making stops along the way from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, Texas, Disney World, Chicago, finally landing in New York. The dance performance includes many styles of dance: Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Musical Theater, Modern, and Tap. There is a variety of music from well-known Broadway shows and composers, such as Hamilton, Cats, Waitress, 42nd Street, Aaron Copland, Andra Day and more.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets for either performance can be purchased at the ticket office, online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or by calling 373-6800.

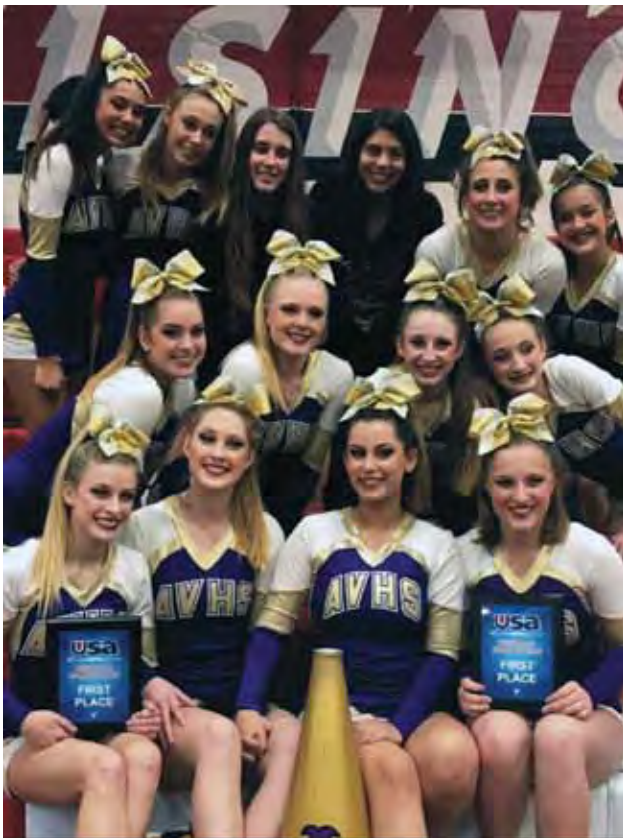
**Dancers in action (at right).**







The Foothill High School Competition Cheer team competed in So. Cal on January 14 and 15 at two different USA competitions. On Saturday, at Tustin High School, Varsity, JV, and Group Stunt Team 1 all took First Place and Group Stunt Team 2 took Second. On Sunday, at Brea Olinda High School, Varsity, JV and Group Stunt Team 1 again took First Place and Group Stunt Team 2 took Second Place. On Sunday, January 29, all the teams will compete at the Cheerpros State Championship at Citizen's Bank Arena in Ontario, CA.



The Amador Valley High School competition cheer team travelled to Southern California to compete in two United Spirit Association Regional competitions. At Elsinore High School in Wildomar, as the only team from northern California, the varsity stunt team took first place. With 8 teams in their intermediate cheer showcase division, the AVHS varsity cheer team also placed first. Next competition is on Super bowl Sunday at UC Davis. Pictured are (back) Melia Storey, Lilly Braas, Cassie Jacobs, Coach Danielle Butler, Emily Mercer, Elise Zurcher; (middle) Mary Hinek, Ashley Boxberger, Hannah Jacobs, Carsyn Gilbert; (front) Kayla Fulmer, Katherine Jackson, Mckenna Shaffer and Kaitlyn Garrity.

## Entrepreneur to Tell His Story at LPC

A talk by entrepreneur and CPA Eddy Gramajo will kick off Las Positas College's 5th Annual Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series. Gramajo's presentation will take place at 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the Multi-Disciplinary Building Lecture Hall, Room 2420.

Presented by the college's Business Studies Program, the series is free and open to the public. Parking is \$2.

Gramajo was raised by a single parent who made less than \$10,000 a year. Determined to build a better life for himself and his family, he became the first person in his family to attend and graduate from college. In his presentation, "It's Not about Where You Start, It's Whether You Want to Start at All," Gramajo will address overcoming obstacles when growing up in a low-income community, being a person of color in business and taking the leap into entrepreneurship.

In 2014, he graduated

with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Business Administration from the University of Redlands and landed a job at Deloitte, the largest public accounting firm in the world. He currently works at Pandora on their revenue accounting team and is also co-founder and CFO of Lite App, a personal finance app dedicated to educating millennials about personal finance. Gramajo has combined his passion for personal finance and serving low-income communities by teaching personal finance classes to this group and also donating his services to help families file their taxes.

The Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series brings Bay Area business leaders to campus to share their expertise with students and the community. Business Studies, the most popular major at Las Positas College, offers degree and certificate programs, career and workforce training and transfer



**Las Positas College is hosting entrepreneur and CPA Eddy Gramajo who will present a talk, "It's Not about Where You Start, It's Whether You Want to Start at All."**

preparation to four-year colleges and universities. Programs include Business Administration, Marketing, Accounting, Administrative Medical Assistant, Book-keeping, Business Entrepreneurship, Retailing, Retail Management and Supervisory Management.

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

## Pleasanton American Legion Post Announces Winners of Annual Oratorical Contest

American Legion Post 237 of Pleasanton held its annual Oratorical Contest on Saturday, January 21st at Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building in Pleasanton.

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and

privileges of American citizenship.

This year, first place was awarded to Ian Castro, a senior at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. He received a check for \$200 and moves on to compete at the district level. Second place was awarded to Michael Dang, a senior at Oakland Military Institute. He received a check for \$100. Third Place was awarded to Bartek Armstrong also from the Oakland Military Institute. He received a check for \$75.

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students.

Over \$138,000 in scholarships can be awarded each year. The overall national contest winner gets an \$18,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$16,000, and third gets \$14,000.

For further information, please see [www.legion.org/](http://www.legion.org/) oratorical or contact Norman Houghton, American Legion Post 237 Oratorical Chairman at email [norm4064@yahoo.com](mailto:norm4064@yahoo.com)

American Legion Post 237 of Pleasanton, is one of the oldest American Legion posts in existence. Founded in 1920, the post continues to serve the needs of local veterans and their families.

# Special Wine Tasting Highlights Museum's Valentine's Fundraiser

Love is in the air as Museum on Main prepares for the 10th Annual Wines

& Valentines winemaker's fundraiser at Castlewood Country Club on Friday,

February 10th beginning at 6:30pm. This year the event will feature wines

from the Boisset Collection from the Boisset Family Estates.

This is a family owned collection of wineries spanning some of the world's most prestigious wine growing regions including Sonoma and the Napa Valley. Jean Claude Boisset was born in Burgundy, France and has had a passion for excellent wine and food throughout his life. He fell in love with California and started several wineries in the state to reflect the Franco-American heritage by uniting the best of the old world and the new into one world of wine. These exclusive wines are usually only available

through private wine tasting events. The fundraiser was able to have the opportunity to taste these wines thanks to Shelley Goldblum, a Boisset Ambassador.

Wines will be paired to complement each of the four courses of the meal created by Castlewood Country Club. Guests will dine on ahi tuna on a wonton crisp and Greek olive tapenade on crostini, Hacienda salad, and a choice of pan seared Corvina sea Bass, grilled filet mignon, or vegetable risotto. The meal will finish with a chocolate molten lava cake.

"Many guests return year after year for the great food and wine," says Executive

Director for the museum, Jim DeMersman. "But they also love the 2-bit auction, a fast-paced live auction where guests can win prizes for the equivalent of 2-bits, equal to one quarter."

Tickets to the event are \$85 per person. They may be purchased online at [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org), at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. Tickets purchased by phone and online will be available for pick up at Will Call in the lobby of Castlewood Country Club on the evening of the event. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted.



A view of last year's festivities.

# Pasta Feed and Family Carnival Offers Fun for All Ages

Pleasanton North Rotary (PNR) will offer a full-filled afternoon and evening for parents and children at

the fifth-annual PNR Pasta Feed & Family Carnival at the Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St.,

Pleasanton, from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 29.

The family-oriented event supports the PNR and

Pleasanton youth programs including the Interact Club of Foothill High School and Abbie 4-H Club, according to Tina Oellrich, event organizer.

Geared to be an inexpensive family outing, the event provides various local youth groups with an opportunity to raise funds by operating carnival games. PNR will sponsor a raffle.

Desserts will be awarded to the winners of cake walk competitions. Admission is \$10 per person. Children under 10 will be admitted for free.

Dinner includes a mixed salad with dressing, pasta with a red meat or marinara sauce, and toasted garlic bread. Bottled water is free. Wine and beer will be available by the glass (\$5).

Wine will also be sold by the bottle (\$20).

Tickets can be purchased for cash at the door.

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



Pictured (from left) are PNR members Tom Hall and Matt Wilson are joined by Tom's son Andres Hall, as food service begins during the busy evening.



PNR member and annual Pasta Feed organizer Tina Oellrich leading youth in an activity.

# Milestones

## Real Estate Professionals Recognized

Several local real estate professionals have been selected to receive the Bay East Association of REALTORS® (Bay East) highest honors for their achievements in 2016.

This year's recipients were recognized at the 2017 Bay East Inaugural Gala at Casa Real in Pleasanton on Saturday, Jan 14.

**REALTOR® of the Year:** Nancie Allen with Master-Key Real Estate Advantage in Fremont, received the REALTOR® of the Year award for demonstrating the highest level of integrity and commitment to Bay East and the real estate profession. Allen started her REALTOR® career in 2003, and immediately began contributing time and talent to Bay East. She is a strong proponent of ethics and professionalism for REALTORS®, serving as an Ethics Advocate, Ombudsman and Mediator to real estate professionals and the public when there is a potential violation of the National Association of REALTORS® Code of Ethics and working to help all parties achieve a positive outcome. Allen also served on the Bay East Strategic Planning Committee and as a member of the California Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors.

**Rookie of the Year:** Justin Ramos with Alain Pinel, REALTORS® in Pleasanton received the Rookie of the Year Award. Ramos was recognized for demonstrating the REALTOR® spirit of integrity, professional business conduct and service to clients. During his first year in business, Ramos served on the Bay East Young Professionals Committee and as the Public Relations Officer for the Valley Real Estate Net-

work. He actively volunteers for a number of organizations including Kids Against Hunger in Pleasanton.

**Affiliate of the Year:** Erin Steele with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage was selected as the Bay East 2016 Affiliate of the Year. Steel is an active member of the Bay East Young Professional Network, and is involved with similar networks at the State and National levels. She also serves on the Bay East Housing Opportunities Committee and as the Affiliate Director on the Bay East Board of Directors. She visits Washington D.C. each year to attend the National Association of REALTORS® legislative meetings and is part of the Bay East team that meets with Congress members who represent southern and eastern Alameda County.

**Outstanding Leader Award:** Craig Ragg was honored with the Outstanding Leader Award. The award is given to a past president of the association who continues to pursue the vision of excellence in the name of Bay East. He has served on and chaired numerous Bay East committees during his almost 40 years of Bay East membership. Ragg was the 2015 Vice Chair of the Leadership Development committee and the 2016 Chair of the Leadership Evaluation and Selection committee. He is a member of the California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) Board of Directors; the 2017 Chair of the C.A.R. Political Action Committee (CREPAC) and a member of Taxation and the Federal Committees. Ragg is a member of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) Board of Director

and a member of the Conventional Financing Committee. He is also a member of the NAR Presidents Circle Hall of Fame. He was previously honored as the 2009 REALTOR® of the Year and served as the Bay East President in 2013.

**John Deadrich Distinguished Service Award:** Joe Annunziato III received one of Bay East's most prestigious awards, the John Deadrich Distinguished Service Award. Named in honor of the association's first president and founding father, this award is given to a Bay East member who exemplifies the self-sacrifice, vision and accomplishments of the greatest leaders who have shaped the real estate profession. Annunziato worked tirelessly to make it easier for every Bay East member to help clients and embraced the mission of the Association: to help our members succeed as real estate professionals. He was a member of the Board of Directors for Bay East and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the California Association of REALTORS®. He also served on the Bay East Local Government Relations Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Executive Committee and the Property Investment Committee. He is best known for his involvement in the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and Business Technologies Committee since 2008 and served as the 2016 committee chair. He is active at the regional MLS Level where he serves on the joint Bay East/Contra Costa MLS Management Group. In 2017 he will serve as a member of National Association of Realtors MLS committee.

## President Obama Selects Two Lab Researchers for Early Career Awards

Two Lawrence Livermore National Lab researchers were among the recipients named by President Obama for the prestigious Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). The selections were announced in Washington D.C. on Jan. 9.

Jonathan Belof and Eric Duoss joined 100 others in winning the highest honor the U.S. government gives to scientists and engineers for innovative research and community service in the early stages of their independent careers.

Belof has performed research in stockpile stewardship at the Lab since 2010. He is a group leader in the Design Physics Division in the Weapons and Complex Integration directorate. Belof was recognized for his work in phase transition dynamics and non-equilibrium systems, as well as his efforts in teaching STEM and mentoring underprivileged students while at the University of South Florida, as well as through LLNL's High Energy Density Physics summer scholar program.

"It's just overwhelming, in a good way," Belof said. "It's a tremendous honor and I'm just really humbled by this award. Nothing at LLNL is an individual effort – it's the outcome of a team. This recognition is evidence of how great a place LLNL is to be for an early career scientist. I've been astounded by the diversity of people that I work with here at Livermore; it's part of why the Lab has such a high impact. Interacting with people with such a wide range of backgrounds has opened up a whole new world of science for me. I hope to use this award to continue the pursuit of exciting, cutting-edge science and enable others at LLNL to do the same."

A member of the Lab's technical staff, Duoss conducts research in advanced materials and manufacturing combined with micro-architected design. He has worked at the Lab since 2010. In addition to his programmatic work, Duoss has dedicated himself to educating the younger generation of scientists and engineers about STEM pathways, volunteering countless hours and conducting Lab tours for students and teachers. Duoss said the early career award will encourage him to seek more creative avenues in his research and to continue mentoring youth.

"This is truly a recognition of the kind of environment we have that early career scientists and engineers can do creative and exciting things," he said. "It's a testament to the extraordinary work I've been privileged to be a part of and the team members I've been fortunate to work with. Without them, I'm certain this award wouldn't have been possible."

It shows we're on the right track. I'm at that point in my career where I'm having an opportunity to be a part of all these projects. I hope I can be an innovative engine to spur thought and get people to think of new ideas."

Belof and Duoss are among 13 Presidential Early Career winners from the Department of Energy. The awards are coordinated by the Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President.

"I congratulate these outstanding scientists and engineers on their impactful work," President Obama said. "These innovators are working to help keep the United States on the cutting edge, showing that federal investments in science lead to advancements that expand our knowledge of the world around us and contribute to our economy."

Belof and Duoss will visit the White House and meet with President-elect Donald Trump at a future time.

## Stratford to Add Middle School

Stratford School will add middle school at its Pleasanton campus for the 2017/2018 school year. The Stratford School Pleasanton campus currently serves students in preschool through 5th grade. The expansion will begin with 6th grade, continues Stratford's tradition of providing high academic standards.

Stratford offers a STEAM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) teaching children to become creative problem-solvers, innovators, and leaders. Stratford School is the first school in California to receive the prestigious Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway Digital Seal. Stratford was awarded the 2015 School of the Year at the Synopsys Science and Technology Championship, and was Voted Best of the Bay 2016, by readers of Bay Area Parent. Stratford is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Families interested in Stratford's Preschool through Middle School program may attend an open house at the Pleasanton campus on Saturday, January 28, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stratford School Pleasanton is located at 4576 Willow Road, in Pleasanton. Visit the website to sign-up. [www.stratfordschools.com/open-house-pre-registration](http://www.stratfordschools.com/open-house-pre-registration).

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

## ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

**Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit** are currently exhibiting art at six businesses in the Pleasanton - Dublin Area. Viewing locations are: Bank

of America at 337 Main Street, Pleasanton; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 4900 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

**Imagination Expressed 2017** – Lo-

cal artists show paintings, photography, and sculpture in a variety of styles and media January 11 through March 26 at the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street Pleasanton. [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org)

**California Watercolor Association's 47th Annual National Exhibition.** Opening January 14, running through February 25 in the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. 75 or so artists from California and beyond have been accepted by this year's judge, nationally acclaimed jurist and watercolor artist Donna Zagotta. A wide variety of styles and types of water media are represented. **PAINTING DEMONSTRATIONS:** Wednesday, February 8 from 12:30-2:30 (Sue Johnston and Ruth Miller.) For complete listing of events, visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org). Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations always appreciated. Exhibit dates: January 14 through February 25, 2016.

**"WaterMusic-Jazz" - Special Art Exhibit** at Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. San Francisco artist Peggy Gyulai's latest series, featuring large-frame abstract works in oils. Each painting is a chronicle of an encounter with music. Ms. Gyulai has done painting collaborations with a number of impressive music performance groups and venues. **EXHIBIT:** January 13 through February 15, during regular gallery hours. More information: [www.peggygyulai.com](http://www.peggygyulai.com). Gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations appreciated.

## MEETINGS/CLASSES

**Call to Artists: 3rd Annual Celebrate Women!** Las Positas College, 2017 photographic art competition. General Guidelines: Each image submitted must use one woman/several women as subject matter presented with honor. March is international women's month, so the show is hung March 1 - 30th in building 2400. Reception: March 16, 2017 from 6 - 8 with awards at 7 in Room 2420 all on the campus of Las Positas College at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. Parking \$2. For more detailed guidelines

email: [CelebrateWomen2017@gmail.com](mailto:CelebrateWomen2017@gmail.com)

**Music Sing-A-Long.** Sing familiar tunes with other folks with piano and guitar accompaniment. The words to the songs will be provided. No musical training required. Small fee to L.A.R.P.D.. Mondays at 11:00-12:00. Call 373-5700 for L.A.R.P.D..

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

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

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

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

**Art Classes.** For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special

classes during school breaks offered. (925) 216-7231 or email [thomasin\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:thomasin_d@hotmail.com) for further info.

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

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

**Ukulele Circle**, Meetings held the last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at [www.GalinasMusicStudio.com](http://www.GalinasMusicStudio.com). Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

## WINE & SPIRITS

**Charles R Vineyards Celebrates The Cabstravaganza** on Saturday, January 28th from 11:30am - 4:30pm. A selection of fine Cabernet Sauvignon include 2007 & 2008 Walker Ranch Cab, 2008 & 2010 Julio Cab and some 2006 Family Reserve Cab that is outstanding. The carefully selected Cabernet Sauvignon varietals will be for sale today only with very limited quantities available. 8195 Crane Ridge Road (at the end of Greenville Road) in Livermore.

**Las Positas Vineyards**, Livermore, Sat., Jan. 28 and Sun., Jan. 29 featured food pairing flight option is a Cheesecake Cupcake & Wine pairing Tasting Room is open from 11:30am-4:30pm. Any inquiries, email [curt@laspositasvineyards.com](mailto:curt@laspositasvineyards.com)

**Retzlaff Estate Winery**, February 12, Annual Valentines Weekend Drawing for a Basket of Love. Live Music provided by the valley's own "Sexy Trumpet" - Jeff Bordes and the Burnt Ends. 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. <http://retzlaffvineyards.com>

## MUSIC/CONCERTS

**Retzlaff Estate Winery**, Live Music

every Sunday. 12:00 - 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. <http://retzlaffvineyards.com>

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

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

**Temirzhan Yerzhanov and Klara Frei in concert with the Tri-Valley Gradus ad Parnassum Youth Orchestra** "Four Hands and a Baton." 8:00 pm Feb. 4. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. 931-4848, [Firehousearts.org](http://Firehousearts.org).

**Cole: the Music of Cole Porter**, 8 p.m. Feb. 10. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Del Valle Fine Arts, Aspen Trio/Bryan Young**, string trio with bassoon, Feb. 11, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**LIV ON: Olivia Newton-John, Beth Nielsen Chapman, Amy Sky**, Sunday afternoon, February 12, 2017 Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, will be only Bay Area appearance on this leg of the tour for the newly-released album. 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org), 373-6800.

**The Chieftains**, 8 p.m. Feb. 17. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**We Banjo 3** Flamboyant Mix of Irish, Bluegrass, and Old-Time Music, 8 p.m. Feb. 18. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**Livermore-Amador Symphony**, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. prelude talk, 8 p.m. concert. Inspirational Journey, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**International Guitar Night**, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Classic Albums Live: Rumours**, 8 p.m. Feb. 24. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Global Symphonic Gems, Pacific Chamber Orchestra**, 2 p.m. Feb. 26. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Kelly Brandeburg, A Tribute to the Songs of Barbra Streisand**, 2 p.m.



Fine Spring Day

## Plein Air Oil Painter Featured at PAL, LAA Meeting

Pleasanton Art League & Livermore Art Association general meeting will be held Monday, February 13, 7:30 pm at the Bothwell Art Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore.

This month's guest artist is Paul Kratter, a plein air oil painter.

Born and raised in the Bay Area, Paul Kratter received a Graphic Arts degree at the College of San Mateo, then his BA in Illustration from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena.

Paul freelanced as an illustrator in advertising, illustrated a number of children's books and was awarded a Communication Arts Award in 2002. About the same time, he became interested in the immediacy of the plein air approach and started painting in the East Bay Hills near his home.

Overnight his style changed although his approach remained intact, utilizing solid foundation of drawing, composition and design. He utilizes strong graphic shapes that were so important to his illustrations. Painting outdoors has become his deep passion.

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Feb. 26. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## ON THE STAGE

**Jesus Christ Superstar**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theater production, weekends Jan. 14-29, 2017. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800 or [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org).

**Anything Goes**: Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre kicks off 2017 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton with this high-energy, high-seas musical romp. Story: The S.S. American is sailing between New York and England with a comically colorful assemblage of passengers: Reno Sweeney, Billy Crocker, Hope Harcourt and a second-rate con-man named Moonface Martin. Song, dance, and zany antics ensue as Reno and Moonface try to help Billy win the love of his life. Cole Porter songs include: It's De-Lovely, Friendship, I Get A Kick Out Of You, All Through The Night, Anything Goes, You're The Top, and many more. Opens Saturday, January 28. Shows run through Sunday, February 12: Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays matinees at 2 p.m. Check website or box office to confirm availability. Reserved seat tickets are \$19-\$40. Purchase online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 925-931-4848 [Call: 925-931-4848], or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

**Twelfth Night**, 2 p.m. Feb. 26, Pleasanton Library. San Francisco Shakespeare Festival presentation, Q&A follows, as well as Playshop, a one hour hands-on experience with cast members. 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton. 931-3400.

**Shakespeare Goes to Gravel Gulch or The Villain Drove a Bard**

**Bargain**, every weekend starting March 11 and ending April 1st Sunol Repertory Theatre Company presents a classic melodrama at Sunol Glen School Auditorium, 11601 Main Street, at 8pm. Profits support the liberal arts program at Sunol Glen School. Over \$150,000 has been donated over the last 35 years. [www.sunol.net/srt](http://www.sunol.net/srt), 925-449-2693

## COMEDY

**Free Comedy Show** every Thursday at Sanctuary from 7:30-9pm in the Skylight Room at Sanctuary, 2369 First St. in Livermore.

**Tom Papa**, 8 p.m. Jan. 27. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

## MOVIES

**The Classic Film Series**, Pleasanton Library will feature a range of genres. "On the Islands," themed films will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 2017. 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue. Free admission. Everyone is welcome to attend. Some films are mature in content and may not be suitable for children. For more information or assistance, please contact the Pleasanton Public Library at (925) 931-3400, extension 4. Visit [www.pleasantonlibrary.org](http://www.pleasantonlibrary.org) for a list of films and more information.

**Lives Worth Living: free documentary series**, Firehouse Arts Center: Three part documentary series celebrating diversity and shared humanity. Events are free, however tickets are required. Feb. 16, 7 p.m. We Are Different, We Are the Same; March 30, 7 p.m. The Mask You Live In; April 20, 7 p.m. He Named Me Malala. 4444 Railroad Avenue,

Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

## DANCE

**Journey To Broadway**, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 4. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Presented by the Livermore School of Dance directed by Liz Roberts. The dance performance includes many styles of dance: Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Musical Theater, Modern, and Tap. Variety of music from well-known Broadway shows and composers, such as Hamilton, Cats, Waitress, 42nd Street, Aaron Copland, Andra Day and more. 373-6800 or [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org)

**Russian National Ballet Theatre: Giselle**, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

## CHORAL

**Winter Voices: Voices in Harmony & Some Friends of Mine**, presented by a local award-winning male cappella chorus known for its mastery of barbershop harmony and winner of championships and competitions. They will sing hits from the American Songbook. Saturday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m., St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave. Donation: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students. (925) 846-4489, [www.catholicsofpleasanton.org](http://www.catholicsofpleasanton.org).

## OPERA

**25th Anniversary Celebration, Livermore Valley Opera**, 5 p.m. January 28 at The Club at Ruby Hill. Concert of music including your favorite arias. Following the concert, three course dinner. Live auction and a two surprising raffle items. [www.livermorevalleyopera.com](http://www.livermorevalleyopera.com)

**Marriage of Figaro** - a timeless

comedy with its bubbling overture and brilliant arias composed by Mozart at the height of his genius – the result is a witty yet profound tale of love, betrayal, and forgiveness. It tells how the servants, Figaro and Susanna, cleverly outwit their master, Count Almaviva, from seducing Susanna. Through their manipulations, the Count's love for his Countess is restored. Adding to the fun is an old man seeking revenge, a scheming maid, a drunken gardener, and an amorous teenager. Saturday 7:30pm March 11 and 18; Sunday 2:00pm March 12 and 19; \$42 - \$89; Bankhead theater 2400 First Street, Livermore; 925-373-6800; LVPAC.org; LivermoreValleyOpera.com

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Hagemann Ranch Open House.

Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 PM. Go to [www.livermorehistory.com](http://www.livermorehistory.com) for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

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

**We're Talkin' Books! Club** is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Nancy Tingstrom Turner at [ntingstr@yahoo.com](mailto:ntingstr@yahoo.com).

**Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word**. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors

reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

**"Flygirl," annual Livermore Reads Together (LRT) book.** Public Library will host programs and events based on themes found in the featured book. Copies of Flygirl and LRT event schedules will be available at all Livermore Public Library locations. All LRT events are free Unless noted, events are held at the Civic Center Library on 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA. Sunday, January 29, 2 pm: LRT kick-off event featuring Livermore Airport, and pilots Bruce Anderson, Candace Harding, Barbara Blissert and Jacque Warda. Saturday, February 4, 1 pm: Screening and discussion of The Tuskegee Airmen (1995, PG-13). Free screening of the HBO movie starring Laurence Fishburne. Tuesday, February 7, 6:30 pm: Presentation on aviation pioneer Fred Wiseman by Stephen A. Lehmann, president of the Windsor Historical Society Saturday, February 11, 11 am: Guided tour of the Livermore Municipal Airport. Sign up required, and space is limited. Sign up begins January 29. Call Paul Sevilla at the Livermore Public Library at (925) 373-5573 for more information. Sunday, February 12, 2 pm: Author Susan Wels discusses her book Amelia Earhart: The Thrill of It. Wednesday, February 15, 7 pm: Flygirl Readers Theater performed by actors from the Livermore Shakespeare Festival. Friday, February 17, 3:30 pm: Sulphur Creek Nature Center's Birds & Bats in Flight animal and craft program at Rincon Branch Library. Saturday, February 18, 1 pm: Teen Screen Printing Workshop. Sunday, February 19, 2 pm: Author Craig Harwood discusses his book Quest for Flight: John J. Mont-

gomery and the Dawn of Aviation in the West. Tuesday, February 21, 3:30 pm: Kids learn to create paper airplanes at the Springtown Branch Library. Friday, February 24, 3:30 pm: Family movie day at the library featuring Disney-Pixar's Up (2009, PG). Saturday, February 25, 2 pm: Talk and Q&A with the award-winning author of Flygirl, Sherri L. Smith. Sunday, February 26, 2 pm: The Swingin' Blue Stars in concert. 925-373-5500 or visit [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

**New Orleans Bash**, 5 p.m. Feb. 4, Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Mardi Gras celebration complete with French Quarter decor, Louisiana style cuisine, Hurricanes, live New Orleans jazz and more. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**An Evening with Harriett Tubman:** Tuesday, February 14th, 7pm. Ed Kinney Speakers Series. All events are general seating at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Tickets are \$15 General Admission, \$10 Seniors (65+) / Students (with valid ID), \$7 Members. Tickets may be purchased at [www.museum-monmain.org](http://www.museum-monmain.org), at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766.



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## Broadway Chorus Registration Set for January 31

The Tri-Valley Broadway Chorus is a non-auditioned community chorus that welcomes all singers from 9th grade to adult. Meetings are Tuesday nights at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton from 7:30 to 9:30pm for a 12-week session in fall and spring.

The 2017 spring theme is "Do You Hear the People Sing" featuring selections from Les Miserables. Registration will take place on January 31 at 7:00pm at the Amador Valley High School Choir Room, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. The first rehearsal will be that same evening following registration.

The Broadway Kids Chorus is a non-auditioned chorus for students from the Tri-Valley Area from 1st to 8th grade. Meetings are Sunday evenings at Ridgeview Commons, 5200 Case Avenue, Pleasanton from 5:15 to 6:45pm. Spring rehearsals begin on February 5. Registration is on February 5 at 4:45pm. Our first rehearsal will be that same evening after registration.

For more information go to [www.trivalleyrep.org/programs/broadway-chorus](http://www.trivalleyrep.org/programs/broadway-chorus).

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# BULLETIN BOARD

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

**Livermore High School Class of 2017 Safe and Sober Grad Night** (a LHS PTSA Program) Twilight Tasting Fundraiser. Thursday, February 2, 2017, from 4:30-8:00 pm at Page Mill Winery (1960 S. Livermore Ave.) for wine tasting (including Port and brownie pairing), light snacks, drawing, and unique vendors. All tasting fees (\$10/person) and 10% of winery and vendor sales will be donated to LHS PTSA Safe and Sober Grad Night 2017. Can't make it to the fundraiser? Help by donating via the following: <https://www.gofundme.com/livermorehighclassof2017>

**Friends of the Vineyards** presents Livermore Town Historian, Richard Finn, for a historical talk showcasing the history of the Livermore Valley vineyard and wine producing region at its annual meeting. This fascinating story begins in the 19th century and continues today. This is a free event and all are invited. Come learn about your town's interesting past and Friends of the Vineyards participation in that history. Monday, January 30, 7 PM Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

**Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, meeting 7:30 p.m. Mon., Feb. 13 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Guest will be Davie Goers who will speak on the topic, Path to Glory: Start researching Your WWI Ancestor without Getting Lost. He will explain the research landscape, as well as provide advice on utilizing a phased approach to research to effectively locate and track ancestors. No charge. Visitors welcome. For additional information contact: Kay Speaks, Program Chair, email: [program@L-AGS.org](mailto:program@L-AGS.org)

**Miss Representation** an 88 minute film by Jennifer Siebel Newsom about how women/girls are misrepresented in today's media, will be shown Sat., Jan. 28 at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin at 7 PM. Meet & Greet begins at 6:30 PM where you can or don't have to participate in potluck. This film features women from both sides of the aisle while discussing what it is like for young girls and women growing up today. This unaffiliated event is free (\$3.00 donations appreciated), wheelchair accessible, and parking is convenient. A short discussion follows the film. For

more information, Call 925-462-3459 or email [flickknight@gmail.com](mailto:flickknight@gmail.com).

**LARPD's annual Rummage Sale** returns with bargains galore on Saturday, Jan. 28. From 8 a.m. to noon, The Barn at 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore, discover new treasures to take home. For more information, call 925-373-5700 or visit [www.larpd.org](http://www.larpd.org).

**Girls Night Out Networking**, 'Cooking' in Pleasanton, 5-7 p.m. Feb. 6, Pans On Fire, 3059 Hopyard Rd., Suite JK, Pleasanton. Cooking demonstrations, best apron contest. Must RSVP/prepay to confirm reservation, \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers. [www.gnon.org/monthly-mixer.html](http://www.gnon.org/monthly-mixer.html) Questions: 925-487-4748.

**Grief Workshop** - Stepping Stones on Your Grief Journey. Join us bi-monthly. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton; second and fourth Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm, Feb. 9, 23. No pre-registration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Call Eleanor Flatley at 925-846-8708 for more information.

**Social Justice Forum: Film Screening**, Feb. 12, noon to 1:30 p.m. "From This Day Forward," the story of a love and a family that survived the most intimate of transformations. With her own wedding just around the corner, filmmaker Sharon Shattuck returns home to examine the mystery at the heart of her upbringing: How her transgender father Trisha and her straight-identified mother Marcia stayed together against all odds. From This Day Forward is a moving portrayal of an American family coping with the most intimate of transformations. View the trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/164500080>. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore.

**Crab Feed**, The Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. is having its 5th Annual Fundraising Crab Feed on Sat. March 18, 2017 in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Livermore High School. 6 - 10 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Ticket prices: \$55.00/person. See [www.livermore-highalumni.com](http://www.livermore-highalumni.com) for current information or call Ray: 925-548-8817

**Dress a Girl Around the World**, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Next Sew-Fest is Sat., February 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Augustine Hall, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Help is needed sewing, ironing, cutting. Bring sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with helping hands. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) Always accepting cheerful cotton fabric

donations. Those who can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com)

**Meals on Wheels Volunteers** are needed to deliver fresh meals to homebound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 pm. For more information, please call (925)483-1989.

**Learn Scottish country dancing** in Livermore: lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Classes are Mondays 8:00 to 9:30 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience required. Call Margaret Ward at (925) 449-5932 or Sheena MacQueen at (925) 447-1833 for more information. Youth class (ages 8 and up): contact Sheena MacQueen (925)447-1833 for info.

**Rotary Club of Livermore Valley** invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to [www.livermorevalleyrotary.org/](http://www.livermorevalleyrotary.org/) or contact Fred Quarterman at 925-337-5342 or Deb Tacker at 925-447-1135.

**Del Valle Folk Dancers:** beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel (925) 447-8020 or [george.pavel@gmail.com](mailto:george.pavel@gmail.com)

**Square dancing** for all ages 8 years and up Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980 or [mmiller1435@gmail.com](mailto:mmiller1435@gmail.com)

**Shepherd's Gate Thrift Store**, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9 -6 Monday through Saturday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building. 9:30 AM to 5 PM M-F, 8 - 2:30 PM Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

**Italian Catholic Federation**, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The

group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 462-2487.

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

**Questers** is an international organization of lovers of antiques, collectibles, and history who encourage preservation and restoration of historical landmarks. At chapter meetings, members learn about antiques, share and view member's collections, visit historic sites, museums and antiques shops and help non-profit organizations with restoration and preservation work. Chapter meets the 4th Tuesday monthly from September to May. New members are invited to join the local Amador Chapter. If interested call President Rickie at 925-292-8123 or e-mail [rjfgiono@comcast.net](mailto:rjfgiono@comcast.net).

**Birthright Pregnancy Support Center**, 1010 Murrieta Blvd., Suite B, Livermore, located directly behind the blue bus stop near the corner of Fenton St., and next to Stanford/ValleyCare Hospital. Birthright's free and confidential services include - pregnancy tests, caring guidance, adoption and medical referrals, baby and maternity clothing, and more. (925) 449-5887 for an appointment. Our office hours are: Mon., Tues., Wed., 10-2; Thurs. 12-4; 1st, 2nd & 4th Saturdays 10-1. 1-800-550-4900 Helpline is staffed 24/7. [www.birthright.org/Livermore](http://www.birthright.org/Livermore) for more information on Birthright's services.

**Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club**. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 pm. For more info visit us @ <http://www.trivalleystargazers.org/>

**Ravenswood Historical Site**, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program,

please call the Docent Coordinator at (925) 443-0238.

**Sons in Retirement (SIR)** is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at [www.trivalleysir.org](http://www.trivalleysir.org) and the Statewide SIR at [www.sirinc.org/](http://www.sirinc.org/). For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925-967-8177.

**Tri-Valley Haven** provides crisis stabilization counseling for those experiencing difficulties related to domestic violence, abusive situations, sexual assault or other challenging emotional issues. We provide assistance with individual therapy and/or group support. Please call to schedule an appointment: 925 449-5845 (Counseling Intake)

**Sons in Retirement (SIR)** is a group of retired men who seek activities to enhance their retirement. Monthly meetings feature lunch and an interesting speaker. Men have the opportunity to learn about and join activities such as hiking, bridge, investment, bowling, bocce ball and wood carving. There is also a neat group of guys to get to know. SIR Branch #121 meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the DoubleTree Hotel, Las Flores Road (near Bluebell Drive), Livermore, at 11:30. Any retired man is welcome to drop by to learn about your opportunities. For more information check our website: [branch121.sirinc2.org](http://branch121.sirinc2.org) or email Neal Cavanaugh at [nealcavanaugh@att.net](mailto:nealcavanaugh@att.net) (put "SIR" in the subject line).

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

at 925-449-6048.

**Pleasanton Lions Club** welcomes visitors to come experience a great time while making a difference in our community & beyond. Dinner meetings every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Check the website for meeting location: Pleasanton. [www.pleasantonlionsclub.org](http://www.pleasantonlionsclub.org)

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

**Navy, Marine Corp & Coast Guard Veterans**. Meet with other like minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans causes. The Fleet Reserve Association is a chartered organization that provides a voice in Congress. Young veterans are highly encouraged to get involved in promoting the concerns of your generation. The local branch of the FRA meets the first Friday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L St., Livermore. For more information go to [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org) or contact Roy Warner at 925-449-6048 or Loraine Maese at 454-1582.

**Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military"** is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit [www.operationssam.org](http://www.operationssam.org), email [operationssam@comcast.net](mailto:operationssam@comcast.net) or call 925-443-7620.

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

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

**Pleasanton Newcomers Club**,

# BULLETIN BOARD

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

**Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL)** offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at [abril.tamayo@cril-online.org](mailto:abril.tamayo@cril-online.org). All services are free.

**DBE Daughters of the British Empire**, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-621-8946 for additional information.

**Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC)**, Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. [www.trivalleytriclub.com](http://www.trivalleytriclub.com).

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program** offers services to Veteran families, including housing assistance. The program can offer rental deposit assistance for those veterans who are ready to move in and simply need move in cost covered. The program is looking to work with landlords who will accept rental deposit assistance from the program, who can provide a safe clean apartment complex and landlords who are willing to work with Veterans who may have housing barriers. Reina Brunson, SSVF Housing Specialist, (510) 358-5866, [rbrunson@abodeservices.org](mailto:rbrunson@abodeservices.org)  
**American Legion Post 237**, is looking for new members. Meetings are

the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. Bring a copy of discharge document DD-214 to a meeting. Mailing address is Amer. Leg. Post 237, P.O. Box 823, Pleasanton, Ca. 94566.

**Pleasanton Military Families** is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collect supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact [PMFSG.ca@gmail.com](mailto:PMFSG.ca@gmail.com) for the location of the next meeting.

**Livermore Military Families**, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email [livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com](mailto:livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com).

## RELIGION

**First Presbyterian Church**, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information [www.fpclus.org](http://www.fpclus.org) or 925-447-2078.

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

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

**Congregation Beth Emek**, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, [www.bethemek.org](http://www.bethemek.org).

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

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

**Sunset Community Church**, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

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

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

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

**Calvary Tri-Valley**, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. [www.calvarylivermore.org](http://www.calvarylivermore.org) or 925-447-4357.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 447-3428.

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

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God**, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Adult Sunday school 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church (Pre-K-5th grade) 11:15 a.m., Nursery to age 3, Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Senior Adult Ministries meet every other month. For ministry information call (925) 846-8650

**Trinity Church**, 557 Olivina Ave. Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., and Sunday School and Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday night there is adult Bible study, and youth activities at 6:30 p.m. Child care during all events. 447-1848, [www.trinitylivermore.org](http://www.trinitylivermore.org)

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

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

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

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. [www.saintbartslivermore.com](http://www.saintbartslivermore.com). Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:20 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided.

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

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

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit [www.goodshepherd-livermore.org](http://www.goodshepherd-livermore.org) or call (950) 371-6200.

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

**Valley Bible Church**, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. [www.thecrossing.org](http://www.thecrossing.org)

**Valley Bible Church**, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. [www.thecrossing.org](http://www.thecrossing.org).

**Cedar Grove Community Church**, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship

Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. [www.cedargrove.org](http://www.cedargrove.org) or call 447-2351.

**Chabad of the Tri-Valley**, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. [www.jewishtrivalley.com](http://www.jewishtrivalley.com). Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

**Well Community Outreach Center ministry** provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

**Lynwood United Methodist Church**, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome, no matter where they are on their faith journey. Sunday worship is at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with child-care and Sunday school at 10:30am. First Sundays of the month are informal with guitar. Children's choir is at 11:40-12:10. "Come As You Are" is an informal service every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister. [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org), 925 846-0221.

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**--Livermore Stake, Springtown Ward 9:00 am; 1st Ward 11:00 am; 4th Ward 1:00 pm. 950 Mocho St.; 3rd Ward 9:00 am; 2nd Ward 11:00 am; Mocho Branch (Spanish) 12:20 pm. 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 1:30 pm.

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

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

**Livermore Quakers**: Unprogrammed worship, Sundays at 6 pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian

Church). [www.LivermoreQuakers.com](http://www.LivermoreQuakers.com)  
**St. Francis of Assisi**, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 AM. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 [stfrancisanglican.church](http://stfrancisanglican.church).

**Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley** - People from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations welcome. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact [revharriet1@yahoo.com](mailto:revharriet1@yahoo.com) or visit us at <http://cslvlivighthouse.org>.

**St. Matthews Baptist Church**, 851 Rincon Ave., Livermore. [www.smbclive.com](http://www.smbclive.com) or 443.3686. Dr. Allen S. Turner. Worship services 8 and 11 a.m., Sunday family Bible school, 9:30 p.m., Bible study and youth ministry, Wednesday 7 p.m. Feed the homeless, Saturday 11 a.m. Prayer, 6 p.m. weekdays.

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ**, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4418 E. Avenue, Livermore.

**Christ Church** (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: [www.christchurch-trivalley.org](http://www.christchurch-trivalley.org) or call 925.846.0665.

**Unity of Tri-Valley** is a welcoming spiritual community for people of all faiths and backgrounds. Children's program available. Ongoing groups and activities. Rev. Micah Murdock, minister. 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 am Sunday service. [www.trivalleyunity.org](http://www.trivalleyunity.org). 925.829.2733

**GraceWay Church** will worship at 10 a.m. Sundays at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. until new home is refurbished and updated. Services include band-led worship music, as well as choir anthems. Sunday School for infants, preschoolers and elementary through high school students. [www.gracewayfaith.org](http://www.gracewayfaith.org) or 846-4436 for information.

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)** for women of all ages and life stages. Meets Thursday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 am; through May 11, 2017. St. Charles Parish, Borromeo Hall, 1315 Lomitas Avenue, Livermore. For WINGS speaker presentations and events: [stcharleslivermore.org](http://stcharleslivermore.org), click on "Upcoming Events" and "WINGS". Questions: Donna Leach 925-443-6815 or Phyllis Clearwater 925-337-4299

# Milestones



Pictured (from left) are Bani Badhwar, Amy Malocsay, Samantha Kwan, Sfurti Gaudani and James Wilcox.

## Livermore American Legion Oratorical Winners

Livermore Post 47 of The American Legion held its Oratorical Contest on Saturday, January 14th, 2017 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Livermore. Five students from the Tri-Valley competed. The prepared oration had to be on some aspect of the United States Constitution, to include Amendments, giving emphasis to the duties

and obligations of a citizen. The assigned topic was the 17th Amendment.

The winners of the contest were 1st Place, Sfurti Gaudani, Livermore High School, who received \$100, 2nd Place, Samantha Kwan, Livermore High School, who received \$75, and 3rd Place, James Wilcox, Liver-

more High School, who received \$50. Other contests were Bani Badhwar, Livermore High School and Amy Malocsay, Granada High School; both received \$25.

The winner will next go to the District 10 (Alameda County) completion in San Leandro on January 28th, 2017.

## EDUCATION

Azusa Pacific University students served with Mexico Outreach during the fall semester. The were: from Livermore: Gabrielle Cox, Casey Kim, Skylar Burt, Sabrina Downey; Pleasanton: Brooke Wolford; and Dublin: David Cantrell.

Mexico Outreach was founded on the principle that young people of all ages can be effective in sharing the Gospel. APU sends 17 student teams to Mexicali to serve in orphanages, women's shelters, prisons, schools, and

churches. The Center for Student Action at Azusa Pacific mobilizes and educates students toward responsible and transformational service locally and globally through a collaborative network of offices and programs.

Pleasanton, resident Daniela Martin graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management on Sat., December 17, 2016, and joined approximately 1,202 graduates

at the winter commencement ceremonies.

Tatianna Mercurio of Pleasanton, a graduate of Foothill High School majoring in film studies, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2016 semester at Baldwin Wallace University, according to Stephen D. Stahl, Provost. Students who receive at least a 3.6 GPA for seven or more graded hours in a single semester are named to the Dean's List.

## Winegrowers Recognize Members' Achievements; Install New Board

At the annual meeting of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association (LVWA), members gathered to recognize contributions and look back on the achievements of 2016, including the receipt of a California Department of Food and Agriculture grant that will fund specific marketing efforts. Led by Executive Director Chris Chandler, the LVWA presented the following member awards to recognize exemplary partnership and support:

Winery Member of the Year: Wente Family Estates

Grower Member of the Year: Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard

Affiliate Member of the Year: Visit Tri-Valley

The LVWA also installed its 2017-2018 Board of Directors. Amy Hoopes, president of Wente Family Estates, will serve her second term as president of the board. Other board members include: Heather McGrail, McGrail Vineyards & Winery (Vice President); Debbie Cristiano, Page Mill Winery (Secretary); Lisa Maier, Las Positas Vineyards (Treasurer); Kathy Liske el Sol Winery (AMAC

Chair); Jennifer Fazio, The Steven Kent Winery (Past President); Debra Long, Longevity Wines; Gina Cardera, Garre' Vineyard & Winery; Harry Galles, Galles Vineyard; John Kinney, Occasio Winery; John Concannon, Concannon Vineyard; Ian O'Leary, Spirited Packaging; and Rhiannon Eddy, The Purple Orchid.

The LVWA is sponsored by Doin' It Right Dealers, City of Livermore, City of Dublin, Visit Tri-Valley and Black Tie Transportation.

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

## Doerlich to Lead Bay East Association

William Doerlich of Realty ONE Group BMC Associates in San Ramon has been installed as the 2017 president of the Bay East Association of REALTORS® (Bay East). The inaugural event was held at the Casa Real Winery in Pleasanton on Jan. 14. As the chief elected officer, Doerlich's focus for 2017 will be promoting the Bay East core values: Communication, Integrity, Vision, Innovation and Leadership.

Doerlich has served on the Bay East Executive, Leadership Evaluation and Selection, and Multiple Listing Service committees. He was President of the Valley Real Estate Network and the Real Estate Marketing Association in San Ramon. He also serves on the California Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors. He is a City of San Ramon Parks and Community Services Commissioner and President of the San Ramon Arts Foundation. He serves on the City of Pleasanton Economic Vitality Committee. He was named the 2014 San Ramon Chamber of Commerce Citizen of

the Year and was one of the 2015 Tri-Valley Hero award winners. Doerlich holds an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University, a Master's in Business Administration from University of San Francisco and a Masters in Real Estate from REALTOR® University.

The new Board of Directors brings many years of experience in real estate and its members are exceptionally well equipped to lead the REALTOR® community throughout the year.

The new Board of Directors, which represent more than 5,000 REALTORS® and Affiliates from throughout the East Bay, are:

Officers: President Will Doerlich, Realty ONE Group BMC Associates, San Ramon; President-Elect Tim Ambrose, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, Castro Valley; Treasurer, Nancie Allen, MasterKey Real Estate Advantage, Fremont; Past President Kim Ott, Alain Pinel, REALTORS®, Pleasanton; and, Chief Executive Officer Tricia Thomas.

The 2017 Board of Directors, by District are: North County: Anne McKereghan, Alain Pinel, REALTORS®, Alameda; Central County: Bill Espinola, Parkview Realty, Hayward; Tina Hand Intero Real Estate, Castro Valley; Liz Lucero, Coldwell Banker, Castro Valley; Tri-City: Lu Jayo, Landmark Investment Properties, Pebble Beach; Ron Lyster, REALTY EXPERTS, Fremont; Steve Medeiros, RE Realty Experts, Fremont; Jackie Pena, Legacy Real Estate & Associates, Fremont; Tri-Valley: Barbara Clemons, Coldwell Banker, Pleasanton; Leslie Faight, Alain Pinel REALTORS®, Pleasanton; Rhonda Fee, Aspire Realty Services, Pleasanton; Ed Gomes, Pride Properties, Livermore; Karen Kohne, Venture Sotheby's International Realty, Pleasanton; At-Large: Sheila Cunha, Legacy Real Estate and Associates, Pleasanton; Sandi Gomes, Pride Properties, Livermore; and Affiliate Director: Erin Steele, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Pleasanton.